

Paw Prints



Guide
Dogs

SA/NT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR GUIDE DOGS SA/NT AUTUMN 2018

A perfect match
- thanks to your support



Gianluca and Autism Assistance Dog Jet



Thank you for your
support in 2017.

Aaron with Ambassador Lenny

Message from the CEO, Aaron Chia.

2017 was a monumental year for Guide Dogs.
Let's see what can be achieved in 2018!

Welcome to the New Year! Thank you for your support in 2017. It was a challenging but exciting year for Guide Dogs, and our team couldn't have achieved so much without your help.

2017 was a year of proud reflection as Guide Dogs celebrated 60 years of remarkable history and changing lives. It is thanks to the early work of Frank Beauchamp and the APEX Club of Adelaide that Guide Dogs has a long and exemplary history of training and placing Guide Dogs, and supporting people with vision and/or hearing loss.

In August 2017 Guide Dogs opened the highly anticipated Beau's Pet Hotel. With all profits directed back to Guide Dogs' core services, our team couldn't be more thrilled about the incredible response Beau's has received from the public so far. Thank you for your support.

2018 will be another exciting year for Guide Dogs. The Guide Dogs Client Support team will be providing increased support, connection, and information to clients, as they adjust to new Government models of disability and aged care service delivery. The complex clinical needs of our clients

make them vulnerable in these changing environments, but thanks to your support, Guide Dogs are able to continue to use our expertise to ensure our mission "to enhance the lives of people living with disability" is achieved with them.

On behalf of the team at Guide Dogs, thank you so much for your support. I hope you enjoy reading these inspirational stories about the lives you are helping to change.

Sincerely,

Aaron Chia
CEO, Guide Dogs SA/NT

Your support is enabling Chelsea to live an independent life.

Do you remember Chelsea? Chelsea is a wonderful, active young woman living with vision loss. Chelsea has been approved for a Guide Dog but is waiting for her perfect match.

You may recall Chelsea from our recent Christmas Appeal. Chelsea is a remarkable 29 year old woman who doesn't let vision loss stand in her way. Chelsea has Bardet-Biedl syndrome, a disorder that caused her vision to deteriorate from three years of age.

Chelsea is one of the many people who have been approved for a Guide Dog but are still waiting for their perfect match. Although Chelsea hasn't been matched with her perfect Guide Dog yet, thanks to your support she is on her way to living a more independent life.

Your response to our Christmas Appeal was so amazing, Guide Dogs were able to support Chelsea with a cooking program, building on her previous orientation and mobility training.

Chelsea lives with her parents, and one of her main goals was to be able to cook nutritious meals for herself and not have to rely on others. Safe food preparation, safe handling and organisation of the cooking environment are just some of the keys to independent living.

"The skills I have learnt through Guide Dogs have built my confidence," Chelsea said. ***"All of the services have made me feel independent. I hope to one day be living in my own place."***

The Guide Dogs' cooking program is individually designed to best suit the person and the goals they wish to achieve.

A typical cooking program looks at the use of common utensils such as knives, vegetable peeler, grater, and can opener. A person is taught techniques on how to safely cut and how to measure ingredients. This may include the use of cup and spoon measures or talking kitchen scales and measuring jugs.

Also taught is the safe pouring of hot liquids with a liquid level indicator, or a one cup kettle. Participants also learn the safe operation of kitchen appliances such as the oven, microwave, electric frying pan, or slow cooker. Many of these programs also look at high contrast marking of appliance controls so they can be located and operated correctly. This involves using puff paint, bump-on buttons, or velcro.



Equipment to maximise vision



Safe handling of kitchen utensils

The need for colour contrast and lighting is also considered. Advice is given on the format the person would need a recipe presented, including large print, braille, audio, or the use of a device such as a tablet or iPad.

"One of the most useful skills I learnt was using highly coloured chopping boards for different foods," Chelsea explained.

"As well as how to use my other senses such as smell and touch with a small spoon to determine if a piece of meat was properly cooked."

Guide Dogs currently have a number of new dogs coming in for training and our Guide Dog Services team are hoping one will be a perfect match for Chelsea.

