

FEBRUARY 2006

'Riley Meakin'



In his short life, Riley has had plenty to cope with. He was first brought to the surgery as a stray after he had been hit by a car. He was only around 6 months old.

X-rays showed that Riley had fractured one of his front legs. This required a general anaesthetic and pins and a metal plate to fix it.

Once Riley was on the road to recovery, he was rehomed from the surgery.

12 months later, Riley began with digestive problems. This was treated and he is now on a special diet that he will remain on for the foreseeable future.

His leg fully repaired and his digestive problems sorted, Riley was, literally, living the life of Riley. Then, in August 2005, his owner noticed he was dragging one of his hind legs. Initially, he responded well to treatment and x-rays didn't show anything conclusive, so Riley was referred to a specialist where an MRI scan was performed. The scan revealed that Riley had developed a lesion that was pressing on his spinal cord. An exploratory operation was performed and it was decided that surgical removal would be too risky. Medical management was started and Riley was given a course of steroids in an attempt to shrink the lesion and stop it from putting pressure on the spinal cord.

After many visits to the vet, Riley began to improve. He is now almost 3 years old, and is back to being the bright, bouncing puppy he was before. He has even forgiven us for all the needles!!