



Seeing Eye Dogs  
Vision Australia



It's me, Tommy! Back with  
some very exciting news!

Dear Friend,

My brother Scott and I are in the final stages of training, and guess what? My clever sister, Truffles has finished her training and is currently waiting to be matched! Yippee!! Thanks to your steadfast support – we are about to go onto change someone's life forever!

Truffles recently got to show off her amazing skills, guiding her instructor through very tricky 9am crowds and traffic in the Melbourne CBD. It was peak hour – can you imagine how focused Truffles must be to do this so well? Wow! I'm so proud of her!

But wait – there's even more exciting news about my pack! Janelle and Trevi are so incredibly paw-fect, they have both been accepted into the breeding program – what an honour! That means they are the best of the best. And not forgetting my lovely sister Trisha who is also still in training, she's working hard just like us!

As for me and Scott, we're giving it our all! Our instructors say we are big, gentle, sweet boys (aww, what a compliment)! We're preparing for one of our biggest challenges yet – the final blindfold assessment.

Let me tell you about this assessment. Our instructor wears a blindfold while we guide them through busy streets. Another instructor follows behind to ensure we remain safe, but it's up to us to lead the way! We have to prove we truly understand everything we've learned. It's a huge test, but we'll do our very best!

Of course, training isn't all work – we get time to relax, too! We love playing with our dog friends, having free runs, and even splashing around in our on-site pool.

Oh and I have one last surprise for you... you're about to meet a brand-new litter of puppies! Over the page you'll find a letter from Umeko, your new spokes-puppy. I just know you're going to love Umeko's Pack.

To say thank you, and to remember our journey, I've included a special magnet of yours truly.

It won't be long until Truffles, Scott and I are matched with someone who is blind or has low vision, and we can't wait to start our new lives as part of a team. **And you made this happen. You've given us this incredible opportunity, and we are so grateful. Thank you from the bottom of our paws – we couldn't have done it without you!**

With love and puppy hugs one last time,

Tommy xox 



Scott is preparing for  
the blindfold test!

P.S. Your next adventure is about to begin! Turn the page to meet your adorable new spokes-puppy, Umeko.

**Woof! Hi Friend!**  
**I am super excited to meet you.**

My name is Umeko, and I'm one of four girls in our pack of eight little Labrador puppies. My brothers Unagi, Uganda, Udin and Ular, along with our sisters Ulyssa, Una and Ula, make a pretty special team. Everyone says "woof!" (That means "nice to meet you!").

Guess what? Out of the 200+ pups born at Seeing Eye Dogs HQ this year, we have been picked as your new sponsored pack. Yay!

I was chosen to be the "spokes-puppy" and leader of the pack, which means I am the puppy that will write to you and share our training journey as we progress towards becoming Seeing Eye Dogs. Our litter will be named "Umeko's Pack" – how cool is that?

We were born on February 3, 2025. Our mum Keitha, looked after us during our first eight weeks, in the Seeing Eye Dogs puppy centre. There we were observed and assessed, while exposed to new activities and situations. Our friends at Seeing Eye Dogs took notes on everything about us, from our reactions to navigating obstacles, walking on different surfaces, excitement levels, food preferences and sleeping habits.

At four weeks, we joined the socialisation program. We learned desired behaviours, like wearing a collar, what is ok to chew, and how to properly introduce ourselves to other pups and people.

And at five weeks, we took on the puppy confidence course which shows how good our problem-solving skills are, as well as our ability to navigate different surfaces.

**Me and my pack with our mum, Keitha.**



The humans at the centre were like puppy detectives, closely monitoring how we reacted to sudden movements and sounds. They checked for sensitivities, like how we felt about our ears or paws being touched.

We've now settled into homes perfect for us, thanks to the careful attention and support we received. We're living with carers who are helping us to learn basic obedience and how to be calm and confident in public places to give us our best shot at graduating as Seeing Eye Dogs. And when we're out and about we wear an official puppy training coat with "L" plates on it, this allows us to go almost everywhere our puppy carers go.

**Thank you for sponsoring my pack and coming on this journey with us. You are now part of the pack and part of our Seeing Eye Dogs family too!**

Little tail wags and puppy kisses,

**Umeko xox**



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