



Summer 2016

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Members and their Canine Friends.

President's Report

Christmas is only about 4 weeks away as I write the last Presidents report for 2016. Many of us are already planning our family get-togethers and celebrations, as well as making our numerous "lists" required to cope with all those last minute things that we feel just must be done before the holidays.

I've been giving a lot of thought this week about how our dogs respond to our busy live styles and hustle and bustle at this time of year, and to our times of happiness and sadness together. They always seems to recognise our moods with a nose on the knee, or staying close to reflect our projected feelings, they communicate with us and accept us warts and all.

It is with a heavy heart I have to let you all know that our Liaison Officer for Timaru, Maureen Nind has recently passed away in Timaru. Maureen attended our Liaison Officers Day at the end of August so it is difficult to understand how quickly these things happen. She had been a member of Canine Friends since 2008 and will be sadly missed. Our heartfelt sympathy and kind wishes go out to Graeme and his extended family at this difficult time.

We have made great progress with moving over 400 members into the new membership management software and have issued userids/passwords to the new website <https://caninefriendspettherapy.wildapricot.org> If you have not received a userid/password – please send an email to Leanne Gibson at HELP@caninefriends.org.nz or phone/text 0278861227

The first features we have turned on for members only are: a members directory; a section for useful forms and documents; automated subs reminders

Over the next few months we will update the look and feel of the website and make it available to the public. Please bear with us as we make the transition – we know it will be worthwhile in the end. A very big thank you to the Liaison Officers who have been very helpful with ensuring a smooth transition.

I wish you all a very happy festive season with all the people in your lives whom you care about and care about you, and just remember when all the demands of the hectic pace in which we all now seem to be living get too much, sit down, cuddle your Canine friend and remember they will alleviate your stress as well.

Thank you for all the fabulous work for Canine Friends during the past year which helps so many people and touches so many lives. **The Committee is so grateful for the ongoing constant support from our wonderful Liaison Officers and we send them our very special Christmas Greetings.**

Merry Christmas and happy holidays from **Annette, Megs and Murphy**



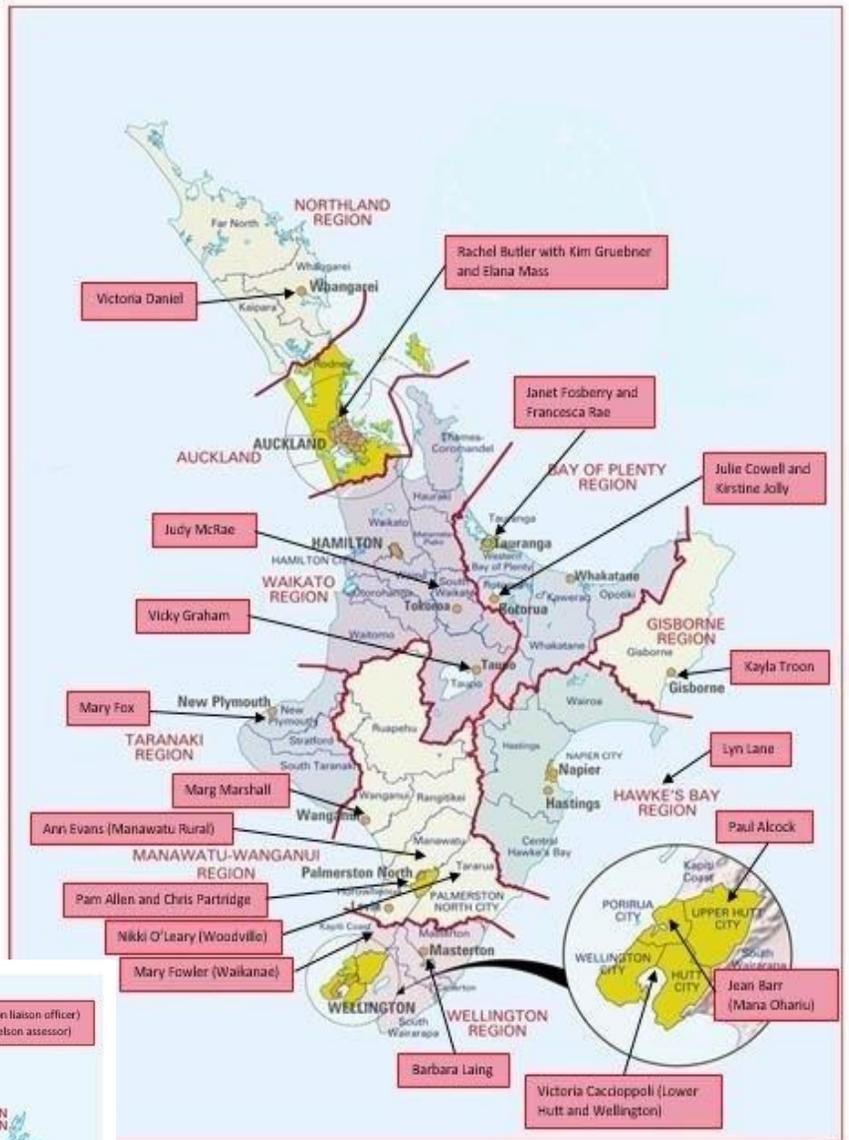
Beautiful Christmas photo of Oakie & Sophie taken at Virginia Lodge Wanganui





