

# NEWSLETTER

LATEST NEWS FROM AUSTRALIAN LIONS HEARING DOGS

*p. 08*

## HEARING ASSISTANCE DOG IN TRAINING, FRODO!



*p. 06 & 07*

## THE NEXT GEN OF MEDICAL ALERT DOGS

Read about the Medical Alert Dog Program.



*p. 09*

## MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS!







## CEO UPDATE

Spring is just around the corner, and it can't come soon enough with how cold it has been in the Adelaide Hills.

The dogs at the Training Centre wouldn't know though! They have been kept nice and warm

throughout the season so they are at their best for their training.

It has been the season for puppies too, and it seems like we always have little ones around who easily take up everyone's attention as they grow up and learn about the world, on their way to being Assistance Dogs! Poppy's puppies have now gone to their homes but in their place we have Daisy's latest litter. Both Daisy and her pups are doing well and she is such a great mum. If her last litter who are in training are anything to go by, these pups will be fantastic dogs!

It is always hard to find volunteers who can commit to taking on a puppy in training. Before, we have also restricted the areas of potential foster carers to live within

an hour from the Training Centre.

However, now we will be extending this restriction, as a trial. We will be heading down to the South East of South Australia to give people in these areas a chance to be involved. Information sessions will be held towards the end of August in both Naracoorte and Robe and we hope to have a positive response.

I am happy to announce that we have set a date for next year's Open Day which will be held on Saturday April 20th, the day after National Hearing Dog Day. Stay updated on our socials and keep an eye out for information as we get closer to the event date. We are always happy to be able to open the doors to the Training Centre and celebrate another year of providing important and much needed services to Australians in need.



WITH VOLUNTEER KATE AND HER FAMILY

## PUPPY carer PROFILE

### What made you want to become a puppy socialiser?

When our own dog, Lucy, had matured at 4 years old, I felt ready to have another puppy in the house. We decided as we had the time and space in our home, being a puppy socialiser would be a great opportunity to get some puppy loves while giving back to the community!

### What do you love most about Josie?

She is an extremely clever, sweet and affectionate pup who loves to be by your side and have lots of cuddles.

### How is Josie fitting into the family?

Josie has fit into our family, and our hearts, amazingly well. Josie thinks she's top dog, which is quite funny as Lucy lets her get away with a lot of things!

### Does Josie have a favourite activity/walk?

She loves to play chase with Lucy!

### Does Josie have any bad habits?

She is a serial sock stealer! No one's socks are safe if they are within reach! And there will be holes in them if you ever get them back!

### What are you most excited for in Josie's future?

For Josie to become an amazing life-changing companion!

### Would you do this program again?

We really enjoyed being puppy socialisers. It is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy some puppy love while helping others. We also learned a lot about puppy training in the process. I would love to be a puppy socialiser again at some stage.

**If you're interested in joining as a Puppy Socialiser, please head to**

<https://lionshearingdogs.com.au/puppy-socialisation/>



# MEET SOME OF OUR NEWEST PUPPY RECRUITS



## Coda

### recruit for the Hearing Assistance Dog Program!

Coda is a beautiful boy from our beloved Cocker Spaniel, Betty's litter. Coda is sponsored by Lions Club of Hahndorf.

Did you know the word 'coda' has lots of different meanings? In Italian, it means 'tail' and it is also an acronym for 'Child Of Deaf Adult'.



## Ziva

### recruit for the Medical Alert Dog Program!

Cute little Ziva, from Betty's litter, is the smallest of her siblings. This little girl is sponsored by the Lions Club of Modbury.



## Jem

### recruit for the Hearing Assistance Dog Program!

This handsome boy is from our lovely labradoodle, Poppy's litter. Jem is sponsored by SA Power Networks Employee Foundation.



## Fenby

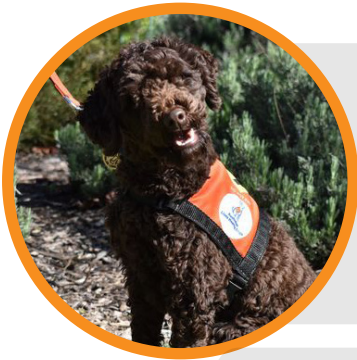
### recruit for the Hearing Assistance Dog Program!

