



# Frank

**New adventures**

**Pupdate 2**

# Welcome to your October Pupdate

**I hope you're enjoying the start of the new season, as the leaves begin to change and the air turns crisper again.**

Did you know that every day, 250 people in the UK start to lose their sight, four of which are estimated to be children? Nearly half report feeling isolated and cut off from the world around them. Together, we can change that.

Your support goes beyond helping puppies become life changers; you're also making a multitude of vital services possible. We're dedicated to breaking down barriers by providing information, advice and support for adults, children and families. None of this would be possible without supporters like you.

Thank you for your invaluable and continued support of Guide Dogs. Your generosity directly impacts the lives of people with sight loss, ensuring everyone can live actively, independently, and well. You are making a massive difference!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Steph".

**Steph Potter**  
Puppy Sponsorship Manager



# Thank you

## for sponsoring Frank



“  
**Hello, it's  
Vibeke here,  
Frank's  
Puppy Raiser.**  
”

Frank is full of fun! He's getting into his adolescent stage now, so he's starting to push the boundaries a little as he realises there's a big, wide world out there and is feeling braver about exploring it. But then he glances at you with a cheeky look, and you forgive everything. Frank's never properly naughty, and I know this behaviour is just part of him growing up – much like a teenager! – so I'm not worried about it at all.

### Visiting new places

Frank and I have been exploring all sorts of places together. We started with local shops and supermarkets, and Frank has become such a master in these environments. If we stop in an aisle, he'll happily sit and stay while I drop the lead to get something off a shelf. Lately, he's started to lie down rather than sit, and if I take too long choosing, he gets comfortable and tries to squeeze in a quick nap! But he's happy to get moving again – he loves being around people and always wants to be wherever I go.

Recently, my husband and I visited a friend near York with Frank. We went into the castle museum, to a country fayre and into a tearoom. Frank is fantastic in cafés and has learnt to settle quietly next to me.



While there, we also visited the coast and Frank had his first experience on a beach! He loved it. Some pups can be a bit nervous about the sea, but he wasn't fazed at all. He takes to new places like a duck to water!

## Friendly fellow

Frank absolutely loves meeting new people. We've been to a few fundraising events together, as well as to schools and Brownie groups to talk to the children. When Frank has his puppy coat on, he knows he's in work mode and greets everyone calmly. He was fantastic with the children and said hello gently when they came up to fuss him at the end.

However, when he's not in his puppy coat, Frank can be a little overenthusiastic when greeting people and occasionally jumps up. He's such a friendly pup and just gets a little overexcited. I'm trying to teach him that he can be just as friendly with four paws on the ground and he's making fantastic progress.

Frank's recall is also wonderful. He's getting more adventurous now and starting to venture further away than he used to, but if he goes around a corner, then I'll just call him back, and he comes immediately. He's such a good dog!



Check out how well Frank does when he visits a garden centre with Vibeke by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or going to:  
**[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-frank](https://guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-frank)**



Scan me

## Puppy pals

Frank is not just sociable with people – he loves other pups too! He's made friends with a two-year-old Dalmatian, Meg, who lives close to us. They love to go on free runs together; they just run and run, playing a little chasing game. He's also been on free runs with his brother, Dan. Their mum, Somer, was the first puppy I raised for Guide Dogs. We like to keep it in the family!

**Find out how Frank's training is going in your next Pupdate in February! Thank you so much for sponsoring him.**



## Where is Frank on his Pupdate journey?



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## What is Puppy Raising for Guide Dogs?

Puppy Raising for Guide Dogs is our bespoke puppy-raising programme that guide dog pups follow while living with their puppy raisers. It was designed in consultation with volunteers, staff, training behaviour consultants and canine research staff. It's based on Positive Reinforcement Training (PRT) which focuses on rewarding good behaviour and creating positive associations with new experiences. We treat each pup as an individual and help to support their physical, behavioural, and emotional development.

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