We have had a rapid growth within our Group with people wanting to share their time and the love of their canine friends by visiting the Retirement Homes, Hospitals, Care facilities and giving stress relief to University Students. We are so enthused with our membership of approx. 510 and the productive year we have had.

We hope you find the maps interesting and informative as they show our regions with the Liaison Officers responsible. Sadly, there is one change and that is for Timaru. With the passing of Maureen Nind the LO position will be handled by Alice Edwards. Thank you Alice. The Committee enjoyed meeting our Liaison Officers in Wellington recently and has had good positive feedback for the day. See comment below:



“Dear Ann, Annette, Sarah , Nina and Leanne

Thank you for a wonderful learning day. These days always inspire me to do more, even though life is pretty busy. It was great to hear about MMS and the other initiatives on the horizon. Thank you for your tireless dedication.

We felt thoroughly spoilt and loved the venue, lunch and discussions. Thank you for including Tauranga. The flight was scary but we made it!

Regards Janet Fosberry and Francesco Rae”

Our communication process with members and the wider public has improved considerably with a lot of interest on Facebook & viewings on the Website are constantly high. Our new Website will be available soon and will be more user friendly which is very exciting. Please keep in touch by visiting these sites. Our Communications Manager, Carolyn Williams, is producing monthly articles for the NZ Dogworld Magazine which are proving to be successful and definitely highlights your wonderful efforts and activities.

I look forward to receiving your lovely Christmas photos for the March Newsletter.

Editor





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Our Dogs Visiting — Taupo-nui-a-Tia College

Adam spent two days at Taupo-nui-a-Tia College recently to share some love before senior students sat their school exams. He has been visiting the school periodically since he was a very young pup, so is calm and relaxed during the hustle and bustle of a school day. He loves teenagers and is always keen to perform his wee repertoire of tricks for them. Adam has become well known to many students and some refer to him as 'the calming dog'.

Regards Amanda Simpson

Amanda is a Science and Agriculture teacher and her students ask her to bring Adam to school on the days of their exams.



Rianah, Tayla & Kataraina

Xanthe & Adam

Photo left—Rianah, Shaneece, Tayla & Kataraina enjoying a cuddle from Adam

Animal Blessing Service—Oamaru

Here is a 'photo of three of the Oamaru dog team that visit Iona Rest Home and Hospital in Oamaru. The three dogs right to left, are Dusty (golden lab) with owner Judy, Bronwyn (black lab x) with owner Liz, – unfortunately we don't see Bronwyn's face due to a last minute move, and my dog Sophie (choc lab) with a friend Diana. All dogs were extremely well behaved during the service which had several other canines, cats, rats, and a goat. As far as I know, no animals left any visiting cards, certainly not "our three".

