



Seeing Eye Dogs
Vision Australia

Paws

For a moment

Issue 2 – 2021

Thank you
for helping to care
for and train more
pups like Pixie.



New arrivals: Meet the Zeds



You're achieving extraordinary things

Thank you for the outpouring of support and kindness over the past year.

We had a record number of people being matched with Seeing Eye Dogs. This achievement was a direct result of the work of our volunteers and staff who continued their work throughout COVID-19, and of the generosity of supporters like YOU who helped us keep pace with an ever-increasing demand.

In other news, we are expecting many new arrivals this year. We will be full to the brim with gorgeous puppies who one day may go on to become Seeing Eye Dogs, or join our breeding program to create future generations. I'm so excited about the future, and so grateful to you for helping to make this possible.

Ron Hooton
Chief Executive Officer



Proud Mum Winna is just one of the mums who gave birth recently at the puppy centre.

She is thrilled to introduce you to her little bundles of joy: three males and four females named Zane, Zandra, Zeke, Zera, Zeva, Zenith and Zurich.

Tiny, adorable and oh-so-smart

Give a huge hug and hello to our newest arrivals, all safe, sound and healthy and growing so fast thanks to your support.

Olaf, Oslo, Orchid

DOB: 4/9/20 Breed: L

Mum: Yetta Dad: Murray

Paddy, Pixie, Pony, Phantom, Pickles

DOB: 11/9/20 Breed: GR

Mum: Olive Dad: Caspar

Quill, Quiver, Queenie, Quinn, Quartz, Quip, Quarry

DOB: 21/9/20 Breed: L x GR

Mum: Yentl Dad: Grillson

Roger, Robbie, River, Ray, Rizzo, Ralph, Rosie, Roxy

DOB: 3/10/20 Breed: L x GR

Mum: Dodi Dad: Ozzy

Trooper, Tia, Twiggy, Trevor, Taco, Toshi, Tommy

DOB: 13/10/20 Breed: L

Mum: Carmel Dad: Anton

Utha, Umi, Union, Umali, Ursha, Uli, Umeko

DOB: 20/10/20 Breed: L x GR

Mum: Demi Dad: Kenny

Visa, Viola, Vivi

DOB: 30/10/20 Breed: L

Mum: Judy Dad: Ice

Zane, Zandra, Zeke, Zera, Zeva, Zenith, Zurich

DOB: 16/12/20 Breed: L x GR

