

Abbey Vets MONTHLY MIRACLES

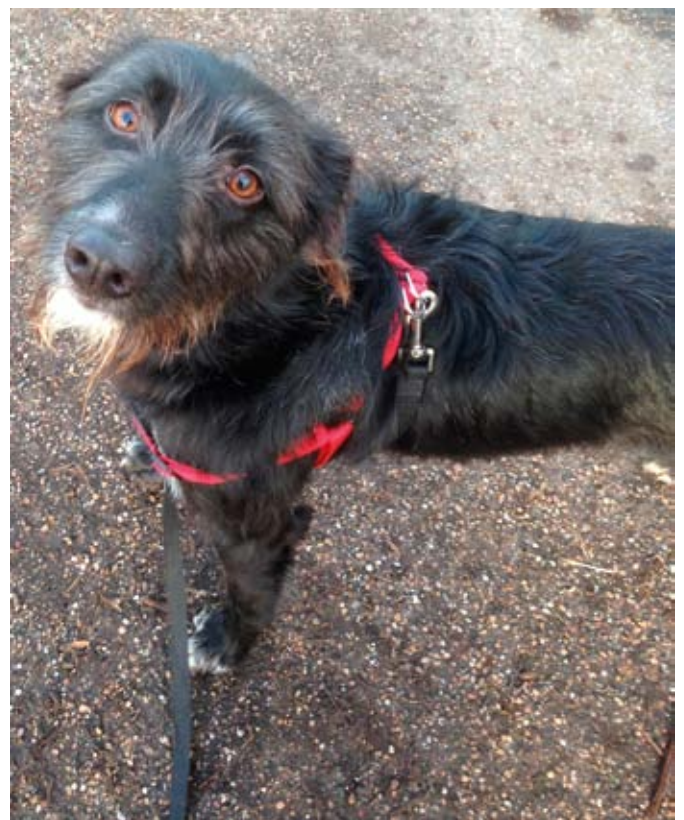
Dog's collapse leads to Addison's disease diagnosis

Each month Abbey Vets highlight a pet that's made a good recovery after going through a difficult time. Our NOVEMBER MONTHLY MIRACLE is Tous, a one-year-old crossbreed.

Tous was brought into our surgery after collapsing. His heart rate was very low and this indicated that he was experiencing an 'Addisonian Crisis' – a medical emergency that can be life-threatening if not treated promptly. Blood tests confirmed our diagnosis and we began treatment immediately.

Addisonian Crisis is a symptom of Addison's disease and is caused by a reduction in steroid hormones from the adrenal gland. When these hormones are not produced at sufficient levels normal body functions are not regulated. The treatment for Addison's disease involves hormone replacement therapy.

Vet Stephen Capon said: "Tous was given a steroid injection and the next morning he was like a different dog. He responded so well to treatment that we were able to discharge him the following day. Once Addison's disease is diagnosed the treatment is fairly straightforward and although Tous will need daily medication, monthly steroid injections and regular check-ups he will be able to live a full and



happy life. The symptoms of Addison's such as lethargy, vomiting and muscle weakness can come and go and this can make a diagnosis difficult.

"In Tous's case this was the first time he had displayed any symptoms. We believe it was triggered by an imbalance of electrolytes caused by a period of stress whilst he was away in boarding kennels."