

November 2025

NEWSLETTER

LATEST NEWS FROM LIONS ASSISTANCE DOGS



Eddie Departs P.6

Eddie finally left full-time training, joining his siblings as a working Assistance Dog!



Welcome to the family!
Aria's Litter
P.5

Lap The Map 2025 P.11

Check out the incentives on offer for 2025.



A message from our CEO.

Welcome all to our final newsletter of 2025. As we approach the end of a record-breaking year, in which we will see the delivery of **41** Assistance Dogs, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on our recent achievements and express my gratitude to everyone who has played a part in a fantastic year.

In September, we hosted our first-ever Assistance Dog Graduation. It was an incredible day filled with familiar and new faces. The ceremony celebrated several of our hardworking pups and the dedicated people who helped them through their journey. Our Chairperson, PDG Norm Alcock and I had the pleasure of speaking to an audience of recipients, supporters, volunteers, and members of the wider community. However, the highlight of the day was hearing from recipient Kerry and her Assistance Dog Harley. An emotional and inspiring story that serves as a reminder of the life-changing impact of our work.

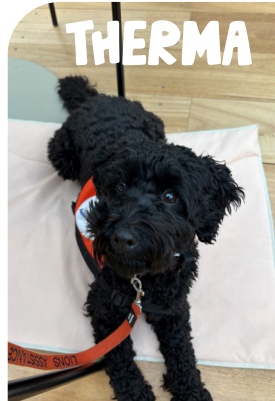
October marked the final preparations for Lap the Map 2025, with Lions Clubs and individuals across Australia already showing incredible passion and commitment. Seeing the Lions community support our mission yet again before the launch date of November 1st has been truly inspiring, as always, your support keeps our organisation alive to help those in need.

As 2025 draws to a close, I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported Lions Assistance Dogs this year through gifting, volunteering, or spreading the word, your generosity enables us to continue transforming lives.

On behalf of our entire team, I wish you a safe, happy, and relaxed holiday season. We look forward to an exciting 2026 and all that lies ahead.

Yours in Service,
PCC David Horne
 Chief Executive Officer

MADDIE'S LITTER

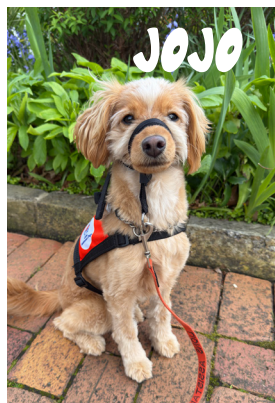


It is crunch time for Therma, Sally, Jojo and Harvey. They approach the end of their training journey and eagerly await the next chapter!

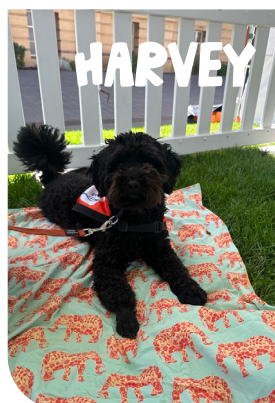
Therma has had a standout month, passing both her Sound Assessment and Public Access Test with flying colours. She is now fine-tuning her skills for her future recipient.



Sally has followed closely behind, also passing her final assessments and demonstrating calm confidence during public outings. This includes a relaxed café visit and her first bus trip.



Jojo is working hard on her final training, refining her sound work and practising calm behaviour in busy environments. Her trainers have said her temperament and eagerness to please make her training fun and easy!



Harvey has also passed his Public Access Test and is preparing for his final Sound Assessment. He's thriving with his Bed and Breakfast family, enjoying training, outings, and a good mix of playtime.

We're so proud of this special litter as they prepare to begin their life-changing roles as Lions Assistance Dogs. If you wish to sign up to receive monthly updates, please visit;

<https://lionsassistedogs.com.au/membership/>

MEET OUR NEWEST RECRUITS!

BRUNO

IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Remember our tiny chihuahua Bruno? He is still pocket sized but packs the confidence of a giant as he enters full-time training to become a Hearing Assistance Dog!