To help raise and train more Guide Dogs so the many people on our waitlist can be matched with their perfect dog sooner, donate online today at guidedogs.org.au/donate or phone (08) 8115 6060. Thank you.

For more information about our Vision Services contact **Your Support Line** on **1800 757 738.**

The start of a special bond.

Thanks to your support, three year old Gianluca was matched with Autism Assistance Dog “Jet”, changing not only Gianluca’s life but the whole family’s.

Gianluca was diagnosed with severe Autism at 18 months of age. ***“We knew assessment was required around 12-13 months of age when Gianluca stopped talking and walking,”*** Gianluca’s Dad Luke recalls.

Accepting Gianluca’s diagnosis was a challenge for parents Luke and Stefanie, ***“it was difficult as a parent to watch your child meet all of their milestones up until the age of one, and then regress significantly,”*** Luke explains.

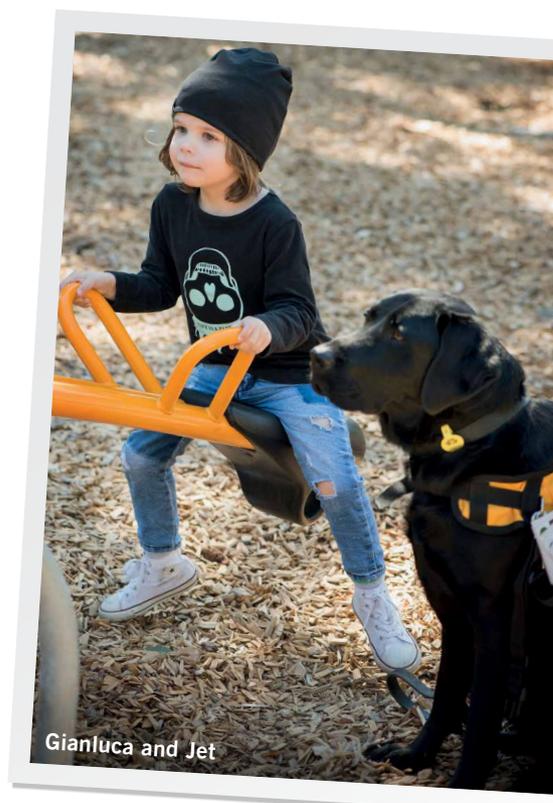
Gianluca’s social and cognitive abilities diminished rapidly, having an adverse effect on the lives of all of Gianluca’s family members, none more than his older sister, Sebella. ***“Watching your two children who are so close in age be so far apart socially and developmentally is extremely hard. All of our original hopes and dreams for Gianluca changed in an instant. Hopes and expectations had to be re-evaluated.”***

Gianluca took a long time to walk again and hasn’t communicated since his first birthday. Gianluca’s anxiety in social settings soon became an issue. On outings to their local playground, Gianluca became anxious and would often bolt, unaware of the potential dangers of a nearby creek and surrounding roads. Whilst normal for most young families, a trip to the playground was extremely difficult for Gianluca’s family. ***“His safety was always compromised while there and our anxiety levels escalated while watching him,”*** Luke remembers.

Their lives changed forever late last year when Gianluca was matched with Autism Assistance Dog “Jet”.

Luke knew after their first trial walk that Jet was meant to be part of their family. Jet worked beautifully with Gianluca, and the connection to the whole family was instant. When Guide Dog Mobility Instructor Lisa broke the news to the family that Jet was a confirmed match for Gianluca, they were thrilled!

“Once I sat down with Lisa after some trial walks and heard that we had been paired with Jet, my heart filled with joy,” Luke recalls. ***“To bring him home to our family was one of the best, if not the best, moments of our lives since Gianluca’s diagnosis. We refer to Jet as one of the family now without hesitation.”***



Gianluca and Jet

“It was difficult as a parent to watch your child meet all of their milestones up until the age of one, and then regress significantly.”



