

Forward



Meet Angharad and her guide dog Sarah

These “inseparable” friends are one of Wales’s youngest partnerships

Inside: Guide Dogs Shop
products we think you’ll love

My Time to Play service goes
from strength to strength

Introducing the volunteers who
repair our collection boxes



INCREDIBLE DOGS INCREDIBLE NUTRITION

Royal Canin are enormously proud to support Guide Dogs.
By partnering together, we are helping thousands of people
with sight loss live the lives they choose whilst also helping
to make a better world for pets.



discover more at
royalcanin.com

Regulars

- 5** Welcome from the CEO
- 6** News ▼
A round-up of what's been happening at Guide Dogs



- 10** Guide Dogs in the Media
Find out where we've made the news

- 11** Star News ►



- 25** A Day in the Life Of... ▼
Kim Cordy, Habilitation Specialist



- 26** Thank You to our Supporters

- 29** On the Campaign Trail

- 30** New Partnerships

- 39** Letter & Caption Competition
Gary thanks Guide Dogs for 30 years of marriage

- 40** In Good Company

Features

- 12** My Time to Play service goes from strength to strength

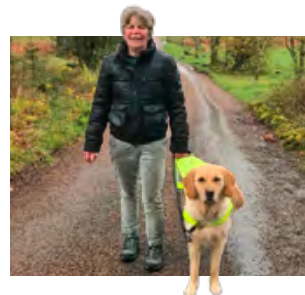
- 13** Guide Dogs Shop – feel-good gifts for everyone ►



- 14** There's life in the old (life-sized collection) dogs yet

- 15** Fund Race gets top marks

- 16** A guide to Guide Dogs ►



- 18** Putting a stop to it

- 19** Kath is worth her weight in gold to Guide Dogs

- 20** Angharad's story ▼



- 23** Andrew hits his stride

- 24** The sky's the limit for Hannah

“I’m not a person that likes technology... but when you practise and realise how helpful it is, then it just makes more sense.”

Alba, guide dog owner

From supporting day-to-day tasks in the home to helping you navigate when you are out and about, technology can be life-changing.

Find out how technology can help you at guidedogs.org.uk/tech.

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a registered charity in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1334). C110 04/24

Subscription enquiries:

You’re receiving this copy of Forward magazine as one of our valued supporters. Forward is available in standard print, Braille, large print and audio CD formats. It’s also available online as an accessible PDF, as a plain text document and as audio files at guidedogs.org.uk/forward.

If you no longer wish to receive this magazine, or if you wish to change the format in which it’s sent to you, please contact us on **0800 953 0113** or via guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk.

Editorial contributions:

Send your stories to Forward by email to forward@guidedogs.org.uk or addressed to ‘Forward magazine’ by post to the Head Office address below. Unfortunately, due to the volume of ideas we receive, we cannot acknowledge every item. We reserve the right to edit or refuse.

Founding Editor:

The late Captain Nikolai Liakhoff MBE FRZS

Registered Head Office:

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association,
Hillfields, Burghfield Common,
Reading RG7 3YG

Tel: **0118 983 5555**

Web: guidedogs.org.uk

Email: guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk

© 2024 Registered charity in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1334). C008 04/24

Any products or services advertised in Forward by third parties are not in any way endorsed by Guide Dogs, and Guide Dogs shall not be responsible for the accuracy of any information contained in such advertisements nor has it investigated or verified any of the information.

A welcome from Andrew

Dear reader,

For me, Forward magazine is both a wonderful showcase of the things that we do across our amazing charity, and also a peek behind the curtain to see what is happening behind the scenes. Each month we receive many stories, but cannot showcase them all – but I hope you really enjoy the selection we have in store for you.

One of our stories this month has, in part, been inspired following a visit by me to the Livingston fundraising volunteers in Scotland in February, where I learnt about their work in the community. During my time there the team were keen to showcase the work of volunteers to restore our life-sized collection dogs to their former glory, after all the wear and tear they endure. Heading back to the office I learnt of others around the country performing similar work, and felt that these amazing volunteers needed some time in the spotlight. I hope that you enjoy learning about them on page 14, and perhaps follow in their footsteps.

In these tough financial times, sadly my job sometimes involves being part of a

team which has to make some difficult decisions. In this edition of Forward, we wanted to share the news that we will be closing the My Sighted Guide service by the end of the year. This information can be found on page six.

One of the areas I get asked about quite frequently is that of our matching process to partner our amazing dogs with a prospective guide dog owner. Prior to joining Guide Dogs I had no idea as to the number of variables the teams consider in the process, and on pages 16-17 we share an insight into that work and bust a few myths along the way.

As always there are lots of stories about our volunteers, fundraisers and supporters, including a story that explains

the origins of Fund Race for you on page 15.

In my first eight months as CEO of Guide Dogs, I am very fortunate to have been able to meet so many of you as I visit sites around the UK, and even more fortunate to be able to learn more about the work done by fundraising volunteers in three groups near to me. The stories I hear are truly inspirational and it's wonderful to be able to share them with you.

I hope you enjoy this latest edition,



Andrew Lennox
Chief Executive
Guide Dogs

News

Extra financial help for buddy dog families

Our buddy dog service brings a friendly, well-behaved dog into the lives of children with a vision impairment. More than a pet, buddy dogs can help children learn independent living skills, have huge wellbeing benefits and, in some cases, prepare them for guide dog ownership. However, we know that looking after a dog can be expensive.

We don't want current or prospective buddy dog families to worry about unforeseen costs. So, we've launched a pilot offering extra financial help to cover unexpected vet bills (families will still be responsible for routine vet care – such as preventative flea treatments).

Anyone who's concerned about being able to cover such costs is eligible – families just need to apply first by contacting buddydogs@guidedogs.org.uk.



My Sighted Guide service to be replaced with Community Sighted Guiding

We want to let you know how we are changing our sighted guiding services at Guide Dogs. We want to improve the environment for everyone living with a vision impairment, and to make sighted guiding skills as familiar as first aid knowledge.

We will be more than doubling the size of the team which delivers training to the friends and families of people with sight loss, and to companies and the wider community so that as many people as possible are equipped to provide sighted guide support.

As part of this move towards community

sighted guiding, we have taken the difficult decision to close the My Sighted Guide service over the course of this year. We really appreciate the work and dedication which has gone into these partnerships, but it has become increasingly difficult to deliver this service in a fair and consistent way, and to set up and support new partnerships. Our CEO, Andrew Lennox, was recently on Radio Four's In Touch programme, discussing the closure of My Sighted Guide and how we are preparing Guide Dogs for the future. You can find the recording on BBC Sounds by searching for 'In Touch, 30th April'.

A place to reflect in memory of Gill Moss

Staff and volunteers at the National Centre have clubbed together to dedicate a bench in loving memory of a volunteer receptionist who died in November last year. Gill Moss was also a puppy socialiser and a guide dog mum holder, bringing many life-changing puppies into the world, and she and husband Ray also boarded guide dog mums. Canine Health Administrator Jo Brown, who's based at the centre, said: "Gill was a valued part of the Guide Dogs family, but she was so much more than a volunteer. She would always go out of her way to help and support in any way she could. We wanted to honour all the amazing time she and her family gave to Guide Dogs, and keep her memory alive. And the bench is somewhere that family and friends can visit to remember her."



Guide Dogs family loses "kind, gentle and caring" former colleague

Former Guide Dogs colleague Andy Guiel passed away in April. Andy worked with love and passion for Guide Dogs, the organisation he had dreamt of working for as a schoolboy. He started as an apprentice Guide Dog Mobility Instructor (as the role was then known) in 1973, and created the Education and Demonstration team in 2006, partnering with demonstration dog Delphi to promote Guide Dogs' work at events across the UK. After he retired in 2019, Andy kept in touch with many of the numerous guide dog owners he had trained over the years. His friend and former colleague Simon Blythe said: "Andy will not only be remembered for his unstinting commitment to Guide Dogs but also as being a kind, gentle and caring man loved by many."



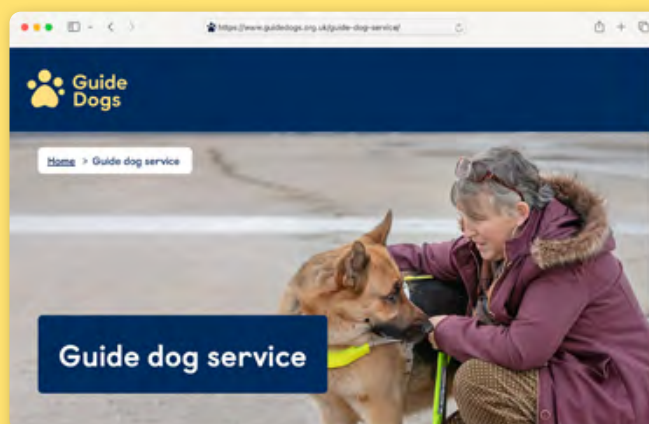
Did you know about the dedicated area of our website just for guide dog owners?

The guide dog service section of our website has been specially created for guide dog owners and those waiting to be matched, to support you at each stage of your journey.

Guide dogs are truly life-changing, but we also know it takes a lot of dedication and effort to develop the skills and knowledge needed for your new partnership. With that in mind, we've put together essential information, videos and audio content to provide advice and guidance across a range of topics.

Whether you're preparing to be matched with your first guide dog or you've been partnered many times before, there's always something new to learn and we're continually updating and adding to the collection.

These resources are in addition to the training you'll receive when you're matched with your guide dog. Find out more at [guidedogs.org.uk/guide-dog-service](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/guide-dog-service/).



One milestone down, one to go for the Norwich and District fundraising group

The Norwich and District fundraising group celebrates its 45th anniversary in November, and volunteers hope to reach another amazing milestone this year – raising a grand total of £1.5million for Guide Dogs. Members got closer to that target with a sell-out Make Every Cuppa Count event in April, raising a massive £1,059.80.

Memorable highlights in the group's history include a service at Norwich Cathedral in 1991, when guide dog owners and volunteers from across East Anglia celebrated Guide Dogs' diamond jubilee. The group started with just seven members, and now has 30 volunteers in and around Norwich.

Linda and Philip Hunt have been members since 1987, with Linda now Fundraising Coordinator and Philip now Treasurer. Linda said: "The icing on the cake would be to reach the milestone of £1.5million raised since the group began, and achieving it in this memorable year will be quite a challenge!"



Eden trip is paradise for families with children with sight loss

Our family days out are a great way for families to relax, have fun together and meet other families with a child with sight loss. They also allow children with a vision impairment to build confidence and make lifelong friends. Our Children, Young People & Families team hosted just such an event in May in glorious sunshine at the Eden Project in Cornwall, where families came from as far afield as Birmingham to enjoy a day of support, friendship and fun. Our expert staff were also on hand to advise them about a range of subjects like education support, habilitation and living skills, technology, buddy dogs and more. Visit guidedogs.org.uk/familyevents to see our calendar of days out.



Guide Dogs' Chairman to step down

Jamie Hambro will step down as Chairman of Guide Dogs' Board of Trustees at the Annual General Meeting in September, having been appointed to the Board in 2015. Association Secretary Phillippa Caine said: "Jamie's tenure will be characterised by his steadfast integrity, resilience and relentless dedication. He has steered the charity through tumultuous periods, notably navigating a period of intense media scrutiny of charity fundraising, grappling with the fundraising challenges created by the new Data Protection Act, weathering the storm of the Covid-19 pandemic, and more recently, confronting the ramifications of the cost of living crisis in the UK."

"Jamie championed the establishment of our Academy, which played a pivotal role in guiding our progress post-pandemic, particularly with our guide dog service. His tireless commitment, evidenced by the substantial time, energy and support he devoted to the charity, will be a lasting testament to his legacy."

Jamie said: "It has been a privilege and very enjoyable to be involved with such an exceptional charity. I wish the new Chair every success in the future."



Guide Dogs in the Media

Guide Dogs on BBC Lifeline

We appeared on January's BBC Lifeline appeal – a monthly televised fundraising drive that highlights a charity's work. Our appeal, presented by actress Wendi Peters, was a fantastic opportunity to let viewers know about some of our life-changing services supporting people from childhood to adulthood.

