

## North West region: puppy raising update - February 2024

Dear North West puppy raisers and fosterers,

Here's what's been happening in your region.

### Team update



In January, we welcomed Jayne Allen (pictured on the left) into the North West puppy raising department. Many of you may know Jayne in her previous roles as she worked for many years as a Guide Dog Trainer and in Dog Wellbeing at the North West Regional Centre in Atherton.

Within a few short weeks, Jayne has proved to be a dedicated member of the team. She has been out and about working alongside the Puppy Development Advisors using her skills, experience, and knowledge to support our puppy raisers. Jayne will be with puppy development for 16 months before returning to her Guide Dog Trainer role.

### Thank you for supporting puppy raising



This month, we would like to acknowledge and thank Minsterley Motors in the Shrewsbury area. They've kindly allowed puppy raisers with their pups to travel for free on bus route 435. This has been a huge benefit for the pups, forming part of their training and helping them to prepare for their future roles as life-changers.

### Hot in the press

Earlier this month, we were in the media with an interview for BBC Radio Manchester, which took place live from our North West Regional Centre in Atherton. Puppy Development Advisor, Andrea Deller, was interviewed about her role and about our puppy development programme. BBC Radio



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Manchester also took the opportunity to launch their 'Make a Difference Awards' which has a new category this year, for animals that change lives.



## Puppy raiser on Dragons' Den

You may have seen our lovely Lancashire based puppy raiser Gemma on BBC One's Dragons Den sharing how raising guide dog pups inspired her to start her own business of edible greeting cards for pet dogs. Did she secure an investment from any of the dragons? Find out via [BBC iPlayer](#).

## New volunteer expenses form

We have recently updated our volunteer expenses claim form. The updated form replaces all previous versions and is to be used for all expenses claims. Here is the [latest version of the form](#) which can download directly from the [Volunteer Information Point](#). Guide Dogs believes that volunteers should not be out of pocket because of their voluntary activity and commits to reimburse any reasonable pre-agreed expenses incurred.

## Make Every Cuppa Count

Fundraising groups across the North West are making every cuppa count by hosting a tea party, coffee morning or bake sale and inviting service users, volunteers, and supporters to get together to celebrate our life-changing work. If there is a



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fundraiser near you, you will receive an invitation to join by email on 22 March.

## Your suggestions

Please let me know if there is anything specific you would like me to include in these regional updates either by emailing [vanessal.scott@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:vanessal.scott@guidedogs.org.uk) or feel free to make a suggestion to one of our puppy raising mentors who can pass on ideas or comments on your behalf.

Many thanks,

**Vanessa Scott**  
Canine Assisted Services, Operations Manager - North West

Document ends.



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