

Press Release: For Immediate Release

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Organisers Celebrate Record Numbers for Godalming Run



986 runners took part in the annual Godalming Run in aid of Sport Godalming's Go for Gold Champions Fund, on 14th May 2017, making it the most popular run in the events history. Now in its 6th year, organisers welcomed runners to take part in a 1k Fun Run, challenging 5k and tough 10k. Proceeds are being counted and it is estimated well over £3,000 has been raised for the local charity.

Sport Godalming's Go for Gold Champions Fund benefits local aspiring Olympians, including 18-year-old Patrick Croghan who competes internationally in the 29er sailing class. He has ambitions to compete in the Tokyo Olympic Games in the 49er class. To show his appreciation, Patrick helped to promote the Godalming Run this year and ran the 5k.

He said: "The whole event has such a welcoming atmosphere and the weather for the run was ideal. I was really impressed with the organisation and the number of people running. The 5k was great and the hill leading up to Charterhouse School was tough to run, but rewarding. Events like the Godalming Run are so important. Sport Godalming is helping to raise the profile of sport in the community. I have also witnessed first-hand just how supportive the charity is to athletes like me and I am so grateful."

Michael O'Sullivan the Vice Chairman of Sport Godalming added: "It was the most exciting Godalming Run to date and we have raised an amazing amount for our local aspiring Olympians. I would like to thank our event partners Charterhouse Club, Waverley Harriers and Godalming Town, Waverley Borough and Surrey County Councils, for making it such a success.

"I must also say a huge thank you to our wonderful team of marshals and the Mayor of Godalming Simon Thornton who made a special appearance on the day. We are also grateful to event sponsors Alton Sports and Trade Direct, along with The Music Works who provided a brilliant line up of live music to keep everyone entertained."

Race Director Tim Ostle, Commercial Director at Charterhouse Club, ensured all participants were briefed before each run and cheered in all finishers. The Mayor of Godalming Councillor Simon Thornton started each race with some words of encouragement and later presented runners with medals and winners prizes.

The fun runners took off from the Phillips Memorial Park at 10:00am, followed by the 10k at 10.30am and the 5k shortly after. They were cheered on by crowds lining the start and those who waiting along the 5k and 10k routes.

Fun runners Elaine and Ronnie El-Masri took part with their Grandchildren Darcy and Gus Brennan, and their pet dog Noodle. Elaine said: "It was a great route and there were people all along it cheering us on. I loved the atmosphere and enjoyed the run. I recommend the event to everyone, it is so much fun. Noodle loved it."

Ben Blamey returned to win the 5k in an impressive 17 minutes 40 seconds, after coming second in 2016. 10k winner Daniel Robinson, who crossed the finish line in just 37 minutes 37 seconds, said: "I really enjoyed it as a first timer and am looking forward to doing it again next year.

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