



ROYAL GUIDE DOGS
TASMANIA

Pepper & Paddy: get on board the P-train



**PUPPY
LOVE**

WINTER 2013



▲ Paddy (left) and Pepper (right) were absolute angels for their first photo shoot...no leads, no collars, no worries. Special pups indeed.

Let's embark

Action Overload

Welcome to Winter and the latest edition of Puppy Love. I hope you enjoy the 'pupdates' and pictures as much as we do, especially of our newest little recruits Pepper and Paddy.

The last few months have, as always, been busy at Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania; with our Pepper & Paddy Puppy Appeal (page 12), International Guide Dog Day celebrations (page 11), Agfest and other public relations events (page 11), and the graduation of Guide Dog Wendell.

The Puppy Love website is up and running, and there is always interesting information about our services and latest news on the Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania website:

puppylove.com.au & royalguidedogs.com.au

We continue to be motivated by the support and interest maintained by our Puppy Love members every day; be it from the 9-year-old member who chooses to donate her pocket money; the call centre that holds regular fundraising events for us; or the kind member who sends in a card of appreciation and congratulations following every single edition of Puppy Love. Thank you all for choosing to support the work of RGDT, gorgeous pups like Pepper and Paddy, and amazing Guide Dogs like Wendell.

Kate Grady, Funding Development Manager and Dog Devotee.



ROYAL GUIDE DOGS
TASMANIA

Presenting Pepper



▲ "Look into my eyes, my eyes, deep into my eyes, not away from my eyes...you are under my spell"



▲ Pepper on a pedestal, and rightly so!

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

Hi everyone.

I'm Pepper and I am one of the newest additions to the Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania family.

I am pleased to report that I have settled in fabulously with my Puppy Raising humans! I am the only pet in the humans' family, which I must admit works incredibly well in my favour!

I have had an incredibly busy schedule since arriving in Tasmania. First, a photo shoot with my big brother Paddy where I have to admit I did look rather adorable.

I then spent my first night with my Puppy Raising humans before heading off on a road trip to Deloraine to meet my human's extended family and spend Easter with them. They live on a farm and boy oh boy did I have a great time with the cows and horses! I bet they know that I'm the boss now!

I then returned to Hobart with my Puppy Raiser mummy to fulfill a few more of my social commitments.

First I met lots of the other Guide Dogs on their monthly walk at Salamanca. They are so big! I wonder if I will be that big one day... I tried my hardest to play with them but only Ambassador Dog Dexter seemed interested in me... I'm not sure why, I mean, look how cute I am! This has been my favourite experience so far. All the other dogs and their Puppy Raisers were so nice to my mummy and I and made us feel very welcome in the Guide Dogs family.

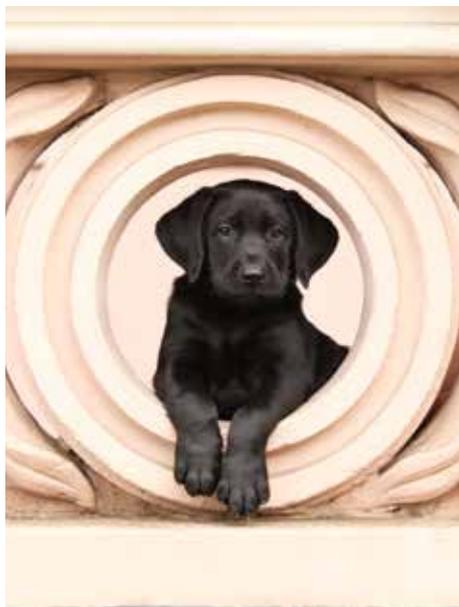
Then there was International Guide Dog Day. What a busy day this was for me! It started early with a gig on 7HoFM with my brother Paddy. Then we met up with the rest of the gang in the Hobart mall where my four legged friends and I got snapped by the Paparazzi. It was a very long day for me; all those pictures and pats from adoring by-standers really can

wear you out! But I guess that is all part and parcel of being a celebrity!

When I'm not socialising I am working hard learning new skills. I don't mean to 'wag my own tail' but golly gosh I am clever! So far I have learnt to sit, lay down, stay, come when my humans call me and travel on an escalator!

I guess you could say I'm a bit of a child genius, because when I'm not socialising or learning tricks, I go to University with my Puppy Raising mummy where we are studying third year Law. I think it's safe to say I'm the youngest student in the class! I am so loved by all my classmates; they say I'm the most exciting thing to ever happen to Constitutional Law! It's a bit boring sometimes so I like to have a little snooze under Mum's desk. But shhhh, don't tell her!!

