

RO&Ming with Lil

Episode 7

Measuring Mel's ups
and downs with
VROOM and OMO



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Introduction to Episode 7

Mel Stephens has been a research collaborator since 2013.

- Leber's Congenital Amaurosis – a family condition
- Now no light perception
- Lives independently in country Victoria (with menagerie)
- Travels with GD Penny
- Teaches braille and assistive technology
- YouTube content creator – Mel's Blind Life
- Studying, volunteering, horse riding, holidaying, photographing trains...

VROOM and OMO assessment tools

- Download the VROOM and OMO tools with brief instructions from

www.lildeverell.net/resources/vroom-and-omo-tools/

VROOM – vision related outcomes in O&M – yellow for light/vision

OMO – orientation and mobility outcomes – green for grass/walking

VROOM and OMO co-ratings over 7 years

- July 2013 (BVA retroscore) age 19 VROOM 20/50 OMO 43/50
- Oct 2015 (Benefits of GDM) age 21 VROOM 4/50 OMO 42/50
- June 2017 (Bungalow) age 22 VROOM 3/50 OMO 35/50
- June 2020 (ZOOM co-rating) age 26 VROOM 0/50 OMO 43/50

Interpreting VROOM scores

50	Full vision	
41- 49	Fine details <ul style="list-style-type: none">- facial expressions	
31- 40	Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">- can see whole objects, some distinctive internal details, recognise familiar people	
21-30	Formwork <ul style="list-style-type: none">- structures, forms, silhouettes, people shapes, building edges- patchy fields – brain fills the gaps creatively (Charles Bonnet Syndrome)- vision becomes secondary - use non-visual skills when vision is unreliable	
11-20	Fragments	Mel in 2013
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- lights, specular reflections, strong contrast, movement- ambient vision: good spatial cognition is needed to connect fragments	
1-10	Fifty shades of grey	Mel in 2015 & 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- light perception; can include colour	
0	Functional blindness	Mel in 2020
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- no light perception, or vision not reliable/timely	

Interpreting OMO scores

50	Carefree?		
41-49	Confident?	Mel in 2013 & 2020	43/50
31-40	Capable?	Mel in 2017	35/50
21-30	Cautious?		
11-20	Coactive?		
1-10	Cared for?		
0	Comatose?		

Thanks Mel!

Check out Mel's YouTube channel:

Mel's Blind Life

www.youtube.com/channel/UCpBrQDoKEWZSYpCkogdLV6Q

Contacts / Resources

- VROOM and OMO tools

www.lildeverell.net/resources/vroom-and-omo-tools/

- Links and PowerPoint slides for *RO&Ming with Lil*

www.lildeverell.net/resources/roaming-with-lil/

- To discuss VROOM and OMO, offer feedback, suggest a topic, or record an episode together:

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Credits

- Music
 - *Happy Stroll*, a royalty-free download from Purple Planet Music
- Graphics created by Lil Deverell with
 - PhotoShop lessons and technotherapy from Erin Deverell
 - Photos from
 - An amateur drone photographer from Cornwall, flying over a spaghetti junction in Birmingham (royalty-free)
 - Christine Darwood, a wildlife spotter in the ACT who snapped our sprightly echidna crossing the road (used with permission)
 - Rob Keating, a Canberra-based photographer, who found a weathered wombat crossing the road (purchased from <https://keatingmedia.com.au>)

