



Hello, I'm Glyn, Oscar's Puppy Walker. Welcome to Oscar's second Pupdate! I am excited to update you on his progress.

I feel very privileged having Oscar in my life and I'm so grateful to you, his wonderful sponsors, for your support. I recently saw my first puppy, Boris, wearing his guide dog training harness and it gave me such a feeling of pride. I can't wait to see Oscar changing the life of someone with sight loss one day.

## **Confident pup**

Oscar's confidence has come on leaps and bounds. He was initially a little nervous when leaving the house, as we had building work going on outside. We spent lots of time calmly watching the builders at work and now he isn't fazed by them at all.

Oscar has learnt many new routes already, sometimes he decides he wants to go to the park, but who can blame him! I've taken Oscar on the bus and the train and he is a great travel companion. He knows to watch out for the gap between the platform and the train and settles very quickly on board. Soon Oscar will travel by Tube too.









One thing he does need to learn is patience, as he always wants to be on the move! We are spending time just sitting and watching the world go by together, teaching him to take things a little slower. I am confident he will learn to take his time very soon.

## Life at home

It feels like Oscar understands me when I talk to him around the house. If he comes in from free running and is muddy, I can tell him to go to the shower and he goes straight there!

I've bought Oscar some tougher toys that can survive his chewing. He has a black kong toy and a monkey rope toy that he loves to show to everyone. (Continued overleaf)



Oscar is very good and never chews anything he shouldn't. Oscar is still just as affectionate as ever, following me around the house and resting his head on my legs at any opportunity. He will make a brilliant companion as well as a guide dog.

## **Representing Guide Dogs**

I've taken Oscar along to a few fundraising events in which we spread the word about Guide Dogs. Everyone wants to meet Oscar and learn about his journey. At one event there were lots of children, and Oscar was so gentle with them, it was like he just knew he had to be careful. He made me so proud.

Thank you so much for sponsoring Oscar. Look out for your next Pupate in June.



## 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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