Cheers, Anthea Brown



Our Dogs Visiting—New Member

Holly visiting Ellesmere Hospital in Leeston

Hi my name is Holly. I'm a Huntaway Collie cross, I will be five in February. My mum Gail and I have just received our Canine Friends scarf and badge so we can start visiting Ellesmere Hospital in Leeston.

I can't wait to start visiting so I can show them all my tricks and get lots of pats .

Regards Gail O'Neill



Our Dogs Visiting—Totara Park Hospice

"Please see attached photos of my amazing Grandad - in his last weeks of life . These beautiful people came to visit him in Totara Park Hospice. He loved animals so much - and these lovely people with their lovely dogs just brightened his day no end.

Are you please able to let me know the names and contact details of these amazing people so I can send them a card to thank them personally .

My grandfather passed away a couple of weeks later - and never got home to see his dogs , so this really was such a special moment. We cannot thank you enough. What a heartfelt, amazing job you do.

My family and I cannot thank you enough". From Trudy



Catherine & Matt Clarke visiting Trudy's Grandfather with Zues and Thor

Ted visiting Aspire Residential Care, Hamilton

Christine Johnson has written a wonderful resume' of her new dog, Ted, who visits Aspire House. Please read his story on the opposite page and see some excellent photos below



Ted was not too happy with his new body harness on the 1st day but now loves it



Doggy treats from Colleen & Kim



Christine & Sharkaela with Ted



Introducing Ted.....the once reluctant city boy.

Ted, a retired working dog of German Shepherd X Border Collie mix came into my life on February 22nd this year. A few weeks earlier he had been wandering in cattle country in South Waikato and put in the dog-pound. Nobody came looking for him so a kindly volunteer re-homed him to his farm nearby and placed Ted's photo and story on ' Pets on the Net '. I read his story and liked the look of this dog with the happy, handsome face. His new name was Ted, he suited it well.

Within 2 days this kindly volunteer had brought him to meet us on our block of land just outside Hamilton city, and so here was Ted with his new name, his new owners, his new home and his bewildering visits into the big city and for the first time in his life he was encouraged to come inside for a cuddle and to sleep on a cozy soft bed inside too. My family were delighted with this new dog. He was so willing, kind and gentle and his long fluffy tail never stopped swinging.

Life as a visiting dog with 'Canine Friends Pet Therapy ' began for Ted following his assessment with Judy McRae at ' Hamilton Lake ' in March. This was a really tough test for ' Country Boy Ted '. He had probably never been in such a busy environment with traffic and city noise, plenty of kids patting him, food to resist and Judy's Leonburgers to meet. His back legs were shaking, but he ' passed with flying colours ' as Judy said with a smile.

Last year I had been visiting 'Aspire Residential Homes ' with Rosie my Huntaway X Greyhound. Sadly she had suddenly become unwell and there was no cure for her. My lovely Rosie was put to sleep at the end of December.

Would Ted be able to visit as well as she did ? My hopes were high.

Ted was not yet used to being with lots of different people, who could he trust ? His life had been one of wandering the country roads and following his nose, maybe doing a bit of cattle work, maybe a companion dog, maybe with other doggy mates all chained and resting when not needed. Maybe this and maybe that, but hopefully this country boy would become a city boy and love to visit folk who look forward to seeing a gentle happy dog walk towards them and give them a doggy smile and a fluffy body to cuddle.

Well as you can see in the photos, Ted is now a city boy and he has grown to trust and enjoy life with new friends. He brightens their day, they look forward to his weekly visits. Ted has learnt special words like ' visiting ' when I put his red scarf and body harness on. His wonderful working dog bark is reserved for home times with ' that will do ' if he forgets. ' Stay close ' is useful when out and about.

Unlike all my other dogs I have owned over the last 35 years, Ted has no idea what a tug-toy is, or what to do with a squeaky rubber chicken. He will not chase a ball or jump for a stick, but he is bouncy, playful, happy and friendly. The folk at ' Aspire Residential Care ' find him to be lovable and trust-worthy. This ' Canine Friend ' makes them very happy.

Ted is a good visiting dog and is still a country boy at heart.

That's our Ted.



