



Autumn 2016

## **Celebrating the Retirement of our Life Member, Elaine Varcoe who has been visiting for 25 yrs+ and Koko**

On a glorious Sunday summer morning members of the Kapi-Mana league got together at The Dog Park in Plimmerton to wish Elaine Varcoe and Koko well in their retirement. Elaine is one of the founding members of CFPT and has visited with four of her Golden Retrievers (Kovic, Kody, Kayo and Koko). Koko was joined by Brandy, Diesel, Madison, Nia, Poppy, Sophie and Tiffany who brought along their human volunteers and also joining in the fun were Bruno, Lucy, Geordie, Millie and Purdie.

As a surprise to Elaine members of the Committee also attending were Founding Member Eileen Curry; President, Annette Dougherty; Newsletter Editor, Beverley Jocelyn; Treasurer, Anne Abbott; Field Officer, Ann Evans and Committee Member, Carolyn Williams with her husband Peter and grandchildren.

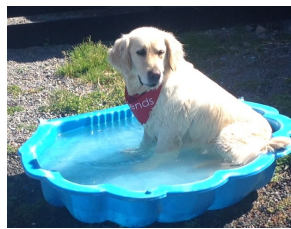
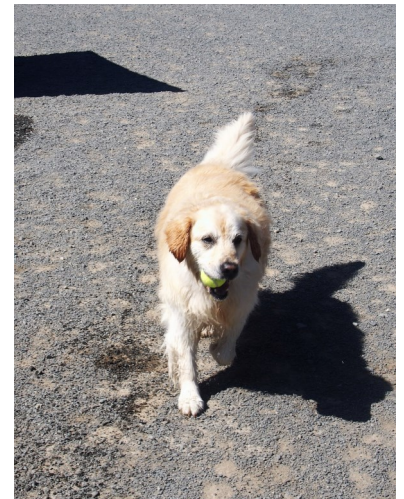
There were treats to be found (although Diesel thought the rawhide bites were dental floss), pools to be splashed in (Brandy thought the shell pool was her own personal facility) and balls to be chased. Madison and Brandy had a barking competition and Poppy kept guard on the gate to see who was coming and going.

Eventually food for the humans was kindly delivered by Dominos and Eileen managed to eat her lunch with Tiffany perfectly balanced on her knee. There was one more bag of treats to be eaten with Liaison Jean being the Pied Piper to dogs keen to have a last nibble.

Eventually it was time to pack up bags and umbrellas that had threatened to go into orbit and round up tired and happy dogs and head for home. We wish Elaine and Koko all the best although goodness knows what she will do with all her spare time. Thank you to everyone who attended and to Annette and Beverley for bringing Eileen along (and taking her home although she wanted to stay). Also thank you to Dominic and Stephanie from The Dog Park for allowing us to use their venue.

**Kind regards from Jean Barr— Liaison Officer for Kapi/Mana**

Thank you Jean for organising such a lovely day from all the Canine Committee Members. Please see photo (right) of Elaine soaking up the sun and chatting with members and Koko playing. Photos below are of Eileen and Elaine, various members & their Canine Friends and dogs bathing & having fun. It was a very hot day!



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2016. I hope you all managed to have a lovely Christmas and restful New Year.

Liaison Officers have been very busy with new application in most of the country as we had closed our books over the December January period to give our hardworking Liaison Officers a well earned rest.

A very big thank you to three of our long serving members Patricia Martin, New Plymouth, Robin Fraser, Kapiti Coast and Christina Kaiser, Rotorua who have recently retired from their positions as Liaison Officers. Your hard work for Canine Friends Pet Therapy over the years is very much appreciated.

We welcome four new Liaison Officers, Mary Fox, New Plymouth, Mary Fowler, Kapiti Coast, Kirstine Jolly, Rotorua and Julie Hindrichs who will cover the Christchurch area. It is great to have so many members willing to help in these areas. Thank you

Our Annual General Meeting is proposed for 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016 which will be ratified at our next meeting.

