



Guide Dogs - join the pack

Community Link Workers
January 2026

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Local Volunteering Attraction Coordinator



Session Overview

- ✓ Who are Guide Dogs?
- ✓ Volunteering
- ✓ Services
- ✓ Sighted guiding
- ✓ Q&A



Who are Guide Dogs?

Our purpose:

We exist to help people with sight loss live the life they choose.

Why volunteer?

- Giving back - our volunteers are committed to help people with sight loss live the life they choose.
- Our volunteers raise the next generation of guide dogs and raise money to fund our services for children and adults.
- Spend time with our dogs.
- Learn and develop skills.
- Our roles are social - fundraising group events, tea parties and puppy classes.
- Benefits to physical and mental health.

Fundraising volunteer opportunities

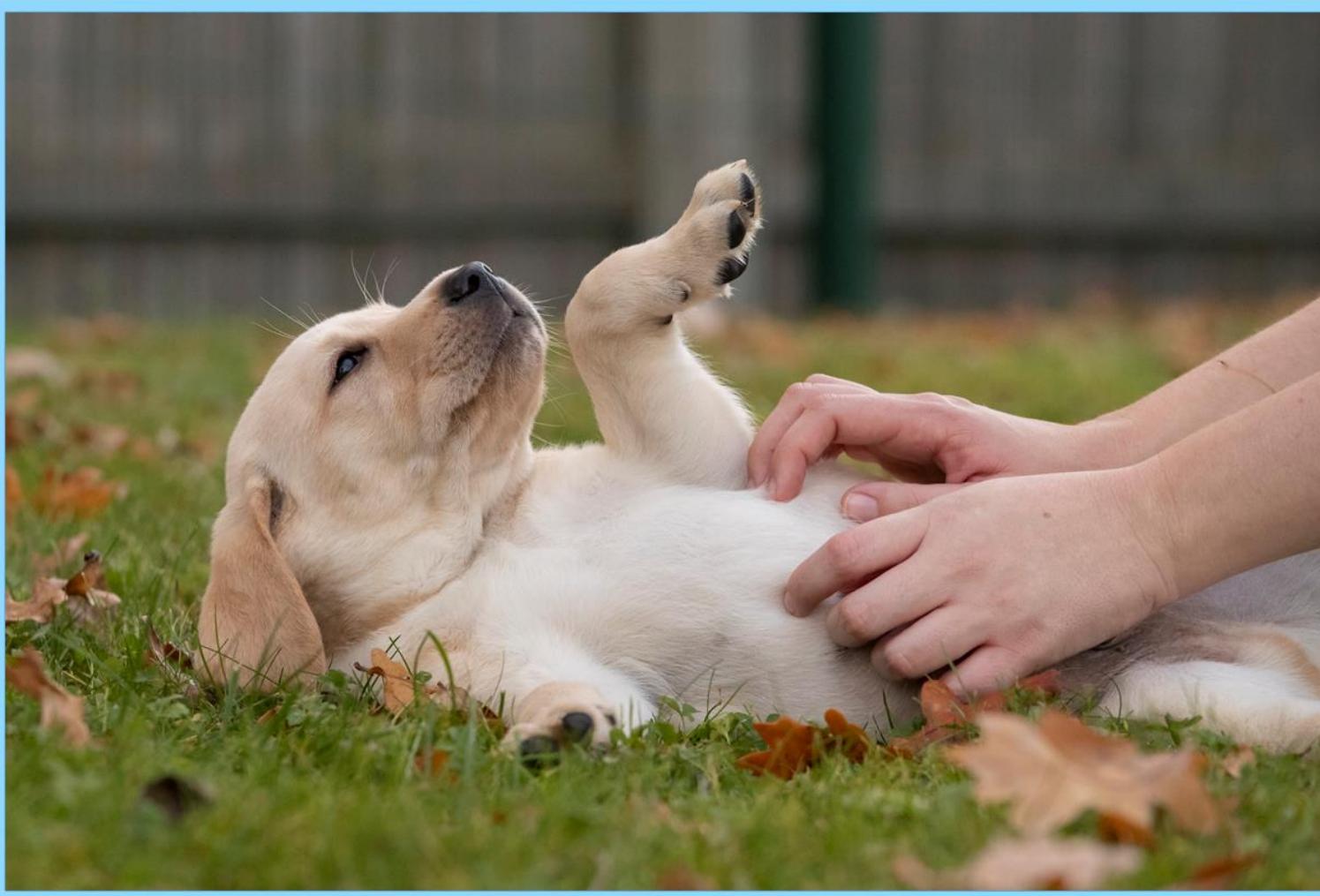


The poster is yellow with a blue border. It features the Guide Dogs logo (a stylized paw print) and the text 'Join the pack.' in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, a smaller text block reads: 'Raise awareness and funds for our amazing services and build lifelong partnerships along the way.' At the bottom, there is a QR code with the text 'Scan here' and the website 'Visit [guidedogs.org.uk/volunteering](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/volunteering)'.

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1354). C708 04/24

Guide Dogs

Volunteering with our dogs



Puppy Raising

As a Puppy Raiser, you'll provide 8-week-old puppy with the vital foundation for its future role as a guide dog.

You'll be looking after a puppy for 12-16 months and will guide him or her through training, socialisation, the introduction of new environments and experiences while providing a loving home.



Dog Fostering

As a Training Dog Fosterer, you'll be giving a dog in training a loving home whilst they embark on their journey to become a guide dog.

You'll get to see the progress your furry companion is making in their training and be a vital part of their journey, without the commitment of looking after a dog full time.



Support provided

- ✓ Training required for your role.
- ✓ Support from a dedicated Volunteer Manager.
