

Media Release

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Monday, 13 September

77 year old Nancy Receives ‘Top Dog’ Honours from Queen

For more than 50 years, 77 year old Nancy Reid has helped people in her community by volunteering at a host of charities – particularly those that assist the vision impaired.

Mrs Reid has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to people with a visual impairment through Guide Dogs Victoria, and to the community.

At Guide Dogs Victoria, she has helped to Puppy Raise over 20 puppies over the last 13 years she has been with the organisation.

Mrs Reid said the toughest part of the job was to say ‘goodbye’ when it was time for them to leave for further training.

“It really is hard to give the puppies up because you form such a bond with each of them. But I get over my hurt eventually.”

“The people who I am trying to help don’t get over their disability, and that’s what keeps me going,” she said.

Aside from Puppy Raising, the dog lover is one of two people given the “difficult” job of cuddling, walking and massaging the newborn pups at the organisation’s headquarters in Kew.

A mother of two and grandmother of four, Mrs Reid said she felt good helping people less fortunate than herself.

“I feel we’re put on this earth to help each other. I have received a lot more out of volunteering than I have given.”

“Puppy Raising is the most rewarding work. Knowing these pups will go on to help vision impaired people regain their independence and freedom is all the reward I need.” Mrs. Reid said.

In honour of Nancy’s work, Guide Dogs Victoria has named a Guide Dog pup after her. Pup Nancy will be present to see Nancy receive her Medal of the Order of Australia at Government House on Thursday, 16 September.

To register to become a Puppy Raiser please call Guide Dogs Victoria

on (03) 9854 4444

For more information contact: Charmaine Waduge on 0409 952 893 or 9854 4411