



# Pudding

**Pudding's qualified  
as a guide dog!**

**Pupdate 5**

# Welcome to your June Pupdate

**I hope you're enjoying these warmer and sunnier months.**

Thank you so much for supporting Guide Dogs by sponsoring a puppy. Did you know that in 2022 nearly 100,000 people were told they were losing their sight? This kind of news can have a huge impact, both practically and emotionally. Thanks to puppy sponsorship from our generous supporters, we're able to be there every step of the way for those who need us, delivering life-changing services, advice and support when it's needed most.

At Guide Dogs, we believe people with sight loss should live actively, independently, and well – however they choose. We're dedicated to educating, campaigning, and of course training incredible dogs like your sponsored pup. None of this would be possible without people like you; 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 Potter**

Puppy Sponsorship Manager



# The perfect duo!



“  
**Hello, I’m  
Jane, I’m so  
pleased that  
I’ve been  
partnered  
with Pudding.**  
”

## A little bit about me

I live with my husband and Pudding is my third guide dog. Because of my eye condition, I have no vision in my right eye and I can only see a little with my left eye.

Before I had a guide dog, I had to ask my husband or my friends if they could help me, but it was difficult as they had their own lives and it meant waiting to fit in with them. It was really hard for me. I’m the kind of person who doesn’t like to ask for help – I like to plan the day and do what I need to do. I found it upsetting and frustrating sometimes.

My previous two dogs were golden retrievers and I liked the idea of having another one, then Pudding came along! Now with her I can plan my day as I wish, we just go off and do whatever we want. Pudding is such a special dog and I’m so pleased that she’s come into my life. She’s amazing and has helped me regain my confidence and independence.

## Me and Guide Dogs

My two guide dogs prior to Pudding were called Jarvis and Barton. I had Jarvis for nine and a half years, we had a wonderful partnership together. My second guide dog Barton was with me for a couple of years before he became unwell and passed away. It was a very difficult time – I was grieving for Barton but also the independent person that he helped me to be.



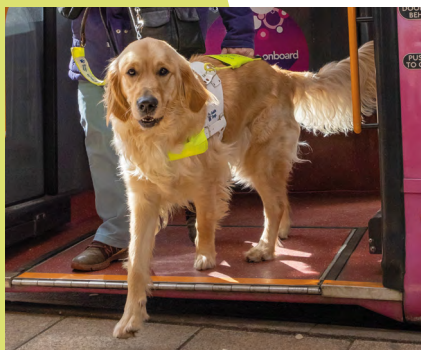
Without Barton, I had to go back to using a long cane. This allowed me to get around but with a cane you only know about obstacles just before you walk into them, so you have to walk slower. I'm very grateful that I didn't have to wait too long to be matched with the perfect Pudding!

The difference with a guide dog is massive. If Pudding sees an obstacle far ahead, she will start slowing down, giving me the time to stop. If she doesn't think I am safe, she will stop and stand still, you can tell she's alert, always with her head up. She's brilliant, her training is superb.

## Welcoming Pudding

When I was first introduced to Pudding I spent a lot of time sitting with her, stroking her, talking to her and playing together. This helped us to build a strong bond before we began our partnership training.

Pudding's a bright girl and she knows her job: when she's wearing her harness, she's a professional. Then, when we come back home and she takes it off, she's a playful and lively girl. I can't believe how she can switch so quickly to being just an ordinary dog!



Meet Jane and learn how Pudding's settled into her new home by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or going to:

**[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-pudding](https://guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-pudding)**



Scan me

## Life with Pudding

Pudding and I are very well suited, we adjusted to one another really quickly. She sleeps on her bed, close to mine, and every morning she puts her paw on my bed as if to say 'good morning'!

The difference she's made to me is remarkable, I feel like I'm back to being myself again. When I'm with Pudding, I know I will be safe. She takes the pressure off my husband too. When I'm out with her, he rings me and he's not worried, I'll tell him what time I'll be home so he can get on with what he needs to do.

Thank you for sponsoring Pudding. We are starting a new life together, like a new chapter in a book we'll fill with lots of new adventures!

**I'm looking forward to updating you on what we've been up to in your next Pupdate in October!**



## Where is Pudding on her Pupdate journey?



1

2

3

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5

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## Creating new partnerships

Matching our dogs with their future owners is the final stage in the guide dog journey and a very important one! This task is completed by a Guide Dog Mobility Specialist (GDMS) who will take the dog's personality and preferences into account, the volume of work that the dog is comfortable doing, and at what pace. They will look to partner the dog with someone whose lifestyle matches the dog's. It's almost like creating a dating profile!



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