

Guide
Dogs
TASMANIA



Good Golly
It's OLLY!



PUPPY
LOVE

Autumn 2014

Welcome, little Olly!

Date of Birth:
28 September 2013
Region: South



▲ Olly was like a seasoned pro in front of the camera.



▲ Peeking through the poppies.



▲ Our special little Valentine.



▲ Spice Boy.

Let's embark



Greetings everyone; welcome to another exciting year of Puppy Love. With each newsletter, we try and raise the bar just a bit further so you are rewarded for your support and loyalty (and isn't the front page worth membership all on its own???) .

You may not be aware that we are a very small team, dedicated to raising funds and awareness so that little guys like Olly can become great. We truly appreciate your support and are extremely mindful of the fact that you want your donations to go to our services.

- This is why we don't 'do' fancy or expensive gimmicks or giveaways;
- This is why we acknowledge the generosity of our business partners who support us with things like photography, printing, publicity, health care for the dogs, and ongoing corporate fundraising;
- And this is why we continue to ask the community to support us through appeals like Take The Lead (page 11) and programs like Puppy Love.

One way of helping us to keep our costs down is to elect to receive Puppy Love via email as a PDF file. If this would suit you, please email help@puppylove.com.au with the following information in the subject line: **Your name & "I would like to receive Puppy Love via email."** We'll update our records so that the next newsletter gets sent to that email address. We'll assume you'd like a printed copy if we don't hear from you.

So now all that housekeeping is out of the way, enjoy. And, thank you.

Kate Grady, Funding Development Manager.

Hello to you all!

I'm almost 18 weeks old, and it seems like ages since I left the rest of my family in South Australia and my big plane flight to Tasmania, just before Christmas.

The beach is one of my favourite places to go, but it takes a while to get used to wide open spaces, and the feel of cold water on paws. I'm still a bit unsure about those waves. When I am not looking they sneak up behind me and tickle my tummy. When my Puppy Raiser lets me off the lead I have a great time sniffing washed up shells and seaweed. Last week I saw a great big four legged monster. It was really big, so we sat down and checked out the animal called a horse.

I have gone to a place called a pub. People are very friendly, and seem to make lots of "ooh" and "aah" noises around me. There are great smells around the carpet, table and chair legs too.

At Christmas time my normal Puppy Raiser went yacht racing, but his daughter took me to the Taste of Tasmania several times. It was a bit of a squash, heaps of people and legs everywhere, and everyone wanted a pat, so I wore a little sign pinned onto my jacket with smiley badges. It said "no patting". It was great to see another Guide Dog puppy there, and Paddy gave me a few tips on how to best handle all those yummy smelling floors.

I reckon my Raiser is getting the idea that I'm keen on travelling. I've been to the airport a couple of times, and shown my best behaviour while patiently waiting for delayed flights. I was calm and laid back even when another dog was jumping and sniffing at all the bags going along a moving footpath.

I sometimes go to my Raiser's workplace and there's always something happening; people coming and going, phone calls, and other staff.

The weather has been a bit hot lately. I reckon lying upside down in my bed feels good, but most humans laugh when they see me. They smile when I cool down on the concrete floor. I am so flat I look like a doormat.

At home my best friend is the cat. We play all the time and it's great fun.

A few weeks ago, I had my first media interview. Win News had a huge camera on three legs, and the lady reporter just loved me. Guide Dog in Training, Iris, was there, but all the attention seemed to be about me. I strutted my stuff like a professional model. The TV people must have liked it as I was on the news that night, and I saw myself in a promotional advertisement a few times too.

My ten weeks in Tasmania have been great, but my Raiser reckons I grow when I sleep, so time for another little nap.

Bye for now, Olly (14.6kg).



▲ MY Nyla bone, MINE!



▲ All aboard! for some Public Transport training.

Date of Birth:
25 July 2013

Region: South

HI EVERYONE!

My favourite thing is easy to pick. It's definitely my Nyla Bone; I even take it on the times when Mum and I go to work. I sometimes let other dogs have a chew on it, but I really love it so I try to keep it to myself.

Mum takes me to an awesome place she calls the dog beach. She says I still need to be well-mannered and come back to her when she calls or whistles. I have so much fun swimming there; running and splashing around with so many different breeds of dogs. It wasn't my fault one time when the lady laying on the beach was waving her arms around and squealing at me; I just thought it was some sort of human game I had to play. Mum said the lady was silly for sunbathing on the dog beach but that I really shouldn't play with her.

