



Welcome to all Members, Friends and New Members

## *In Memory of Eileen Curry, Founder 1926 - 2022*

### **To Eileen – My Personal Tribute**

*One Sunday afternoon in January 1988 I sat on the floor in Eileen and Ray's lounge with a beautiful Golden Retriever called Kracker. I was hoping to be approved as a potential owner of a puppy sired by him and the mother of the puppies was coincidentally called Vicky.*

*This was the first time I met Eileen, just months after losing my Mum. Without realising it, she helped fill the huge void I then had in my life.*

*As time progressed I joined the Central Golden Retriever Club, then became a committee member. Shortly after Eileen established Canine Friends and I found myself with a second committee role.*

*I wish to acknowledge the tremendous support and encouragement and friendship Eileen has given me since that day in 1988, both as a Golden Retriever owner and throughout my involvement with Canine Friends.*

*Even through her later years she always remembered my birthday, often reminding me I was approaching the age she was when she established Canine Friends!*

*Being such a strong and determined woman, it was easy to think she would live forever. I want to think each time we as members visit, she is with us in spirit.*

*Eileen – may you now walk freely with your beloved Golden Retrievers, Cairn Terriers and the many Canine Friends dogs who have left us.*

Vicky Graham



*Eileen you were my Mentor, my Friend, my best Critic and I dearly loved you. Beverly Jocelyn*



## President's Report 9 June 2022

I am pleased to present my report at our third online AGM to provide an overview of events and initiatives for the last financial year.

This is our 32nd year of visiting rest homes, hospitals, hospices, correction centres, colleges and universities with 664 members and 457 facilities on our database. Despite yet another challenging twelve months with limited opportunities to visit we remain positive in the knowledge our work is widely recognised and appreciated by many.

Being mindful of how Covid impacts our lives, our priority has been to see existing members return to their regular visiting programmes and to support them in doing so, and have been mindful of maintaining regular communication with members to encourage a sense of belonging.

### Strategic Highlights

Our alliance with the NZ Society of Diversional and Recreational Therapists has been most beneficial particularly regarding Covid and visiting restrictions and regulations.

I attended the annual conference in New Plymouth last August and enjoyed the opportunity to meet therapists, show our Power Point Presentation and run workshop sessions which provided an insight of our work.

Unfortunately, our visits to correction centres have been on hold but we know visiting will recommence whenever possible.

Earlier this year we were approached by NZCare Group, an arm of the Ministry of Health which provides residential homes in the community for those with physical and intellectual disabilities. We have also received requests from Dementia Day Care Centres.

### Operating Highlights

Despite uncertain times several Liaison Officers held Founder's Day events during May to celebrate Eileen Curry.

Members who had reached one, three, five and ten years' service were provided with appreciation certificates. Thank you to our sponsor Ziwi for meeting the cost of these.

### Partnerships

We have entered the fifth year of our partnership with NZ pet food company Ziwi which has provided support across several areas of our operations, details of which are in the Funding Report.

Sincere thanks to Zoe McClintock and the team at Ziwi. Your ongoing recognition of our work is much appreciated.

We are also very grateful to DogsNZ for supporting us to bring our Liaison Officers together each year for training, sharing ideas and showing our appreciation of their work. Due to Covid this event has been postponed from March to September.

DogsNZ also provides us with space in the monthly publication of the Dog World magazine. This gives us the opportunity to feature all aspects of who we are and what we do.

Sincere thanks to Steven Thompson and your team for supporting and appreciating the part we play in New Zealand's dog scene.

### Acknowledgements

To our members, thank you for remaining a part of Canine Friends despite limited opportunities to visit. We will "get there" and it will be even more rewarding!

To our Liaison Officers, you are crucial to the functioning of Canine Friends.

A huge thank you to past and present and a warm welcome to those of you who have recently joined us. We look forward to seeing you in September.

To the committee, once again I feel privileged to have spent time with you, both at meetings and over telephone conversations. It is difficult to describe the reassuring feeling of knowing we share a passion which underpins this organisation.

Beverley Jocelyn, Vice President and our Newsletter Editor – I have appreciated Beverley's ideas, thoughts and her tireless work on our newsletter.

Leanne Gibson, Secretary who has again given a huge commitment to all this role entails and much much more.

Rachel Butler, our Auckland Liaison Officer handles a large membership and provides new Liaison Officers with very sound help and support.

