

Let's Go!



Canine
Partners

Amazing dogs. Transforming lives.

Winter 2022



Inside

Read inspiring stories about how our little life-changers grow up to transform lives.

caninepartners.org.uk



Proudly supporting
Canine Partners
Amazing dogs. Transforming lives.

WE BELIEVE PETS & PEOPLE ARE BETTER TOGETHER

At PURINA® we believe in the magical and unique connection between pets and humans and when people and pets bond, life becomes richer.

This belief is placed at the heart of everything we do and we're passionate about finding ways to make this bond stronger. Our commitments to pets include, helping advance nutrition through the products we make, championing the role of pets in society and working towards a waste free future.

We've been proud supporters of Canine Partners since 2000. Like them, we know just how transformational your relationship with your pet can be – and how much love and joy that can bring to your life.

Follow us on Twitter [@PurinaUK](https://twitter.com/PurinaUK) Facebook [PURINA UK & Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/PURINAUKIreland) To learn more about us visit: <https://www.purina.co.uk/>

©Reg. Trademark of Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.



Your Pet, Our Passion.

Welcome to our Winter 2022 issue of Let's Go!



2022 has been busy for Canine Partners as we continue to focus on building back our breeding, training and partnership programmes.

With the support of our incredible staff, volunteers and community, we are working towards our vision, that every disabled person lives their life to the full.

The physical and emotional support of a canine partner can change a life forever. Paul with canine partner Ralph and Rebecca with canine partner Gregg share their heartwarming and inspirational stories on pages 4 and 12.

We also go behind-the-scenes with an amazing Fosterer volunteer on page 8 as Jenny shares her experiences and what inspired her to get involved.

With fundraising updates, lots of different ways to support us and plenty of gorgeous photos of our wonderful puppies and dogs, we hope you enjoy this edition of Let's Go!

Don't forget to let us know what you think, we love to hear from you. Get in touch at info@caninepartners.org.uk or call us on **03456 580480**.

Best wishes from all at Canine Partners.



50% off Super Sale now on!

Get ahead of the Christmas rush and grab yourself a bargain in our amazing 50% off Super Sale.

We're discounting **everything** in our shop, from Christmas cards to dog toys in our biggest clearance event ever! View the range and place your order at shop.caninepartners.org.uk or call us on **01730 716010** (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm). A 50% discount on all items will be applied at checkout. Hurry – while stocks last!

This issue is kindly supported by our corporate partners Nestlé Purina Petcare and Pets Corner

You can follow us on [f Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/caninepartners) [i Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/caninepartners) [t Twitter](https://twitter.com/caninepartners) [in LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/caninepartners)

Partnership story

Rebecca and Gregg



“All of these small things seemed like a barrier to me before, but I don’t see those barriers now that I have Gregg in my life. He makes me feel like everything is possible now we can take life on together.”

Rebecca was partnered with canine partner Gregg in August 2018. Rebecca has Cerebral Palsy, and struggled with her self-esteem and confidence due to the perception of her condition.

“My name is Rebecca, I’m 27 years old and I have Cerebral Palsy. I’m a full time wheelchair user and my disability affects the use of all of my limbs, which means I need a high level of personal care with day-to-day tasks.

“I had a really difficult time for many years because of my disability. I always felt as if the world didn’t understand that my disability was a purely physical one, and I faced a lot of judgement about what my capability level was. This judgement had a huge impact on my self-esteem.

.....
It’s not an exaggeration to say that I hated life for a long time, and the most powerful thing I can say is that Gregg has turned that around completely.

“Gregg is there for me every morning to help me get out of bed and get dressed, and then he will go and get help from my carers. I’m so clumsy and I drop things all the time. Whenever I drop my makeup brushes (which happens a lot!) he’s always there to pick them up, wagging his tail the whole time.

“It’s hard to explain just how much of a difference he’s made by helping me do these everyday things that most people wouldn’t think twice about. He’s given me so much more independence and the chance to take charge of my own life and I’m so grateful for that.

“I’ve taken the massive step of starting my own business since having Gregg, which would never have seemed like a possibility before. I give talks to care companies and share my own experiences of being cared for, talking about why it is so important

for people to have choice and control of their care requirements.

“I’m incredibly proud of myself for taking this step and it is something that I couldn’t have imagined myself doing before having a canine partner. Although the physical tasks that Gregg can do for me are so important, I see the benefits of having him as so much more profound than that. He’s given my life a totally different meaning and allowed me to go and do something that I’m so passionate about.