Jet has settled into the family home perfectly. Gianluca loves playing outside with Jet and is warming to him being on his bed and moving around the house behind him. Jet is always looking out for Gianluca, whether he's moving around the house or at the playground - this is just the start to an incredible bond.

Gianluca is an active little boy who is happiest when he is out exploring. Before Jet, getting out of the house was extremely difficult for the whole family. Now they can participate in social activities they may have never attempted without Jet by their side. Gianluca loves going to his Nonna's house and going to the shops. ***“Without a doubt, Gianluca's favourite thing about Jet is his yellow jacket. When Gianluca sees the yellow jacket come out he knows we are leaving the house and that he will be going to walk somewhere. This excites him greatly and we love that he understands the association. Gianluca also loves standing next to Jet and feeling his tail smack against his tummy.”***

It's thanks to supporters like you that this wonderful family was able to be matched with their perfect match, Jet. Luke would like to invite you to follow their journey on Gianluca's Facebook page [facebook.com/GianlucasJourneyThroughTheFog](https://www.facebook.com/GianlucasJourneyThroughTheFog). He'd love you to watch how Gianluca and Jet grow together, form a bond, not only as walking and safety partners, but as friends... all thanks to your support.

Your continued support is helping connect children like Gianluca with an Autism Assistance Dog.

Donate online today at [guidedogs.org.au/donate](https://www.guidedogs.org.au/donate) or by calling (08) 8115 6060. Thank you.



Luke, Jet and Gianluca walking to the park

“Once I sat down with Lisa after some trial walks and heard that we had been paired with Jet, my heart filled with joy.”



Staying close to Gianluca



Life as a Puppy Raiser.

Have you ever wondered what life is like as a Puppy Raiser? Guide Dogs volunteer Natalie shares her journey with her puppies, Memphis and Chevy.



Natalie and Memphis



Memphis with his favourite toy

My journey with Guide Dogs started on January 13th 2016 when Memphis joined our family. He was a handsome boy and he knew it because I told him he was handsome every day! I forgot how much having a 10 week old puppy was like having a child. The toileting during the day and night, the accidents in the house, puppy proofing the house. But it was all worth it.

Memphis came to most places with us. Netball games, football games, athletic carnivals, shopping centres, hospitals, cafes, formals, doctor's appointments, physio appointments, and walking down busy roads at peak times. I'm sure he used to get out of the car, look around and think, not netball and football again!

Memphis was my shadow, following me everywhere I went and he would always want to be close to me. I remember being a little concerned about Memphis' attachment to me. Andrew from Guide Dog Services said to me, ***"the connection you and Memphis have, imagine that connection Memphis will have with a vision impaired person."*** I no longer worried.

The 8th of May came this year and it was time to say goodbye to Memphis. I thought I'd prepared myself but clearly I hadn't. The tears were flowing pretty well that day.

A few weeks went past and I was told that Memphis was heading to Western Australia to train to be a Guide Dog. I was super proud. I was fortunate I got to visit him three times before he flew out, he looked so happy and content and he was still very handsome.

Nine days after Memphis left our home Chevy arrived, our cute little bundle of fluff. Memphis and Chevy both have similar traits - they follow me around everywhere I go. They both love playing at the beach, love watching sport, playing hide and seek, and both love noisy toys!

The most asked question I get as a Puppy Raiser is how do I cope giving the dogs back. One of the questions I asked at our interview was how do the dogs cope when you hand them back to Guide Dogs or on to another Puppy Raiser. Sarah's answer was, ***"the dogs cope better than the people,"*** and boy was she right. All the dogs want to know

is who's feeding me, where do I sleep, who's feeding me, where are my toys, and finally, who's feeding me.

Memphis, my handsome boy, thank you for being such a loyal, loving dog who was an absolute pleasure to train. You will make a brilliant Guide Dog and the client who gets matched with you is one very lucky person. I couldn't be more proud of you Memphis - you will always hold a special place in my heart.

"I'd also like to thank you, the supporters of Guide Dogs, without your support I couldn't do what I love to do."

To support our puppies on their journey, become a Puppy Sponsor, or make a one-off donation to the Guide Dogs program today. Visit [guidedogs.org.au/donate](https://www.guidedogs.org.au/donate) or call (08) 8115 6060.

