

Abbey Vets MONTHLY MIRACLES

Staffordshire Terrier makes a storming recovery!

Each month Abbey Vets highlight a pet that's made a good recovery after going through a difficult time. Our MARCH MONTHLY MIRACLE is Storm, a 10-year-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

Storm was suffering from a relatively uncommon condition called Bowel Necrosis Intussusception. This causes the bowel to telescope within itself, greatly reducing the blood supply and causing a section of bowel to swell and then die. It can be fatal if not treated promptly.

Storm's owner, Sue Meadows, said: "I knew we had a serious problem when Storm was sick and I also noticed how black and tarry his stools had become. As a former midwife I knew this was a condition known as Melena, which occurs due to the presence of digested blood in the intestines."

Sue brought Storm into Abbey Vets and we carried out a series of scans, X-rays and blood tests, gave him IV fluids and kept him under observation. When his condition began to deteriorate we carried out exploratory surgery and were able to diagnose Bowel Necrosis Intussusception.

Vet Fran Cummins said: "We removed about 12cm of dead intestine in a procedure called bowel enterectomy. This involved removing the damaged intestine and reconnecting it to healthy tissue. We also sent samples of



the damaged tissue for testing to rule out cancer and other diseases. Thankfully the results were negative."

Sue said: "Storm came home after spending nearly a week at Abbey Vets. He was put on a bland diet for a while so his bowel could heal but he's now back on his normal food.

"Abbey Vets were extremely professional, knowledgeable and kind. We had a wonderful outcome with Storm but had it not been so, we would still say that he couldn't have received better care."