“My mindset has changed so much that I don’t see barriers anymore, I just see opportunities. I feel so at peace with my life now that it feels that things are coming my way naturally. That is such a wonderful feeling after going through such hard times earlier in my life. Everything has changed for me because I have changed as a person, thanks to Gregg and Canine Partners. I don’t think about things or agonise about things anymore, I’ll just go out and do it.”

You can read more of Rebecca’s heart-warming story about her life with Gregg at caninepartners.org.uk/impactseries



Donate to our ‘little life-changers’ appeal to help us train more puppies like Gregg, to become life-changing assistance dogs. Please visit caninepartners.org.uk/little-life-changers

Take on a challenge for charity

Could you step out of your comfort zone and take on a challenge to raise money for Canine Partners?

Whether you want to abseil, climb, cycle, run, skydive, walk or wheel, we have a challenge for you, or you can pick your own!

We've partnered with the Ultra Challenge Series to help you discover the best of Britain. Why not join in an invigorating winter walk around the sights of London, or perhaps an adventure around the hills of the Lake District. No matter what your fitness level, there really is something for everyone.

By taking on a challenge and asking your family and friends to sponsor you, you'll be supporting Canine Partners to help disabled people live life to the full.



Find out what challenges we have available for 2023 by heading to caninepartners.org.uk/challenges

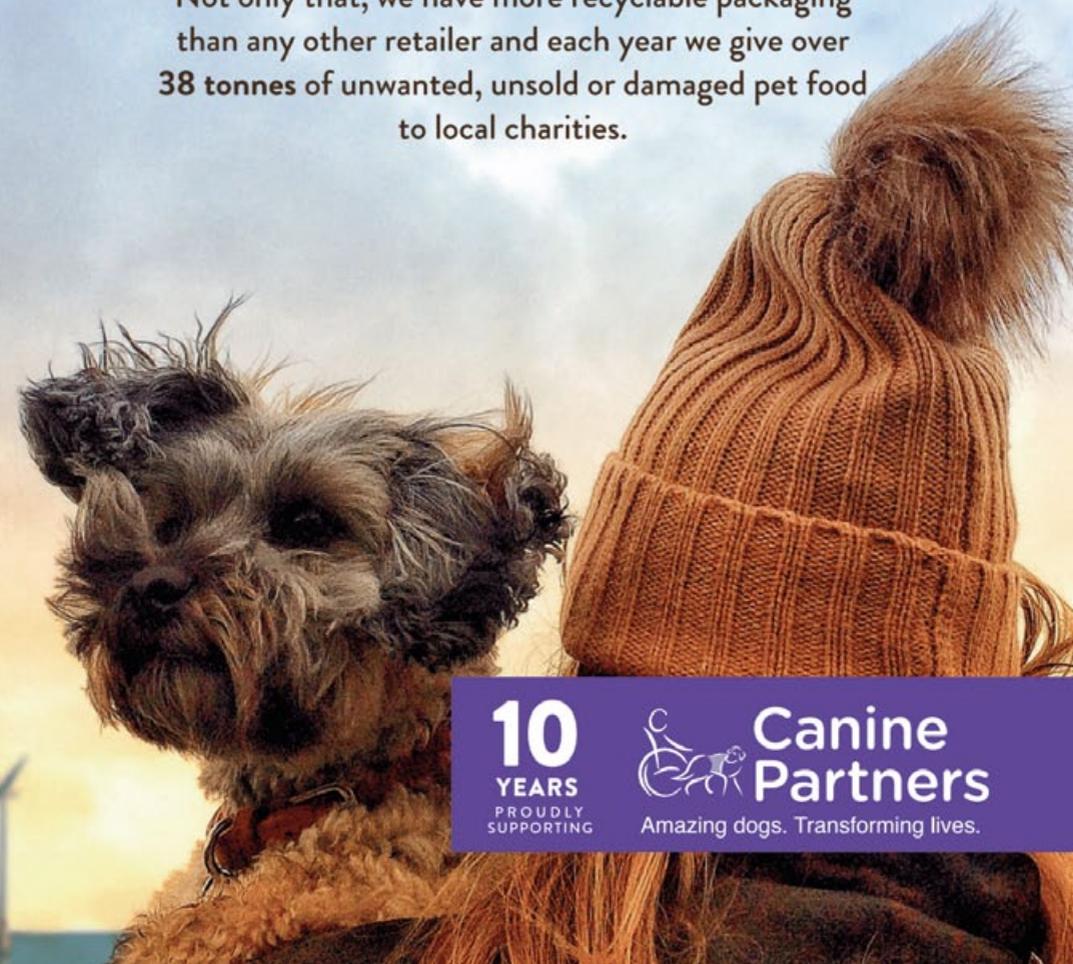
BRITAIN'S GREENEST PET STORES.

