

# **Neuter Certificate for Casper**



### Certificate of Sterilisation

This is to certify that the following animal has been Sterilised

<b>OWNER:</b> Ms Esther Schonberger 77 Wallis Street, RAGLAN , 3225		<b>PHONE:</b> 07 825 7207
<b>NAME:</b> Casper	<b>SEX:</b> Male Neutered	
<b>BREED:</b> Spoodle Dog	<b>COLOUR:</b> White & Tan	
<b>D.O.B.:</b> 13/03/2018 <b>AGE:</b> 2y 9m	<b>WEIGHT:</b> 12.400	

<b>DATE STERILISED:</b> 08/12/2020	<b>AGE:</b> 2y 8m
<b>MICROCHIP NUMBER:</b> 900141000030106	

<b>VET CLINIC:</b> Anexa Raglan
<b>VETERINARIAN:</b> <i>Rolando Quezada</i>
<b>SIGNED:</b> <i>Pp [Signature]</i>



0800 284 3838

anexafvc.co.nz

Coromandel  
P: 07 866 8556  
Gordonton  
P: 07 824 2103

Huntly  
P: 07 828 7660  
Maramarua  
P: 09 232 5891

Matamata  
P: 07 888 8068  
Morrinsville  
P: 07 889 5159

Ngaruawahia  
P: 07 824 8630  
Ngatea  
P: 07 867 7256

Paeroa  
P: 07 862 8815  
Raglan  
P: 07 825 8200

Rototuna  
P: 07 853 0027  
Te Aroha

Te Kauwhata  
P: 07 826 3581



# **Emails from Ms Schonberger**

**From:** [Esther S](#)  
**To:** [Democracy](#)  
**Subject:** casper hearing19/2/21  
**Date:** Friday, 12 February 2021 7:30:26 pm

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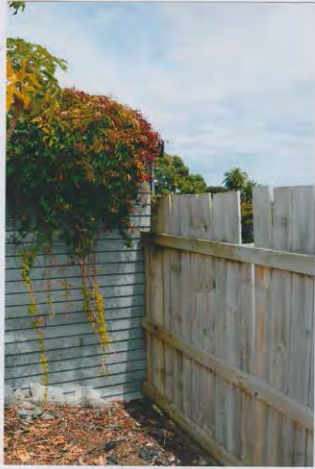
Snyvals house, my house, my  
garage, the shared driveway  
+ public walkway 06/02/2021



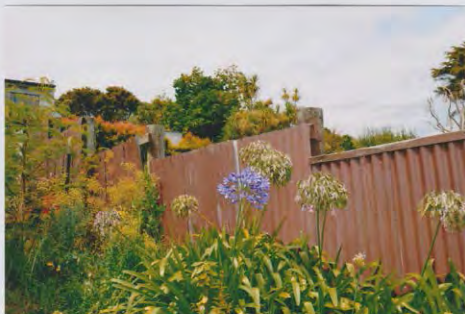
Snyppals house, my house, my  
garage, the shared driveway  
+ public walkway 06/02/2021



My current fencing, + the  
long leash for Casper, 06/02/2021



My current fencing, + the long leash for Casper, 08/02/2021



My current fencing, + the long leash for Casper, 08/02/2021



My current fencing, + the  
long least for Casper, 06/02/2021



**From:** [Esther S](#)  
**To:** [Democracy](#)  
**Subject:** casper hearing 19/2/21  
**Date:** Friday, 12 February 2021 7:27:14 pm

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06/02/2021. Knuden at Snypts door



Side gate 77 Wallis St. 06/02/2021



Side gate 77 Wallis St. 06/02/2021



Casper. Photos taken in 2020

**From:** [Esther S](#)  
**To:** [Democracy](#)  
**Subject:** casper hearing 19/2/21  
**Date:** Friday, 12 February 2021 7:18:43 pm

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Statement Stefan Doll

Objection to Menacing Classification hearing on 19 February, Esther Schonberger

On the 18<sup>th</sup> November, Esther and I came back from a walk with Casper and Ava, parking the car on our driveway. We already had a practice of putting the leashes on the dogs in the car to take them the 8-10 meters from the car to the house.