Kind regards, Annette

## SADLY MISSED OSCAR - 2015

**Oscar** was my first Alaskan Malamute, I got him as a wee 9 week old puppy on a plane from Palmerston North. He lived with me and 18 months later I got him a sister called Maya. My little fluffy bundle grew into his paws and at 52kgs he was a beautiful, proud looking dog. He was always good natured, energetic and happy and we did lots of activities together running, hiking in the hills, sledding in the forest and up to the snow in the winter, but after the earthquakes he got very anxious and jittery. We started visiting the **Archer Retirement Home** as therapy for him, myself and the residents, I was pleased to see he was so gentle and well behaved. The elderly people oohed and aahed when they saw him, they loved to pat him, feed him carrots and watch him do his tricks. They couldn't get over how big and friendly he was and every week when we get out of the car he would get so excited and pull on the lead because he knew where he was going. Sadly Oscar died suddenly last year during an operation to try to remove a Tumor in his shoulder, he was 10 years old and I was heartbroken, I miss his big, gorgeous face every single day. The home sent me a lovely card when they heard the news. We buried him on our section in his Canine Friends scarf with all his favourite toys. My big bear is much loved and missed but is always with us. Kind regards Kate Roberts from Christchurch



## NEW OAMARU MEMBER—SOPHIE

"Sophie the Chocolate Labrador (6 years) is Oamaru's newest Canine Friends member bringing the Oamaru members total to 3. Sophie loves visiting **Oamaru's Iona Home/Hospital unit** on a fortnightly basis where she meets all sorts of residents - some that are very ill, some that can't see her but love to be able to touch her and some with dementia. She gets lots of compliments. Iona is a very large complex so in the New Year she will be joined by another Labrador to help her get round all of the people that want to see her and be her friend. Sophie loves food (dropped crumbs are not a problem, she'll get them for you), walks, swimming (but is scared of waves), other dogs and meeting people. She has a lovely nature, is very gentle and very friendly. Visiting with her is very rewarding and afterwards she sleeps the afternoon away dreaming of all sorts of things..."

Sophie is our newest Oamaru member and her owner is Anthea Brown.

Kind regards from Catherine Rivron





## Canine Friends Pet Therapy Committee Contacts following our AGM on 13 June, 2015

**Committee Member (Founder):** Eileen Curry Home: 04 567 6376

**Patron:** Liz Bowen-Clewley Mob: 021 620 125

[liz@cil.co.nz](mailto:liz@cil.co.nz)

**President :** Annette Dougherty Mob: 021 426 131 Home: 04 577 1968

[president@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:president@caninefriends.org.nz)

**Vice-President:** Sarah Cull Mob: 021 340 440

[sarahmcull@gmail.com](mailto:sarahmcull@gmail.com)

**Secretary/Database Manager :** Nina Hawke Mob: 027 389 3370

[secretary@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:secretary@caninefriends.org.nz)

**Treasurer :** Anne Abbott

[treasurer@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@caninefriends.org.nz)

**Funding Co-Ordinator:** Leanne Gibson Mob: 027 388 1227

[sponsorship@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:sponsorship@caninefriends.org.nz)

**Web Manager :** Rachael Staples Mob: 021 419 888

[webmanager@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:webmanager@caninefriends.org.nz)

**Newsletter Editor :** Beverley Jocelyn Home: 04 564 3972

[editor@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:editor@caninefriends.org.nz)

**New Members' Co-Ordinator:** Loryn Bennett Mob: 021 101 3920

[applications@caninefriends.org.nz](mailto:applications@caninefriends.org.nz)

**Committee Member:** Ann Evans Home: 06 322 9880

[apevans@inspire.net.nz](mailto:apevans@inspire.net.nz)

**Committee Member :** Barbara Lang Home: 06 372 7593

[barbaralang@outlook.co.nz](mailto:barbaralang@outlook.co.nz)

**Committee Member :** Patrick McKay Mob: 021 475 157

[patrick.mckay@indigosoftware.co.nz](mailto:patrick.mckay@indigosoftware.co.nz)

**Committee Member:** Carolyn Williams Home: 04 233 6385

[forte@xtra.co.nz](mailto:forte@xtra.co.nz)

## GOODBYE ROSIE..... February 2007 – December 2015

It was my pleasure to be able to share Rosie, my Huntaway X Greyhound with elderly folk in 2 large Resthomes, for 5 years, as a 'Canine Friend'. Last year I had the thought that there are plenty of younger folk in care facilities who would be happy to see a visiting dog too. I asked for a change and this happened just as a co-ordinator of 'Aspire' contacted 'Canine Friends Pet Therapy'. We were linked-up that week.

