

Animal charity asks people to make a New Year resolution for homeless dogs and cats.

The Mayhew Animal Home is encouraging people to embrace the challenge of a 'New Year, New Start' and sign up to take part in a fundraising challenge for the homeless dogs, cats and rabbits in their care.

Money from sponsorship is of fantastic help to all charities and the rescue centre in North West London is hoping that anyone feeling compassionate after Christmas will consider getting into training for some upcoming challenges.

It costs £3400 a day just to keep The Mayhew, in Kensal Green, operational and the charity receives no government funding. Public support via sponsorship funds helps towards the food, shelter and veterinary care their animals need.

The Mayhew is asking for people to sign up for the following challenges:

Nightrider Cycle Challenge: 9th and 10th June 2012.

A one day charity bike ride with a difference –it's at night! The 100km route takes in all of London's most iconic landmarks by moonlight.

British 10k Run: 8th July 2012

A popular, annual running event that takes participants past Tower Bridge, The Houses of Parliament and many more famous monuments.

The Royal Parks Half Marathon: 7th October 2012

Runners taking part in the October event will get to race alongside other charity supporters in some of the capital's most beautiful and prestigious parks.

Mayhew Events Officer, Lisa Houlihan, said: *"Taking part in a sponsorship event like The British 10k Run, or the Nightrider challenge, is one of the most fantastic ways you can raise money for your favourite cause while doing something you love at the same time! This is the time for New Year resolutions after all, so if you are deciding to get into shape, why not sign up for a challenge at the same time and use raising money for our homeless animals as the motivation you need!"*

To find out more information about the challenge events, and how to sign up for The Mayhew, please contact Lisa Houlihan on 020 8968 2445 or email events@mayhewanimalhome.org

Photo: Mayhew runners at The British 10k Run 2011

For more photographs or press information, contact Sarah Dickinson 020 8968 2443 sarah@mayhewanimalhome.org

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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.