Fenby is also a puppy from Poppy's litter. He is great and extremely playful! He is sponsored by the Lions Club of Mission Beach.





# ACCREDITATIONS



**Reece** Alpen Ridge Labradoodle

- Trained by Nick
- Sponsored by Lions Club of Urunga
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Noarlunga-Morphett Vale
- Fostered by Sarah and her family

**Buddy** Cherishem Border Terrier

- Trained by Marcello
- Sponsored by Alan and Janet
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Jesmond
- Fostered by Danielle and her family

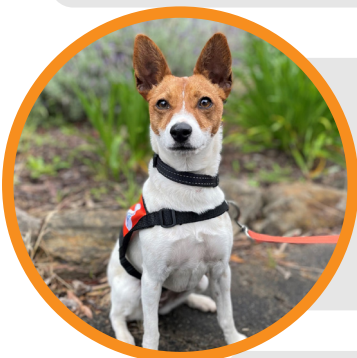
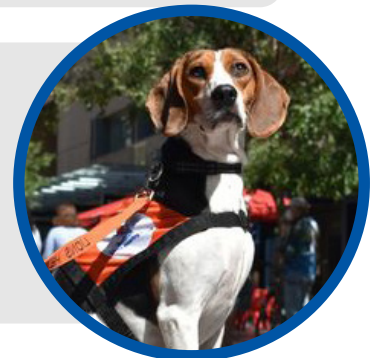


**Sunny** Alpen Ridge Labradoodle

- Trained by Marcello
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Kingsley-Woodvale
- Fostered by Belinda and Christopher

**Coco** Beagle X

- Trained by Marcello
- Sponsored by Lions Club of Charles Sturt Woodville Hindmarsh Inc
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Gawler and Elizabeth Playford
- Fostered by Rozanne and her family

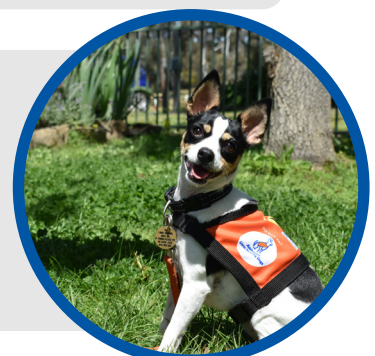


**Lan** Tenterfield Terrier from Gumhaven Kennels

- Trained by Nick
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Noarlunga-Morphett Vale
- Fostered by Georgia

**Jane** Tenterfield Terrier from Gumhaven Kennels

- Trained by Ashleigh
- Sponsored by Diana
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Tamworth
- Fostered by Gordon and his family





# KEEPING UP WITH THE PUPS!



We are delighted to introduce our new Breeding Coordinator (drumroll please), Luiza!

Luiza is a familiar face at Australian Lions Hearing Dogs; the Head Trainer from mid 1997 till late 2015. She's the one who hired our CEO David Horne and Program Director, Darren!

Luiza had left to study Conservation Biology and worked as a Vet Nurse before coming back to join our team. Now, she loves being able to help each and every puppy by setting them up to go into their volunteer foster carer homes as well-behaved and socialised puppies.

On the weekends, Luiza works as a Vet Nurse, or for the Dog and Cat Management Board, assessing Service Dogs. She also loves gardening and spending time with her pet dog, Alan!



## POPPY AND HER PUPS

The latest litter from the Breeding Centre was from our beloved Labradoodle, Poppy. It was during mid June when Poppy gave birth to nine beautiful puppies; five girls and four boys.

With the care of the breeding centre staff, Poppy's puppies grew up well and healthy, and it wasn't long before Poppy got to return home to Queensland where it's nice, sunny and warm!

Her litter of nine entered the Puppy Program earlier this month, and they were more than excited to head home with their foster carers!



