

South Island Field Officer Report AGM 2018

Winter has arrived in the South Island with very cold days this week and more low temperatures to come. Following our successful sponsorship deal our members are all waiting for the arrival of new scarves with the Zivi logo.

Also this month an article in the Women's Weekly about Pet therapy has alerted interest in visiting with an increase in applications. Christchurch LO Annette Sheridan and Assessor Lois Lang are working hard to make sure all the applicants are suitable to be involved in our organisation.

Also Annette Sheridan has formed links with the boarding halls at the University giving Canine Friends an introduction into helping stressed students during their lead up to exams. An initial visit with a few dogs is planned for 30th May.

In Nelson visiting as usual no further word from Jenny Ross as Bob is reluctant to have a photo taken while skate boarding at present.

Cath Rivron reports all is going well in Oamaru. She has a new dog visiting regularly at Observatory Village.

In Invercargill Marie Lockie, LO for many years is unwell and unable to continue as Liaison Officer at present. We wish Marie a speedy recovery.

On a personal note I have lost my faithful golden lab this week. Tara was assessed for Canine Friends Pet therapy when she was 11 but did not visit, preferring to snooze at home and eat whatever she could find on her forest walks not caring if it was for edible consumption or not. Just reflecting on losing a cherished pet I feel sad when an owner realises that 12 years have passed and kids have left home and life has moved quickly on and that puppy that caused so much chaos for the first year is now happy just to have a short walk and to sit in the sun. The hardest part of being a dog owner is realising the time has come to say goodbye. I have said goodbye to pets before and it is like losing a good friend and each time the pain is hard to bare. I'm sure all our members can relate to this.

Regards
Carol Millican