



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Judy

Out and about

Pupdate 2

Welcome to your February Pupdate

I do hope you and your family had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

As we try to return to normality and adapt to the new world that we find ourselves in following the turbulence of the last two years, our wonderful trainers and volunteer puppy raisers have dedicated themselves to helping our puppies on their journeys to become life-changing guide dogs. They continue to learn and progress, and we're so proud of how they have been doing in their training so far, and we're excited to find out where they'll go next. I hope that you enjoy your Pupdate, finding out what your wonderful puppy has been up to for the last few months.

I'd like to thank you so much for supporting us by sponsoring a puppy. We need people like you to be able to change the lives of people with sight loss, and we couldn't be Guide Dogs without you.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Allum

Puppy Sponsorship Manager



Judy continues her journey



Judy's progress is coming along really nicely and we're really proud of her for taking everything in her stride so far. We absolutely love having her at home with us – she's got quite a lively personality but at home, she settles down well. She's a real softie and loves lots of cuddles! Judy loves having people fuss over her but when she's got her training coat on, she's down to business and knows she's working. You could say she has the work hard, play hard balance down to a T!

Judy's progress

Since our last Pupdate, we've been working on Judy's basic skills and improving on the skills she's already familiar with. We've taken Judy to new areas so she can get used to being in different environments and even went on holiday down to the coast in Cornwall. During our trip we visited the beach and Judy dealt with it wonderfully! Cornwall's quite far away from us but Judy had no problem dealing with the long car journey.

Judy went on her first train journey with another guide dog in training and it went well! She was a bit hesitant at first as there was a big gap between the platform and the train, but once she saw the other dog get on with no issues, she seamlessly followed along. It's so nice to see Judy learning from other dogs in training too.

“Hello, it's Sally and Mike here, Judy's Puppy Raisers. We're excited to update you on how she's getting on.”

Judy's challenges

Judy's only been on a bus once when she was small, so this is something we're going to explore more of. She's been on small minibuses but tends to struggle on them. The last time we were on a minibus, we could tell she was struggling so we hopped off at the next stop and walked back home. Next time, we'll start with a short journey and start building it up from there. We'll bring something that she can chew on to help settle her and this way, she can associate it with a more positive experience.



See how Judy is progressing with her training:
guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-judy

In saying this, we do love meeting new people and making new friends. One thing we always get asked about is how we'll manage to part ways with Judy once she's ready to move onto training school. Although it'll be difficult, it has been a pleasure to watch Judy progress so far and grow up to be a gorgeous little lady.

Find out how Judy's getting on in her next Pupdate.





Training – puppy to qualified guide dog

It takes around 20 months of training to transform a pup into a qualified guide dog. The pups learn basic skills and are introduced to new surroundings with their Puppy Raiser. 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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