# news

Autumn 2022

# Winner of our Summer Fun Photo Contest!







## More winners inside!

See more – on pages 4-5 you'll find our favourite 30 entries in the Summer Fun Photo Contest. We were inundated with great photos!





## **Congratulations to Floyd from Whitby**

Laura Featherston said: "The beach is Floyd's favourite place in the world. This photo was taken at Waimarama Beach when Floyd joined mum and dad on their honeymoon around the North Island. Floyd had the best time ever. His goofy face in this photo is priceless and the scenery isnt too bad either.

Floyd has been visiting Longview Home in Tawa, Wellington for the past year and has made many friends with the residents and staff. He loves getting pats and snuggles from the residents and knows who always has treats!"

# **President's Report**

I must confess I cannot think of the right words to describe how I felt just a few moments ago when reading my report in our last newsletter – and I'm not usually lost for words! I had briefly summarised 2021 then recalled wondering at the start of this year what 2022 and Covid will mean for Canine Friends.

Although we (committee) postponed our Liaison Officer Appreciation Day planned for 5 March and now set for 3 September, we continue to be positive. The beginning of a new year is a good time to think about the months ahead, what we want to achieve and how we do that. Covid has highlighted the importance of maintaining communication channels with our members and supporters. To this end we have planned a monthly event or activity so please check your emails to see what is happening!

This newsletter features a photo competition, a first for us and we are thrilled with the interest with over one hundred photos submitted. A huge thank you goes to our sponsor Ziwi for providing such great prizes.

These photos portray a powerful story, that of the relationship we have with our dogs and the rewards they provide by sharing their sense of fun and enthusiasm with us. Below is one of my favourite summer photos of Piers, our Golden Retriever who passed away last year. He never wanted to swim but was more than happy to climb aboard my kayak with me.

Speaking of loyalty, you will see a few words from Yvette Shore about a visit from her lovely Toby whilst she was in Waikato Hospital. Despite Covid regulations her husband was given permission to take Toby in on her birthday. Thank you Yvette, you have described the essence of our work beautifully.

Up until the Omicron outbreak we recorded just over one hundred facilities had welcomed us to resume visiting. Our priority is to existing members returning to visiting once the opportunities arise and we should feel confident this will happen once the Omicron wave has passed. We are receiving requests from other organisations such as NZCare Group who provide homes in communities for intellectually and physically disabled people. Dementia Day Care facilities are also keen to arrange visits.

Finally, some statistics I spotted recently: the age of entry into aged care facilities in New Zealand is typically 85 + years. The growth of this age segment is forecasted to rise from 88,000 people in 2020 to 360,000 in 2063.

On behalf of the committee, thank you for your continued support. If you wish to speak to Carol Drew, our Volunteer Mentor Support, please email her at VolunteerMentor@caninefriends.org.nz to arrange a phone conversation.

Vicky Graham - President



# Your Canine Friends Pet Therapy Committee as elected on 10 June 2021

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Committee	Rachel Davison	027 568 4559	LHutt_LiaisonOfficer@caninefriends.org.nz
Committee	Helen Moriarty	027 445 6792	WGTN_LiaisonOfficer@caninefriends.org.nz

Our Website: www.caninefriends.org.nz

Our Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/dogfriendsNZ

You Tube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdnZJ4LaiApt2bLpdssY2rA



## In memorium

Our dear little Minti died on the day we received the lovely article in your newsletter featuring her. She was 17 years and 4 months and still loved being a Canine Friends Pet Therapy dog.

We wish you all the very best for your wonderful society and all the good you do in the community. Minti and I both absolutely loved our time spent in Canine Freinds Pet Therapy.

Marilyn Hanff



## Toby brings joy

Today is my birthday. I was so excited. After 15 days so far as a patient in Waikato Hospital, what utter bliss to see my wee Toby again. When he spotted me, his beautiful long tail started wagging furiously and he rushed over to give me kisses. He lead the way as we walked along the ward corridor and he kept looking back to make sure I hadn't disappeared. So much for getting the "cold shoulder" that I had read about! No wonder our volunteers give such joy. I spent a good hour with Toby and my family when the head nurse invited Toby and me (drips and tubes in hand on a pole), to visit the other rooms in the ward. Toby was back at work and of course, knew just what to do to enchant the other patients - even after all these months of Covid shutdown.

Knowing what his visit meant to me and once more seeing him bring smiles to others I can only say it is a real privilege for all of us to be able to share our furry friends with others as part of Canine Friends. If you are wondering about continuing volunteering after Covid, just do it. It means more than you can imagine. We even had Toby in with a Police escorted patient who was visibly moved when Toby went up to his bedside; such a small effort for a mammoth reward.

