

# CANINE CONCERN SCOTLAND TRUST

**Patrons:**  
Rosemary Long  
Gary Hollywood



Scottish Charity  
No. SC014924

*Incorporating* **THERAPET**®

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## **BULLETIN 82 – January 2015**

Dear Members and Friends,

Best wishes for 2015!

**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS** for 2015 are now due and I attach a renewal form. We do hope that you will continue your membership, and of course it is very important, from the insurance point of view, that Therapet Volunteers keep their membership up to date. The form contains a **Gift Aid Declaration**. If you are a tax payer and are willing to make use of the Gift Aid system, in respect of your membership and/or donation, please read the declaration carefully. If you are certain that you qualify please do sign the declaration as the Trust can then recover valuable tax from HM Revenue & Customs. You will also see from the form that it is possible to make payment directly to the Trust's bank account. If you decide to use this method please ensure that you instruct your bank to give your **surname and initial** as a reference. Additionally if you make direct payment please remember to send us the completed renewal form if you want Gift Aid to apply.

You will recall that in the August Bulletin I discussed the finances of the Trust and we welcomed your feedback which we received. One of the very clear suggestions was that we should increase our fees to help fund the administration of the Trust, so after twenty six years of keeping the fees at the original amounts the Trustees have decided to increase the membership fees to the amounts shown on the renewal slip and the once only Therapet registration fee to £5.00.

The membership and Therapet registration fees still only meet a comparatively small proportion of our expenditure so we do rely on the very generous donations that we receive from so many people as well as the fund raising efforts carried out by some of our Area Representatives and Members. Over the years we have also been very fortunate in that the Trust has been remembered in the Wills of members and friends and the amounts we have received have enabled us to build some essential reserves. In 2014 we were notified of two such payments which will be recorded in the Annual Report to be sent out in April.

Consequent to our success and expanding services the Trustees are in the process of reviewing how the Trust is managed, and how it is financed, in order to assess the best ways to move forward in a controlled way.

Towards the end of the year the annual **AWARDS LUNCHEON** took place at the Kaim Park Hotel, Bathgate on Sunday 16th November and to make the presentations of the awards we were delighted to have with us patron **Rosemary Long**.

### **Trustees:**

George Leslie BVMS MRCVS, James Macdonald, Dr Valerie J Marrian MBChB FRCP FRCPE DCH,  
Rita Percival, A Douglas Ruthven CChem FRSC, I Allan Sim BSc CA, John A Stead BSc.

**Hon. Secretary/Treasurer:** Nicholas P Henley Price

There were two awards made to recognise fund-raising efforts in connection with sponsored events **The Ki-Chu-Asha Stars of Hope Memorial Trophy**, which is for the organiser whose walk raised the most money, and **The Miss Matty Award** which is awarded to the top individual fund-raiser at the sponsored walks. This year the top organiser was again **Vivien Moen**, our representative of Badenoch & Strathspey. Unfortunately Vivien was not able to attend the lunch to receive her award but **Julia Shaw** was there to receive the Miss Matty trophy.



The **Dr Morris Andrew and Daniel the Spaniel Trophy** is awarded to the Therapet Organiser of the Year. Dr Andrew was a Trustee and also the Area Representative for Edinburgh and the Lothians for a number of years. The trophy was donated by members of Dr Andrew's family. This year the award was made to the much deserving Perthshire Area Representative, **Harry Greig**



Harry joined as a Therapet volunteer in 2010 and became a very enthusiastic Therapet visitor with Boxer **“Alfie”** and American Staffordshire Bull Terrier **“Dixie”**. His enthusiasm did not go unnoticed and in January 2012 we invited Harry to become our Area Representative for Perthshire. He rapidly made a great impact resulting in a considerable increase in the number of volunteers which was great as we had been quite thin on the ground in Perthshire. He organises his team of volunteers extremely well and takes great care in introducing them to the places that he allocates them to visit.

Earlier in the year he was of great help to one of his volunteers, Richard Tuckley, who had been approached by a group of pupils from Crieff High School who were putting Therapet forward for an award under the Youth & Philanthropy Initiative. The outcome was successful and the Trust was awarded £3,000 to promote the Therapet Service in the Perthshire area.

In addition to his standard Therapet visiting Harry, with his Therapets, has been much involved with helping children with special needs, work that he finds very rewarding. He intends to become increasingly active in the Trust's responsible dog ownership educational programme.

