



## 'Snoop dog' to the rescue

PET lover Gytha Elzink, left, was delighted when her golden retriever was found safe and happy only a few hours after he had gone missing.

Gytha, originally from Holland, but now the general manager of Howard's Way restaurant, was distraught when her dog "Pooch" went missing from the quiet surroundings of her Rathfarnham home.

A quick search by Happy Tails pet detective agency, and Pooch was back in the comfort of his Dublin home.

"I was really upset when Pooch went missing. It was like I had lost my own child," said Gytha. "I was upset because I had put a lot of money into the pup and I had learnt to love it."

"She had scooted out the backgate of the garden and since then I had been looking around for hours, but I decided to ring the pet detective so I could get her back."

"He [Robert], just asked me some basic questions, like where had I seen Pooch last and what type of dog it was, and three hours later she was back with me again. It was amazing and I was totally delighted."

# Looking for a lead . . . pet detectives hit the streets

**Patricia McDonagh**

LOSING a pet will soon be a thing of the past, thanks to a new pet detective agency which claims its mix of pet psychology and "dog sense" can track missing pooches in a few hours.

The agency, which is headed up by Robert Kenny (44), began after the intrepid pooch lover returned a stray golden retriever to its distraught

owner while he was holidaying in California four years ago. After that success, Mr Kenny took a course in animal disaster in a bid to sharpen his detective powers.

Now he has brought his intriguing blend of expertise to Ireland, setting up the aptly named "Happy Tails" pet detective agency in Dublin's Dundrum.

The business, which charges panic-stricken pet owners between €120 and €250 to locate their pets, has so far been a success,

with a discovery rate of six out of 10.

"When you consider that people sometimes put rewards of up to €2,000 in a bid to find their pet, what we do is quite cheap and good for people working all day who simply don't have the time to look for their pets."

The team, which is to expand from three to 20, distributes posters and gets a detailed questionnaire on the missing dog. A tracker dog is also available to scan the area.