

# How to get rid of a bad vet

A BARNET animal foundation's campaign to crack down on vets who fall to come up to scratch has been taken up by a government health committee.

The Bella Moss Foundation, based in Edgware, has been invited to put forward its proposals for new regulations by Eric Martlew, MP chairman of the all-party committee on animal welfare.

Jill Moss, who founded the organisation following the death of her dog, Bella, from MRSA, said: "Laws governing vets' practices are seriously out of date. At present the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, which regulates vets, has no power to discipline vet practices for clinical negligence, even though it may have resulted in death, serious injury or illness."

According to law, vets can be only be struck off for "disgraceful behaviour" but not incompetence.

The RCVS guidelines on standards in veterinary practices are entirely voluntary,

Miss Moss said: "This is in direct contrast to the changes now occurring in the medical profession for human health. We believe the



## Campaigning: Jill Moss

RCVS should be given the power to enforce standards

"If they then failed to meet those standards, it would constitute serious professional misconduct and he subject to disciplinary action."

According to Miss Moss, anyone can use the term veterinary nurse, regardless of qualifications or experience, whereas strict rules govern state-registered nurses.

Mr Martlew said: "The present rules strike me as extremely strange indeed and I have promised to take it up on her behalf."