

Presidents Report 2018

2017 has proved to be a very busy and exciting year for the Canterbury Kennel Association. A great number of important projects were completed during the past year aimed at improving your venue for future shows and activities.

The major projects completed during 2017 were:-

1. Installing insulation batts in the lounge and the office.

This is already saving the club in heating costs and making the lounge more user friendly.

2. Installed LED lighting under the veranda.

This is not only saving on power costs, it is better lighting and more fire safe.

3. Extended the irrigation system.

With minor adjustments we will be able to achieve a better coverage during the summer months.

4. Upgrade the wiring in the shop.

During the year it was discovered that we had a potential fire hazard with the original wiring and this needed to be addressed urgently.

5. Installed extra power-points in the main building together with RCD switches.

Once again a potential fire hazard was discovered in the original wiring and this was addressed.

6. Built a water tanker trailer to enable us to water the trees outside the irrigated area.

7. Painted the toilet block and the garage.

8. Purchased the quad bike.

This will enable our caretaker Wayne to do his job more efficiently.

As I have stated in the past, this club could not function as well as it does without the contributions of a great number of people, many of whom are outside of the committee.

During the year the New Zealand Kennel Club acknowledged the wonderful contribution to the dog world by two of our own, John Davidson and Keven Wells. Kevin has manned the gate collecting the gate donations for many years and despite his ongoing recovery from his operation was on the gate again in November. Thank you Kevin and congratulations. John is well known to us in Canterbury and his award was well earned and well deserved. John too has had his medical issues during 2017 and we are delighted that he is now well on the road to recovery. Throughout it all John has continued to prepare the rings and maintain the irrigation system including leading the upgrade. Thank you John and congratulations also.

Medical issues seem to be a big part of 2017 and Margaret Osbourne too has had her issues.

Margaret has despite this still made a huge contribution to our club during the year purchasing, wrapping and organizing the prizes for our many shows during the year. Thank you Margaret and may we wish you a full and speedy recovery.

Kathy Morton has done an amazing job running the training and match nights over the past twelve months. I am sure that those that attended would join me in thanking Kathy for all her efforts on behalf of the club.

Of course this section would not be complete without recognizing the immense contribution to CKA by our auditor Zane Colville. Zane works closely with our treasurer Helene and keeps us in line financially. A task that we don't make easy for him. This year we get to acknowledge his wonderful contribution to CKA with his Life Membership. Thank you Zane.

No club of this size could be successful without a dedicated and enthusiastic committee. I am very lucky to have such a committee. All have made significant contributions to your club during the past year and have made my job as President so much less complicated than it has been in years past. Vice President Tony Gibson has had a very busy year running the weekly show training classes along with daughter Kathy. These classes have been attended by an enormous number of new and older members of the club and have proved very popular. Tony has lead the group that painted the toilet block, under the veranda and the garage.

Our secretary Arvine Gamlin despite a year from hell has managed the affairs of this club with great expertise. Arvine also ran the shop up until recently. We now have commercial caterers in charge of the catering. This will lessen Arvines work load a little but knowing her it will only mean more time for other CKA and Kennel Club activities. Arvine joins the Ribbon Parade panel in 2018. Thank you Arvine and on behalf of the committee and CKA please accept our deepest condolences.

Helene Street has put in another sterling year as treasurer of our club. With so many things on our wish list she has a huge job restraining our urge to spend. The finances of the club continue to show a healthy balances despite the ongoing development on the McLeans Island venue.

Margaret Pantling as the Events and Bookings Manager has done a wonderful job arranging all the booking for the kennel centre over the past twelve months. I know that our associated clubs in the Canterbury area are very pleased with the service offered by Margaret and the club.

Wayne Burns our caretaker has made an amazing contribution to the upkeep of the grounds. Now retired Wayne has worked tirelessly preparing the grounds and cleaning up after the numerous shows held at the Island. Wayne's role as caretaker is very important and he is making an enormous contribution to the upkeep and continuing development of the kennel centre.

Helen Dupe is another committee member who demonstrates what it takes to be a great team member. Helen makes the rosettes for our ribbon parades and open shows, works in the office during the shows and makes an important contribution to our monthly committee meetings.

Husband Kevin was once again involved as digger driver when the irrigation project was under way and we thank you Kevin for your contribution.

Cindy Case has been an active member as part of the Tuesday night training team.

Emma Case-Peters and Sean Deery were both very involved in the preparation of the grounds in November.

The annual championship shows in November were a great success. The grounds were stunning. The committee put in a huge effort to prepare the venue and the number of compliments we received was a great testament to their efforts.

2018 will bring challenges as every year does but together we can overcome them and move the development of your venue forward. Projects for 2018 include, reroofing the stirrers, installing a new irrigation line, tree planting, shade sails in rings five and six and repairing and refurnishing the kitchen. All this and keeping in the black.

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish you a very successful 2018 and look forward to your continued support for CKA. And as I said in previous years "That which you put in today benefits us all for years to come."

Thank You

Brian Harris