A few years ago the Trustees introduced **20 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS** for members who had given 20 or more years of active participation in the Trust's work.

This year we had two Therapet visitors, **Sue Simpson** of Edinburgh, and **June Symmons**, of Aberfoyle, who qualified.

The **IAIN WHYTE MEMORIAL AWARD** was donated by Betty Lawson-Whyte in memory of her first husband who was a great admirer of the work carried out by Canine Concern Scotland Trust. We were sad to record that Betty died in September. The award is made to a person or organisation whose work has been of special benefit to the Trust over the past year or over a period of years. Over the years some very special people and organisations have been given the award and in 2000 it was made to Betty. This year the award was made to another very special person, **Elizabeth (Liz) Craik**.



**Liz** and her Therapets have been putting smiles on the faces of hospital patients regularly for two and a half decades. She is married to Malcolm and worked as a physiotherapist for over 40 years and retired eight years ago. She now revels in her voluntary role with Canine Concern Scotland.

In the early days Liz visited with her **Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Kelly, Mandy, and Casi**. In 1996 **Bearded Collie Millie** became a Therapet and in this century **Collie Molly, Lurcher Annie, and Working Sheepdog Marti** have all joined the Therapet ranks. At first Liz and her Therapets visited wards in the Gartnavel Royal Hospital in Glasgow and then, in recent years, the hospital's elderly assessment unit. They have brought much-needed happiness to hundreds, if not thousands, of patients.

To say that Liz is "keen" on agility with her dogs is an understatement! She is often away at weekends taking part in agility competitions all over Scotland with her dogs and at the same time helps and encourages others to do so at Dog Agility Club, Cleddens Farm in Hardgate.

Over the years Liz has helped Glasgow Area Rep and Trustee James Macdonald by carrying out assessments of potential Therapets and she has done PR work for the Trust at NHS open days. She readily gives up her time to help others enjoy the companionship of her Therapets. She is and continues to be a great ambassador for Canine Concern Scotland Trust and the Therapet Service.

The **SPENCER AWARD for THERAPET OF THE YEAR** was donated by **Tom and Dorothy Wilkins**, whose Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, **SPENCER**, was the very first dog to be registered in the Therapet service, way back in 1988.

This year we received **13 nominations** in respect of Therapets all of whom do magnificent work and of whom their owners can be justifiably proud. Deciding on a winner is one of the hardest tasks the Trustees have to undertake each year!

The winner of **THERAPET OF THE YEAR FOR 2014** was Golden Retriever "**BEN**" who is owned by **Alison and Alan Mundie** of Oldmeldrum in Aberdeenshire.



Ben was nominated by Aberdeen Area Representative Diane Wood who wrote:-  
"Ben has been visiting the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary for three years. Ben, along with Alison & Alan, undertook a pilot study which lasted six months – the end result was a formal agreement with NHS Grampian and Therapets are now visiting the ARI and other NHS Grampian hospitals and homes.

The reaction of patients in the stroke ward when Ben arrives is amazing – the nursing staff and the patients’ relatives have commented the same. When people have a stroke they tend to turn in on themselves and the visit from a Therapet can bring a bit of light in a dark Tunnel.

Ben is now 10 and is in semi-retirement but he still goes to ARI, wagging his tail for his hour visit but now he brings along his brother “Kobe”, another Registered Therapet, for backup.

Ben was nominated, and was shortlisted, for Scotland’s Real Heroes by Carol Leddingham, the Unit Operational Manager at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Ben was featured in the Press & Journal, the Evening Express and the Inverurie Herald and we had a massive Facebook campaign on Ben’s behalf.

On the 30th September I travelled with Ben and his family to attend the STV Scotland’s Real Hero’s Award Ceremony at RBS in Edinburgh. Ben is a shining example of how a Therapet should be – we arrived at Gogarburn to be met with dollymen, lots of people and a strange place – Ben just took it all in his stride.

We then went to the ceremony – with 500 people attending – up the red carpet to flashing lights and cheers for each team – Ben just walked in wagging his tail. At the drinks reception – it was busy and lots of people were desperate to meet him – lots of disabled children and special needs adults grabbing round his neck (with permission of course from Alison and Alan) but he just sat there with the goofy smile and lapped it up.

