

The newsletter for people who are creating change for Tasmanians.

Guide Dog Kirsty gives Jan a new lease on life, thanks to *you!*

It took Jan Spencer only a few weeks to realise that her new Guide Dog, Kirsty, was the perfect fit for her.

Thanks to you, the Sheffield resident has found a new lease on life with her confident young Labrador, who she was placed with just over three months ago.

“It’s amazing to have the confidence to go out walking by myself,” says Jan. “I feel so comfortable knowing that Kirsty is always watching out for me.”

Along with the simple pleasure of heading out for a walk whenever she likes, Jan - who was born blind - can face more challenging tasks now too.

With Kirsty guiding the way, Jan can navigate supermarkets and find her way through crowds of people without hesitation.

And thanks to you, Jan’s husband, Keith, no longer has to worry.

It’s not just her sweet nature or good looks that Keith is most delighted in with his wife’s new companion.

It’s knowing that Jan will always be safe when she’s with Kirsty that puts him most at ease.



Thank YOU
for making a
difference!



Jan Spencer and her Guide Dog, Kirsty

“I can walk across the road and leave Jan to do her own thing,” says Keith.

“Without a Guide Dog, my life would be very restricted. Thank you so much for giving Kirsty to me. I absolutely adore her”

Jan knows that if it wasn’t for the generosity of people like you, she would not have the same quality of life that she can enjoy today with Kirsty.

“Without a Guide Dog, my life would be very restricted,” says Jan.

“It’s a wonderful feeling to know that Jan has so much freedom with Kirsty.”

“With a Guide Dog, I have freedom. Thank you so much for giving Kirsty to me. I absolutely adore her!”

Rhonda's gift for the future

"It's not something you're going to see the results of in your lifetime, but it's about what you can do for someone in the future."

Rhonda Cronan volunteers once a week at Guide Dogs Tasmania's Launceston office. Every so often, she sees a puppy walking through in its training coat and thinks, "One day, one of them will change someone's life because of me."

The 70-year-old from Westbury has left a generous gift in her Will to Guide Dogs Tasmania that will give a Tasmanian living with disability a life changing dog after she's gone.

"It's a wonderful feeling, knowing that my gift will allow someone to have the freedom to be independent and enjoy their life."



Rhonda with her pet dog, Summer

"There are so many things that most of us take for granted... Getting up, going out, enjoying a coffee with friends," says Rhonda. "It's a wonderful feeling, knowing that my gift will allow someone to have the freedom to be independent and enjoy their life."

Guide Dogs Tasmania relies on people like Rhonda to ensure every Tasmanian who need a Guide, Therapy or Companion Dog can be placed with one, well into the future. To discuss leaving a gift of your own in your Will, contact Melanie today: **(03) 6232 1261** or **Melanie.Spunt@guidedogstas.com.au**

Logan has a special message, just for you...



Logan

When Logan Shepperd lost his sight two years ago in an awful accident, he also lost his freedom.

After 10 months in hospital, 18 trips to surgery and more than his fair share of setbacks, the 21-year-old is finally back home, learning to rebuild his life.

Logan shared his story through our Christmas Appeal last year, in the hope that it would inspire others to help a Tasmanian who desperately needs a Guide Dog.

He was delighted to hear that because of people like you, over \$20,000 has been raised so far, to help train a life changing dog.

"Thank you for caring and showing your support to a Tasmanian in need."

"I'm so glad my experience will help another Tasmanian receive a Guide, Therapy or Companion Dog," says Logan.

"Thank you for caring and showing your support to a Tasmanian in need."

Logan is currently working with our Guide Dog Mobility Instructors, continuing his journey to prepare for a Guide Dog of his own one day.

"To have the freedom to walk anywhere I want with a Guide Dog would just be great," says Logan.

photo credit: Brodie Weeding - The Advocate

Sign up to our e-news for more up to date information!
guidedogstas.com.au



Meet your latest puppies!

Millie

Date of Birth: 26 August, 2018

Lives: Hobart

Paw-sonality: Confident, clever, energetic. PAW-fect traits for a future Guide Dog!

Favourite thing: Snuggles with her Puppy Raisers, who you can see to the right! This was taken on the first day they

met - and collected - Millie from Guide Dogs. Don't they look happy? Who can blame them!



You can be part of a special group of people and have the chance to meet your pups!
Visit puppylove.com.au



Millie and her Puppy Raisers!

Merran

Date of Birth: 26 August, 2018

Lives: Hobart (which means regular catch ups with her sister!)

