

Award for Pet Survivor



Ziggy on the beach at Llandudno

A Welsh dog who survived horrific injuries following a road traffic accident has won a bravery award

Ziggy – an 18 month old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel from Llandudno - has won ChesterGates Veterinary Specialist's highly acclaimed Pet of the Month title in recognition of her incredible bravery in recovering from a horrific road traffic accident which left her with multiple injuries.

Her owner, Gwyneth Morris, has had Ziggy from a puppy. She is her first dog and has proven to be the perfect companion. The accident happened before Christmas when Gwyneth was taking Ziggy on her usual walk in an enclosed area by the pier, when her dog suddenly shot off unexpectedly and ran out of the park area into the path of an oncoming van.

Gwyneth was shocked and horrified and was convinced that her lovely Ziggy would not survive. The caring van driver drove Gwyneth and Ziggy to her local vets, Murphy and Co ▼



Gwyneth Morris and her grand daughter Tirion with Ziggy



▲ in Llandudno, who stabilised her and then referred her to ChesterGates Veterinary Specialists in Chester for orthopaedic surgery.

Gwyneth said: “I was in shock, I really believed that Ziggy wouldn’t make it as the van had run her over and she was in a dreadful state.”

However, ChesterGates’ orthopaedic veterinary surgeon, Mark Morton was able to operate on Ziggy.


Mark said: “Ziggy’s own vet Emma Porter at Murphy and Co, had provided excellent emergency care and stabilised her, but when Ziggy arrived here she unable to walk on either of her back legs. Luckily she had no injuries to her spine, chest or abdomen. X-rays showed Ziggy had identical fractures to both sides of her pelvis, which is unusual. Both sides were fixed with plates and screws. The back of the pelvis was also fractured but this will heal without surgery. Ziggy was able to walk with some support after surgery, but has needed lots of rest and rehabilitation. It is great to see she has recovered so

well and is back walking and running. She is a lovely dog and was a pleasure to treat.”

Ziggy returned home a week after her surgery and was then on crate rest for six weeks, only venturing outside for toilet breaks with Gwyneth supporting her with a sling her rear end.

Gwyneth commented: “Ziggy made a remarkable recovery. Words fail me,

I never dreamt that she would recover like she has. The team at ChesterGates were all very reassuring and Mark was so supportive. I was very impressed with the treatment she received.”

ChesterGates’ awarded their Pet of the Month title to Ziggy in recognition of her bravery and in keeping a happy, positive disposition in the face of such adversity. 

About ChesterGates Veterinary Specialists

ChesterGates Veterinary Specialists is a specialist-led veterinary referral hospital located in Chester and deals with over 9000 patient episodes per annum. The hospital offers canine and feline referrals across a range of disciplines including dermatology, cardiology, internal medicine, orthopaedics, soft tissue surgery, neurosurgery, diagnostic

imaging, oncology, anaesthesia and physiotherapy. ChesterGates is one of the UK’s leading and most reputable joint replacement centres undertaking hip, knee and elbow replacement for dogs and cats.

More information can be found on the website at www.chestergates.org.uk