Mum and I often meet with the Guide Dog Instructor. They sit and chat about me and then we go for a walk. The other day we went into Kmart Eastlands and I was asked to lie down in the card section. Mum said "stay", and they wandered away. I was a little nervous but they came back and I got a really big pat for being good and staying.

My Dad has three new buses at work. I am getting much bigger and can climb up the steps really well now. I like riding in the buses because you can see out the window, although I am not big enough yet to see out the car window. I bet I will be for the next newsletter, though! See you then!



▲ Hanging out with one of my new Melbourne mates. Labs rule!



▲ Yes, ok, it was GREAT to get home to Frankie J.

Date of Birth:
18 May 2013
Sibling: Yoda
Region: North

HELLO!

At the moment, one of my favourite things to do is play the 'toys away' game, where I put all my toys away in to the basket. I get so excited that I pull them out again so I can do it over and over!

Mum and I went to Melbourne on a big plane the day after Christmas. I enjoyed the flight and it didn't worry me at all. We visited Mum's friend at 90 Mile Beach. I spent several days running and playing with two other Labradors (Marbles and Tilly), it was so much fun. I saw an echidna and couldn't work out what sort of dog he was.

On our way back to Launceston we spent a day in Melbourne. Melbourne has trams and lots of trains, unlike my quiet home. I visited my Mum's friends and played with their two little girls.

I was so glad to get home, talk to Frankie J and Dad (in that order), then just sleep and sleep and sleep.

I was such a good boy - Mummy said she was very proud of me.

Can we go again?



▲ Hay! Look what I did!



▲ Meet Tigger, the sequel. I love him so.

Date of Birth:
18 May 2013
Sibling: Yuri
Region: North

HI THERE!

My favourite thing has to be "Tigger". I inherited him in quite pristine condition with an open book attached between his paws. I chewed off his ears, his tail and the book. Then he disappeared. Santa gives only to those of us who have been good, so you can imagine how excited I was when a larger "Tigger" appeared on Christmas morning. I am not chewing any more so we are enjoying many happy hours together.

I just love eating the fruits of summer - raspberries, strawberries, plums and apples. Mum was not at all pleased when she caught me helping myself! Everything is now netted.

It has been a busy time and I have "helped" with hay carting, shearing and tidying the spent flowers in the garden. Mum often sprays me with the hose when she is watering and we play a game with me ducking out of the way. I love it.

My training is progressing quite well and I know by the tone of Mum's voice, and her words of praise and encouragement, that I have done the task well. My blue coat is a huge part of my public appearances and I must try not to be distracted, but shopping bags I just cannot resist. Mum's shopping bag usually means a bone, so I use my nose to check.

I am really enjoying life as a trainee Guide Dog puppy. See you next time!



▲ Indi and Pepper helped me celebrate my first birthday. I think treats were involved here.



▲ The thing about camping is that it is very tiring!

Date of Birth:
29 Jan 2013
Sibling: Pepper
Region: South

HELLO TO YOU AGAIN!

I am now over 12 months old, weigh 37 kilos and am the tallest Guide Dog puppy at the moment! When I turned one year old, my sister Pepper came to the park I play in and helped celebrate our birthday with all my dog mates. We had so much fun playing together. Lots of people couldn't tell us apart and kept calling me the wrong name, but I didn't mind. Indi also came and played with us on our birthday.

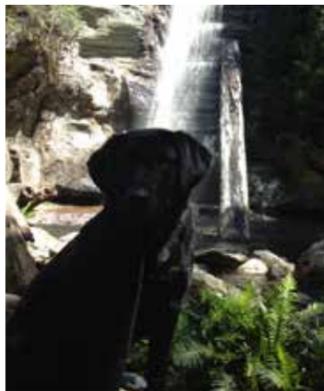
I have had lots of summer adventures. One was when my Puppy Raisers took me to a farm. I loved the dam and went for my first proper swim. I love swimming now. I didn't like the black cows, they were too big and made funny noises so I barked at them and they ran away. I also went camping and fishing at Bronte Lagoon. I did lots of walks, swimming, and saw lots of wallabies. I slept in a tent with my Puppy Raiser. I loved being a camp dog.

We have also been to Triabunna and stayed in a shack. I swam at the beach and went for lots of walks. One day it was very hot and I had ice blocks in my water bowl. They were great fun to play with.