Yvette Shore

A BIG thank you to all the members and Liaison Officers who have contributed to the articles in this newsletter. If you want to share a story or picture of you and your dog visiting, please send it to: editor@caninefriends.org.nz

## The winners in our Summer Fun Photo Contest!

We know you enjoyed our Summer Fun contest, because we were indundated with great photos of dogs chilling out and enjoying summer. The brief was to send us the best summer snap of your dog, and it could be funny, artistic or just your dog enjoying life. We have selected our favourite 30, of which the Committee, then voted and selected the winning three.



## First place: Floyd

This photo was taken at Waimarama Beach when Floyd joined mum and dad on their honeymoon around the North Island.

Floyd and his prize pack!



#### Second place: Fleur

Fleur is a six years old Shitzu Maltese cross, who has been enjoying regular visits to the Taranaki Hospice since she was three years old. Her first trip out in our trailer yacht 'Sooliamon', was to Lake Taupo at six months old, and since then she has spent summers sailing around the Hauraki Gulf and has had seven trips out to the beautiful Great Barrier Island. Fleur has travelled all over the country. She is always curious, very friendly and calm, and we love her to bits!!!



#### Third place: Jack

Jack Bourke contemplates his next visit to Cashmere View Care Home (Christchurch).

11 year old Jack has been saying hello and having the occasional morning tea with the friendly folk at Cashmere since 2014.

# Take a look at the other 27 fantastic photo entries from our favourites selection!























































## Out and about around the country



Northland



Queenstown



Tauranga



Christchurch



Hastings: Mylo getting a well earned tummy rub from staff member Jo.



Hastings: Benson with his good friend, Gladys at Rahiri Resthome, Dannevirke.



Auckland: Our new member pack has arrived and Bodhi Bing Bong is at your service and reporting for duty.



Foxton/Levin



Whanganui: Sharing happiness of our little get together here in Whanganui. Although it wasn't packed with everyone here, it was a perfect size for everyone to get to know each other. We had Sue from Wellington who we all first met today and the rest are our most active visiting members. Some active members couldn't make it because they were overseas or out of town. We talked for two hours and there was a lot of laughter!



lady forming an immediate connection. I am sure Elsa will continue to bring joy to the residents who really appreciated the visit.

Catherine Rivron

## Newest Oamaru Pet Therapy team

Our newest Oamaru team are Ruth Perham and Elsa. Elsa is a 21-month-old Border Collie. She has a very calm and gentle nature. She likes going on walks, having rubs, and annoying the cat who puts up with it. Elsa started dog agility training a few months ago and trains at the North Otago Dog Training Club. She is a fast learner and has already mastered all the obstacles.

Elsa has had 2 visits to Northanjer Rest Home. She was on her best behaviour and was very receptive of the people she met. As her Liaison officer I can report that she was a star, with one particular

## **Canine Friends at Massey Orientation**

As part of Massey Orientation Week, we were invited along to share our dogs with the students. Unfortunately due to Covid, several of our members opted out but our nine dogs attending certainly enjoyed having the extra attention in the lovely fenced and shady area on the concourse.

Many of the students were commencing their first year and were thrilled to hear we visit regularly during study weeks.

For our part, we thoroughly enjoyed being out and about visiting again!

Ann Evans, Manawatu































## Time for a Christmas get together

Just when we thought Covid couldn't stop us getting together, the weather did! We had planned our Christmas party in a lovely garden which apparently became a lake after the rain.

Determined as we are, after phoning several venues, Viv's Kitchen in Sanson agreed to host us in their outdoor area – perfect! The day arrived and the heavens opened so we were indoors without our dogs. Our Levin and Foxton members joined us which made for a party of 22 enjoying a great lunch.

We managed to have some "dog" fun by taking on our own dog's name for the old fashioned game of Pass the Parcel.

Ann Evans, Manawatu



# Welcome to these new members who have joined since the 29th November 2021

## Auckland

Candy Chuang & Latte, Golden Retriever + Labrador Retriever/Border Collie

Christchurch

Beth Warman & Hillary, Standard Long Haired Dachshund

Foxton/Levin Judith Mary Bryson & Otis, Bichon x Chihuahua

**Invercargill & Southland** Gabrielle Thompson & Judge, Bernese Mountain Dog

Manawatu Vicky Stephenson & Wag, Heading dog

Northland

Angelika Teale & Charlie, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Oamaru Ruth Perham & Elsa, Border Collie

Tauranga Ashlee Hastings & Sasha, Samoyed

Waikato

Courtney Mellow & Kash, Bernese Mountain Dog Tracey Reynolds & Neara, Heading dog Julie-Anne Richardson & Dusty, Miniature Schnauzer crossed with fox terrier

### Wellington

Gay Keast & Lola, Shihtzu Julian Scheid & Bonnie, Poochon (Poodle/Bichon Frisee)

### Whitby to Johnsonville

Philippa McQueen & Brodie, Spoodle Julia Melville & Pippin, Golden Retriever



We acknowledge and thank our Sponsors







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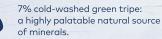
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