

## Nominations for the National Committee AGM 2022

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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 from Taupo**

My involvement with Canine Friends Pet Therapy began in the early 1990s' as a volunteer and committee member. Founder Eileen Curry had a wonderful vision, and it is with much pride I have witnessed the growth of our organisation from 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 good communication and organisational skills with 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.



For as long as I remember dogs have been part of my life and have owned Golden Retrievers since the 1980's, participating in a wide range of disciplines and having owned a large pet boarding facility after leaving the insurance industry I feel I have a broad knowledge of the dog world. I have instructed at the Taupo Dog Training Club since 2016. I have also held committee positions with other animal related organisations since the 1990's.

I have been an honorary member since 2015 and have held the position of president for three years and funding and sponsorship coordinator for five years. Over this time, I have fostered relationships with our sponsor and supporters.

I established Canine Friends Taupo in 2009 and have enjoyed building and supporting the membership base. I was acting liaison officer Waikato for eighteen months and through these experiences have a sound understanding of coordinating and managing volunteers.

I enjoy working with and supporting the committee, our liaison officers and members and am totally committed to doing my best in the interest of Canine Friends while continuing Eileen's values and vision.

**Secretary: Leanne Gibson from Wellington**

I've been a member of the Committee since 2015 and have undertaken several 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 several technology innovations such as putting in Wild Apricot (our membership management system); moving our accounts to Xero; adding an electronic store to the website for clothing orders and using video conferencing for our meetings. I have a pug (Summer) who is no longer visiting and a rescue dog (Cane) who aspires to be a Canine Friend when he grows up. This year he was assessed by 20 Liaison Officers at their annual Liaison Officer Day, and they gave us some great tips to work on.

I love working with the talented and professional team that make up our National Committee and once again would like to put my hand up again for the role of Secretary and database manager (or just to be on the general committee for 2021/22).



**Treasurer: Paulette Shearer from Christchurch**

I've been a member of Canine Pet Therapy since 2015, but this will be my first position on the Committee if I am accepted. I have always worked in positions of bookkeeping/GST preparation/accountancy (although am not a qualified accountant and would not be able to complete the records to an end of year scenario); and am very conversant with Xero, ipayroll, and workflow. I have two corgis – Pippa a black and white Cardigan, and Art a Pembroke. (The photo also includes Buddy, an Australia border collie who, though not part of our family, spends a lot of time at our home). If nominated for the Treasurer role, I look forward to working with the team that make up the Committee.



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

**Rachel Butler from Auckland**

I am the owner/instructor of Take the Lead Dog Training ([www.takethelead.co.nz](http://www.takethelead.co.nz)). 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.
- **Previously**, an 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. I have been on the CFPT National Committee since June 2017.



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 2022/23**.

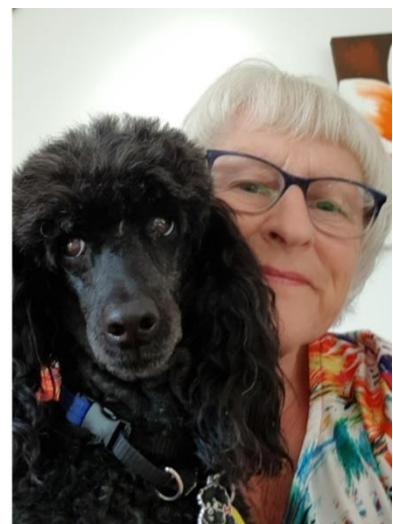
**Carol Drew from Auckland**

I have been on the Canine Friends Pet Therapy committee for 2 years and over this time have seen how I could help by using my skills as a Counsellor (registered with the NZ Association of Counsellors) to compliment what the other committee members do so professionally.

I have actioned an initiative called **Volunteer Mentor** which is available to our members for any queries, concerns or questions arising whilst being under the umbrella of Canine Friends Pet Therapy.