I am still doing my Guide Dog training all the time. My Raisers are teaching me how to walk well and we do lots of training in lifts and escalators. I love being in the car. I love my coat and try to be really well behaved in it. Lots of people tell me how smart I look.



▲ A hose and my clam... the simple pleasures.



▲ I was feeling rather smug at Snug Falls - just look how gorgeous it is!

Date of Birth:
29 Jan 2013
Sibling: Paddy
Region: South

HELLO EVERYONE!

My Puppy Raising family got me a lovely paddle pool for Christmas so I can stay cool on the days we can't make it to the beach. I love my pool and like to splash in it all the time. Mum says I still need to work on my paw drying skills before coming back inside though!!

My Puppy Raiser and I have been making the most of the warm weather and getting outside amongst nature! Recently we went on a lovely bush walk to Snug Falls. It was very pretty and I got to cool off with a little paddle in the water before we headed home.

I also celebrated my first birthday since the last edition of Puppy Love. Wow, I can't believe how fast I'm growing up! I celebrated my birthday with my brother Paddy - we had a joint birthday party in the park and I got to meet and play with all of Paddy's friends. Their parents put on an amazing picnic and all the humans drank wine and ate cheese and talked about how cute we all are while all the doggies played. But like always, I was really only interested in playing with Paddy!

See you all next time!



▲ KING OF THE WORLD!!! or, of the Gordon River Cruise, at least.



▲ How's THIS for a few Tasmanian icons? Me and the Lake and the Mountain.

Date of Birth:
6 Oct 2012
Sibling: Holly
Region: South

HELLO!

My favourite thing at the moment, with all this hot weather, is going to the beach, but I still love the caravan too! One of my new 'skills' is putting my head under the water to find a rock on the bottom. I think they call this diving?

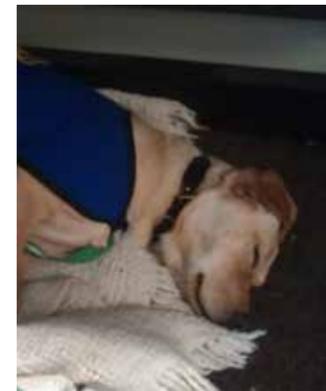
In January we went away with the caravan again. My Puppy Raising family took me on the beautiful old "Arcadia", the Pieman River Cruise that leaves from Corinna. It was beautiful and I was very well behaved - as always. The boat was great, but it was fantastic when we got to the heads and the boat crew said it was not a National Park and I was allowed to run around in the water with my coat off. It was a hot day, so that was such a treat and the boat crew couldn't wait until they could pat me and play with me.

In our holidays we also went on the Gordon River Cruise in Strahan. I loved it and I was so very well behaved; I did all the right things. But the crew loved me even more and they knew they had to ignore me, but they asked my Puppy Raiser if they could take a photo with me at the end of the cruise after everyone had left the boat. They were all so excited when we did the photos. They were so happy and so amazed at the excited puppy I became without my coat on, as I had been so very good the entire five-and-a-half hours on the cruise!

'Til next time, keep on cruisin'!



▲ Lincoln and me. Sometimes, I pause just long enough for a photo...



▲ ...And sometimes, I pause long enough for a great big NAP!

Date of Birth:
6 Oct 2012
Sibling: Hudson
Region: South

HI THERE!

I am now 15 months old and growing up to be a big girl. I have finally mastered walking over grates along the pathway. I was a little cautious at first because the holes seemed so big. I get told I am a good girl when I do it now, so it must be OK.

I have loved the warm weather because Lincoln and I get to the beach a lot. We just love playing chasings and jumping the waves. I meet lots of new friends on the beach, both humans and dogs. I think all of my Guide Dog pup friends must love the water; everyone seems to have had heaps of adventures at the beach and lakes and dams and rivers, just like me. Perhaps it is a Lab thing? I think so.

My Puppy Raisers have bought a boat and I hope they will take me out in it. I think I might like it, and hopefully I can tell you all about it in the next Puppy Love newsletter!



▲ My Puppy Raiser and me visited this House. It is really, really important.



▲ This guy worked in that really important place. He was even the boss, once!

Date of Birth:
5 Aug 2012
Sibling: Bella
Region: South

G'DAY!

