

Marathon Duo

The London Flora Marathon

Sunday April 22nd 2007

It's that time of year again, when all you see are people running around the villages, with me being the least elegant one!

This year, after saying: "Never again", you will see us wearing our chosen charity's distinctive blue and yellow vests featuring Mr Men characters.

Having failed to gain places in the ballot we decided to try for a charity place. These places are offered in exchange for sponsorship money raised from your run.

Children With Leukaemia

Having children of our own, the charity *Children with Leukaemia* seemed appropriate. This charity was established in 1987 after leukaemia had claimed the life of 14-year old Paul O'Gorman. Just nine months later his sister Jean also died from cancer. Within weeks of Jean's death, their parents established this charity with the support of Diana, Princess of Wales. They rely on voluntary donations for research to conquer this disease so that others need



not suffer in the same way that they did.

We started training in January following the recommended schedule; all has been going well, only interrupted by the recent snowfall.

Ouch!

Words of warning though - if anybody is thinking of embarking on this challenge next year *never* underestimate your body. Last weekend I thought I could play hockey twice,

work until 1am and then complete a 15-mile run on very little food; no wonder my body started to complain. This is a serious commitment; it takes over your life for four months.

Only a few more weeks of hard training to go, four or five runs each week, building up to 22 miles. Whatever time we achieve on the day we will get the same medal as the first person home. Everyone is a winner on the day.

So watch out for us!

Anyone wishing to sponsor Richard and Lesley Blackwell please ring: 01993 831861 or look out for the collection boxes in the Co-op Store and the Wychwood Surgery. Many thanks.

Lesley Blackwell

Commercial Glass Collections

Starting in **April**, WODC will be introducing a new commercial collection service for glass. Any business interested in joining the scheme should contact Street Scene on: 01993 861020 or email: env.services@westoxon.gov.uk