My miniature poodle (Venus) and I have been a part of Canine Friends for 6 years now and have been to many facilities for help with critical incidents and in my own Practise and we now visit Middlemore to the Critical Care unit, High Dependency unit and Spinal unit. We also visit groups when we are available.

I love how an animal can bring a smile and such joy not only to the patients but to the staff too!!(and don't they need it with the exceptional



care they give us)?

As a firm believer in Animal Assisted Therapy – I also work with horses helping people and am in awe of what animals can teach us, if only we would listen, wait, watch and wonder with them.

My services are most certainly open for Canine Friends Pet Therapy for at least another year if desired.

### **Sandy Fea from Lower Hutt**

I first met Eileen Curry in 1988 when I was on the lookout for a Golden Retriever puppy. As a child I grew up with many different animals. When married with our own home it wasn't long before my first dog a Lab X joined my family, followed by a German Shepherd. When my lab x passed away, I spotted an advertisement in the paper from the Central Golden Retriever Club and my love for Goldens began from there.

Eileen was the contact person and as there was a huge demand for puppies at that time I had to wait before there was a litter available. I pestered her so much in the 3 months of waiting, that we became great friends. She gave me a young Golden Retriever that was found roaming the streets to look after for a couple of weeks until the owner was found, I'm sure it was to shut me up, and when the owner showed up, I had to relinquish her. I had grown to love her in that time, so I think that helped as Eileen organized a puppy in the next couple of days. It was about that time that Canine Friends was formed.

My two children were independent by then, so I decided to dabble in breed showing with my gorgeous clever dog Heidi. I soon got very involved with obedience competition and before long was taking classes and roped into the role of Vice President of the Wellington Canine Obedience Club. I judged many elementary obedience tests but didn't have the time to go on to the Judges Panel for Championship shows.

I joined Canine Friends when it first started up but as I worked full time and most weekends competed in many dog sports, I didn't have the time to visit until I retired. I visited 3 wards in the Lower Hutt Hospital, Stokes wood Retirement home and Shona McFarlane retirement home for three years with my Goldens Lexi, Holly and then Tara. I found it too much when my elderly mother needed my help so now only do weekly visits to Shona McFarlane and recently Aroha. On occasion other places that need a temporarily fill in. Since the Covid virus epidemic of course that has been put on hold. Hopefully very soon we'll be able to resume our visits.

I am a life member of Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club and have taken Senior training classes there for many years although not recently. I'm training my young 17-month-old Golden Retriever 'Breeze' who I'm hoping will be visiting wearing her red scarf in the future, once she hopefully passes assessment naturally! At the moment she loves people a little too much and needs time.

I'm currently in training to be a Liaison Officer for Lower Hutt, sharing with Brenda Kenworthy. I assessed my first dog recently, a sweet Jack Russell who passed with flying colours!





I have enjoyed being a part of the lovely CFPT committee that do such a wonderful job and would like to remain a part of 2023 committee.

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

I am a retired person but prior to that I worked with the Marketing and Sales teams for a distributor of a well-known dog food brand through Veterinary Clinics. I was also responsible for the sponsorship of the products to dog clubs for their Shows and had a close relationship with the Dogs NZ Annual Show.



I love animals, especially horses, dogs and cats and have owned pedigree dogs and have brought home several rescue dogs from the Animal Control Centre in Seaview over the years. I am a non-visiting member of Canine Friends Pet Therapy as I prefer being an Administrator on the Committee.

I was invited, by Eileen, to join the Committee in 2013 and have been responsible for the production of the Canine Newsletter since 2014. My previous volunteer experience was as a member of the Equestrian Sports NZ Eventing National Board and spent over 25 years as a committee member on the Wellington Eventing Committee in the roles of Event organiser, Secretary and President. I enjoy being associated and working with the lovely people of this organisation and committee and would like to put myself forward for re-election to the Canine Friends Pet Therapy committee for this coming year.

