

Judy's progress

Pupdate 5

Welcome to your February Pupdate

I hope that you and your family are well and had an enjoyable start to the year.

Thank you so much for supporting Guide Dogs by sponsoring a puppy. We can't thank you enough for your continued commitment and support. At any one time, we're responsible for over 8,000 puppies and dogs, and are one of the only organisations worldwide that breeds and nurtures them throughout their lifetime. Without you, we couldn't train life-changing dogs like your sponsored pup – you truly are making a huge difference.

Did you know that one in five people will live with significant sight loss in their lifetime? We're committed to providing the support needed to ensure that everyone with sight loss can live their life exactly as they choose. By sponsoring a puppy, you're helping to transform the lives of both adults and children with visual impairments. Thank you.

I'm pleased to share your sponsored puppy's latest Pupdate with you and I hope you enjoy reading it.

Yours sincerely,

Steph

Steph PotterPuppy Sponsorship Manager



Thank you





Hello it's Sam here, Judy's trainer. I'm training Judy alongside my mentor Roberto. Since your last Pupdate, Roberto and I noticed Judy was not progressing as well as we would have hoped. Over the last few months, she's experienced some challenges with her training, particularly with car travel but also with public transport. During car journeys, Judy started becoming uncomfortable and now dislikes travelling for any length of time. Roberto and I have been working hard to help Judy feel comfortable in the car, but we've not seen much improvement.

This has affected other areas of her training as we use a car or Guide Dogs van, which is especially equipped for the comfort of our dogs, to travel to training locations such as town and city centres, and to local free run areas. We've been doing our best to accommodate Judy's training without going in the car, but it's been very difficult to train her fully without this.

Judy was having some health issues too, including a few ear infections. We also noticed she was scratching her skin a lot and was experiencing discomfort with her paws. After consultations with

the vet, it was decided that we would put her on an allergy-friendly diet and give Judy some time off until she was feeling better. She's had a break from training for around eight weeks and we're really pleased to say that we've seen so much improvement with her health.

Judy's quirks

Judy is such a happy girl and she always makes us laugh. Her favourite thing to do is roll over and do what can only be described as a 'roly poly' on the floor, she's like a proper gymnast! Judy loves to cuddle and her favourite position is to lie upside down with her paws in the air. I know what she's waiting for, lots of tummy tickles! Who could resist giving her those?

Back to school

We have been slowly reintroducing Judy to her training routine. Over the last few weeks, I've been visiting Judy at home with James and Katie, her fosterers. I'll also be taking her for some free runs and engaging in some playtime. Once Judy became used to me visiting, I reinstated some skills into her routine that I'd previously taught her, such as chin rest. At the moment Judy is very happy and relaxed at her fosterers', so we are reintroducing her training within their home.







Hear more about how Judy is progressing by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or going to:

guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-judy

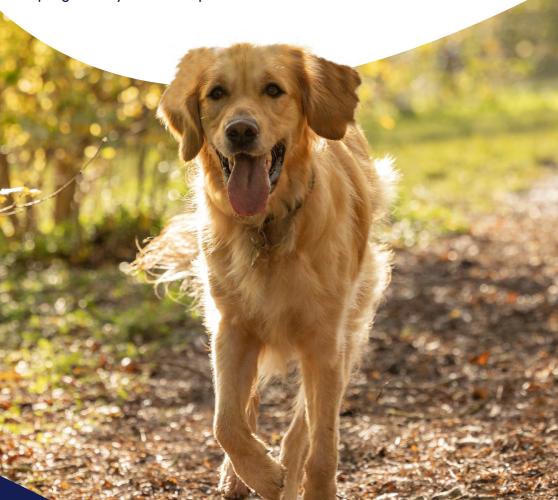


In time, I hope to reintroduce loose-lead walking and some guiding tasks such as harness walks and locating objects. This will be a very slow process to ensure that Judy is happy and confident with the training and, importantly, enjoying learning her guiding tasks.

Looking ahead

Over the next few months, Roberto and I will be working hard to get Judy back on track with her training. Our focus will be on helping her to feel comfortable in the car on different journey lengths. When we've been able to do this, we'll move onto guiding tasks in various environments. Our priority remains ensuring that Judy is happy, healthy and enjoying guiding.

Thank you for sponsoring Judy. I look forward to updating you with her progress in your next Pupdate in June!







/SponsorAPuppy



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