We applied this practice to ensure that Casper is not running to the neighbour when he sees their cat sitting at the front door.

On this day we could not find the second leash. It was raining when we came back from the beach and I had quickly thrown the leash in the car without remembering where.

Esther opened the back door to have a look behind the seats and within a split-second, Casper was jumping out. By the time I was getting out of the car I could already see Casper at the neighbour's front door, barking at his cat, with our neighbour Glen at the scene. We called Casper, but he would not come back.

The fact that for many weeks we had already the practice of leashing the dogs while they are in the car, and the fact that we were looking for the second leash on that day, does prove that we do care about Glen's cat. The backdoor was opened to find the second leash. It was not opened to light heartedly set Casper free to run. The intention was to get Casper safe into the house.

Unfortunately, Casper managed to jump out of the car in a split second. In hindsight, yes there was a risk by opening the door which we should not have taken. We acknowledged that to the Animal Control Officer. At the time it seemed a logical thing to do. We very much regret that this has happened, learnt from this event and have taken a zero risk approach ever since.

Glen was erratically kicking Casper, swearing and screaming towards us something like: 'I have enough of this. Next time I will put a bullet through your dog.'

I was shocked and felt very intimidated by Glen's aggressive and uncontrolled behaviour. In fact, I have not seen him or anyone else in such a state. All I could say in that moment was: 'Sorry, we could not find the leash' He replied 'bullshit'. It turned out that the leash was on the passenger seat which I only noticed after I got out of the car!

After Glen chased Casper away, Casper walked back halfway towards us. I took this opportunity to secure Casper and grabbed him by his collar to take him inside. I did not see how the fight started and I did not see how close Casper got to the cat. However, I knew that Glen was extremely angry. Esther and I talked about going over: Glen after he calmed down. We did not feel safe to talk to him in his current state. My first apology was clearly rejected.

Shortly after the incident, I had a work-related video call to attend.

At around 1pm, two Animal Control Officers came to the backdoor to inform us of a complaint made by Glen whose cat had been mauled. She said the cat has lost some hair and seems sore and asked if we did check what happened to the cat. We explained that we didn't, describing Glen's erratic behaviour as the reason why.

We explained that Casper is very friendly with everyone else but he hates Glen's cat. We said that we could not find the second leash in the car and took a risk when opening the backdoor. At that time Casper managed to run off to the neighbour before he could be leashed.



We are fully aware that the dogs need to be always in control, and we do very much regret that this was not achieved in 3 instances involving Glen's cat. It was not obvious how Casper was able to run off the property. We investigated and have acted every time we learnt something new. Since 18 November, we take no chances and zero risk to prevent anything like this from happening ever again which Glen can confirm.

Stefan Doll  
 Hamilton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2021  
 18a Saxbys Road  
 Hamilton 3206  
 ph: 027 681 4703



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<b>OWNER:</b> Ms Esther Schonberger 77 Wallis Street, RAGLAN, 3225	<b>PHONE:</b> 07 825 7207
<b>NAME:</b> Casper	<b>SEX:</b> Male Neutered
<b>BREED:</b> Spoodle Dog	<b>COLOUR:</b> White & Tan
<b>D.O.B.:</b> 13/03/2018 <b>AGE:</b> 2y 9m	<b>WEIGHT:</b> 12.400
<b>DATE STERILISED:</b> 08/12/2020 <b>AGE:</b> 2y 8m	
<b>MICROCHIP NUMBER:</b> 90014100030106	

<b>VET CLINIC:</b> Anexa Raglan
<b>VETERINARIAN:</b> <i>Rosemary O'Shea</i>
<b>SIGNED:</b> <i>pp [Signature]</i>