JAMIE

Sponsored and named by
Peter and Megan



IZZY

Sponsored and named by
**SA Power Networks
Employee Foundation**



MILTON

Sponsored and named by
**Lions Club of Torrens
Valley Inc**



SNOOPY

Sponsored and named by
Karen



LENNOX

Sponsored and named by
Marjorie



WEBSTER

Sponsored and named by
**Lions Club of Battunga
Country Inc**



ASHWIN

Sponsored and named by
**Lions Club of Angle Vale
Inc**



QUINN

Sponsored and named by
**Lions Club of Queanbeyan
Inc**



ALFIE

Sponsored and named by
**Lions Club of South
Vermont Inc**



Accreditations



Mackie

Breeding Program

- Sponsored and named by Lions Club of Inverell Macintyre Inc
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Yeppoon Inc
- Fostered by Veronica



Woody

Breeding Program

- Sponsored and named by Kay
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Toowoomba Inc
- Fostered by Bronte



Cece

Breeding Program

- Sponsored and named by Seaford Community Centre
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Burwood & Strathfield Inc
- Fostered by Chris & Barrie



Ollie

Breeding Program

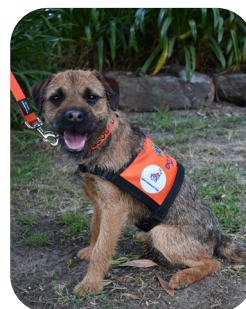
- Sponsored and named by Lions Club of Murrumbateman Inc
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Murray Bridge City Inc
- Fostered by Maxine & Paul



Peter

Gumhaven Kennels

- Sponsored and named by Peter & Megan
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Cleve District Inc
- Fostered by Rebecca



Pinky

Breeding Program

- Sponsored and named by Lions Club of Sydney Waratah Inc
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Elizabeth Playford Inc
- Fostered by Indiana



Bentley

Cherishem Border Terriers

- Sponsored and named by Marjorie
- Delivery supported by Lions Club of Noble Park-Keysborough Inc
- Fostered by Trudy & Georgia

A photograph of two small, scruffy puppies with brown and black fur standing on a green lawn. The puppy on the left is facing left, and the puppy on the right is facing right. A white arrow points from the name 'Milton' to the puppy on the left, and another white arrow points from the name 'Izzy' to the puppy on the right. A metal bowl is partially visible on the left side of the frame.

Milton

Izzy

Aria's Litter

Halfway through August we were blessed with a special delivery of two new pups at the National Training Centre here in the Adelaide Hills.

Both Izzy and Milton were apart of Aria's first ever litter. Playful, cheeky and very energetic little pups, they quickly became staff favourites. Both pictured here, they were stars of a little photoshoot done in September, absolutely loving the spotlight.

Since August both pups have gone onto starting their journey in the Puppy Program, recently being placed with foster families, their exciting journey to becoming Assistance Dogs begins!



FAREWELL EDDIE

As you may remember from the last edition of our newsletter, Eddie and his siblings, Babs and Vino, were nearing the end of their journey here at the National Training Centre. Since then, Babs and Vino have been delivered to their recipients, while Eddie remained with us a little longer. He was delivered later, making him the last of Mollie's litter to begin the next chapter as an Assistance Dog. During his extra time at the Centre, Eddie continued to work hard and quickly became a favourite among staff.

Throughout his final weeks with us, Eddie's trainer Nick focused on preparing him for delivery, ensuring he was confident in all the tasks required of a Psychiatric Assistance Dog and packing everything needed for his journey. Eddie has shown a natural ability to learn and perform his tasks throughout his time in full-time training, displaying a calm nature, strong working drive and caring temperament. As a Psychiatric Assistance Dog, the ability to show care, calmness and composure is essential as these qualities play a vital role in supporting his recipient.

Before departing, Eddie also participated in a professional photoshoot, showcased in this article. This was a fun opportunity to capture the skills and task work Eddie had been developing for his recipient. On the 29th of September, Eddie left the National Training Centre to begin his life as a Psychiatric Assistance Dog. He was fully prepared for the responsibilities of an Assistance Dog and we had complete confidence that he would provide support, security and independence to his new recipient. We could not be prouder of Eddie and are excited for this next chapter in his journey!





Hearing Assistance Dog Program

MEET THE TENTERFIELD TERRIERS

Firstly we have Robbie. You'll find that all three pups here love to work, none more so than Robbie. Robbie is currently being trained by Sarah, who describes him as confident and energetic (as most Tenterfield Terriers are). Recently in September, Robbie had the opportunity to demonstrate to a community group of 35 people which he absolutely excelled at! This was a first for Robbie and a test of his training so far. He approached the situation with curiosity and bravery, ultimately loving the attention and the spotlight.

