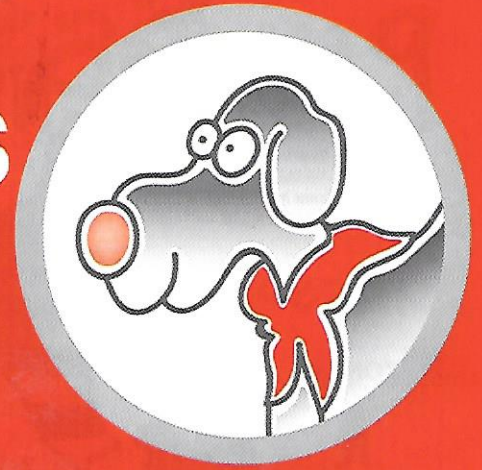


# caninefriends pet therapy

Dogs helping people



Proudly supported by Dogs New Zealand

## AGM Canine Capers



Canine Friends Pet Therapy president Ann Evans had a lightbulb moment when the committee was planning its recent Annual General Meeting. 'How can we make it more appealing and interesting to more of our members?' she mused. Then, bingo, 'we are about dogs, so why don't we have our AGM somewhere we can take our dogs and have some fun with them?'

Ann's husband Paul, a farmer and dog trialist of note thought Ann was 'barking mad'. But she wasn't ... it was a really brilliant event.

A huge turnout of committee members and teams from around the wider Wellington area and Wairarapa, Whanganui, Manawatu and Taupo attended the AGM at Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club at Mana near Porirua.

The weather had been cold and wet all week causing some anxiety, but the Saturday dawned dry and windless.

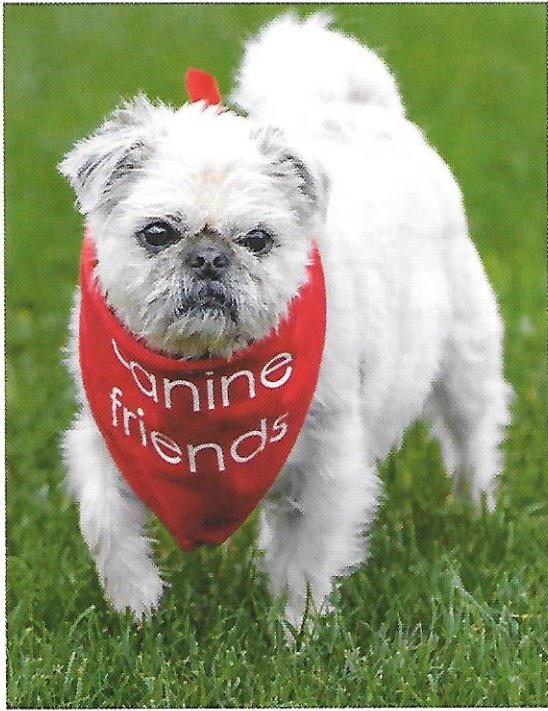
Dogs enjoyed a get-to-know-you session in the fenced grounds then joined the AGM in the clubrooms. They were rewarded for their patience during the meeting with delicious treats from Canine Friends Pet Therapy's newest sponsor Ziwi Petfood. Zoe McClintock from Ziwi's marketing team flew in from Mt Maunganui armed with treats which made her extremely popular with the canine attendees.

Two members who have given 20 years' service visiting with their dogs were recognised at the AGM. Wendy McKay from the Wairarapa and Robin Fraser who was introduced to Canine Friends by the founder Eileen Curry. They both shared some highlights of their most moving and humorous experiences.

Partners and sponsors Ziwi Petfood and Dogs NZ were thanked for their brilliant support, which is enabling Canine Friends to keep pace with its rapid growth.

Ann Evans from rural Manawatu was re-elected as president with Vicky Graham from Taupo as vice president. Victoria Caccioppoli is treasurer and Leanne Gibson secretary. The committee includes previous president Annette Dougherty with Beverley Jocelyn, Carolyn Williams, David Verrinder, Chris Partridge, Rachel Butler and Anne Abbott.





Thanks to the two local volunteer photographers Rob Neil and Carmen Van den Hoven who covered the event and produced these joyful images.

