

Listen Up!

Hearing Dogs



SEPTEMBER 2018

Lynne and Gem

Blenheim has a new hearing dog in Gem, an energetic little Bichon/Shih Tzu cross. Recently handed over to Lynn Barrie, Gem is Lynn's constant companion six months after finding out about Hearing Dogs through a friend in Invercargill.

Lynn was born with hearing loss and is now completely deaf in her left ear, with limited hearing in her right ear. She wears "fancy hearing aids" whereby her left one transmits sound to her right one. She also makes a conscious effort to look at people's faces when they are talking to her, so she can read their lips.

"Gem is great company and alerts me if people are walking past my place or if the phone rings or someone is at the door," Lynn explains. "Everywhere I go, people like to stop and chat to us, and we have met some lovely people through our walks. Gem is with me 24/7. Going shopping with Gem is great as she sits so patiently, you would think she knows what I need."

Gem is a bit of a novelty in Blenheim and gets a lot of attention in particular when Lynn is with her in the CBD because dogs are not permitted in that part of town. "People are most curious when we are in the city. When they see Gem's jacket, they are very interested in what she does," Lynn explains. "Her biggest love is going out for lunch. She is forever hopeful she will get a tidbit, but I have to tell people that is a no-no. Most people are very understanding."

"Our favourite thing is going for a morning walk down the Taylor River. She meets other dogs and it keeps me fit. The river walk is beautiful all year round," says Lynn. We can see that Gem and Lynn are going to be a wonderful partnership.



Welcome to Josh

Josh is a male Labrador Retriever who came to us from Guide Dogs after being withdrawn from their programme.

Josh is a very sweet dog who is lovely on lead, and he loves children and other animals. He has been a great companion for Iris who is also from Guide Dogs. Josh has been a star in the training house and will make one recipient very happy at the completion of his training.

Feedback from trainer Delwyn is very positive: "Josh is a very handsome Labrador who is very well-mannered and gentle. Sound work training is going well, and he not only likes to be rewarded with tasty treats but also a good old tummy rub!"



Fonterra puppy naming competition

Thank you for the ongoing support through the Fonterra Grass Roots Fund. We recently received a grant through the programme to sponsor one of our new puppies. As part of this sponsorship, Fonterra Grass Roots Fund also ran a competition through their Facebook page to name this gorgeous new puppy who was born 29th March 2018.

After the votes were counted, we are pleased to announce the name of this little Cavalier King Charles Spaniel ... say hello to Brie! Brie is currently being socialised and will begin her formal training towards the end of this year.



 It's the 20th Anniversary of Hearing Dogs NZ this year - more details coming soon!

Dawn and Ashby

It was being turned down for a cochlear implant that led Dawn Chitty to apply for a hearing dog. A brochure on the wall of the clinic caught her eye and she was advised to look into it.

Dawn suffers from severe tinnitus. "There is nothing more they can do for me," Dawn explains. "I have spent a lot of money and hope on hearing aids that do not work. I mainly lip read and reply on the Captel telephone service. I applied for a cochlear implant, but they advised it would not work for me as my hearing loss was so bad ... I would get sound but no speech."

After the death of her much-loved dog, Dawn was keen to get another dog, although "I wasn't sure if I was getting over the loss of my last one".

A year later, Dawn is the proud recipient of gorgeous Ashby. "He is great at alerting me to the sounds he is trained for. He is a very intelligent dog, he can be playful but also knows his work role. He is constantly watching me and my movements."

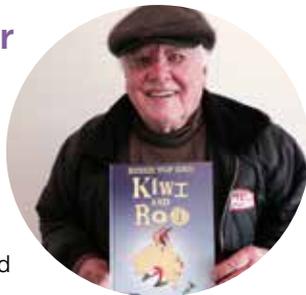
"He is fantastic company and my constant companion. I feel safer with him around and not as lonely. He has such a wonderful personality that is commented on by so many people. He is good in the home and you can take him anywhere. He loves his walks, and rides in the car."

"I never thought I could love another dog after my last one, but Ashby is so special. I appreciate all the work and dedication the team put into training the hearing dogs."



Kiwi & Roo author

You might be wondering just who is the author of our fundraising Kiwi & Roo books? Bruce Newcomb is a Hearing Dogs volunteer socialiser of over 10 years who turned his hand to writing books. Bruce has been generous enough to donate many of these to Hearing Dogs to enable us to raise funds from the sale of the books. The first of the four books was written in 2013 and all are self-published. Over 17,000 copies have sold in New Zealand and overseas.



"When I volunteered over 10 years ago to assist with sound training for the dogs at the Hearing Dogs training centre, I realised that much-needed funds were scarce. This was still top of my mind when I published my first book. I therefore made a book donation to help things along and have continued to do so throughout the series."

The books are aimed at both children and "adults young-at-heart who want a quick, satisfying read that triggers happy memories," explains Bruce.

Bruce is a retired banker based in New Plymouth who, when he's not writing books, enjoys spending time with his dog and having fun with art.

Sponsor a Hearing Dog

It costs approximately \$30,000 to train every dog put through the Hearing Dog training programme.