ESTD 1968
PetsCorner

The world's only carbon neutral pet retailer.

For more than 10 years our stores have been powered by renewable electricity provided by the great British climate.

Not only that, we have more recyclable packaging than any other retailer and each year we give over 38 tonnes of unwanted, unsold or damaged pet food to local charities.



Play today
and help
change lives

£10,000
up for grabs every week

★ £1
to play

every
£1 helps
train more
amazing
dogs

Just £1 to enter and you could join our weekly winners ...



Enter online at:
lottery.caninepartners.org.uk



Enter by phone on
01628 200 343



Robert L. with best friend Bertie

“I've supported Canine Partners for many years and I'm delighted to be a winner in their weekly lottery. It's a fun way to raise funds and there are prizes every week so everyone has a chance to be a winner, like me!”

Entry is open to adults aged 18 and over, resident in the UK excluding the Channel Islands, Isles of Scilly or Isle of Man. Visit lottery.caninepartners.org.uk/rules for the latest rules. Canine Partners is registered with Chichester District Council as a non-commercial society under the Gambling Act 2005. Registration Number: 3815/17/00265/GASSL. Responsible person - Graham Jones, Canine Partners, Mill Lane, Heyshott, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 0ED.

Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

18+

BeGambleAware.org

10
YEARS
PROUDLY
SUPPORTING



**Canine
Partners**

Amazing dogs. Transforming lives.



A day in the life ... of a Fosterer volunteer



“The dogs are at the Training Centre during the week, but spend the whole weekend with us. The weekends are even more enjoyable with a foster dog around, and we always go out for a nice long walk, which gives us a great excuse to enjoy different local areas.”



Meet Jenny

Fosterer volunteers play a vital role in ensuring we are able to train our amazing assistance dogs, providing them with the basic skills of obedience and socialisation before they're partnered with a disabled person. Jenny has been fostering since 2019 and fits the role around her work and family life.

important part of my emotional support through a horribly tough time. Sadly, five months later I also lost my beloved boy Ringo. Two years passed and although I was ready for another dog in my home, I was a little apprehensive of taking on a long-term commitment after my loss.

.....
I saw a post by Canine Partners on Facebook to say they were looking for Fosterer volunteers. Being able to support an amazing charity by fostering a dog-in-training came at a perfect time for me.

“In the years that I've volunteered, I have found that fostering fits really well with my lifestyle. During the working week it is a joy to get up to a foster dog; they are so loving and it's such a positive way to start the day. I have enough time in a morning to drive my foster dog to the Midlands Training Centre where they will spend the day working with the charity's Advanced Trainers, then I head to work myself.

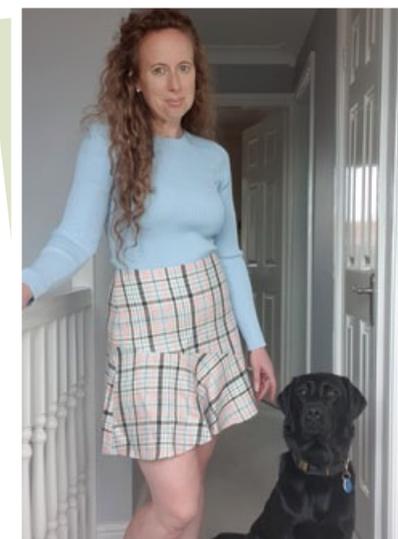
“I'm Jenny, from Whitwick in Leicestershire. I have been a Fosterer volunteer for Canine Partners for the last three years, looking after dogs as they go through their Advanced Training.

“Back in 2017 I lost my dad following a battle with cancer. My own dog Ringo was an

“Once I finish work I drive back to the Training Centre to pick my foster dog up. I like a structured routine so the regular visits to the Training Centre really helps me plan my week. When I'm doing jobs around the home after work I'm always impressed at how well behaved the foster dogs are. They are no bother at all, although some are cheekier than others! That is all part of the fun of fostering these amazing dogs.

“I like to relax after a day at work, and the dogs are always very happy to relax after their day of training too. The trainers share with me what they have been working on together and I can see how tired the dogs are at the end of the day. It's lovely to be able to put your feet up with a cup of tea while your dog settles beside you.