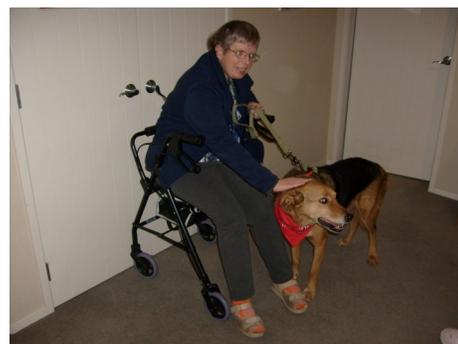
Kim and June with Ted



Jo with Ted



Joy with Ted



Claire with Ted



What fun we have when we visit Ranfurly Residential Care Centre in Feilding

Ranfurly is a reasonably new but large care facility in Feilding with all levels of care from apartments to resthome, hospital and dementia and is still growing.

At present we have four Canine Friends Pet Therapy dogs who call this place their second home and just love their visiting time here.

Ann with either Sophie or Oakie Doakie, Kathryn with Henry and Helen with Shadow all fill the rooms with joy when they visit. Ann and Kathryn visit one week and Helen the other week so a dog is visiting there every week. It is just not possible to cover all the facility on your own. Helen with her greyhound Shadow concentrates on the dementia unit and then visits others as time permits and Shadow has even been known to write letters to some of the residents. Henry the cocker spaniel and Sophie or Oakie the golden retrievers begin at opposite corners and it is not unusual for them not to see one another except on arrival maybe.

We are always very popular whether it is in reception, passing by staff or of course the many residents who have our photos on their walls. It is a very animal friendly Home and it is nothing for us to meet other dogs or a lamb or one day a pony and of course there are the resident cats.

We dress up for special occasions like daffodil day, Anzac day with a poppy on our scarf, bunny ears for Easter and of course plenty of tinsel at Christmas when we also join with other Canine Friends on a group visit which has been an annual event for many years now. We are also invited to their Christmas Party and always welcome at anytime.

They tell us they talk about us for many days after our visits as we bring out memories of their past, they tell us stories and they just love the touch and loving nature of our dogs.

Ann Evans



Bet with Oakie



Verla with Oakie



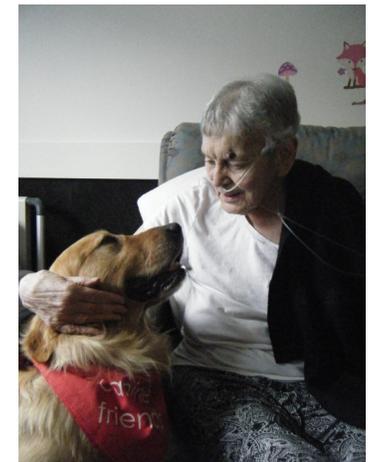
Henry with Jack & Kathryn



Ann and Sophie, Kathryn and Henry



Eunice with Sophie



Rei with Oakie

Our Dogs Visiting — More photos from Ranfurly Residential Care Centre in Feilding



Helen & Shadow



Sophie get pats on Daffodil Day from Ray



John & Dennis with Oakie



Phyllis enjoys a chat with Oakie

Henry visits Ranfurly Residential Care Centre in Feilding

Henry is a two and half year old Cocker Spaniel with silky black ears and a flash of white on his crown. We have been visiting **Ranfurly Residential Care Centre in Feilding** about nine months. On our fortnightly visits we meet our friends Ann and Sophie/Oakie and then we spread out and share the canine love with as many residents as we can.

Henry is a sweet-natured gentle dog who is growing into his Canine Friends role. He is happy to sidle up to the residents' wheelchairs, walkers and beds for pats and cuddles and even to have his ears fondled. The residents comment on his soft colourful Roan coat, waggly tail and calm temperament (but we are yet to have a close encounter Princess the feline Ruler of Ranfurly).

In his spare time Henry is totally himself...a true blue Cocker Spaniel. He enjoys wombing about down by the Manawatu River reading all the classified ads, flushing out birds of all shapes and sizes and finding dead things to roll in whenever possible (much to my dismay).

