



“Hi, I’m Tessa.”

Tessa’s



PUP DATE

“We can’t bear to think of life without Tessa, she’s such a wonderful part of our every day.”

Jackie, Tessa’s Puppy Raising mum



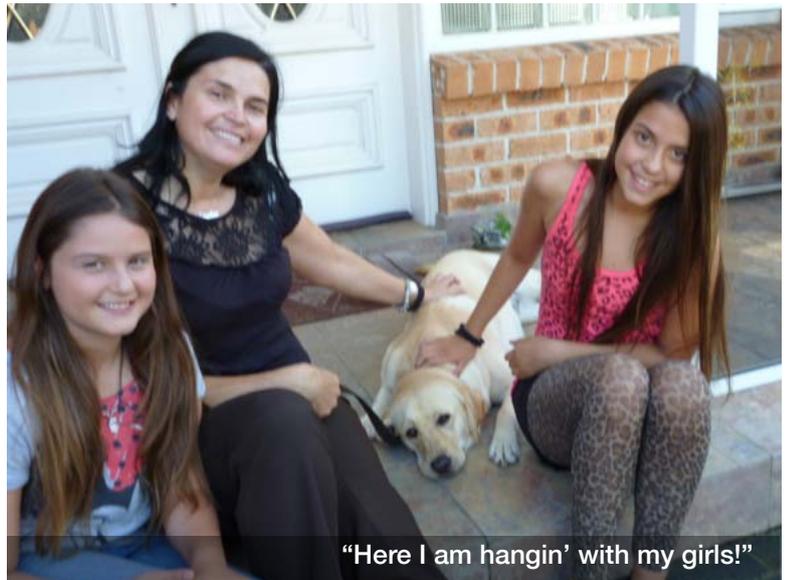
Tessa, a happy pup

Woof! Good to catch up with you! I’m 15 months old now and as frisky as ever. My Puppy Raiser family love me, and I love them too... almost more than I love bones! Thanks to my family, I lead an idyllic life in leafy Sydney suburbia with plenty of walks and visits to the beach. We have a lot of fun!



Did you know?

- With 10 offices situated throughout NSW and the ACT, last year alone, our instructors travelled over 1,047,116 km to ensure that, wherever possible, mobility skills are taught in the environment in which they will be used.
- Guide Dogs NSW/ACT has the world’s biggest model Guide Dog. Gulliver, weighs in at almost 700 kilos and stands at 4.3 metres tall and 2.3 metres wide. Gulliver’s made of foam and coated in fibreglass.
- A Guide Dog walks approximately 9,000 kilometres in its working life.
- Guide Dogs Instructors have worked with close to 3,650 clients in the past year.
- German Shepherds, Labradoodles, Poodles and Boxers have been used as Guide Dogs overseas.



“Here I am hangin’ with my girls!”



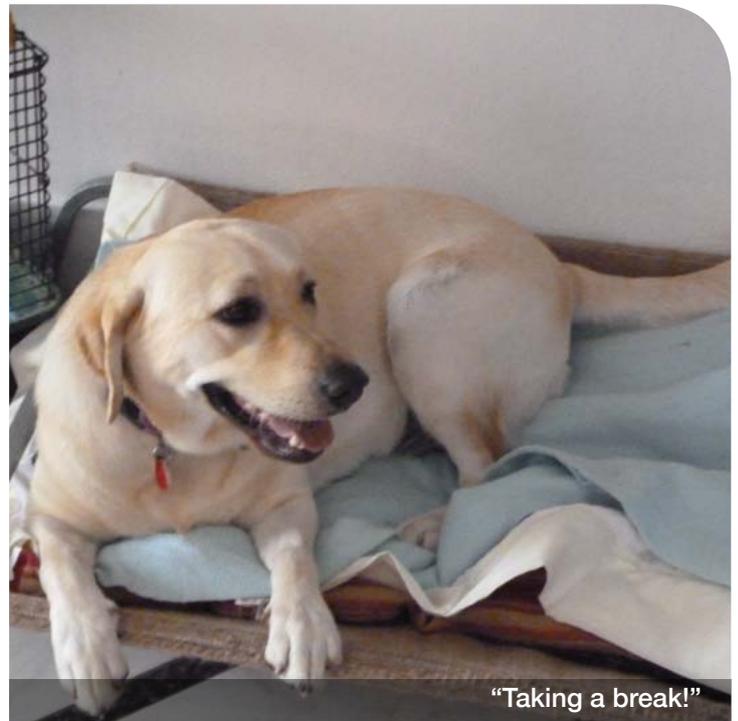
Healthy and Happy

I’m in top form at the moment although I did pick up an ear infection earlier in the year when I went romping in a park pond with a bunch of other dogs. Mum Jackie took me to the vet - the girls, Rachel, 12, and Christina, 10, came along too - and the good news is the infection cleared up pretty smart. I also had to go to the Guide Dog headquarters for a month not so long ago because I was ‘in season’. Apparently my family missed me enormously for those four weeks. Now I’m baaaaack, and I’ve never felt better! I do love a good romp in the back yard playing with my tennis ball while the kids jump on the trampoline. Mum’s always checking that I’m OK, but she needn’t worry: I’m in tip-top shape!



At Home With...

OMG, I do live with a boisterous, busy and happy family. There's mum, Jackie, and dad, John, and then there are two girls, Rachel and Christina (pictured), and the boys, Steven and Jason, who are older. Steven and Jason are home less often than the rest of the family but those boys like me to watch C.S.I. with them on the telly, or play Xbox whenever we can. I'm happy to 'hang' with any of the kids, as long as they treat me well. I think I got real lucky with this family 'cause they're very kind and affectionate with me. My family likes animals, that's for sure, because they also have bunny rabbits and two budgies, Buddy and Jack, who drive me a bit spare. I stare at those pesky birds, and bark, and they just ignore me. I don't like that very much: I'm used to a lot of attention around here. Do you know of a lab who doesn't like a cuddle or a tummy scratch from time to time? I don't!



"Taking a break!"

“Tessa loves our two bunny rabbits, but she doesn't like our budgies!”

Puppy Raising daughter, Rachel.



Walkies

Well, typically it's Rachel, 12, who walks me in the morning before she goes to school, and mum, Jackie, who walks me in the afternoon. Sometimes mum and I deliver brochures in the area for two to three hours, and she loves me coming along to keep her company. It's great exercise doing the rounds together but afterwards, I'm quite pupped – I mean pooped – out and I can't wait to lie on the cool tiles floors of the lounge, and doze.

Tessa's blog spot

Hi there!

My day always starts on the right note because the family are always so happy to see me as they get ready for school and work in the morning. Luckily, mum Jackie stays at home with me and we do everything together. She's a great cook and I help her in the kitchen as she prepares meals for my Puppy Raiser dad, John, and the four kids. I'm always hoping that Jackie will give me a treat and once in a blue moon, if I'm very lucky, she might give me a piece of chicken or something. Mum always gives me a HUGE bone when they're going out for longer than a couple of hours: I miss them terribly when they're gone, but at least I've got a fantastic bone to keep me busy. Sometimes Mum also puts some sardines in my biscuit bowl because she wants to make my coat glossy. Those sardines are YUM, and I wolf them down quicker than you can say 'bite that budgie!' At night, I sleep in the lounge on my bed right next to my bunny pals, Snow White and Prince Charming. Yes, I know, I'm one very lucky pup!

Bye for now,

Tessa



"It's a dog's life. But someone's gotta do it!"

Thank-you for your ongoing support.