Next up we have cheeky little Burnie, who unlike Robbie is a little further down the track to become a fully qualified Hearing Assistance Dog. Burnie recently passed both his Sound Assessment and Public Access Test in October, ultimately preparing him for his delivery to his recipient.

Since then, he has been working on refining his skills for delivery, but making sure to have some fun in the meantime. Trainer Nikki took him on a boat! Although stationary, he got the chance to feel the rocking, and he absolutely loved it.

Burnie is a very strong-minded pup, tackling anything that comes his way with enthusiasm and confidence. He will be delivered very soon and we have the utmost faith that he will be an incredible Assistance Dog.



Last but not least we have Taz. Taz is still in the earlier stages of training, and is showing good promise to becoming a Hearing Assistance Dog. He and his trainer James have been focusing on the essentials over the past few months. Taz's training includes the early stages of sound training, casual free walks and working on settling nicely in the training environment.

Although he is in early stages, he is quite a quick learner, picking things up fast. Again, this is an example of the eagerness of Tenterfield Terriers. If he keeps up this good work the future looks very bright for him!

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE DOG PROGRAM

Zena

There's a lot of talk of staff favorites in this edition of the newsletter, but because of her extremely gentle nature, kind heart and willingness to work, Zena really is a favourite to not just us, but anyone she meets. By the time you will be reading this article, Zena would have left the National Training Centre and begun her journey as a Diabetic Alert Dog. It has been a long time coming for her and will be a sad goodbye but something we are extremely proud of!

Back in September Zena, was one of the stars of our first ever Assistance Dog Graduation event, held nearby to the National Training Centre in Hahndorf. You can see Zena's graduation photo on the top right here. She was in the spotlight, joining some of the other graduates on stage to receive her official Assistance Dog uniform and pose for a special photo. It was a very successful and emotional day, seeing the fruition of her hard work come to a close. The whole time she was calm and composed and loved the experience.

In the lead up to her eventual delivery, Zena has had an exciting visit to the airport, to get used to the busy environment, sights and sounds. For any dog this can be a big test as it is loud and full of a lot of distractions, but Zena, loved it. For her it was a fun little adventure and she got to enjoy the excursion outside of the office. With Zena passing all her tests in the past few months, she has been working on refining her skills for her future recipient, a stage any Assistance Dog goes through as they near the end of their training journey. She is continuing on strong and has shown no signs of slowing down.

Zena's departure at the end of this year is a perfect reflection of the amazing work that we do, an outstanding dog going to a loving recipient after a prosperous year. It is the perfect story to tell and we couldn't be more excited for her and hopeful that we will have a few more trainees like Zena down the track!



ITS CHRISTMAS TIME

Which means our online store is loaded with Christmas merch that you can purchase now! Complete with **dog toys, christmas cards** and **christmas stockings**, be sure to pick some up now so you dont miss out.

www.lionsassistedogs.com.au/shop/



\$6 pack of 5

\$12 pack of 10



\$25

\$7



CLASS OF 2025

This year we hosted our first ever Assistance Dog Graduation event where we held a ceremony to celebrate some of the star pups that have been in training throughout 2025. It was a brilliant event with speeches from CEO David, Chairperson Norm and recipient Kerry with her Hearing Assistance Dog Harley. Here are some of the photos from the event!



Haven't registered yet? It's never too late! Head to, www.lapthemap.com.au to register today. Remember, every dollar you raise through Lap the Map funds the placement of Diabetic Alert Dogs to people living with type 1 diabetes.

Raise \$150

Raise \$100

Raise \$300



HAVE YOU UNLOCKED YOUR LAP THE MAP REWARDS YET?

Register with your dog and raise **\$100** to unlock the silicone treat pouch.

Raise **\$150** and you will score a Lap The Map drink bottle.

Raise **\$300** to unlock the Lap The Map cap!



BECOME A PUPPY CARER

MAXINE & PAUL

'To anyone considering becoming a foster carer, we wholeheartedly encourage you to get involved'



MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND JUMPSTART THE LIFE OF A FUTURE **ASSISTANCE DOG!**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE REACH OUT TO **INFO@LIONSASSISTANCEDOGS.COM.AU**

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4.6 OUT OF 5 STARS



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