Mum: Winna Dad: Ozzy

Arty, Abbie, Aztec, Angela, Amy, Ascot

DOB: 12/1/21 Breed: L

Mum: India Dad: Murray

Brit, Bibi, Bruno, Bali, Banjo, Berry, Bingo, Bowie, Barney

DOB: 13/1/21 Breed: L

Mum: Terri Dad: Grillson

Cally, Cuba, Chessy, Cyril, Connor

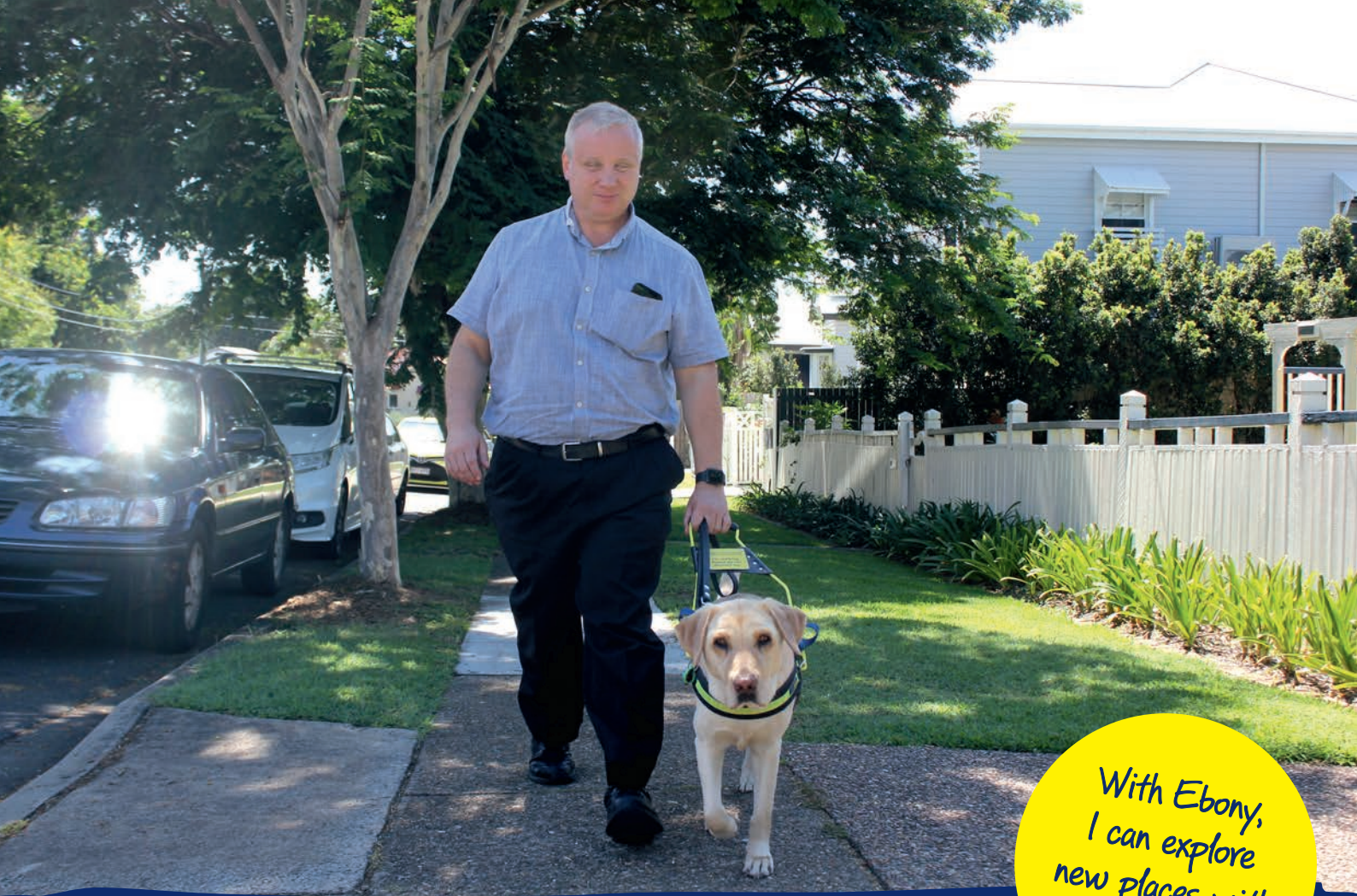
DOB: 14/1/21 Breed: L

Mum: Vashti Dad: Clancy

Dusty, Darwin, Doris, Delta, Dirk, Dilly, Daphne, Della, Douggy, Dixie, Dory

DOB: 23/1/21 Breed: L x GR

Mum: Ulani Dad: Yuma



With Ebony,
I can explore
new places with
confidence

Camping, caravanning and fishing – it's all paw-ssible!



Damian, known to his mates as Damo, didn't realise he was blind growing up. He did all the same things as his brother. It was only when he started school that the other kids asked questions. He went home and asked his parents, who told him he was born with low vision.

In fact, Damo was diagnosed as legally blind.

In the years since, Damo has been living his best life, thanks to his determined spirit and his Seeing Eye Dogs.

'With Ebony, I have the confidence to go to places and to explore new areas,' says Damo.

Damo loves cooking and travelling, and together they have travelled all around Australia. He also loves camping, caravanning and fishing with his family. Ebony loves camping just as much as Damo!

'Each Christmas the family go to their favourite camping spot and Ebony knows our caravan and all the local shops, and she loves swimming in the water,' says Damo.

'I wouldn't be confident to do a lot of what I do without Ebony. In particular, work and personal travel. Travelling in an unfamiliar environment can be difficult, and it's so much easier with a Seeing Eye Dog.'

Ebony is Damo's third Seeing Eye Dog, after his beautiful and smart labrador, Elmo, followed by Labrador Golden Retriever cross, Zupps, who retired in 2016.

Damo is an Access Technology Manager, and helps people who are blind or have low vision use technology to help with work, education, travel and leisure so they can live the life they choose.

