

Abingdon Works Centre Swallowfield Park Run Sunday 13th April 2008



A 17th century mansion house set in 25 acres of parkland, with a decoy pond adjacent to a river walk plus a walled garden (currently “a work in progress”). John Evelyn, the late 17th century diarist, visited the gardens and was said to have planted the Yew Walk, which still stands today. Afterwards, he wrote that they were "as elegant as 'tis possible to make a flat by art and industry and no mean expense". Not far away is a Pets' Cemetery, which includes the grave of Charles Dickens' dog, Bumble. Water was pumped up by a horse attached to a beam, to a storage area under the clock tower, from a deep well in the small private garden. Here too can still be seen a rare one-handed clock dated 1757.

The road runs starts at **Henry Street Garden Centre**, Swallowfield Road, Arborfield, Berkshire RG2 9JY. Where you can enjoy a bacon roll and coffee or a breakfast before you start the run. The Run will take you through the Berkshire and North Hampshire countryside; arriving at **Swallowfield Park** giving you time to explore the extensive grounds. Refreshments will be available all afternoon (Cream teas will available on a pre ordered basics £3.50 per person) Rally plaque (while stocks last).

Cost is £16 by prior booking or £18 on the day, per car to include 2 people and admission into the grounds of Swallowfield Park. (VAT at 17.5% inc.)

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Send this form or photocopy with cheque for entry and a S.A.E. (Min. 8 ½ x 4 ½ ins) to:

Peter Bush 1 Barton Road, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire RG31 5NJ Phone 07949 995552

Name :

Address :

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Postcode

Daytime Tel:

E-mail:

Car model:..... Reg.No :

Cheques payable to *MGCC Abingdon Works Centre*
www.mgabingdon.org.uk