Three incredible service users shared their stories. Margaret described how our vision rehabilitation team helped her build her confidence to get out and about again after her guide dog Bob died. Then ex-farmer Devante, who struggled to come to terms

with his sight loss, told how he re-found his confidence after being matched with guide dog Mack. Lauren, mum to three-year-old Eliza, shared how Habilitation Specialist Lindsey helped Eliza learn about her environment and provided support and reassurance for the whole family.

Kind viewers donated generously, unlocking £20,000 of matched funding from our trusted partner Petplan, and together we raised a remarkable £44,822! Our appeal is still available to watch on the BBC's website – visit bbc.co.uk/lifeline and select the 'Clips' tab.



Devante and guide dog Mack being filmed for the appeal.

Beano draws on Guide Dogs' services to create bespoke audiocomic

Guide Dogs is delighted to have partnered with the world-famous comic Beano, creating a bespoke story that celebrates our life-changing services and raises awareness of sight loss. Guide Dogs and Beano created the story 'A Buddy For Life', which includes a real-life guide dog partnership, 16-year-old Hester Poole and Pickle, and a buddy dog partnership, seven-year-old Alex McQueen and Chance.

The story, which was included in Beano's May edition and is still available in various formats on our website, sees Beano's beloved character Erbert announce his recent sight loss diagnosis after meeting guide dog owner Hester at Bash Street School. The iconic characters subsequently take a trip to Guide Dogs' National Centre where they meet Alex and buddy dog Chance, and learn about the support we provide to adults and children with sight loss.

Alongside the comic story, we launched the very first audio comic strip created especially for people with a vision impairment. We also offered a digital version with a dyslexia-friendly typeface, making the comic fully accessible for everyone to enjoy.

To listen to Beano's first audiocomic and find out more, visit guidedogs.org.uk/beano.

Alex McQueen (left) with buddy dog Chance and brother Ross (aged nine). Photo: Fabio De Paola/PA Wire.



Star News

How do you take yours?

A number of celebrities told us their favourite tea and biscuit/cake combo in April, helping us promote our Make Every Cuppa Count tea party fundraiser. Lorraine Kelly said that she enjoys strong builder's tea with chocolate digestives, and Deborah Meaden has Miles English breakfast tea with oat milk and a vegan digestive when she's in the Dragons' Den. Meanwhile Carol Kirkwood likes a Tetley's and a Twix for her early BBC Breakfast shifts, and Gyles Brandreth goes for a piece of coffee and walnut cake with every cup of English breakfast tea.

Sports presenter Andrew Cotter loves strong breakfast tea first thing and Earl Grey in the afternoon, often with a slice of carrot cake and a couple of dog biscuits for his famous Labradors, Olive and Mabel. Michaela Strachan likes Rooibos tea and a digestive, while Susie Dent always has her builder's tea with a fresh-cream Victoria sponge in Countdown's Dictionary Corner. A huge thank you to everyone, across the whole of the UK, who has taken part in a Make Every Cuppa Count event to raise money for Guide Dogs!



David ain't nothing but a Hound Dog

In February, star of stage and screen David Bradley performed with his band, Heartbreak Soup UK, at the New Inn in Leamington and raised more than £1,250 for Guide Dogs. David even dressed up as Elvis for the second half, treating the audience to hits including Jailhouse Rock, Can't Help Falling in Love and, of course, Hound Dog!

Joe paw-ses to see our art trail

It was a lovely surprise when celebrity fitness coach Joe Wicks visited our Paws on the Wharf art trail in Canary Wharf, London. Joe is pictured with the For the Love of Dogs sculpture, designed by Jess Perrin, and you can find out more about Paws on the Wharf on page 31.



My Time to Play service goes from strength to strength

We introduced our My Time to Play programme two years ago to help babies and toddlers with sight loss (aged from birth to four) build a whole host of skills through fun and supportive group sessions.



Magdalena and Ruby

My Time to Play was rolled out across the UK in spring last year, with our teams holding sessions from Edinburgh to Southampton – if there isn't one nearby, we also run virtual programmes. These were first trialled during the pandemic, when we saw just how much they helped families to connect and develop their children's skills.

Whether held in person or virtually, each group session is structured around activities such as songs, movement and a sensory story that is brought to life through touch, taste, smell or sound.

Over 2023 we ran 39 programmes, with more than 160 sessions helping individual children and families just under 1,000 times. This year, we're growing and aiming to deliver 60 programmes – that's 420 sessions, helping individual children and families more than 2,000 times.

The sessions provide group habilitation, equipping families with the skills they need to continue developing at home. We also know that the opportunity to talk to other families is key, along with the expert advice from our staff, including signposting and connecting to other services.

And the earlier we reach children with sight loss, the greater the impact the sessions and support can have. Magdalena came along to a session with her daughter Ruby and told us:

"The sessions were really good. I was excited because I was looking forward to meeting other parents who have children with a vision

impairment... Someone who knows what I'm going through.

“

Because of the sessions, Ruby can now open jars and screw tops and we've nearly mastered closing them too. You could see her changing week by week. She's definitely grown her skills and confidence.

”

We recently filmed a session and included the footage in our Spotlight film on Loretta Knopp, who manages a habilitation team. You can watch the film at tinyurl.com/LorettaKnopp, and Ruby and Magdalena's story is at tinyurl.com/RubysStory.



Guide Dogs Shop – Feel-good gifts for everyone

Did you know you can support Guide Dogs by shopping with us? Our website guidedogsshop.com has inspiring gift ideas for family and friends, both human and canine! We guarantee 100% of profits go to Guide Dogs – and ordering online saves us money, so the charity gets more from your order. You can also order by phone on **0345 143 0197** (9am–5pm, Monday to Friday).

Discover some of our favourite picks that we think you'll love!

Our exclusive Laura Fisher collaboration features beautiful kitchenware and stationery.

- Laura Fisher x Guide Dogs teabag tidy – £12
- Laura Fisher x Guide Dogs boxed mug – £14
- Laura Fisher x Guide Dogs foldable shopper – £5



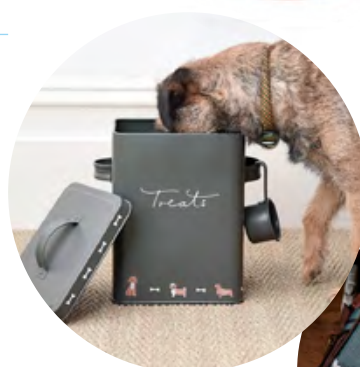
New and exclusive cuddly toys. Made from 100% recycled plastic and soft to the touch with adorable, embroidered eyes.

- Guide Dogs golden retriever cuddly toy – £8
- Guide Dogs large black Labrador cuddly toy – £15
- Guide Dogs golden retriever puppy purse – £4.50



Practical but stylish accessories to help you take care of your furry friends.

- Sophie Allport dog walking bag – £22
- Sophie Allport leather lead – from £29. Matching collar available.
- Sophie Allport pet treat tin – £27



There's life in the old (life-sized collection) dogs yet

Our iconic guide dog collection boxes, found up and down high streets and in other public places across the UK, are a much-loved and recognisable part of Guide Dogs' history which help us raise vital funds.

Keeping these dogs looking their best is no mean feat, and that's where our small and highly skilled network of volunteer Collection Box Repairers come to the rescue. "There might be ears snapped off, big holes in the side, or missing boxes at the bottom," explains Jim Grundison, who's refurbished more than a hundred life-sized collection dog boxes since 2022 at his home workshop in Livingston, Scotland.

Jim starts by putting the box on a turntable to assess the damage, then carries out repairs such as filling holes, making a new base or working with another volunteer to weld metal parts such as drawers and frames. Lastly, each dog is primed, painted in Guide Dogs' colours and varnished.

Each box takes about six or seven hours of work, spread across several days as filler or coats of paint must dry before the next step. "I find it very therapeutic," says Jim. "It's a nice feeling to see what you've created from something that was going to scrap. The amount of money they collect is really heart-warming."

Jim began volunteering for Guide Dogs eight years ago after retiring. He's also a Driver, Puppy Raiser, Fosterer and fundraises with his family. Jim said: "I enjoy it and see the benefit as several people in our fundraising group have guide dogs."



These sentiments are echoed by Richard Bussien, who became a Puppy Raiser after retiring as a painter and decorator in 2016. He and wife Jill have cared for seven pups but puppy raising was just the start, and Richard has now repaired more than 60 collection boxes in his garage in Norfolk. He's also a Speaker and Fundraising Coordinator for the Harleston and Diss fundraising group.



► Richard

Richard's biggest collection box challenge to date was a seven-inch hole in the top of a dog's head. He said: "I don't know if someone thought they could get to the money through that hole, but it's a long way down so I doubt they did!"

"Some boxes come to me in a very bad state, so it's extremely satisfying to see the transformation when you restore it. It's like bringing an old car back to life."

"Repairing the boxes keeps my brain active, while puppy raising keeps me active - we walk miles with the pups. Between all the volunteering roles we fulfil, it's 24/7 Guide Dogs in our house!"



► Jim



Miles today

Fund Race gets top marks from Miles for school sports inclusion

Sharing memories from early school days led to Guide Dogs developing its key awareness campaign for schools and youth groups. Miles Northwood, a Community Fundraising Relationship Manager, mentioned his own school Sports Day memories in a meeting. The Head of Community Fundraising then contacted him to see if his experiences could be incorporated into a new campaign.

Miles started losing his sight at 18 months and by the time he started school, he had lost all remaining vision. The Local Education Authority advised his parents to send him to a specialist boarding school, but feeling he was too young for this, they approached their village school. Miles said: "The school were awesome. There was no question about ever being excluded from anything. Whatever the school did, I did. I played football at playtimes, went camping, it was totally normal for me to be involved in whatever the rest of the class were doing."

Miles' passion for sport shone through, and his school were determined he would be fully involved in Sports Day. Miles said: "The three-legged race was no problem as I had a built-in guide, but they had to find a way to keep me straight when running alone in races."

From Miles' memories came Fund Race, a track race or obstacle course with a twist. Participants are blindfolded and use a partner or a rope

to guide them. This challenge not only provides an event in which people with sight loss can participate alongside their sighted peers, but it also builds empathy in the next generation. Guide Dogs' Fund Race pack includes an assembly to start important conversations about sight loss and being more inclusive, and the resources to hold this special sporting challenge: a learning experience as well as a fun way to make a difference through fundraising.

Every day across the UK, around four children will be registered blind or partially sighted. All children have the right to be involved in every part of school, including sport. Miles was able to pursue his talent, leading to him representing England in Blind Cricket from 1998-2008 and being inducted into the Blind Cricket Hall of Fame. Miles said: "Through sport, I've seen a lot of places that I wouldn't have seen if I'd been able to see."



◀ Miles at his school sports day in the '80s.

To find out more about Fund Race, visit guidedogs.org.uk/FundRace.

A guide to Guide Dogs

Guide Dogs is here to support anyone with a vision impairment, but approaching an organisation can be daunting. We caught up with Maria Rogan, Head of Guide Dog Service Operations, to talk us through what happens from that first call...



"Most people's journey starts with them picking up the phone to us, although some are referred by health professionals.

"However contact is made, we'll arrange what we call a 'first conversation' – this is a 'person-centred' chat to find out what's important to you, before discussing which of our services could support you in reaching those ambitions. People often don't realise that we can help with technology and mobility skills, or even that we can provide sighted guide training to help your friends, family or colleagues feel confident in guiding you.

"There can be a lot of information to take in so, once you've had chance to reflect, a 'second conversation' follows. This is a more practical discussion to understand what your priorities are and agree an action plan with you. If a guide dog is your preferred option, we'll arrange for one of our Vision Rehabilitation Specialists to visit and complete a Mobility Assessment which forms part of the guide dog application process. They can also support you to learn independent living skills, while putting you in a good position to be ready for a guide dog.

"Once it's agreed a dog is the way to proceed, a Guide Dog Mobility Specialist will visit to complete a Guide Dog Assessment. This looks at whether a guide dog will meet your mobility and lifestyle needs and if you can meet the health and wellbeing needs of

a dog. If so, you'll join the 'waiting list' – which isn't actually a list in a linear sense. We try to prioritise those who've been waiting a while, but it's key to find the right dog for the right person. Our highly trained teams work to really understand people's needs, considering matches from the start when each dog comes into training. We take this complex matching process extremely seriously and are passionate about making every partnership a success.

