

## **Nominations for the National Committee AGM 2019**

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As per our constitution, each year we need to appoint up to 12 people onto the National Committee.

There are three Officer positions that must be filled. They are:

President

Secretary

Treasurer

and 9 General Committee positions

### **Here are the nominations received for the Officer positions:**

#### **President: Vicky Graham**

My involvement with Canine Friends Pet Therapy began in the early 1990's as a volunteer and committee member. With much pride, I have witnessed the growth of our organisation from its small beginnings in Wellington to a recognised and respected nationwide charity.

My professional career spanned 25 years in the insurance industry, the last 10 in senior management roles.

I have been successfully self-employed for almost 20 years and have been able to devote more time to voluntary work which has enabled me to further develop and enjoy good relationships with those from all walks of life and in any capacity. I have good communication and organisation skills and a strong commitment to causes I am passionate about – Canine Friends is one such cause. I wholeheartedly believe in visiting and helping those who can no longer enjoy the benefits of owning a dog – this to me is the essence of our organisation.

In 2008 my husband and I moved to Taupo and after setting up a new business, I established Canine Friends here in 2009. In 2015 I was privileged to be recognised as an honorary life member. Since 2017 I have filled the roles of vice president and funding coordinator. In April 2018 I was delighted to confirm a three year partnership agreement with Ziwi, a New Zealand pet food company and continue to foster this relationship.

Since May 2018 I have overseen the Waikato region as acting liaison officer and developed a team of four local key members to ensure this large area runs smoothly. I have also monitored and assisted with the running of the Northland area since February this year.

I have held committee positions with various animal related organisations including the Central Golden Retriever Club, dog obedience clubs, SPCA and Riding for Development. I have instructed at Taupo Dog Training Club since 2016.

As my current business is of a part-time nature I am able to dedicate the time and energy necessary to fulfil the role, one which I will relish and carry out to the very best of my ability whilst continuing Eileen's vision.

#### **Secretary: Leanne Gibson**

I've been a member of the Committee since 2015 and have undertaken a number of roles over that time such as Funding Co-ordinator, database manager, Treasurer and Secretary. I work fulltime as a Technology Manager, so have helped the Committee with a number of technology innovations such as putting in Wild Apricot (our membership management system); moving our accounts to Xero; and using video conferencing for our meetings. I have a pug (Summer) who is no longer visiting and a rescue puppy (Cane) who aspires to be a Canine Friend when he grows up. I love working with the talented and professional team that make up our National Committee and would like to put my hand up again for the role of Secretary and database manager.

**Treasurer: Dallas Hopkins**

I'm currently the Corporate Accountant at AgResearch in Lincoln, a position I have held for the past 8 months, prior to that I was an auditor in the public accounting sector for nearly 5 years. I hold a B.Com majoring in Accounting, a Post Graduate Diploma in Chartered Accountancy and am a fully qualified Chartered Accountant. In addition to my day to day job, I also run an equestrian business and assist small businesses and sole traders with their day-to-day accounting queries and taxation requirements. Through my experience as an accountant and audit, I believe the main areas of expertise that I could offer to the committee are:

- Commercial Acumen
- Financial Reporting/Compliance
- Governance Experience (in position of auditor, you advise a number of governing bodies)
- Strategic Initiatives
- Financial Planning/Investing

Besides offering practical expertise, I also offer my enthusiasm and creativity for animals and the positive impact that being a Canine Friend has on people's lives. I've been a Canine friend for 7 years with my Samoyed (Atticus) and have found that sharing those moments of happiness and love with a variety of people from all walks of life to be very fulfilling and inspiring. For this reason, I would love to see the reach and impact that Canine Friends has, spread as far and wide as possible while providing a supportive network for the like-minded individuals who offer their time and pets to make the vision possible.

**Here are the General Committee nominations – listed in Alphabetical order (by surname)**

**Anne Abbott from Lower Hutt**

I came to NZ in 1970 as a married woman with 2 daughters.  
 Taught mathematics at Hutt Valley High School for 17 years.  
 Was awarded a Teachers Scholarship in 1989.  
 Taught on the Foundation program at Whitireia Polytechnic until 2014.  
 Was on the committee of the Central Golden Retriever Club until 2004, after spending about 15 years as their treasurer.  
 Eileen Curry asked me to be treasurer of Canine Friends in about 2006, and I resigned from this position in 2016. Recently I have taken on the position of Liaison Officer for Upper Hutt, which will be a steep learning curve!  
 Jess is my 6th Golden Retriever, having had my first one in 1973.

**Rachel Butler from Auckland**

My name is Rachel Butler and am founding owner/instructor of Take the Lead Dog Training. I have assisted countless owners and all types of dogs with good manners and everyday control for well over 25 years.

I have trained my own dogs in the sports of obedience, agility, tracking and heelwork to music, gaining National awards and qualifications in those areas.