0800 284 3838 | anexafvc.co.nz

Coromandel Ph: 07 846 8556	Hunty Ph: 07 828 7640	Matamoras Ph: 07 889 8048	Ngaiwanahia Ph: 07 824 8630	Paeoa Ph: 07 842 8815	Rototuna Ph: 07 851 0227	Te Kauwhata Ph: 07 828 3581
Cadeford Ph: 07 824 2103	Maramara Ph: 09 232 5891	Meriville Ph: 07 889 9159	Ngatai Ph: 07 847 7254	Raglan Ph: 07 825 8590	Te Aroha Ph: 07 884 8014	Thames Ph: 07 868 7005

# INFRINGEMENT NOTICE

(ISSUED UNDER AUTHORITY OF SECTION 66 OF THE DOG CONTROL ACT 1996)



NUMBER: D26397  
SR No.: DOGS150121

Territorial Authority  
Waikato District Council  
15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia  
Ph: (07) 824 8533  
Fax: (07) 824 8091

Esther Schonberger  
77 Wallis Street  
Raglan 3225

	Forenames	Surname	Person ID:	Animal ID:
Name of Owner:	Esther	Schonberger	67806	153771
Date of Birth:				

## ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OFFENCE DETAILS

Date:	02/12/2020	Time:	10:30:00 AM	Day of Week:	Wednesday
Road/Street:	Wallis Street	Locality:	RAGLAN		

OFFENCE COMMITTED	Infringement Fee (\$)	Offence Code
Failed to comply with ByLaw authorised by Section 20 of the Dog Control Act	\$300.00	S20(5)

Additional Details of Offence (if any):	Infringement Fee payable
dog not under control resulting in a cat being attacked	\$300.00

Reg No or Description of Dog:	
License:	Breed: Poodle Miniature
Sex: Male	Primary Colour: White

## PAYMENT OF INFRINGEMENT FEE

The infringement fee is payable within 28 days after:	02/12/2020	ACO:	07
(earliest date notice delivered personally or posted)			

Please note that if you have been served with this Infringement Notice for failing to register a dog, payment of the Infringement does not include the dog registration fee. You will still need to register your dog without delay and failing to do so may result in the issue of further Infringement notices.

Infringement fee may be paid to:  
WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL  
15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 344, Ngaruawahia  
Or to the any of the following Waikato District Council Area Offices  
Hunua 134 Main Street  
Tairāwhiti 2 Dammon Road  
Raglan 7 Bow Street  
Cheques or money orders should be "NOT TRANSFERABLE"

IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ THE SUMMARY OF RIGHTS PRINTED OVERLEAF

26-01-2021

Dear Waikato District Council,

I have been asked to write a testimonial for my neighbour's dog Casper. I have known Esther Schonberger and her spoodle Casper since he was eight weeks old (March 2018). I have looked after him on many occasions without any problems.

Casper is an easy going, good natured & playful dog. He is very well socialised with people and is often approached for pats which he always happily accepts.

Casper also plays and integrates well with other dogs. Casper should be considered as very nonaggressive to humans and dogs.

Casper is clever, trainable and has attended puppy school in Raglan 2 years ago, run by the Raglan Dog Walk Club.

Casper's friendly, playful, and social nature will be damaged by him having to wear a muzzle. I feel this is unnecessary in general and totally unnecessary when he is on a lead. This will also seriously reduce his quality of life.

I am now a Waikato District Council good dog owner since applying late last year so feel this adds credibility to the above testimonial.

Yours sincerely

Murray Monds  
11B Government Road  
Raglan 3225  
Ph: 027 9030312

**From:** [Esther S](#)  
**To:** [Democracy](#)  
**Subject:** casper hearing 19/2/21  
**Date:** Friday, 12 February 2021 7:16:34 pm

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(b) (1)

1 page (including attachments) (b) (1)

October 2018. We move to 77 Wallis St. The landlord had done a major renovation, & was still in the process of completing things. It took nearly 2 years for him to complete things. Casper is approx 9 months. We met our new neighbour shortly after. He likes Casper. Casper sometimes sneaks into his house when the front door is open. This is not an issue at this stage. He usually shoos Casper out & I retrieve him home. I discourage Casper from doing this, as I know I am responsible for him, but at this stage our fencing situation is like a sieve. Our landlord has more important things to do than fix the fence. My neighbour & I are friendly with each other at this stage.

