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Welcome…

**…and thanks for joining our *YOU CAN RUN* programme. We offer this ‘couch to 5k’ course to get you started with running if you’re completely new to it, or rediscover its benefits if you’re returning after a break.**

We believe everyone – of every age, shape, size, speed and ability can run five kilometres. And in a small, friendly group of other new or returning runners, with the help of our qualified leaders, we’ll prove it together. *YOU CAN RUN* is a key element in our club’s commitment to support personal and community wellbeing.

You’ve already done the hard part by getting involved, now it’s time to the reap the physical, mental and social rewards. This pack tells you what to expect and gives you some simple tools to track your progress.

Welcome to Eynsham Roadrunners and *YOU CAN RUN*.

Feel fit – new friends – be happy

Anya Aspinall, Nick Hardwick, Nicola Coppuck, Simon Walker

***Leaders in Running Fitness***

What to expect

**Here’s what you’ll get from taking part in the Eynsham Roadrunners *YOU CAN RUN programme.***

**Fun**

To stick at any sort of exercise you have to enjoy it. So we make the programme a fun experience in the company of people you’ll like.

Discovering your running ability and feeling your fitness grow as part of a group will give you a real boost.

**New friends**

Make new connections and discover a fresh social scene. We pride ourselves on being a friendly, inclusive, community club.

**Physical health**

Running is the most natural and direct form of exercise there is – it’s what humans are evolved to do. No matter what your starting point is, you’ll notice your strength and stamina rapidly improve.

If you’d like to lose weight and improve your overall condition and appearance, there are few better ways to do it than by running.

**Mental health**

Running is great for the mind too. It’s a powerful tonic for anxiety, and an important aid to recovery from any sort of mental ill-health.

You’ll find the exercise, camaraderie and support the perfect stress-buster, mood-lifter and confidence-builder

**Achievement**

Whether you believe it at the beginning or not, the programme will prove you can run 5k – and possibly further if you want.

The sense of achievement when you’ve done it will be worth every puff and pant along the way.

**Safe, qualified support**

The *YOU CAN RUN* programme is designed and led by our volunteer leaders, who are all qualified England Athletics ‘Leaders in Running Fitness.’

From warm-up to cool-down, they’ll take you through graduated exercises that help you realise your goal of running 5k.

What’s involved

**Each *YOU CAN RUN***  **programme and session is tailored to the needs of the people in the group.**

Over the ten weeks, our qualified leaders will take you through:

* **Dynamic stretching and warming up** – to prepare you for running and protect you from injury
* **Walk/run** – starting gently
* **Run/walk** – building up slowly
* **Continuous running** – for at least 30 minutes (trust us, you can do it)
* **Handling hills** – when the going gets tough
* **Building speed** – you justget faster
* **Running for wellbeing** – physical and mental fitness, club support
* **Your first 5k** – at a local parkrun or similar event
* **What next** – if you can run 5k, you can run 10k…
* **Part of the club** – please stay involved

Feel fit – new friends – be happy

Useful stuff

**RunTogether and Eynsham Roadrunners have an array of things to help you get started and enjoy your running.**

**RunTogether website**

Got to and register at [runtogether.co.uk](https://runtogether.co.uk/) for loads of great advice and information about getting into or returning to running. Plus special offers on running gear and events.

**Club website**

Visit our online home at [eynshamroadrunners.org.uk](http://eynshamroadrunners.org.uk/) for everything about the club, and all the latest news.

**Parkrun**

The weekly international movement that hosts community 5k running events. Free to everyone forever, [parkrun.org.uk](https://www.parkrun.org.uk/)

Running log

**Use this page to record and keep track of your running progress.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name:** | **Date started:** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date:** | **What you did:** | **How you felt:** |
|  |  |  |
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Feel fit – new friends – be happy