An act of immense generosity



Des, Sharon and Jennifer Whybird (pictured with one of the puppies) of the Curavis Fund, are passionate and generous

supporters for over 20 years. They were recently inspired to help even more people - for years to come, through the Seeing Eye Dogs Traineeship Program.

The Curavis Fund were keen to support an initiative that helped decrease the wait times for a Seeing Eye Dog and to be an integral part of the traineeships development.

The three-year program trains new instructors, with five traineeships in progress. This allows us to train more dogs,

which in turn means shorter waiting times for those who are in urgent need of a Seeing Eye Dog.

'There is a huge demand for Seeing Eye Dogs, and the training process requires considerable resources,' say Des, Sharon and Jennifer.

Thanks to our supporters, we're able to employ some of the most talented and experienced people in their field, but in order to meet the growing demand, we must train the next generation of dog mobility instructors.

The Curavis Fund have helped make this possible through their immensely generous gift to help fund the Traineeship program.

Of this they said *'We feel immense pride to know we have helped with such a worthwhile effort,'*

Gift in Wills Iris Circle event

Following the lifting of restrictions, it was so wonderful to be able to host Iris Circle 'Thank you' events once again. Through events in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, we were able to meet and thank our Iris Circle members for their support and generous decision to leave a lasting legacy in their Will to Seeing Eye Dogs.

Iris Circle members were able to connect with each other and hear stories from staff, clients and parents who shared their inspirational and personal journeys.

Attendees were also taken behind-the-scenes to the Seeing Eye Dogs training facility, via live video, to see the next generation of Seeing Eye Dog puppies being put through their paces.

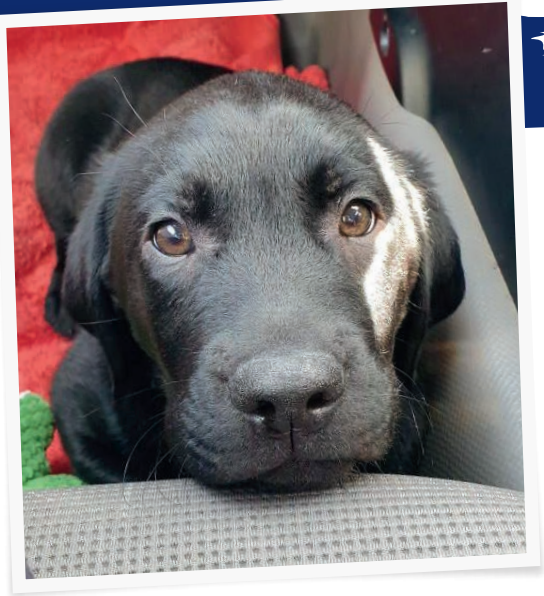
The impact you make through giving a Gift in Will transforms lives.

- If you have included a Gift in your Will, please let us know as we would like to say thank you.
- If you would like more information on how to leave a gift in your Will, join the Iris Circle or attend future events, please contact the Gift in Wills team on 1800 422 007 or email giw@seeingeyedogs.org.au

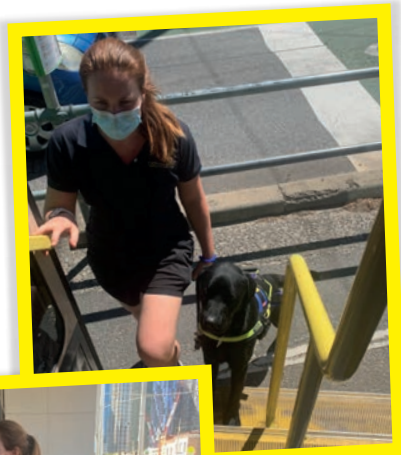


Look what I can do!

Hi, I'm Gilbert. I'm training to be a Seeing Eye Dog.



Between 12 to 20 months, pups like Gilbert are assessed on their suitability to become a Seeing Eye Dog. They need to learn many new skills. Here's just a glimpse of some of the skills Gilbert will need to master before he can graduate:



1. Centre of the footpath and kerb stop

Gilbert is learning to stay in the centre of the footpath and indicate any change in surface level such as a kerb, road crossing, steps, stairs and so on.

2. Targeting tram steps/ Onboarding public transport

On command, Gilbert has to find the entrance of the tram, train or bus and board in a calm manner.

3. Finding doors and seats

Gilbert needs to recognise and respond to commands such as finding doors and unoccupied seats as well as pedestrian crossing buttons, escalators, stairs and so on.