Qualifications, Experience and Membership:

Certificate of Animal Management (Canine Behaviour and Training).  
 Seminar and workshop attendance of internationally known dog behaviourists and trainers.  
 Life member of North Shore Dog Training Club, having held office as President, Secretary and Head Instructor at various times.

I continue to be an active member and volunteer instructor at this club.

Assessor for the Canine Good Citizen scheme run by Dogs New Zealand (a national dog training and breed council).

Assessor and active member for Canine Friends Pet Therapy since 2011.

Have been on the CFPT Committee since June 2017.

**Annette Dougherty from Lower Hutt**

As I have been a dog owner for over 60 years, owning many different dog breeds, I was really happy when I passed my assessment with Eileen Curry back in 2005 and joined our organization visiting Ropata Residential Home for a number of years, firstly with my Spoodle Meg, then with Murphy my Bichon/Poodle cross.



I also was asked to join the Committee by Eileen Curry at that time and have been a committee member ever since.

I have spent many years in the public area of Real Estate, and three years ago I started up my own business of Petite Paws Dog Grooming in Lower Hutt which is extremely successful and very enjoyable.

I have held the position for our club over the years as Data Base Manager, Newsletter Editor, Liaison Officer, Vice President, President and currently I am the New Members Co-ordinator, this position I have held for the past year. It is a busy but enjoyable role and my geography of New Zealand is improving immensely! I have really enjoyed working with the extremely dedicated Liaison Officers who have made my first year in this position very rewarding

Over the years I have made some wonderful friends in our organization, both human and canine, and would like to put my name forward for re-election on the National Committee for 2019/20.

#### **Beverley Jocelyn from Lower Hutt**

I am a retired person but my previous working background was working with a Sales Team of 13 people and Marketing a well-known dog food brand through Veterinary Clinics. I also helped with the sponsorship of the products to dog clubs for their Shows and the Annual Dog Show for NZ Dogs.

I love animals, especially horses, dogs and cats and have owned pedigree dogs but during the last 12 years have brought home several rescue dogs from the Animal Control Centre in Seaview.

I am a non-visiting member of Canine Friends Pet Therapy as I prefer being an Administrator on the Committee. I was invited to join the Committee in 2013 and have been responsible for the production of the Canine Newsletter since 2014.

I would like to put my name forward for re-election to the Canine Friends Committee for this coming 2019/20 year.

#### **Sandy McAllen from Whanganui**

My name is Sandy McAllen and I am happy to advise that I am the new Liaison Officer for Canine Friends Pet Therapy, Whanganui. I have formerly been involved with Guide dogs and the Blind Foundation. After our beautiful Golden Retriever, Abbot, (7 yrs) had a Mast Cell Tumour removed and was retired as a stud dog, becoming a Canine Friend has been a wonderful way for him to continue his 'pawfect' work in the community. We also have a Labrador, Vera (ten yrs) and a Corgi X, Lucky (16 yrs!).

#### **Alison Law from Kapiti**

I'd love to be considered for the National Committee for Canine Friends and to have the opportunity to be involved with helping the organisation continue to progress. A bit more about me:

I'm currently the Parks and Recreation Manager at Kapiti Coast District Council and have been for the past 4 years. I have a 20 year history with Local Government in the aquatics and recreation industry, predominantly with aquatics facility management and community recreation but four years ago my role changed to include parks and open space. Through my local government roles my main areas of expertise that I think would be beneficial to the committee are:

- Communications and promotions
- Community engagement
- Governance experience : both from being part of advisory boards within the recreation industry (I'm currently on the Board for Recreation Aoteroa) and from working alongside elected members for a number of years in local government
- Strategy and planning
- Financial management
- Volunteer management



First and foremost though, is my absolute passion for all animals and for the joy and life changing experiences they can bring to people of all ages and abilities. I've been a Canine Friend for six months now and one of the most rewarding things I have ever experienced is how much Fern (my black lab) brightens peoples' lives for the short time we have the privilege of visiting them. Being able to help that spread further across our communities would be incredibly rewarding for me.

**Helen Moriarty from Wellington**

I am a new member of Canine Friends expressing an interest in helping with the running of it. Although I do not know a lot about the organisation yet, but getting involved is the best way that I know of to learn more about this!

I am a recently retired health professional with the time and energy to spend on a committee role now. My committee experience extends back 40 years, starting with Play Centre, Kindy and School committees. I have taken on many roles on committees and on boards, both in the workplace and in the voluntary sector during those years. Happy for my name to go forward at the AGM, perhaps as field officer or else in some other support role.

**Carolyn Williams from Whitby to Johnsonville**

**David Verrinder from Whitby to Johnsonville**

I have been a member of CFPT for two and a half years along with my Golden Retriever Rafa. My working background is in the high technology recruitment business mostly recruiting for North American companies who wish to develop and expand their operations in the Asia Pacific region.