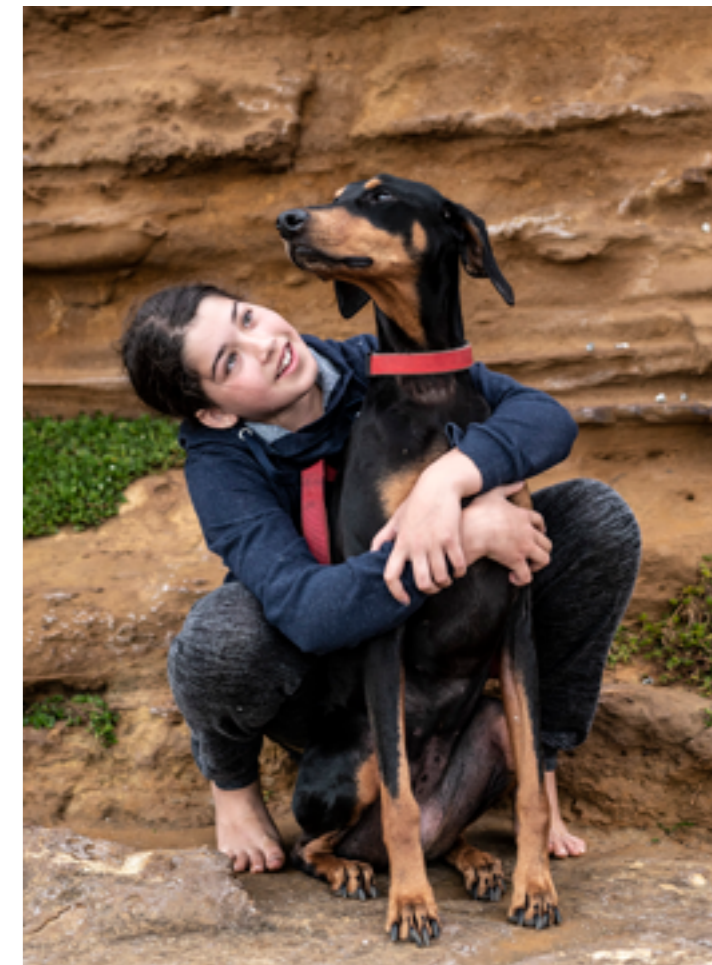


# BARKOLOGY





Barkology was born out of warm and cherished memories of my own childhood dogs, but it was invigorated by reflecting on my daughter's fifth birthday present, Skye.

Witnessing the joy of little kids and puppies, their giggles, and their mischief, evolving into the love and support they provide each other as they grow up together is such a special thing as a parent to witness.

This book is dedicated to Skye, because she's always supported Saff in every possible way... except when it comes to going for a swim.



## Hamish & Eva

Siberian Husky x Samoyed

We named her after the movie WALL-E. Her name is EVE in the movie, but WALL-E's pronunciation is EVA so we went with that.

We got her from friends of ours, Josh & Emma. Josh's beautiful male Samoyed couldn't help himself, and Emma's beautiful female Husky had a litter. Dad Andrew and I got the third pick of the litter, and we fell in love with Eva's inquisitive and calm nature.

When she was a puppy, we were landscaping our backyard, and she used to put her entire head inside Andrew's stinky Blundstone boot at the end of the day and go to sleep.

She also loved going in tunnels, so we purchased a kids' play tunnel, and it was one of her favorite things to do with us. But now she is older, and she loes a simple walk to the river"

