

## Case Study: Petit Paws

Mary wanted to start a business to create her own working lifestyle and to have more job satisfaction. Her initial concerns were her lack of business skills and a fear of the unknown. She decided to take a short course on how to set up a business which gave her a good framework to start with. As she became more informed, all of her fears melted away and she was ready to set up.

"A few months after the last of my two dogs died, I started doing a little dog walking for friends as favours. I was asked to do more dog walking and then started to Pet Sit. More requests followed. It was evident that there was potential for work"



Mary wanted to ensure that she could be confident in offering her customers the best she could so joined NarpsUK which she says has helped her to offer her customers the best service that she could. Becoming a member of NarpsUK helped her to create a professional business by having already researched legal aspects, insurance, Criminal Record Checks and forms. Mary had heard of NarpsUK and was impressed by not only it being a professional body concerned with the care of pets, but also because NarpsUK works towards raising the industry standards.

Mary's business is still very young. It is growing steadily and is a constant work in progress but it is getting busier and she is very happy to be getting paid for working with animals. She now works independently as well as with agencies and she feels that there are advantages to both types of working.



"To anyone thinking of setting up a Pet Business I'd share one piece of advice that I was given... Do what you love! I genuinely love spending time with the animals I walk and care for and I treat them as if they're my own. I think if you are happy doing something, the rest just follows. I fully recommend joining NarpsUK – there is so much information, help and guidance available to you whether you're just starting out or have a Pet Sitting business already running!"