Our section at this stage is not dog proof fenced. We set about making some of our own modifications: 1) blocking a hole under the skirting under the house (my 2nd dog weighs 45kg & can walk through any tiny gap-she would walk out to freedom on the other side of the house). Where she goes, Casper tends to follow. She was a puppy at the time. 2) Putting a piece of bin up in the backyard between our house & the downstairs flat. Casper quickly worked out he could jump over the then nearly non-existent fence, & walk out to freedom through the unfenced downstairs flat's yard. My landlord built a proper wooden fence about a year later. I have that in one of my photos.

Mid 2019. For purposes of getting naming correct, I will call my neighbour "Snypa" (this is not disrespectful, it is his surfer nickname. A lot of people in Raglan have surfer nicknames. I learnt a year later that his real name was Glen. Snypa gets a girlfriend, who doesn't like Casper anywhere near their property. She is verbally abusive, so I make sure my kids know to keep Casper away, & also increase my efforts to keep Casper away, as I know I'm responsible, & I like to have good neighbourly relationships. My landlord, is still doing a lot of DIY on the section/house. Unfortunately, we live right next to a public walkway (shown in a photo), which borders onto Snypa's property, & Casper has now worked out as our fencing situation has improved, that he can jump over the little side gate to get out (shown in a photo), which is a metre away from the public walkway, & because of the people in the downstairs flat, the big gate which opens onto the walkway is always left open (shown in a photo). Snypa does not approach me at this stage, with any concerns.

Late September 2020. Snypa approached me for the first time (he came to knock on my door), asking me to contain Casper, as he is chasing his cat, & had pinned it down on this occasion. Snypa told me the cat was ok, but upset. Snypa is quite upset, & tells me he will ring my landlord, & get him to "sort it out". I apologise to Snypa. I also own cats, & like them to be treated well. (one of my cat's had recently been in a catfight-possibly with Snypa's cat-& had been clawed across the eye-quite a deep gash. I was nursing him back to health. There are quite a few cats in the neighbourhood, & regular catfights that I hear). I explain to Snypa, that I haven't had a lot of luck getting my landlord to do things in a timely manner (I have been reluctant in the past to ask my landlord for stuff done around the house/yard unless it qualifies as an emergency, as he doesn't get stuff done quickly at all, unless it is an emergency). I tell Snypa I will increase my efforts to keep Casper contained. I take the further measure of making a long leash attached to a chain (in a photo) which I can tie Casper to while he is in the yard, so he stays on the property while being able to spend time outside. Casper also gets walked at the

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(he was very loud) a lot of F words, very verbally aggressive with abuse & threats, the main one being "I will put a bullet in that dog's head". Stefan is out of the car now, grabs Casper, & says to Snypa "Sorry, we couldn't find the leash". Snypa's reply is "bullshit". We both run into my gate with the dogs, feeling quite shaken. I find out from Stefan after, he was sitting on the leash the whole time, & hadn't noticed till after.

I remain feeling shaken & intimidated, & decide to talk to Snypa when he has calmed down, as I still feel quite threatened. Casper gets told off by me. At 1pm, dog control knocks on my back door to speak to me. The first thing they inform me of is the state of the cat! so I don't enquire further as they have already told me). They offer helpful advice on how I could have handled the situation better. I take this on board (the most helpful thing being buying spare leashes from the 2dollar shop so I can always find one). They uplift Casper. I go down to the library to pay my fees, to release Casper. I leave Raglan at around 2pm, to drive to the Ngauruhaha pound. I arrive there just in time. I pick him up. Casper is somewhat (but not excessively) distressed on the way home. I have not spoken to Snypa since. It is safe to say, Stefan & I were both shocked by the incident, by Snypa's reaction & by the dog control turning up, before we even felt able to talk with Snypa in a more de-escalated situation.