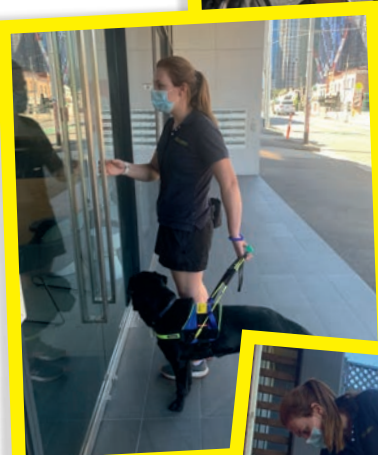
4. Avoid obstacles

Gilbert is learning how to avoid obstacles both on the ground and overhead to allow his handler enough room to continue on their way safely.

5. Stop and stand for steps

Gilbert needs to indicate stairs to his handler by stopping as close as practical to the stairs or step, or by placing his front paws on the up-step.

Gilbert will need to master these and many more highly specialised skills to 'become the best of the best' before he can graduate as a Seeing Eye Dog.



Thank you for helping to turn pups like Gilbert into life changing Seeing Eye Dogs.

Big appaws for our new graduates – and for you!

These happy matches are thanks to you! Because of your kindness and generosity, these clever pups have now graduated as Seeing Eye Dogs and are ready to change their new handlers (aka mum and dad's) life.

SEEING EYE DOG *Annika* MATCHED WITH *Anne*

SEEING EYE DOG *Windsor* MATCHED WITH *Monika*

SEEING EYE DOG *Zola* MATCHED WITH *Michael*

SEEING EYE DOG *Zoli* MATCHED WITH *Matt*

SEEING EYE DOG *Lightie* MATCHED WITH *Marion*

SEEING EYE DOG *Wattle* MATCHED WITH *Andrea*

SEEING EYE DOG *Isha* MATCHED WITH *Esther*

SEEING EYE DOG *Vito* MATCHED WITH *Joan*

SEEING EYE DOG *Hector-M* MATCHED WITH *Lynn*

SEEING EYE DOG *Buffy* MATCHED WITH *Lisa*

SEEING EYE DOG *Kirree* MATCHED WITH *Thanh*

SEEING EYE DOG *Felix* MATCHED WITH *Leeann*

SEEING EYE DOG *Parker-H* MATCHED WITH *Catherine*

SEEING EYE DOG *Sparky* MATCHED WITH *Warwick*

SEEING EYE DOG *Otis* MATCHED WITH *Fernanda*

SEEING EYE DOG *Sherlock* MATCHED WITH *Sharon*

SEEING EYE DOG *Questa* MATCHED WITH *Francois*

SEEING EYE DOG *Pippin* MATCHED WITH *Margaret*

SEEING EYE DOG *Pluto* MATCHED WITH *Analyse*

SEEING EYE DOG *Spike* MATCHED WITH *Alan*

SEEING EYE DOG *Yoli* MATCHED WITH *Beronelle*

SEEING EYE DOG *Ulrick* MATCHED WITH *Narrelle*

SEEING EYE DOG *Henry* MATCHED WITH *Steve*

Esther and Isha – matched 2020



It can be a very lonely place being blind and having a Seeing Eye Dog fills the gap.

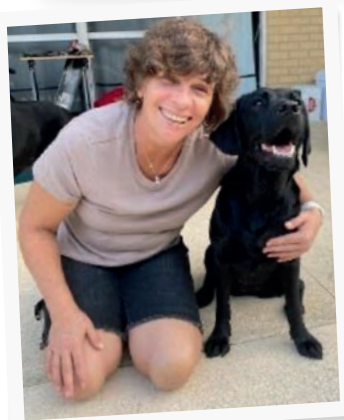
I call Isha my little pocket rocket.

Isha loves her soft toys. She is so funny she makes a grunting sound when she wants

your attention. She almost sounds like a tennis player.

I'm crazy about her and also AFL. Isha and I now go to games together and she even has a special allocated seat at the Gabba. She gives me a lot of love and provides me with independence.

Libby and Buffy – matched 2020



My previous Seeing Eye Dog, Quinn retired three years ago and lived with us until he passed in April (he was 15).

It was really hard. I stopped going out, I stopped being active.

