

Abbey Vets MONTHLY MIRACLES

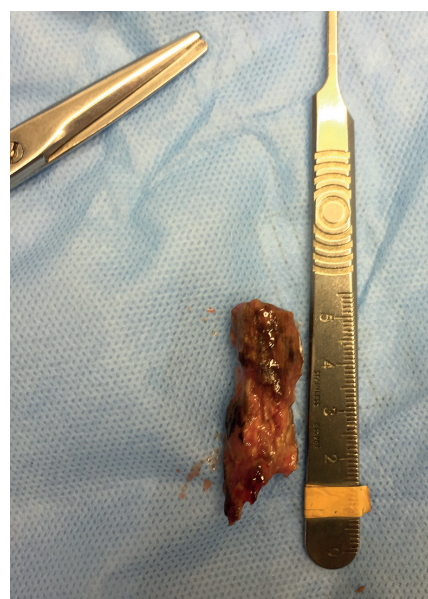
The dangers of throwing sticks for your pet

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

Tilly was playing fetch with her owner, Rob Green, when she pounced onto a stick that he had thrown for her. Although she yelped at the time it didn't appear that she was injured in any way but when she later stopped eating and drinking, he brought her into Abbey Vets.

A two-inch shard of wood had entered the thin membrane under Tilly's tongue but fortunately it was relatively easy to find and remove, and she was able to return home the same day.

However, it could have been a lot worse and potentially life threatening if, for example, the shard had lodged in the back of her throat.



Tilly and the shard of wood that we removed.

Over the years we have treated many dogs with this type of injury and have seen the horrific damage that sticks can cause, not only from the initial injury but also from infection and splinters.

For these reasons we urge pet owners not to throw sticks or to encourage their dogs to play with one, but

to choose a safe option such as a rubber stick, ball or Frisbee.

Mr Green said: "I hope that by sharing our experience it will make people think twice about throwing a stick for their dog. It has definitely taught me a lesson and from now on the only thing I'll be throwing for her is her ball."