19/11/2020. I text my landlord, & ask him to raise the level of the side gate at my house again.

Saturday 28 November 2020, my landlord raises the gate with an extra extension of plywood, to it's current level. (a total of 44cm higher than it's original height) Casper can no longer jump over it to get out of the yard. We tested him.

Week beginning 29/12, I write & send a letter to the council appealing Casper's menacing status.

Monday 7 December 2020. I pay Casper's \$300 fine.

Tuesday 8 December 2020. Casper gets desexed. (certificate is there). I have scanned & emailed it as requested.

Present day, Casper is a lot more relaxed now after being desexed. He is consistently leashed out of the yard. He doesn't try to escape from the yard now. He has never chased Snypa's cat since that day. I have seen Snypa's cat a few times since the incident. It often sits under our cars on our part of the driveway (possibly because it is shady under the cars). I have photos taken on 6/2/21 of it basking in the sun in front of Snypa's front door. It looks happy, healthy, & at peace with the world.

All of the issues relating to Snypa's cat's quality of life, & having a peaceful world have been resolved. The fencing on my property is now completely dog proof. Casper is desexed & has now relaxed a lot of his "prey drive". Casper is consistently leashed out of the yard, leaving no opportunity to chase anything. Why should Casper continue to have to pay with a reduced.

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outside. Casper also gets walked at the beach nearly every day, to burn off energy (has done since he was a puppy). The kids & I are now also taking the dogs to & from the car for when they go for walks on leashes, so they can't go anywhere near Snypa's house (it is a short distance of 5-10metres max from the front gate, to our parking space next to our garage, which is adjacent to the shared driveway. There is a photo).

Wednesday 21 October 2020 (as per my ph text history) Snypa approaches me again, asking if I can do something to keep Casper in. His cat has been chased again. Snypa is upset (but polite). I apologise. The cat, as I understand is shaken, but intact. I text my landlord & ask if he can fix the gate because my neighbour is getting upset about Casper chasing his cat. My landlord replies that he will fix it. I walk over to Snypa's, knock on his door & explain this to him. He seems ok with this.

Saturday 31 October (as per my ph text history). My landlord raises the gate 14cm with an extra block of wood screwed to the top. We test Casper to see if he can jump this. It seems he can't.

Early November 2020. I casually run into Snypa in the shared driveway in the evening. He informs me that he doesn't see Casper in the day anymore, but his cat has been fussed at at night. I realise this is the only time I let Casper out into the yard unleashed, so he can do his ablutions in the yard, before the household goes to bed for the night. I realise he can still get over the gate (he must have learnt to jump higher). I tell Snypa this. I apologise. I am not informed of any injury to his cat (Kruden) at this stage. I start taking Casper for evening walks around the block, so he can do evening ablutions.

A week later. The weather is exceptionally rainy, my daughter's car won't start. We go over to Snypa's & ask for jumper leads. He cheerfully lends them (even offers to help, but we suss it). I start feeling more positive about our neighbourly relationship again.

Wednesday 18 November

Day of the incident. Stefan comes out to visit at 9:30am. He tells me he needs to be back at my place by 12pm for a video call. We take the dogs for a walk on the beach. We leash them to walk up to the car. It is very rainy. So we don't go for a long walk. We arrive back at my place at 10:20am. It has stopped raining for a bit. I find Ava's (my other dog) leash & hook her up. We both look through the car (& are still in the car with the dogs) for Casper's leash, but can't find it. I open the back door of the car still holding Ava on the leash, to see if I can see better to find it. Basically I was risking it, by opening the car door. I remember saying this to Amanda Davis, she appears to have heard this, & turned it to paint me in a very bad light. In saying that, I do regret risking it & opening the door, it was clearly a bad decision, & not one I'll be making again. There are other actions I could have taken in hindsight, which Amanda Davis spends a lot of time discussing with me, & I agree with her. Anyway... Casper jumps out in one second. I don't see anything because I am still looking for the leash & hanging onto Ava. I hear Snypa screaming

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quality of life, with a muzzle & the status of menacing, when Snypa's cat's world has clearly been restored. Casper is a very social & playful dog. A muzzle would isolate & upset him on a continuing basis (clearly interfering with his dog mental health), to say nothing of my embarrassment & stigma at having to explain, that Casper (a beautiful friendly white spoodle) is a menacing dog. Most people react with disbelief. A common reaction has been 'what has this world come to?' & most people still want to pat him. He's that friendly & good natured.

