



## News Release

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### **Entries flood in for Bayer Newbury 10K Organisers urge early submission of entries**

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**Newbury, March 29, 2010 –**

**In just four weeks, more than 400 runners have signed up for the 2010 Bayer Newbury 10K race and organisers are urging those who want to take part to submit their entries as soon as possible.**

Up to 750 places have been made available for this event, which takes place on May 30th, starting and finishing in Newbury Market Place.

The Bayer Newbury 10K, which has very rapidly established itself as Newbury's flagship race of the year, underlines the incredible enthusiasm for running, both in Berkshire and well beyond.

Bayer's Andrea Postles, who is organising the race in partnership with Newbury Athletic Club, said: "It really is exciting that so many more people want to take part. We were impressed with the enthusiasm for the inaugural event in 2008, when we accepted 500 entries. But to go up to 750 and find it filling up so quickly is incredible. We can only say that, if people want to enter, they should submit their entry as soon as possible, as that 750 limit will soon be reached and we'll be unable to accept entries on the day."

The organisers are inviting team entries as well as individuals, fancy dressed runners, novices or experienced runners. There will be an extensive prize list and all runners will receive a goody bag.

“It really is a great local run, especially for people who have completed the Reading Half or London Marathons and want to celebrate by doing something a little easier!” Andrea added.

Race director, Tim Marsh, of Newbury Athletic Club, added: “The race goes from strength to strength, and we’re continuing to build on our successful formula from the previous two years. This year we’re introducing chip timing, which will give participants an accurate time for their run.

“We’re very grateful to Bayer for their sponsorship and support of this race and it’s great to see a local business investing in the local community by supporting events such as this.”

The Bayer Newbury 10K is supporting Naomi House and *jackspace*, Bayer’s nominated charity. However people are also welcome to run in support of their own charities. Bayer has already been contacted by people supporting good causes, including local Newbury runner Andrew Lees who, with the rest of his family and many friends is supporting ‘Running for Rob’.

Just before Christmas last year, Andrew’s 17-year-old son Rob was diagnosed with a rare and malignant tumour and is currently undergoing chemotherapy and radiotherapy at University College Hospital London.

Andrew said: “We’d like to try to encourage as many people as possible to take part in the Bayer Newbury 10K ‘Running for Rob’. We’re raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust<sup>1</sup>, which provides specialist units, one of which Rob is in, and CLIC Sargent<sup>2</sup>, whose people have met us on every visit, guided and supported us through the daily maze of what to do and how to do it.”

The Bayer Newbury 10K is a multi-terrain race which follows a double loop around Newbury, both north and south of the Kennet and Avon canal, following a mixture of tarmac roads, footpaths and unmade tracks.

Entries can be made from the Bayer website [www.bayer.co.uk](http://www.bayer.co.uk) or via [www.newburyac.org.uk](http://www.newburyac.org.uk) where there is a link to the Runners World entry form.

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Contact:

**Rachel Owen, Phone: 01635 563410, Fax: 01635 563513**

E-mail: [rachel.owen.ro@bayer.co.uk](mailto:rachel.owen.ro@bayer.co.uk)

**Andrea Postles, Phone: 01635 563031, Fax: 01635 563513**

E-mail: [andrea.postles.ap@bayer.co.uk](mailto:andrea.postles.ap@bayer.co.uk)

**Note to Editors**

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**Naomi House Children's Hospice**

Naomi House is a purpose-built children's hospice that provides a homely environment for children and young people with life-limiting conditions ,(that mean that they will not live to become adults).

Situated just north of Winchester in Hampshire, we offer one-to-one palliative care that includes respite, terminal and bereavement care and support to children and their families in central southern England. We are available 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year and it costs around £2.5 million every year to keep this service running.

With less than 10% of income coming from Government, Naomi House relies on the generosity of people in the community to continue its work. Their support allows us to provide these crucial care services, free of charge, to children and their families.

***jacksplace@naomihouse***

### **Building a new hospice for young people with life-limiting illnesses**

Medical advances mean that many children with life-limiting illnesses, who have grown up visiting Naomi House, are now living to become young adults. The environment at Naomi House is principally designed to suit children; the needs of young people are very different to theirs. Naomi House has recognised this and has consulted extensively with young people to design a facility that caters for their medical and social needs.

In September 2007 Naomi House launched a major three year appeal to raise £12million to build, equip and run a new hospice for young people with life-limiting illnesses. The appeal aims to raise the £6million that is required to build, equip and run ***jacksplace***.

The new hospice enables Naomi House to provide care for young people over the age of 18 years old. The new hospice is named ***jacksplace@naomihouse***, after Jack Witham, whose generous bequest has made the dream of a hospice for young people possible. ***jacksplace*** was completed in the Autumn of 2009. The new facility includes six specially designed bedrooms with en-suite facilities that give the youngsters privacy and dignity. There two further bedrooms where families can stay and be close to their young person, and an end of life suite. Other facilities include a wheelchair accessible kitchen, social areas, hydro therapy pool, a sports field and gardens.

For more information about this event please contact Emma Willshire, Corporate Fundraiser, at Naomi House on 07766 733724 or email [emma.willshire@naomihouse.org.uk](mailto:emma.willshire@naomihouse.org.uk). Alternatively, Debbie Collins, Mayoral Co-ordinator at Basingstoke and Deane Council on 01256 845591 or email [debbie.collins@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.collins@basingstoke.gov.uk).

### **References**

<sup>1</sup> [www.teenagecancertrust.org](http://www.teenagecancertrust.org) and <sup>2</sup> [www.clicsargent.org.uk/home](http://www.clicsargent.org.uk/home)

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