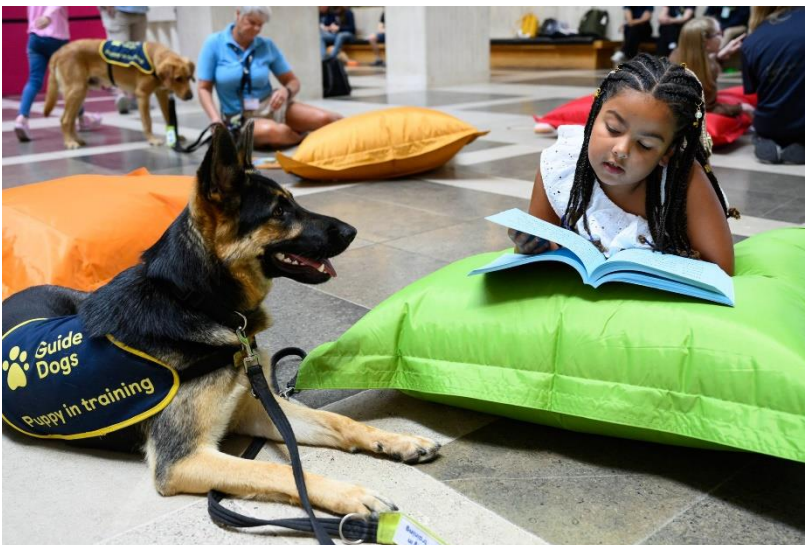


South East region: puppy raising update August 2024

Dear All,

Hope you're all having a lovely summer; either dodging the showers or hiding from the sun! We've had a busy time placing puppies, moving dogs into training plus our usual group outings, fundraising and awareness events. I've added some photos of these activities below and, as ever, thank you for all your support with these endeavours.

Guide Dogs encourages children to read to dogs in unique event at the British Library



Guide Dogs announced a new initiative encouraging all children to read to dogs, including children with vision impairments. We hosted a special reading session at the iconic British Library in London, where children with different sight loss conditions met some friendly guide dogs in training and were encouraged to read to this laidback canine audience using Guide Dogs' CustomEyes books. In the above photo, guide dog puppy, Sable, listens to a child read.

Back to school for guide dog puppies

Thank you to our puppy raisers who recently took puppies Gibson and Kate on a local school visit!



Guide Dogs volunteers stand outside a school building with puppies Gibson and Kate.

Returning puppy equipment

We know how much equipment accumulates as puppies grow into big dogs! We'd really appreciate it if you could hand back any equipment you no longer need so we can use it for another dog. When a puppy finishes their puppy raising journey; collars and T-touch harnesses should follow them into training or the breeding programme, and anything else handed back to your Puppy Development Advisor. By returning equipment, it helps us to save funds by not ordering equipment unnecessarily. Don't worry, we'll make sure you have replacements of anything you need. Thank you so much for your help.

Information handover from puppy raisers to fosterers

Something I've spoken to a few puppy raisers about is how best to pass information on from puppy raisers to volunteer training fosterers at the next stage of our dog's journey.

From October, the South East will be trialling a new 'postcard' which we hope allows you to pass on all those little but important personality traits of the puppy you know so well. If you have a dog entering training, please do have a go at filling it in. We'll also send you details on how to feedback your thoughts. I'm looking forward to hearing what you think!

Puppy raising information sessions

A reminder about our monthly virtual learning sessions, which are run by our Puppy Development Advisors on the third Tuesday of every month. There is a different theme every session and they are an opportunity to look at a topic in more detail. If you'd like to attend future sessions, please ask your Puppy Development Advisor and they'll pass on the link.

Puppy adventures

As always we have puppies at all stages of development in our region, and many of our puppy raisers have been out and about introducing their puppies to the world around them. Enjoy these photos of some local puppies at different points along their journey:



Puppy Fiji out for her first walk.



A picture of Kika who has recently been accepted into our breeding scheme

Wishing you all a very happy rest of the summer and looking forward to catching up with you again in the Autumn.

Helena Gibbons

Canine Assisted Services (CAS) Operations Manager - South East

Document ends.