Vicky Graham – President

## Aknowledgements continued...

Sandy Fea, a long serving member and more recently Co -Liaison Officer for Lower Hutt. Sandy also assists in collating and posting our newsletter and makes our supply of extra small scarves.

Helen Moriarty, a retired health professional has been a great source of advice on Covid issues and all things medical.

Carol Drew, our Volunteer Mentor is always willing to lend a listening ear and give helpful and knowledgeable advice.

Scott Mansfield manages our social media channels and provides thoughtful advice and support to ensure this important part of our operations runs smoothly.

We have three committee members standing down:

Dallas Hopkins- a member since 2013 and joined the committee as Treasurer in 2019. Thank you for providing our Financial and Performance Reports and passing on your extensive knowledge of financial management.

Rachel Davison – a member since 2012, Lower Hutt Liaison Officer since 2017 and joined the committee in 2020. Rachel often told me her favourite part of the LO role was accompanying new members on their visits. I have no doubt your enthusiasm for what we do has rubbed off on many.

Annette Dougherty – Annette became a member in 2005 and was quickly recruited by Eileen on to the committee and helped her with clerical work.

Annette has since done almost every job from Hutt Valley Liaison Officer to Newsletter Editor to Vice President to President and since 2019 has been our New Member Coordinator. We are indebted to you for your time, experience and knowledge.

Finally to everyone who is part of the Canine Friends family – never underestimate the difference you make and the lives you touch.

I ask that this report be accepted.

Vicky Graham – President



## Your Canine Friends Pet Therapy Committee as elected on 10 June 2022

President	Vicky Graham	021 104 2945	president@caninefriends.org.nz
Secretary	Leanne Gibson	027 886 1227	secretary@caninefriends.org.nz
Treasurer	Paulette Shearer	027 680 4008	treasurer@caninefriends.org.nz
VP / LO Support	Rachel Butler	021 854 808	Rachel.butler61@gmail.com
Member Coordinator	Hannah Li	022 035 0175	applications@caninefriends.org.nz
Newsletter Editor	Beverley Jocelyn	04 564 3972	editor@caninefriends.org.nz
Volunteer Mentor	Carol Drew	027 287 6754	volunteermentor@caninefriends.org.nz
Website / Facebook	Scott Mansfield	021 062 9625	mansfield.sd@googlemail.com
Committee	Sandy Fea	021 058 6471	sandyfea@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Annette Sheri-dan	027 367 1311	annette.sheridan@outlook.co.nz
Committee	Helen Moriarty	027 445 6792	wgtn_liaisonofficer@caninefriends.org.nz

1. Please remember to view and use the Canine Friends Pet Therapy website if you have a question or require information – [www.caninefriends.org.nz](http://www.caninefriends.org.nz)
2. Please view our You Tube channel to see more about our dogs. YouTube channel is – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdnZJ4LaiApt2bLpdssY2rA>



## Remembering Eileen

I met Eileen in 2005 when I read an article on Canine Friends. She arranged an assessment for me at her home in Wainu and I duly went out for my first meeting. When I walked in with Megs my 2 year old spoodle, Eileen took one look and said "oh it's a mongrel!" I never let her forget that first comment and for the next 17 years we became firm friends. She actually did accept Megs and like a lot of our members I was invited to join the national committee which I have been a member of for the past 17 years.

Eileen and I have had lots of home visits ( sometimes with a pottle of hot chips which she loved,) and many meaningful conversations over the years. My first impressions were correct. She was a very strong minded lady who absolutely believed in her dogs and the benefits they would bring to your life if you put the time into them!

Eileen was also a very independent woman who believed in doing as much as she could for herself , for as long as possible. One of my strongest memories was when Beverley Jocelyn and myself arranged a visit for Eileen to the mall in Lower Hutt. We had only got through the door when Eileen took off in her wheelchair and we were left standing. We caught up with her later in a menswear shop where she was browsing for gifts for her family.