"Each team holds weekly case reviews which include looking at the people waiting against each match-ready dog in their region, starting with those who've been waiting the longest within the priority group (and searching further afield for a suitable dog if necessary).

“

I've been privileged to join many case reviews and I'm in awe of the level of detail and thought that goes into making the right decision – everything from walking speed, temperament and drive of the dog, along with the needs of the prospective owner.

”

Two recently-qualified guide dog owners shared their own experiences. Morven Archbold lives on the Isle of Mull, Scotland, and waited about a year for her fourth dog. Morven said: "I expected to be waiting for longer but was given a shout to come down to Hamilton to have a walk with Pilot. It went really well and I went on class in Kilmarnock a few weeks later, after he'd visited for an overnight stay. He's wonderful – a golden boy who seems to be able to cope with anything from sheep, deer, single-track roads and ferries, to our regular visits to Glasgow. I said I'd be fine with most breeds of dog, could travel for training and didn't have many specific requirements, but was still surprised to be matched so quickly. I'm delighted."

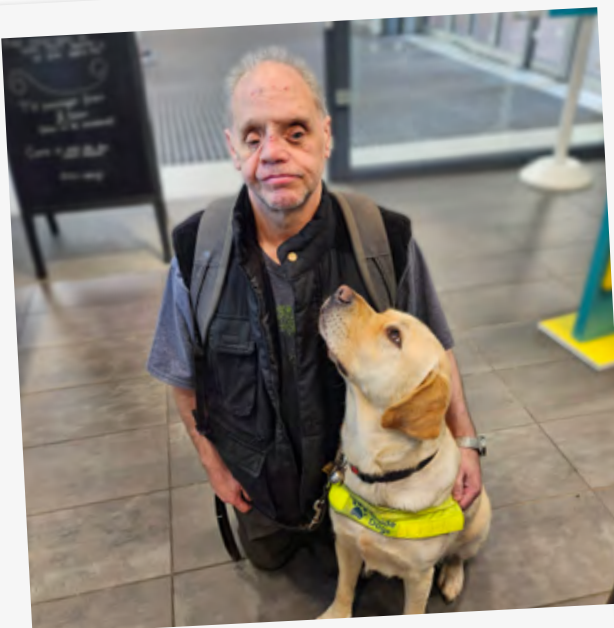
In contrast, Gary Willis from Redditch, Worcestershire, waited around two-and-a-half years to be matched. Gary said: "I didn't mind waiting for my next dog. My retired dog Campbell stayed with me which made things easier, although I think a gap between dogs can sometimes be useful to come to terms with losing your previous dog and to be ready for your next. I'd kept my long cane skills up-to-date, which really helped."

"I like large, cheeky dogs with character that some would find hard to work with. Jury was being fostered by a staff member who called me to say 'we might have a dog for you', so I went along to try some routes."

"Jury can be a little monkey but he's very loveable and intuitive. He likes going on buses, into town and on nights out to my lodge – he's a great match for me and we're working together a lot better as we get to know each other."

Maria concludes: "Above all the team are looking to create what we call 'sticky partnerships' – where dog and owner 'click' and have as smooth a settling-in period as possible. That first few months can be tricky as you get used to each other – whether it's your first dog or your seventh."

“**They're all guide dogs, but they're all individuals as well. That's why we prioritise aftercare in the first year, because we know that's when extra support can make all the difference, setting the dog and the owner up to work together for years to come.**”



Gary and Jury



Morven and Pilot

Putting a stop to it

Our puppy raisers do an amazing job helping our puppies develop the skills they need to go on to be life-changers – but some behaviours, such as stopping on walks, can present a challenge not just in the moment, but for the future.

When they enter training, dogs are taught to walk with positive tension in their harness, so they can lead their future owner through their environment safely. This means their owner will be able to walk confidently with their dog, without having to fumble for rewards to lure their dog onwards with their hands full of shopping, or becoming disorientated by unnecessary stopping.

While it is natural for puppies to stop sometimes while they are learning about their environment, it is important that this doesn't become a habit as they grow, as it could lead to delays with their next stage of training or even prevent them being able to qualify in a partnership.

How we raise our puppies now shapes the guide dogs they will become in the future. Getting it right while a puppy is young sets them up for success in training and eventually as a working guide dog. Between our expert staff and dedicated volunteers, puppies can overcome behaviour such as stopping and go on to fulfil their potential in life-changing partnerships.

Using Positive Reinforcement Training to address puppies stopping



- Always keep yourself and your puppy safe. If your puppy stops anywhere on a road, level crossing or similar, get yourselves to the other side in the safest, quickest way possible.
- If you think your puppy has been startled and it is safe to do so, give your puppy the chance to recover and then continue on your way.
- If you are safe, avoid using food or toys as a lure to getting your puppy to start walking or catch you up. Instead, make a funny noise or show interest in something or someone else. Puppies don't like to miss out, so your pup may decide to investigate! If they do, you can take advantage of this movement and keep going, rewarding them for walking with you once they are moving.
- If you notice your puppy is stopping more frequently, see if you can identify any triggers in the environment or signs from the puppy that they are about to stop in case there is a pattern.

Stopping can start occurring at any stage in a dog's life for a variety of reasons, including health-related issues, so always seek support from Guide Dogs if you notice this behaviour showing up in your puppy or dog.

Kath is worth her weight in gold to Guide Dogs



At Guide Dogs, we're incredibly fortunate to have more than 17,000 volunteers who share their time and expertise to help us create life-changing partnerships. One such volunteer is Kath Mulligan, who's celebrating her golden anniversary of volunteering with Guide Dogs this year – five decades packed with puppies, fundraising parades and much, much more!

Kath became a puppy raiser in 1974, when she and her family met some guide dog puppies at a county show. Kath's husband was in the RAF, so they moved around a lot and couldn't have a pet dog, but puppy raising suited them (and their smitten children) perfectly. Kath credits her children's persuasion at the show for her 50 years of volunteering!

Kath's second pup, a German shepherd named Gay, was delivered by Derek Freeman, then Guide Dogs Breeding Manager, on his way to an appearance on Blue Peter. Derek later selected Gay to join the breeding programme, and Kath became Gay's breeding dog holder. Gay lived with the family for 10 years and had four litters of guide dog puppies.

Kath also joined a group of local volunteers and guide dog owners who decided to start fundraising for Guide Dogs, and she went on to become Chairwoman of the group (a role similar to the

existing Fundraising Group Coordinator, for which we are currently recruiting volunteers across the UK).

Kath said: "I loved the diversity of organising our events, in particular the Oxford Lord Mayor's May Day street parade that we won on many occasions with our ingenious ideas, including the 'Legend of Father Christmas' in May! I'm still a member and supporting the group to the best of my ability, which at my age mostly entails sitting down and talking about Guide Dogs to the public, something the group will confirm is my forte."

Kath's 50 years with Guide Dogs are an inspiration, but volunteers don't need to commit a lot of time to make a big difference. Our fundraising roles are flexible and could be a great place to start. For more information about any of the volunteer roles mentioned, including Fundraising Group Coordinator, visit tinyurl.com/BePartOfAFundraisingGroup.

For existing volunteers, we've made it easier than ever to have a go at something new, so to try fundraising contact our Volunteering Office via volunteer@guidedogs.org.uk or **0345 143 0191** for everything you need to get started.



Angharad's story

Before being paired with her guide dog, there were days when Angharad didn't feel confident or safe enough to leave the house on her own. Born with multiple eye conditions because of a rare syndrome, Angharad only has some light perception. But since being matched with her guide dog Sarah, her confidence has soared, and now she no longer feels singled out as "that blind girl with a cane". Now it's more like "the girl with a lovely dog".





Angharad had always known she wanted a guide dog and, at the age of 20, is one of Wales's youngest guide dog owners. She said: "We'd been talking about it [as a family] for absolutely ages, and I knew when the time was right I would apply."

"Walking with my cane, I always felt a lot of stigma and negativity from people. I'd have people sniggering or I would stand asking for help and people would just walk away because of my cane."

Angharad says she found using her cane difficult at times, and it stopped her going out as much as she would have liked. "Bin days were the worst for me with my cane. I would find it was banging into recycling bins, and sometimes people would complain about the noise."

Angharad was diagnosed with a vision impairment soon after she was born and underwent her first eye surgery when she was just a few days old. Mum Lynda recalled: "Angharad wasn't reacting to light and was diagnosed with cataracts in both eyes. She then had a manmade pupil – an iridectomy – and as she was growing up it allowed her to see close up."

"Unfortunately though, as she got older, Angharad developed glaucoma as well and

has had numerous operations and a partial eye transplant. She now has light perception in one eye which helps her a lot to know when it's daytime and nighttime."

When she turned 18, Angharad decided the time was right to apply for a guide dog. Lynda added: "As a family we supported her decision to apply for a guide dog because we knew from that moment she was going to get control of her life."

“

Since the first time guide dog Sarah walked into the house, she and Angharad have been inseparable. I can't imagine life now without Sarah, she's made such a difference.

”

Angharad recalled: "I remember the day I got the call to say Guide Dogs had found me a potential match. It was 9 February 2023, I thought it was just going to be a catch-up call. Then I was told Sarah, a yellow Labrador, was going to be coming out to meet me. I was really nervous to meet Sarah, but also the excitement pushed me through."

Angharad's story

"We were all feeling very nervous and excited the first time Sarah came to visit. She was travelling from Cardiff so got to us in the afternoon and oh my gosh, it was wonderful. She came straight in the door and up to me first – it was amazing.

"The first time going out with Sarah was wonderful. Just to be able to put all my confidence into Sarah and her guiding me. I knew from that point I made the right decision.

"Sarah means the world to me because she's my everything. Wherever she goes, I go. Wherever I go, she goes. If I had to describe the impact of having a guide dog, I would say incredible and life-changing. The best decision ever."

Angharad and Sarah have now been partnered for over a year, and she is a firm fixture in family life. "It's really nice to have the confidence to go to the café by myself. We have practised it with Sarah so I know I can walk there with her on my own to meet friends and family," says Angharad.

"I also love to travel and visit different places around the country, so Sarah comes with me on the train, on holiday or even to the theatre. When we went to the panto, they found a special office for Sarah to sit in so she had a

lovely relax while I watched the performance. Then when it was time to leave, she was ready to guide me again.

"I also have a YouTube channel and I love showing life with a guide dog and also rewarding Sarah and showing that she doesn't work 24/7. She loves having her free runs on the beach."

Mum Lynda added: "The confidence Sarah's given Angharad has been truly amazing to see. As her mum it has been hard to let go a little bit but with Sarah by her side, I haven't got any worries.

“

As a family we can never thank Guide Dogs enough. To see the transformation in Angharad, to be able to live the life she is now choosing to live. From the puppy raisers to the fosterers to all the staff – from the bottom of all of our hearts, we can never thank you enough.

”

You can follow the adventures of Angharad and Sarah on Instagram at the handle [@angharadslife](https://www.instagram.com/angharadslife)



Andrew hits his stride as a Guide Dogs fundraiser!



Andrew Elliker-Reeve has raised an incredible £17,000 for Guide Dogs, but what's even more amazing is why he started fundraising in the first place.

Andrew, from East Yorkshire, lost his sight suddenly and unexpectedly after going into hospital for a double heart bypass in February 2020. Unfortunately, side effects meant Andrew came out of surgery blind, with a stoma and having lost his spleen.

He spent three months in hospital before being allowed home and had to slowly build up to walking again; in June 2020 he was able to walk just 100 yards using a walking frame.

Andrew said: "When I got home, it was right in the middle of the lockdowns. It was just me and my wife Rebecca. She was absolutely fantastic. She had to learn things immediately as she became a carer overnight. It wasn't easy. I spent months deciding whether I wanted to live or not. We decided that if we were going to live, we were really going to live."

So Andrew's long-distance walking challenges were born. He started a blog and a Facebook page called Travelling Blind, which has helped him raise funds for Guide Dogs and recruit volunteer guides. Although not having a guide dog himself, Andrew recognises what a lifeline they are from his own experience of sight loss.

Andrew's challenges have led to him naming guide dog puppies Skye, Lewis and Barney, and he's now hoping to name puppy number four. To find out more about how to Name a Puppy, visit [guidedogs.org.uk/NAP](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/NAP).

