

CANINE CONCERN SCOTLAND TRUST

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Bulletin 95 April 2019

Dear Members and Friends

Welcome to the 95th Bulletin. With Spring in the air, we can now lower our shoulders from our ears where they've been since winter, breathe deeply, and get ready for what looks to be an exciting time as the Trust moves ever onward and hopefully upward too!

In this connection, and as foreshadowed in the January Bulletin, the Trustees have created the new full-time post of **Support and Development Officer** and have appointed **Ms Melanie (Mel) Hughes**, who is an existing Therapet Volunteer. Mel, who joined us in the middle of April, has had a diverse career in education spanning 23 years working in private and boarding schools, inner city state schools, as well as recently working with children and young adults requiring Additional Support for Learning in West Lothian. Mel spent a total of nine years in the positions of High School Principal and Head of Middle School in an international school in Singapore. She also spent several years as an international school Accreditation Officer working in schools with varying curricular approaches in countries including Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Nepal, Thailand and South Korea. She returned to the UK in 2015 where she decided to fulfil a lifelong ambition and learn to drive an articulated lorry! We all wish Mel well in what is a significant change in direction for her but a direction in which her wide experience in education and management will be of great value.

We are also delighted that Therapet Volunteer **Laura Weddell** has agreed to become our Area Representative for **Midlothian** thus completing the reorganisation in the Edinburgh & The Lothians area.

The **Annual Report and Accounts for 2018** were approved by the Trustees on 17th March 2019, and the document is now available on our website at www.canineconcernscotland.org.uk. View them by clicking on the News/Events tab - Bulletins & Accounts and then scroll down to Report & Accounts 2018. If you prefer a printed copy then please let us know and it will be posted out to you. You will see that the Trust is in good shape financially. For this we thank you for your support with memberships and generous donations and the Trustees of the many Charitable Trusts and Foundations who made grants to us during the year

A Big Date for the Diary - Therapet of the Year 2019 will be announced at our annual **AWARDS LUNCH** which will be held at the Marriott Hotel, Edinburgh on **Sunday 24th November 2019**. More information about the ceremony and the nomination procedure for **Therapet of the Year** will be included in the August Bulletin and on line from the website nearer the time.

January 1st is well known for making New Year resolutions, and here in the Office it is also time for sending out **Membership Renewals!** A great many members have already renewed and we are doubly grateful for the large number of donations that accompany the membership fees. Forgotten to renew? Don't worry - a pink reminder slip is enclosed. If you have recently paid, or if we have put in a reminder slip in error, please accept our apologies! For Therapet Volunteers it is important that memberships are up to date and that we are kept informed as to where you are visiting.

Trustees:

I Allan Sim BSc CA, (Chairman), George Leslie BVMS, James Macdonald,
Dr Valerie J Marrian MBChB FRCP FRCPE DCH, A Douglas Ruthven BEM FRSC,
Lydney G Thomson BSc(Hons) OT, Diane Wood Dip RMS, Simon W Young BA(Hons) MBA
CEO/Secretary/Treasurer: Nicholas P Henley Price

Cherished Therapets who have sadly died since the January Bulletin:-

| | | |
|----------|------------------|--|
| Balin | Marion Fleming | Cross Breed |
| Brian | Sandy Delap | English Pointer |
| Ewan | Penny Hargrave | Cavalier King Charles |
| Freckles | Gail Vines | Jack Russell |
| Flynnt | Carol Paterson | German Shepherd |
| Heather | Donna Palmer | Labrador |
| Jess | Harry Greig | Border Collie |
| Logan | Yvonne Caldwell | Greyhound |
| Luke | Jane Ross | Golden Retriever |
| Maisie | Nicola Bhabutta | Labrador |
| Mitzee | Robin Allshire | Airedale Terrier |
| Pepper | Yvonne Caldwell | Greyhound |
| Seri | Emmaleena Kakela | Rough Collie |
| Seth | Jill Steel | Labradoodle |
| Sweep | Carol Paterson | Pekinese |
| Tess | Gillian Leung | Blenheim Cavalier King Charles Spaniel |
| Yassie | Ruth Laidlaw | Labrador Cross |

For those Therapets who should have been included but weren't – please accept our sincere apologies. If you would let us know we will make mention in the August Bulletin. Our sympathies go out to all who have lost 'never to be forgotten' pets and many thanks to you for volunteering with them and sharing them with so many people.

Some of you may have already heard about the work of the **Pet Blood Bank**, a charity which works similar to human blood donor services – only both the donors and recipients are canine! The blood is obtained by a visit to the vet, then stored ready to supply to veterinary practices throughout the UK when required. Canine donors are always needed to save other dogs in need of transfusions. Visit their website for more information www.petbloodbankuk.org. Thanks go to our member Barbara Cooney for bringing the service to our notice, who unfortunately required to make use of it when her own dog recently required a transfusion – get well soon Coco.

During the coming months we will be attending the following events:-

- Scottish Kennel Club Championship Show – 17th, 18th, & 19th May- Ingliston
- Top Dogs Day Out - 28th July – Aviemore
- Dogs Allowed – 17th August - Arniston House, Gorebridge
- Scottish Kennel Club Championship Show – 24th & 25th August - Ingliston

As you know, last year was a big year for the Trust, and being in our 31st year was never going to sound as good as the 30th, but every year brings with it both continuity and change, and Sally Leiper a volunteer from Aberdeen provides a great example. Sally's been involved with the Trust since its foundation through her role as Scottish Correspondent for Dog World, and she has owned and bred many dogs over a 60 year period, but never thought any of them were suitable as Therapets, that is until she found herself with Billie Jean a chihuahua. In a lovely note sent to the office, Sally told us, 'we visit a hospital ward with elderly patients and Billie's ability to bring smiles to all, makes her loved by patients and staff alike. With best wishes to CCST for the next 30 years.'

What a lovely story! We will share more Therapet news in the August Bulletin so please keep sending us your reports and stories. They're the heartbeat of the Trust and the connection that keeps us all linked up from Orkney to Dumfries and all points in between!

With best wishes



The Office Team