



South East: puppy raising update December 2024

Dear All,

How quickly the year has flown-by, and what a good opportunity for me to extend my sincere thank you for everything you have done for us at Guide Dogs. With your help this year in the South East, we have supported many dogs at start of their journeys and into their future careers.

- Placed 211 puppies in puppy raising homes (with a few more to come before the end of the year!)
- Supplied 150 dogs to the next stage of training
- 33 of our dogs entered the breeding programme
- In the South East, 66 dogs have qualified as guide dogs (with more to qualify before the end of the year)
- And finally, 11 dogs have gone on to be wonderful buddy dogs

None of this would have been possible without your commitment, kindness and often patience! A huge thank you for everything you have done in 2024 which has allowed us to achieve all the above. We are very lucky.

Something I am most proud of in 2024 is our monthly learning sessions, run by our wonderful Puppy Development Advisors (PDAs). We have been blown away by the number of you taking the time to attend these sessions and really hope you have found them interesting. We will continue them in 2025 and hope you continue to find them useful. Please do let me know if you have any topics, you'd like us to cover.

2024 in pictures

To celebrate the achievements of 2024, I asked the team to share their favourite photos from the year, I thought you might like to see a little selection:



Photo: a group trip to Canary Wharf.



Photo: a group trip to Heathrow airport.



Photos (left to right): guide dog puppy Hyatt sits in front of Frankenstein, and guide dog puppy Spike sits in a field.

Thank you messages

Puppy Development Advisors Jenny and Megan would also like to say thank you on behalf of all PDAs.



“I’m Meg Lambe, I’ve been a Puppy Development Advisor since February 2020. I’d love to thank all our volunteers for the time and effort you have dedicated to us over the past year. We know it’s been a hard year for some, and volunteering isn’t high on everyone’s priority list which makes the volunteering this year extra special. I’d like to send an extra thank you to those volunteers I

have personally worked with this year to raise 31 pups. It’s honestly a pleasure see them grown and learn.”



“My name is Jenny Clarkson; I’ve been a Puppy Development Advisor for around 20 years and the area I cover is West Berkshire and South Oxfordshire. It is very inspiring to work with such enthusiastic and committed group of puppy raisers and puppy fosterers. I’d like to use this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you for your efforts and invaluable contribution over the last year. We really couldn’t do it without you”.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas break and a very happy New Year.

Helena Gibbons

Operations Manager Puppy Raising - South East

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