

North West Puppy Raising update

Introduction



My name is Vanessa Scott and I am currently the Puppy Development manager for the North West region. I have worked at GD for 21 years, starting as a Guide Dog Trainer.

I like to keep fit and run and go to the gym and I am currently studying floristry at college. I have two children, two dogs and four cats. I got married on 20th May 2023 to Dave Wilde who is a casual contract Guide Dog Mobility Specialist.

News and updates

Staff updates

In July we will be recruiting for a Puppy Development Advisor for the NW region, mainly covering Greater Manchester. This is to replace Emily Forbes who will be taking a new post from July.

PDA Jane Rawlinson will be moving on to the puppy sourcing specialist role, which is a seconded role for two years, on 3rd July. We will also be recruiting for Jane's 2-year secondment replacement soon.

Elaine Webster also retired - here is the email that was sent to the NW puppy raisers.

“Dear Puppy Raiser(s) and fosterers

I am writing to let you know that after several decades working for Guide Dogs, Puppy Development Supervisor Elaine Webster is due to retire. For those of you who have met Elaine over the years, you will

know how much she was a dedicated member of the Northwest puppy development team, she truly valued all puppy raisers and fosterers and appreciated how much commitment, hard work and dedication goes into raising puppies.

After so many years devoted to a successful career, there is no doubt that, along with her wisdom and experience, Elaine will be missed greatly by her colleagues, volunteers and in our wider puppy training networks.

I understand that Elaine has many plans to enjoy her retirement including some voluntary work with Age UK and possibly Horwich “Heritage and to enjoy having more time to spend with friends and family, whilst hopefully still leaving plenty of time for relaxing with her favourite antiques show.

As Elaine prepares for the next chapter in her life, I know that she will take lots of happy memories and will look back at a long and successful career with great pride.

I’m sure you will join us in saying, we wish Elaine the warmest thanks for all the support given to Northwest puppy raising and to Guide Dogs over the years and the very best wishes for a long and happy retirement.”

Team Bethan!

Northwest Puppy Development Advisor Bethan McDonald has swum the English Channel to name a guide dog puppy in memory of her mum.

Bethan took on the 22-mile challenge in a team of four, with each swimmer spending an hour in the water in rotation until the team reached France.

Below is a picture of the relay team of four ladies standing together in the sea, wearing swimming hats and goggles. Bethan is smiling and is second from the right. They are just waiting for the go ahead from the organisers to take the plunge and swim the channel.



If you would like to help Bethan to name a puppy, please donate by following the link below.

Thanks in advance!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/beth-mcdonald-swim>

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