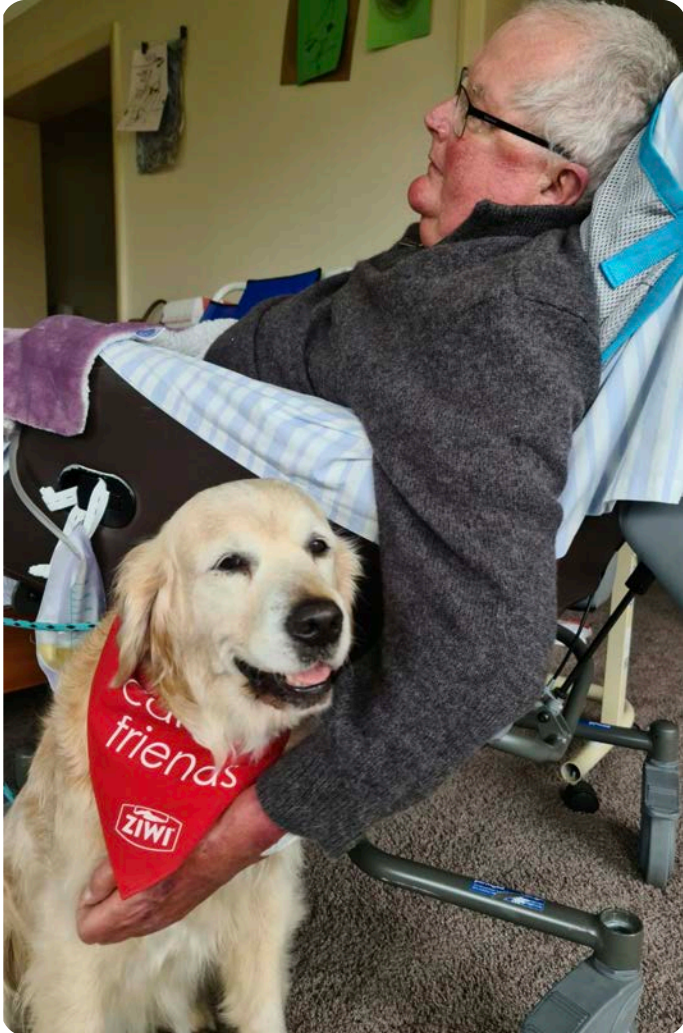
As a very proud mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Eileen and I often discussed how lucky we both were to be surrounded by our caring families.

I will always remember Eileen as a cheerful, positive lady who has enriched my life with her extensive knowlege and personal friendship.



Eileen and her daughter Valerie at my birthday in 2020.  
With fondest memories, Annette Dougherty

Canine Friends Pet Therapy is a New Zealand-wide network of people who share their friendly well behaved dogs with patients in hospitals and hospices and residents in rest homes.



## How wonderful

Hey Sandy,

Thank you for bringing the beautiful Tara round to visit my Dad. After a few days of the rain trapping us inside Dad was feeling rather down. Going from a very active person who loved to walk his dog twice a day to sitting in a lazy recliner watching terrible day time telly being able to have Tara and yourself and John visit was wonderful. Dad has always loved dogs and being able to have a dog in the house again even if it was just for a short while it was amazing and extremely appreciated.

Our sincere thanks to Te Omanga, Sandy, John and canine friend Tara. Much thanks, Paul and family

\*\*\*Note from Amy, Paul's Granddaughter who would like to mention:

*Sadly Dad passed away at home surrounded by family and lovingly supported by Te Omanga right till the end. Amy.*

Regards Sandy Fea Co LO Lower Hutt



## Snippet from Beverley Jocelyn

Sandy brought the lovely Tara to visit me in hospital but it was "funny" in that there were 4 beds in my Ward and so many people congregated in the room after Tara arrived that Sandy announced she would take Tara out of the room but a young Doctor replied "no don't do that as the dog is the only reason I am in here." "Could I have a photo with her". Tara was wonderful for me too. Thank you.



## Eileen

A wonderful lady who always saw the good in people especially if they owned a dog. Eileen, like with many others started my road into Canine Friends Pet Therapy for which I am forever grateful. From my first dog she has been extremely supportive and taught me a lot about myself through what my dog could do in helping people. She was my mentor extraordinaire and hope she remains on my shoulder in the future. No was never in her vocabulary, too hard was definitely not, as she would talk her way around, into making whatever, a good thing to do. Why can't you do that?