## DAISY IS HERE!



Daisy, our beautiful cream Australian Labradoodle, is currently here at our Training Centre, looking after her beautiful litter of eight as a second time mother! All puppies are healthy and it won't be long before they'll be opening their eyes and ears!

Keep an eye on our socials as these puppies grow up and start their journey!

# MEDICAL ALERT DOG PROGRAM

by Program Coordinator Laura Harris

**Faye** has settled well with her recipient, Lisa, and her family.

She now has a big family that adore her, four children who loves playing with Faye, as well as other pets; chicken, frogs, birds, fish and an axoloty!

Faye has progressed nicely with her task training, and it wasn't long before she started alerting to Lisa's low blood glucose levels! Lisa was so happy. We wish them all the best and can't wait to see Faye's future progression.



**Belle** has passed her Public Access Test (PAT) flawlessly! However, the best part was actually what happened before her PAT. Belle was alerting Trainer Carly without any prompt, and with further investigation, we discovered that Trainer Carly's blood glucose levels were low!

We are now in the process of matching Belle to a recipient with type 1 diabetes. For more information, please contact [laura@lionshearingdogs.com.au](mailto:laura@lionshearingdogs.com.au)

## BAILEY

has been doing well! He's back into his scent training and he's currently learning to distinguish between the low BGL scent and the control.

Outside of that, Bailey's task training has been amazing. He's going on more advanced outings now, such as Rundle Mall, as well as public transport like the tram!



**MALI**

Mali is a fashion model who just loves to pose pretty for the camera. However, that doesn't derail her from her work! Currently, she is learning to locate high blood glucose samples amongst the control tubes, and she's doing great!

Her task training such as retrieving the Hypokit and the 'get help' command are both very good. She is still working on perfecting the emergency button, but we have no doubt she will succeed in it too!

Her heeling is great and since taking her out more on the main streets, Mali's confidence around traffic has skyrocketed!

**Josie** was recently desexed so she had a couple of weeks resting at home to focus on her recovery.



Despite her week of rest, her Hypokit retrieve is getting better, although she does like to play with it every once in a while! She is also at the early stages of learning the emergency button, where she is learning to move from nose to paw touch on the laminated yellow circle. Soon, we will move her onto the emergency button itself!





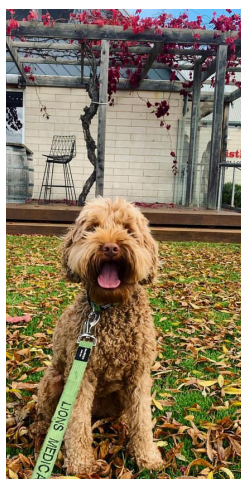
**ROSIE**

Rosie is growing up really fast now and her confidence grows along with her size! She is very well socialised with other dogs and people, and can be very energetic! We are currently working on her settling down around people. Her recalls and heelings are also slowly improving with each outing we go on.



**LEONIE**

Leonie is more shy than her sister, Rosie. However, her confidence has grown a lot in the past few months! She is doing great with her Hypokit retrieval and we are also getting her used to being around traffic. Leonie is currently learning to heel and hold her positions, which she does well when treats are involved!



## AN UPDATE ON BELOVED SAL

Sal is so happy! She is doing great and has improved even more with her alerts.

She has now started learning Eliza to any high blood glucose, which is an amazing feat!

## DANDY

Dandy is our star pupil! His foster carer, a first time volunteer, has done her fair share of research in training methods to best prepare Dandy for becoming an Assistance Dog!

Dandy is now able to follow commands like heel, recall, stay, and retrieve the Hypokit almost perfectly! He is currently living happily with his foster family and gets to run around with the kids as well as beloved sausage dog friend, Cecil!



## THE NEXT GEN OF MEDICAL ALERT DOGS

From Betty's litter, we welcome...



### CHESTER

The bigger pup of the litter! Chester is very bouncy and has a happy-go-lucky attitude. This one loves to nibble on shoelaces when you're not looking!

### LEAH

She is one of the bigger girls, which is why she loves to roughhouse with boys! Leah is a confident pup, and just like her siblings, she loves to learn and is very food motivated!