“Each dog has such a different personality and they bring a smile to every day that they are with you. The cuddles, playing and the weekend walks are all priceless moments of joy with them on their journey to being a fully trained canine partner. It's so rewarding knowing that the dog you are fostering will go on to make an incredible impact on someone's life.”



Could you take on the rewarding role of Fosterer volunteer?
 To find out more about the role and to apply, please visit
caninepartners.org.uk/foster-a-dog

Streams of support for fundraiser Todd Finn

Todd was inspired to fundraise for Canine Partners after the devastating loss of his father David, who volunteered as a Fosterer for the charity for over 10 years.

In 2019, Todd decided he wanted to take his passion for playing video games and live streaming to a new level with the aim to raise £1,000 for Canine Partners in his dad's memory. He received an overwhelming amount of support and in the end raised £5,000!



Todd agreed to dye his beard purple when he reached his target!

"This blew me away and many happy tears were shed because of what I'd achieved in Dad's name for Canine Partners!" said Todd.

The success of the first event encouraged Todd to continue fundraising and he has now raised over £12,000.

If Todd has inspired you to fundraise, you can download our latest fundraising guide at caninepartners.org.uk/fundraising-guide or email fundraising@caninepartners.org.uk for more information.



my amazing puppy

A My Amazing Puppy sponsorship is the perfect gift for Christmas!



King

Sponsor King or Star through their vital first year of training

King is a playful boy who brings joy to the world. He loves watching the snowflakes fall.

Star is quiet boy who enjoys a silent night. He loves to curl up somewhere cosy.



Star

For **£4.34 a month** or £60 a year you will receive a special welcome pack, including a soft toy, certificate, quarterly Pupdates following your puppy's progress and much more!

To sponsor one of our seasonal puppies (or both!) today visit myamazingpuppy.org.uk or get in touch with the team on **01730 716019**.

Order by Thursday 15 December for delivery by Christmas

A gift in your Will today changes lives tomorrow

Including a gift in your Will towards our life-changing work means we can train more assistance dogs to support disabled people live their life to the full.

No matter how large or small, your gift can help ensure that we can continue to create more of our life-changing partnerships in the years ahead.



Get in touch with our team today to find out how you can include a gift in your Will by calling **01730 716026** or visit caninepartners.org.uk/legacies

Partnership story

Paul and Ralph

Paul, partnered with canine partner Ralph in October 2016, shares how his life has changed completely in the last decade.

"I was involved in a car crash in November 2012 that nearly took my life. I was in hospital for nine months afterwards, fighting for my life and learning to deal with my disability. I'm paralysed from the chest down, I have limited arm movements and I can't move my hands.

"The only way I can describe it is horrible. I couldn't do anything for myself. I was 100% reliant on other people. I couldn't go out on my own, I couldn't even stay in on my own. I was quite severely depressed and suffered from anxiety. Having to rely on others for everyday tasks wasn't a nice feeling, and at that time I felt like life wasn't really worth living.

"I was at a football match in 2014 and I saw someone go past me in a manual wheelchair with a dog.



I went home and did some research and that's when I came across Canine Partners.

“Ralph came into the room and jumped up and licked my face, then stood by my side and he's been there ever since. He's made me a much happier person”

"I'm quite independent now because Ralph is able to do so much for me that I couldn't do before. Now I'm living in my own flat, with 24-hour care but with Ralph there to do the everyday tasks that I can't do. Ralph always picks things up for me that I drop, he retrieves the controls to the television, helps take my jacket off when I'm hot, he can open and close my doors and when I'm in bed he can remove my sheets for me as well.

"My confidence has been given a massive boost. Before I was quite shy, I didn't really speak to other people, I'd keep myself to myself and now with Ralph by my side I'm happy to speak to people. He's just given me a boost in every way.

"I think my family worry less about me because they know I've got Ralph, they know I'm not so depressed anymore and I'm happy to get on with things. Everyone loves Ralph as well.

“ My independence is amazing because of him. Before, I couldn't do anything, but now with Ralph I can go out for hours on my own. ”

"I don't need to rely on people as much, so the simple things that Ralph can do for me I'd have had to rely on other people to do before. I have recently moved into a maisonette which is a much better set up for my health needs, and it also has a great garden for Ralph. We are both so much happier here and I really enjoy playing with Ralph in the garden. I'm now just minutes away from a massive field too, with lots of surrounding woodland. Ralph and I really enjoy getting out for walks and I'm now able to spend a lot of time outdoors on my own in the summer, with Ralph by my side.