- ✓ Reimbursement of pre-agreed expenses. Food and vet bills covered for dog roles.
- ✓ Helpline and Out Of Hours Emergency telephone support.
- ✓ Newsletters and Volunteer information hub.

Joining the Pack

- Go to guidedogs.org.uk/volunteer or navigate to the volunteering pages.
- Scroll down this page and you'll find a section labelled "Find a volunteering opportunity near you." Please enter your postcode and click 'Search.'

Find volunteer opportunities near you

Search for volunteering opportunities near you in the box below.

Enter your postcode

Our volunteers say...

“My experience as a volunteer has been brilliant. I’ve made a whole new group of friends - we all say it’s our Guide Dogs family. The most satisfying thing of all is to see a working guide dog with its owner and realising how vital our work is.”

Sue - Volunteer Fundraising Group Coordinator



Information and advice

guidedogs.org.uk/getting-support/information-and-advice/

Information on living with different eye conditions, independent living skills, personal care, mobility, lighting.



Eating in and dining out



Handling money



Household chores



Managing your finances
Household
Housework



Pouring drinks safely



Preparing meals and
snacks



Tactile labels and
markers



Telling the time and
managing appointments

Guide dog

A guide dog:

Walks in a straight line
From kerb to kerb
Avoiding obstacles
Stop at kerbs and stairs
Finds doors, seats, pedestrian crossings

What a guide dog means to Simon and his family

“Every memory of my dad, his guide dog is right next to him.”

Simon's inspiring story



Sighted guide training

Sighted Guide Training

- Open sessions for the general public (aged 18+)
- Closed sessions for groups, online or in person

Friends and Family Sighted Guide Training

- For friends and family members of adults with a vision impairment
- Learn or refresh their guiding skills
- Person with sight loss can join
- Open to participants aged 12+
- Peer support

Free! Online booking:

www.guidedogs.org.uk/sightedguiding



Help for children and families

Thank you!

Keep in touch / leaflet and poster requests -
VolAttractNorth@guidedogs.org.uk

Search for 'Guide Dogs UK' and 'Guide Dogs Scotland' on social media to follow our news.

Any questions?