Rosie enjoyed the change, visiting the smaller care facilities within the suburbs. Rosie would put on her best for the dog-lovers and do a good 'roll-over' for a tummy rub and paws up on the rail of a bed for a smile and a head rub. Some liked to brush her coat. Rosie's speciality was,.... 'just grip my lead, and I will tow your wheelchair along the hall-way'. Staff were always welcoming and Rosie, so gentle and watchful came to know the folk who would rather just watch and enjoy and not have contact. We would visit between 4 and 5 and help fill-in the relaxing time before dinner.

Rosie came into my life when the SPCA brought her to me for fostering in May 2009. At that time she was 18 months old and her life had been very tough. She was depressed and thin. Quickly we decided to keep her as our own and renamed her Rosie. She more than repaid us as she was loyal, obedient, so trainable and just happy to relax and enjoy her life and was able to begin 'Canine Friend' visiting as soon as she was fit and well. Rosie, always watchful and listening, in true Huntaway style, had a vast knowledge of words. One favourite, 'Visiting', had her tail wagging as she jumped into my car, front paws up, one at a time for her body-harness to go on, then head up for her red bandana. After visiting, and in true Greyhound style, she would dash around at the local park.

Rosie died peacefully on 30<sup>th</sup> December. Our Vet diagnosed Cranial nerve neuropathy. This was so sudden and unexpected. There is no cure. We are still very sad and miss her. She still has her red bandana on, buried in our orchard where a wild rose grows.

Rosie was a true companion. Thank you 'Canine Friends Pet Therapy' for opening up her world to so many folk who love to see a dog arrive in their midst.

I look forward to being able to continue pet therapy visits again, in the same spirit that Rosie and I had together. There are folk who wait for that day, when another dog comes into my life and we begin visiting again..

**Kind regards from Christine Johnson - Hamilton.** Thank you for sharing—Editor



## SHARING CHRISTMAS CHEER

This is a photo of **Harry**, Cavoodle who visits **Wharerangi Rest Home** with **Sylvia Rogers**.

Harry received a "special" invitation to the Wharerangi Christmas Party as Sylvia was told in no uncertain terms the party wouldn't be the same without him!. Happy New Year & kind regards from **Vicky Graham, Taupo**.

Harry looks adorable and what a delightful Christmas photo. No wonder he is Special. Editor



## WELLINGTON SPECIAL CHILDREN'S PARTY HELD AT TE RAUPARAH A ARENA IN PORIRUA

Canine Friends Pet Therapy was very well represented and very well received at the Special Children's Christmas Party. Dogs were coming along all day due to the roster compiled by Loryn so this photo is only a small section who attended. The children loved the dogs. Inside the Arena it was very noisy and absolute delightful chaos which doesn't always go well with some dogs so some stayed out in the hallway whereas others managed their way through. I had Oakie and Thumpa with me and my daughter and I actually took nearly 30 minutes to get from the entrance to the main Auditorium as everyone wanted photos, pats and cuddles which of course we were more than happy to give. It was certainly a case of the right dogs for this as not all dogs would cope and provided a total turnabout to our normal visiting. Very enjoyable though. It was also pleasing to see we had three reindogs from the Manawatu as one young lad informed us that they couldn't be reindeer even with their antlers on, moments later he came back to us and said they must be reindogs so that was what we were. It was certainly brilliant to talk to the children and their parents or caregivers and to let them pat our dogs. **Cheers from Ann Evans—North Island Field Officer.**



## EDALE AGED CARE CENTRE IN MARTON



Tuesday, 22 December a group from the Manawatu/Horowhenua visited the **Edale Aged Care Centre** as an Annual Xmas Visit. Unfortunately, at the last moment our piano player/ singer could not come so we went to Plan B & entertained ourselves including our little darling Toby from Levin being danced around the room on a walker. Added entertainment was Reno the Malamute who wishes he was a Canine Friend Pet Therapy dog but his parents do not have time at the moment. We had a lovely time just chatting & spreading ourselves around the room & then enjoyed afternoon tea with everyone. Thanks from Ann Evans—Manawatu Liaison Officer.