He said: "We've had amazing support from the public. Travelling Blind was Rebecca's idea to help with my mental health, but it has done far more than that. A lot of people have been inspired by it."

“

Travelling Blind is showing how suddenly becoming blind or disabled in any other way does not mean your life and ambitions have to end. We are proving that life can be just as fulfilling, if not more so, but in different ways after such a trauma.

”

In 2022, Andrew became the first blind man to walk the Yorkshire Wolds Way. Last year, he completed the 109-mile Cleveland Way and he's currently training for his longest walk yet, a 245-mile stretch of the King Charles III England Coastal Path in September.



The sky's the limit for Hannah with Wendy by her side

Many people choose to leave a gift in their Will to Guide Dogs as they know our services and guide dog partnerships can give people with sight loss the chance to live the life they choose. Such a gift helped to provide Hannah's first guide dog, Wendy, who has been a real life-changer.

Hannah was born with bilateral retinoblastoma (Rb), a rare type of childhood eye cancer that meant she had to have her left eye removed and undergo significant treatment to save the very limited vision in her right eye.

Luckily she had the support of family and friends to help her through school and then university but when she started working, things were different. "I had a cane, but getting around was hard and stressful – especially on the London Tube where people don't necessarily realise what you're doing or why you are moving so slowly."

Hannah decided to get in touch with Guide Dogs and when she met guide dog Wendy there was instant chemistry: "I loved her the moment I met her and was so excited!" With Wendy by her side Hannah was able to fully embrace the world of work and enjoy a lively social life too. "People often use the terms life-changing without giving it too much thought, but having a guide dog like Wendy really is just that!"

With her newfound confidence, Hannah also campaigned to become and was elected as a local councillor, something that wouldn't have been possible without Wendy.

"The sky really is my limit now. It's amazing what having Wendy has helped me to do and how much she has helped me to believe in what I can achieve. I can't thank those people who have left a gift, or are considering leaving a gift, in their Will to Guide Dogs enough for the opportunity that they have given me."

Hannah and Wendy also feature in our TV advert about gifts in Wills, where you can see them embracing the world of work together.

To find out how gifts in Wills can help people with sight loss live actively, independently and well, visit guidedogs.org.uk/giftsinwills.



A Day in the Life Of...

Kim Cordy, Habilitation Specialist

Kim Cordy has always loved working with children and young people, and likes nothing more than empowering them to gain their independence.

Her role involves working with children and young people (CYP) from birth to age 25, teaching them mobility, orientation and life skills to help them become as independent as possible in their day-to-day lives.

Kim first learned about Guide Dogs' Habilitation Specialist role when she was looking for her next career move in 2017. Kim met a Habilitation Specialist who was supporting a young person that Kim was also working with. Kim said: "I'd never heard of the job at the time, and the way I explain the difference between habilitation and rehabilitation to people is that habilitation is teaching someone about the concept of something for the very first time.

"For example, if you were teaching an adult who has only recently lost their sight about a bus route, they already know they have to walk to the bus stop, that there's a timetable, that they have to get a specific bus, etc.

"But a child has no idea of those concepts. You need to teach these concepts with a person-centred approach, depending on their age and the stage of their development."

Kim, a former paediatric nurse, said: "It's all about giving them a toolbox of transferable



skills. Rather than teaching someone how to cross one particular road, I'm teaching them principles they can use to cross any road they might need to."

Day-to-day, Kim's job involves visiting up to three CYP a day across Bristol, and there's also some paperwork – emails, setting up visits, records of visits. There are also reports to write about the work carried out with a CYP which are then shared with parents, schools/ colleges/universities, and Qualified Teachers of the Vision Impaired (QTVI). Beyond working individually with CYP, the role of Habilitation Specialist can also include delivering other Guide Dogs services such as My Time to Play (see page 12).

Kim says she loves how no two days are the same, and that no two students learn the same thing in the same way. She said: "At the moment, I'm working with two children of the same age, who have the same eye condition, but they are very different in the approach needed to teach them the same set of skills."

To find out more about Kim's role, visit guidedogs.org.uk/blog/topic/careers-spotlight for a short video about her work, and videos on many other careers at Guide Dogs.

Dear supporters,

Hopefully by the time you read this, we'll all be enjoying a warm and sunny summer! It's a great time of year to be outdoors, whether you're raising money for Guide Dogs, or having fun with your friends and family. Or doing both!

Here you'll find the stories of individuals and groups who have definitely had fun while they've been fundraising for Guide Dogs. Whatever you're doing, you're playing a hugely important part in helping us to provide life-changing services to people with sight loss.

I also wanted to let you know that I'll be leaving Guide Dogs later in the summer, but leave with so many wonderful memories of all the supporters, volunteers, service users and of course the dogs I have met during the last five years. Thank you to everyone for all the support you have given to the Fundraising team. I will continue to cheerlead everyone's fundraising efforts in the future and my successor will introduce themselves in the Autumn/Winter issue of Forward.



Deborah

Deborah Bourne
Director of Fundraising



◀ Knightsbridge School in London raised almost £35,000 for Guide Dogs after selecting us as their charity for the year, as the school has a personal connection to vision impairment. They first challenged themselves to raise £2,500 to name a guide dog puppy, holding a competition to choose the name Molly. Staff and pupils carried on organising a variety of fundraising activities including 'guess the teacher' from their baby photos, bake sales and a Halloween party, and have named three more guide dog puppies.



Guide Dogs at Knightsbridge School

▶ The Huddersfield fundraising group received a cheque for £4,300 from Northern Ladies, a group of like-minded women from across the north of England who organise informal fundraising events for good causes. Northern Ladies chose Guide Dogs as their 2023 charity of the year, presenting the cheque to the group at Bagden Hall Hotel in West Yorkshire. The Huddersfield group also sold Guide Dogs merchandise at two Northern Ladies events, raising more than £300.



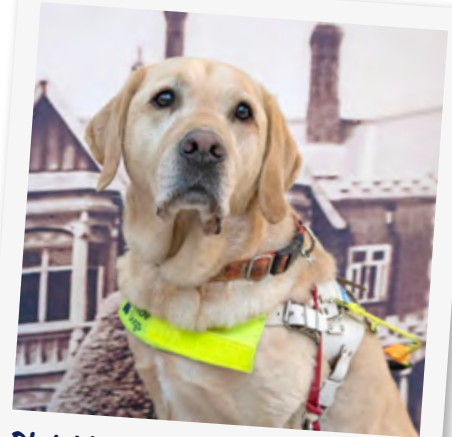
Northern Ladies



Peninsula group

◀ The Peninsula fundraising group in Bangor, Northern Ireland, celebrates its 15th anniversary this year, with a strong team including an Organiser, Treasurer, Secretary, Merchandiser Coordinator, plus coordinators for life-sized dogs and countertop boxes, and lots of willing hands to help at fundraising events. Pictured here at their February monthly meeting at their local coffee shop, the stars of the group are yellow Labrador ambassador dog Duffy and guide dog Rigsby, a black Labrador/retriever cross. The group raised nearly £40,000 last year.

▶ A guide dog with a top-secret background completed an important mission: meeting the people who chose his unique name. Yellow Labrador Bletchley - named after World War II code-breaking centre Bletchley Park - is the only UK guide dog with that name. Staff at GCHQ, the Cheltenham-based Government intelligence and security organisation, named him, and invited him and owner Rayana Adams in to give a talk. Rayana, from Newport, South Wales, said: "We raised £1,170 on the day by selling Guide Dogs merchandise, and we've been asked if we could return."

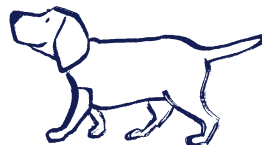


Bletchley



Diffy

◀ Cardiff councillor Graham Hinchey and wife Anne raised more than £85,000 during their recent term as Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Cardiff, naming seven guide dog puppies 'Diffy'. Cardiffians sometimes refer to their city as "the 'Diff'" and the first two puppies, both female, were placed with puppy raisers in Swansea and the Vale of Glamorgan. Graham and Anne have been volunteer fosterers for 10 years, caring for nearly 30 dogs, and they continue to offer practical support to the local fundraising group.



▶ Puppy raisers from across south Wales raised more than £5,000 to name a puppy in memory of one of their own. Linda Killick, from Boverton, puppy raised for five years with husband Bob before her death in 2019. Fellow volunteers held a series of fundraising events to remember their friend. Peter Thomas, a puppy raiser in Barry, said: "As a group, we have tried to maintain Linda's sense of humour in the knowledge that she was always encouraging everyone she met to enjoy life to the full."



Linda's friends with her photo

Thank You to our Supporters



Carlisle & District MCSC

◀ The Carlisle & District branch of the Manchester City Supporters Club met Carlie, a guide dog puppy being raised by member Gary Heaton and wife Lisa, last year and fell in love. So the branch held a special bucket collection at a City match – special because the collection wasn't directly for Guide Dogs. The money was used to thank the Scottish Borders Hospital for allowing the Galashiels fundraising group, of which Lisa and Gary are also members, to have a Guide Dogs sales table at the hospital every month. The Supporters Club raised £483, which bought guide dog puppy toys for patients in the hospital's children's ward at Christmas 2023 and Easter 2024, with some left over for Christmas 2024.

▶ Les Evans raised £2,500 to name a guide dog puppy in memory of his late wife, Joyce – with a little help from Elvis. Les teamed up with Keith Davies, famous as "Abergavenny's Elvis", to organise a sell-out concert at the South Wales town's Borough Theatre. Les said: "Joyce was a massive Elvis fan from the time I met her, aged 16. She went to quite a few of Keith's concerts. She also supported Guide Dogs all her life."



Les with Abergavenny's Elvis



Alex Gosney

◀ Alex Gosney and his mum Dee raised £502.50 by holding a 'Mug of Soup' event in Street, Somerset. The fundraiser sees homemade soup sold in mugs, along with rolls donated by local supermarkets, and homemade cakes donated by supporters and friends. Alex aims to name a guide dog puppy Cookie in memory of his friend, Paul 'Cookie' Cook, who died last December. Alex, who has guide dog Homer, and Dee have raised £25,000 and named five puppies, and both also volunteer with the Somerton, Street & Wells fundraising group.



▶ Staff at Exeter St David's Railway Station presented a cheque for £5,000 to the Exeter and District fundraising group. The money was raised via the station's two life-sized dog collection boxes and a countertop box, and staff chose to name a guide dog puppy Brunel after Isambard Kingdom Brunel, chief engineer of the Great Western Railway (GWR). Naming a guide dog puppy helped the station win a gold exemplar award, presented by GWR to recognise a station's community engagement. The station achieved a silver award last year.



Exeter St David's



On the Campaign Trail

Pavement parking: a historic win but more to do

Vehicles obstructing footpaths and pathways cause huge difficulties for people with sight loss. Guide Dogs' Campaigns team made history at the end of last year when, after years of campaigning, Scotland became the first nation in the UK to introduce country-wide pavement parking prohibitions. It's now up to each council to implement the measures, and we're encouraging local authorities to meet their duty on this issue.

Elsewhere, it's been four years since the Westminster government consulted on pavement parking, yet no further progress has been made. That's why we recently wrote to party leaders asking them to prioritise this. We're calling on the Department for Transport to publish the consultation response and set out plans to tackle unfair and unsafe pavement parking.

Almost 60,000 people demand Open Doors for Guide Dogs

Guide and other assistance dog owners must be allowed to use the vast majority of businesses and services, and illegal access refusals need to end. That was the message delivered directly to the Prime Minister in Downing Street in April on International Guide Dogs Day by our volunteers and staff.

Despite it nearly always being against the law to refuse a working guide dog, more than 80% of guide dog owners have reported being turned away. More can be done to ensure staff know the law, and to make it easier to take action when access refusals take place.

In response to our campaign, the Government has set up an assistance dog working group, including Guide Dogs, that will produce recommendations to help end access refusals.

Making street design more accessible

We know some bus stop designs and cycle infrastructure are posing barriers to independent mobility for people with sight loss. For this reason, we've partnered with University College London (UCL) on new research to better understand how accessible these aspects of the built environment are for vision-impaired and other disabled people.

The research involves focus groups and trials of different types of street design, such as floating bus stops and routes shared by pedestrians and cyclists, taking place both at real-world locations and at UCL's PEARL laboratory.

The research findings will help us understand the impact of new designs, giving us the evidence we need to advocate for more inclusive solutions.