I have always lived in the country, quite a distance from any city. Do you not have any elderly up your way, of course it is possible, just get out there and tell them so. When I joined there were not many liaison officers around so Eileen would be on the phone asking how my visits went, could I meet a new applicant, but giving me confidence to go further. One day I received a piece of paper in the mail asking me for a LO report for the AGM, it had to be a mistake so I rang her up and she said unbelievably, haven't you helped me assess some dogs in the Manawatu. Yes I said, so therefore, write something about it and yes you are an LO, you can do that. Or the time she rang to say she was desperate for a canine friend to visit in Wanganui, as the rest home wouldn't take soon as an answer, how far is it for you and the conversation ended thank you for doing that and only for a couple of visits over a couple of months but that lasted several years.

I have a great passion for the unique work our dogs do in helping people through this organization and this has been cultivated by Eileen and her enthusiasm and caring compassion, always being there, her endless phone conversations to members all over the country, a real people person and I think to this day, over 30 years later, this is still the case. Communication with fellow members whether they have been visiting for years or just starting is why we are so successful in today's time.

It was not always about Canine Friends with Eileen as she would always be asking about my husband, the farm and how was my Mum coping in her rest home and what were my other dogs doing. She remembered so much and was always interested in what was happening around me. I also met many members of her family at her big birthday a few years ago which I was very privileged to attend.

What an amazing legacy you have left us Eileen and I hope we will do you proud for many years to come as there is no way that Canine Friends Pet Therapy will ever lose its importance in so many lives. From little acorns grow mighty Oaks – so has Canine Friends grown through the years. Even Eileen would never have imagined the growth. Without her amazing foresight none of us could be doing what we truly love in sharing our beautiful dogs with others.

I thank you Eileen for making me a better person, more confident in what I do and enjoying growing as a person through Eileen's touch and not to mention those good times we shared over the years which I will always treasure. In a tricky situation I still will say "Eileen what do you think, is this the right way to go" and am sure she will answer. May you enjoy your own Canine Friends Heaven as you certainly deserve it.

Ann Evans



## Out & About with our Members

### Waikeria Prison, in the Waikato

Visiting has, at last, recommenced at Waikeria Prison, in the Waikato. Our team of 3 visit two units at different times – the Rata Unit for the elderly and disabled and the Nikau Unit for those with mental health problems.

Mac and Tui were understandably excited to see their bandannas laid out, ready for their first visiting in over 2 years and the men were also happy to get reacquainted with the dogs, giving them lots of pats and asking what they had been up to. Mac had a good recall as to who gave the best tummy rubs and which room often had a leftover sandwich to be shared... and he wasn't disappointed.

An enjoyable and satisfying visit on both sides  
Regards Liz Scott.

Photo by Lynda Mowat Photography.



Waikeria Prison Teams.



Craig Benseman and Leia who joined Canine Friends in May and visits the Levin War Veterans Home. Leia has just earned her Canine Good Citizen Foundation and Bronze awards in May as well. Craig is familiar with War Vets Home as his father was there last year. Regards Sue Clarke, Levin.



Judith Bryson and Otis who started visiting Reevedon Rest Home in Levin in April.



## Hello from Nelson/Tasman

We wanted to share an article that a local dog groomer wrote about Jammu. Lorraine Lindsay and Jammu have been visiting for "Canine Friends Pet Therapy" for five years now and are much appreciated.

I recently had the absolute privilege to groom a very special GSD. Jammu is a therapy dog helping and comforting so many in their time of need. At 14 years old she is not so keen on being groomed anymore but she sure does love looking and smelling great. Thanks for your wonderful service to others Jammu.



On Sunday 12th December 2021 some very hardy Hastings/CHB members braved the downpours and met at the alternate venue for lunch. Jo provided hats for everyone and we all shared some great company and a lot of fun.

Here's hoping 2022 will be a better year for everyone. Regards Chris Partridge.



Benson ready to brighten everyone's day at Rahiri. He loves to give everyone lots of hugs.



Liz Barrow with Bobbie who are visiting Te Whanau Rest Home and Hospital. Bobbie joined us in May.



## Founders Day Get Together in Levin

Our Founders Day event held in Levin on 29th May with a picnic lunch at the Horowhenua Show grounds and an opportunity for the dogs to have a play together in the Oval. As only about half of our members could attend we have promised to have another get together soon! Regards Sue Clarke LO Foxton/Levin.



**Peri and I attended a meeting of Age Concern in Levin to talk about the work of Canine Friends** and benefits of dogs for the health and well being of everyone. They are starting a home visits and dog walking programme for those living alone. Regards Sue Clarke.



Kristina and Jensen have been members since July 2018. They visit at **Methven House and Ashburton Intermediate**.

