

caninefriends pet therapy

Dogs helping people



Dame Patsy visits Te Hopai

Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy is the patron of Canine Friends Pet Therapy

Recently Dame Patsy and Sir David visited Wellington's Te Hopai Home and Hospital to see a team from Canine Friends in action.

Dame Patsy met Canine Friends volunteers and their dogs and also the founder of Canine Friends Eileen Curry who set up the organisation nearly 30 years ago.

Canine Friends volunteers visit residents in rest homes and patients in hospitals with their well-behaved loving family pets. Research shows that interaction with dogs has many benefits for people who are unwell, frail or lonely.

On this visit the strong bonds of affection between the residents and their visiting dogs was obvious.

Jack the Border Collie stole the show with his skateboard demonstration but all the dogs enjoyed plenty of attention and cuddles as they shared some special time with their friends at Te Hopai.



Dame Patsy enjoys a snuggle with Jack the Border Collie



Volunteers with Dame Patsy and Canine Friends founder Eileen Curry. Dogs who worked so hard on the day, left to right: Charlie the Poochon, Striker the Golden Retriever, Jack the Sydney Silky, Laney the Wauzer, Bridger the Labrador and Jack the Border Collie.



Jack says, let's get this show on the road

Delightful day of doggy diversions

Agility, Canine Good Citizen, Rally-O, Scent work, Canine Friends, competitive Obedience... so many possible activities to enjoy with your dogs.

Horowhenua Obedience Dog Training Club attracted huge interest at the January A,P & I Show over Wellington Anniversary weekend with members putting on displays of all these activities and promoting the clubs' programmes and timetable for the year.

Canine Good Citizen dogs and Canine Friends Pet Therapy dogs, some multi-tasking! - put on a great show and the whole display won second place in the Outdoor Trade and Display category.

Dogs NZ and Canine Good Citizen supplied material and banners for the display. Canine Friends' liaison officer for the region Sue Clarke says 'It was an excellent fun day, and we were delighted that Leanne Gibson national executive secretary was able to join us!'

Some highland cattle and a couple of llamas showing their pack-carrying abilities added to the fun.

There was enthusiastic response to their "Do you read dog?" competition. And children delighted in being able to touch the dogs... from the smallest terrier to Hudson the huge friendly Leonberger.

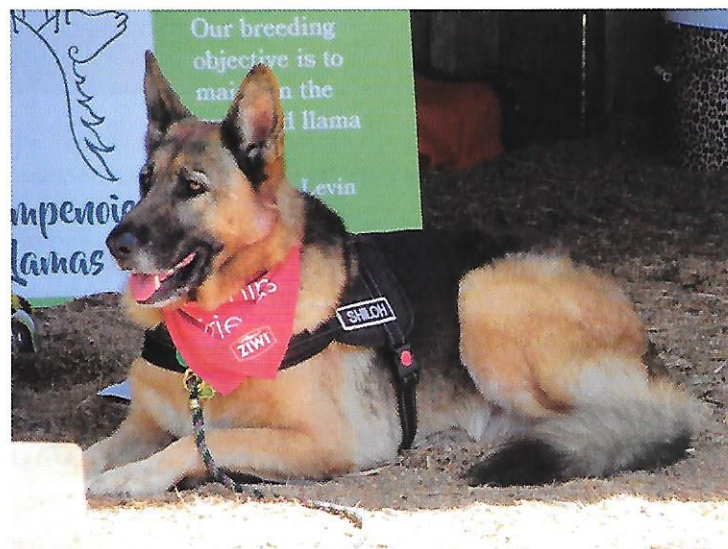


Left to right: Judy Webby and Shiloh, Valerie von Mulert and Daisy, Sue Clarke and Peri, Lisa Berthold and Hudson all Foxton/Levin area CF members. Exhausted after 2 x 8 hour days on duty!



Peri wearing her Canine Friends scarf, enjoys attention from Harvey Clarke

Craig Benseman with Daisy CGC Bronze, with Peri owned by Sue Clarke. Canine Friends and CGC Gold and RN qualified watching closely.



Shiloh, Canine Friend and CGC bronze qualified owned by Judy Webby on Llama guarding duty.