

# Guide Dogs WA



**Help guide their future...**  
with a gift in your Will

# The greatest gift, the gift of independence

Thank you for considering including a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs WA. Your gift, whether large or small, will help provide more Guide and Assistance Dogs to West Australians who need them in the future. Your generosity will change their lives.

It is very easy to leave a gift by simply including Guide Dogs WA as a beneficiary in your Will. Your gift will stay in Western Australia and be used to help provide Guide and Assistance Dogs to people living with low or no vision, disability or illness.

This booklet contains information about our Guide and Assistance Dogs, how to include a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs WA and an invitation to attend events such as Guide Dog graduations.

Guide Dogs are calm, loyal and intelligent, trained through positive reinforcement and care over a two-year journey.

# Independence on four legs



Anne Kent with her first Guide Dog Terry.

Terry was one of the first Guide Dogs trained in Western Australia and indeed Australia. In 1952, she was matched with Anne who had vision problems from quite a young age and then became completely blind following an operation to remove a tumour on the optic nerve.



Gary and Guide Dog Terry.

Anne went on to have seven Guide Dogs during her life. She then kindly left a gift in her Will to Guide Dogs WA so that someone could benefit from a Guide Dog in the same way that she did. Her gift was put towards the sponsorship of a puppy in training, called Terry in memory of her first Guide Dog. Terry graduated as a working Guide Dog in 2021.





Knowing that you're helping to provide and support more of these wonderful dogs is guaranteed to bring a smile to your face.

# Life-changing companions

**For more than 70 years, Guide Dogs WA has provided life-changing Guide and Assistance Dogs for West Australians living with low or no vision, disability or illness. Every dog matched provides personalised support, to have the greatest impact on each person's life. So all West Australians can live the life they want.**

Our Guide and Assistance Dogs provide people with so much more than just independence, freedom, safety and opportunity. They become loyal and loved companions.

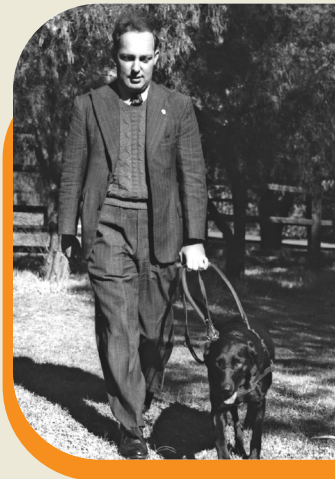
Every puppy that joins the pack will change a life. It takes more than two years and costs more than \$50,000 to train a Guide or Assistance Dog. Each dog that enters our Training Program is carefully assessed throughout their training and a career is chosen that best suits their skills, abilities and characteristics. This may include selection as a Guide Dog, Autism Assistance Dog, Facility Dog, Therapy Dog or as a Brood Dog.

## Guide Dog Program

Dr Arnold Cook brought the first Guide Dog, Dreena, to Australia when he returned to Perth after completing his studies in the UK. He felt that other people would benefit from “the pleasure and independence” of having a Guide Dog and so was a driving force in establishing the Guide Dog movement here in WA in 1951.

More than 70 years later Guide Dogs WA is still training Guide Dogs for Western Australians who need them.

Guide Dogs are specially trained to support people living with low or no vision. They help people retain their independence, increase confidence and social interaction, allow for greater participation in work, study or recreational activities and provide a sense of safety.



Dr Arnold Cook  
with his first Guide  
Dog Dreena.

Guide Dogs are calm, loyal and intelligent. Skills include helping their Handler to avoid obstacles, stopping at kerbs and steps and assisting with locating destinations such as traffic lights, chairs and doors.

In 2022 Guide Dogs WA welcomed it's first litter of puppies born and bred in WA. One of these puppies is called Arnold in grateful memory of Dr Arnold Cook.

**“I thought that Johnnie would help just with the dangerous situations, but he’s helped our family with so much more. It’s lifestyle for Harrison, and us as a family.”**

Anna, mother of eight year old Harrison.



## **Autism Assistance Dog Program**

Autism Assistance Dogs help improve the quality of life for children living with Autism and their families. Helping to support children with social and motor skills, safety, companionship and emotional support.

Autism Assistance Dogs can help calm children as well as assist with improving sleep, easier transition to new or different environments and reduce isolation by removing many challenges associated with social interactions and outings.

## **Facility Dog Program**

Facility Dogs are highly trained dogs that undertake specific, skilled tasks in a variety of different situations within a facility environment. Facility Dogs work in offices, courts, educational settings and many other places.

Each Facility Dog receives tailored training for the type of facility they will attend. Facility Dogs can reduce stress and anxiety, improve speech and memory function and improve physical and mental wellbeing.

# Michael and Guide Dog Dunkley

**Diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa at 31 years of age, Michael's vision gradually deteriorated as the years went on.**

Michael had always lived a fit, active, and social lifestyle until his vision forced him to give up his career, his freedom to drive, and his enjoyment in his beloved sport of lawn bowls diminished. As life changed considerably, Michael decided to apply for a Guide Dog and he has never looked back.

Michael and his first Guide Dog Ida worked together until she was around ten years of age. Then in 2021, following the retirement of Guide Dog Ida, Michael was matched with a new Guide Dog named Dunkley. Both dogs were raised in Western Australia and trained by Guide Dog WA.

Thanks to having a Guide Dog, Michael says his life is much more mobile and independent, and he has the confidence to access his community like others are able to.

