



# media release

Monday 22 April 2013

## **GET CYCLING TO HELP FIGHT CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES IN ANIMALS!**

**The Animal Health Trust launches its first ever Dogs Sportive cycling event at  
Lanwades Park, Suffolk**

Feeling inspired by the London Marathon? Sign up now to take part in the first ever Animal Health Trust (AHT) Dogs Sportive cycling event, and raise money for the AHT's research into animal diseases such as cancer, epilepsy, Strangles and equine HerpesVirus.

Entries are now open for the Terrier Ride (25 miles), Whippet Ride (50 miles) and Greyhound Ride (80 miles) in The Dogs Sportive cycling challenge on 4 August.

Mark Vaudin, Deputy Chief Executive at the AHT, said: "We're holding this exciting cycling event to help raise vital funds for the work we're doing to combat infectious and inherited diseases, such as cancer in animals. One in four dogs and one in six cats, will develop some kind of cancer in its lifetime so it's important that we find out more about the disease so we can develop new ways to diagnose and treat it.

"Plans are underway to turn Lanwades Park into an event village on the day which will be the start and finish line for each route. There will be a number of stands available which we hope local businesses will take up, to help us make this a fun day out for all the family. Participants and visitors to the event village will also have the chance to win a Victoria Pendleton bicycle, signed by the Olympic champion.

“The AHT relies on the support of the general public to fund our vital research which benefits horses, dogs and cats all over the world. We need your help! There are three different cycling routes to suit anyone’s ability, so sign up today and get fundraising to help us beat disease in animals.”

The event will be held at Lanwades Park, (Kentford, Newmarket) on Sunday 4 August and is being organised in association with the Newmarket Cycling and Triathlon Club, and British Cycling, to bring three bespoke cycling routes to Newmarket on a day that all the family can enjoy.

All routes will start and finish at the event village at Lanwades Park, home of the AHT. The rides will be routed through the rural roads and villages surrounding the park, enabling riders to enjoy the Suffolk countryside whilst raising vital funds for the AHT’s research.

Entrants can download a postal entry form or sign up online by visiting <http://www.aht.org.uk/dogssportive> entry fee is £19 plus a five pound donation to the AHT.

A fundraising pack is available on request for those who wish to undertake one of the cycling routes as a sponsored ride, by emailing [fundraising@aht.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@aht.org.uk) or calling 01638 555 648. Alternatively, sponsorship forms are available to download from the website.

## **Ends**

### **For further information, please contact:**

Katherine Lawson, AHT Press Office, 01638 751000 ext 1572.

Please credit all images to the Animal Health Trust.

### **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](http://www.aht.org.uk)