Guide Dogs Supporter Profile – Alison & Peter Hanlon.

At Guide Dogs, our team couldn't be more grateful for our amazing supporters, including the wonderful Alison and Peter Hanlon.

Alison and her husband Peter have been supporters of Guide Dogs since December 2010, when Peter asked Alison; ***“What do you want for Christmas?”*** Alison reminisced ***“I've got what I need, I don't want anything. Let's give to a charity instead,”*** which led her to think of a cause to support.

“Every Friday is ‘charity day’ in the city with collection boxes on every corner, I'd give a few dollars but generally I was overwhelmed with choice. I just didn't know which charity to support. I'd always felt drawn to dogs but I also felt I needed to help people too, though nothing seemed to fit. In hindsight I should have realised it a long time ago.”

Peter attended the Guide Dogs office on Morphett Street two days before Christmas to make a contribution on behalf of Alison as a gift for Christmas. Alison remembers telling her sister-in-law Cindy, a Guide Dog user from Western Australia, about their donation to Guide Dogs SA/NT, ***“Oh Al that's the best news I've heard this year”*** she'd replied. And that's when it clicked – there was her match, her connection, the personal element; staring her right in the face.

Cindy's Guide Dogs Rosie, Gilly and now Esky have given her something we never can. ***“We see the independence but it's more than that, it's self-esteem, it's pride, it's security. Cindy's not home listening to TV all day. She's a masseuse, she shops, goes to the gym, walks to cafés with***



Alison and Ambassador Lenny

friends. She's a Mum, she's a Grandmother and she makes our lives so much better for being who she is. Cindy is a normal person, complete with her Guide Dog at her side.”

Alison recalled ***“our donation ‘gift’ started off very small but has grown since then as our capacity to give more has grown. We can't help buy Cindy a car but we can help people live normal, independent lives.”***

Since their initial gift, Alison and Peter have consistently supported a variety of Guide Dogs programs and initiatives, from the re-development of the Puppy Development Centre, and most recently the Autism Assistance Dog program. The impact and

influence Alison and Peter have had on Guide Dogs as an organisation, and the services Guide Dogs provide, sparks inspiration across the community to support people living with sensory disability.

What Peter and Alison didn't realise at the time, is this donation would inspire a future of giving to Guide Dogs.

“So there it is. The dogs, the people, my sister-in-law. And I said ‘we can do this, we should do this, we should do more:”



Helix, Arron, Neil, and Buddy

Changing lives

Catching up with Arron and Neil.

Do you remember Arron and Neil? Neil, a generous friend and client of Guide Dogs, was so touched by Arron's story in the 2016 Guide Dogs Christmas Appeal, that he pledged \$15,000 if supporters like you would match his gift.

In 2016, Guide Dogs ran a Christmas Appeal to support then 24 year old Arron Lyall to get his very own Guide Dog. Arron is a vision-impaired client of Guide Dogs and white cane user, who was at risk of total retinal detachment. When Neil Cundy,

a vision-impaired client, Guide Dog user, and Guide Dogs supporter heard about Arron's story he wanted to help. Neil pledged \$15,000 towards Arron's appeal, and asked the community to match his gift to get Arron a Guide Dog.

Thanks to Neil and your overwhelming generosity, Arron was matched with Guide Dog, Helix last year. Guide Dogs invited Arron and Neil in to catch up for the first time since Helix entered Arron's life.

What inspired you to support others in the community (including Arron) by donating to Guide Dogs?

Neil: I just feel that I was looked after so well here, that I should try and help look after other people. I know what a difference Buddy has made for me. I think that's what really encouraged Wendy and I to support Guide Dogs as much as we can... **because we now know what a difference it makes.**

“I felt supported by everyone. It's kind of like a big happy family and it's nice to be welcomed into that community.”

How do you feel knowing your support, along with many others, allowed Arron to be matched with Helix?