Congratulations to our new partnerships

New partnerships are listed by community team. Each listing details owner, guide dog, town, breed, Puppy Raiser, Breeding Dog Holder and Fosterer. Warm congratulations to all our new qualifiers.

Please note that this section only includes the new guide dog owners (and volunteers involved in creating each partnership) who have given us permission to share their details.



Academy Team North East

Linda Britton & Esme
L David Florence from
Wakefield * Rachel Clayton-
Knight from Nuneaton.
Mrs Tricia Collier from
Warwick. Mrs Kate
Rodgers from Beverley.

Susan Burchill & Hauser
GR Christine Hogg from
Sheffield * Leigh Court
from Balsall Common.

Samantha Lacey & Hudson
L Catherine Ridgeway
from Hull * Charlotte
Knox-Wright from Hook.
Mrs Barbara Stone from
Kenilworth. Mrs Elizabeth
Waddington from Leeds.

Robert Riley & Chelsea
L Joyce Delves from
Doncaster * Mrs Sheila
Thomson from Leeds. Mr
Peter Silkstone from Leeds.

Vera St Paul & Merlot
L Shawn Fenwick
from Ashington * Eric
Martens from Coventry.
Mrs Jane Pattinson
from Cramlington.

Heather Thackray & Beth
GRxL Alexander Miller from
Montrose * Natalie Griffith
from Warwick. Ms Laura
Wilkie from Brechin. Miss
Helen Brady from Leeds.

Academy Team North West

Christopher Gallagher
& Sonny GRxGR Tanya
Harris from Sidcup *
Catherine Waddell from
Redditch. Miss Eleanor
Stretch from Bolton.

Susan Jones & Dempsey
GRxL Keith Sandham
from Clitheroe *
Catherine Keenan from
Halesowen. Mrs Amanda
Hough from Wigan.

Daniel Letchford &
Michael GRxGSD Diane
Piggott from Crewe *
Miss Helen Whitehouse
from Shrewsbury.

Judith Lissamore & Fifi

L Brenda Fredrickson
from Urmston, Angela
Capper from Ellesmere
Port * Mr Paul Sharp
from Coventry. Mrs Kate
Phillips from Shrewsbury.

Chloe Reubens & Hettie
LxL Mandy Price from
Kidderminster * Sue
Davy from Oldbury.
Mr Christopher Pike
from Shrewsbury.

Karina Savage & Princess
LxGR Chris Palmer from
Macclesfield * Lynne De
Melo from Stoughton.
Mrs Tricia Collier from
Warwick. Mr Leigh
Carter from Bolton.

Tina Screen & Lily GRxL
James Gilbride-Hobbs
from Preston * Anna
Holden from Oxford.
Mr Greg Butler from
Banbury. Mrs Georgina
Walton from Shrewsbury.

Andrew Terry & Evans
L Bobby Owens from
Liverpool * Neil Smith
from Northampton.

Laura Turner & Harmony
L * Mr Paul Sharp from
Coventry. Mrs Kath Price
from Wigan. Mrs Claire
Wyke from Shrewsbury.

Academy Team Scotland & NI

Morven Archbold & Pilot
GRxGR Pamela Higgins
from Edinburgh * Michael
Jones from Leicester.
Mr Paul Crowe from
Kenilworth. Mr William
McGregor from Forfar.

Munro Buchanan & Bounty
L Derek Henderson from
Kirriemuir * Jon Starkey
from Malvern. Miss Lesley
McMahon from Forfar.

David Fordyce & Bailey
GRxGR Margaret Foster
from Livingston * Mrs
Claire Stewart from Forfar.

Jenna Glen & Sullom
GRxGSD Lynn Kennedy
from Arbroath * Trudy
Evans from Coventry.

Marie Harrower & Twiggy
GRxGSD Leza Begg from

Arbroath * Mrs Emma
Coyle from Montrose.

Frances Maguire & Patricia
STPxL Karen Scott from
Falkirk, Sheelagh Kennerley
from Falkirk * Rachel
Bagley from Coventry.
Mrs Linda Landsberg
from Milton Keynes.

Shaun Marshall & Rene
GRxGR Catriona Macaulay
from Dumbarton * Mr Paul
Crowe from Kenilworth.
Mr Stuart Kennedy
from Hamilton Mrs Liz
Jeffcott from Hamilton.

Tracy Miller & Fliss GRxL
Edith McEwan from
Cellardyke * Glynis Nixon
from Warwick. Mr Paul
Crowe from Kenilworth.

John Mitchell & Inky
L Hilary Selbie from
North Queensferry *
Mrs Dulcie Parry from
Rugby. Miss Laura Donald
from Blairgowrie.

Dennis George Robertson
& William GRxGSD Erin
McGeddie from Bathgate
* Edward Condry from
Daventry. Mrs Mhari
Greenwood from Hamilton.

Margaret Robinson &
Irenie L Gordon Johnston
from Stonehaven * Helen
Daw from Bedford.
Mr David Mackay
from Kirriemuir.

Mark Sanders & Miles
L Andrew Hopes from
Edinburgh * Mrs Dulcie
Parry from Rugby. Mr Jack
Armstrong from Forar.

Academy Team South East

Kristina Dodd & Eamon
L Noreen Davison from
Tonbridge * Janet
Paget from Rugby.
Mrs Tricia Collier from
Warwick. Ms Carolyn
Porter from Tadley.

Sam Goddard & Henri
L Toni Voller from
Godalming * Mrs Tricia
Collier from Warwick.

Luke Groves & Vino L Oya
Akseki from Bushey, Roy

Warren from London
* Eric Martens from
Coventry. Mrs Joanna
O'Neill from St Albans.

Sandra Jordan & Jay
L Vanessa Green from
Braintree * Mrs Linda
Clifton from Reading.

Yvonne McCarthy & Bruce
GRxL Susan Ding from
Colchester * Veronica
Bowden from Bewdley. Mrs
Lisa Batashvili from Ilford.

Deborah Richards &
Chrissy L Julie Beighton
from Wokingham, Lynn
Young from Wokingham
* Philip Crowther from
Evesham. Mrs Dulcie Parry
from Rugby. Mrs Jennifer
Irven from Reading.

Joel Robinson & Margo
L Richard Bussien from
Harleston * Sue Wilkins
from Rugby. Mrs Tricia
Winn from Ilford.

Lauren Weaver & Warner
GRxGR Agnieszka Niezgoda
from Barnet, Karen
Cole from Ruislip * Lindy
Howlett from Bromyard.
Ms Esther Holmes from
Meriden. Pauline Clark
from Henley-on-Thames.

Academy Team South West & Wales

Andrea Gordon &
Vye GRxL Hanli De La
Porte from Abingdon
* Hilary Cooke from
Bromsgrove. Dr Sharon
Paynter from Cardiff.

Tanya Mackenzie-Shearan
& Sandy L * Miss Sarah
Sheasby from Bromsgrove.

Roger Rees-Evans &
Roni L Heather Thorne
from Taunton, Pauline
Ward from Taunton
* Elaine Powell from
Birmingham. Mr Mason
Brindley from Aberdare.

Sally Rodrigues & Joe
LxGR David Woodhouse
from Newquay, Jules Buck
from Liskeard * Susan
Griffiths from Derby. Ms
Kate Yardley from Bristol.



Belfast

Michael Boyd & Andy L Ann McCall from Glasgow * Neil Smith from Northampton. Mrs Jennifer Henderson from Forfar.

Ken Carson & Waffle L Ann Cain from Dunfermline * Amy Martin from Rugby. Mrs Lynn Richards from Coventry.

Leslie Downing & Mindy GRxL Mary Ingram from St. Andrews * Anthea Smith from Evesham. Mrs Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Mrs Elaine Fleming from Arbroath.

Sean Harpur & Winnie LxGR Brian Mudie from Carnoustie * Kevin Reaney from Nuneaton. Mrs Lynne Brown from Forfar.

Gary Loughran & Sweep L Margaret Reynolds from Kilmarnock * Rachel Clayton-Knight from

Nuneaton. Mrs Tricia Collier from Warwick. Mrs Sally Campbell from Forfar.

Angela McCracken & Erin LxGR Anne Hutton from Cupar * Kevin Reaney from Nuneaton. Mr Ewan Smith from Forfar.

Birmingham

Zoe Bates & Wilbur LxGR Sandra Lipkin from Birmingham * Sheila Northover from Derby. Mrs Natalie Jarvis from Leamington Spa.

Keith Currie & Bailey STPxL Patricia Booth from Lutterworth * Emily Turley from Birmingham. Mrs Linda Landsberg from Milton Keynes. Miss Leah McFadden from Southam.

Stephanie Drake & Jami LxGR Louise Bellamy from Coventry * Susan Griffiths from Derby. Miss Tamsin Armstrong from Warwick.

Paul Holder & Irvin L Diane Withers from Lichfield * Mr Timothy Blundell from Leamington Spa.

Donna Lewis & Barney L Maria Mealey from Stratford-upon-Avon * Elaine Powell from Birmingham. Mrs Felicity Stratton from Warwick.

Emily Millichip & Loft LxL Susan Foreman from Malvern * Sue Davy from Oldbury. Miss Sarah Mills from Southam.

Christopher Pugh & Irwin GRXL Sharon Windram from Leicester * Katie Harris from Redditch. Mr Robert Fish from Coventry. Miss Charlotte Dawdry from Warwick.

Gemma Rigby & Layla L Michaela Hippey from Milton Keynes * Mrs Gail Johnson from Warwick. Mrs Pauline Williams from Warwick.

Linda Thornhill & Blitzen LxGR Sarah Hallet from Warwick * Pamela Nash from Northampton. Mr Andrew Walling from Warwick.

Christopher Tye & Bobby GRxL Catherine O'Reilly from Solihull * Jane Kempton from Leamington Spa. Mrs Anne Cadwallader from Southam.

Ann-Marie Vale & Charlie L Anne-Marie Needham * Paula Hendrick from Telford. Mrs Tricia Collier from Warwick. Mr Aaron Hodges from Leamington Spa.

Ricky West & Summer L * Miss Lynsey Green from Nottingham.

Susan Wilde & Mirabel L Anne El-Mageed from Rugby * Sian Simmons from Kenilworth. Mr James McGreevy from Leamington Spa.

Bristol

Anthony Bristowe & Sofia GRxGR Lucy Ford from Bridport * Catherine Waddell from Redditch. Mr Edward Hodge from Bristol.

Stephen Chudley & Declan L * Sian Simmons from Kenilworth. Mr Richard McCaughan from Leamington Spa.

Thomas Gray & Lulu L * Alaine Powell from Birmingham. Miss Angelique Da Silva from Bristol.

Lukasz Kaluza & Dawn GRxGSD Eric Booth from Bristol * Trudy Evans from Coventry. Ms Lynn Templar from Bristol.

Hannah Scriven & Willow GRxGR Jacqueline Kandler from Wells * Catherine Waddell from Redditch. Ms Manling Tam from Bristol.

Matthew Stevens & Bonnie GRxL Caroline Gardner from Bridgwater * Glynis Nixon from Warwick. Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth.

Cardiff

Jackie Bethell & Dane LxGR * Melanie Elkington from Kenilworth. Mrs Beverley Jones from Cardiff.

Nathan Foy & Joey GRxL Margaret Thompson from Radstock * Jack Visser from Redditch. Mr Stephen Sims from Hengoed.

Lesley Gore & May L Ian Farmer from Melksham * Catherine Atkinson from Alcester. Miss Maddy O'Neill from Cardiff.

Karen James & Rigsby LxL Ellie Richards from Cwmbran * Elizabeth Butler from Kenilworth. Mr Paul Bellinger from Barry.

Anthony John & Skip STPxL Paula Carr from Dursley * Rachel Bagley from Coventry. Mrs Linda Landsberg from Milton Keynes.

Lori Price & Zeb GRxL

Joanna Gilson from Salisbury, Lisa Miller from Salisbury * Ian & Irene Scott from Warwick. Mrs Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Miss Catherine Evans from Cardiff.

Jane Thomas & Mini GR Jane Newton from Clevedon * Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Lauren Johnson from Cardiff.

Coventry

Melanie Barratt & Mike L Amanda Leavy from Worcester * Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove. Mrs Nikki Rimmington from Kenilworth.

