

*“IF ODBITZ WERE TO HAVE A CHANCE ANYWHERE,
IT WOULD BE AT THE AHT”*

Odbitz was always an unusual dog, ever since Linda found him abandoned on a beach back in 2001. Presumed to be a Beagle cross of about nine months old, Linda adopted the dog, and christened him Odbitz due to his slightly strange build. He settled in well with the family, making friends with Linda’s two Great Danes and her Toy Poodle.

However, despite being full of life and bounce, by the following summer all was not well with the new dog, as a pea-sized lump appeared on his neck. When this grew to the size of a ping-pong ball, Linda took Odbitz to her vet, who first prescribed some antibiotics. When these didn’t work, the vet removed the lump for analysis, and it was found to be cancerous.

Odbitz was suffering from a haemangiosarcoma, and so was referred to Sue Murphy at the Animal Health Trust. After an initial MRI scan, Odbitz had an operation, three sessions of chemotherapy and four sessions of radiotherapy. Despite this trauma, Linda says “Everyone at the AHT was helpful and so friendly and positive. I felt that if Oddie were to have a chance anywhere, it would be there”.

In 2003 Odbitz returned to the Trust for a scan, which was clear. As Sue Murphy said, if his cancer was likely to recur, it would probably have done so by then. And more than 6 years later, Odbitz is still clear of the life-threatening disease, thanks to the devotion Linda showed, and the AHT’s expertise in treating cancer.”