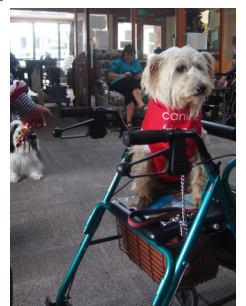


Photo shows Reno, Oakie (Ann), Toby (Janine) in front, Panda (Pauline), Sophie and Gem (Julia from Marton)

Toby in walker



## CHRISTMAS CHEER CONT'D



What a lovely Christmas photo of Newton

### BUCKLANDS BEACH REST HOME

**Newton**, my dog, and I joined Canine Friends last December. Newton loves to visit his friends at the Home and the residents are always happy to see him too! Newton enjoys to sit on the couch with the residents and watch the boats sail by, watch TV and do crossword puzzles! Newton also donned a Santa hat and delivered cards and cookies to the residents on Christmas Eve.

Regards Liz Goldstein

**VIRGINIA LODGE REST HOME** - Friday 11 December was our annual Christmas visit to our Wanganui Homes. Once again everyone was delighted to see both dogs as usually only one or the other are dressed up for Christmas too. We visited Virginia Lodge in the morning which fitted in just right as their own Christmas Party was that afternoon so we set the scene. Everyone wanted cuddles and pats with each dog and then a photo for them to have for Christmas. We also had Anne-Marie from the Wanganui Chronicle and her photographer pop in to see what this Canine Friends Pet Therapy was all about and they followed through with a story in their newspaper. In the afternoon we visited **Broadview Home & Hospital** to delight the residents there with our Christmas cheer. **Happy New Year from Ann Evans.** The wonderful story was printed in the Wanganui Chronicle on Saturday, January 9, 2016 & featured on the front cover plus a 2 page spread. Fantastic advertising for Canine Friends. Editor



Doris with Oakie



Lorna with Oakie & Sophie



Judy with Oakie & Sophie



George with Oakie & Sophie



Loma with Sophie



Irene with Oakie & Sophie



Joyce with Oakie



Win with Sophie



Brian with Oakie & Sophie

## OUR DOGS VISITING

### WHITBY REST HOME

Molly is getting good at her visits and gaining confidence each time!

Regards **Shelly Wilson**



### LONGVIEW REST HOME IN TAWA

Leigh Cooze & Molly Geeves enjoy a visit from Blue who had a sore foot but was still keen to visit his friends. **From Michelle Van Looy**



### HELLO FROM MARY AND MAGGIE

Maggie & I have been visiting **Charles Fleming Retirement Home** in **Waikanae** for just over a year and is a great favourite with patients and staff. Maggie is a soft coated wheaten terrier, a boisterous, bouncy girl always full of beans and ready for fun but as soon as she is wearing her red scarf she becomes a different dog. When we walk through the doors to go to the Hospital floor she settles down & becomes a quiet, gentle presence, very mindful of her surroundings and the people she meets. Having said that we have to keep our distance from the morning tea trolley and the plates of yummy sandwiches & little meat pies!! The patients we visit each week really enjoy seeing Maggie & especially like stroking her lovely soft coat. When she puts her head on their knees & quietly lets them pat her I'm sure she brings back happy memories of the pets they used to have.

Maggie & I love our visits and hope to be able to do them for a long time to come.

**Kind regards from Mary Fowler—Waikanae**



### BLAKE VISITING

Hi here is a photo of **Blake**, my gorgeous 6 year old Golden Retriever. We visit **Bupa Redwood Village Rest Home and Dementia Unit** in **Rotorua** on a Sunday afternoon. We both enjoy sitting for a chat with the residents and Blake loves having his ears and chest stroked. This has also been an opportunity to introduce Blake to the nursing staff and relatives.

My decision to join Canine Friends Pet Therapy came after my sons gave me a book for Mothers Day last year called "A dog walks into a nursing home" by Sue Halpern.

