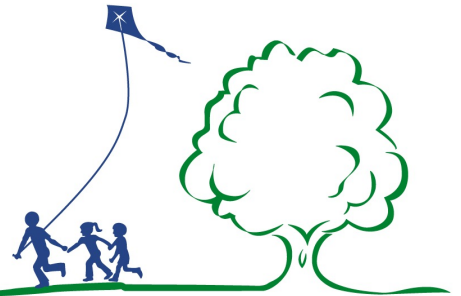


Warley Woods Community Trust



The Pavilion, Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, West Midlands, B67 5ED

Tel: 0121 420 1061 Email: admin@warleywoods.org.uk Web: www.warleywoods.org.uk

22nd October 2008

Press Release

Run for the Woods!

Fourteen runners who use Warley Woods as their training base have been in full training for months and are now ready for the challenge of the Birmingham half Marathon on 26th October. They are running to raise money for the Charitable Trust which manages and maintains the park.

The running group has been training up to three times a week to prepare for the event and all live locally. Two of the team, Ellie and Mike Sullivan got married this August, but have still found time to train – it will be their first challenge together as a married couple.

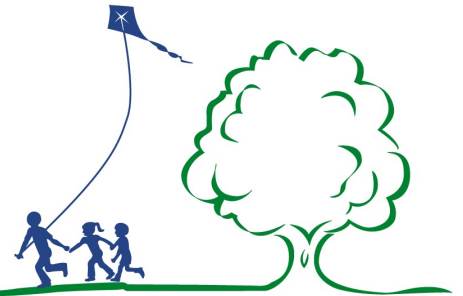
The running group was set up two years ago, by Nigel Lloyd who arranged a New Year's day run, for those wanting to start the New Year with new energy. The group has gone from strength to strength – increasing in numbers and with all members being very supportive of each other. Nigel himself, has completed 14 full marathons and is well placed to guide others through their training rigours. He said “Warley Woods provides us with an inspiration training ground and the Birmingham Half Marathon is a great opportunity to fundraise for the Warley Woods Community Trust to help continue the improvements to this wonderful green area on our doorstep.”

Viv Cole, Trust Manager, commented “It is very generous of the running group to make us the lucky recipient of their fundraising endeavours. Many people just take parks for granted, but the running group has recognised how much effort and money it takes to keep Warley Woods in top condition. We are trying to maximise their efforts and each of the runners has been adopted by one of our Board of Trustees to try and reward their dedication with as much sponsorship money as possible. We are looking forward to cheering them on, on the 26th October and watching them all come home safe and sound in Centenary Square.”

Anyone wanting to sponsor the running team, can do so at the Trust Office, at the Golf Shop (open 7 days a week) or by sending an email to admin@warleywoods.org.uk

Ends

Warley Woods Community Trust



Notes

- For further information contact: Viv Cole, Trust Manager, 0121 420 1061, 07947 805746, trustmanager@warleywoods.org.uk
- Warley Woods Community Trust (WWCT) is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. WWCT is the only charity in the United Kingdom to have taken responsibility for an urban park. The organisation was formed to take action, following the long term neglect of the park by Birmingham City Council and to ensure local people had a say in what happened to their park.
- The park is leased to Sandwell MBC for 99 years and has been subleased to WWCT for the same period of time.
- It is managed by a Board of Trustees which is made up of local people. The Trust's membership now numbers around 700 individuals and there are over 60 active volunteers.
- The Park was named the People's Park after it was saved from becoming sold for housing by public subscription in 1906.