And pleased to meet you, Paddy!



▲ To be sure, Paddy is one gorgeous pup!



▲ A little puppy pudding amongst the lavender.

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

Hello to you there.

My name is Paddy and hopefully my sister and I are going to be Guide Dogs when we grow up. We are black Labradors and I am so black that nobody can see me when it is night time!

I arrived in Tasmania just before Easter and have moved in with my Puppy Raisers who live near a big park in the city. Life is lots of fun.

My favourite thing to do is eat. If I could, I would eat everything, but my trainer Kim and my Puppy Raisers are teaching me good manners. I start each day with a big bowl of yummy food then I chew on my toys till I have another bowl of yummy food before it gets dark.

My first trip out in my Guide Dog coat was to the Botanical Gardens in Hobart. I didn't walk much because my legs were still pretty small, but I loved sitting and looking at all the children. It was very exhausting and my raisers had to carry me back to the car.

I love just about everything!

I love being in the car. I have my own place in the front to lie down and sleep. I have even been in a taxi.

I've been shopping to the supermarket lots of times. I love Eastlands where I can go up and down on the escalator but I was not too happy when my Raisers took me to the dog-wash for a bath and blow-dry!

I love the park near our house. I have met lots of other dogs including Quinnell and Indi who also want to be Guide Dogs. They teach me lots of things and we play "tug of war" together. When we get home my Raisers rub my tummy and give me a big brush... which I love.

I am growing really quickly. When I turned 10 weeks old I weighed 10.4kg. My Raiser has put me in my next size blue coat already because the first one is now too small!

Lots of people love me in my coat and tell me how handsome I look. I LOVE THAT!

Next time I'll let you know more about some of the things I've been learning. Until then, lovable Paddy.

Holly

Hudson



▲ Holly is growing up so fast. She's even learning the departmental filing system at work!



▲ All that filing can take its toll!

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

Hello again everyone!

I love going to work with my Puppy Raiser Kathy. We go to her office at the Education Department.

My other Raiser, Greg, now takes me for long runs on the beach with my buddy Lincoln. It's supposed to tire me out, but it doesn't. I love the beach and love going in for a swim.

I am really clever now and I can go up and down the travelator and the escalators without being scared. It's not really that bad once you've done it a few times.

Lincoln and I went to the farm the other day to help feed the cattle. They didn't scare me and we had fun jumping in the dam. We got really smelly and dirty, but because it was a hot day, I didn't care. It was awesome!

See you next time!



▲ Hudson poses on the Hobart Harley. Life is an adventure and Hudson is well and truly on it!



▲ Looking good in his little spot at the beach.

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

Hi! Here I am!

I don't have really ONE favourite thing. I love going to the beach, but I also get excited when dropping the kids at school and picking them up. Basically I love going anywhere!

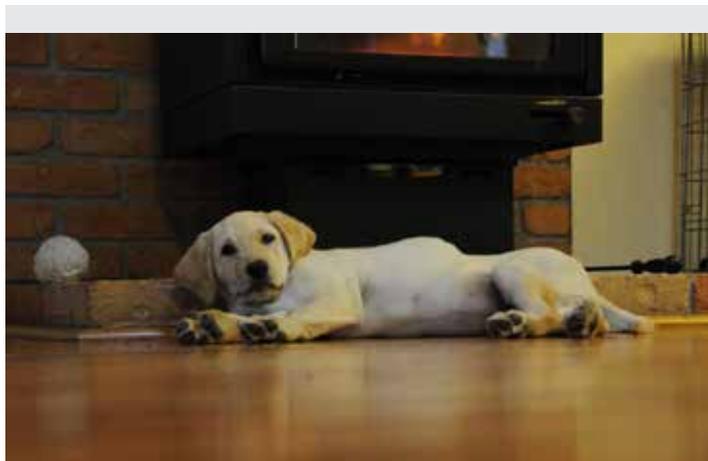
Over the last few months I've been going on a few caravan trips with my Puppy Raising family. I love the caravan. Over Easter we went to Strahan and my family took me on the "Gordon River Cruise" and also the "West Coast Wilderness Railway". I was probably more photographed by the other passengers than the beautiful scenery! A pup can't help it, I suppose.

I am mostly a very good dog, but I'm now entering a stage where it's a bit harder for me to be good all the time. I do get very excited now when people start talking to me (although not often when I'm in coat! I'm still good like that) and I love other animals – any animal! And this includes the stuffed animals in the museum, as I truly believe they are real!

