

## TAILENDS

advised us that the outlook was not good.

There was every indication that his intestines had been badly damaged and that he could be suffering from cancer. We decided to try a different treatment, which can sometimes have good results. He was put on steroids combined with this new drug.

We kept detailed records of everything he ate and the times when he had the drugs to make sure he was getting every chance for them to work. Initially the new treatment seemed to be working. Lloyd was more alert and interested in what was going on. He continued to enjoy his little walks and he appeared to be very happy in his home. He was so good with the other dogs in our care. Lloyd was such a friendly chap and utterly devoted to me in particular. He loved his cuddles and slept happily at the bottom of the bed on his own thick duvet with surrounding pillows to give extra comfort.

He was still so thin and bony. It was horrifying to see what an emaciated creature he was, yet still we hoped and prayed that he would recover with the aid of the treatment. He was not ready to give up just when he had found a home of his own at



last and while he was fighting we would do everything we could to help him win his battle for life.

Tragically it was not to be! Our dear boy became weaker and we realised that his pathetic body had been too severely damaged to recover.

He simply did not have the physical strength to fight it however much he desperately wanted to stay here. Maybe if he had come to us earlier and the treatment was started then, he would have had a fighting chance. It was too late for our boy.

Lloyd had languished in kennels for many years since running his last race. He was forgotten about and ignored. He had not received the care which should have been his right.

At 1pm on the 12th August 2004, Lloyd died in my arms on his duvet at the foot of my bed. He knew nothing as the vet slipped the needle into his leg. There was no movement or sound from him. He just slipped quietly out of this cruel world which had done him no favours – until it was too late.



It is very hard to write about my boy as I miss him terribly and he is forever in my thoughts despite the fact that several others have since come to join our family of dogs here at *Tailends*. It is heartbreaking to fail. Lloyd was here for just two months but in that time we became very close. I so wanted to give him some more time to enjoy the comfort of being cared for in a home with a friend who loved him and would make sure he never suffered or was neglected ever again. Wait for me Lloyd – with the growing family of dogs who we have loved