

Lassie, come home!

By Niamh O'Donoghue

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A heartbroken Monasterevin family is desperately appealing for help in tracking down their missing dog.

The Murphy family from Ballykelly, Monasterevin are offering a substantial reward for any information leading to the return of their much loved Rough Collie.

Lassie was last seen at their home on the Rathangan/Monasterevin road on Sunday, May 27 at 10am.

"The kids are all in bits. They did not even want to go to school. You know when you are looking at three children with the tears rolling down their face, its just so hard to know what to say," said worried mum Karen.

The family pet was of medium size, had a heart shape colour over her eyes and pink marking on her nose.

"She must have been stolen. She never wandered away. We have a little mongrel and if she went wandering, he would have followed her. She was damaged as a pup and we took her in two years ago and minded her and brought her back to herself. We love her to bits. She is lovely," she explained.

Helena (11), Sarah (8) and Alex (7) are pleading for people with any information on the whereabouts of their pet to get in contact with the Murphys.

"They do become like a family member. She was broken down. We treated her like a baby and minded her for two years. She is very friendly but she can be shy too. If someone stole her, I just know she won't eat for them. It's just awful to think about it," she added.

The concerned mother stressed that a number of dogs have gone missing in the area over the past few months.



Happy Tails pet detective, Robert Kenny said they had received a number of calls from upset pet owners from Kildare. However, he stressed they have to be notified within a number of days of the pet going missing. They will assess the information and will not take on the case if there is a likelihood the pet has been stolen. He pointed

out that it is often impossible to tell if a pet has been taken.

Anyone who may have seen Lassie or who has information regarding his whereabouts can phone (086) 158 2048.