See you soon for more of me. HA!

Bella

Buddy



▲ A fire place and a spot right near it. What more could a Bella Donna need?



▲ "A bench; some time; what's a pup to do?"

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



▲ 'Stay' and Bella, doing some impromptu fundraising and PR work. (Every little bit helps)

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



▲ If you go back to the Autumn issue you'll realise that this pose is starting to become Buddy's 'signature'. Spunk!

I LOVE NEW TOYS!

Whenever I am a good girl and get something new to chew or run with I am completely happy and just keep on running around and showing everyone my new belongings!

Last month I was a VIP guest at a morning tea organised especially for me to celebrate International Guide Dog Day! All Engineering staff at the Uni came to give me some cuddles and support Royal Guide Dogs. When Anna was telling everyone how great it is to be helping me become a Guide Dog and how well behaved I am, I just couldn't stop myself and started barking to agree!

It's so exciting whenever Anna or Marcin put my coat on me because I immediately know there will be something new and interesting to do. We go to a lot of places, have lunches with different people, go to the gym, workshops, I even slept in a hotel several times!

I'm lucky and I know it!

Hi!

My favourite thing is my nyla bone. I just love chewing it for hours and hours.

I have been very busy over the last three months. I have been an athletics official several times. Well, mum has done all the work, I just sat beside her! I won a couple of gold medals at the Tasmanian Athletics Championships too. Well, Danni did, I just got up on the podium with her!

I met some very nice nurses when I spent the day in hospital with Danni. I listened very attentively when her surgeon came in, but I am not very happy with him because whatever he did to her hip means she can't get down on the floor and play with me or give me belly rubs at the moment, and I have to be very careful of her "extra two legs", apparently they are called crutches!

I went to Danni's athletic club awards night and several people said they didn't realise I had been there all night, as I had been so quiet and good. Mum and dad were very proud of me.

Iris

Indi



▲ Iris' eyes are still smiling, a year after she was the Puppy Love covergirl. What a gorgeous, gorgeous girl.



▲ While Indi likes to travel, she still loves hanging out at home.

Date of Birth:
16 April 2012
Sibling: Indi
Region: South



▲ Iris and her tiger. Snuggle time is a wonderful thing.

Hello!

My favourite game is keepings off. I play it at home with Dad and also when I go to the beach. I run up to other dogs and pinch their stick or ball. Both the dog owner and the dog try to get it back but I stand over the top of the ball or stick so they can't get it. I also like to run off so they will chase me. On one occasion there was a brown Labrador with a stick and we played tug-o-war for about an hour while mum and dad chatted with the lady. Fortunately, everyone maintains a healthy sense of humour whenever I play this game!

Mum and Dad have just started a cleaning job at Sandy Bay. Last week I was due at a media event just after their job so I was allowed to wait in the backyard while they cleaned. The best part about that was I had a brand new friend to play with. My friend is a black female Labrador named Jazz. We had the best fun.

See you soon!

Date of Birth:
16 April 2012
Sibling: Iris
Region: South



▲ On one adventure, Indi got great tickets to the hottest show in town.

Hello everybody!

I turned one year old in April, and I now weigh 24kgs!

I've developed a love of travelling. At the beginning of April I was taken to Melbourne on a plane and we stayed over night in a hotel. I walked around the CBD and the only thing that gave me a fright was a horse standing in the gutter. I had never seen one before but now I know what to expect. I was so good that at the end of April, I went to Sydney on another plane and stayed for four days. It was busy and noisy, but again I was very good and always found our way back to the hotel. I was taken to see "War Horse", a play with big puppet horses... but I slept through it! I travelled on lots of buses and the underground train for the first time.

Back home we visited Agfest and met alpacas, sheep and more horses, and of course some of the other Guide Dog puppies.

Visit the 'Puppy Love - Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania' Facebook page for all the photos of Indi's adventures in Melbourne and Sydney.

Quinton

Quinnell



▲ While the newbies played inside the pen at Agfest, Quinton demonstrated model behaviour outside.



▲ Quinnell and best buddy, Tiger - looking out for each other.

Date of Birth:
5 Jan 2012
Sibling: Quinnell
Region: South



▲ Quinton cutting a fine figure in his Puppy Love coat.

Date of Birth:
5 Jan 2012
Sibling: Quinton
Region: South



▲ Quinnell is an absolute champ when it comes to recall.

