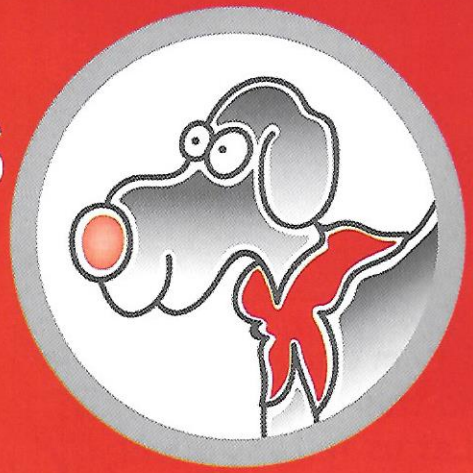


caninefriends pet therapy

Dogs helping people



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Sharing Some Furry Friendliness

Rafa the gorgeous Golden Retriever says, 'Meet some of Canine Friends' newest pet therapy dogs from Mana near Wellington. These



dogs, like me, share some furry friendliness with people in hospitals, rest homes, hospices, universities and other places where people are stressed. We are pet therapy dogs and we work for our kibble.

"You would be amazed to see how elderly and sick people look forward to our visits and how we brighten their days. When they touch our silky coats and rub our soft ears, memories of their own beloved pets and happier times come flooding back.

"All sorts of dogs can be pet therapy dogs ... size, breed and shape are not important. It's all about temperament. This a job for dogs who like people, who love being patted and fussed over and who can concentrate and stay calm.

"We are not super-duper specially trained dogs, just well behaved, happy, loving family pets.

"The people we visit tell us that we bring them comfort and joy ... and that's what we like to hear!"

I am happy to introduce... three new Canine Friends teams in my patch

Meet Amy's Cavalier Spaniels. Amy is Canine Friends' new Whitby to Johnsonville liaison officer and she visits Whitby Rest Home and Hospital with Milly.

This handsome dude (in the next photo) is Arlo. He is a gentle Belgian Shepherd and has recently started visiting a rest home

and is keen to visit the local hospital where he is exactly the right height for bed visits.

Elizabeth McKee has just started visiting ABI Porirua (rehabilitation) and Whitby Rest Home and Hospital with her affectionate Spoodle Teddy.





Scarflies on parade

Canine Friends and their families get together to have fun outside of work. Sometimes they are promoting pet therapy at events, sometimes they are socialising with other teams they will meet again on big visits to universities for exam time distress exercises, and sometimes they are just having a good time.

When members are promoting Canine Friends Pet Therapy all the dogs wear their red scarves, even though they are not doing pet therapy work they are still working to promote the organisation!

These lovely photos of lots of Canine Friends dogs were captured by photographers Carmen Van den Hoven and Rob Neill at a recent event in Mana.