"I'm really looking forward to the future. I'm so grateful to Canine Partners because my life would be so different without Ralph."



Watch Paul's story and see how Ralph makes a positive impact on his life: [caninepartners.org.uk/our-impact](https://www.caninepartners.org.uk/our-impact)

Canine Carol Services

Join us for a heart-warming evening filled with festive cheer!

Back by popular demand, we are thrilled to announce that we will be hosting three Carol Services to enjoy this Christmas.

	London	Derbyshire	West Sussex
Date:	Wednesday 7th December	Friday 9th December	Thursday 15th December
Time:	6.30pm	6.30pm	6.30pm
Location:	St Pauls Church, Knightsbridge	St Peter's Church, Edensor	Arundel Cathedral
Tickets:	Adult £35, Child £15	Adult £15, Child £7	Adult £15, Child £7

Tickets on sale now! Places are limited so please head to caninepartners.org.uk/carolservices to purchase yours today!

Amazing corporate support

We are extremely grateful for the support we receive from companies. In August, we were delighted to welcome three of our corporate supporters to our Midlands Training Centre.



Birds Bakery

Birds Bakery has chosen us as their Charity of the Year for 2022/23 and we were delighted to welcome their owner and founder, Lesley Bird, with members of her team to the centre. They presented us with a cheque for £8,500 as funds raised in just the first three months of support.

David Wilson Homes

David Wilson Homes' Regional Managing Director, Richard Brooke, visited with members of his team and met with two of their sponsored dogs Wellington and Winstone. In total they have sponsored four canine partners through training and donated towards building the kennel block at our Midlands Training Centre.

M&J Evans Construction Ltd

Finally, we were delighted to meet Tim Mason, Managing Director of M&J Evans Construction Ltd, who have kindly built, as a gift to Canine Partners, a brand new wheelchair accessible path in our outdoor training field, which will allow our partnerships easy access to the field with improved visibility and opportunities to interact with their dogs.

"The support we receive from our corporate partners is vital to ensuring that we can train more of our life-changing assistance dogs. We have an active corporate partnership programme which helps companies to reach new audiences with positive news stories, motivate and inspire their staff, as well as helping to meet their Corporate Social Responsibility objectives.



If your company is interested in supporting Canine Partners, please email me on corporate@caninepartners.org.uk."

David Watson, Corporate Relationship Manager.



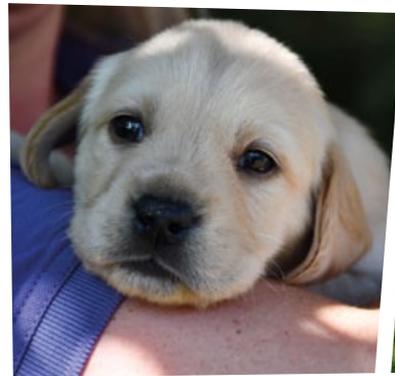
This year we are aiming to raise more funds to help us continue to build back after the last 2 years and train more life-changing assistance dogs.

By donating between **29 November and 6 December** you can help us to build a brighter future and make an even bigger difference to the lives of disabled people.

For one week only, any donation you make to Canine Partners via the Big Give website will be DOUBLED!

Help us spread some joy this Christmas by taking part! **Keep an eye on our website and social media channels to make sure you don't miss out once the challenge is live.**

Facebook [/caninepartners](https://www.facebook.com/caninepartners)
 Twitter [@canine_partners](https://twitter.com/canine_partners)
 Instagram [@caninepartnersuk](https://www.instagram.com/caninepartnersuk)
 LinkedIn [Canine Partners](https://www.linkedin.com/company/canine-partners)



Be a part of our Canine Partners volunteer community

Do you love dogs as much as we do? Find out more about volunteering with us by visiting [caninepartners.org.uk/volunteer](https://www.caninepartners.org.uk/volunteer)

 **Canine Partners**

Amazing dogs. Transforming lives.

[caninepartners.org.uk](https://www.caninepartners.org.uk)

Keep in touch ... Keep us up to date with your details so you don't miss out on any future editions. You can update how you hear from us at any time by calling **01730 716 010** or visiting [caninepartners.org.uk/keepintouch](https://www.caninepartners.org.uk/keepintouch)

Canine Partners, registered charity in England and Wales (803680) and Scotland (SC039050).
A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 2516146. DGN424 10 22