Neil: It's all worthwhile, isn't it? Now Arron has Helix and is getting on very well with him. And I know from my experience, you think you're getting along alright with a white cane... well you are, until you find something better. And it's just unbelievable the difference it makes to have a dog.

Arron: When I did the night walk with Helix, I thought **“Wow! I didn't know I could do this”**. That was the penny drop moment! To do something you haven't done for a long time on your own... it was just really impressive. If I had my cane, I'd be bumping into everything. But with Helix, it frees me up so much.

“It's just unbelievable the difference it makes to have a dog.”



Catching-up

Neil: I'm totally blind at night-time as well, but I don't have to worry because I know I'm safe with Buddy. If it's uneven ground he'll slow right down to a crawl, because then I know there's something there that I have to be careful about.

What did it mean for you to have Neil get behind the appeal and support you to be matched with a Guide Dog?

Arron: I felt supported by everyone. It's kind of like a big happy family and it's nice to be welcomed into that community. And then actually getting Helix and seeing how much he helped me. It's amazing.

What does having Helix in your life mean for you?

Arron: Getting the confidence to walk out of the house and know I'm going to get everywhere safely. And then to have that companionship; it keeps me motivated to do things, like wake up in the morning... I get up and go **“I need to take Helix for a walk”**. Previous to having Helix, I didn't have that drive. It's just a win-win situation.

Has Helix settled in nicely at home?

Arron: Yeah, he has. Because I get around quite a bit, visiting my sister or Dad every weekend, Helix has learned all of these places and settles into five different homes just as well as one. It's kind of cool, we're like jolly swagmen!

He's also fantastic at gigs. As soon as I finish a song and put my guitar down he knows we're going to go stretch our legs.

If you had one piece of advice to pass onto Arron with Helix, what would it be?

Neil: Probably the more you look after your dog, the more they'll look after you.

Arron: I totally agree with that; the more fun you make it for your dog, the more they give back. When they start opening up and you see their true colours, and Helix has some really great traits. We are a pretty good match.

What's your favourite thing about Helix?

Arron: There are so many things. **I don't really have one favourite thing. Helix is the best thing about Helix.**

More Than Dogs

Guide Dogs are proud to use the line **#morethandogs** – because quite simply we love our dogs but we also do so much more!

As an organisation, Guide Dogs has grown and adapted to meet the needs of people in our community. At Guide Dogs, our multidisciplinary team holistically supports our clients with vision and hearing loss with equipment, information, training, education, product sales, and provides services such as case management and NDIS planning support. Our dual sensory focus enables us to put our expertise into practice and work with more people in the community regardless of age and location.

Providing services to a broad range of people requires a broad range of expertise. To meet this need, the Vision Services team employs experts in the fields of Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Optometry, Disability, and of course, Orientation and Mobility. It is this broad approach that makes the Vision Services team unique and effective.

Quite often people are surprised to hear that Guide Dogs employ Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists. They think Physiotherapists only work in the rehabilitation space or with muscle injuries.

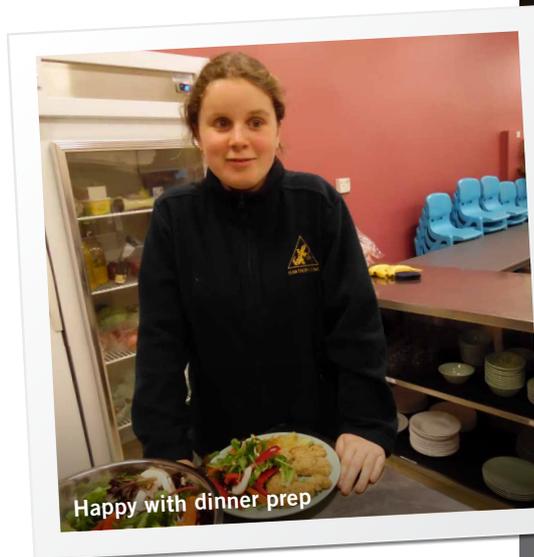
Just recently the team completed a special project working with children who had issues with balance and gait due to their vision loss. Celeste, our Physiotherapist

developed a unique program whereby the children worked closely with our dogs on walking straight and confidently. The end result was amazing! The children involved showed a massive improvement in their confidence, their walking speed and their gait. The feedback from their parents was really touching as they also saw a change in their child's confidence and ability.

