

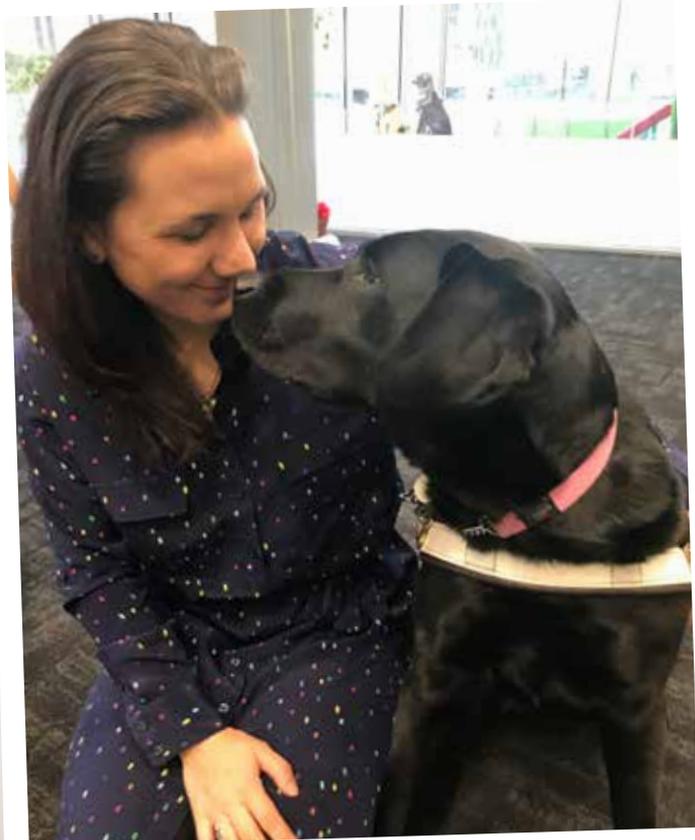


Sara's new "left eye"

For a long time, Sara Waitzer was determined not to share that she was vision impaired with those around her. She felt that if people knew, she would be labelled and disadvantaged.

When she was just five years old, Sara had surgery to remove part of a tumour in her optic nerve. Over the next three years she received treatment to prevent the tumour spreading. As a result, **Sara was left with tunnel vision in her right eye, and only light perception in her left.**

In her later teens, Sara realised she didn't want to hide her vision impairment any longer. It was part of her, and she was ready to make life easier for herself. It was during year 12 that Sara was matched with her first Guide Dog, Erin, and a world of opportunity suddenly opened up to her. But when Erin retired in 2015, **Sara wondered what her future would look like without her Guide Dog.**



Sara and Pepper

Along came Pepper

This question was answered in July 2016, in the form of a beautiful black Labrador named Pepper. **Any doubt Sara had about her future quickly vanished.**

Pepper has been a constant support for Sara in the most recent stage of her life; commencing work in Hobart as a child psychologist.

With the demands of the job having the potential to be exhausting for someone with low vision - including frequent travel between two locations in the state - **Sara can enjoy each day knowing she's got a constant companion by her side.**

"Pepper makes things so much easier and takes the pressure off me to always get things right"- Sara.

Pepper is so in tune with her handler that she constantly amazes Sara with her ability to pick up on where she wants to go, or even how she's feeling on a particular day.

The Guide News

Sara's new "left eye"

Continued from page 1

"Without even giving her a command, she'll know where I want to go, whether it's a different office, a coffee shop or the supermarket. It's quite impressive."



Sara and Pepper, a perfect match.

Sara says that Pepper can even pick up on her stress levels, and will alter her behaviour accordingly. She knows when to step back and give her handler some space to complete her own work, but knows equally when it's her time to step up and give Sara the support she needs.

Pepper's excitedness and interest in the world around her makes her an exceptional Guide Dog in challenging environments. And for a young woman like Sara, who doesn't always know what's behind the next corner, **Pepper is the perfect Guide Dog for her.**

"I love Pepper to bits, and I love that I have a constant companion in her. Having Pepper in my life makes things more possible."

Your ongoing support to Guide Dogs Tasmania will ensure more Tasmanians, like Sara, receive a life changing gift like Pepper.

More puppies, thanks to you

Over the last six months, we've welcomed Bailey, Frankie, Tyson and Gemma onto the Puppy Development Program in Tasmania, **bringing the total number of dogs currently in training to 20.**

It's exciting to think that 20 more Tasmanians will receive a life changing gift over the next two years. This is a substantial increase from the number of dogs on the program 12 months ago, and we're still waiting to meet seven more before the end of the year.

Guide Dog pups are raised and trained in Tasmania thanks to you, and others in the community just like you. Your donation, no matter how small or large, ensures Guide Dogs can be placed with Tasmanians of all ages living with disability.



Guide Dog pup Tyson. What a cutie!

Help raise a hero. Become a Puppy Love Member today!

For less than \$1 a day, your Puppy Love Membership will provide a life changing gift to a Tasmanian who is blind or vision impaired.