Hi there!

One of my favourite things to do, now that I have learnt to swim, is chasing the waves at the beach.

My Puppy Raisers have gone overseas for six weeks, so I am very lucky and get to stay with a boarding family. My boarder mum takes me to work each day, and I love lying under her desk, and when I get the chance I spread out a bit and take over the office floor.

I went to Agfest to represent Royal Guide Dogs. A group of us came out each day and took it in turns being on the stand. We had our coats off so that people got to pat and cuddle us. It was very hard work being cuddled by so many people and promoting my job. I fell asleep very quickly each night when I got home. Agfest had lots of exciting things for me to look at while there, including dogs that got to run around and chase sheep into little pens, and even one that herded some ducks. They told me that was their job; if I did that in my job I think my mum would not be very happy with me!

See you in Spring!

G'day!

My favourite thing to do is run at Seven Mile Beach – feeling the soft sand between my toes, hearing the sound of the waves, and smelling the stinky seaweed.

My best friend Tiger has been sick, so I've been going to the vet with her a lot. She doesn't like to go but I sit by her, and when she comes out of her box I tell her it's all going to be okay by putting my nose in her stripy fur – she's very soft. When Tiger was very sick, I put all my toys near her where she could see them. My toys make me happy so I figured they'd make her happy too – even if she doesn't really like to play with them. And it must have worked because she started feeling better!

I love walking in my coat, exploring new places and meeting people. After hours of walking in my coat, I love to go for long free runs at the beach, in the bush, at parks and sports grounds. My puppy raisers wonder where I get the energy – maybe it's from the treats they put in my kong? Challenges and adventures make me happy!

Paws for Reflection...

Puppy Raisers

Welcome to all the new Puppy Raisers and Boarders joining our program over the past few months. We are always needing new volunteers in our Puppy Development Program so keep an eye out for free, no obligation, Puppy Raiser Information Sessions.

If you live within 20 kms of the Hobart and Launceston CBD, have some time, and want to make a difference, four little paw-steps at a time,

Phone: 1800 484 333

Web: royalguidedogs.com.au/how-you-can-help/volunteer

Information Sessions coming up in Hobart:

23 July; 24 September; 19 November.

RSVP Essential 1800 484 333

Yes, at these sessions we DO answer the FAQ: "how do we give them back?"

In Memory

Retired Guide Dog, Janie, sadly passed away in April. Janie provided 9 years of service to her client in Hobart, before retiring in 2009 into her client's care.

Janie will be well known to many Tasmanians, not only as a Guide Dog, but as the 'star' of one of Kirsty Pilkington's awesome greeting cards. Janie was a lucky and loved girl, and she had "an uncanny sense of knowing the time, because every night at precisely 9:30pm she headed straight for bed and waited to be tucked in under her blanket".

She will very be sadly missed.



Image of Janie, left, by kind permission (yet again!) of Kirsty Pilkington -

www.kirstypilkington.com.au

Pepper & Paddy:

Their adventure starts and ends with public support.

It takes a lot of people and costs \$30,000 to raise and train beautiful puppies like Pepper and Paddy 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 Royal 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

**PUPPY
LOVE**

...Paws for reflection



▲ Elsa and the gaint pumkins at Becks Hardware in Launceston. That's a lot of soup!



▲ Eddie doing his doggy eyes (off his bed).



▲ Cassie taking it easy in the foyer of the RGDT Hobart office.

Training dogs

It is a busy time in the training room with Casper, Cassie, Elsa and Eddie all in training. They are currently completing assessments and will enter the formal part of their training in the next few weeks, learning to wear a harness and the formal commands associated with the job.

Cassie settled into training quickly, and has learnt the new routine well. She is a joy to have in the office and at home, and apart from a little bit of anxiety related to certain types of travel, she is taking it all in her stride.

Casper continues to show a high distraction to dogs, and just cannot resist saying a very loud and powerful hello to any dog he sees on walks or going past home. Being such a strong dog it is hard to control at times, but we hope

that we see some improvement in this distraction in coming weeks.

Elsa looks so tiny sitting next to her 'giant' brother Eddie. It is lovely to have the siblings in training together, and any chance they get they will snuggle up to the trainer and each other. Elsa shows a little bit of shyness towards things touching her back, so takes a few minutes to get used to wearing her coat before a walk, but recovers quickly and on walks is progressing well.

