

What's Inside:

- Learn how you've helped train the next generation of guide dog puppies.
- Read about how you gave Eunice the tools and tech she needs.
- Find out how you're supporting advocacy within the community.

**Your kindness
has made these
wonderful stories
possible, thank
you so much.**

You've helped train the next generation of guide dog puppies

You may remember that we wrote to you about Laura and how your kindness helped transform her life through her beautiful guide dog Ryder.

We received an overwhelming response to our Guide Dog Puppy Appeal, earlier in the year. If you're one of the generous people who made a donation, thank you!

Your generous support is helping to train more guide dogs to be available for situations like Laura's. All guide dogs need to be carefully bred and then trained for two years to be ready to take on the many skilled tasks they are asked to complete.

Laura wanted to share these heart-warming words with you: **"I can't thank you enough. I hope you know how much of a life-changing thing you're doing, your donations literally hand people their freedom back - it's huge!"**



Thank you for changing Laura's life, Ryder gives her so much freedom.



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Ashley loves the sport and the social connection.

Ashley can now enjoy sport, thanks to you

Your generosity enabled Ashley to benefit from New Zealand's first tennis programme for people with vision loss.

When Ashley was born, the umbilical cord was wrapped around her neck in a true knot, cutting off her supply of oxygen. This resulted in Ashley having low vision and a weak right side of her body.

She never thought she'd be able to play tennis with her vision loss. But, thanks to you we were able to partner with Ngatira Tennis to develop training sessions to make tennis inclusive for people with vision loss. Ashley can now play tennis with the help of specialised coaching and the use of adaptive Blind Tennis equipment.

"I couldn't play sport when I was younger and wasn't sure how it would work or if I would be able to play. Tennis is a fun activity to do, and I am thankful that I got the opportunity to learn tennis."

Ashley's story highlights the amazing things your support makes possible. Thank you!



Bijay is really excited about his new job.

You helped Bijay further his career

Thanks to you, Bijay, who has vision loss, connected with Sarah who heads up our Employment and Youth Transition programme.

“I felt belongingness being a client of Blind Low Vision NZ. Sarah helped me create a CV which was focused and to the point. We had very good communication together and she provided empathetic support. She was very professional and listened to what I was going through at the time.”

Bijay completed a Graduate Diploma in Project Management and enjoys volunteering. He also wants to learn more about human anatomy, which he’s learning a lot about in his new role as a massage therapist.

Thank you for giving people who are blind, deafblind or low vision the chance to enjoy rich and independent lives.

Ruth is a visionary who’s leaving a lasting gift

When Ruth’s father started losing his vision through macular degeneration, Blind Low Vision NZ supporters helped provide him with a watch which read the time out to him and a white cane.

Not only did you help support Ruth’s father, but Ruth’s mother also relied on Blind Low Vision NZ services while she cared for her husband on their journey together.

“Blind Low Vision NZ provides positive support to people with visual impairment or loss of vision, from birth right through to their later years. This is a charity that has really struck a chord in my heart.”

“Leaving a monetary gift in my Will ensures more people will be helped in a truly meaningful way,”

Ruth’s husband Mike also wants to make a difference in the future, and has left a gift in his Will as well.

Did you know that leaving a gift in your Will to Blind Low Vision NZ – after your family and loved ones are taken care of – will have a profound impact for people who are blind, deafblind or low vision?



Ruth feels she’s found the perfect way to give back.

If you’re interested in finding out more about including Blind Low Vision NZ in your Will, our friendly gift-in-wills team will be more than happy to help. For a free, no-obligation chat, please contact 0800 366 283 or send an email to legacies@blindlowvision.org.nz.

Eunice is so grateful for your help

Eunice began losing her vision five years ago and requires help reading letters and emails, and with activities like banking.

With your support, Eunice uses a ‘Penfriend’ which is an electronic device that reads food labels out for her. Further adaptations include ‘Bumps’ which have been added to her dishwasher, stove, and phone so she can identify which buttons she needs to use for each appliance.

Our Tech Team helped her set up shortcuts in order make her computer easier to use.

Eunice is so grateful.

“Blind Low Vision NZ have assisted me in so many ways, thanks to you I can lead a full and interesting life at 85.”

Thank you for all you do for people like Eunice.



Eunice said she received “so much valuable and amazing help.” Here, she uses a Penfriend that reads pantry labels out to her.

Did you know:

You help make New Zealand a more inclusive and accessible place to live for Kiwis with vision loss. With your support, Blind Low Vision NZ helped deliver a petition to parliament with 14,500 signatures. This advocacy work aims to remove access barriers that prevent people living with a disability from full and equal participation in society.