Call **1800 484 333** or go to **PUPPYLOVE.com.au**



The Guide News

Join our sup-PAW-t crew!

Put **Friday, 23 November** in your diary for the Guide Dogs Tasmania Street Appeal. **To make it a success, we need you!**

We want to raise over \$35,000 from people on the streets of Hobart and Launceston, to help a pup become a hero.

With several time-slots available, you should be able to find one that fits in with your day. Just like Aaron, who volunteered at last year's inaugural Street Appeal during the early morning.

“Being part of the Street Appeal was the most rewarding fundraising event I've participated in! I look forward to being involved again this year to hopefully raise even more” – Aaron.

To join the sup-paw-t crew, email kristy.wright@guidedogstas.com.au



Sup-PAW-t crew member, Aaron.

Archie is spreading joy in his new role

Every so often, a dog comes through our training program with a particular personality that makes them suitable for a slightly different role. **One of these dogs is Archie.**

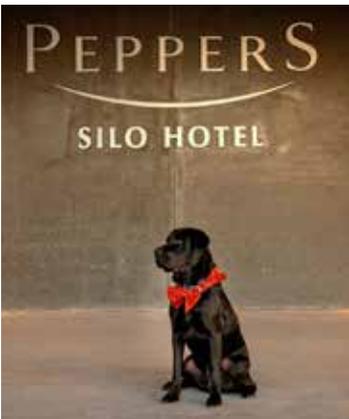
A little too enthusiastic at times, it was decided that Archie would be too difficult to control for someone with a disability. But Archie absolutely adores people, so what could he do that would still have a profound impact on someone's life? **Well, Archie isn't just changing one person's life. He's changing many!**

Archie is the first canine ambassador at the newly opened Silo Hotel in Launceston. His job is literally to make people happy. Every day, he greets guests from far and wide with his wagging tail and favourite toy in his mouth. For those missing a loved one (canine or human), you can only imagine the joy this brings to them.

But there's another important aspect to Archie's role. He continues to promote Guide Dogs Tasmania by sharing his journey with the people he meets, making him a wonderful ambassador for Guide Dogs, too!



You can share Archie's journey by following him on his Facebook page! Search for **Archie the Silo dog** and hit 'Like'.



Archie is making people smile everyday!

Help raise a hero. Become a Puppy Love Member today!

For less than \$1 a day, your Puppy Love Membership will provide a life changing gift to a Tasmanian who is blind or vision impaired.

Call **1800 484 333** or go to **PUPPYLOVE.com.au**



The Guide

Taking the lead

Jodie reunited with her gorgeous Iris

Earlier this year, Launceston's Jodie Jamieson was distraught at the possibility of losing her beautiful Guide Dog, Iris. Her companion had unexpectedly torn a cruciate ligament and required emergency surgery if she was to ever work again.

But the Tasmanian community pitched in with the cost of Iris' surgery and recovery, **and together raised over \$5,000** through an online appeal. Jodie was overwhelmed by the generosity of people, many who she didn't even know.

“Without Iris I would be lost. With Iris, I can go back to my normal life” – Jodie.

After almost two months apart, the pair were reunited at the end of June, and Iris is once again providing Jodie with mobility, safety, independence and companionship. Thank you!



Jodie has been reunited with her Guide Dog, Iris.

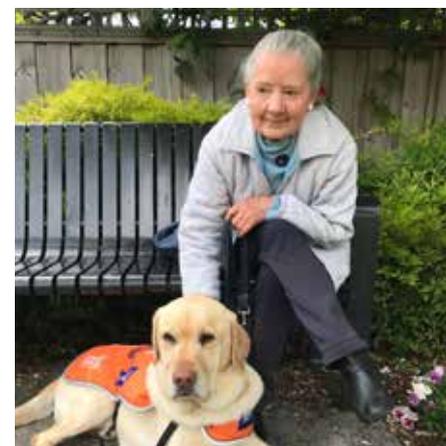
Your donation can change a life

When Judith Ker-Stout's friend passed away over 20 years ago, she made a decision to do something that would have a profound impact on someone else's life.

Her friend had regularly used the services of Guide Dogs Tasmania, and Judith had seen how, despite having a vision impairment, she was able to live an independent life. **Judith decided to help someone in a similar situation**, so she started to make an annual donation to Guide Dogs Tasmania, to fund a special dog for someone living with disability.

“Guide Dogs are beautiful dogs and I admire them and their handlers greatly. I think the whole organisation does a wonderful job” – Judith.

Like Judith, your donation to Guide Dogs Tasmania will change someone's life forever. To find out how you could help, email melanie.spunt@guidedogstas.com.au or call **1800 484 333**.



Judith with Guide Dogs Tasmania's Ambassador Dog, Dexter.

Want to get in touch with us?

Call: **1800 484 333**

Email: info@guidedogstas.com.au

Visit: guidedogstas.com.au

Post: **PO Box 82, North Hobart 7001
164 Elizabeth St, Hobart TAS**

Follow our pups:



facebook.com/guidedogstasmania
instagram.com/guidedogstasmania
LinkedIn and YouTube.

