

## caninefriends pet therapy Dogs helping people

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## Canine Friends Founder's Day

During May each year we celebrate our Founder Eileen Curry. Liaison Officers around the country are encouraged to arrange a get-together for their members. These may be a high tea, a scenic dog walk, a café lunch, a games afternoon (both owners and dogs) or something a little novel.

This year we had 15 regional teams having fun with their dogs and enjoying each other's company — it was always Eileen's wish that the dogs have fun at these gatherings.

Those members who have given one, three, five or 10 years service were presented with appreciation certificates. The total of these was 347 quite a job handwriting them! In addition there were a number of special certificates presented.

## **Taupo Founder's Day**

Taking full advantage of our beautiful scenery in Taupo, we

headed out on the lake on Taupo's iconic boat, the Ernest Kemp. Despite the day being grey the lake was very calm and of course the lake is beautiful no matter what the weather gives us.

Adie Walker, owner/operator of Ernest Kemp Cruises, and her team do

a wonderful job of looking after their guests including the four-legged variety. Adie tells me the boat rarely goes out without a dog on board so 10 dogs with us wasn't a problem. Of course, the dogs loved the dog treats handed out by our hostess.

Victoria's Café, also dog friendly for those visiting Taupo, provided a lovely lunch which we enjoyed after the formalities — a tribute to Eileen Curry, Canine Friends Pet Therapy's founder, and presentation of certificates. Eileen loved nature and would have enjoyed knowing the dogs had this adventure with us.



Lower Hutt Founder's Day high tea at Belmont Memorial Hall.

Our dogs often run together at local dog parks so like us were pleased to see each other and were impeccably behaved during our 90-minute cruise.

To 'Team Taupo', – a huge thank you from me for being part of Canine Friends and remaining positive about returning to normal visiting.