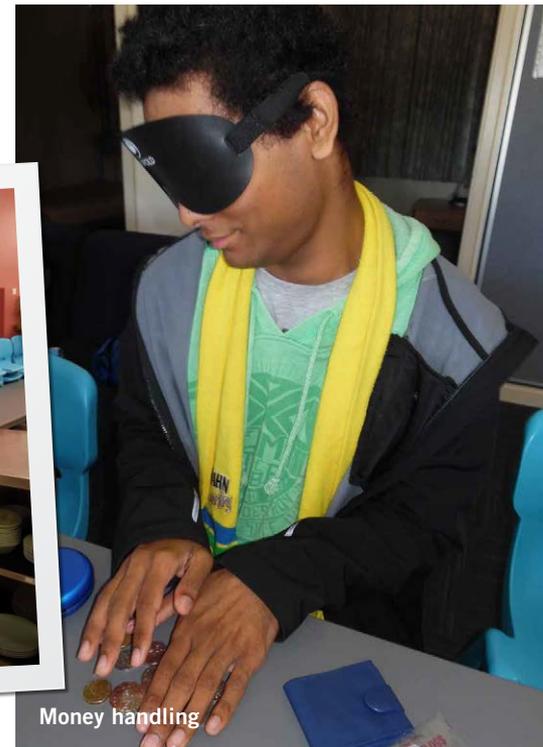
The same applies for our Occupational Therapists. It is very common to see our team working in a person's kitchen, preparing food and cooking, whilst teaching and supporting the person to adapt to their environment. It is a great achievement when someone who is vision impaired can prepare meals from scratch for family and friends. This really boosts their confidence and their independence. This is what Guide Dogs is all about - working with people with sensory loss in achieving their goals, focusing on independence, and building on the skills and abilities they already have. You can read more about our cooking program on page three.

Striving and wanting to be independent is a right we all enjoy. Our Life Skills Camp and our transition groups focus on working with children and young adults to prepare them for an independent future. The camp this year was attended by nine children and was totally funded by you, our amazing donors. At the camp our team worked closely with the children to develop their independent cooking skills. This included the children designing the menu for the week, doing the food shopping, preparing and cooking. It was really amazing to see their confidence grow during the week and to see the children so actively engaged. Thank you for your support, it has made a big difference!

So, to summarise what the Vision Services team do... #morethandogs



Happy with dinner prep



Money handling

Meet your team

Vision Services

The Vision Services team consists of eight specialist staff who cover the areas of Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Optometry, Disability, and Orientation and Mobility. The range of specialties enables the team to work across the lifespan, covering children, adolescents and adults. The team also work across schools, hospitals, aged care and the community. Our service is provided across the state which includes rural and remote areas. The team also have staff in Darwin who focus on Orientation and Mobility, covering the entire Territory.

Our approach is very much around working with a client to achieve their goals. This can include providing training and support to get to know a new workplace, to navigate a campus, or to learn a new piece of equipment or technology.

Profile **Peter Skjott**, Principal Clinician Vision Services Team

Peter how long have you been at Guide Dogs?

I have been at Guide Dogs since March 2010 having previously worked in the Vision space in New Zealand.

What do you do?

I work as an Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Instructor as well as in a leadership role. O&M is about knowing where you are so that you can get where you want to go, and travel there safely and effectively. O&M Instructors



Peter with Claire and Jemima, both Occupational Therapists

work with people of all ages, who are blind or have low vision. This may include training in the use of mobility aids, orientation to an environment, vision education, and development of sensory awareness.

What do you like most about your role?

I like that every day I am still learning. The work is always varied and often interesting, both in terms of technical skills and what I learn from the people I work with. Every day is different and I get to meet amazing people who do not allow vision loss to stop them from achieving their goals.

How do you get to be an O&M Instructor?

