

Charlie

GUIDE
DOGS



Pupdate 2

The adventure continues

Charlie is growing up

**SPONSOR
A PUPPY**





Hello, it's Janice and George here, Charlie's Puppy Walkers. Welcome to his second Pupdate.

Charlie has been an absolute joy to puppy walk so far. We love the challenges that puppy walking brings, along with the opportunity to change someone's life for the better. Seeing our pups grow into little life changers is so rewarding.

Laid back pup

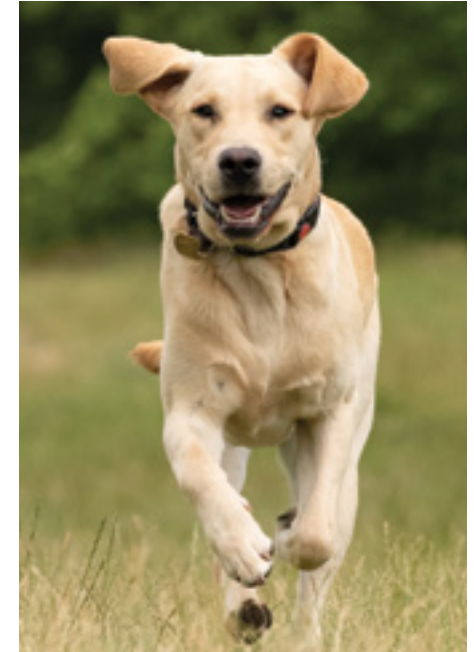
Charlie is a very chilled out puppy. When we go out shopping or to the bank, he's quite happy to lay down on

the floor (and sometimes he's not that keen on getting back up)! As he's gotten older, his relaxed personality has shone through with him remaining calm in any new situation.

We have recently taken on another guide dog trainee, Bailey, who is a lot younger than Charlie. Charlie was very accepting of Bailey, even when he tries to nibble Charlie's ears! They're getting along great and Charlie is enjoying teaching Bailey the ropes.

Mastering skills

Charlie loves his puppy classes and has continued to prove what a clever pup he is by mastering his basic obedience skills. One area we have been working on is his food distraction, teaching him to ignore food scraps



and smells whilst out and about. We are pleased to say his focus is improving in this area and he is making the choice to walk away from food distractions rather than let them get the better of him – no easy feat for any dog!

On free runs and in puppy classes Charlie can still get a bit excited when he sees other dogs. We are continuing to spend time teaching him to keep his

attention on us even when other dogs are around.

The big wide world

Charlie takes all new sounds and smells he comes across in his stride.

(Continued overleaf)



Earlier this year we took him to the Badminton Horse Trials, where he watched all the horses and hounds walk past: he wasn't fazed at all! I was proud of how well he coped and I am confident that his calmness will benefit his future training as a guide dog.

Charlie also visited the local town carnival. He was incredibly well behaved and particularly enjoyed the bubble machine – he tried to catch every single bubble at first! He jumped up and down and put a smile on everyone's face.

Future challenges

We will soon be taking Charlie to experience the London Underground for the first time. I'm confident that he will remain calm and will prove once again that he copes well with new experiences. It'll be an amazing learning opportunity for Charlie and will mean that his future guide dog owner will have total freedom to travel however they'd like.

Thank you so much for sponsoring Charlie. Look out for your next Pupdate in February.

Training – Puppy to qualified guide dog

It takes around 20 months of training to transform a newborn pup into a qualified guide dog.

The pups learn basic commands and are introduced to new surroundings with their Puppy Walker.

They then venture on to Guide Dogs Training School, where they learn

the foundation tasks required of a guide dog. The final stages of training focus on their partnership with a new owner, where they learn specific skills tailored to their owner's specific needs.



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