

# Ace Ventura, Tallaght style



Robert Kenny, pictured with his dog Pepsi, returned from California to set up Ireland's first pet detective agency.

ACE Ventura will never be forgotten so long as Ireland's first ever pet detective keeps up the good work from his Tallaght base.

Robert Kenny, who runs Happy Tails Pet Detective agency, claims to have mastered the art of tracking down lost pets, mainly cats and dogs. He said he focuses on the Tallaght area, where "around 75 animals are lost or stolen per week". And he claims to have a 65 per cent success rate in finding lost pets.

He said: "It's amazing the number of dogs that are being stolen but we have a very high success rate in bringing them back.

"Of course I am not the law and proving a theft is not my job. So every pet that goes missing is considered lost whatever the circumstance. However, I know stealing dogs is going on and we are working with the guards and local councillors to combat that."

Mr Kenny said he discovered his calling as a pet

detective while on a trip to California, where he trained on a "specialised course" over two weeks.

When he returned, he set the agency up and at the moment he is waiting on three staff, who are out in the US on a ten week training course, to return so he can expand on his work.

He said: "My course was intense but I have plans to go back out there this year for a more high-tech course to extend my skills.

"At the moment I mainly

use a tracking device to get animals back and if I don't then the pet owners are not charged.

"It's not very hard to lose a pet, so I also give people advice on keeping their dogs and cats safe when they are not there and give them tips about chipping their animals and putting tags on them so if they do stray they have a better chance of getting them back."

For more information log on [www.happytailsdetective.com](http://www.happytailsdetective.com).