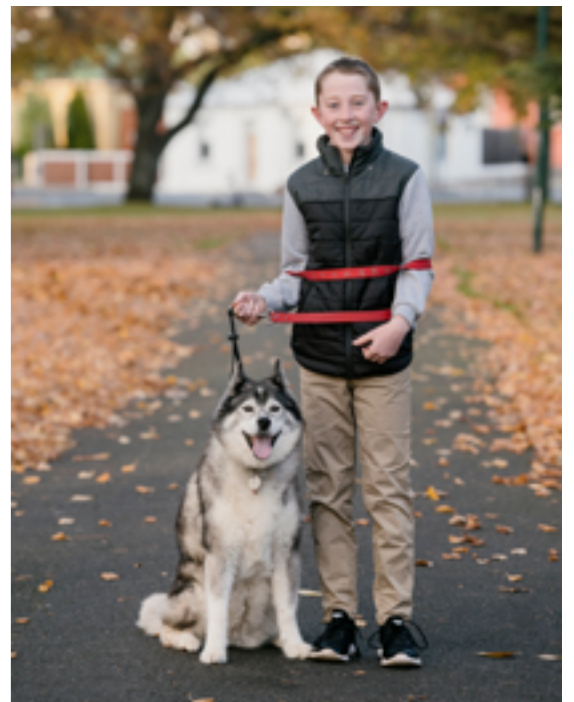
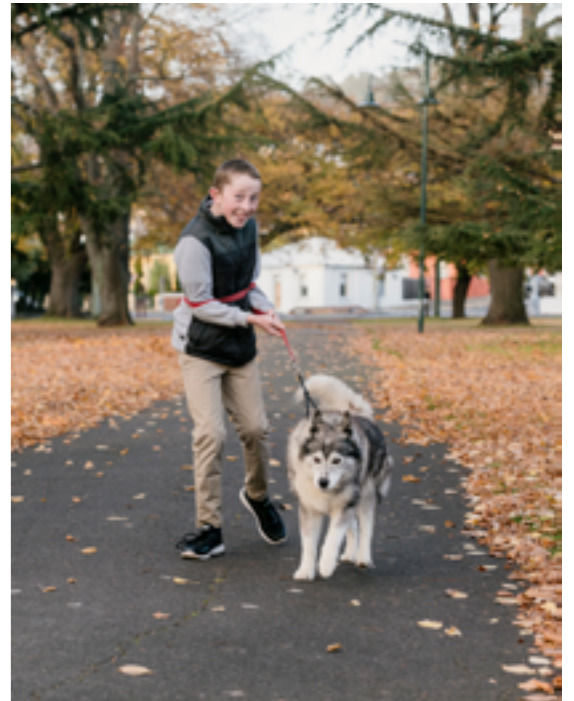
She just has a way. You know, she gives that warm feeling looking at you with loving eyes, and her calm nature makes her such a beautiful family member.

One afternoon she "Escaped" the backyard while Andrew was outside with the gate open... (totally not Andrew's fault)!!! She wandered down to a nearby house's backyard on the riverfront.... They had a wedding ceremony happening at the time, and she was super happy to be there celebrating with them!

She likes to dig but doesn't DIG a hole in the lawn... just takes the green grass layer off the top.

Her favourie game is placing her head in through a gap in your legs... if you put one foot over your other knee.... She loves it... but you can't then move.

Hamish used to get on her back when he was 3-4 years old and "ride" her. She let him do it. He would also cuddle up with her on her inside dog bed.





## Archie & Ripley

Cavoodle

We wanted her to be named after a feisty female character, so we went with Ripley from Aliens (Sigourney Weaver's character).

We met her at a breeder's home. She was the only pup in the litter and had been named Clover by the breeder's teenage daughter because she was the lucky one! She fit in the palm of my hand.

She loves snuggle up on the couch with us while watching TV, but if we are on screens, she hits us with her paw and stares intensely at us to make us look up!

Once, she ate half a family-sized block of Cadbury chocolate while we were sleeping.

She also plays the game of "hide Mum's clothes around the house."

Her other favorite game is fetch. She loves balls so much that sometimes she takes them to bed with her.

She is always in a cheerful mood and pleased to see us. She is the best comfort when the kids are sad and licks away their tears.





## Archer, Lola & Herro

French Bulldog

I first met Herro at The Lost Dogs Home, where I was taking him home as part of the Adoption Ambassador Program. This is where foster carers use their own networks to find their foster animals a home. We had him for one day and knew that we wouldn't have to look any further, and that he was going to be part of our family forever.

We are NBA fans and have started a bit of a tradition with our dogs named after players. Our previous dog was Bosh (Christopher Bosh), and Herro is named after Tyler Herro.

Everything Herro does is hilarious! His snorts and grunts, the way he jumps at you for attention, his obsession with toys, and most of all - the way he insists on being cradled like a baby!

We love atching him play with the kids - whether it's chasing bubbles, trying to get around the fort they've created, or simply watching them play fetch together.