We were seated in the front row of the auditorium and every person that came past stopped to stroke him or cuddle him. Super star Ben again just was the IDEAL Therapet and was such a credit to his “parents” and of course to CCST. There was a huge amount of clapping and cheering in the auditorium as each award was announced again nothing fazed him. Cameras were on him the whole time and Carol Smillie ran out after the show finished and threw her arms around him – as she is a real dog lover with two labs of her own. All the celebrities wanted to meet him as he is the most famous dog in Scotland at the moment so it was great to be able to talk about Therapet to people who we would not normally get access to.

I truly think that Ben should be awarded Therapet of the year – for many reasons – primarily his work in the acute stroke unit – his calmness – his gentle demeanour and the best representation of a Therapet at a huge star studded event.”

The very close **RUNNER-UP for Therapet of the Year**, for the second year running, was “**Ellie**” a Lhasa Apso who is owned Christine Grist of Letham in Fife. Ellie was nominated by Staff Nurse Yvonne Davidson of Whiteman’s Brae Psychiatric Hospital, Kirkcaldy where Ellie has been visiting for six years.

**The SECOND RUNNER-UP for Therapet of the Year** was “**TRUDY**” a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel owned by Anne Barlow from Longtown in Cumbria. Trudy is our one international Therapet in that she visits the Alzheimer’s Scotland Day Unit in Ecclefechan and Trinity House, Lockerbie, both in Scotland, and Croftlands in Carlisle in England.



Rosemary Long with Ellie and Christine....



...and with Trudy and Anne

The other Therapets nominated were:-

- “**Bear**” a German Shepherd owned by Frances Kane of Edinburgh.
- “**Daisy**” a Whippet owned by June Symmons of Aberfoyle, Stirlingshire.
- “**Dylan**” a Cocker Spaniel owned by Anne-Marie Campbell of Longcroft, Stirlingshire.
- “**Harris**” a curly coated Retriever, owned by Barbara Cooney of Kelty in Fife.
- “**Honey**” a Chihuahua owned by Alice and Austin Gallacher of Kilsyth, Glasgow.
- “**Jack**” a Labrador owned by Claire Grubb of Kirkcaldy.
- “**Monty**” a Golden Retriever owned by Susan Bibby of Kilbarchan, Renfrewshire.
- “**Nev**” a Greyhound owned by Elizabeth Dand of Edinburgh.
- “**Ruby**” An Australian Shepherd owned by Sam Murray of Aberdeen.
- “**Skye**” A Golden Retriever owned by Bert Muir of Bearsden, Glasgow.

It was great that a large number of the nominees were able to attend the lunch to receive their certificates of nomination.



### IN MEMORIAM

On a sadder note we record the death of a number of very special dogs:-

- “**Amber**” Diane Reid’s Golden Retriever
- “**Anna**” Valerie Burns’ Labrador
- “**Annie**” Cathie Bertin’s Cocker Spaniel
- “**Ben**” Adeline Johnson’s Labrador
- “**Ebony**” Fiona Stalker’s Labrador
- “**Max**” Fiona Sim’s Jack Russell/Chihuahua
- “**Millie**” Vivien Moen’s Toller
- “**Oscar**” Claire Grubb’s Labrador
- “**Pepper**” Willie & Alyson Raworth’s Boxer
- “**Skye**” Ruth Laidlaw’s Flat Coated Retriever
- “**Walton**” Clare Copland’s Retriever/Labrador

So many long serving Therapets amongst them and Anna, Pepper and Walton were all Therapets of the Year. I do hope than I have not missed any but if I have please let me know.

### SCHOOL VISITS

Education in responsible dog ownership is one of the main aims of Canine Concern Scotland Trust. Our Schools campaign was pioneered by our Founder in the early years and continued by Trustee James Macdonald and many of our Area Representatives. The campaign is aimed at primary school children, the dog owners of the future. The talks to the children are based on our Children & Dogs leaflet and educational DVD/video, and we also tell them about the Therapet Service. We provide the schools with Teachers’ packs which include a quiz for the children.



Recently Area Representative for East Lothian **Simon Young and his Black Labrador Ness** made their first school visit at the invitation of the Pupil Council of The Compass School in Haddington. Simon had an audience of 120 children aged between four and eleven, and their teachers. Quite an ordeal, but from his report it is clear that the visit was a great success. Subsequent to the visit the children arranged a dress down day to raise money for the Trust and we received the magnificent sum of £250. Additionally, the parents of one of the pupils are now Therapet volunteers.