Derek Burdekin & Moose LxGR Sandra Woosnam from Swadlincote * Susan Griffiths from Derby. Mr David Kelsall from Warwick.

Louise Carter & David GRxGR Rick Priestley from Mansfield * Jane Ekins from Leamington Spa. Ms Esther Holmes from Meriden. Mrs Fiona Powell from Kenilworth.

Teresa Cubitt & Wesley GR Alison Hynes from Solihull * Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mrs Janet Du Preez from Leamington Spa.

James Dougall & Jenna LxGR Robert Johnson from Ilkeston * Dawn Parsons from Wallingford. Mr Darren Love from Warwick.

Peter Minney & Alto GRxGR Victor Lam from Nottingham * Catherine Waddell from Redditch. Mrs Emma Salmon-Jones from Leamington Spa.

Teresa Reading & Zukie LxGR Heather Cox from Wellingborough * Sheila Northover from Derby.

Karen Rooke & Leela LxGR Claire Webster from Sutton Coldfield * Ruth Mercer from Warwick. Mrs Jane Hargrave from Daventry. Mr Michael

Canham from Coventry.

Andrew Stringer & Jet L Amanda-Jane Hough from Kettering * Phillippa Dobson from Solihull. Mrs Alison Evans from Leamington Spa.

Vanessa Tailby-Bates & Flos STPxL Rebecca Mackintosh from Rugby * Christine Spratt from Rugeley. Mrs Linda Landsberg from Milton Keynes. Miss Leah McFadden from Southam.

Gary Willis & Jury GRxL Patricia McDonagh from Watford * Sue Padget from Kettering. Mr Derek Weist from London.

Edinburgh

Carol Dodd & Candy STPxL Judith Mackay from Edinburgh * Gail Winnett from Birmingham. Mrs Linda Landsberg from Milton Keynes. Mrs Claire McDiarmid from Forfar.

Maria Hextall & Del L Fiona McKervey from Stonehaven * Steve Parsons from Melksham. Miss Lyn Archer from Forfar.

Laura Hikin & Star GRxGR Gillian Pemberton from Dunfermline, Sheila Marshall from Kinross * Hayley Kerfoot from Stourbridge. Mr Adrian Claxton from Warwick. Miss Jakki Roger from Forfar. Mrs Emma Sutherland from Larkhall.

Annette Hobson & Pascale GRxL Sandra Duff from Edinburgh * Annette Rand from Rugby. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull.

Rosalind Mitchell & Cookie LxGR Sheila Whitehead from Livingston * Sandra Cox from Marlow. Miss Clair Trethowan from Forfar.

Ronald Robson & Sparky GRxGR Rosemary Cameron from Forfar * Ruth Weatherall from Coventry. Mr Malcolm Wake from Forfar. Mr Iain Phillips from Edinburgh.

Exeter

Mark Catton & Nathan GR Sarah Prinsloo from Salisbury * Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull.

Jaqueline Clark & Purdey GR Lurenda Adams from Fairford * Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mr Jamie Somerville from Exeter.

Sylvia Curnow & Lucy LxGR Lisa Fellows-Patel from Bath * Sandra Cox from Marlow.

Alan Klates & Henna LxGR Lynda Littlewood from Dawlish, Tania Grundy from Callington * Jane Huntington from Stratford-Upon-Avon. Miss Grace Selley from Cullompton.

Sandra Lee Morris & Edith GR Maria Cassidy from Torquay * Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mrs Christine Cummins from Exeter.

William Macdonald-Smith & Lennie L Beryl Handford from Caerphilly * Lynn Jones from Rugby. Mrs Sharon Broer from Coventry. Mr Andrew Campbell from Warwick. Mrs Pauline Clayton from Cullompton.

Michaela Mallows & Athos L Patricia Carley from Romsey * Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove. Miss Nicola Matthews-Morley from Exeter.

Trudy Sherwood & Dolores L Ian Vosper from Exeter * Sian Simmons from Kenilworth. Ms Chui Fan Lee from Exeter.

Wendy Smallman & Tess STPxL Hilary Reed from Westbury * Rachel Bagley from Coventry. Mrs Linda Landsberg from Milton Keynes. Mr Andrew Pollard from Exeter.

Fernley Smith & Paco LxGR Michelle Andrews from Bristol * Claire O'Keeffe from Leamington Spa. Mrs Michelle Clarke from Exeter.

New Partnerships

Susan Stewart & Ollie
STPxL Joanna Wareham
from Clevedon * Christine
Spratt from Rugeley. Mrs
Linda Landsberg from
Milton Keynes. Mrs Alison
Radford from Honiton.

Barry Watkins & Lindon
L Emma Paolozzi from
Sherborne, Alexis Drayson
from Poole * Mr Ryan
Goldsmith from Exeter.

Joanne Mary Louise
Welbon & Tex GR
Karen Damerell from
Plymouth * Mr Michael
Rudge from Solihull.
Mrs Lesley Cornfield
from Ottery St. Mary.

Richard Wilson & Elton
GRxGSD Alison Kent from
Taunton * Sarah Lay from
Solihull. Mr Paul Black
from Solihull. Mr Adam
Stock from Exeter.

Garry Packer & Murray
GRxL Beverley Drake
from Torquay * Elizabeth

Tovey from Coventry. Ms
Liza Page from Exeter.

Glasgow

Margaret Barclay &
Ranger GRxGSD Lorna
Gamble from Dunfermline
* Mrs Carey Pegrum
from Hamilton.

Mark Brehmer & Pattie
LxGR James Duff from
Bathgate * Tracy Jones
from Carterton. Mrs
Kathryn Craig from
Falkirk. Mrs Lesley Niven
from Motherwell.

Gordon Corner & Millie
LxGR Joyce Pirrie from
Grangemouth * Deborah
Carruthers from Lichfield.
Mrs Danielle Vaughan
from Wigston. Miss Jenna
Ogilvie from Brechin.
Mrs Ana Sanchez Valina
from Dalbeattie.

Lilly Creamer & Brodie
GRxL Chris Swaine from

Ayr, Moira Watson from
Ayr * Veronica Bowden
from Bewdley. Mrs Lesley
Wilson from Forfar.

Stuart Gamble & Ferris
GRxGSD Linda Orr from
Cupar * Lorraine Mellor
from Birmingham. Mr
Paul Black from Solihull.
Miss Susan Deuchars
from Dundee.

Elizabeth Kelman & Oasis
GRxL Alison Pritchard from
Banchory, Mike Berry from
Inverurie * Howard Dorrell
from Worcester. Mr Paul
Crowe from Kenilworth.
Mrs Lesley Haynes from
Forfar. Mr Thomas Gordon
from Larkhall. Ms Kirsty
Mullen from Hamilton.

Robert Logan & Nancy
GRxL Denise Shute from
Inverurie * Glynis Nixon
from Warwick. Mrs Susan
Dunn from Carnoustie.

Mark McClenaghan & Chief
L Diane Macleod from
Dunfermline * Mr Paul
Sharp from Coventry. Miss
Jenni Small from Forfar.

Peter McWilliam & Lenny
GR Jane Currie from
Glasgow * Miss Nicole
O'Rafferty from Hamilton.
Miss Nicola McDonald
from Dumfries.

Graeme Roache & Gibson
LxGR Fiona McConnell

from Edinburgh *
Margaret Creed from
Stourbridge. Miss Niamh
Mitchell from Forfar.

Valerie Robertson & Archie
GRxGR Chris Blakey from
Falkirk * Ruth Weatherall
from Coventry. Mrs Lauryn
Craig from Hamilton.

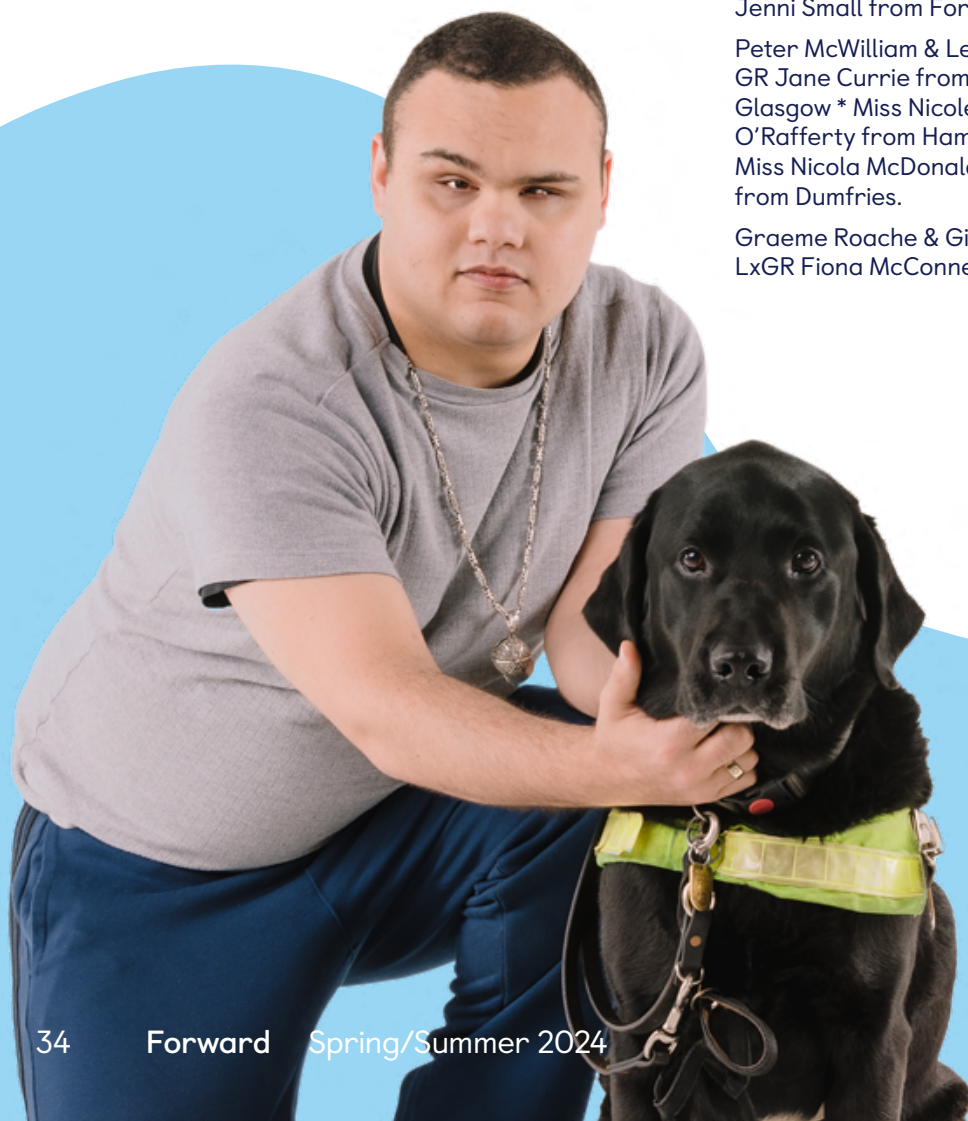
John Watret & Newton
GRxGR Kitty Shaw
from North Berwick *
Mrs Louise Neill from
Alcester. Mrs Susan
Dunn from Carnoustie.

Hull

Lauren Bibby & Jan
GRxGR * Jane Ekins from
Leamington Spa. Mr Paul
Black from Solihull. Mrs
Katharine McLean from
Forfar. Mrs Lucy Hewson
from Sheffield. Mr Gavin
Brooksbank from Sheffield.

Ken Bower & Prince L
Anthony & Sheila Eagle
from Darlington, Carl
Wright from Ashby de
la Zouch * Angela Bass
from Birmingham. Mr
Alan Lowe from Coventry.
Miss Samantha Gore
from Leigh. Ms Cathy
Malone from Sheffield.

Stephen Campbell & Ace
LxGR Angela Smith from
Huddersfield * Sandra Cox



from Marlow. Mrs Kwai White from Beverley.

Nicola Gardner & Benji GRxGSD Alan Henderson from Rowlands Gill * Ms Sarah Dunnett from Sheffield.

Kelly Nazir & Marco L Lauren Ward from York * Steve Parsons from Melksham. Mr Nicholas Barrett from Sheffield.

Susan Pallister & Finbar GRxL Robert Pollock from Sheffield * Catherine Keenan from Halesowen. Mrs Julie Hughes from Beverley. Mrs Gloria Herbert from North Humberside.

