

## **For immediate release**

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# **Cat survives fire to live for weeks in gutted flat**

## **Ginger Tom rescued after three weeks living in charred remains of flat fire**

London – The Mayhew Animal Home rescued ginger tom, Bernie, after their Animal Welfare Officer's were notified he was living in a burnt out flat – three weeks after the fire occurred.

Officers from the fire brigade didn't see Bernie when they put out the fire last month at the eight-floor flat in Kilburn. Scared and alone, Bernie had been living in the burnt out rooms until The Housing Association rang The Mayhew Animal Welfare Officer's.

Covered in soot, with blackened ears and tail, Bernie had survived after ripping open boxes of Go Cat and eating the biscuits inside. He had even made himself a little litter tray from the charred bits of newspaper.

The Animal Welfare Officer who rescued Bernie, Claire Harper, said: *"He is very lucky to be alive. It is a miracle, after seeing the remains of the flat that he escaped injury in the fire and was able to survive so resiliently. Bernie is a beautiful, friendly cat, who has had a very frightening ordeal so we will be looking after him at The Mayhew until he is ready to go to a new home."*

Readers who may be interested in potentially adopting Bernie can contact Lucy Edwards on 0208 969 0178, [lucy@mayhewanimalhome.org](mailto:lucy@mayhewanimalhome.org)

Photographs attached of the flat and Bernie with Mayhew vet, Mohammad

ENDS

## **For the Editor**

**The Mayhew Animal Home** was established in 1886 for the benefit of "the lost and starving dogs and cats of London so that they should have sanctuary from the cold inhumanity they are being dealt outside". Today, The Mayhew is one of the busiest animal sanctuaries in London, rescuing thousands of animals from cruelty and neglect each year. We provide shelter and care for cats, dogs, rabbits and when the need arises, for a wide variety of other animals.

The Mayhew Animal Home strives to tackle the companion animal welfare crisis from every possible angle. The organisation is pro-active, innovative and continually works to assist animals and their carers. The Mayhew offers a wide variety of community services providing advice, care and assistance to animals and their carers whatever their circumstances.