Herro chews everything!! Lucky for us, we know that all dogs go through this stage and that items are replaceable.

He loves jumping on our laps and rolling onto his back for tummy scratches.

Herro has been the perfect addition after losing our gentle giant a few years back. He has also been an amazing foster brother to the many dogs (and cats!) that have come through our doors since he became part of our family. We couldn't have asked for a better doggo!





## Orla, Maeve & Rua

Irish Setter

Rua got her name because it means “red” in Irish. As a child, Dad Conor had an Irish Setter in the family called Rua. His whole life, he wanted to get one with the same name. Both the girls also have Irish names as a nod to their heritage: Orla means “golden-haired princess,” and Maeve means “Warrior queen.” Incidentally, Conor’s name means “lover of hounds.” All of them live up to the meaning of their names.

Rua loves to chase birds on the beach. Going to the beach in the summertime in the late afternoon and all having a run together is super fun. The girls love chasing him into the water, and he interacts so well with them. Another favorite moment is when he curls up in a little ball on the bed next to you.

Once, Rua ran away when they were walking him and got into a golf course. They all had to run and try to catch him without shouting too loudly as people were playing golf. They even had to dodge golf balls since people were still playing, and they didn’t want to get hit. It took 20 minutes to catch him, and they haven’t been back to that park since!

Rua taps his paw on Mum Suzanne’s shoulder when they are asleep if he is hungry or wants to play in the morning!

When Rua got really sick at the end of last year and we had to leave him at the emergency vet after only having him for about 3 months, it really brought us together. Even though he can be a handful, we realized at that time how much he was already a massive part of their family.

Since having Rua, we have been out on many more family walks in the morning or evening, and the greetings they all get when they return home is phenomenal!





## Ollie, Scarlett & Bowie

Cavador

We definitely took a long time to decide, and the kids wanted to call Bowie "Gherkin," but we thought we might get a few funny looks at the dog park. Bowie is such a cool dog and needed a name to match. We eventually decided on Bowie, but his middle name is Gherkin, which we use when he has done something naughty.



We went to pick up Bowie when the kids were at school, and he was just the cutest puppy. We were so excited for the kids to meet him after school. The kids had never had a dog before and hadn't really been around dogs. When they met Bowie, he was very energetic, to say the least. In no time, they became the best of friends.

Bowie always makes us laugh when we play hide and seek with him. We throw his ball, and when he is getting it, we run off and hide, but he always finds us. It's so funny!



We love taking Bowie to the beach, running through the water, and playing in the sand dunes. He's always by our side, and he always knows if we feel sad and gives us cuddles.

His favorite games are tug of war with his monkey toy and hide and seek. When we are watching TV and a dog comes on, he barks at them. He makes a sound that is exactly like Chewbacca, and then we know he wants to play. He is obsessed with fetching his ball, but when he is going to sleep, he likes to snuggle with his monkey toy.



## Ellis & Bonnie

Miniature Schnauzer

We drove 2.5 hours from Melbourne to meet Bonnie for the first time. She was the runt of the litter, and her face was covered in Weetbix, having just finished her breakfast. She was the one for us!

Once Bonnie was chasing some ducks on a farm, and they flew off across a small lake. Bonnie followed and promptly landed in the water. She had not been swimming before and wasn't very good at it. She panicked and had to be grabbed by the collar and pulled out.

We love snoozing with Bonnie. She tucks in behind our knees and makes gorgeous snuffly noises when she sleeps.

Bonnie is the most loving and loyal dog, always ensuring that she shares her time between the three of us.

The naughtiest thing Bonnie has done was chewing our wooden plantation shutters. The six louvres could not be replaced, so it was going to cost several thousand dollars to replace the two shutters. Needless to say, we got curtains instead.





## Erica, Lucy, Annabel & Sasha

Samoyd

Sasha was the last puppy to be collected as we were still away on holidays. Once we finally brought her home, an endearing moment unfolded as she spotted her reflection for the first time in the pool fence glass. Witnessing her curiosity and apprehension towards her own reflection was so cute!

One day, when we were chalk drawing on the footpath, she rolled in all the colours, and she looked like a rainbow!

We take her to the beach, play basketball or soccer together, and use her as a pillow! She gets so much attention when we take her for a walk or to the cafe.