**“Without a Guide Dog I think I would've been much more in a shell, more reliant on other people. And, I just know that my life has been enriched because of having a Guide Dog.”**

“That’s the wonderful part about having a Guide Dog. I can walk down the street at the same pace as anybody else does. So life for me that way is quite wonderful. Dunkley works exceptionally well, and he’s such a knowing dog, especially with all the routes that we do.”

Michael and Guide Dog Dunkley.



The unusual name of Dunkley came about thanks to the support of a generous Western Australian who left a gift in her Will to Guide Dogs WA. Dunkley was the lady’s middle name.

**“We are so grateful for people who do leave a gift in their Will to Guide Dogs WA. The donations that Guide Dogs WA receives are so important and valuable to people like myself. If those donations weren’t forthcoming, I would not have a Guide Dog and many other people who live with vision impairment wouldn’t have a Guide Dog.”**

# A gift in your Will touches the future

**Your Will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. Of course, when preparing your Will, your priority will be to provide for any loved ones.**

Not many people are asked or are aware that they can also include causes that are close to their heart as beneficiaries in their Will.

This is called a gift in Will (also known as a Bequest or Legacy), and the following pages will explain how easy it is to include a very special gift in your Will to Guide Dogs WA.

A gift in your Will is the ultimate expression of generosity, as it is the gift that keeps on giving – long after you are able to do so personally.

It stands as a legacy to your memory, and one that has the power to change the lives of Western Australians beyond your lifetime.



Margaret and Guide Dog Dalton

## What is a gift in Will?

You can leave a gift in your Will simply by including Guide Dogs WA as one of your beneficiaries.

Writing your Will is easier than you think. Many people ask a legal adviser to help them write or update their Will. If you have a simple Will then you can also consider using online will-writing platforms.

Guide Dogs WA is very grateful for all gifts that it receives, whether large or small. Where we receive a generous gift of \$50,000 or more, a puppy is named in your honour. Some options for leaving a gift are to:

- Give a percentage of your whole estate, or a percentage of your residual estate after other gifts have been made.
- Give the remainder or residuary of your estate after all other gifts have been made.
- Give a specific asset such as property, shares or other items of value.
- Give a specified amount of cash (known as a pecuniary gift).
- Specifically sponsor one or more dogs at a cost of \$50,000 each.

**Guide Dog Dalton was named in honour of a lady who left a generous gift in her Will.**

## Wording for your Will

"I give to the Guide Dogs WA (owned and operated by EverAbility Group Limited, ABN 11 157 291 960);

1. the whole of my estate; or
2. the rest and residue of my Estate; or
3. \_\_\_\_ percent of my Estate; or
4. \_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate; or
5. the sum of \$\_\_\_\_; or
6. [name of specific gift e.g. my property located at \_\_\_\_ OR my shares in \_\_\_\_]

for its general purposes OR for [insert specific purpose/s, e.g. Veterinary Expenses]. In the absence of such specific purpose/s, please allocate towards the area of greatest need.

Please note the suggested wording is for guidance only. The content of this document should not be construed as legal advice. We recommend you seek your own independent legal advice.

The main thing to include is our full legal name and our registered ABN as stated below:

Guide Dogs WA (owned and operated by EverAbility Group Limited) ABN: 11 157 291 960

# Welcome to the Arnold Cook Society

Although you don't have to tell us that you are planning to leave a gift in your Will, we encourage you to do so. Not only so that we can thank you in person and discuss your wishes, but also because we would love to welcome you to the Arnold Cook Society.

The Arnold Cook Society honours Dr Arnold Cook who established Australia's very first Guide Dog association right here in Western Australia.

As a member of the Arnold Cook Society, by way of appreciation, we invite you to receive all or any of the following items:

- Invitations to attend events, either in person or via video link, such as graduations and training demonstrations
- A complimentary Guide Dogs WA calendar in December
- PawPrints newsletter twice per year

It costs more than **\$50,000** and takes two years to raise, train, match and provide ongoing support to every dog that joins our training programs.

# Thank you for your very special support

Please complete, detach and return this reply slip to let us know that you have very kindly included Guide Dogs WA in your Will(s).

Full name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Preferred form of contact:

☐ Post      ☐ Phone      ☐ Email

## I/We would like to receive:

☐ Event invitations

☐ Calendar

☐ Newsletters

☐ Birthday card

(Date of Birth) \_\_\_\_\_



Arnold

Guide Dogs WA

61 Kitchener Avenue, Victoria Park WA 6100

PO Box 31, Victoria Park WA 6979

Or email your details to:

[giftsinwills@guidedogswa.com.au](mailto:giftsinwills@guidedogswa.com.au)

**Guide  
Dogs  
WA**





# Thank you

Guide Dogs WA is owned and operated by EverAbility Group Limited, ABN 11 157 291 960 (formerly the Association for the Blind of WA Inc). EverAbility is committed to protecting the privacy of all individuals with whom it conducts its service and business operations.

You can rest assured that all of your information will be kept strictly confidential.

Thank you again for considering including a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs WA. If you would like to discuss your wishes, have any questions or would like to come in to visit Guide Dogs WA please contact our **Planned Giving Team** on **(08) 9311 8202**.

**Guide  
Dogs  
WA**



Telephone: **(08) 9311 8202**

Email: **[info@guidedogswa.com.au](mailto:info@guidedogswa.com.au)**

**[guidedogswa.com.au](http://guidedogswa.com.au)**



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