

HOW DOES CANINE UTILITY AND SERVICE PARTNERS (CUSP) SUPPORT ITSELF?

We totally rely on the help, charity and care of the community through:

- Fundraising
- Donations (money and goods)
- Bequests
- Grants
- Puppy/dog sales
- AND Volunteers

DOES CUSP NEED ANY HELP? YES, PLEASE!

Volunteers

There are wide and varied roles for volunteers, including but not limited to:

- Fund raising on CUSP's behalf
- Puppy socializing
- Organizing and holding puppy parties, puppy outings, puppy cuddling and playing sessions.
- Maintenance of kennel grounds and infrastructure
- Making of training aids and obstacle courses
- Collecting donated goods

Volunteers of professional services i.e.

- Publicity or Community promoters
- Legal advisors, financial planners, grant writers

Corporate Sponsorships:

In appreciation of Corporate Sponsorships, we can prominently display donor logo's on our web pages with a link back to the donor's website.

Individual Sponsorships:

You can "touch our heart" on our website or through Australia Post. Thank you, .

Donation of Goods:

We keep a current "wish list" on our website. Again, thank you.

If you can help or have ideas, contact us please. CUSP can only be as great as the people who support us.

CANINE UTILITY & SERVICE PARTNERS is a NOT FOR PROFIT organisation



www.cusp.org.au

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THE DEDICATED PEOPLE

Michelle Jones: President/Dog Trainer

Dianne Skinner: Treasurer & Public Officer

Mim Bester: Secretary/Kennel Manager

Keryn Blokker: Administration Officer

Kylie Young: Office Manager

Dr Diane Rowe: Geneticist/Scientist

Kim Robertson: Dog Trainer

Alex Blokker: Maintenance/Puppy Friend

Canine Utility and Service Partners Inc (CUSP)

www.cusp.org.au

Baqilodge Collies

www.baqilodge.com

Pawsnpeople

www.pawsnpeople.com.au

Service Dog Training

www.servicedogtraining.com.au

CANINE UTILITY AND SERVICE PARTNERS LTD

WHAT IS CUSP ABOUT?

We are about **DOGS HELPING PEOPLE (including children).**

CUSP is a unique national program, the first of its kind in Australia, based in Southern Tasmania.

We specialize in **Planned Breedings and Early Education and Development** for puppies, preparing them for **Service Dog Training and other training courses.** We cover pedigree analysis, genetic health and trait selection, breeding, whelping, imprinting, stimulation and environmental enrichment, socialization, habituation, conditioning, training, screening and selection processes.

Health, temperament, structure, aptitude and breed type are traced for each individual within the family. All breedings therefore start with a pedigree (a history) of ancestors over many generations. From this base begins our work of bringing **the right dog to the right job.**



Breeding, selection and education builds futures for dogs and consequentially builds futures for people too.

WHAT IS A SERVICE OR ASSISTANCE DOG?

A Service dog is a dog trained to help people with disabilities. The dog's learning is specific to the needs of the person they are assisting. Speciality training of the dog usually starts between 8 months - 2 years of age. Through our early training syllabus, beginning at day 3, CUSP focuses on the early months of the dogs life, preparing them for further specialist training either with an individual or through an organization.

WHAT CAN A TRAINED SERVICE DOG DO?

They are trained to do tasks that their owners need them to do, including such things, but not limited to:

- Object retrieval
- Turn lights on and off
- Open and close doors, drawers and cupboards
- Push buttons - door openers, doorbells, etc.
- Alert parents if children have seizures; summon help in an emergency; act as "anchors" for runaway children

WHO WOULD OR COULD A SPECIALIST TRAINED CUSP SERVICE DOG WORK WITH?

This not a complete list, but some examples are:

- autistic children and adults
- children or adults who have seizures
- people with Alzheimer's disease
- hearing impaired people
- mobility reduced people
- people with MS, brain injuries, or other disabilities as companions and Service dogs
- nursing home or hospital patients as therapy dogs
- schools and community groups as "social barrier dissipaters"
- visually impaired people as guide dogs
- search and rescue teams



WHAT CAN A CUSP DOG DO BEFORE IT LEAVES FOR SPECIALIST TRAINING?

CUSP dogs are raised through grades of training, beginning with the Green grade, i.e. a puppy who is no less



than 8 weeks of age who has been through an enriched and well socialised rearing program, and has had all usual breed health checks. They are required to pass guidelines set for each category before entering the next level or grade in order of Maroon, Silver and Gold.. Gold being the final grading where they can demonstrate "bombproofedness" for society, are socialised, have all the basic obedi-

ence skills, and concepts of the more advanced tasks. At this level they are most likely an adolescent or mature dog ready for detailed and specific specialist training.

WHO CAN BUY A CUSP DOG?

Puppies are purchased by individuals or other training organisations from any level of training. This allows clients or other organisations to chose where they enter the puppy's education plan. Individual clients would then usually solicit "finishing" from a recognized training institution specializing in the field of their need or interest. Clients purchasing dogs for Service work are recommended to enter specialist pro bono training through Service Dog Training — www.servicedogtraining.com.au

ARE SERVICE DOGS RECOGNIZED LIKE GUIDE DOGS ARE?

Yes, under the amended **Disability Discrimination Act 1992** an **accredited** Service dog has lawful recognition.

WHAT DOES A CUSP DOG COST?

The cost of puppies is reflected by their skill level and breed, but the starting price i.e. Green Standard, is approximately the same as a quality, ANKC registered, purebred pet puppy of the same breed.



WHAT BREED OF DOG ARE CUSP DOGS?

The core breed for CUSP dogs is Collies, both rough coats and smooth coats. However, other breeds can be requested. Those puppies will be sourced by CUSP from highly reputable breeders of international recognition and trained to the level requested.

WHAT HAPPENS TO CUSP DOGS WHO DON'T GO INTO SERVICE OR THERAPY WORK?

Just as not all people are suited to be doctors or engineers, not all dogs are suited to Service or community work. These dog still have great and rich, fulfilling lives and they will fill one or more of the following roles:

- Show Ring Conformation
- Obedience
- Agility
- Fly ball
- Tracking
- Herding
- Pets and "best friends" etc.



All new owners and homes must meet standard ownership responsibilities and animal welfare regulations.