

NEWSLETTER

LATEST NEWS FROM AUSTRALIAN LIONS HEARING DOGS



p. 02

MEET OUR BORDER TERRIER RECRUITS!

Get to know our very first Border Terrier litter joining our Puppy Program!



p. 06

CHECK OUT OUR NEWEST MERCH IN STOCK!

An eco-friendly collapsible bowl for your doggie companion!



p. 03

MEET WILMA, WHO HAS RECENTLY BEEN ACCREDITED!



CEO UPDATE

Only two months in and we are hitting the ground running. 2024 saw the arrival of our very first Border Terrier litter, whelped from first time mum, Krinkl. The litter of five was brought up in our Breeding Centre with the aid of our very

dedicated breeding team, who took great care of Krinkl and her puppies as they grew, learned, and interacted with the world. Tuesday, the 9th of January, marked the big day when the Border Terrier pups went home with their foster carers. This is incredibly exciting, and all eyes are on these pups as they start their journey to becoming amazing Assistance Dogs.

Our Hearing Dog team has rolled up their sleeves, already delivering five dogs to their deaf or hard of hearing recipients. It won't be long before our 700th dog is being delivered!

Our Medical Alert Dog program continues strongly, now overseeing six Diabetic Alert dogs-in-training, with several more to join the program soon. We will be

looking at delivering our very first Medical Alert Dog interstate in the coming, which will be another milestone achieved!

The upcoming months will be incredibly exciting for the organisation. As April approaches, we are gearing up for a busy and eventful month. National Hearing Dog Day and our annual Open Day are just around the corner, scheduled for the 19th and 20th of April consecutively. Our dedicated team is currently preparing a variety of activities, raffles, demonstrations, and more. All so that you can join us in the celebration. So, keep an eye out for updates of our big news and events, we can't wait to see you there!

Puppy Carer Profile

Why did you decide to become a puppy socialiser?

After our beloved family dog passed away, we deeply felt the absence of his presence and the warmth of having a pet in our home. Having Clive filled that space and also provided us with an opportunity to see whether we were prepared for another addition to our family.

What do you love most about Clive?

I adore the way he eagerly greets us whenever we arrive home. His excitement and big smile never fail to lift my spirits, regardless of the mood I'm in.

How is Clive fitting into your family?

Clive has been a wonderful addition to our family dynamics. His presence has encouraged us to spend more quality time together as a family. We've all gone out more often with Clive and enjoy each other's company more too.

What is Clive's favourite thing to do?

Clive's favourite thing to do is to lounge around and receive scratches and pets from everyone. He also adores darting around and inviting us to play chase with him.

Does Clive have any cheeky habits?

Clive has a mischievous side—he often indulges in playful antics like pulling the cotton out of his toys. When caught in the act, he cheekily dashes away, carrying his toys in his mouth. There have been occasions when we've come home to find fluffy remnants of his toys scattered about, evidence of his crime!



Clive
celebrating Christmas with family member Reuben!

MEET OUR NEWEST PUPPY RECRUITS!



Clyde

Lovingly named and sponsored by the Lions Club of Batemans Bay



Mackie

Sponsored and affectionately named by the Lions Club of Inverell MacIntyre



Ollie

Fondly named and sponsored by the Lions Club of Murrumbateman



Pinky

Sponsored and lovingly named by the Lions Club of Sydney Waratah



Woody

Affectionately named and sponsored by Kay



Bentley

Sponsored and thoughtfully named by Marjorie

ACCREDITATION



MEDICAL ALERT DOG PROGRAM

by Program Coordinator Laura Harris



Garth

Cherishem Border Terriers

- Sponsored by Lions Club of Onkaparinga Inc
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of West Lakes - Seaton
- Fostered by Lyn

Lenny

ALHD Breeding Program

- Sponsored by PK Adelaide Foundation
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Edwardstown
- Fostered by Lenara



Faye

ALHD Breeding Program

- Sponsored by Faye, Robert & Sydney
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Hallett Cove & Districts Inc
- Fostered by Catherine

Wilma

My Mate Australian Labradoodles

- Sponsored by Chris
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Armadale Kelmscott
- Fostered by Leonie and Paul



Lily

Alpen Ridge Labradoodles

- Sponsored by Helen
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Victor Harbor & Port Elliot
- Fostered by Rita



JOSIE

Josie has matured into her role very quickly and it is hard to believe that it has only been three months into her training. Her Public Access work has improved, and she can now calmly walk and ignore other dogs when her jacket is on. Her outings have progressed to busier places such as Rundle Mall and Central Market. She's also had a breakthrough with her scent work and is now locating the scent correctly, even with 10 other false scents around!