### **YOUTH & PHILANTHROPY INITIATIVE**

Harry Grieg, Area Representative for Perth writes:-

“Canine Concern Scotland Trust presented awards to Crieff High School S2 pupils as a thank you for their magnificent effort in raising £3000 for the charity.

This award was made possible by the pupil’s efforts participating in the YPI (Youth and Philanthropy Initiative). The pupils had to present a case to the panel of judges why their chosen charity should win the £3000. The team of S2 pupils consisting of REBECCA HARDMAN CARTER, JAKE DOY, DAISY JONES and JAMIE PENKER fought off some very stiff competition and convinced the judges how worthwhile the work of the charity was and the benefits it brought to people in the Crieff area. They were helped in their presentation by Rev. Richard Tuckley, Therapet volunteer from Crieff and his Therapet Barney.

Canine Concern Scotland Trust provides a Therapet visiting service to people in care, pet visits to schools and visits to various different types of establishments throughout Scotland. The £3000 will be used to increase awareness of the Therapet service in Crieff and surrounding area and as a result will be able to expand the service to many more service users.

The team were presented with their awards at the annual meeting of the Trustees and Area Representatives held in the Salutation Hotel Perth on Saturday 14th June. Trustee Dr Valerie Marrian presented the awards and thanked the pupils for their tremendous effort on behalf of the charity.”





## THERAPET NEWS

2014 has been a bumper year for the Therapet Service with a record number of new Therapets registered. We welcome them and their owners and hope that you all are enjoying being part of the Service. Our Area Representatives and Lesley and Norma in the office in Edinburgh are there to assist you so please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need any help or guidance.

**PAWS AGAINST STRESS** was a tremendous success in 2014 with a total of **26 sessions** held during the year. These were at Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt and Queen Margaret universities in Edinburgh and at the universities of Glasgow, Paisley, Stirling and Aberdeen. In excess of **2700 students** have attended and their response has been extremely positive. The sessions take some organising and we are extremely grateful to Douglas Ruthven, Simon Young, James Macdonald, Lynsey Thomson and Linda Macdonald for all their hard work in this respect. There has been really great feedback from the volunteers who have participated in the sessions with their Therapets and the time and effort they put into the sessions is very much appreciated. From the bookings already made it looks as though 2015 is going to be even busier. If you would like to become involved please contact your Area Representative.

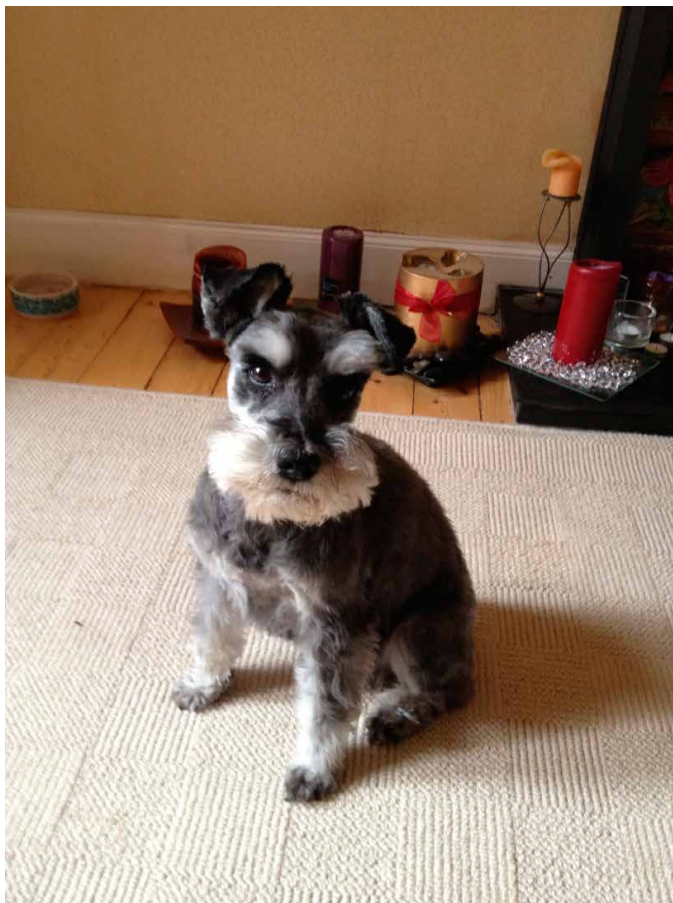
Increasingly, we are receiving requests from students and post-graduates for information about pet therapy, and the Therapet Service in particular, to assist them in their researches.