Regards Kathryn



Gordon with Star

Bereavement— Gordon Conning (1936-2016)

It is with sadness that Eileen Curry has advised us that Gordon passed away recently. Gordon was a Life Member from 1993 and Eileen was closely connected as she found Star, his canine friend and rescued Star from the pound. Gordon and Star started off in the early days of our Group visiting many homes, hospitals and then later it was Aroha Rest Home and Wesley Haven.

Our sincere condolences to Donna and thank you for the photograph. Editor



Memorium— Brock and Brodie

Both boys were members of Canine Friends and we have been visiting for several years. It was through Ann Evans that we joined the group. We knew Ann from Feilding dog training club. Both boys passed their Canine Good Citizen tests, Brock got Silver and Brodie got Gold. In fact Brodie was among the first group in NZ to get their Gold.

In the olden days, the dogs had to sit behaviour and obedience tests before they could join Canine Friends and both boys passed with flying colours. We started visiting the Star Wards at Palmerston North hospital. We did that for a couple of years, very successfully till the hospital's Infectious Control dept. decided they wouldn't allow dogs in their hospital. So we moved on to Peppertree Rest Home where we have been for several years. The residents loved the Gentle Goldens as they were called and it was a sad day when first Brodie passed away 2 years ago at 14 years, then Brock in September this year at the grand old age of 16! Some of the "oldies" still ask after Brock and Brodie.

They were also used for teaching at the Vet School at Massey University. I'd often go and check on them only to find them all bandaged up and still wagging their tails. They were well known by the vet students and I'm sure there will be many vets out there who would remember them.



Helen Hurn with Brock



Brock visiting Gwen Hoskin at Peppertree Rest Home, Feilding

I guess I had a special bond with the boys as I believe they saved my life. We were attacked by a Pitbull. The dog had me on the ground, tearing my leg and if it wasn't for my dogs getting the Pitbull off me, I don't know what would have happened. Brodie got very badly bitten but made a full recovery. So I will never forget my boys.

My eyes are filling with tears just thinking of them. Best wishes from Barbara Adlington

We are carrying on the tradition with my new dog Bradley – a 2 year old bundle of energy, another Golden Retriever.



Victoria University Stafford House Unilodge — Victoria Caccioppoli, our Lower Hutt & Wellington City Liaison Officer organised for these lovely canine friends to visit the students for "stress relief". It seems to be working!



Rexie & Students



Penelope giving a high 5



Caesar enjoying his pat



Bunty likes pats 8



Appreciation and Donations

Dear Jean, I have been given your name as a contact person by Marlene Bowles from Longview in Tawa. I wanted to make contact to let you and your members know the difference you make in the life's of so many. In this case my dear mother Joan Lawrence had the pleasure firstly of Louise and her wee friend, and then David with his wonderful dog Guss. David and Guss gave much pleasure to mum every Tuesday when they visited Longview over a number of years. Last month Mum had a massive stroke and the 2 loyal companions visited Mum every day until she died peacefully a week later. They went above and beyond and the family would dearly like to acknowledge this to the organization and to find a way of making a contribution to support the fantastic work done by your group. Looking forward to hearing from you. Diane Lawrence

“Hello Diane

Thank you so much for sending through this lovely email about your mother. Our members will be so pleased to get this feedback about their visits.

Our members are all volunteers and visit because they get great pleasure and enjoyment out of sharing their dogs. We don't actively seek donations but are very appreciative for any donations that we do receive. Treasurer”.

“Joan was a special person who Gus and I enjoyed visiting. She was a strong advocate for Canine Friends and spoke up at Residents' Meetings about her and other residents' enjoyment from the dogs' visits. David”.

Congratulations to Marijke Lups who received a Community Volunteer Award

Yesterday I was honoured by receiving a volunteer award for my work with Ollie, my dog, at Jack Inglis Friendship Hospital and Resthome in Motueka. It was a lovely ceremony at the Motueka Memorial Hall and a lot of volunteers working in the community got awards. Today I had an interview on the local radio and this will be broadcasted this coming Wednesday afternoon at 2pm. I mentioned that it would be nice if more people would like to become part of Canine friends work, so maybe there will be some inquiries this week after the broadcast.. Warm regards, Marijke Lups.



