

Abbey Vets MONTHLY MIRACLES

Cat had been shot on two separate occasions

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

Unbeknown to his owners, Leo had been shot with an air gun and the pellet had missed his bowel by just millimetres before lodging in the left side of his body.

Despite his injury, Leo was eating well and behaving perfectly normally. Although there weren't any visible signs of a pellet wound on his body, his owners Alice Shaw and Daniel Gray noticed a hard, 'pea like' lump on his stomach so they brought him into our surgery.

An x-ray revealed the air gun pellet and we were also surprised to discover that it wasn't the first time that Leo had been shot – we found an older wound from a pellet that was deeply embedded between his shoulder blades.

As that pellet was not



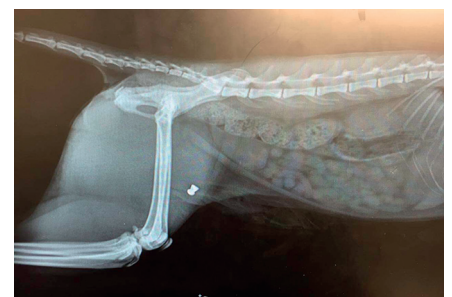
Leo with his owner, Alice.

causing Leo any issues, and could have caused a host of problems to remove it, we decided to leave it alone. However, the entry speed of the other pellet had taken some of Leo's fur with it, so to prevent the risk of infection we operated to remove the pellet and the fur.

Alice said: "It was a shock to learn that Leo had also

previously been shot by an air gun. We had noticed a wound on his shoulder earlier this year but it was thought to have been caused by a ball bearing gun pellet, which unlike an air gun pellet, would not have entered his body.

"To know that Leo has been shot at twice, and to be told that it came close to perforating his bowel, has led to us keeping him indoors from now on. Thankfully he quickly recovered from his operation and I can't praise Abbey Vets enough for the care they gave him."



The second pellet in Leo.