

Local Doolittle talks to animals

Jeremy Drake

Simonne Lee says she can talk to animals. Naturally it's a claim that would attract a fair share of scepticism, but Ms Lee said she had no time for sceptics.

"My clients totally believe in what I do," she said from her Bondi Beach apartment.

Professionally, Ms Lee calls herself an animal communicator. She connects with fish, birds, cats, dogs and reptiles, exchanging feelings, emotions and thoughts.

This Eastern Suburbs Dr Doolittle provides a one-hour consultation with an animal for \$80.

"I can body-scan them if they don't feel 100 per cent," she said. "I don't diagnose, but I can tell you exactly what they are feeling."

Frequently dealing with animals that are spoiled, she describes her Eastern Suburbs clientele as a niche market.

"They're quite into their animals: pets get a lot of attention, a lot of detailed attention, and they are not treated like a pet but a member of the family."

Her talks with Fido are not a series of growls and barks, but simple conversations in English. She said that most pets sound like children when they



Animal communicator Simonne Lee with client Ruphos. Photo: Alan Place

respond because their owners usually treat them as babies.

"Some get a little excited and some get anxious that I can talk to them," she said. "I slow my speech down a lot so they are not so overwhelmed."

Despite the oddity of the profession, her services are in demand throughout

the city. Ms Lee visits local animal shelters and has worked with the Australian Reptile Park in Gosford.

Animals are great observers, and many of us forget they are even in the room. As a result, Ms Lee said, the ability to communicate with animals frequently presented surprises.

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