



THE EALING TRAILFINDERS FOUNDATION

Newsletter

September 2026

Welcome to the Ealing Trailfinders Foundation newsletter, with news from our programmes, stories from the people taking part and a look at what's coming up.

Welcome from the Chair of Trustees

As the new season gets underway, it's been a busy few months for the Foundation, and this edition is a good chance to look back on what we've delivered and forward to what's coming. Our Ealing Half Marathon and Mini Mile partnership is a real highlight this month, and it's a brilliant example of the wider club and the Foundation working together for the benefit of the borough. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Tom Roberts
Chair of Trustees

Trailfinders steps up for the Ealing Half Marathon and Mini Mile

Ealing Trailfinders has become headline sponsor of the Ealing Mini Mile, which will run as the Trailfinders Ealing Mini Mile for 2026. Together the two days draw more than 7,000 runners and their families, and this year the partnership gives the Foundation a chance to raise money and awareness across the whole #EalingFeeling weekend.

Saturday 26 September

Trailfinders Ealing Mini Mile, Walpole Park

Sunday 27 September

Ealing Half Marathon

Staff and trustees are running the half marathon for the Foundation, and every pound raised goes straight back into the programmes in this newsletter. Thank you in advance for anything you can give.

Sponsor our runners

Every pound goes to our community programmes.

[Donate on JustGiving →](#)

Read Peter's story

Why our runners are taking on the half.

[Read the article →](#)

Veterans Cafe

The Veterans Cafe is new for us this year. We've run it once a month since March, in partnership with Help for Heroes and Pilgrim Bandits.

It's a relaxed get-together for local veterans: come in, have a brew and chat with people who've been through similar things. There's no agenda and no pressure. Some come for the company, some for a catch-up and some just to get out of the house for a morning. All veterans are welcome, whatever their service or background.

NEXT CAFE

**Tuesday 20
October**

10am to 11am
or 6pm to 7pm

Programme **round-up**

The Movement Hub: Walking Rugby

Another great year for walking rugby, with new players joining the regulars each week. The new season brings a fixture against Richmond on 27 September, so keep an eye on our social media for action shots.

"The advent of walking rugby has been a revelation for my generation. Suddenly we're back in the game and able to use our passing, handling and strategic skills again. At touch rugby you're surrounded by youngsters who can step you in a phone box; in walking rugby you get the time and space to do your own moves."

Paul, walking rugby player

There's more to come from the group, including some big news we'll share soon.

[Find out more →](#)

HAF camps, summer 2026

This summer we ran three weeks of multi-sport camps with support from the Ealing HAF programme. HAF funding means the camps are free to attend, with a hot lunch every day. Over 50 children signed up through HAF this summer, up on the numbers we saw at Easter.

Coaching came from professional players from Ealing Trailfinders and Trailfinders Women alongside our Community Coaches, covering tag rugby, football, netball, rugby rounders, cricket, tennis, mini Olympics and athletics.

"The best bit is watching a child turn up on the Monday not knowing anyone and by Friday they're asking when the next camp is. We had kids trying netball and cricket for the first time and finding out they were actually good at it. Having the pro players in coaching alongside us made a real difference too, the children respond to that straight away."

Evie Bowers, Community Coach

[Find out more →](#)

TrailfindHERS returns next year

TrailfindHERS is coming back for another round in schools across the borough.

"The coaching sessions have really helped me improve my skills and my confidence. The coaches make every session enjoyable, and I always feel like I've learnt something new."

Munira, participant

A teacher at one of our partner schools told us the mix of coaching and educational talks has helped pupils with their confidence, teamwork and resilience as well as their rugby.

[Find out more →](#)

Mixed Ability

Alex has been one of the stories of the season. His listening and communication have come on hugely, and he now follows instructions and joins in drills with far less help than before. The biggest moment was Alex taking part in a full session on his own, without his dad James alongside him, and James has been delighted to see it.

Ffion, who runs the programme, was shortlisted for the Inclusive Award at the Ealing Sports Awards 2025/26 after one of the participants' parents nominated her.

[Find out more →](#)

Get in the Game

Our free weekly girls' rugby sessions, led by players from the professional women's team, reached 320 participants across 33 sessions this year. We also ran girls-only camps over the holidays for anyone wanting more.

[Find out more →](#)



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