Sponsoring this training can be a great way for a commercial organisation, social club, service club, or simply a group of individuals, to really make a difference in the deaf community – and to become actively involved in the charitable work your funds are enabling.

Dog Training sponsorship provides the following benefits:

- The Dog Training Sponsor may name their Hearing Dog.
- The Dog Training Sponsor will be invited to the Hearing Dog Training Centre in New Plymouth while their sponsored dog is in training.
- Dog Training Sponsor's logo (if appropriate) will be linked (if appropriate) to the Dog Training Sponsor's website.
- Editorial about the Dog Training Sponsor's involvement with Hearing Dogs will appear in the quarterly newsletter.
- The Dog Training Sponsor's support will be acknowledged in the Annual Report of Hearing Dogs, along with their logo (if appropriate).
- The Dog Training Sponsor will receive a framed certificate and photograph of their Hearing Dog acknowledging their support.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a sponsor, please contact Nicole Segar nicole@hearingdogs.org.nz for more information.



Dogs in Training



Meet our trainees and learn about their special personalities

COOPER:

Cooper is now halfway through his training and is working out to be a wonderful dog. A lovely cavoodle with a very loving, gentle nature. When Cooper spends time in the office, he enjoys playing with the soft toys and will often put them back in the toy basket when finished.



ARCHIE:

This wee man is a Maltese/Shih Tzu cross who has just come into training. He is a little timid and is yet to be assessed, but we hope he will find a little courage soon.



DEE:

This delightful Bichon/Shih Tzu cross has just come into training and is yet to be assessed. She is certainly full of character and will keep us on our toes!



ELSA:

Elsa is a Cavoodle/Toy Poodle cross and is at the beginning of her training. She is such a sweet little girl who just wants to please.



RIGBY:

A.K.A Wriggly, this busy boy is also not far into his training. He is a very smart Cavoodle/Sydney Silky cross. He has energy to burn and loves to play 'catch me if you can' with the other trainees!



IRIS:

Iris has settled in very quickly, and enjoys running around with her friend Josh. When out in town, she displays impeccable behaviour and wonderful manners at all times. She's always polite and friendly when meeting people. In the park, she is respectful of all the ducks swimming on the lake. She has a beautiful temperament and is a lovely dog.



SOCIALITES

Here are 9 adorable puppies who are being socialised until they are old enough to graduate to the Training Centre:

- 1 **Brie** - Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- 2 **Ebony** - Miniature Poodle
- 3 **Finn** - Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- 4 **Lander** - Cavoodle
- 5 **Zoro** - Shih Tzu
- 6 **Ollie** - Maltese/Shih Tzu cross
- 7 **Rocket** - Toy Poodle/Shih Tzu cross
- 8 **Tilly** - Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- 9 **Tink** - Bichon/Toy Poodle cross



NEWS IN BRIEF

New Car for Hearing Dogs

Thank you to Lion Foundation and Four Winds Foundation for their continued support of Hearing Dogs. We recently received grants from both foundations to support a new car purchase that will enable our Training Centre team to be out and about more with the dogs in training. Thank you also to North Harbour Ford who gave us a great deal on the purchase price of the car, as well as shipping it to New Plymouth free of charge. If you see us around New Plymouth, do come and say hello.

Want to receive our newsletter via email?

Please help us save money and sign up to our newsletter: <http://hearingdogs.simplicitycrm.com/join/>

Leaving a Legacy to Hearing Dogs

Recently, we have received a few queries regarding Bequests for Hearing Dogs. Leaving a legacy to Hearing Dogs can be a great way of supporting our Trust in the future. However, you may not know how to incorporate such wishes in your will. The easiest way of doing this is by a Codicil (an amendment or addendum to your existing will) or incorporating appropriate wording into any new will you are drawing up. We advise all those considering making a Bequest to contact their lawyer, who will ensure they are correctly advised about incorporating their wishes in their will.

Thank You!



Can you help?

Yes, I would like to sponsor a puppy
Please send an application pack to:

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Yes, I would like to make a donation:

Amount: \$

Direct Debit:
HD Bank Account # 12 3026 0086096 00

Cheque enclosed
(Please make cheques payable to Hearing Dogs NZ)

Or please debit my credit card

Visa Mastercard

Card No.

Name: Expiry: /

Signature: Tick for receipt:

Donations of \$5 or more are tax deductible.
Receipts will be sent upon request.

Yes, I would like to purchase a Kiwi and Roo Book - \$16 each

Quantity: Amount: \$

Total amount (a contribution towards postage is appreciated) \$

Donate online with **SIMPLICITY!**

Here is our brand new donation page. This is fully integrated into our bank account and 100% of the donation comes directly to Hearing Dogs NZ. The form was designed by Simplicity Australasia Ltd.

Donate today:

<http://www.hearingdogs.simplicitycrm.com/Donation/>

Sponsors



B E N
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Community Trusts and Supporters



Alexander Harold Watson Trust
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Thank you!

Thank you so much for your help...

We receive no government funding and rely on the generosity of the public, sponsors and volunteers like you.