Sasha is the most affectionate pet; she always wants to be snuggled up to us. Every morning, she loves jumping up on the bed for a cuddle. She really is a big cuddly cloud!

Her favorite games are hide and seek, tug of war, and any ball game. She once chewed Mum's Dyson hairdryer!

She nuzzles her nose under your arm until your hand is on her head for you to pat her; the second you stop patting her, she does it again! Samoyeds are known for being quite expressive and vocal; it's like she talks to us. If this doesn't work, she bumps her nose into your leg to get attention.



# Angus, Skyla & Trixie

Havanese

Our kids had wanted a dog for many years (insert lots of pestering here). We first met Trix's litter and breeder a few months before we knew we were going to get her. The breeder wanted to make sure we were the right fit, and we were also being cautious as we wanted to make the right decision given the time it had taken to actually decide on what breed we wanted to get. We wanted a less common breed, and that has definitely proven to be the case as when people ask what breed she is, we mostly get the response, "a Hava-what?"

Trix has some quirky characteristics that make us laugh all the time.

For some reason, the moment we put her raincoat or car harness on her, she does not move a muscle. It's like we've put a straight jacket on her, and she becomes a doggie statue (she can move, I promise).

When something has her attention, she can stand on her back legs for a long time (we call this meerkat mode).

The kids think it's hilarious when she steals an errant sock, and they try to get it back off her. She also has a habit of raiding any kids' sock drawers that are left open or unattended.

Our favorite thing to do with Trix is beach or golf course walks, and we also take her camping a lot. She has fit in marvellously well, is absolutely no trouble when we are away, and enjoys a nice fireside sit amongst it all in her camp bed with her special crochet camp blanket to keep her warm.

Trixie loves to chase down a thrown toy and then be chased around the house. Her favourite toy is a little purple rhino given to her by Auntie Gayle, and her most successful hiding spot is under the dining table as she just weaves in and around the chair and table legs to avoid capture.

At the end of the day when we're finally sitting on the couch, she decides it's playtime with me (and only me). She then proceeds to get my attention by pulling at the blanket covering my legs, which is promptly stripped from me and dragged away. Funny to everyone else in the family except me.

We have a photo of her with a cigar-shaped chew treat in her mouth which we all laugh about because it's like she's going back to her Cuban roots (i.e. Havana).

I can't imagine life without her now, and she really is a part of the family (cliché, I know). I'm glad we waited as the kids are now old enough to feed and walk her, so it teaches them some responsibility.





# Brigitte, Domingo, Emilio & Kaiser

Miniature Schnauzer

We wanted a German name for our German dog, so we tried a few different names, and Kaiser just seemed right.

We'd just lost our previous schnauzer, Ava, to lymphoma, and our house just didn't feel right without a dog. One of our friends had a half-sister from a previous litter, and the breeder just happened to have one puppy left to find a home from their current litter. Kaiser's mum was also retired after his litter, and our friend adopted her too.

Our favorite thing to do with Kaiser is to go on adventures. We love to find dog-friendly holiday destinations, walking trails, beaches, and places to eat. We also love snuggling with Kaiser on the couch.

Kaiser's the best buddy we could ask for. He knows when a snuggle is needed but also knows when it's okay to be a bit goofy. He's gentle and tolerant with babies but also playful with big kids.

He loves playing tug-of-war and fetch.

Kaiser's clever. You can't leave any food within his reach when you're not watching. He's opened bags and even plastic containers to get to food. One day we came home to find he'd eaten a whole bag of jelly snakes. Let's just say we were cleaning rainbow puddles out of the carpet that night.

When we picked Kaiser up, we didn't tell the kids that we were getting a dog. All we told them was we were going for a long drive. They had no idea what was going on, even up to the point when they were handed him to hold. Even then, they didn't believe he was going to be ours to take home.

When we brought Emilio home from the hospital, Kaiser made it a point to sit at our feet when we were holding him. It was almost like he knew we needed company in the middle of the night. He'd also curl up on the floor next to the cot to guard the baby while he was sleeping. Kaiser still likes to be next to him when he naps now.



## Bryony, Tamsin, Molly & Jack

Toy Cavoodles

Jack and Molly were born almost exactly a year apart and were very welcome additions to our family during the pandemic.

They also make us laugh because they are so different despite being half siblings.

