

Bolt

GUIDE
DOGS



Pupdate 6

The perfect match

Paul and Bolt

**SPONSOR
A PUPPY**





Hello, it's Paul here, Bolt's owner. Welcome to his final Pupdate! Bolt makes me smile every day and I'm excited to update you on how our partnership is progressing.

I was diagnosed with a genetic degenerative eye disorder in my early twenties

and today, I can only see vague shapes and colours in my right eye and my left eye just has some narrow central vision remaining. Due to this, I can sometimes be quite hesitant when walking on my own. However, my wife has said that when I have Bolt by my side, I walk as if my sight has not been affected at all – how incredible! I have complete confidence that if Bolt believes the path to be clear, then it is.

Without the support of people like you and Guide Dogs, I wouldn't have Bolt in my life and I wouldn't know the incredible freedom and independence that owning a guide dog gives you.



Full of love

Bolt felt very much at home from the word go, however our pet dog Murphy and pet cat ZeeZee felt very differently, taking them a little while to realise that Bolt was here to stay. Hilariously ZeeZee now rules the roost, with Bolt reluctantly accepting her rule! After a few months together, I'm pleased to say that our little pack has bonded and Bolt has truly become a member of the family.

Bolt loves to carry around 'Teddy', a brown teddy bear that actually belongs to Murphy! Without a doubt, Bolt means to be the best guide dog in the world. He is full of such character and is so willing to please. I've never known a more affectionate dog and Bolt shares his love with everyone he meets!

A nation of dog lovers

I had imagined that a challenging part of owning a guide dog would be

attempting to use public transport across London. I'm so happy to say that to date, all my travel experiences with Bolt have been unbelievably positive. Being a nation of dog lovers, the help and support from the public has been incredible. I have been overwhelmed with how supportive public transport staff have been to me, including stopping an escalator for us! This has made getting out and about with Bolt an absolute pleasure, and I can't thank them enough.

Adventures await

My wife and I are still planning to travel across Europe with Bolt. We decided to give the camper van a test run by taking a trip to a beach in Devon. Bolt and Murphy had great fun exploring the beach, with Bolt always waiting for Murphy to check the sea was safe before he followed. We have since decided that a camper van may not be the vehicle of choice as

For more photos and a video of Paul and Bolt, please visit: [guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-bolt](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-bolt)



there isn't much space in there for the two of us and the dogs!

I have been speaking further with the International Paralympics Committee and there is potential for me to work with their advertising agency sharing my knowledge and expertise. I'm very excited

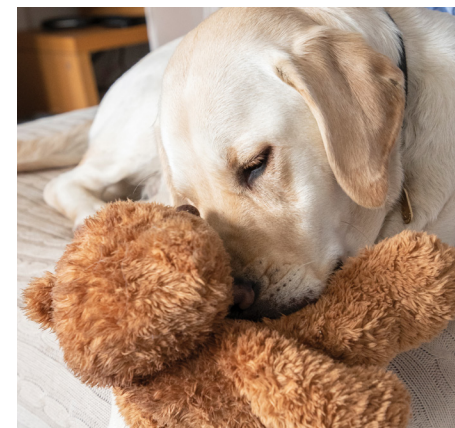


about the prospect of sharing my experience and knowledge with them on their future campaigns.

(Continued overleaf)



My wife has said that when I have Bolt by my side, I walk as if my sight has not been affected at all – how incredible!



I hope you've enjoyed following Bolt's journey and watching him grow from a tiny puppy into an incredible life changing guide dog. Bolt has enriched my life and I know he is one of many dogs that have done the same for so many other people.

Thank you so much for your support. I urge you to continue supporting Guide Dogs to create more incredible partnerships, just like the one myself and Bolt share.



Your sponsor a puppy journey doesn't end here

Guide Dogs exists to provide life-changing services to the 360,000 people who are registered blind or partially sighted, and the two million people in the UK living with sight loss. Our ambition is for a future where every person with sight loss has the confidence and support to live their lives to the full.

Your support makes this possible and we do hope you can continue helping our life-changing work. Your new puppy's amazing adventure to become a guide dog awaits!

Find out more about how we manage and respect your data at **guidedogs.org.uk/privacy** or call **freephone 0800 953 0113** to request a printed copy. Please use this number to tell us if you have changed your mind about how we contact you; including telling us that you do not wish to receive occasional direct mail about Guide Dogs.