



South West and Wales region: puppy raising update - October 2023

Welcome to October's regional puppy raising update for the South West and Wales Region.

Hi Puppy Raising Team,

I'm Liz Orme, the Canine Assistance Services (CAS) Operations Manager for Puppy Raising in the South West and Wales.

Firstly, I'd like to say a very big 'thank you' to you all for your support the last few months. Placing, fostering, and training pups in the summer months is often rather hectic and a challenge for us, but thanks to your commitment and efforts we managed to place all the new puppies allocated to us, bringing us to a whopping 259 puppies on our schemes in the region!

Team update

Welcome to Elli Cavazza

Please join me in welcoming PDA Elli Cavazza to the South West and Wales region. Elli joined us on Monday 9 October, moving from the same role within Guide Dogs in the South East. Elli is opening a new puppy raiser scheme mainly within East Dorset and will be taking over the management of some Puppy Raisers from each of Leanne Kelly and Kirsteen Welch's schemes over the next few months. This will also give scope for Elli to recruit more actively in some towns that have been harder to reach.

Coming soon: Meet the team with Puppy Development Advisor introductions

The Puppy Development team in our Region consists of two Puppy Development Supervisors (PDSs) and 11 Puppy Development Advisors (PDAs). I will be asking all the team to write short introductions so you can get to know us all a little more.



Date: October 2023



Lucy Wilkins, Puppy Selection and Screening Specialist

Working alongside our department is the Puppy Selection and Screening Specialist, Lucy Wilkins. Lucy will be known to some of you as previously a Puppy Development Advisor based in the Bristol area, so she brings her silks and knowledge to selection of puppies from external breeders and will be helping us to supplement our pup numbers as needed.

So far this year, in the South West and Wales, we have added 20 pups to our internally bred population, the majority of which are progressing well and on track to either join our breeding programme or move onto future training as a guide dog.

Puppy Raiser recruitment

We continue to recruit for puppy raisers over the region, so we have enough volunteers to help us with the gradual increase in puppies, but also to give those puppy raisers who would like to put their feet up between pups, time for a well-earned break! But I know many of you miss the pitter patter of four paws in the house, so thank you for welcoming a new puppy so soon after an older pup leaves you.

Please feel free to pass on suggestions to your PDA for information you would like included within this update, and we will try our best to accommodate. Until next time, from all the team, happy puppy raising.

Kind Regards,

Liz Orme

Canine Assisted Services, Operations Manager - South West and Wales

Document ends.



Date: October 2023