



media release

04 September 2015

NORFOLK BUSINESS WOMAN SMASHES PERSONAL BEST AT 10K IN FUNDRAISING EFFORT FOR ANIMAL CHARITY

Dog-owner runs over 100 miles in training for 10 kilometre race, all to give back to the charity that gave her dog back his sight.

Ten weeks ago, Nikki Stebbing from Tasburgh, Norfolk, embarked on a personal journey, training for 'Run Norwich', a 10 kilometre race, to aid her fundraising efforts for Suffolk veterinary research charity, the Animal Health Trust (AHT).

In 2013, Nikki's Border Terrier, Earl, was diagnosed with cataracts in both eyes. As a result he was blind. Earl underwent an operation at the AHT which restored his vision and gave the 10-year-old terrier a new lease of life. Nikki wanted to give something back to the AHT and on 30 August she completed the Run Norwich race in under an hour, with a fantastic time of 56:12!

Nikki, a co-founder of Norfolk-based Fyebridge bespoke homes, said: "The AHT were there to support Earl and I 24-7, the team took such great care of him that I knew I just had to give something back. What makes the AHT really special is that not only do they offer specialist treatment to animals with serious conditions like Earl, they also carry out research to find new ways to better diagnose and prevent disease, meaning that potentially, in the future, other animals won't have to suffer in the way Earl had to."

Calling on support from a number of her local business contacts, including Martin Scott of Marston & Langer, Steve Earl of Panel Graphic, Jan Bowles of Winterton Beach Car Park Café, Climatec Windows, Dynamic Fitness and Phil Knights of J P

Scaffolding, along with that of her family and friends, Nikki raised a phenomenal £1,600 for the veterinary research charity.

The AHT is committed to fighting disease and injury in animals. The veterinary research charity is currently undertaking research into a number of blinding eye conditions that could prevent blindness and suffering in dogs across the UK, and possibly the world. Find out more about the AHT's work at www.aht.org.uk/giftofsight

Ends

For further information, please contact:

Katherine Lawson, Animal Health Trust, 01638 555602

Additional notes:

- The **Animal Health Trust** is an independent charity, employing over 200 scientists, vets and support workers. It aims to improve the health and welfare of horses, dogs and cats through research. It also provides specialist referral services and continuous education to vets. Visit our website at www.aht.org.uk