Palmerston North Canine Friends Team had a Christmas get-together



The majority of the Palmerston North Canine Friends Team gathered at Mangaone Park on Sunday 20th for a Christmas get together and afternoon tea.

It was wonderful to see some sun after a couple of weeks of rain.

The dogs all wore themselves out playing. A couple of them discovered the stream!

It was great for everyone to meet each other and have a chat. We have a number of new members so it was good for them to meet everyone. Hopefully those who were unable to attend will be able to make the next one.

Already planning another outing for February after everyone has survived Christmas and children going back to school.

We'd like to thank those companies which sponsored us;



Erin Gunderson (owner of The Pet Care Company, Transformations) Pet Essentials , Animates and Countdown.

Regards Chris Partridge

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Welcome to our New Members to 6 November,

AUCKLAND

Carole Bird & Andrew Russell, Maltese, Sasha
Annette Coker, Hunterway cross, Munch
Nicolette Doe, Cavoodle, Wilbur
Tracey Gabriel, Lowchen, Oscar
Kim Gruebner
Angela Hooper, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier,
Pippy
Pauline & David Jarvis, Labrador, Monty
Helen Lamb, Shih Tzu X Poodle, Beau
Elana Mass
Natalija Palada, Labradoodle, Woody
Shona & Les Tokana, American Bulldog, Rosey

CHRISTCHURCH

Sheena D'Abreo, Standard Poodle, Piper
Helen Dupe, Newfoundland, Quinn
Caty Mayall, Golden Doodle, Bear

KAPI MANA

Louise Craig, Golden Labrador, Bengi
Alice Littlejohns, Poodle x Chinese Crested
Powderpuff, Ruby
Crystal & Tony Middleton-Lunn, Schnoodle,
Major
Alison Wilkinson, King Charles Cavalier, Winston

KAPITI COAST

Julie Banks, Cavoodle, Poppy
Jean McBirney, Wire Haired Terrier, Louie
Anne-Marie Southey Toy Poodle, Toby
Heather Thompson, Poodle x Bichon, Beau

LOWER HUTT

Kate Goodman, Greyhound, Zahra
Lorraine Hazlewood, Huntaway x Beardie, Bella

NELSON /TASMAN

Graham & Gloria Sturgess, Irish Terrier, Charlie

PALMERSTON NORTH

Natalie Dunn-Hall, Labrador X Hunterway, Shadow
Swetlana Jagana, Saluki x Labrador, Nesta
Lois Jones, Cavalier King Charles, Izzy
Rita Owens Fox Terrier, Ringo
Kate Simms, Shitzu x Maltese, Lyra

QUEENSTOWN

Sue Bartlett, Chihuahua, BooBoo

ROTORUA

Debbie Auld, English Springer Spaniel, Toby
Mary Barton, Sydney Silkie, Minnie
Saskia Murray, Maltese x Chihuahua, Lavendar

TARANAKI

Tania Hanlon, Toy Poodle, Chewy

TAUPO

Gaynor Talbot, Miniature Schnauzer, Jemma

TAURANGA

Stephanie & Steve McCarty, Border Collie, Maldy
Danielle Meier, Shetland Sheepdog, Chica
Lynda Moss, Border Collie x Blue Heeler, Ruff
Kelly Pidgeon, Labrador, Max

UPPER HUTT

Adrian Browne, Caboodle, Flossy

WAIKATO

Sarah Alderton, Weimaraner, Zen
Nancy Harlow, Heeler X Staffy, Harmony
Nicola Robertson, Shih Tzu x Maltese, Honey
Jody Tracey, Border Collie x, Astro
Carol Drew, Poodle, Venus
Nola Herrmann, Zulu
Veronica Marwitz, Kelpie, Mango

WAIRARAPA

Michael Daly, Cavoodle, Mags

WELLINGTON

Anne Johnson
Sharon Paine, Labraspoodle, Reilly
Isabel Poulson, Spoodle, Cinnamon