### CLIVE

Clive is very sweet and is one of the smaller boys. He is food motivated as well and is a fast learner, which is evident whenever we visit him at his foster home!

### ZIVA

The smallest of the litter, though she acts like she's the biggest! Her confidence has grown immensely. She loves food and attention, however, she also likes to be little miss independent.



## WANT TO SPONSOR BETTY'S PUPPIES?

Your support will help her seven adorable puppies to become fully accredited Medical Alert Dogs and Hearing Assistance Dogs, changing the lives of Australians in need. For more information, please head to: <https://lionshearingdogs.com.au/sponsor-a-puppy/>



# HEARING ASSISTANCE DOG IN TRAINING

## FRODO

**If you haven't met Frodo yet, this is your perfect chance to read about his journey to becoming a Hearing Assistance Dog! After all, Frodo is basically the face of Australian Lions Hearing Dogs.**

Frodo came to us as a puppy early July 2022, and after spending his first day at the Training Centre, he went home with CEO David Horne and became a part of the Horne family.

As a puppy, Frodo was bright and inquisitive, always exploring and interacting with people and his surroundings without a care in the world!

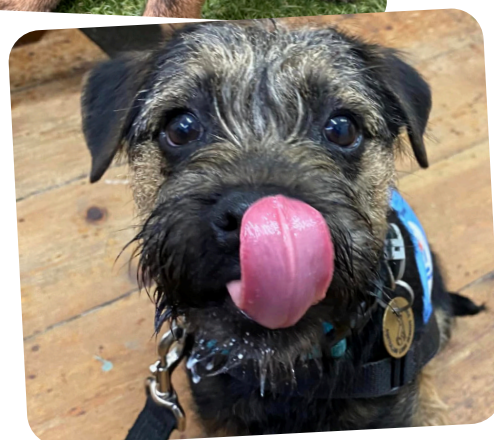
During his time with his foster parents and siblings, he also had the chance to experience Christmas, the beach, as well as many other exciting outings! Frodo especially loved his walks to the cafe, where he got to enjoy some delicious ice cream afterwards!

Frodo came into full time training mid March with Trainer Marcello, who had babysat Frodo and his siblings a couple of times when he was a pup!

Frodo is now amazing with his obedience training, as well as his sound training. He is often picked to go to Lions Conventions and other demonstrations because of how calm he is and how well he can settle!

With his delivery to his recipient coming up in October, Trainer Marcello is currently working with Frodo on perfecting his skills in preparation for his Public Access Test. However, we can be certain Frodo will pass with flying colours!

Frodo is sponsored and supported by many of our monthly donors, and he is a one of a kind dog. After Frodo graduates, we are excited for Betty's puppies who will come up and step into his shoes.





# MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS!



## **Amber - Administrative Assistant**

After 20 long years in the Finance and Insurance industry, I was looking for a change. I was already involved in Lions, volunteering on projects such as the Skin Cancer Screening Unit, the Youth Camps, and Exchange program.

When an Admin position came up at Australian Lions Hearing Dogs (ALHD), I knew it was mine! ALHD is such a great organisation, focused on helping others by providing amazing services to the deaf or hard of hearing, and people with type 1 diabetes. Of course, the puppy pats and cuddles are a nice bonus too!



## **Jess - Community Engagement Coordinator**

Hi! I'm Jess and I recently started at the beginning of July. I'm absolutely loving my work and you can catch me on a Community Talk outside, or at the centre working with our development team. I've loved dogs and animals my whole life so this is an amazing opportunity!

Before ALHD, I worked at Big W, as well as various music events and festivals in the city. In my spare time, I like to jam, do some gardening, and hang out with my Border Collie pup - Barry!



## **Hamish - Cadet Hearing Dog Trainer**

Hello! I'm the newest member of the trainers team at ALHD. From a young age, my passion for animals has been a driving force in my life. During my time in college, I learned about dog behaviour and psychology, which started my journey in this field. Having experience in doggy daycare and training facilities, I can bring a fresh perspective and help ALHD grow.

