



Judy

**Preparing for
training school**

Pupdate 3

Welcome to your June Pupdate

I hope you are well and enjoying the start of summer. I'm sure you are looking forward to finding out the latest update from your sponsored puppy.

Your support is vital to help our future life changers complete their training and support a person with sight loss. We're proud to create so many partnerships through our guide dog and buddy dog schemes, and to be continuing this throughout 2022.

We really appreciate that the past few months have been really challenging in lots of ways, so we are so grateful that you have continued to support us by sponsoring a puppy. On behalf of everyone at Guide Dogs, I'd like to say a huge thank you.

Because of you and your amazing ongoing support, we can continue to make life-changing partnerships possible!

Yours sincerely,



Chris Allum

Puppy Sponsorship Manager



Judy

has made excellent progress



Judy is a delight to have around our home. She is a very enthusiastic, energetic character and seems to have a zest for life. Judy is the third golden retriever that we've raised, and she is definitely the liveliest! She loves to carry her toys around the house with her; she's got a new squeaky burger toy that she adores!

Overcoming challenges

In your last Pupdate, we mentioned that Judy was struggling with her dog distraction. She loves saying hello to other dogs and would pull on the lead to get to them when out and about. We're really pleased to report that this is much improved! We've started using a T-Touch harness with her, which is where the lead is clipped to the harness on the front of the chest instead of on the collar, relieving pressure from the dog's neck and helping them move in a balanced way. The T-Touch harness has helped Judy tremendously as she will now stand and look but won't pull. She'll then look at us and we'll reward her with a treat to reinforce the behaviour.

“Hello, it's Mike and Sally here, Judy's Puppy Raisers. We've been preparing Judy for training school.”

Judy has also had some challenges with bus journeys. The buses where we live are quite small and the bendy country lanes make for a bumpy ride! We've worked very hard with her to make bus journeys a positive experience. We started off by only taking her on short journeys along fairly straight roads and slowly built up the journey length and progressed to more country lane routes. We tend to sit at the front of the bus where there is more space for Judy, as she has long legs and likes to be able to stretch out! She will now settle herself under my legs quite happily. We've gotten to know our local bus driver well and she has been fantastic at allowing us to train. When Judy sees a bus now, she wants to get on!



Looking to the future

We will really miss Judy when she goes to training school. We're so used to her always being around, and the house will be a lot quieter without her! It's always sad when the puppies leave us but it's wonderful to know that they're going on to do something amazing.



Hear how Judy is progressing with public transport.
Scan the QR code with your smartphone or go to:

guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-judy



We think she'll get on well with her training as she's so intelligent and loves to use her mind. She's great at learning new things so we think she'll take to guiding really well. We think she'll be best suited to a future owner who is quite active as she has so much energy; she doesn't ever seem to get tired.

We will hopefully raise another guide dog puppy after Judy leaves us, although we will probably have a break for a holiday beforehand!

Judy has been an absolute pleasure to raise, and we're excited to see what the future holds for her. Look out for your next Pupdate to find out how she gets on at training school!



Behind them every step of the way

A guide dog puppy's training journey could not have been possible without our fantastic volunteer puppy raisers. They do an incredible job of building the best foundation for our puppies before they head off to Guide Dogs Training School. One of the best parts of puppy raising is knowing that when the pup moves to training school, they will hopefully go on to change the life of someone with sight loss.

To find out what a day in the life of a Puppy Raiser is like, listen to Kirsty and Phil's experience at guidedogs.org.uk/puppyraiser



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