Molly is very clever and quite cheeky and LOVES dirty socks. She also plays with her food, pawing at it as if it's moving! Another thing she does is 'talks' to us and then cocks her head as if she's listening.

Jack is a completely loveable buffoon, has FOMO and answers quicker to Molly's name than his own and also goes crazy for used tissues! We love it when Jack barks at his own reflection in the window or chases his tail and then surprises himself when he catches it! He has no boundaries and bowls into everyone to make his presence known!





## Seline & Nala

Mini Daschund

My mum and dad surprised me with a dog when I turned 8 years old. We were on holiday in Queensland with my cousins, and we all wrote names on paper before having a family vote. That's how we ended up with her name!

We collected Nala when we returned by car from Queensland to Melbourne. We had to be sneaky about it because it was during the mad rush back to Victoria due to Covid, and we weren't allowed to stop in NSW. Nala had to be picked up in NSW, and we had to hide her under the car seat when we crossed the border from NSW into VIC. It was a little scary.

Actually, we had so many laughs during our photoshoot because that was Nala's first "puppuccino," and she went mad for it!

Our absolute favourite thing is to give her cuddles in bed, but I think her favourite thing is when we walk her at Ricketts Point Beach. She makes me feel happy when I come home from somewhere. She gets this cute, cheeky little smile, and it's the only time she does it.

We play "Catchies" with her! We give her a stick and run like mad trying to get it from her. We even dressed her up as a butterfly for Halloween. She sometimes nips at our ankles!

She has a pink elephant tied to a string that we flick around like a dead mouse. We can't imagine our lives without her; she is the sweetest, friendliest, and most loving dog ever. We also like that she has teeny-tiny legs!





## Macy, Charlotte & Zoe

Cavoodle

Zoe's favourite game is chasing the bunny and the naughtiest thing she has ever done was eating all the easter eggs on year!

We love it when she comes in for a cuddle in our bed, and you rub her tummy, she acts like a sea otter.



## Leo, Anna and Georgie & Millie

Toy Cavoodle

We had all been trying to convince Dad for a long time. Mum had been researching for years and had contacted someone during Covid to see if they had a waitlist. As it turns out, a pup that had been allocated to another family fell through, and she was offered to us! Dad agreed on a Friday, and Mum sneaked out on Sunday morning to collect her, then came home to surprise us with her! We were in total shock; it was the best day ever!

Some of our favourite moments with her include when she licks our ears or licks my toes while we eat dinner. She even started playing tug of war with my sock while it was still on my foot. And when she sneaks in every morning to steal Mum's slipper and then sprints away with it!

Our cherished activities together include sitting down and cuddling on the sofa, taking her for a big beach walk, and even dancing with her.

She's always so excited to see us when we get home. She showers us with kisses and cuddles when we're sad or hurt and lovingly licks away our tears. She also loves sleeping on all of the kids' beds throughout the night. She's always close by, and she'll always be touching us in some way.

Some of her more mischievous antics include stealing our shoes and socks, and even Mum's clothes when she's in the shower. She loves running around with us and playing fetch.

And of course, she has a special attachment to a lamb toy that she's in love with – maybe a little too much!





# Jayden, Kaia & Maggie

St Bernard x English Mastiff

Maggie's name did not come about quickly! She was nameless for about 2 weeks as we could find a name that suited- my son was watching the Simpsons and suggested Maggie! All the names we came up with and we always went back to Maggie and now I couldn't imagine her as anything else!

We really weren't sure about getting a giant breed dog however the breeder sent a photo through of Maggie and we were in Love! She was already 12 weeks old and ready for her new home so Kane left for Sydney a few hours later driving a 20hour round trip to collect her.

When he got back the kids opened the back door of the car to be pleasantly surprised by this not so little puppy already weighing 16kg!"

"Our photoshoot!!! I have never seen Maggie run around so crazy before, she was doing zoomies our entire photoshoot on the beach. I remember saying how lovely and well behaved she was! I laugh so much when I look at some of the photos! But it makes me so happy remembering how much fun she was having, also reminding me for next time to take her for a long walk beforehand!"

My favourite memories is of Daisy and Maggie playing outside in the dirt! Daisy was 1 when we got Maggie and they have built a beautiful bond and are always just sitting together getting up to mischief!

