

International White Cane Day

Keep Clear and Carry On

90% of Australian white cane users have told us that ‘everyday’ objects create obstacles for them while travelling through their community.*

Alarming, almost 70% said these obstacles had put them in danger or at risk of serious injury.

‘Everyday’ objects like bins left on footpaths, abandoned bikes or scooters, or people distracted by mobile devices can impact the freedom and independence of people with low vision or blindness.

Our Clients tell us that uneven or damaged footpaths are the most common everyday obstacles. Others include:

- Overgrown plants or fallen branches
- Stray café chairs and tables
- Cars parked across footpaths
- People who are distracted while using their mobile devices

About International White Cane Day

International White Cane Day (IWCD), 15 October, is a day to celebrate the achievements of people with low vision or blindness and highlight the white cane as a life-changing symbol and tool of independence.

*Guide Dogs Australia International White Cane Day Survey 2021.



Top tips for keeping the streets neat:

- Ensure your car is not parked over the footpath.
- Move objects like bins off footpaths.
- Keep footpaths near cafes and businesses clear of stray chairs or other objects.
- Keep footpaths clear by cutting back overhanging plants from your property.
- Avoid using your mobile device while walking in public – for your safety too!
- Don't leave things like rentable bikes or scooters in public spaces.
- Report issues like fallen tree branches and unsafe footpaths to your local council.

We're here whenever you need us.

 1800 484 333

 [guidedogs.com.au/international-white-cane-day-2021](https://www.guidedogs.com.au/international-white-cane-day-2021)

Guide Dogs.