AIRLIE

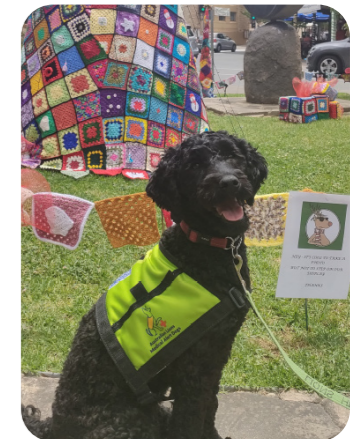
Airlie has been just as confident and well-behaved on her outings, even catching a bus locally here in the Adelaide Hills! Her incredible sense of smell has helped her progress in her scent training, and we're now introducing touches, which she alerts me with when she locates the right scent sample.

BONNIE'S LITTER HAS STARTED THEIR TRAINING!



Dandy is progressing so well with his obedience and settles nicely whenever we go out on coffee outings. His favourite task right now is retrieving the Hypokit, as it's so similar to playing fetch! He is also learning to press on the emergency button and we are currently getting him to press it with one paw instead of two!

Leonie is a reserved girl compared to her litter mates, however she also has a silly side too! She has learned to pick up the Hypokit and she seems to adore bringing it to her trainer whenever they're on the bed. Sometimes, if we're not watching, she would even sneakily try and grab it when she's not asked to!



Rosie is a very happy girl who adores playing with her doggy friends in the yards! Her dog distraction has improved as it is not as big of a novelty anymore to see other dogs. She also heels quite nicely when halted, and her autosits at roads or crossings are spot on.

Welcome Chester!





THIS IS YANNIS,

our handsome labradoodle, who came into training late October.

Yannis was born amongst his four siblings to first time labradoodle mum, Maddie, just a couple of days before Christmas 2022. Even at a young age, Yannis displayed a confident personality, which is an important component to his skill development.

Yannis is now in full-time training with Trainer Nick. He is a smart dog and is very consistent, building his confidence in public environments on a daily basis. Yannis loves to be in jacket and always knows when he needs to mind his manners! His favourite part of sound training is his one paw touch. He finds every chance to show off his skills when he can!

When he's not doing sound training or on an outing, Yannis would be playing with his best friend, Simba the Border Terrier! They love to roughhouse all day and you'll often find them rolling around in the grass with one another.

Yannis is also one of our first dogs to be involved in our new 'Bed and Breakfast Program' trial. Every morning, he gets dropped off for training, and picked up by his foster carer at the end of the day – it's almost like going to school! This was how Yannis started alerting his foster carer to her mobile phone ringing, even doing a flawless touch before leading her to the sound. Trainer Nick was so proud to hear!

BED & BREAKFAST PROGRAM

As our program grows, so does the number of dogs that come into training. Due to limited kennel space at the Training Centre, over the past few months, our team have started to explore a new approach to help meet demands for recipients awaiting for Assistance Dogs.

One of these initiatives is the 'Bed & Breakfast' program, where some of our dogs-in-training come into the Training Centre by day, and go home to their BnB foster carers by night.

The program is at its early stages and already we are seeing positive results, with reports of our dogs working sounds at home even without prompt! Currently, labradoodle siblings Molly and Yannis are trying out the program!

If you are interested and live locally in the Adelaide Hills, please join our team for an [evening information session](#) about the Bed and Breakfast Program and how you can get involved! We cannot wait to see you there.

ALHD
BnB Program
Info Session

Date
🐾 19th of March

Time
🐾 4:30pm - 6pm

Address
🐾 793 Mount Barker Road
Verdun SA

Join us for an evening information session about our new 'Bed and Breakfast' Program and how you can get involved!

