



EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

PRESS RELEASE

NSPCC MK Half Marathon & 10K – a Runaway success!

Having taken the bold decision to make some major changes to the event this year, the organisers were rewarded with great support, especially for the new 10K race which attracted 572 entrants. Together with 747 entries for the half marathon, this brought the total registered to 1319 – a more than 50% increase on 2015!

This increase is positively reflected in the funds raised which, with monies still coming in, are expected to be around £40K; and all the money raised will go to help support the work of the *NSPCC Schools Service*, helping children to understand the types of abuse and how to protect themselves.

Adding this year's figure to all previous years, this makes the total raised over the last 18 years a staggering £585K!

Both races were run over a new course, taking in some of the best sights of Milton Keynes, including the Grand Union Canal, and Linford Wood. Additionally, the runners had the challenge of running up the hill in Campbell Park, with the half marathon runners doing it twice – and all the runners were grateful for the NSPCC Cheer Point at the bottom of the hill providing extra encouragement!

Clive Gear, Chair NSPCC Milton Keynes Half Marathon Committee, said: "We are delighted at the positive response to the changes we made to this year's event and I would like to say a special thank you to all our volunteers, both on the day and throughout the year, who made this such a success and, without whom, we wouldn't be able to run this event. We are also extremely grateful to our hosts, sponsors and supporters, including: The Webber Independent School, Dawsongroup, ICR Leasing, mkfm, MVad, Results Base, mnfrost business management services, Fyffes, Up & Running, Body Limits, The Parks Trust, and the NSPCC's Community Team."

Jacqui Venters, the local NSPCC Community Fundraising Manager, said: "Attending this event for the first time, I was impressed at the atmosphere. The feel of the set up was exciting and vibrant, and the runners all seemed so cheerful – although there were a few daunting looks on the 2nd lap of the hill...but they kept going and we kept cheering! I would like to congratulate Clive and his team, not only for organising such a great event, but for being instrumental in raising such an incredible amount of money for the NSPCC."

Date for your diary: next year's event will be on Sunday 24th September 2017 – so get training!

Results for 2016:

Female Half Marathon

1st - Suzanne Davis (Cheddar Running Club) 1:32:12
2nd - Debbie Channer (Vale Of Aylesbury AC) 1:34:40
3rd - Louise Andrews (Kenilworth Runners) 1:35:44

Male Half Marathon

1st - David Hudson 1:14:10
2nd - James Tuttle (Marshall Milton Keynes AC) 1:17:00
3rd - Alex Walker (City of Sheffield & Dearn) 1:18:36

Female 10K

1st - Tori Green (Rugby & Northants Running Club) 0:38:17
2nd - Ella Townsend 0:40:40
3rd - Katie Judd (Serpentine) 0:41:12

Male 10K

1st - Aaron Chetwynd (Badgers) 0:37:47
2nd - John Loxley (Redway Runners) 0:39:48
3rd - Steven Warrington 0:40:06

The Community Challenge was won by LSE Running Club with Red Thread in second place.

—Ends—

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About the NSPCC

The National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) is the leading children's charity fighting to end child abuse in the UK and Channel Islands. It helps children who have been abused to rebuild their lives, protect those at risk, and find the best ways of preventing abuse from ever happening.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>