



Bowler's

Second Pupdate

We've recently been in touch with Bowler's Puppy Walker, Natalie, to find out how he's been getting on with his training over the last couple of months.

Natalie told us that Bowler is getting on well and that he's a funny character. He likes attention and can be a little cheeky when he feels like he's not getting enough; he'll often take something he knows he's not supposed to have and will parade it past Natalie to get her attention! Bowler can also be a bit vocal in shops when Natalie stops to speak to someone, or is at the till, and will let out a bark which often makes the rest of the shoppers jump, but they are working on this and Natalie is sure that this is just down to his age.

Bowler can now spend time off the lead, free running, which he does regularly as part of his training routine. He really enjoys exploring and finding new canine friends to play with. If he's alone, Bowler's recall is very good and he'll return to Natalie as soon as he's called but he can be a little slower if he's busy playing.

When out on the lead, Bowler walks nicely although he can become a little bored so Natalie has started to ask him to 'find' things, such as a bench or post box and he seems to really enjoy these games. Bowler can also be a little bit distracted by other dogs, especially if they pay him some attention; if they just walk past, he's happy to do the same, but will want to play if they show interest so Natalie is also working on this with him.

Travelling by bus and train hasn't been a problem for Bowler, who uses both regularly. Natalie said that he seems to prefer going on the train as it's not usually as busy and there is more space to spread out, but he is happy on buses too.

Busy situations don't worry Bowler, but he does sometimes look to Natalie for some reassurance if it's very crowded. He can be a little excitable at first in towns and other environments when there's lots going on, but he soon settles down. Traffic doesn't concern Bowler and he barely takes any passing lorries, motorbikes or sirens. ...continued
Bowler can show some interest in birds, especially pigeons in the park, but he generally just look at them and won't try to get closer to them.





Stairs and lifts have been introduced to Bowler now. He can rush on stairs at times, so Natalie is encouraging him to slow down a little, but he's great in lifts and even takes Natalie to the buttons without being asked.

Natalie told us that Bowler loves children and he's recently stayed with some boarders who have children, which he really enjoyed. Natalie has also introduced Bowler to some of her friends' babies, who he desperately wanted to lick, so she's teaching him about appropriate behaviours around young children.

Bowler is a funny pup and seems to quite like the taste of sun lotion, which he attempts to lick off as soon as Natalie puts it on herself! He also likes to steal some of the washing whenever Natalie places it next to the washing machine before putting it in, but he just sees it as a little game, and loves it when Natalie chases him around the house to get it back.

It sounds like Bowler is a lovely, bright pup who is making great progress, and that he's also full of character! We hope you have enjoyed his latest pupdate and we're looking forward to sending another report card to you soon.

Thank you for naming a puppy and helping Guide Dogs to change a life.

