

## Tamsin Durston FSc. BSc, VN, PTLLS

Personal Details		Business / Club name and location
PDTI Grade: Supporter	Membership Number: 1130	1. Blue Cross S & C London 2. Alpha Dog Training Club N. London
Personal contact		Business / Club contact (with name if different)
Tel: 020 7242 4376 Mob: 07415 423 322 Email: tamsin.durston@bluecross.org.uk		1., via email: tamsin.durston@bluecross.org.uk 2. via Sue 020 8809 6762
PDTI Involvement and PDTI Practical Awards		Club(s) / business involvement
Joined to support the aims of the PDTI and my colleagues. Conference Speaker 2013/14		1. Nurse Manager, Training and Behaviour Advisor 2. Alpha: Senior Instructor
Qualifications (all areas) & Other relevant Awards		Classes and Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FdSc Animal Management: Training and Counselling (University of Chester)</li> <li>• BSc Canine Behaviour and Training (University of Hull)</li> <li>• I am a qualified Veterinary Nurse</li> <li>• I am a qualified NVQ Assessor and Clinical Coach</li> <li>• I also have the Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector award - PTLLS</li> </ul>		1. Behaviour Advisor, Puppy Classes  2. Classes: KCGCS Puppy/Bronze/Silver/Gold, various activities for advanced level
Name's background and personal statement		
<p>With my own beloved dog Lelki, I have undertaken learning in a variety of activities including agility (we have been members of our agility club for the past 10 years now and train once weekly), Rally-O, scent detection and discrimination, working trials, obedience, heelwork to music and search and rescue work! Our current passion remains with nose-work which is so rewarding for the dogs and so fascinating for the humans! But we pretty much just like going for long walks together and exploring beautiful countryside, from coastal paths and beaches to forests, woodlands, and mountainsides!</p> <p>I have been instructing at Alpha since 2005 quickly going from assistant to Lead Instructor, at all levels of GCDS. I also teach a range of fun activities including scent work to motivate handlers and dogs further. Studying for the Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector award has helped me to plan my classes and teach adult learners with different skills and learning styles.</p> <p>I qualified as a Veterinary Nurse in 1997 and manage the Blue Cross Animal Hospital in South London. Blue Cross is a non-govt-funded animal welfare organisation aiming to improve the lives of people and pets, and our veterinary hospitals provide veterinary care for people in receipt of govt-provided means-tested benefits to enable their pets to have excellent veterinary care. I also provide training and behavioural advice within my role to Blue Cross clients, as well as training colleagues to understand how dogs communicate and basic learning theory in order to make their visits to our hospitals less stressful and have a more positive outcome.</p> <p>Having studied animal behaviour at University for 5 years, specialising in dogs, I am a provisional member of the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors and working towards full membership. I have a particular interest in canine play and the human-animal bond, and continue to attend lectures, seminars and workshops as well as personal research.</p> <p>I base my instruction and advice on teaching 'life skills' to enable people and dogs to live together healthily and happily and be able to adapt to the varied environments in which we live. Instruction is positive reward-based using an understanding of canine ethology in order to motivate and socialise appropriately.</p>		