

You're kitten me

TIGGER must be Ireland's luckiest moggy. The non-flying feline legged it from the tail of a plane to safety. *What a pussy.*

CAT FLAP



Police, sniffer dogs and detective hunt puss lost in Dublin Airport escape

▶ **MISSING MOGGY**
Tigger was tailed to derelict house



▶ **LOVING FELINE**
Tigger back at home with toddler Eva

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MEET Tigger the vanishing cat who sparked a two-week search involving airport police, sniffer dogs – and a pet detective.

Reunited with his family yesterday the cuddly feline had no idea of the fuss he caused when he escaped from his cage at Dublin Airport on June 4.

Tigger was on his way to Germany via Basel, Switzerland, where owners Shane Corrigan and partner Mara Stolz are setting up a new home.

The troublesome tom was locked in a cage and about to be put on a flight with Swiss Air when handling staff noticed Tigger was missing.

Shane said: "Somewhere after the cat was brought through security checks it had supposedly managed to undo both locks on the cage and a wire securing the cage door."

Swiss Air later admitted that was "very unlikely" leading to the theory someone had opened the cage to pet the cat and forgot to close it.

Shane, who was still in Dublin, got a phone call to say his moggy had escaped on the runway at Dublin airport. He rushed to the scene but was



▶ **TIGGER HUNT** Dublin Airport

told to give up hope as there was no way he could safely search the runway for the fugitive furball.

Shane was determined not to give up, so he went online to seek advice. Before long his post on boards.ie was one of the most popular strings.

One blogger told him of a pet detective called Robert Kenny who owns tracking service Happy Tails.

He got to work and after asking around was told of sightings close to a food preparation area at the airport.

Shane added: "The duty sergeant Pat Donnelly at the airport was brilliant. He accommodated Robert in the search."

But the hunt was hampered because the detective wasn't allowed to bring his sniffer dog on to the grounds.

Shane, from Blackrock, Co Dublin, added: "All he could do was search around and after speaking to people he found it had escaped the airport grounds."

The cat was prowling, travelling a distance of about 500 metres a night.

Over a week after the disappearance the detective talked to a cat lover in nearby Swords.

She said Tigger had visited her but she didn't keep him because she presumed he belonged to a new neighbour and let him go.

Despite the disappointment the trail was getting hotter and it was time to enlist the help of cats' natural enemy.

Shane said: "He was heading towards St Margaret's Golf Club so he used a dog to track him."

"After eight hours he traced him to a derelict house and coaxed him out."

The hiding place was over a mile from where Tigger first went missing 14 days before.

After an emotional reunion Shane said: "He was happy to be back. He's very important to us. We got him two months before Mara got pregnant and 'Tigger' was [his daughter] Eva's first word. We're delighted he's back."

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WEB SEARCH
A CAT lost for 7 mths when his owners moved to Cornwall was spotted outside a local hotel – by a woman in AMERICA watching a webcam.