**Cheers from Vicky Gaunt of Rotorua**





## Hamilton Aspire Community Service Home River Road

Christine has shared these photos of Rosie visiting her friends. Please see Rosie's story on Page 3.

Thank you Rosie for your dedication & all the happy times.  
Editor



**Joy Muir & Colleen  
Lynch with Rosie**



**Sharkaela & Christine Johnson  
with Rosie**

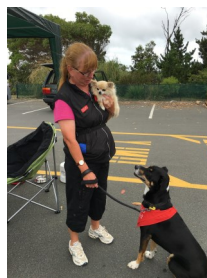
## BUNNINGS PORIRUA COMMUNITY FUN DAY—27 February, 2016

The sky was overcast, there was a keen north-westerly blowing as Sula and Madison sat safely in their cars watching their mums skilfully erect the gazebo which signalled another CFPT stall at the Community Fun Day.

Once everything was in place Sula and Madison were joined by Poppy and her brother Geordie as well as Tiffany and her entourage Millie, Purdie and their friend Sweetie. Soon Nia arrived and then Bosco and Diesel provided some male company. Tawnee and Jax arrived from Upper Hutt and Penelope and Ruby arrived from Lower Hutt as well as Tuppeness resplendent in football gear from North Wellington. Last but not by no means least was Summer from Wellington Central to round off the day.

There was a bit of interest in the dogs in red scarves, only surpassed by toffee apples, lollipops and ice creams. Pooch cookies were given away only after checking with parents about allergies. Children received their doggy stamps and one book was sold to Layla's (a therapy dog in training) mum.

Then it was time to dismantle the tent (which had withstood a Wellington north-westerly), stow away all the gear and head home for some well earned dog (and human) R&R. Hopefully we have managed to ignite some interest into the work that CFPT does in the community. **Regards Jean Barr (Kapi/Mana Liaison Officer).**



## TEAM TAUPO

On 19 December our Team had a get together at the local market.

We all had a great time and we are looking forward to the next one.

In the photo (left) please see Howard with Layla, Adam (Amanda has disappeared!), Peter holding Pepe and Harry, Lesley with Stella, Alix and Beauwolf and Andrea holding Puddin.

**Happy New Year everyone from Vicky Graham  
(Taupo)**



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## **WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS FROM 1st NOVEMBER TO 29th FEBRUARY, 2016**

### **AUCKLAND**

Anvita Bisaria, Bichon Frise, Snow  
Pieta Brenton, Rough Collie, Colin  
Catherine Clark Rottweiler, Zeus & Griffons, Cleo & Thor  
Elizabeth Goldstein, Pug, Newton  
Casey & Betty Jenkins, Shih Tzu, Ruby & Pug, Kato  
Yoko Kawamoto, Labrador, Ava  
Rachael McFarlane, Golden Retriever x Huntaway, Gordan  
Awhi Lynn Oakley, Cavoodle, Willow Yuan (Suki) Xu,  
Chihuahua, Kiki

### **SOUTH WAIKATO**

Kath Blakemore, Tibetan Terrier, Merlin

### **TAUPO**

Alexandra Lattey, German Shepherd, Beowulf

### **ROTORUA**

Rob, Stevenson, Maltese, Jimmy

### **MANAWATU**

Rosemary Weaver, Border Terrier, Beaver

### **MANA/PORIRUA**

Tania Wylie, Labrador, Billy

### **LOWER HUTT**

Janice Cox, Cavoodle, Holly  
Christina Fleetwood, Toy poodle, Ruby  
Maree Ryan, German Shepherd, Matrix  
Debbie Wallace, Spoodle, Ollie

### **WELLINGTON NORTH**

Olivia Dean, Spoodle, Barbara

### **WELLINGTON CITY**

Sue Bingham, Papillon Ellie & Border Collie, Jack  
Chrissie Drader, Golden Retriever, Charlie

### **CHRISTCHURCH**

Anna Deery, Bull mastiff, Gus

## **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE 1ST APRIL, 2016**

**Please complete the attached Renewal form and return to the Treasurer or pay directly into the Westpac a/c as stated. Only current members are covered by our Insurance while visiting. Thank you Editor.**