Tracey Plowman & Woody LxGR Bron Rawlins from Chesterfield * Sandra Boden from Rugeley. Mrs Nonie Toogood from Leamington Spa. Mrs Anne Procter from Beverley.

Leeds

Charles Kevin Beesting & Zodiac GRxL Debbie Rankine from Mexborough * Annette Rand from Rugby. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mrs Mo Duffy from Leeds. Mr Peter Silkstone from Leeds.

Judith Lonsdale & Maya GRxL Jenny Young from Newcastle upon Tyne, Robert Hindhaugh from Cramlington * Catherine Gray from Brackley. Mr James Spillings from Ripon.

Eric Smith & Polly L * Mr Paul Sharp from Coventry. Mrs Sandra Birley from Sheffield.

Dorothy Toyne & Gromit LxGR Donna Howson from Rotherham * Amber O'Brien from Warwick. Mrs Claire Long from Leigh.

Liverpool

Mark Garlock & Rosha LxL Samantha Williams from Wednesbury, Pernelle Yates from Preston * Sue

Lancaster from Bedford. Miss Susan Shuttleworth from Leigh. Mr Piers Callan from Wirral.

Stephen Joiner & Garner GRxL Lisa Ryan from Runcorn * Philip Crowther from Evesham. Mrs Lisa Tonge from Leigh.

Susan Walsh & Uma GRxGR Joanne Smith from Wirral * Lyn Brehaut from Worcester. Mrs Olwen Foster from Bolton.

London

Priya Commander & David LxGR Brenda Weaver from Brentwood * Amber O'Brien from Warwick. Dr Yanping Guo from London.

Sean Dilley & Shawn GRxGSD Nuala Laird from Hertford * Sarah Lay from Solihull. Mr Paul Black from Solihull. Mr Roberto Granese from Chigwell. Mr Antony Shine from Loughton.

Gill Fox & Rita GRxL Clare Castell-Ward from London * Sue Padgett from Kettering. Ms Clare Castell-Ward from London.

Anthony Garrett & Pippa LxGR Susannah Strawson from Tonbridge, Susan Rowland from Tonbridge * Elizabeth Evans from Droitwich. Mr Hugh Brown from Coventry. Ms Elaine Scott from London. Miss Lee Strode from London.

Victoria Harrison & Otto LxGR Kathleen Yarlett from Whitstable * Ian Plenderleith from Solihull. Mrs Barbara Stone from Kenilworth. Miss Pippa Brown from London.

Kimberley Heal & Dalby L Jenni Regan from Kent * Adele Sullivan from Banbury. Mrs Nonie Toogood from Leamington Spa.

Skie Hewitt & Derek GRxGSD Jesse Powis from Chelmsford * Miss Cassandra Scott

Hayward from London.

David Isaac & Rye L Lesley Rideout from Harlow * Steve Giles from Leicester. Miss Brittany Subers from London.

Paul Johnstone & Bramble LxL Elizabeth Endacott from Deal * Sue Davy from Oldbury. Miss Sarah Lawson from London.

Leah King & Rani L Sally Hesketh from St. Albans * Adele Sullivan from Banbury. Mrs Nonie Toogood from Leamington Spa. Mr Eugene Lynch from London.

Amanda Larter & Otis LxL Claire Connor from Colchester * Elizabeth Butler from Kenilworth. Ms Rita Patel from Ilford.

Hubert Pawelkiewicz & Cesar L Gillian Harrison from Manningtree * Ms Serra Sandhu from London.

Heather Taylor & Quincey LxL Melanie Abegglen from Bishops Stortford * Elizabeth Butler from Kenilworth. Miss Larry Whitbread from London.

Maidstone

Mark Bailey & Monte GRxL Katherine Lonsdale from Wellesbourne * Sarah Butler from Milton Keynes. Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth. Mrs Becky Dempsey from Leamington Spa.

Annette Bearsby & Jock GRxGR Rosalind Guy from Woking * Catherine Waddell from Redditch. Mr Craig McAteer from Maidstone.

Stephen Benningfield & Sonic GRxGR Katherine Partridge from Pershore * Mrs Louise Neill from Alcester. Miss Michelle Braithwaite from Bishop's Tachbrook. Ms Helen Meadows from London.

Colin Bird & Natalie LxGR Susan Rowland from Tonbridge *

Emma O'Halloran from Kenilworth.

Elizabeth Bushaway & Baz L * Janet Paget from Rugby. Mrs Tricia Collier from Warwick. Mrs Karen Bird from Leamington Spa.

Giles Carrington & Bruno GRxL Marilyn Addy from Swanley * Hilary Cooke from Bromsgrove.

Melissa Carter & Taylor GRxGSD Fiona Parkinson from Kidderminster * Sarah Lay from Solihull. Mr Paul Black from Solihull. Miss Maggie Wheatley from Leamington Spa.

Susan Gollins & Chip GR Kelly Murray-Smith from Salisbury * Mark Dyde from Malvern. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mr Gene Roberts from Maidstone.

Annette Hawkins & Eaton GRxGR Trudy Barnes from Wadhurst * Lindy Howlett from Bromyard. Ms Esther Holmes from Meriden.

Alison Heasman & Hal L Eleanor Jones from Clacton-on-Sea * Sarah Hicks from Solihull. Mr Ian Standing from South Woodford.

Pauline Mines & Dove L Katharine Stanley from Bishop's Stortford * Steve Giles from Leicester. Miss Dawn O'Leary from Rochester.

Sue Murphy & Brinkley GRxGSD Fiona Byers from Chatham, Susan Piekos from Chatham * Joanne Chambers from Redditch. Mrs Heather Redman from Maidstone. Mrs Claire Rotter from Maidstone.

Paula Page & Maureen L Lesley Holroyd from Rochester * Ian & Irene Scott from Warwick. Mr Paul Simons from Chigwell. Mrs Emma Walsh from Barming.

Ian Platt & Ralph L Mandy Lam from Wembley * Mrs Debra Burns from London.

New Partnerships

Manchester

In memoriam: Lee Thomas Hacking, who qualified with Bagel L Karin Snape from Warrington * Steve Parsons from Melksham. Mrs Alison Niemiec from Manchester. Mr Dave Love from Bolton. After Lee sadly passed away, Bagel was partnered with Carole Peers.

Zjenett Kimberley Barclay & David GRxL Ann Cassidy from Stockport * Anna Holden from Oxford. Mr Greg Butler from Banbury. Miss Georgia Martin from Manchester. Mrs Beverley Jamieson from Warrington.

Julie Barlow & Jem L Angela Capper from Ellesmere Port * Natalie Griffith from Warwick. Miss Rachel Ashley from Nuneaton. Mr Darren Maunders from Wigan.

Daniel Clarke & Oscar L Elizabeth Rose from Wigan * Amy Martin from Rugby. Mrs Lynn Richards from Coventry. Miss Holly Moreland from Manchester.

Nathaniel Costigan & Jamie L Kathy Reilly from Warrington * Jane Adams from Rugby. Miss Pauline Musembi from Liverpool.

Amy Finnigan & Lucia L Shirley Smith from Wirral * Steve Parsons from Melksham. Mrs Lisa Jones from Liverpool.

Peter Forrester & Derry L Helen Pulford from Chester * Mrs Dulcie Parry from Rugby. Mr Liam Wolstenholme from Leigh. Mr Malcolm McCracken from Stockport.

Ross Gillespie & Dax LxL Jo Pulford from Liverpool, Nikki Harrison from Liverpool * Sue Lancaster from Bedford. Dr Ashley Fallon from Manchester.

Arthur George Griffiths & Jed L Diane Van Eker from Liverpool * Gail Winnett from Birmingham. Mr Tom Gowland from Manchester.

Peter Malcolm Harding & Charlie GRxGSD Helen Owen from Wem * Tanya Campbell from Chipping Campden.

Gary Heapy & Donald from L Xara Rathore from Knutsford * Jane Adams from Rugby. Mrs Lindsay Halliwell from Manchester.

James Hutton & Bernard L Dawn Hillback from Frodsham * Helen Daw from Bedford. Mrs Louise Blackhurst from Bolton. Ms Alison Banks from Carlisle.

Mavis Ince & Lucy L Della Holliday from Lytham St

Annes * Gail Winnett from Birmingham. Miss Amy Joel from Manchester.

Geraint Madoc Jones & Charlie CCRxL * Claire Cobbold from Leamington Spa. Mr Adam Fincham from Leamington Spa. Mrs Stephanie Bell from Manchester.

Paula Kirkbride & Ed GRxGSD Susan Taylor from Thurstaston * Sarah Lay from Solihull. Mr Paul Black from Solihull. Mrs Beverley Jamieson from Warrington.

Paul Laing & Arthur L Stephen Pollard from Warrington * Mrs Kim Walker from Manchester.

Malcolm Lennard & Jay GRxL Lesley Batchelor from Macclesfield *

Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth. Miss Christine Davies from Liverpool.

Irene O'Neill & Rosie CCRxL Jennifer Parker from Warwick, Lesley Burchnall from Lutterworth * Claire Cobbold from Leamington Spa. Mr Adam Fincham from Leamington Spa. Mrs Rachel Fairless from Bacup. Mrs Margaret Bray from Atherton.

Michelle Sherrington & Kai L Ann Brooks from Heywood, Adam Davis from Warrington * Mrs Val Phillips from Wigan.

Jane Taylor & Ettie GRxL Carole Milnes from Stalybridge * Clare Strudwick from Leamington Spa. Mrs



Karen Charl from Coventry.
Miss Elle Gascoyne
from Manchester.

Elizabeth Anne Tonkin &
Alty GRxL Clair Regan
from Manchester * Anthea
Smith from Evesham.
Mrs Louise Millard from
Lutterworth. Mrs Lynda
Hamblet from Bolton.

Pawel Trafas & Robbie
GRxGSD Vivien Parker
from Leyland, Noreen
Nokes from Wallasey *
Sarah Lay from Solihull. Mr
Paul Black from Solihull.

Jennifer White & Collis
LxGR Christine Jones
from Over Hulton * Jane
Huntington from Stratford-
upon-Avon. Miss Danielle
Causby from Manchester.

Kylie Wrigley Butterworth
& Arthur GRxGR Laura
Bratherton from Wirral
* Jackie Buick from
Leicester. Ms Wendy
Jackson from Leigh.

Newcastle

Kenneth Abbott & Colin
L Ian Nicholson from
Bradford * Helen Daw from
Bedford. Ms Alison Binale
from Newcastle upon Tyne.

Sheila Brennan & Hope
GRxL Anne Roberts from
Edinburgh * Mrs Cherie
Butler from Forfar.

Helen Brewis-Levie & Sunny
STPxL Marian Boyden
from Richmond * Christine
Spratt from Rugeley.
Mrs Linda Landsberg
from Milton Keynes.
Miss Jessica Southwick
from Cramlington.

Matthew Cunningham &
Tweedie L Pete Nelson from
Blaydon-on-Tyne * Mr Paul
Sharp from Coventry.

Lewis Dawes & Robyn L
Jackie Handley from York
* Mr Vishal Vedhara from
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Roger Elgood & Elsie
GRxGSD David Wells from
Leyland * Linda Tindall
from Coventry. Mrs

Clare Carr from Bolton.
Miss Lizzie Spencer from
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Harry Ellis & Rose L
Andrew Robinson from
Sunderland * Eric Martens
from Coventry. Mr Andrew
Robinson from Sunderland.

Gary Ferguson & Josie Gill
GRxL Susan Duckworth
from Harrogate, Alison
Norman from Ilkley, Janet
Lesley Cartwright from
Ilkley * Pauline Macpherson
from Stratford-upon-
Avon. Mrs Helen Miller
from Chester-le-Street.
Mr Ian Stephenson from
Chester-le-Street.

Maureen Gibson &
Rupert LxGR Bethany
Hudson from North
Shields * Chris Cavanagh
from Cheltenham. Mrs
Kirsty Thomson from
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Thomas Gray & Murphy
L Jayne Little from
Northallerton * Neil
Smith from Northampton.
Mr Alan Potts from
Chester-le-Street.

Val Hydes & Hans L
Angela Dunn from
Northallerton * Maureen
Ross from Redditch.

