

# HELPING US TO SUPPORT YOU...

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU.... AND THANK YOU AGAIN!

In our February newsletter, we appealed to you to consider helping Thomley by offering one-off or ongoing financial support. We have had a tremendous response and visitors have generously given additional donations during their visits or set up regular payments by standing order. We are incredibly grateful for your support, **THANK YOU**. These donations will significantly help us bridge the **£33** gap between the **£5** recommended donation and the real cost of **£38** for your visit.

If you would still like to respond to this appeal but have lost your donation form, it can be downloaded from <http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/wp-content/uploads/standing-order-form.pdf>

## CANTEEN DISTRESS CALL!

As you may have read in the Thame Gazette or Bucks Herald, Thomley's already flood damaged canteen is now feeling even sorrier for itself. To add insult to injury, the canteen was broken into in March by thieves who stole the dehumidifiers which were drying the flood damage. The thieves also stole a lawnmower which had been kindly loaned to Thomley by Kubota of Thame.

When informed of the incident, the local papers were so horrified that they kindly ran a fundraising appeal on our behalf. This raised an amazing £1,000 from the general public, many of whom had no prior connection to Thomley. We were astonished at people's generosity and would like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to them and all of you who have also offered support. However, we would like to reassure everyone who read the articles that Thomley itself is not closed. The canteen area is however completely out of action and has been temporarily relocated.

Our insurance company have helped significantly, however, in order to make additional improvements we still need financial support to get the canteen up and running again. If you, or anyone you know, are able to help please email [claire@thomleyhall.org](mailto:claire@thomleyhall.org), call 01844 338380 or visit <http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/support-us/online-giving/>

## ENCOURAGING YOUR SCHOOL TO NOMINATE THOMLEY AS 'CHARITY OF THE YEAR'

In recent years, the following 7 schools chose Thomley as their '**Charity of the Year**' and together raised a total of **£5,000** for Thomley: Bardwell, Caldicott, Headington Junior, Rye St Anthony, Francis Holland, Matthew Arnold, Wood Green. The collective fundraising efforts of schools can make a significant impact on our fundraising needs. We have found that children love to raise funds for others of their own age and can be very effective fundraisers... as you may remember from the fine example set by our two 12 years old fundraisers, Abbie Hill & Nicola Briers.

**So, do you think that you could inspire your school to get involved?** All we need is for you to plant the seed and we can do the rest. We will be more than happy to send your school sponsorship forms, a colourful presentation for school assembly, leaflets & posters and whatever else they might need. We also warmly welcome schools to visit Thomley at a pre-arranged time, or during our **Schools Open Week** from **23rd - 29th June**. For more info contact [fundraising@thomleyhall.org](mailto:fundraising@thomleyhall.org)

*Door broken by thieves*



*Flood damage*



## 'EDD AND BEN THE MARATHON MEN'

[www.thegreatcrosscountryrun.co.uk](http://www.thegreatcrosscountryrun.co.uk)

Well as you can see, our 'Thomley Hares' have a new nickname 'Edd and Ben the Marathon Men'. We thought this was particularly apt seeing that they are planning **13 marathons in two weeks** (*mad men!*) and are aiming to raise **£20,000** (*super men!*) for Thomley. Originally, Edd and Ben were planning to run from Amsterdam back to Oxford, but with wavering exchange rates this was getting more expensive by the day. After a rethink, their route has now honed in on Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, hoping that local people will take greater interest in their progress.



The 'Marathon Men' will begin their big run from the gates of Thomley on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August** and their route will take them via Quainton, Edgcott, Bicester, Milton Keynes, Botolph, Claydon, Aylesbury, Henley-on-Thames, Binfield Heath, Sonning Common, Mapledurham, Moulsoford, Wallingford, Oxford, Streatley Uffington, Faringdon, Lechlade, Kencott, Westwell, Burford, Witney, Shipton-under-Wychwood, Westcote, Lower Oddington, Adlesdrop, Chipping Norton, Great Rollright, Hook Norton, Winderton, Upper Tysoe, Shutford, Banbury, Kidlington, and eventually back to Thomley on **29<sup>th</sup> August** for our Open Day!



Their task is enormous and we think they deserve a lot of support. If you would like to help them along their way, there are multitudes of ways in which you can get involved, i.e. by:

- Seeing them off from Thomley on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August**
- Sponsoring them through Justgiving - <http://www.justgiving.com/thegreatcrosscountry>
- Seeking support from your workplace by inspiring your colleagues to 'give a day's wages', or by encouraging your bosses to offer corporate support. We can reciprocate by adding your company logo to PR materials.
- Encouraging people at your local gym to support them
- Suggesting names of people who could offer practical support e.g. physiotherapy (Edd & Ben will need a daily massage), local press contacts and anything else that you feel would help two marathon men on their way.
- Sending a message of support to [fundraising@thomleyhall.org](mailto:fundraising@thomleyhall.org) (we will forward it!)
- **Welcoming them back to Thomley on 29<sup>th</sup> August** and taking part in a sponsored walk, push or cycle around Thomley's 1km cycle track... watch this space for details. N.B. If you want to start fundraising now, you will find Thomley sponsorship forms on <http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/wp-content/uploads/sponsorship-form.pdf>