

## Pet detective is on the case

IRELAND'S only pet detective has told how he was once asked to find a missing **ALLIGATOR**.

The runaway reptile had escaped from its owner's house in south County Dublin – and it's still out there.

The exotic pet got away, but animal private eye Robert Kenny, 39, has much better luck finding the traditional dogs and cats.

The Dubliner said his Happy Tails Detective Agency boasts a 70 per cent success rate for recovering lost pets.

However, finding a stolen pet is a different story – only two out of every 100 nabbed animals are recovered.

And our new fascination for exotic pets is bringing new problems.

Robert said: "People don't understand that reptiles grow quickly.

"They import them in suitcases while they're seven or eight inches, but alligators can grow to five feet within a few months.

"And the weather here is also unsuited to them."

Robert's animal exper-

BY **RACHEL CASEY**

tise was called in for an incident at last month's Pet Expo in the RDS.

A small non-poisonous snake slithered out from a sandwich box and got loose.

### **Hungry**

Robert said: "Once I found out the snake had been in the box for ages, my gut told me not to go after it – it would turn up when it was hungry."

A member of the security staff found it later that night – when it bit his hand.

For info: [www.happy-tailsdetective.com](http://www.happy-tailsdetective.com).