Now with Buffy, I'm active, I'm confident and I have a sense of

freedom back again.

Buffy is very sweet and cheeky. At home she loves picking up my son's socks as he doesn't always put them in the laundry. We call her Buffy 'the obstacle slayer'.

Buffy has lightened my life and given me back my confidence.

Build a better bowl

Mix up the menu for healthier, happier pets



PETBARN



As humans we love variety and a mix of tastes and textures for each meal – why would we treat our beloved pets any differently? The way to a dog's heart is through their tummy, so here are our steps to building your dog a better bowl, keeping their meals nutrient rich and exciting.

1. Start with a great base

Dry food is nutrient rich and should be used as a base for all your dog's meals. The sweet spot for most dogs is 70% dry mixed in with 30% additions.

2. Add your protein

This is where you can start to get creative. Accompany dry food with your choice of fresh, frozen, wet or raw food. Or you could do a mix of all three!

3. Select your topper

Complete your masterpiece with a delicious and nutritious topper to add more texture and flavour for a complete meal your dog will love.

4. Enhance with a treat

Just like us, dogs love a treat to make a meal extra special. To celebrate special occasions, or just because he's been a good boy, you can also add a treat in your dog's bowl.

5. Stop there!

Your dog's meal will now be extremely satisfying, so please don't add part of your own food. Many loving dog owners don't realise that a long list of human foods make dogs sick.

Six tips from Royal Canin to keep your puppy healthy

In the first months of life, your puppy goes through an amazing transformation. Here are some tips from Royal Canin's veterinarians to keep your puppy healthy:

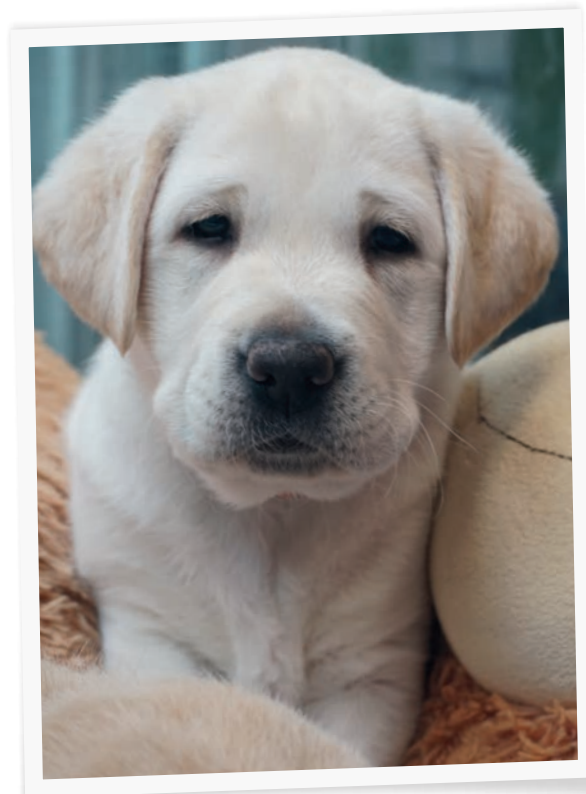
1. Learn to read your puppy's body language so you can spot if they might be unwell.
2. If you feel something isn't quite right, or your puppy doesn't seem their usual self, speak to your vet.
3. Make sure your puppy gets the right nutrition from a specialised, well-balanced puppy diet.
4. Give your puppy plenty of opportunities to sleep and rest quietly during the day, as well as at night.
5. Dogs enjoy company, so spend time with your puppy and remember to interact and play with them.
6. Always follow your vet's recommended vaccination and worming schedule.

Royal Canin is proud to feed all Seeing Eye Dogs a complete and nutritionally balanced diet, thanks to your support!

Visit us at: royalcanin.com/au

Facebook: @RoyalCanin.anz/

Instagram: @royalcaninanz




ROYAL CANIN®

Seeing Eye Dogs
Vision Australia

THE PUPPY GAMES

Proudly supported by
 Petbarn
Foundation

Don't miss the Seeing Eye Dogs Puppy Games, proudly supported by the Petbarn Foundation and Royal Canin

Date:
Thursday July 22, 1pm

Learn more at:
www.thepuppygames.com.au



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<https://lucky puppy lottery.org.au>