Just sharing a very happy photo of Mr. Jensy as the class call him with his certificate we received today and HK3 who enjoy his visits! Many thanks, Kristina.



The Wellington, Hutt Valley and Kapiti-Johnsonville regions had a very enjoyable gathering today. We met at **Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club** and let our dogs have a good run around before proceeding along to Ruby's Cafe at Mana. The adults enjoyed getting together and catching up while all of the canines excelled as well behaved 'cafe dogs'. Fortunately, the weather was very pleasant and we all enjoyed the outdoor setting. Only two photos above were taken.

Cheers, Jan McKenzie LO Whitby-Johnsonville.

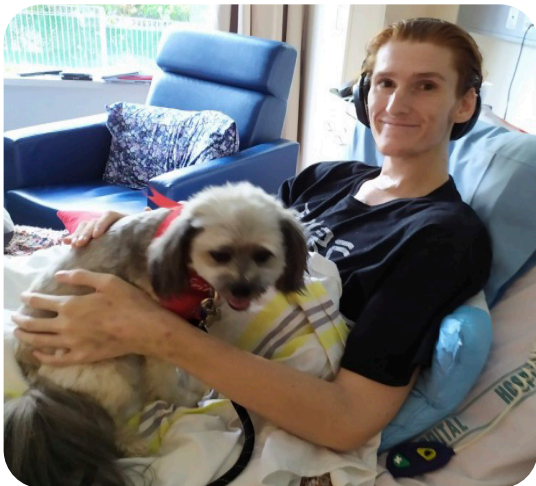


Thank you for your photos. I still have some from the Founder's Day which will go into the Spring Issue. Editor





**Founder's Day Event** – Hutt Region members together at Belmont Hall.



**New Member from early 2021.**  
Gracey and I joined Canine Friends  
early in 2021 Regards Ann Connor.

**Waikato Founder's Day.**





This is my dog Dudley, who visits Greenwood Park, Tauranga on behalf of Canine Friends Pet Therapy. He is a Labrador/cross, but looks more like a Labrador. He gets very excited when I put on his Canine Friends scarf, as he loves visiting. Sitting quietly and being patted is one of his favourite things. He has made some good friends at Greenwood over the last four years. He will lead me from one visit to another, getting very disappointed if I have to explain that we are not visiting there today. He can certainly add to his visiting list!

He loves retrieving balls and sticks, but he would not make a good game dog, as he is not brave with other animals! However he makes a perfect Canine Friends volunteer dog. He will be 10 in September, but despite occasionally getting sore joints, he is fit and active. He loves swimming, walking and digging. While digging he has been the death of a few plants in my garden, but he always looks embarrassed, so all is forgiven. Although he enjoys treats as much as we all do, I do try to ration them for the sake of his figure!



Dudley – Yellow Lab – owner is Catherine Geeves.

Article supplied by Anna Briffa, Tauranga LO.

## Taupo Founder's Day Event – A Little Different!

Taking full advantage of our beautiful scenery in Taupo, we headed out on the lake on Taupo's iconic boat, the Ernest Kemp. Despite the day being grey the lake was very calm and of course the lake is beautiful no matter what the weather gives us.

Adie Walker, owner/operator of Ernest Kemp Cruises and her team do a wonderful job of looking after their guests including the four-legged variety. Adie tells me the boat rarely goes out without a dog on board so ten dogs with us wasn't a problem and of course they loved the dog treats handed out by our hostess.

Victoria's Café, also dog friendly for those visiting Taupo, provided a lovely lunch which we enjoyed after the formalities – a tribute to Eileen and presentation of certificates. Eileen loved nature and would have enjoyed knowing the dogs had this adventure with us.

Our dogs often run together at local dog parks so like us were pleased to see each other and were impeccably behaved during our ninety minute cruise.

To "Team Taupo" – a huge thank you from me for being part of Canine Friends and remaining positive about returning to normal visiting.

Vicky Graham, Liaison Officer Taupo.





## Founders Day 05/06/2022 from Rachel Butler Auckland

It was a wet and windy day on Sunday June 5th when we held our Founder's Day event in Auckland. The venue was Sanders Reserve which is a council run dog park that also provided an excellent covered shelter area and building for hire with kitchen facilities, which we were very grateful for where both people and dogs could stay warm and dry.

