

NEWSLETTER

LATEST NEWS FROM AUSTRALIAN LIONS HEARING DOGS

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OVERRUN WITH PUPPIES!

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DONNY & ELROY

Donny is a sucker for all toys plushy and Elroy loves to cuddle.



Read about the journey of these two brothers as they become Hearing Assistance Dogs.

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JAN & RAFFLES

A deep insight into Jan's life and how her Assistance Dogs, Ashley and now Raffles, have changed her life for the better.





CEO UPDATE

Winter is the season of puppies at the Training Centre as we recently welcomed eight little Labradoodles from Daisy; our very first homebred pups. As of today the pups are seven weeks old, and will head to their new foster homes in a week. Here, they will learn how to be good canine citizens before they start their formal Assistance Dog training. Daisy has been a great mum and has helped the puppies in their development and socialisation up to this point.

We are also having the puppies from our very first litter come into training. By the end of August, Hero, Curtis, Faye, Robert and Reece will be well on their way to becoming Assistance Dogs and, hopefully, on track to being placed early 2023.

Thank you to Alpen Ridge Labradoodles for the very generous donation which helped establish our breeding program.

With so many puppies around I have taken on one of our youngsters personally; Border Terrier "Frodo" is now being fostered by my family. Frodo gets to come to work with me everyday and joins me as I visit Lions Clubs spreading the word of Hearing Dogs. He then gets to come home and enjoy his new family of Huskies as they teach him how to get into all sorts of trouble.

If you are interested in following Frodo's journey to becoming a Hearing Assistance Dog, you can become one of his puppy sponsors and receive monthly updates on how he is progressing all the way until he is placed, just click [here!](#)

WARM WELCOMES TO OUR NEW RECRUITS



Lily

our new Medical Alert Dog Program recruit!

She is a beautiful Labradoodle from Alpen Ridge program, sponsored and named by Helen.



Frodo

our new Hearing Assistance Dog Program recruit!

He is a handsome Border Terrier from Cherishem Kennels, currently fostered by our CEO himself, David Horne.

PUPPY PROFILE

Name: **Frodo**

Age: **12 weeks old**

Breed: **Border Terrier**

Program: **Puppy Program**

Favourite Food: **Bedtime Biscuit**

Favourite walk: **To Keith Stephenson Park with his brother Loki**

Favourite toy or game: **Mr. Mini Bear**

Skills I'm currently learning: **Sits and toileting outside**

Funny story about Frodo: **Frodo lives with two Siberian Huskies, Loki and Mya, both of whom are teaching him how his new house works and how to get his two humans to do everything he wants.**



SANDRA WITH DAISY & HER FIRST WHELP OF PUPS

A big thank you to the Puppy Socialisers who are more than ready to take on these little rascals, though we are always on the lookout for more Puppy Socialisers to take on our next batch of pups.

If you are in South Australia and would like to be involved in our puppy program to socialise and care for one of our puppies before it becomes a life-changing Assistance Dog, please contact our team at puppyprogram@lionshearingdogs.com.au

OVERRUN WITH PUPPIES!

Since welcoming these beautiful puppies into the world, Daisy – who has been an excellent first time mum, as well as the Australian Lions Hearing Dogs team, have been hard at work polishing these little guys into the cute and spunky pups

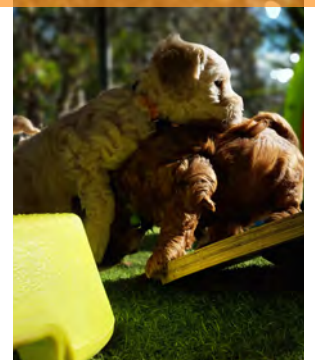
they are today!

From little beans to growing youth, we've been following along their journey as each and everyone of them developed their unique personalities and slowly opened themselves to humans and the world beyond their nursery.

5 girls and 2 boys will become life-changing Assistance Dogs, already earmarked as either

Hearing Assistance Dogs or Medical Alert Dogs, and so far things are looking good! They have started exploring the outside world, and it's safe to say they are loving it. They've also just recently had a photoshoot, looking as adorable as pups could be while posing for the camera, though if only you could see what they were really like during the shoot!