When I'm not with dogs, you can find me cooking, playing basketball, hiking, and trying to learn the bass guitar!

## **Paws & Popcorn**

On Friday the 21st of July, we hosted our first movie and silent auction night called 'Paws & Popcorn'!

The event was held at the Capri Theatre and it showcased the new blockbuster hit 'Barbie'. Over 20 various items and experiences were generously donated by businesses and organisations all across South Australia for the silent auction. The night also featured a photo opportunity with Frodo in our handmade Barbie Box!

A massive thank you to the Capri Theatre and their volunteers, our sponsors and volunteers for such a fantastic night! We definitely couldn't have done it without your support!







## 26 AUG 2023 NATIONAL DOG DAY

National Dog Day is recognised worldwide on the 26th of August annually. This is the day to celebrate all breeds of dogs and the joy they bring into people's lives!

National Dog Day also helps the public recognise the number of dogs that need to be rescued each year.

It honors family dogs and dogs that work selflessly to save lives, keep us safe and bring comfort.

So this 26th of August, why not do something special with or for a dog? You can:

- Give your dog some fun exercise by taking him or her to a nice park!
- Give your dog a nice massage or a holistic spa treatment!
- Make your dog a homemade treat!
- Take your dog to the beach!



## NATIONAL WEEK OF DEAF PEOPLE 19 SEP - 25 SEP

The National Week of Deaf People (NWDP) is a weeklong national celebration of Deaf individuals and the Deaf Australian community.

This amazing week provides an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the Deaf community, language, culture and history. It makes the public aware of their local, state and national Deaf communities and recognises the Deaf community's achievements.

This year's theme is 'Building inclusive communities for all'.

So follow our social media and see how Australian Lions Hearing Dogs plan on celebrating NWDP, and join us!



# Merchandise Update

Head over to our website and check out these new merchandise today! All proceeds will go towards the support of training and delivering a Hearing Assistance or Medical Alert Dog.



\$10

## COMPRESSION SOCKS

Our new Medical Alert Dog Compression socks are perfect for people that are on their feet all day or are on a recovery from injury and surgery.

Available in sizes 5-9 and 8-11!



\$5

## ALHD KEYCHAIN

Spruce up your bags or keys, and support our organisation, with this Australian Lions Hearing Dogs keychain!



\$18

## BLACK & WHITE PLUSH

Check out our new Black and White Hearing Assistance Dog plush! This cute furry friend is a perfect companion for everyone!



\$5

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Only four months until Christmas is here! Our new Christmas cards features our adorable puppies in christmas gear!

## Specsavers

## The importance of prioritising regular hearing checks

One in six Australians suffer from hearing loss, however only one in three do something about it. And those over the age of 60 years are most greatly affected. If left untreated, hearing loss can have significant impact on a person's physical and mental health.

Regular hearing checks provide peace of mind and can help identify if any hearing difficulties being experienced are from permanent hearing loss, or something as simple as wax blocking the ears. You might be due for a hearing check if you begin to notice that you are increasing the TV volume (louder than comfortable for others), or you have difficulty hearing what the person on the telephone is saying, it might sound like they're mumbling!

Specsavers offer an initial 15-minute hearing check with an audiology professional for free<sup>#</sup> in store. This can be a great first step in addressing any concerns you may have with your hearing.

At Specsavers Audiology, you'll find unbeatable value for money with high quality hearing aids at everyday low prices. We are committed to providing upfront prices online, in-store and without an appointment, because Australians deserve to know what they'll be paying at the start of their journey to better hearing. For eligible customers aged over 65, Specsavers is accredited with the Australian Government Hearing Services Program\* which means those customers can access hearing care and often fully subsidised hearing aids under the Program without any out-of-pocket costs.

Add hearing checks to your routine check up list. Book an appointment online at [specsavers.com.au/hearing](https://www.specsavers.com.au/hearing) or visit your local Specsavers store.

<sup>#</sup>If further testing is required, a fee may apply.

\*Conditions apply under the Australian Government Hearing Services Program.





# Australian Lions Hearing Dogs

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 SWEET LIME PHOTO