A variety of courses in Australia and New Zealand offer full O&M training. An undergraduate degree in a related field such as Health Sciences, Psychology, Rehabilitation or Education is generally required for entry to these courses. To be an O&M Instructor you must attend

a University and study, it's not something that you can 'learn on the job' – it is very much a specialised area.

Anything else of interest?

I have a vision impairment but I haven't let that stop me from trying many things. I have even taken flying lessons!

“Every day is different and I get to meet amazing people who do not allow vision loss to stop them from achieving their goals.”

If you or someone you know would benefit from the services provided by the Vision Services team, please call **Your Support Line – 1800 757 738** or email yoursupportline@guidedogs.org.au

Our magnificent M Litter have graduated!

A huge thank you to all the M Litter Puppy Sponsors who helped celebrate the Puppy Graduation at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in October.

It wasn't just the magnificent M Litter who graduated in October, but a number of our other amazing dogs as well. Here's what happened, thanks to your wonderful support!

Milan and Ruby graduated as Brood Dogs, and handsome Metro graduated as Guide Dog SA/NT's first Stud Dog. Dogs that qualify to become a Brood or Stud Dog must display desirable genetic qualities and characteristics, so that the next generation of puppies have the best chance of becoming working dogs. Milan, Ruby, and Metro you are some of the best of the best!

Jet and Frosty graduated as Autism Assistance Dogs and have both been matched with beautiful, loving families. You can read more about Jet and his match, three year old Gianluca on pages four and five.

Memphis, Helix, and Indigo graduated as Guide Dogs. Both Helix and Indigo have found their perfect match with their wonderful new handlers, Arron and Pam. Memphis is doing us proud as he completes his training in Western Australia.

Western Australia Guide Dog Instructor, Phil Stanley, shared, **"I would put him**

(Memphis) in the top dozen Guide Dogs I have trained in my 36 year career as a Guide Dog Instructor". An excellent testament of our Guide Dog Services and Puppy Raiser's amazing efforts.

Nina graduated as a Pets As Therapy Dog. Amy, Nina's handler, shared at the Graduation, ***"one of the most underestimated side effects of Autism is the impact on siblings. Whilst we qualified to apply for Nina because of Wil's diagnosis, Nina has brought our family a sense of purpose, a renewed focus and a calming influencing on the house."***

"Thank you for all each of you have contributed to bringing such incredible dogs like Nina to families like ours."

Last but not least, Lenny graduated as Guide Dogs new Ambassadog. Lenny started training in the Autism Assistance Dog program but was a little too sensitive. His friendly personality and beautiful temperament was perfect for another career, being the star of Guide Dogs!



Metro receiving his graduation bone

Arron, Helix's new handler, closed the ceremony with his cover of Better Be Home Soon by Crowded House. While Arron was waiting to be matched with a Guide Dog, he shared that his dream of becoming a full time musician and travelling interstate to play music was extremely difficult without a Guide Dog.

Now matched with Helix, Helix accompanies Arron to his music gigs, happily sleeping behind the speakers where it's more quiet.

The development of the Guide Dog, Autism Assistance Dog, and Pets As Therapy Dog programs is only possible with your generous support. Thank you for helping Guide Dogs change lives.

Join the Puppy Sponsorship program. By sponsoring our puppies today, you are helping them on their exciting journey to become a Guide Dog, Autism Assistance Dog, or Pets As Therapy Dog.

Join online at guidedogs.org.au/puppy-sponsorship or call (08) 8115 6060.

An update from Lenny.

See what Lenny has been up to since graduating as Ambassador.



Woof Woof! Lenny here! I absolutely love my new role as the Ambassador for Guide Dogs, it's so much fun going out to meet people (I get so many pats and cuddles, it's the best!). I wanted to give you a little pupdate on what I've been doing since graduating.

I have such an impawtant role now; I help promote Guide Dogs and our pawsome services, I get to meet with suppwaters and thank them for their contributions with lots of puppy licks and cuddles. And best of all, I get to be a media superstar and pose for all sorts of pictures and videos (when I pose really well I get treats!)

