

Return is boost for ing firm extra qualifications



MANAGER:
e Sullivan TWPL20111018D-003_C

inadequate or inappropriate we also receive quite a lot of referrals from the JobCentre." With a history dating back more than 170 years, Pitman originally earned its reputation through offering short-hand and typing courses.

ay Pitman Training Group an international organisation outposts in such far-away places such as Mauritius and Abu Dhabi. It offers a total of 125 different courses.

A new centre in Tunbridge Wells has training facilities to accommodate up to 30 students at

any one time.

According to Ms Sullivan, female clients account for roughly 75 per cent of the total

"Many come to us for secretarial, office administration and accountancy training, or for computer courses," she said.

"The cost of courses varies enormously - anything from £100, which obviously doesn't buy you a great deal, up to £7,500 for a full diploma course.

Diploma

"Because many of our clients are paying for their courses out of their own pockets a lot depends on what they can afford.

"They tell us the courses that interest them and the number of hours they can commit to and we will cost it out accordingly.

"The result is that there is no standard price or time frame.

"Individuals can complete the courses at their own pace and have up to a year to qualify for their diploma."

Having formally cut the ribbon to open the new branch, Mrs Thomas presented receptionist and student Jenny Leach with a certificate for her bookkeeping award, which included computer packages Sage and Excel.



BE SENSIBLE: Becci Harvey of Forest Farm, Mark Cross, with Murphy

Horses help with business training

A NOVEL approach to business training that uses horses to develop leadership, teamwork and communication skills in humans has recently become available to corporate customers.

Based in Mark Cross, HorseSense UK uses an equine-assisted education model to combine "a horse's natural ability to teach with carefully selected theory and classroom learning".

According to founder Becci

Harvey, the animals "provide honest and non-judgemental feedback of how you come across and your leadership style".

She said: "Horses make great educators. They taught me discipline, accountability and consideration for others.

"Horses are masters of non-verbal communication. Human to human interaction is surprisingly only seven per cent words, the remainder being voice tone

and body language.

"By partnering with a horse you learn to develop that often neglected 93 per cent."

The company, formed in 2010, has spent a considerable amount of time perfecting the courses using friends and contacts as guinea pigs.

The all-weather facilities can organise courses for up to eight people at a time which will cost in the region of £2,200 per day.

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