




Welcome to

COUNCIL'S CANINE

COMMENT NEWSLETTER



In this edition:

-  We look at important info about this year's registration process.
-  New animal control officers
-  Dog park events!

It's hard to believe that (at the time of going to print) it has been one year since we were in Level 4 lock-down. It was a stressful and uncertain time for many humans, but a great experience for many pet dogs who suddenly got to spend all day every day with their families.

The local streets were busy with walkers, and canines everywhere were reaping the benefits (physically and mentally) from extended daily exercise off the property and full-time company ... and barking complaints were at an all-time low.

Fast forward one year and some lucky pooches, whose owners work from home, still enjoy more daily company. But for many people and dogs, life has gone back to how it was before. Our hope is that owners will continue to make a conscious effort to provide their dogs with companionship, exercise and things to do to fill in their day.

FOR MORE TIPS ON HOW TO DO THIS, CONTACT ONE OF OUR FRIENDLY ANIMAL CONTROL TEAM.

WINNER FOR LIFE

"Bandit" the Maltese/Shih Tzu mix was the lucky winner of our 2020 draw which means his owner Tania will not have to pay registration fees for him for the rest of his life (as long as he lives in the Waipā).

Congratulations Bandit and Tania.

All dogs registered by 30th June will automatically enter the 2021 draw. Good luck everyone.



DOG REGISTRATION

2021

Your dog registration notice is included with this newsletter. Fees are the same as last year, and payments are due by **30th June 2021** when the current year's registration expires. A further month's grace period is allowed until **31st July**, after which a **50% penalty** is applied.

WHY PAY ON TIME?

We're providing lots of incentives to pay by the due date, with one lucky dog receiving free registration for the rest of its life (while living in Waipā). Bandit was the fifth dog to win our annual draw, and we look forward to drawing the sixth winner this year. Register your dog by 30 June 2021 and be in with a chance to win. We also have spot prizes and a Facebook competition, so keep an eye out for more info on www.facebook.com/waipaanimalcontrol.

HOW CAN I PAY?

We have a range of payment options available as shown on the notice itself, but please be aware Council no longer accept payment by cheque.

If you think you might have trouble paying your dog registration fees by the due date, please phone us for a confidential chat. Our friendly administrators Helen and Rochelle will be happy to work out a payment plan with you, but note that all payment plans need to be started early to ensure they are paid in full before the penalty date.

CHECK YOUR DETAILS

Please check that your contact details on your re-registration notice are correct eg. address, phone numbers and email addresses. Any changes can be updated online at www.waipadc.govt.nz/dogs or you can contact the animal control team on **0800 WAIPADC**



Dog park events

Over the last couple of months our animal control team have been popping up in various dog parks around the district, with a stash of treats and canine cupcakes, and getting to know some of our local dogs and owners. A huge thanks to Darran from **Mindfulness4dogs** who joined us most weeks, and freely gave advice and assistance to those who came along.

We were blessed with great weather for most of the events, with only one storm sending us home mid-event!.

Thanks to everyone who stopped by, it was great to meet you all.



NEW ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

Waipā recently welcomed two new staff to the animal control team. Sadly Warren left the team last year due to ill health, and we send our thoughts and wishes to Warren and his family.

Selina has moved into the full-time role vacated by Warren, and is based in Te Awamutu. Selina is new to animal control, having worked previously as an early childcare teacher. Selina is passionate about all things dog (and animals generally), and in her spare time she is a dog obedience instructor. She is loving the interaction with local dog

owners, and she looks forward to initiating a child “safety with dogs” education programme in the near future.

Riaan has joined the Cambridge team in a part-time capacity, and he also works part-time for Waitomo animal control. Riaan has a background in sales and enforcement, and is a keen hunter when his busy life permits. Riaan has a strong love for dogs and a great respect for all animals. He loves his new role and wants to make a difference for dogs, owners and the Waipā community.

DOGS (AND GOATS) ON FILM

Over the past few months, we've been creating some education videos to promote responsible dog ownership. Check them out by searching Waipā District Council on YouTube! You may spot some local well-known faces ...

⏪ ⏩ ⏸
⋮

♥
SUBSCRIBE

CAMBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL Gateway Programme

Toyha, a year 12 student from Cambridge High School has been joining us one day per week (for a total of 10 weeks), to gain some experience working with dogs and animals. Toyha has loved her time with us, and we have loved having such a bubbly and enthusiastic helper. It goes without saying, the pound animals have loved her too, and will miss her when she leaves! All the best with your future Toyha.



A HAPPY ENDING for Baxter

Waipā pound dog Baxter was successfully rehomed by Pound Hounds Rescue recently. Baxter was from the wrong side of the tracks, constantly in trouble for naughty behaviour such as nuisance barking, wandering the streets, and doing his business on neighbour's lawns.

Today he is a beach dog with a family who adore him. He goes on daily runs, goes swimming and fishing, and enjoys sneaky snuggles in bed with his dad. His mum and dad joke that they are going to have to buy a bigger bed to accommodate them all!



STATISTICS

THERE ARE CURRENTLY
8,990 DOGS
ON THE WAIPĀ REGISTER

of these **8031**
ARE MICRO-CHIPPED

(remember some dogs are exempt from the legal requirement to micro-chip).



In the 12 months from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 Council received **1763** animal control complaints for investigation. Of these, **1673** were about dogs. A further **1873** were general enquiries.



We impounded **200** dogs from across the district. Twenty three were later rehomed due to their owner not claiming them.

A huge thanks to local charity Pound Hounds Rescue who took most of the unclaimed dogs into their care for rehoming.

A big thanks also to our local vets VE Vets in Te Awamutu who constantly go the extra mile for our pound dogs.



WAIPĀ DISTRICT COUNCIL ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

We offer a 24 hour dog/stock control service:

8am to 5pm customer support staff are available to take calls.

5pm to 8am weekdays, weekends, and public holidays – after hours staff are available to deal with urgent incidents.

Contact us on
0800 924 723

For non-urgent matters you can email info@waipadc.govt.nz or visit

waipadc.govt.nz/dogs

WaipaDistrictCouncil

WaipaAnimalControl