Maggie is just the most beautiful natured dog, we are so blessed to have her, she is an old soul that is just so placid and calming!

To get our attention Maggie will put her paw on you until you respond! This is really cute unless it's 2am and she is pawing your face with her bear like feet!

Maggie's tail is like a little wind mill- it whips around 360' when she's excited. Our poor 2 year old Daisy is just the wrong height at the moment and has learnt to walk past Maggie with her hand across her face to shield it from being whipped!

Maggie loves to sit on anyone's lap- I love that she is our giant lap dog!





## Lily, Lior, Mila, Mika & Luna

Siberian Husky

Blu's name was decided as soon as we saw his beautiful blue eyes.

The kids were absolutely drawn to him. He was a little playful as well as very loving and soft. We knew he would fit right into our family.

Blu likes to chase his tail, and when he does this, he often rolls/falls over, making everyone laugh so much.

We love to give Blu lots of love and lots of fun! He loves belly rubs, walks, and running around the backyard.

He has brought lots of happiness into our lives and has brought our family closer together. We just adore him.

Blu loves his favorite lion toy that squeaks when he lovingly bites it. We love Blu; he has completed our family, and he is an amazing puppy.





## Louis, Frankie, Rosie & Ralphy

Miniature Schnauzers

We adopted Rosie when she was 3, and she always struggled with anxiety. We got Ralphy as a new puppy to keep her company, but it seems he's only added to her anxiety! He has no concept of personal space and follows her wherever she goes, even if she's trying to find a nice, quiet spot away from him.

When Ralphy was a puppy, he managed to devour an entire tube of blue paint. It took us weeks to remove the blue stains from his white fur. The kids had a good laugh when he started producing bright blue poos.

Once, when Frankie went away on a school camp, both Rosie and Ralphy kept searching for her throughout the house, crying. They even slept on her bed, eagerly awaiting her return. The moment she came home was nothing short of magical; they didn't leave her side for days.

Although we initially planned for them to be "outside dogs," from the very first day we brought them home, they insisted on sleeping right beside our beds.





## Oscar, Leo & Ren

Chihuahua x Foxy Terrier

Ren, our furry friend, is part chihuahua and part crazy, just like the cartoon dog Ren. Although he's mellowed out a bit with age, we still see glimpses of his youthful energy.

One of my favorite moments is watching TV with Ren curled up next to me, his body touching mine. Alternatively, he might choose the farthest corner of the couch, and heaven forbid we move even slightly, or he'll grumble and move away.

Ren's absolute favorite activity is doing zoomies! He's been doing it since he was a puppy, and although he's not as quick now, it's still his top pick. The boys love chasing after him during these zoomie sessions, resulting in lots of giggles and near crashes.

Back when he was a puppy, my colleague gave him a squeaky toy cow with a rope attached. It became his beloved backyard toy. Whenever he was outside, you could hear the constant squeaking and the sound of his nails scratching on the concrete as he raced around with it. He'd even swing the rope in his mouth wildly until the cow went flying! Now that Ren is 14 years old, we still keep his toy cow in the backyard, albeit missing the squeaky part, a leg, and the rope.

When it's mealtime, the boys are Ren's favorites! No matter how many times we call him or what we have in our hands, Ren's attention is fixed on the high chair, eagerly waiting for food to drop. You can poke and prod him, but he won't budge.

Oscar, especially, loves giving Ren treats. If we handed him the whole bag, he'd probably give the entire thing to Ren.

Interestingly, 'Ren' was one of the first words that Leo learned to say, perhaps even before 'mama'!"





**Archie, Sophie &  
Banjo**  
Spoodle





## Jack, Lili & Luna

Lili – Groodle, Luna – Spoodle

Lili is a pandemic pup. She arrived at her forever home in August 2020 at 8 weeks old. She is now 3 years old. Lili's arrival was met with much excitement, perhaps too much, as we were walking her excessively during those days of Melbourne lockdowns.

Luna is our newest family member; we rescued her in April 2023 when she was 12 months old. She is the springiest dog we've ever met, capable of jumping over tall buildings in a single bound! She makes us laugh every day, and we love that about her.

