

Abbey Vets MONTHLY MIRACLES

Penny pinching puppy swallows coins

Each month Abbey Vets highlight a pet that's made a good recovery after going through a really tough time. Our JULY MONTHLY MIRACLE is Sammy, a Cairn Terrier cross breed puppy.

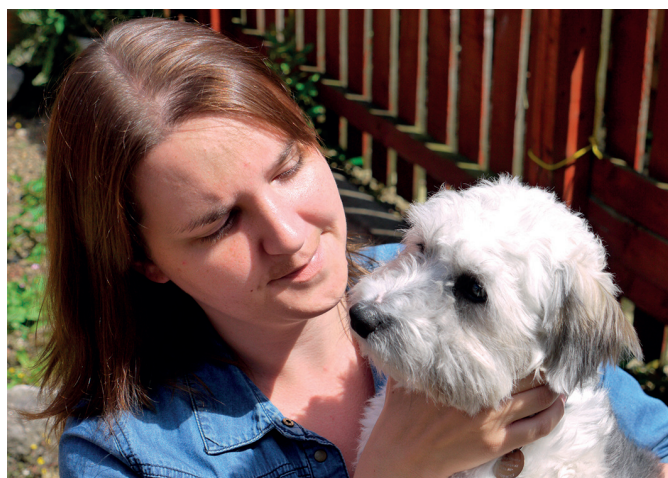
Sammy didn't bank on the trouble she would get into when she swallowed a pile of loose change. She ended up having an emergency operation after she swallowed 39 pence in assorted coins.

Her owner, Nicola Wheatley, first noticed that something was wrong when Sammy began to vomit – she regurgitated a total of 23 pence, made up of a 20p coin followed by a 2p and a 1p coin – and there was more to come.

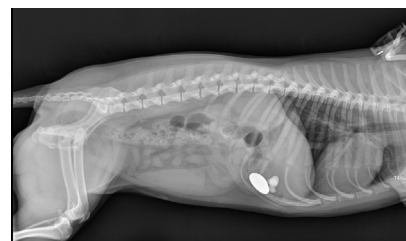
Nicola took Sammy straight to Abbey Vets where an x-ray showed more potentially dangerous coins were still in her stomach. Vet Lisa Flood operated immediately and retrieved a further three coins – a 10p, 5p and 1p.

Lisa said: "Fortunately we were able to remove the coins before they went into Sammy's intestine, otherwise they could have caused a blockage that could have been fatal."

Nicola added: "When Abbey Vets showed me the x-ray I was in complete shock – it was like looking inside a money box. I have



Sammy and her owner. Inset: the x-ray showing some of the coins in Sammy's stomach.



absolutely no idea how Sammy came to eat the money, as we don't leave loose change around the house. I can only assume that she picked it up when she was out on a walk.

"Abbey Vets were fantastic and rang me every couple of hours to keep me up to date with Sammy's progress. She spent two nights at the vets and although she was a bit subdued when she first came home she's now back to her normal boisterous self."