

Guide Dogs for the Blind – Droitwich Spa NWR March 2024

Our recent speaker explained the work puppy raisers do during the first year of the dogs life. Two of our members are volunteers raising puppies in preparation for full time guide dog training. Guide Dogs for the Blind have been a charity since 1934 and since then 36,000 lives have been transformed. Puppy raising involves learning how to be house trained, establishing basic commands and general dog obedience.

Dogs then move onto the full time training programme at Leamington Spa and if successful will be matched with a blind or partially sighted person. Up to 70% of dogs graduate going on to be working dogs. Those that do not reach the required standard are found a forever home. Members were surprised at the range of opportunities volunteers can opt for including respite boarding, caring for dogs awaiting re-homing, driving dogs to veterinary appointments and managing the retirement process for working dogs.

On the evening of our meeting the group donated £127 to the charity.