PUPS PLAYING



ACCREDITATIONS



Maisie

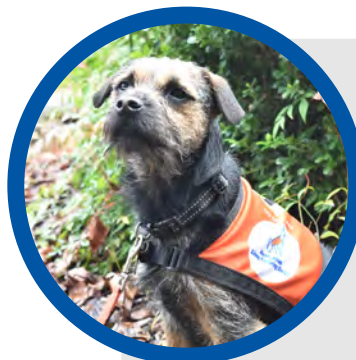
Australian Labradoodle

Trained by Lauren

Sponsored in memory of Trish

Delivery supported by Lions Club of Boroondara-Gardiner Creek

Fostered by Chris and Helen



Louie

Border Terrier

Trained by Nick

Sponsored by Helen

Delivery supported by Lions Club of Charlestown

Fostered by Georgia



Casper

Australian Labradoodle

Trained by Laura and Lauren

Delivery supported by Kiama Lions Club

Fostered by Belinda



Teddy

Australian Labradoodle

Trained by Bella

Sponsored by HLB Mann Judd Adelaide

Delivery supported by Lions Club of Cabramatta Cabra-Vale Inc

Fostered by Dennis and Meg



Theo

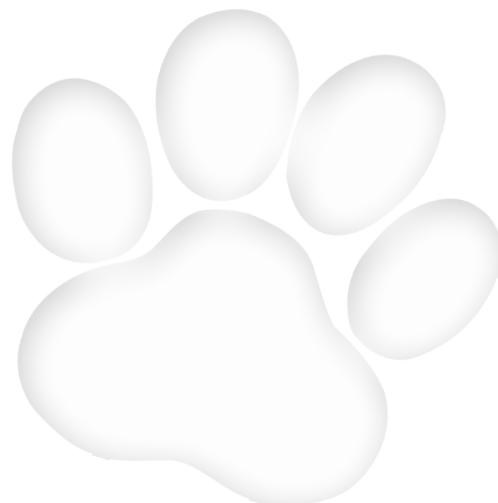
Australian Labradoodle

Trained by Marcello

Sponsored by Lions Club of Theodore

Delivery supported by Lions Club of Norwood

Fostered by Lyn





MEDICAL ALERT PROGRAM

Faye is a beautiful brown coated Labradoodle still in the Puppy Program. She is already coming in weekly to get a head start on her training as the next Medical Alert Dog! She will come into full training early September and we are keen to see her potential.

Because of how intensive the Medical Alert training may be on some dogs, puppies earmarked for the program start early to ensure adequate training by the time they are ready for delivery. So far, Faye has not disappointed; already alerting to scents with no prompt by touch. She is very confident and well-tempered. She loves to work but loves to play retrieve even more!

Lily, a dark coated Labradoodle puppy, has also recently joined the Medical Alert Program. She came into the program at 11 weeks of age and is at the very start of learning the scents of high and low BGL. She has caught onto playing retrieve and is great with one paw touches. Lily has a well-balanced personality; loving both people and other dogs! We're excited to see how fast she will progress throughout the program.



Lastly, we have Belle, the first Brittany Spaniel to come into training at Australian Lions Hearing Dogs! Belle has high energy but focuses well during her training sessions. She has indicated on low BGL samples without prompt, which is amazing, though she tends to see her tasks as more of a game than a job. We are working on boosting her confidence when it comes to working so that she can continue to improve!



Finally, it won't be much longer before Laura, our Project Coordinator, picks out two more puppies from Daisy's litter to join the Medical Alert Dog Program!

It was only 2020 when the Medical Alert Program was launched, now two years down the road and we are seeing a major progress! In a few more months, Sal will be the first Medical Alert Dog to be delivered to a recipient.

Keep an eye on Facebook for Sal as she gets closer to her delivery date, or just to get updates on the Medical Alert Program!

NATIONAL DOG DAY

Celebrated on the 26th of August each year, National Dog Day encourages dog ownership of all breeds!



Picking a dog based on its breed is like picking a friend based on how they look. At Australian Lions Hearing Dogs, we are all about what's on the inside. It only matters that a dog is happy and healthy at the of the day, especially considering the roles dogs play in our lives too. They keep us just as healthy, mentally and physically!

It was only recently when some of our Accredited Hearing Assistance Dogs visited us the other day,

all recruits from Yorke Peninsula Puppy Rescue.

The dog on the left is Dusty and the one on the back is Bella, both visiting from Victoria. Raffles is the white fluff in the front, located in South Australia with his recipient, Jan.