Luna, the Spoodle, is one-third the size of Lili, the Groodle. Luna gets up on our beds to be at the same eye level as Lili, then launches herself from the bed to land on (and sometimes fall off) Lili. It's hilarious to watch.

As a puppy, Lili was mischievous. We had guests for a long lunch one summer day. After many hours, one guest was about to leave but could not find her high heel shoes. Lili had stolen the high heels from our friend's bag, taken them to the front yard, and chewed through all the leather straps, rendering the shoes unwearable. It's something we can laugh about after the event.

Luna's favorite toy is Lili, while Lili's favorite toy is Jack's socks.





# Ruby, Matilda, Audrey, George & Theodore

Groodies

We adopted George when the girls were young. The options for names the kids came up with were Fluttershy, Rainbow Dash, and George (from Curious George). Ultimately, we went with George. Theodore is George's little half-brother from Alvin and the Chipmunks.

Both George and Theodore have a knack for chewing through tens of pairs of kids' undies. George once stole and devoured a whole lobster from a friend's sink when they were looking after him. On another occasion, he used the same technique to snatch a whole chicken from yet another friend's sink.

Audrey shared, 'George nudges my hand or lies on top of me.' Theodore, on the other hand, likes to get my attention by barking or stealing something I'm using, like a texta."

Both George and Theodore absolutely adore playing with a toy champagne bottle that our friend gave them. They certainly have excellent taste.

George is quite the well-traveled dog. He lived with us in Papua New Guinea for three years. Upon our return, we faced difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with no airlines transporting pets. It took a painstaking 8 months to reunite with George at the quarantine facility near Tullamarine.

When we picked him up, he immediately recognized us and clung to the kids in the car during the whole drive home. Since then, he's developed a remarkable sixth sense for recognizing physical and emotional pain in any of us or anyone who comes to the front door. George has an uncanny ability to make us all feel better by sitting or lying with us until the pain passes. Additionally, he's a wonderful big brother to Theodore.





## Saffron, Fox & Skye

Doberman

I got Skye for my 5th Birthday. My Mum showed me photos of three different kinds of dogs, and I chose the Doberman. Then my Dad came home, and I showed him, and that's how he found out I was getting a dog!

We then went for a long drive into the countryside to meet some puppies, and there were 2 girls. I chose Skye because she had a pink collar, and I really liked pink. My parents said she wouldn't have the same collar for the rest of her life, but I wasn't listening and was sad when we got her a new collar.

I almost named her Sprinkles, Sparkle, or Rainbow, but my parents didn't like those names. So I looked out at the sky, daydreaming about Paw Patrol, and then I remembered Sky from Paw Patrol had a pink collar, and the dog I wanted had a pink collar. That's how she got her name.

Skye is a large dog, so when you sit on her couch, she becomes a big, heavy lap dog. When people come over, she goes straight onto their laps with no warning. We call her a velcro dog as she always has to be attached to someone.

I love to snuggle and sleep on the couch or in bed with her. She sometimes gets under the blankets too because she hates the cold, which is good because she sleeps with me on my bed and keeps me warm at night.

Her favourite game is Keepy Uppy with a balloon. She's really good at bouncing the balloons off her nose. She doesn't have any toys because she destroys them in minutes, but she does have a blanket she likes to suck.

Her worst trait is that she is a silent farter. There is no noise, and she can clear a room very quickly. Sometimes when she sits down, she farts at the same time and scares herself



A special thank you to all the families involved in this project, over the last couple of years we raised over \$3500 for The Kids Cancer Project's work in helping research into cancer treatments around Australia.

#### About the Photographer

Alan Moyle is a Tasmanian born, Melbourne based photographer. He has a degree in scientific and medical photography from RMIT but doesn't use it that much. He has been awarded hundreds of state, national and international awards and earned the distinction of Master of Photography with Three Gold Bars by the Australian Institute of Professional Photography and also Master of Photography with the New Zealand Institute of Professional Photography.

His work has been featured in various media all over the world and his images exhibited around Australia and in Scotland.

He lives in Beaumaris with his wife Vikashni, his two human children Saffron and Fox and fur children Skye (farty dog), Apollo (purr-sonal assistant), Cyrus (Fluffy Cat) one radom fish and 9 guinea pigs at last count.. there may be more now.

[www.photobat.net](http://www.photobat.net)