We had 7 volunteers and their gorgeous dogs join us in what was a very enjoyable social time despite the rain. The rain stopped for about an hour where all dogs and people alike enjoyed the rather wet walk and run around the dog friendly park. After this we all headed back to the wonderful kiosk for some much need Tea/coffee and lovely cake.

Our LO, Rachel, then proceeded to talk about Eileen and her great legacy that is Canine Friends Pet Therapy and she gave out a variety of service certificates ranging from one to 10 years. It was a great social time swapping some wonderful stories on their own experiences and, of course, we are all looking forward to starting up again after the last two years due to Covid lockdowns. Photos below.







This was Chris Partridges dog Clyde who visited **Willard resthome** for many years before shifting over to live in Takapau.

Clyde obviously made a huge impression on the residents to think his corner was still there of photos and stories of visits etc. It is no wonder Chris reminisced when she joined us on a Easter visit here, this time bringing Benson and Charlie. This is amazing.

Ann Evans





## New Members: to 18 June

### Christchurch

Rachel Armishaw & Kaia, Border Collie

Joy Coughlan & Holly, Golden Labrador

Amy Kerslake & Abby, Golden Retriever

Joy Kinder & Ted, MalteseX-Chihuahua

Helen Taylor & Bob, Swedish Vallhund

Daniel Wright & Saskia Stormtrooper, Zuchon

### Far North

Julie Clearwater & Lexi, Cavadoodle

### Foxton/Levin

Liz Barrow & Bobbie, Huntaway Collie cross

Craig Benseman & Leia, Labrador Retriever

### Kapiti Coast

Irene Calvert & Beau, Pointer x

### Manawatu

Vallere Shelton & Crowley, Labrador

Judy Weller & Ella, Maltese x

### Napier

Leanne Harkness & Sam, Border

Collie x

### Nelson-Tasman

Toby Brown & Oban, Greyhound

Remi Uda & Rocko, Fox Terrier

### Queenstown

Donna Corbel & Ari, Great Dane Mastiff X

Carol Delaney & Molly, Labradoodle

Sarah Noton & Rusty, Cairn/Border Terrier

### Upper Hutt

Sharon Hastings & Stanley, Border Collie

### Waikato

Victoria Scott (support member)

Laura Binns (Liaison Officer)

Sally Clark & Shaggy, Chihuahua / Griffin

### Wellington

Sarah Emerson and Tom King &

Pickle, Catahoula cross

Yvette Tinsley and Maikali Kilioni & Ara, Cavoodle

### Whitby to Johnsonville

Alana Burke & Dory, Cavoodle

### Sula – 2010-2021

Sula was a bonnie girl who emigrated from her birthplace in Scotland to settle in New Zealand. Sula became a regular visitor at Summerset in Aotea where she was a popular canine with the residents. She loved the attention and enjoyed sharing her toys with the residents.

Sula has sadly crossed over the rainbow and will be missed by everyone who knew her. Our thoughts are with her Mum Carolyn and Dad Martin.

We are richer for knowing you Sula, thank you for being a Canine Friends therapy dog. You enriched many lives.



Soraidh



### Sula's diary



1. Lots of laughs with Les and Joyce and my mum Carolyn.
2. Me with my friend Sidney and my hippo Harry.
3. I love my friend Maureen who scratches under my chin.



## A very public thank you to a very private dog

I wish to publicly thank my regal gentleman friend who is a Greyhound/German Shepherd cross, brindle in colour and was a rescue dog. I have had him at home for 6 yrs, he was only a year old when we, my daughter and I, chose him from the Seaview dog pound in HCC. Rescued as a companion to our older rescue Staffie x. He was like an energized bunny and could not look at me, frightened of everything and no confidence. Now 7 yrs on he is a beautiful companion and self taught guard dog. I was taken by Ambulance on 10th February unexpectantly and he watched me go to hospital. I was in hospital for 3.5 weeks and I had a person come each morning and evening to feed him. My home has always been his security and he sleeps on my bed. Anyway, Rambo stayed by himself for all that time in the house although he was able to get out into the backyard which helped him.

I fretted too much without him and needed to leave hospital. The loving look on Rambo's face was absolutely beautiful when I came home which I needed. He has not left my side since although I still spend a lot of time resting in bed. He is resting too. I cannot live without him. Thank you my dear friend who just quietly gets on with his life but is there for me all day, every day.

Beverley Jocelyn

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