The dogs are getting along wonderfully with their recipients and it is heartwarming to see these dogs doing such incredible things in their lives!

NATIONAL WEEK OF DEAF PEOPLE

19th-25th September 2022

This coming September we would like to celebrate the National Week of Deaf People, sharing awareness of local, state and national Deaf communities, about the language, culture, history and the accomplishments they have achieved.

National Week of Deaf people is a massive week that gives people a chance to recognise what Deaf individuals can achieve.



One of our trainers, Marcello Romeo, is an exceptional young man. He grew up a 'CODA', which stands for 'Child of Deaf Adult', as both his parents are profoundly deaf. Yet, in spite of the challenges they experienced around the home and out in public, they've raised a fine young man.

Marcello has been training Hearing Dogs for the past three years, knowing that he's making a difference to the lives of others just like his parents. Australian Lions Hearing Dogs is grateful to trainers like Marcello, and we pride ourselves for the Hearing Assistance Dogs out there changing people's lives for the better.

DONNY & ELROY

It will only be a few more weeks before the delivery of Australian Lions Hearing Dogs' favourite dynamic duo: Donny and Elroy.



Donny and Elroy began their journey with Australian Lions Hearing Dogs in June 2021. The brothers, at two months of age, came into our arms from YP Puppy Rescue when Heather – the owner of YP Puppy Rescue – thought they were Assistance Dog material. They were placed into the puppy program until they were ten months of age before finally starting their training together. Donny was placed with Trainer Marcello and Elroy, with Trainer Lauren briefly, before eventually going to Trainer Nick, who holds a healthy rivalry against Marcello as to which dog is cuter!

The brothers are incredibly mature, easy going, motivated and respectful. They were considered 'gentlemanly' dogs by the team, easily winning the hearts of many. Despite their full-fledged personalities, Donny loves all toys pushed, and Elroy would never deny a loving cuddle.

Both dogs love cats, spending time together and even respectfully roughhousing with one another.

Donny will be going to his recipient at the end of August, a lady in New South Wales who – along with her family members – are profoundly deaf. Currently, he is being trained to recognise hand signals so he could adapt to the recipient better once he is delivered.

Elroy, on the other hand, has just recently passed his public access test. He is now being trained to get used to being around a walking stick, and to move at a slower pace to accompany his assigned recipient. Elroy will be delivered in early September, not long after Donny.

Donny and Elroy's success story will be a bitter sweet memory for many at Australian Lions Hearing Dogs. While we will miss these two wonderful boys, it is also uplifting to know they will be out there changing someone's life for the better.

JAN & RAFFLES

Hearing loss can be caused by many things: noise, aging, disease or it can be heredity. People who are deaf or hard of hearing may find it hard to have conversations with friends and family. They may also have trouble responding to warnings, socialising, or navigating through daily challenges. Overtime, this can take an emotional and physical toll on someone.

Like the one in six Australians currently experiencing some form of hearing loss, Jan McMinn has faced many challenges throughout her life.

'I was born with 100% hearing in my left ear but only 10% in my right ear; my mother contracted Rubella during her pregnancy.

In 1998, I had to have surgery to remove a tumour that was growing in the hearing nerve on my left side; an Acoustic Neuroma. There were complications during that surgery that resulted in a tracheotomy and fluid in the brain, causing me to be put on life support for a few days.

The hearing nerve also had to be severed to reach the tumour growing in it, resulting in loss of all my hearing on that side, as well as the facial nerve and muscle damage. My family were worried I wouldn't pull through, but obviously I did. Afterwards, I had to face a new challenge of having only 10% on one side and nothing on the other, along with looking at a face in the mirror that certainly didn't look like mine.

Having Ashley – my previous Assistance Dog – and now Raffles has definitely helped with my confidence.

I have no qualms about being on my own now that I have Raffles, he keeps me in check. My family don't have to worry about me being in the house on my own and not hearing sounds around me anymore.

I have a hearing aid which enhances the little bit of hearing I have on my right side, I also have technology made for hearing impaired people, but when I take my hearing aid off at night or when we have a power failure, I would not be aware of what was going on. That's when my ALHD becomes invaluable. **Raffles truly is a life saver.'**

**Keep an eye
out for the
upcoming article
of Jan , Ashley
and Raffles full
story!**

