

**Thurleigh Cross Country Route – an additional long one at 11.1 miles, for those who don't yet have enough mud in their lives. The gpx file for your watch can be found at <https://connect.garmin.com/modern/course/45569292> You are strongly advised to download the route and follow it on your watch or phone.**

**The run is mainly on a grassy track alongside the airfield perimeter fence, with a few short road sections and mud galore. Trail shoes recommended.**

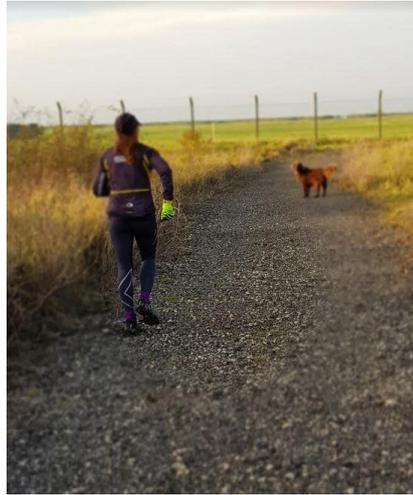
The run begins at Thurleigh Village Hall, MK44 2DB. Off road parking is available here. The pictures aren't great for this run but follow Gill Fullen and Jess and you shouldn't get lost. Start on the footpath to the left of the hall.



Continue down the hill and right before the brook then follow straight along the right hand side of the brook all the way until you come to a fork with the path. Continue straight ahead of you or turning left to skirt the reservoir on its left hand side. Take the left fork.



Cross the footbridge, then at the end of the path turn right and follow the gravel



track, keeping the perimeter fence on your left. Follow the fence out to the road and turn left onto it and curving 90deg right at the corner.

Look out for a snicket with a footpath sign on the left in about 200 meters which takes you back onto the fence footpath.



Keeping the fence always on your left follow the perimeter path. A track leads on towards a farm at one point with the perimeter fence curving away to the left ... don't miss this turn!



Keep on running with the fence on your left until you come out onto a concrete section of track which leads down to the Riseley road. Turn left and follow the

road for 50 ish meters until there is a turn back onto the footpath through the trees on the



left.

Gill and Jenny were hoping to cycle the remainder of the route, with Jess trotting alongside but ... their plans were suddenly changed when:



As a result they had to abandon the route and there are no more pictures to help you, though Gill and Jess completed the run a few days later and were able to finish creating the gpx file. So, follow that fence but be sure to keep an eye on your watch so you stay on the footpaths around the fields. Some of them have recently been ploughed and you will need to stick the perimeters.

You will pass the entrance to the Thurleigh airfield industrial site / racetrack and carry on with the fence still on your left until you reach the reservoir once again, where you turn right and from here it's a simple matter of retracing your outbound steps for the last mile, taking you along the footpath to the village hall.

Well done and congratulations if you didn't get lost, even a tiny bit. We hope you enjoyed that, it's not an official XC run because it's so long, but if you would like to share your outing, post it on the club Facebook page.