

Gemma Clark

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Biography:

Gemma qualified from Liverpool University in 2004 and spent 8 years in full-time small animal general practice before joining the university team in 2012. Between 2005 and 2009, Gemma studied part-time at the University of Southampton, obtaining a Postgraduate Diploma in companion animal behaviour counselling. Gemma is now working towards a DVM (Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine) in the field of shelter medicine and spends her time split between clinical work and research relevant to the field.

Degree registration:

DVM Canine Shelter Medicine, in association with Dogs Trust, due for completion in September 2016

Research topic:

'Developing an understanding of the rescue dog experience and how to promote successful canine adoption'

Summary of research:

Gemma's research project is looking at the experience of rehoming a dog. It will focus on the attachment that owners form with their new pet and why some people form successful bonds with a rescue dog, whereas others do not. It is hoped that factors will be identified that can influence successful canine adoption, and the effect that failed adoptions have on returning owners and the staff who care for the dogs will be investigated.

Research supervisors:

Dr Rachel Dean, Dr Jenny Stavisky, Dr Lucy Asher

Primary funding source:

Dogs Trust

Publications:

None to date