Here are some pics of what I've been up to! I hope you enjoy them and I can't wait to share more updates with you in the next copy of Paw Prints.



Step up for the pups and host your own fundraising event!

Guide Dogs are encouraging our supporters to 'lead the way' during the month of May and support Guide Dogs by hosting their own fundraising event.

What is it?

Lead the Way May is a new fundraising initiative that aims to encourage people to support Guide Dogs by hosting their own event, raising much needed funds for the South Australian and Northern Territory communities.

Hosting your own fundraising event is one of the most rewarding ways to support Guide Dogs, and it's super easy! Simply pick a fundraising idea, register your event with Guide Dogs, and we'll support you every step of the way to ensure your fundraiser is a success. Oh, and I almost forgot the most important part... it's pawsome fun!

There are so many fundraising ideas to choose from; pupcake stalls, ruffles (er, that's raffles to us humans), fun runs, birthday presents, gifts in lieu, and so much more!

The money you raise will go towards providing vital services for people living with sensory disability and children living with Autism and their families.

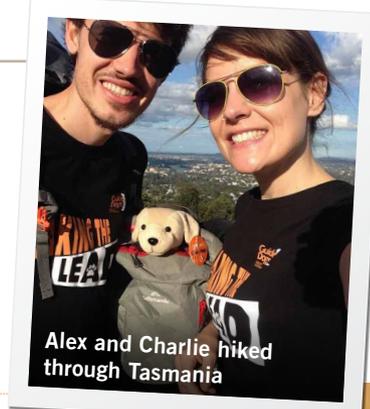
If you would like to host your own fundraising event or have any questions about fundraising for Guide Dogs, please call the team on **(08) 8203 8302** or email fundraising@guidedogs.org.au.

Why Guide Dogs need you to host your own fundraising event

It costs in excess of \$35,000 to train each Guide Dog and Autism Assistance Dog, and the need for our working dogs is greater than ever. Guide Dogs only receive 30% of Government funding for our vital services, and rely heavily on the public to make up for the 70% of funding shortfall.

By this point you're probably thinking "this sounds awesome, but I wouldn't know what to do". Well don't worry, we have you covered! Check out our website fundraise.guidedogs.org.au for some pawsome fundraising ideas to get you thinking!

By getting involved in Lead the Way May and hosting your own fundraising event you will be helping Guide Dogs provide safety, independence and inclusion for people living with disability, and children living with Autism and their families.



Alex and Charlie hiked through Tasmania



Crystal MacDermott



Coles Burnside staff fundraiser



St Peters Girls fundraiser



Specsavers Munno Para



Torrens 2 Torrens

What's on at
Guide Dogs



**BOSS'
BLIND DATE**

Boss' Blind Date

At the end of this month some of South Australia's biggest bosses will be participating in Boss' Blind Date, an immersive fundraising initiative to support Guide Dogs core services. Each boss will be challenged to experience vision loss for a day, wearing a blindfold, accompanied by their own personal human guide. You can check it out and support them at

bossblinddate.com.au

Save the date! International Guide Dog Day

Friday, April 27th is International Guide Dog Day! Join our Paws Parade and stop traffic in Adelaide as we celebrate our amazing Guide Dogs, Autism Assistance Dogs and Pets As Therapy Dogs. Guide Dogs is proud to celebrate the independence, safety and inclusion these dogs bring to people living with sensory disability, and children living with Autism and their families.

Email Lisa at lisa.radetti@guidedogs.org.au to join the parade.

**LEAD THE
WAY MAY**



*'Lead the way' in
May and support
Guide Dogs by
hosting your own
fundraising event!*

Hosting a fundraising event is a great way to have loads of fun while making a valuable contribution to support the vital services provided by Guide Dogs.

**To find out more call Tassy
on (08) 8203 8302 or email
fundraising@guidedogs.org.au.**



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info@guidedogs.org.au

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
251 Morphett Street
Adelaide SA 5000
Tel (08) 8203 8333
Fax (08) 8203 8332

NORTHERN TERRITORY
4/5 Keith Lane
Fannie Bay NT 0820
Tel (08) 8995 2222
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