

TO RETURN TO THE MEMBERSHIP LISTING, PLEASE USE THE 'BACK' KEY

Dr Rachel Richards PhD		Business / Club & Services
PDTI Grade: Affiliate	Membership Number: 1246	Free lance lecturer in canine studies and dog training instructor.
PDTI involvements		Club(s) / business involvement
PDTI course participant 2011, 2012 and assistant tutor 2013		Dig it Dogs Training Club - Cheshire School for Paws - Shropshire
Personal contact		Business / Club contact (with name if different)
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Qualifications and relevant Awards		Classes and Services
Level 5 Harper Adams University Diploma in Canine Training and Behaviour Management (pending PDTI Advanced practical award) (2013) KCAI Scheme member working towards accreditation PDTI Instructor Award with Excellence (2012) PDTI Level 3 Theory Certificate (2012) PTLLS teaching certificate (2012) Level 3 Canine Care and Welfare (2012) Level 3 Canine Psychology and Behaviour (2011) Level 3 Dog Training Theory (2011)		Classes: KC Good Citizen Puppy, Bronze, Silver and Gold Puppy life skills and adult beginner Private tuition, one to one sessions Workshops in canine studies on variety of subjects Instructor training Location: Newcastle under Lyme (covering Staffordshire/Cheshire/Shropshire areas)

Personal statement: I began my career during the 1980s by combining my passion of working with animals with learning how to teach. My subsequent career path has been varied and wide-ranging, including undertaking a PhD in sustainable transport, working on a range of environmental projects, policy and strategy development and workforce training and development. My passion for working with people and animals and in teaching has remained constant throughout my career.

Having studied a number of theoretical and academic canine courses and having taken my own dog through the Kennel Club's Good Citizen Dog Scheme from Puppy Foundation to Gold Award and beyond, I was fortunate to be offered opportunities to develop and teach theoretical canine studies courses at Reaseheath College and join their dog-training instructor team. At Reaseheath College I worked alongside a Kennel Club Accredited Instructor, teaching on the Kennel Club's Good Citizen Dog Scheme (KCGCDS). In September 2012, I joined the instructor team at Dig it Dog Training Club again teaching KCGCDS, adult beginners and puppy life skills and also teach at other clubs in the Staffordshire and Cheshire areas when required. I also offer one to one private training for those requiring a little extra time and help with their dogs.

I am qualified in practical dog-training instructing through Pet Dog Training Instructors (PDTI), gaining my Intermediate certificate in 2011 and the Instructors Award in August 2012, both with Excellence. I also hold a PTLLS certificate in teaching (2012). I continue to upgrade my theoretical and practical knowledge and skills base on a regular basis and have Level three qualifications in dog training theory, canine psychology and behaviour and canine care and welfare. I am currently undertaking a Level three in canine nutrition and have recently completed the Harper Adams University and Level 5 Diploma in Canine Training and Behavioural Management. I am registered with the Kennel Club's Accredited Instructors Scheme (KCAI) and am actively working towards my Accreditation.

I have lectured in canine studies on a number of accredited courses including dog training theory, psychology and behaviour, avoiding dog behaviour problems, improving your canine communication skills, understanding the world from your dog's perspective and improving your training techniques and influencing behaviour. I also run training and development sessions for instructors and workshops for client groups on a variety of canine related subjects.

Working with people and dogs is a perpetual journey of discovery, which ensures that life and work are never dull. I feel thoroughly privileged to be able to combine dog-training theory with practice and to be able to share my experiences in doing what I love in what for me is the perfect work/life balance. I also enjoy working my own dogs (a 4 yr old rescue lurcher and a 5 month old terrier x poodle) and finding new and exciting experiences for us to share and explore including competition obedience, agility and heelwork to music as well as just enjoying life and walks together.