With the great weather we've been having, my favourite thing at the moment is playing in my new pool. I just love to "dig" in the pool and send water flying everywhere. It's great fun to bob for ice cubes in the water as well.

I recently had my first trip interstate with my Puppy Raisers. I was a little worried on takeoff and landing, but Mum and Dad kept me from slipping, so by my fourth takeoff and landing I wasn't worried at all. The flight attendants told mum that I was very well behaved.

We went to Canberra. I went to the War Memorial and when they played "The Last Post" I sat very still and quiet. We also went to Parliament House where my lead set off the metal detector at security at the entrance. I wasn't too sure about the "thing" they rubbed over me; it "beeped" at me!

The hotel we stayed at had a big balcony, which I loved, except for the bird that was sitting on eggs in a nest it had built next to the outdoor air conditioning unit. It pecked at me when I sniffed at it. All I was trying to do was say "hi"!

It's pretty great being a Guide Dog puppy, with all of these adventures. Until next time!



▲ When I run like this through the water, I can make one ear stick up!



▲ And when I bounce like this, I can make BOTH ears go up!

Date of Birth:
5 Aug 2012
Sibling: Buddy
Region: South

HI AGAIN!

What an exciting Summer it has been! With beautiful, warm days I have been spending lots of time on the beach running with my friends, swimming and trying to follow Marcin when he sails his catamaran (unsuccessfully though). I was out and about visiting places, going to restaurants and concerts. The Taste festival was amazing and I was pulled out from the audience to take part in a comic show! I didn't really understand what it was about but I got a balloon-made bone at the end as a reward. I'm not sure what happened, but it suddenly disappeared when I started chewing on it...

I spent New Year's Eve at Salamanca too. There was a lot going on there at midnight, with very loud noises and some strange colours in the sky. I was not scared but I still can't understand what is so cool about it. Anyway, I got a lot of cuddles and praise afterwards for being a very good girl and that's what matters.

I am much more confident on travelators and escalators now. I found out that you don't have to walk but still move forward - that's cool!

Just recently I found out that I will be moving to the Guide Dogs office soon for another part of my training. I will certainly miss home and Anna and Marcin but I am ready and very excited about new challenges and adventures. Wish me luck, and thank you for helping me get there.

**PUPPY RAISERS -
A SPECIAL BUNCH INDEED!**

They support us immensely with the time, energy, patience and consistency that they 'donate' to Guide Dogs Tasmania. We (and they) are often asked many questions about their voluntary role, so we thought we might devote some Puppy Love time to hear from one of them.

Monica is currently looking after Taylor, but she's been helping us for a while and has some interesting and heart warming experiences to share. Enjoy:

"I started raising puppies for Guide Dogs Tasmania in 2008. I can remember the first meeting with Kim when she came to inspect my house and yard to ensure it was suitable for a Guide Dog pup. I had two dogs of my own at the time, but they were both in the golden years - Lucy was 16 and merrily bounced over everyone she met; Rose was 10 and she did not like anyone in our house... great! They were both taken for a long walk prior to Kim's arrival, in the hope they would act like nice quiet senior citizens. But, no, as usual Lucy bounced all over Kim and Rose just stared and barked the whole time. 'Well, it seemed like a good idea,' I thought.

I love dogs. I think Guide Dogs are just brilliant; they are one of the most special dogs around. They work guiding clients; they also give so much love. I was totally stunned when Kim rang and told me everything was fine and to keep coming to the group sessions, and I would eventually have a puppy placed with me. 'Eventually' was quicker than both Kim and I realised at the time; a little pup was arriving from Queensland and the people that were to have her were unable to take her. I studied my Puppy Raising manual and I don't mind admitting I was terrified; it had been a long time since there was a puppy in the house and perhaps the most frightening part is that this pup is not yours. Then this darling yellow Labrador puppy arrived. Stella was so cute, and looking back now, not only was Kim my instructor, but I think Stella helped in my training too. I cannot believe the amount I have learnt from Guide Dogs and of course the puppies themselves over the past six years. I have realised that whilst all these puppies may have the right traits to become a Guide Dog, with good manners and a nice nature, it takes a very special pup to graduate, and I have gained an even greater admiration for the working dogs.