I have included a character witness statement, from a neighbour who has known Casper since puppyhood. Murray has spent a lot of time with my dogs. This reinforces, that Casper is a very good natured dog when it comes to humans & other dogs.

Casper is a medium sized dog. He weighs around 14kg. He has never had any other incidents of harm towards people or other animals, & now continues to remain incident free. Both of my dogs are microchipped & registered. They have been microchipped for a while.

Also, I notice Casper has been put on that for another dog I owned nearly 10 years ago. This incident occurred in 2012. There was absolutely no fencing at the property I lived at, at the time, & still isn't to this day. That particular property was such, that it was very open, & difficult to fence. As a working solo mum, renting that property, I did not feel in a position to ask the property managers to fence the section, or have the financial means to do so. I feel it is a miscarriage of justice that Casper should pay for this. I have owned another dog in between this first dog (Tui) & Casper. She weighed 37kg. There were no incidents ever recorded to her. She was not registered either.

I consider myself a responsible citizen as a registered nurse at Waikato hospital, a job which I have held for over 13 years. I am required to treat all my patients, without bias or judgement, as they all have the right to fair health care. I feel quite a few of the words of the dog control officer Amanda Davis are inflammatory, & emotive, eg the word hate is repeated several times, & a lot of emphasis seems to be put on the fact that we "don't seem to care". An accurate account of Snypa's words & behaviour is not really present in either his statement, or Amanda's. If we are confronted by an excessively aggressive patient at the hospital (verbally aggressive included), we are encouraged to call security, & step down, until the situation has been de-escalated (as per waikato dnb protocol). I would have called security in that situation, which is why we didn't approach him again straight after the incident, as I have in the past, or he has approached me, & we have been able to talk. I believe Amanda said to me at the time, that Snypa had said he had 'gone off his nut' at us. This is not reflected anywhere, in either statement. Nor the accident effect this might have had on us. Neither of us may have appeared stressed, but keep in mind, I work in a job, where it is actually part of my job to keep it together (as best you can) in high stress situations, falling apart is for later. The measures I have shown over time to contain Casper, show I do care, even though my landlord has not been particularly speedy with some of the fencing issues.

As a nurse, I have been taught to document purely facts. Emotions are included in nursing documentation to describe a patient's state of mind, eg, upset, or aggressive. If our

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documentation goes to court, assumptions do not stand up. Only facts. I notice there are some broad assumptions made in Amanda's statement. Eg the owner did not seem to realise the dog was of a size that could kill a cat. Since I was never questioned on this directly, I could not answer to the assumption made against me at the time. I also notice at the end of Amanda's statement, my surname has been changed to "Schnuriger" (which is my neighbour's surname), which suggests to me that her statement may have been written in a hurry. I was also questioned/talked to by Amanda, when I was still in a state of shock at what had happened... Snypa's reaction was very heavy to deal with, as much as the cat attack was.

Also the infringement notice I was sent (included) shows the date of the incident as 2/12/20, & Casper's breed as miniature poodle X. There appears to either have been some speed with this notice, or not much fact checking. Amanda encouraged me at the time she seized Casper, to apply for a hearing, as apart from Snypa's cat, he appeared to be "a lovely dog" in her words. Again, this doesn't appear in her statement.

I am very sad this incident happened, & have done everything I can to make sure this will never happen again. Snypa's cat is now happy (the photos depict this). I feel it is wrong, that Casper should remain unhappy because of this. I can't make things right with Snypa for what happened, & still don't feel comfortable about approaching him, but have done everything I can, to make sure this never happens again. That is how I show I care.

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