

Abbey Vets MONTHLY MIRACLES

Quick acting owners are a life-saver

Each month Abbey Vets highlight a pet that's made a good recovery after going through a difficult time. Our JULY MONTHLY MIRACLE is Murphy, a five-month-old Labrador.

When Murphy started vomiting and was in obvious discomfort, his owners Erica and Mark Ryan wasted no time in bringing him to Abbey Vets.

This proved to be a very wise decision and one which definitely helped to save his life, because Murphy had a very rare and life-threatening condition called peritoneal-pericardial diaphragmatic hernia (PPDH).

Upon arrival at our surgery we sedated Murphy and gave him an x-ray. The images showed Murphy's heart was abnormally enlarged and it was clear that something was seriously wrong.

Whilst the x-ray images were being evaluated Murphy's heart stopped beating and we had to resuscitate him.



With no time to lose, vet Louise Mallinson took him into theatre.

She said: "Murphy had a very small hole in the lining of his diaphragm that had caused his gut to move from his abdomen into the sac around his heart. This was affecting his heart function and had caused his heart to fail. Working

with my fellow vet, Steven Capon, a large team of vet nurses to provide respiratory ventilation and heart rate monitoring during surgery, and other vets on standby, I put his gut back into the abdomen and closed the hole in his diaphragm.

"Murphy is very lucky that his owners brought him to us when they did. PPDH is a very serious and rare condition and it is the first case that I or Abbey Vets have dealt with."

Erica Ryan said: "Abbey Vets were fantastic and after Murphy's operation we were able to bring him home the next day. He has made a really good recovery and he's back to being the same energetic and playful puppy he was before."