My most asked question whilst out with the Guide Dog puppies has been 'how do you give them up?' I don't feel that I give them up; I know where they are now. It is just like when your children leave home, we teach our children good social habits so they can go out into society and live independently (life is not forever and I will not always be around for my children). I feel it is the



▲ Three of Monica's charges over the years: Stella, Taylor and Quinton.

same that I am doing for the puppies; they have already left their mum and are starting out and I am just helping with their social traits so they can fit into society. It is a bit sad when they leave but there is nothing to describe the feeling when you see the little cute puppy you raised in harness guiding their client. They may wag their tail and get excited to see you, but they also know they have a job to do and return to work mode and guide their client steadily, walking away down the street.

Stella never belonged to me; she seemed to want to become a Guide Dog. What a shame it would have been if she had become a family pet. Other puppies don't want to become Guide Dogs; they may love children and play too much and they are matched with a suitable family when withdrawn from the programme, and then there are the ones that can nearly make it but they cannot quite get it right. Well, one of those lucky ones is coming home to live with me, and whilst I did not hope this would happen, perhaps for this pup, it was meant to be.

The other questions often asked are 'why do I do it?' and 'what do I get out of it?' I do it because I love dogs. With the help of a Guide Dog Instructor it is amazing how fast you can teach these puppies. Even when they develop a bad habit the Instructor will come up with different ideas for the individual dog and his/her problem, and to see a puppy that does something wrong doing the right thing is reward enough - you feel like you have helped the puppy overcome bad habits and become a much loved dog (let's be serious, who does not love a well-mannered dog?)

The other thing I have personally gained from Guide Dogs is confidence. From shaky ground with Stella and her first accident in public that I was so embarrassed about, I now have no embarrassment if they have an accident, I just clean up and keep going. This has come from the amount of support, not only from Guide Dogs, but also from the public. Take a puppy out in coat and often people will say, 'oh I donate to Guide Dogs' and they feel they have a share in the puppy, as they do, and you have a common interest. Other people will comment on what a

great job we do as Puppy Raisers and they understand that these puppies have little accidents and do not come fully trained at 8 weeks of age!

I have also gained great friends through Guide Dogs and we meet socially, share a common interest and of course on many occasions a good laugh, because these puppies are certainly not serious all the time. There is lots of time for fun, play and of course puppy cuddles!"

Guide Dogs Tasmania extends our heartfelt thanks to all Puppy Raisers and Boarders, who enable the pups to grow and learn in the most supportive of environments. We work with them every step of the way, but it certainly does take special people to help us raise and train such special pups.





▲ Iris and Quinton. We wish them well, for two very different reasons.



▲ Indi, recovering in the sun after her treatment. Gorgeous girl.



▲ Remember Wendell? He's doing us proud as a wonderful Guide Dog.

Training dogs

Iris flew through her assessment and is progressing nicely in formal training. She loves getting out and about in her harness and learning what all the new commands mean, and really wants to please her handler and do everything right. She can be cheeky at times with some little quirks that we are working on, including a very strong love of saying hello to cats on walks, and getting very excited when she comes across someone she knows on the street. Of course, both of these things can break her concentration from the job, so we are hoping to see a steady decrease in this behaviour as her training progresses.

Bella is about to begin her training, and will be followed by her brother, Buddy, soon after.

With much sadness and disappointment, we have had to withdraw both Quinton and Indi from training due to health related concerns. You will remember we had mentioned Quinton's lameness that would appear from time to time. This appeared again, and we had to think of the welfare of the dog, as

well as the safety of the client if the lameness was to repeat through his working life. Ultimately, Quinton would not have been able to get out and do the job consistently, so we did what was best for him. He is now living with his Puppy Raiser, and will no doubt have an informal 'mentoring' role with the other pups that come into the house. Lucky pups!

Indi recently become ill, and after extensive vet examinations and testings, was diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease. There was a high risk that if she managed to get into a food that would irritate her stomach, then it would have a huge impact on the client and the client's mobility, as well as dear Indi! And we all know cheeky little Indi likes to eat things – remember when she was a puppy and socks were her favourite food of choice? Indi has been placed with her Puppy Raising family, who will monitor what she eats and ensure her wellbeing.

In Memory

Sadly, Guide Dog Jack passed away in December. Jack dedicated many years to his person in Devonport. He was

much loved and is sadly missed. Thank you, Jack, for your dedication and love.