Paw-sonality: Quick learner and playful! A great combo :-)

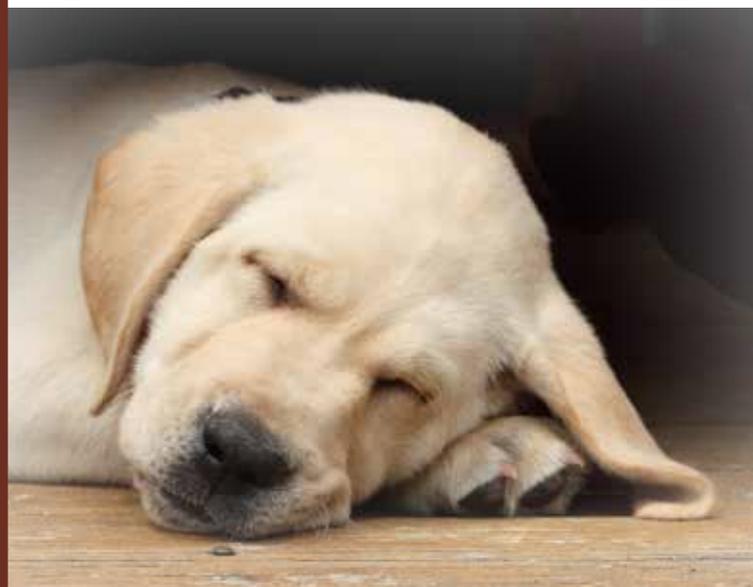
Named after: Guide Dog handler Merran Thurley, who celebrated 50 years of Guide

Dog mobility in 2018! Check out the photo of Merran the pup meeting Merran the client, to the right!



Merran meeting Merran!

Create a gift that lasts longer... It's easier than you think.



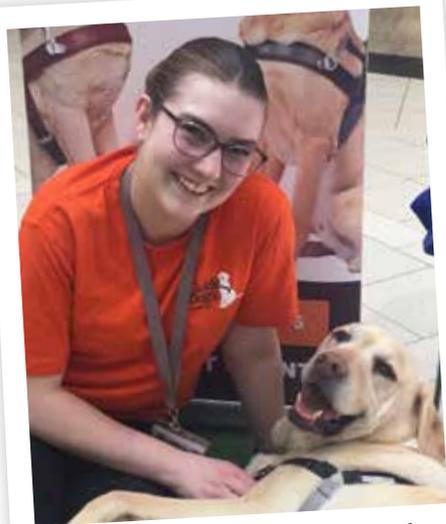
Bequests are the greatest commitment that you, as a loyal supporter, can make to Tasmanians living with disability.

Today, we hope you will take the time to make the important decision to include Guide Dogs Tasmania in your Will, and change someone's life forever.

To find out more, contact Melanie Spunt on (03) 6232 1222 or bequest@guidedogstas.com.au

"Together, we can build a brighter future."

“Volunteering is my opportunity to help others...”



Guide Dogs Tas volunteer Zoe with Ambassador Dog Dexter

Zoe Stott says volunteering is something that everyone should experience at some point in their life...

“There are people in the world who don’t have as many benefits in life as you do, or the same opportunities that you have,” says Zoe.

“When you volunteer, you see the world differently, and it makes you understand it a bit more.”

Giving a few hours of her time each week to help with fundraising events at Guide Dogs Tasmania, the 20-year-old says volunteering allows her to relax, switch off her “university brain”, and do something productive with her spare time.

Use your skills to
change someone’s life!
Call (03) 6232 1222
and ask about
volunteering today.



“When I hear how Guide Dogs are giving people the freedom to get around safely, it makes me really appreciate that volunteering is my opportunity to help others.”

And the more time she spends helping out with Guide Dogs Tasmania, the more Zoe can see the benefits that come from giving her time to the organisation.

“When I hear how Guide Dogs are giving people the freedom to get around safely, it makes me really appreciate that volunteering is my opportunity to help others,” says Zoe.

Rob finds his way with a Guide Dog

When Rob Whyte was placed with his first guide dog 10 years ago, it transformed his life.

With a young family to look after and many errands to run, Rob found using a white cane was mentally taxing and isolating.

“The community tended to avoid me,” he says.

But when his first guide dog came along, Rob found a new way to travel, experience life and enjoy social interactions. It was the start of a new way of life.

“Dogs are a wonderful ice breaker for people to start a conversation with you, and they work so well for straight line travel, road crossings, finding regular locations, shop counters and more,” says Rob.

“Guide Dogs have given me the freedom to engage with my family and the community.”

Thanks to your support, Guide Dogs Tasmania matched Rob with Jerry, a beautiful black Labrador, late last year. With Jerry guiding him, Rob is looking forward to a future full of opportunity and choice.



Rob with his Guide Dog, Jerry

Call: 03 6232 1222

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**Guide
Dogs**
TASMANIA