Recently Therapet volunteer **Jill Steel** has very kindly sent us a copy of her dissertation for her degree of Master of Education (Educational Studies) at the University of Glasgow. It is entitled "An evaluation of how the promotion of emotional well-being, through animal-assisted learning, may support children's engagement with reading in a Primary 1 classroom." It is an excellent document and we wish Jill every success.

From further afield, **a lady from Italy** contacted us regarding her daughter "who is studying pedagogy and is going to prepare a thesis on pet therapy benefits for children with disabilities / handicaps. She discussed it with her professor and he said it would be good to arrange some interviews/meetings abroad to compare the methods used in Italy with those used abroad". Mother and daughter came to Scotland in October and met with Trustee James Macdonald. This proved to be a very worthwhile meeting following which the mother wrote "Marianna at the moment is very busy: at one side she is writing her thesis (as promised I'll send you the translation of the part concerning the Canine Concern as soon as it is ready) and at the other side, she is on her way to get her dream getting real. She is discussing with the commune and health services in Italy the possibility to open a centre of pet therapy for disabled children. I think our discussion in Scotland is going to help her with ideas and way to manage it, and is possible that she'll need your advise in the future (maybe you can pay us a visit in the future to look at it). She is young, enthusiastic and very dynamic, and she has the support of her father in law who has already a company engaged in social works. I really hope that she can manage to do it!". Very kindly she also sent us a generous donation.

**Douglas Ruthven and a team of Edinburgh based Therapets** attended an event in Edinburgh which was organised by Who Cares? Scotland is a national voluntary organisation, established in 1978, which provides a range of advocacy, advice and support services across Scotland for children and young people with experience of care up to the age of 25. There were 150 children present and subsequently Douglas wrote “I thought it was a very worthwhile event for Therapets to make a nice contribution to the lives of youngsters who have had a difficult start in life and face an uncertain future in many cases. It was obvious that meeting the Therapets was a highlight of the day for many of the youngsters and their interest and enthusiasm for dogs was very evident and underlined their need to feel able to have some friendly and affectionate relationships. I hope that CCST can build on this event and make a contribution again in Edinburgh and also where similar opportunities may exist.”

Flirt, a Miniature Schnauzer, and Therapet Volunteer June Jeffery are carrying on the work started by Pepper the Boxer in visiting Barlinnie Prison in Glasgow. Flirt has been visiting the prison since February of 2014, gradually taking over the visiting from Pepper until her retirement in late April. Flirt and June continue this important work. Recently Trustee James Macdonald went to see Flirt in action and was very pleased to see the continued interest in her visits to the Day Care Services unit in Barlinnie. A different type of Therapet visiting, but very worthwhile.



Arranged by Moray Area Representative **Maureen Thomson, Frances Sutton and Therapet Kruger** have recently made four visits to the special class in Forres Academy with amazing results with speech, eye contact and unprompted conversation. The teacher involved said “Yes, it has been amazing the response from both sides. The relationship between all – human and dog – has been great, with everyone going the extra mile. We really appreciate Frances’ work. She and Kruger have been great!”

### **THERAPET GOODS**

Please remember that we have the following goods available for purchase from the office:-

- Therapet Coats
- Therapet Bandanas
- Sweat Shirts
- Polo Shirts
- T-Shirts

Each newly registered Therapet receives a Lead Flash automatically but if you need a replacement please let Lesley or Norma know.

### **AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

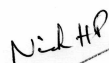
An up-to-date list of our Area Representatives and their contact details is included at the end of this bulletin. Sadly Susan Rae in Inverness has found it necessary to relinquish her role and we thank her for her work in recent years. We are looking for someone to replace her and if you would like to be considered please let me know. We like our Representatives to have at least one year of active Therapet visiting experience. As with any organisation succession planning is important to the Trust. If you would like to become involved, firstly by becoming an assistant to the Representative in your area, please contact your Representative in the first instance.

### **WEBSITE**

We now have a **FACEBOOK** page the objective of which is simply to give information about the Trust, and future events, and direct the reader to our website for further information about the work that the Trust undertakes.

With best wishes to you all and your Therapets.

Yours sincerely,



Nick HP

### **Nick Henley Price**

- Please renew membership!
- Visit our website for more news!
- Keep sending reports and stories about your Therapet visiting!
- If phoning the office please call between 10.00am and 1.00p, Monday to Friday.

## AREA REPRESENTATIVES

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