Thank You

Many thanks go to the following Puppy Raising families for dedicating their time, love and energy in socialising and raising our Guide Dog pups:

- Anna Wrobel-Tobiszewska and Marcin Tobiszewski for puppy raising Bella
- The McConnell family for puppy raising Buddy

Guide Dog Update

We know you all like to hear how the dogs are getting on once they are trained with their Vision Impaired clients. Recently we received a message from one of our clients who was trained with Wendell last year and thought we would pass it on: 'In Melbourne this weekend. Wendell is totally excelling himself and finding his way back to the hotel like a pro. Just had to let you know. You can all be very proud of him!'

Guide Dogs Pet Insurance: Helps You. Helps Us.

At Guide Dogs Tasmania, the health of our dogs is our top priority, and we know our supporters feel the same way about their pets. We all try to keep our animals safe and healthy, but accidents or illness can strike at any time and when it does, you could face veterinary bills in the hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

Which is why Guide Dogs has launched its very own pet insurance to help you eliminate those unexpected vet bills and keep your pet in the picture of health. A percentage of your pet's insurance policy will fund our Guide Dog training program and ultimately change the life of a Tasmanian who is blind or vision impaired.

Cover is available for dogs and cats with plans that suit any budget.

For more information visit www.guidedogspetinsurance.com or call 1300 131 636

Hawks "Take The Lead" for Guide Dogs Tasmania

As part of its successful Community Camp program, Hawthorn Football Club assisted Guide Dogs Tasmania launch our new online fundraising campaign "Taking the Lead" in Launceston on 22 February.

Players from the AFL premiership side were on hand for photos and to talk to the public for the launch, as were five of the current crop of puppies.

Guide Dogs Tasmania is running this online campaign to help our pups become heroes, and we are extremely proud to have real-life heroes, the Hawks, support our work. We are so proud that Hawthorn agreed to 'Take the Lead for Guide Dogs', helping us launch this year's campaign.

And can we just say, what a TREAT it was to meet Hawks Captain, Luke Hodge, as well as Sam Mitchell and the other players who were so happy to talk to the fans and promote our campaign.

Thanks also to our new Puppy Love partner, Ricoh Business Centre, Hobart, for helping us with artwork and printing of our fliers for the day. We are really lucky to have this kind of support from such a great local business.

For more pictures, more information, or to donate, visit guidedogstas.com.au, or find us on Facebook at 'Guide Dogs Tasmania - Puppy Love', or simply scan the QR code to the right.



PUPPY LOVE

Take the lead today.

It takes a lot of people and costs over \$30,000 to raise and train beautiful puppies into wonderful Guide Dogs. We give them to people who need them and we receive no Government funding to do it. For as little as \$10.00 per month, you can become a member of Guide Dogs Tasmania's "Puppy Love". If you would like to become a member and receive newsletters and updates on all our puppies, fill in the details below and post to:

PO Box 82, North Hobart, Tasmania, 7002.

OR

Phone 1800 484 333 / 03 6232 1222 to request a DDR form.

If you are already a member, but know of others who will enjoy Puppy Love, PLEASE, let them know all about us. We also have gift certificates available.

Title: Mr / Mrs / Miss / Other

Name.....

Address:.....

State: Postcode:

Telephone: (.....)

Please accept my monthly membership payment of () \$10 () \$20 Other (\$.....)

I would like to pay my monthly membership by () VISA () MasterCard

Card No: / / /

Expiry Date: /

Signature:



DIARY NOTE #1:

INTERNATIONAL GUIDE DOG DAY
30 APRIL
COME AND SAY HELLO IN LAUNCESTON.

Like us on Facebook,

or

Visit guidedogstas.com.au

for more details about our campaign for responsible dog ownership, and where you can find us on the big day.

DIARY NOTE #2:

AGFEST
1-3 May
COME AND SAY HELLO IN THE PADDOCK!!
Site M92 (Main Street)



▲ Catch Dexter, Zoe and Stay at our home away from home, Agfest, in early May.

PUPPY LOVE

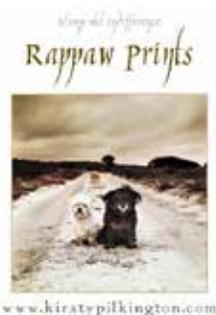
Proudly Supported By

Would you like your business or organisation to part of something special?

We're looking for Puppy Love partners and sponsors, and there are lots of ways we can work together.

To start a conversation, phone Kate on 1800 484 333.

We are very grateful for the support of all our sponsors, partners and members.



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