

Mary's barking mad for her new business



FURRY FRIENDS: Mary Trojak with Frankie

DOG owners can enjoy peace of mind on holiday thanks to a Stanwell woman who has launched a canine babysitting service.

Mary Trojak, of Spire View, has set-up a franchise of Barking Mad, offering an alternative for pet owners who are reluctant to entrust their four-legged family members to kennels while they are away.

The 53-year-old says research by her parent company has shown many owners even

choose to stay at home rather than put their dogs through the upheaval of kennel care.

Mary said: "I'm offering 'home from home' pet care. The dogs get all the care and attention they are used to and are less stressed. We interview the host-families and do collections and delivery.

"Many hosts are retired people and dog lovers. We're a go-between, so that if there's a problem customers can come straight to us."

Mary bought the Staines

franchise of Barking Mad after taking early retirement from her job in flight control at Heathrow Airport. She used to work shifts and was not able to own a dog of her own.

She added: "Now I am able to combine my love of dogs with running my own business – it gives me enormous job satisfaction.

"I've done adverts in shop windows, pet shops, and been round all the vets. I park my car in dog walking areas, like Virginia Water and hand out leaflets."