Eddie recently stole everyone's hearts at Agfest. He is a big dog, but gentle, and the smaller children enjoyed his snuggles. He does like to try to get away with a few sneaky things, like when asked to go 'on his bed' if he lies where he is and does 'doggy' eyes at you, he may just get away with not moving! He is learning that maybe sometimes he should do as asked so

that he is not in the way for others walking around the training room.

Whiskey unfortunately did not outgrow his excitement, in particular around other dogs, and was withdrawn from the training program. He has been adopted out to a new home, and has been spotted enjoying the 'pet' life around Hobart and even visiting some of his old areas from his training days, running up to familiar people at dog parks in the local area. His over enthusiasm for just about everything meant he could not become a Guide Dog, but sure does mean he is making a lovely family pet.

P.S. Wendell is settling in extremely well with his new handler. We may now officially call him "Guide Dog Wendell". Well done, boy, we're very proud of you!

Guide Dogs Pet Insurance: Helps You. Helps Us.

At Royal 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 (even in the garden beds) 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

PUPlic Relations...



▲ Dexter, Zoe, Stay: huddling up at Agfest.



▲ Paddy at Agfest, from the perspective of a visitor.



▲ Elsa at Agfest, from the perspective of a visitor.

We've been busy!

Since the Autumn edition of Puppy Love, things have been Go Go Go for the pups at RGDT. As well as their own adventures and public appearances around the town in their coats, the puppies have been part of some pretty big gigs.

International Guide Dog Day:

We got all the southern pups together in the mall at lunch time on 24 April where they were an absolute hit! The rain held off, the newspapers and television news crews were there and the public went nuts when we introduced little Pepper and Paddy. We also had a special interview with our friends Jane and Mick at 7HoFM. It was a great day; it was perfect to celebrate International Guide Dog Day with good cheer.

Agfest:

Not everyone gets excited about standing in a tent in a paddock for three days. But, with all of our pups by our side, we don't find the experience too bad at all. Pepper, Paddy, Dexter and the whole gang lapped up the attention from May 2-4, and proved unbelievably popular with the Agfest punters.

Specsavers Super Saturday:

Linda and the team from Specsavers Hobart dresses as their favourite super hero to support our own little hero in the making, Pepper, on 18 May. Pepper held her own in her little blue coat, and certainly brought as much interest from passers by as Wonder Woman, Superman, Batman and the other marvelous characters.

Cutie Cups and Cutie Pups:

Guide Dog Ambassador, Dexter, was special guest at Cutie Cups Hobart in April as they raised funds for Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania. Special 'Pupcakes' were made and demand was so high that we're planning another Cutie Pups week in July... stay tuned to Facebook for up-to-the-minute details of where and when.



▲ The gang at International Guide Dog Day festivities.



▲ The line-up from left: Dex, Bella, Pepper and Wendell, with their humans, for International Guide Dog Day.



▲ The super Specsavers Hobart team, with our own little hero, Pepper.



▲ These Cutie Cups 'Pupcakes' are almost as adorable as Dexter...almost.

PUPlic Relations



Pepper and Paddy Puppy Appeal (that's a lotta P's)

RGDT launched the Pepper & Paddy Puppy Appeal in May and we'd like to thank everyone who has supported it.

The appeal not only seeks to raise funds online, but also to find new Puppy Raisers and Boarders.

To support the Pepper & Paddy Puppy Appeal, visit www.royalguidedogs.com.au

We'll send a beautiful Kirsty Pilkington 15-month calendar, featuring all of our amazing pups, as a small gesture of thanks to anyone who donates online until the end of the Appeal in June.

Puppy Love - Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania Facebook page

The **Puppy Love – Royal Guide Dogs Tasmania** Facebook page now has almost 300 likes. That's almost 300 friends from around the world who see the photos we can't fit into our newsletter or onto our website. We've recently featured 'specials' on Pepper and Paddy's arrival, International Guide Dog Day activities, Wendell's graduation, Indi's travels, and we're always posting news and photos about the adventures of Dexter, the Guide Dog Ambassador. We hope to see you there.

Secretly, we're hoping for 500 soon!

PUPPY LOVE

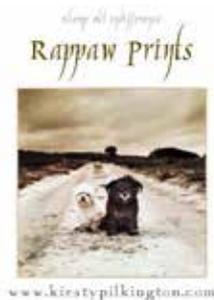
Proudly Supported By

Would you like to see your organisation's logo here?

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

Contact Kate on 1800 484 333 to chat about one of our Training, Graduate, or Companion "Puppy Love Sponsorships".

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



www.kirstypilkington.com