Merchandise Update!

TRAVEL COLLAPSIBLE SILICONE DOG BOWL

Step right up to see our latest product!

With this collapsible bowl, you can take your dog on any walks or hikes and be able to make sure they are hydrated at all times!

Our collapsible bowls come in a bright green colour with our fun dog design, and a clip for easy carry. It can also be used for food and is an eco-friendly bowl!

Interested? Purchase our new bowl from our [website](#) for the low low price of \$6!



\$6

NATIONAL HEARING DOG DAY IS COMING UP

Boldly wear your orange shoelaces in the lead up to National Hearing Dog Day to raise awareness of the incredible impact a Hearing Assistance Dog has on the life of someone who is deaf or hard of hearing! You can purchase these stylish shoelaces on our [website](#) here.

All proceeds go towards supporting the Hearing Assistance Dog and Medical Alert Dog Program.

\$5



Check out our entire range here at lionshearingdogs.com.au/shop/

... and while you're at it,
Keep your eyes out for our 2025 Calendar!

Coming Soon.

HEARING AWARENESS WEEK

Hearing Awareness Week is from March 1 to 7. It is an annual event that highlights the issues affecting Australians living with hearing loss.

One in six adults in Australia experience some degree of hearing loss. However, only one in three do anything to address it.

For most people, hearing begins to deteriorate from their mid-thirties and it usually declines slowly over time meaning it can be hard to detect. The small, sensitive hair-like cells within the inner ear simply get worn out over the years.

When this happens, you don't simply go deaf, but it becomes more and more difficult to understand sounds clearly, particularly speech. Eventually, untreated hearing loss can become a significant problem, impacting your relationships with others, participation in the community and even your independence.

So, how do I know if I need to see an audiology professional?

- You have the TV or radio volume louder than is comfortable for others
- You find hearing over the telephone hard work
- Group conversations have become difficult to follow
- You ask people to repeat things or misunderstand what they say
- You've started avoiding places because you can't hear properly
- Someone suggests you might not be hearing as well as you used to

If these tell-tale signs sound familiar, you may benefit from a free 15-minute Hearing Check with a Specsavers Audiology Professional. To find your nearest store or to book online visit [specsavers.com.au/hearing](https://www.specsavers.com.au/hearing)

You shouldn't miss hearing the best bits Should've gone to Specsavers

Book a free 15 minute Hearing Check with an Audiology Professional today at [specsavers.com.au/hearing](https://www.specsavers.com.au/hearing)



If further testing is required in a longer appointment after your free 15-minute check, a fee may be incurred.

APRIL'S BARKFEST

NATIONAL HEARING DOG DAY!

National Hearing Dog Day (NHDD) is an annual celebration of the very first Hearing Assistance Dog delivered in Australia on 19th April 1982.

Over 40 years ago on this day, Hearing Dog 'Amber' was provided free-of-charge to a Deaf recipient living in metropolitan South Australia. Since then, Australian Lions Hearing Dogs have provided almost 700 Hearing Assistance Dogs to Australians who are deaf or hard of hearing, spanning across all states and territories.

NHDD is our opportunity to share stories of the Hearing Dogs that have changed and saved lives, and appreciate the community of generous supporters that give with their heart and helped provide Assistance Dogs to people in need.

This 2024 for National Hearing Dog Day, we want to celebrate it with the theme 'All Shapes and Sizes'. After all, not just one breed of dog can become a Hearing Assistance Dog and change someone's life for the better. Let's make this day an unforgettable one – click [here](#) to check out our PR resources!



OPEN DAY!

The annual Australian Lions Hearing Dogs Open Day is back for 2024!

Join us for a jam-packed day of Hearing Dogs, Medical Alert Dogs, puppies, demonstrations, food, coffee, guided tours, raffles and lots of activities for the kids! We are so excited to be opening our doors once again to the public. This is a free to attend event and all are welcome for a fun day for the whole family!

This year's Open Day will be on Saturday the 20th of April at the Australian Lions Hearing Dog National Training Centre in Verdun SA. The event will commence at 10am and finish up at 2pm. For more information, head to our [facebook event page!](#)