### **Hannah Li from Whanganui**

I'm originally from Hong Kong but moved to Auckland at the age of 9 with my family. Before I graduated from the University of Auckland in 2005 (Majoring in Television Film and Media), I was a qualified pet groomer and dog trainer working at Qualified Pet Services Takanini (2000-2003). Because of my knowledge of dogs and social media, I had an opportunity to work as a part-time journalist at a pet magazine while also working full time as a qualified/licensed senior financial consultant in one of the biggest companies in Hong Kong (2006-2010).



In 2015, I returned to New Zealand and moved to Whanganui with my husband and daughter. I joined Canine Friends in 2019 after ending two of my retail businesses and became a full-time mum. Since my daughter started school, I have had more time to follow my own dreams; and joining Canine Friends was one of them. During my time as a member, I have been visiting our local rest homes and enjoyed every minute. I became a Liaison Officer for Whanganui in 2021 and ever since then, I have taken the opportunity to learn more about how Canine Friends runs. Currently, I am an advisor for the Welcoming community for the Whanganui City Council as well as being a qualified court and medical interpreter.

I am really looking forward to using my personal knowledge and working experience from my past to contribute to the Committee in many ways. More More my 12-year-old Chihuahua is very friendly and happy, but he will soon be retiring from visiting and Moonpie (my daughter's Chihuahua) who joined Canine Friends last year, will take up the role to be visiting more often.

### **Scott Mansfield from Christchurch**

Originally from England, I have been a member of Canine Friends for two and a half years with my Japanese Spitz, Castiel. I knew about Canine Friends from when the Christchurch team visited the University of Canterbury where I work, and I loved seeing the stress disappear from the students during exam week. I too wanted to make a difference and enrich the lives of others by joining this great organisation. I live with my partner Adeline who also visits with Canine Friends, and we have one other dog, a Staffordshire bull terrier cross, called Bella, who is a rescue.

I oversee the social media and website side of Canine Friends. I took the opportunity as I can contribute my skills to help the organisation and I have an interest in governance and learning more around policies and decision making.

What do I bring the committee?



- Web developer by trade I can assist with the website and social media. I also have experience in designing images, document management systems and general computer troubleshooting such as email.
- Currently doing my Master of Business Administration, which covers topics such as leadership, digital transformation, handling of data, sustainability, innovation, and strategy.
- Recently joined the Institute of Directors NZ, which will give me access to a wealth of information around governance and growing a business.

• I am very passionate and want to contribute my ideas and experiences to grow Canine Friends to ensure it is sustainable, continue to add value to the community and continue Eileen's legacy.

### **Helen Moriarty from Kapiti**

Helen Moriarty is currently the Liaison Officer for Wellington Central. Prior to that she was Liaison Officer for Whitby-Johnsonville.

Helen visits Malvina Major Hospital weekly with Ciarrai, a nearly-5-year-old Cavoodle.

Helen is a retired health professional with over 40 years of work in the health sector, as a rehabilitation specialist, researcher and lecturer.

Ciarra is very much at home visiting aged care facilities, he started early, before joining Canine Friends he was allowed to visit Helen's father as a puppy and showed aptitude even then.

Helen brings more than 40 years of committee experience in both the professional and voluntary sectors.



**Annette Sheridan from Wellington**

I became a Canine Friends Pet Therapy member in 2017 with my cavoodle Max visiting Park Lane Retirement Village in Addington, Christchurch. The following year I took on the role of Christchurch Liaison Officer (2018-2019) helping grow the Christchurch area member's base. It was a pleasure to work with such a fabulous group of local people who wanted to share their pets with others, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time with team.

My working career has been in retail, hospitality and health in service or administrative roles. A few years back I decided to take a break from work to spend more time with my two teenage boys and support them to follow their dreams. My boys are now 20 and 18, one is at University in Australia studying Marine Science and the other is with the Wellington Phoenix Football Academy.

I would love to be considered for the Membership Manager role.

As a member for 5 years now along with my time in the Liaison Officer role I feel I have a very good understanding of the Canine Friends Pet Therapy organisation and know I would be a great addition to the committee.