Elizabeth Lyons & Stan L
Geoffrey Mitchell from
Lisburn * Catherine
Atkinson from Alcester. Mr
Ian Scott from Kirriemuir.

Jonathan Parsons &
Kingsley GRxL Karen
Oakley from Stocksfield
* Philip Crowther from
Evesham. Dr Jan Rigby
from Darlington.

Nottingham

Gail Ashby & Unis
LxGR David Small from
Pontypool * Jane Roberts
from Wellesbourne. Miss
Sarah Sheasby from
Bromsgrove. Mrs Felicity
Stratton from Warwick,
Mrs Lavinia Derrick from
Stratford-upon-Avon.

Ruth Baker & Tug L Neil

Barford from Northampton
* Sarah Hicks from Solihull.
Mr Markus Backman from
Warwick. Mrs Tracey
Rhoades from Nottingham.

Robynn Bellemore &
George GRxL Lynn
Docherty from Rugby * Sue
Walters from Stourbridge.
Miss Anna Ferrari from
Warwick. Mrs Katrina
Medway from Nottingham.

Kay Carley & Jan L Linda
Appleton from Tewkesbury
* Mr Darren Wright from
Leamington Spa. Mrs Susan
Pritchett from Nottingham.

Jennifer Cowell & Pearl
L Margaret Langford
from Warwick * Margaret
Langford from Warwick.
Mrs Gill Weeks from
Leamington Spa.

Paula Hunt & Sandy
LxGR Caroline Evans
from Rugby, Chris Tyler
from Milton Keynes *
Emma O'Halloran from
Kenilworth. Miss Debbie
Harrison from Nottingham.

Keith Kelsey & Paddy
GRxL * Donna Hunt from
Lutterworth. Mrs Louise
Millard from Lutterworth.
Mrs Claire Duhaze from
Leamington Spa. Miss
Heather Gelder from
Rugby. Mrs Yvonne Insley
from Alfreton. Mr Brian
Shucksmith from Lincoln.

Sue Reeve & Susie GR
Sally Henderson from
Hinckley, Julie Robertson
from Lutterworth * Mark
Dyde from Malvern. Mr
Michael Rudge from
Solihull. Mrs Deborah
Barleggs from Leamington
Spa. Mrs Maxine Govier
from Nottingham.

Elaine Spencer & Frankie
GRxL * Shasheill Kumar
from Coventry. Mrs Paula
Mitchell from Warwick.

Brenda Williams & Ebony
L Kate Entecott from
Birmingham * Miss Beth
Bird from Nottingham.
Mrs Jacqueline Hulatt
from Nottingham.

Peterborough

Alison Blackman &
Parker L Andreina
Benigno-Thomas from
Stourbridge * Sue Wilkins
from Rugby. Mrs Dulcie
Parry from Rugby. Mr &
Mrs Graham & Sandra
Jeffrey from Ashby-
de-la-Zouch. Mrs Helen
Palmer from Wisbech.

Susan Chenery & Andy
GR * Paul Dodd from
Ross-on-Wye. Mrs Yvonne
Foley from Ilford.

John Chilvers & Sultan
L Lynne Powell from
Coventry * Ms Elizabeth
Holmes Norton
from Warwick.

Lisa Dickman & Cassie
L Sally Lovegrove from
Solihull * Emily Turley
from Birmingham. Miss
Lesley Coombs from
Leamington Spa.

Maria Dod & Yosie L
Annette Warrington
from Shenstone * Adele
Sullivan from Banbury.
Mrs Nonie Toogood from
Leamington Spa. Miss Leah
McFadden from Southam.
Miss Stephanie Fisher
from Peterborough.

Ronald Greaves & Hugo
GRxGSD Yvonne Smith from
Nuneaton * Miss Harriet
Pearce from Warwick.

Brian Hewitt & Rafe
L Pauline Morrison
from Nottingham *
Susan Robinson from
Worcester. Mrs Sue Cox
from Leamington Spa.

Anthony Jeffery &
Lemmy L Katie Bird from
Nottingham * Adele Sullivan
from Banbury. Mrs Nonie
Toogood from Leamington
Spa. Miss Kezia Morgan
from Leamington Spa.

Marion Mansfield & Johnno
L Marie Brentford from
Newark * Mrs Karen
Charl from Coventry.

Sean McGaughey &
Barkley GRxGSD Vikki Holt

New Partnerships

from Redditch * Helen Evans from Redditch. Mr Paul Black from Solihull. Miss Eleanor Jeffries from Warwick.

Gemma Newson & Ollie LxGR Peter Bass from Broughton Astley, Sarah Veasey from Leicester * Melanie Elkington from Kenilworth. Mrs Sonia Davidson from Peterborough.

Bernie Reddington & Clara L Susan Robinson from Worcester * Ms Lauren Topp from Nuneaton. Mrs Julie Durrant from Wisbech.

Helen Tanner & Magic STPxL Judith Carmichael from Heanor * Christine Spratt from Rugeley. Mrs Linda Landsberg from Milton Keynes. Mrs Elaine Oliver from Radway, Warwick.

Davina Thorn & Heidi LxGR Angela Waite from Leicester * Ian Plenderleith from Solihull. Mrs Barbara Stone from Kenilworth. Mrs Clare

Topping from Kenilworth. Geraldine Tipping & Topper L Lynn Earley from Northampton * Gail Winnett from Birmingham. Mr Andrew Rowe from Warwick.

Fiona Waters & Eric L William Gurney from Stourbridge * Mrs Tricia Collier from Warwick. Mrs Rosalyn Sklar from Warwick.

Judith Williams & Linda L Naomi Cope from Nottingham * Helen Hinchliffe from Derby. Mrs Yvonne Coppard from Peterborough.

Shrewsbury

Karyn Chrisp & Quasia L Gillian Drinkwater from Warrington * Mrs Gail Johnson from Warwick. Mrs Victoria McNamara from Atherton.

Tony Clarke & Milton LxGR Julia Gallagher from Liverpool, Margaret Davies from Liverpool, Mark Wilson from Southport

* Chris Cavanagh from Cheltenham. Miss Sarah Weyer from Manchester.

Amanda Lee & Roxy LxGR Susan Miller from Stalybridge * Sandra Cox from Marlow. Miss Susan Shuttleworth from Leigh.

Russell Stephenson & Nico L Andrea Ocran from Grays, Ron Perks from Sandy * Janet Paget from Rugby. Mrs Tricia Collier from Warwick. Mr Martin Bateman from Stockport.

June Wood & Drake L Aimi Barton from Macclesfield * Miss Janet Anderton from Wigan.

Southampton

Graham Grange & Lylah L * Sue Wilkins from Rugby. Mrs Chantell Simpson from Eastleigh.

Carrie Piddington & Poe L Wendy Terry from Hungerford * Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove. Mrs Jo Griffiths from Eastleigh.

Welwyn Garden City

David Clarke & Bernie L * Ian & Irene Scott from Warwick. Ms Donna Irwin from St Albans.

Pamela House & Pam GRxL Betty Hodgson from Selby * Anna Holden from Oxford. Mr Greg Butler from Banbury. Mrs Caroline Dixon from Potters Bar.

Antony Kirby & Oake GRxGSD Josefine Van Der Dussen from Woodman Lane * Trudy Evans from Coventry. Mr Steven Holding from London.

Claire Maxwell & Duffy GRxGR Patricia Davis from London * Mrs Louise Neill from Alcester. Ms Gerry Kiefer from London.

Viktoria Nurse & Ramsden GRxL * Sarah Butler from Milton Keynes. Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth. Mrs Natalie Green from Woodford Green.

Mark Pivac & Kenna L Trudy Nash from Chelmsford * Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove.



Thank you to Guide Dogs for 30 years of marriage!

In May 1992, a lovely lady called Julie Jarvis and I were training at the Leamington Training Centre (as it was then), me with my first dog, Reo, and Julie with her second dog, Warwick. Through many chats in the minibus while waiting for our turn to work with our dogs, and in the evenings, we found we had a lot in common.

Once we qualified with our guide dogs and went home, we would exchange telephone calls and spent Christmas together that year. Like our guide dog partnerships, the bond between us grew, and Julie moved into my

home in Milton Keynes in March 1993. We married on 2 July 1994 and our daughter, Victoria, was born the following year. So I'd like to thank Guide Dogs for introducing us!

I'm currently waiting for a new guide dog, and Julie uses her long cane to get about. We moved to Exmouth in Devon in 2016, where we're enjoying semi-retirement and lots of time for long walks and day trips.

Kind regards,
Gary Ankin



Caption Competition

Volunteer Jean Endersby was enjoying a visit to Morecambe in Lancashire when she took this photo of retired guide dog Spencer, who seemed quite unimpressed by the seafront statue of the late comedian Eric Morecambe!



What would you caption this photo?

Send your suggestions to: Forward, Communications Team, Guide Dogs, Hillfields, Burghfield Common, Reading, RG7 3YG or email forward@guidedogs.org.uk with your name, address and a daytime phone number.

The winner gets a £10 Marks & Spencer voucher.

The last competition winner is Ashley Howard from Hull, with the caption "I know I heard them order chicken in a basket when we were in the pub, but I can't find it!" Congratulations, Ashley!



Competition rules: This competition is open to anyone resident in the UK, except employees of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, their families and anyone connected with the competition. No purchase necessary. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, damaged or mislaid or wrongly delivered. Illegible entries will be disqualified. Only one original entry is allowed per envelope. The winners will be notified by either post or telephone and the results will be published in the next issue of the magazine. The winners must agree to the publication of their names, photographs and any publicity, if requested. In all matters concerning the competition the Editor's decision is final. No correspondence can be entered into. Entry implies acceptance of the rules. The closing date for the competition is 31 August 2024.

Players of People's Postcode Lottery support our future life-changers through the puppy raising stage



Having previously funded the first stage of our guide dog puppies' lives from birth to eight weeks, players of People's Postcode Lottery have now supported the next stage in their journey – the puppy raising stage.

Thanks to players, our puppies have been supported by volunteer puppy raisers in their homes. Our volunteers have the crucial role of caring for the physical, behavioural and emotional development of our future

life-changers from the age of around eight weeks to 14 months. By the end of this time, our puppies are socialised and prepared to step into formal guide dog training.

Funding raised by players and awarded by Postcode Animal Trust supported approximately half of our puppy raising programme from April 2023 to the end of March this year, equating to around 316 puppies who will go on to become part of the next generation of guide dogs.

An accessible art trail unleashed in Canary Wharf!

PAWS ON THE WHARF

In March, we unleashed Paws on the Wharf, an accessible art trail throughout Canary Wharf. In partnership with event organisers Wild in Art, supported by Citi and hosted by Canary Wharf Group and the Canal & River Trust, we unveiled 25 guide dog sculptures in a trail of discovery.

Each sculpture was decorated by a talented artist, creating a free exhibition celebrating our amazing life-changing dogs. Our aim was to raise vital funds and awareness, and encourage important conversations around accessibility. We wanted our event to be the most accessible outdoor sculpture trail to-date. To achieve this, we partnered with NaviLens – an exciting accessible technology. By using the NaviLens app, people could scan codes on our sculpture plinths and listen to audio content about the sculpture.

We also hosted sighted guide and sensory tours, thanks to the support of our Accessible Events Partner, United Airlines. These tours supported people to experience the trail with additional multi-sensory elements such as touch and smell items relating to the sculpture designs.

Other accessible features included providing digital trail maps and alternative format guides. The route was step-free and designed in 'areas'

featuring clusters of sculptures, so people could choose to visit as much of the trail as they wished. Trail goer Amy said: "I enjoyed the art trail because it was accessible – a lot of artwork just isn't accessible to me as a blind person."

Find out which celebrity visited Paws on the Wharf in Star News on page 11.



Image: Matt Crossick/PA



GIVEACAR

CAR DONATION SERVICE

DONATE YOUR CAR

FAST | FREE | FOR CHARITY

DONATE YOUR CAR IN 3 EASY STEPS

STEP 1



Fill out our donation form on our **website or call us** to submit your details and choose a charity

STEP 2



We'll determine the best option for your vehicle and arrange **free collection**

STEP 3



You'll receive a receipt from us letting you know how much your car **raised for your charity**

We offer free
nationwide
collection

Free Collection | Any Car | Nationwide

Contact us to find out more

0207 736 4242

giveacar.co.uk

In support of:

