

SHAPWICK NEWS

May 2018

Issue 281

Shapwick Bunny Hop *Shapwick Running Team*

It was the morning before the big race, and all was well. Last month's blizzards were a distant memory, the torrential rain had stopped, online entries had sold out. Then an unexpected twist; with less than 24 hours to go it seemed we'd double-booked the village hall with the Hawk and Owl Trust - disaster!!

Leaving the rest of the team spitting feathers, race organiser-in-chief Teresa King chuckled into her cornflakes, before revealing her cunning April Fool's ruse...



Which was just as well – a record turnout of over 140 contenders assembled at the hall the next morning, undeterred by the bleak Bank Holiday weather. The 7.5 mile route was muddier than ever, and we weren't expecting any new course records – but you never know...

The juniors got things going with a couple of closely fought races around the green.

Congratulations to William Quanton and Madison Coombes, first boy and girl in the quarter km KS1 race, and to Owen Dukes and Harriet Hobbs for winning the half km KS2 race. Of course there were no losers; everyone left with a well-earned medal and choccy bunny.

As in previous years, a non-competitive walk accompanied the main race, enjoyed by sensible folk who enjoyed the atmosphere close-up, but with less risk of shin splints and jogger's nipple.

At 10.30am the bog-hopping began in earnest as runners of all ages and abilities set off across the flooded wetlands around the village.

The unique nature of the heath wasn't lost on our runners, who competed to the backdrop of booming bitterns and spotted great white egrets and marsh harriers along the way.

Congratulations to the first female, Amber Gascoigne, who smashed the course record by two minutes with a winning time of 50.46 mins, despite having to wade through an icy lake along the way!



And also to the flying family duo Tom and Dylan Dukes, first and second in the men's race with respective times of 47.27 and 48.48 mins.

The closely contested First Shapwick Runner home was won by John Anderson in a time of 56.32 mins.

Full results are listed at shapwickrunners.co.uk along with race photos.

Back at base the runners were presented with bottles of Bunny Hop cider (with a little help from Hecks) and a hearty recuperative banquet provided by the village hall team and other contributors – a big thank you to all!

This year we will donate £500 to the MS Society, which we decided to support because many of us have friends or family who are affected.

Many thanks to our stalwart volunteer marshals (we could do with even more marshals next year, please let us know if you'd like to help) and to Gordon McBride, official race adjudicator for the last 10 years.

And final thanks also to local landowners, including Natural England who were happy to allow access through the Nature Reserve, and Shapwick School for providing car parking.

If you'd like to join the Shapwick Runners, we meet most Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. by the telephone box for a gentle 4.5 mile loop, and would love to see some new faces, all standards very welcome!



And they're off!!



Junior Race



Library Van

The next visit by the mobile library, is on **Tuesday 8th May**.

The time and place remain the same. The van arrives at the Cricket Pavilion at 10.55 for 20 minutes.



Shapwick Starlets *Sue Sellick*

This month's speaker was local entrepreneur Jack Negus and this is his very moving story:



"I live in Ashcott, attended Shapwick Squirrels Playgroup, Ashcott Primary School and then Crispin Secondary School. I am now 24yrs old and was diagnosed with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome when I was born. I was blue lighted to Bristol Hospital, but they couldn't perform the life-saving treatment I needed, so I was rushed to Birmingham Hospital. And 24 years later I am thankfully still here to tell my story.

What it is Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome? A serious and rare congenital single ventricle heart condition. The left ventricle is very underdeveloped and without intervention it is fatal. It is commonly referred to as Half a working Heart. It occurs in 1 in 5000 babies, and 6 out of 10 survive all three stages.

Operations - When I was 3 weeks old, I had the Norwood Procedure; first reconstruction of the heart which is the size of a shelled walnut. At 3 - 6 months old, the Hemi Fontan procedure, creating a separate blood flow to lungs. And then the Final Fontan which is redirection of the blood flow to the correct arteries within the heart. I am happy and healthy now but am affected by tiredness, and breathless, etc.

Although I missed several years of school education I still managed to pass all 11 GCSEs.

I decided that I wanted to open my own shop which lead to the creation of my business - <https://www.theslipperbox.com>. I opened up a shop at the age of 16 years. The shop was 8ft x 12ft and sold all different types of slippers. It was opened by Michael Eavis and won Shop of Year in 2012. It is now online and I have customers worldwide including Japan, US and UK. We also have Royal Family members purchase from us. Most of our products are made in England and materials sourced in England. What has the business taught me? Tax, Stock Control, Customer Service & General Business.

The charity - Little Hearts Matter - <https://www.lhm.org.uk>

This was set up in 1994 by my parents and 6 others parents/cardiac nurses. It now supports 3500 members, and runs a 24/7 helpline. They hold an Open Day each year for all its members and are constantly researching the condition. It offers bereavement support and initial support packs. I live my life by a saying; "Life is what we make it." This means it's our own decision to choose what and who we want to be. Life is tough, and for people like myself, it's a little tougher. Yet I decided that my condition wouldn't get in the way of what I wanted to do. And I went ahead and did it!"

Thank you!

May I thank anyone who contributed to my party on March 24th which my dear daughter and family organised. A good time was had by all I think and I am so grateful.

Thank you

Peggy Long

Somerset Timeline *Dora Watts*

Some time ago I came upon a Somerset timeline in an old book. I think you might be interested.

AD60 First Christian church built at Glastonbury

AD63 Joseph of Arimathea came to Britain, tradition says Glastonbury

AD99 Aristobulus 1st Bishop of Glastonbury died according to old historian

AD425 St Patrick said to have visited Glastonbury and repaired the church St Michael on the Tor

AD453 St Bridget born (died AD 523) is said to have spent some years at Beckery Glastonbury

AD495 Kingdom of West Saxons established

AD516 King Artur obtained command of British Army

AD517 Arthur crowned by Dubricious Bishop of Llandaff

URGENTLY NEEDED—Leaders for Local Cub Pack

1st Poldens Cub Pack are in urgent need of one or two individuals, over 18 years, who would be interested in training to become uniformed leaders to take over the pack/get involved. If you would like to know more, contact 1stpoldens@gmail.com or via Shapwick News email address shapwicknews@yahoo.co.uk



Hi folks,

I hope you all had a happy Easter! Jen and I went to the Scillies and after a couple of days of poor weather, we had a great time enjoying the wonderful natural beauty of the area.

We have a new event taking place next month, and Shapwick Church will be one of the key venues. We're running an **Eyes on Wildlife** weekend from Friday June 15 to Sunday June 17, to celebrate the wonderful array of wildlife we have on the Somerset Levels.

One major event throughout the weekend will be a **wildlife photography exhibition** taking place in **Shapwick Church**. There are some really good wildlife photographers in the area and it's a privilege to be able to showcase some of their work. There will be a **café** running at the same time, so do stop by both to admire the photography and to enjoy the tea, coffee, cakes and light lunches!

If you have a wildlife photograph that you would like to see exhibited also, then do contact either myself or Alison Everett in Burtle (see opposite).

On Friday June 15 at 7pm, the well-known wildlife writer **Dominic Couzens** will be coming to Burtle Village Hall. He will be doing a talk on **"Birds Behaving Badly"** – and there's plenty of that around the Levels! We will be serving a supper as well.

On Saturday 16th there will be a **Muddy Church**, on Shapwick Heath, for primary-aged children and their parents. On Sunday 17th there will be an **early morning bird walk** at 6am, led by Alison Everett, with a full-cooked breakfast.

The church services on the Sunday will adopt a Celtic style, with an Informal Worship in Chilton Polden at 10:30, and an open air evening service at the Ashcott playing field at 6:30.

Every blessing, Rich Tweedy

Shapwick and Polden CC

The season is finally here after a long wet winter, we are looking forward to another successful season where we will be fielding 3 senior Saturday teams and a Sunday team. In the junior department we will compete with Under 11s, 13s, 15s & 19s.

Pre season friendlies have started but the league matches begin Saturday 5th May where at Northbrook Road our 2nd XI host Middlezoy. Why not enjoy a drink in the sun (hopefully) watching some cricket, the bar opens from 3pm every Saturday throughout the summer. All welcome. For full fixture programme visit; <http://sandpcc.playcricket.com>

Junior practice takes place on Monday nights at 6-30 where we coach ages from 5-8 with "All Stars" and 8-13 with our ECB qualified coaches. We are always looking for more juniors so why not bring your children for a fun filled evening.

We also welcome new senior members with many opportunities to play so can cater for all standards, for more info contact Jon Ball; 07879477524, jon1978@hotmail.com



Eyes on Wildlife



A weekend to celebrate the wildlife of the Somerset Levels and Avalon Marshes

Friday 15 to Sunday 17 June

For a full list of events
 www.poldenwheel.co.uk/events/wildlife

For enquiries and to book tickets
 01458 210260
 admin@poldenwheel.co.uk

Photo © Chris Hooper [chris@hooper@aol.com]

Events Schedule



| Friday 15 June | | | |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 11am to 5pm | Wildlife Photography Exhibition begins – including a café with tea, coffee, light lunches, and abundant cakes! | Shapwick Church | Free |
| 7pm to 10pm | Birds behaving badly – an evening with Dominic Couzens (includes a full supper) | Burtle Village Hall | Tickets £10 Booking essential |
| Saturday 16 June | | | |
| 11am to 5pm | Wildlife Photography Exhibition continues – café open | Shapwick Church | Free |
| 4pm to 6pm | Muddy Church | Shapwick Heath Nature Reserve | For primary-aged children and their parents |
| Sunday 17 June | | | |
| 6am | Early morning bird walk with Alison Everett | Ham Wall car park | Tickets £5 with full cooked breakfast in Ashcott village hall afterwards Booking essential |
| 10:30am | Informal Worship Celtic style with talk by David Maggs | Chilton Polden, St Edwards's church | All welcome |
| 2.30pm to 5pm | Wildlife Photography Exhibition continues – café open (no lunches) | Shapwick Church | Free |
| 6:30pm | Open air service Celtic style with Caroline Pomeroy of Climate Stewards | Ashcott playing field | All welcome |

Contacts for further information

Rich Tweedy, 01458 210260, vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk
Alison Everett, 01278 723736, alison.everett6@gmail.com

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PC Website - www.shapwickparishcouncil.org.uk

What's On in Shapwick

Church Services in May 2018

Sunday 6th May - Rogation Sunday (White)
10.30 *Burtle* Rogation Service
6.00 *Ashcott* Praise 'n' Prayer
Thursday 10th May - Ascension Day
10.00 *Ashcott* Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 13th May - Easter 7 (White)
10.00 *Shapwick* Café Church
4.30 *Chilton Polden* Informal Family Communion
6.30 *Burtle* Holy Communion (CW)

MESSY CHURCH!

Fun, food & friendship for young families
In Shapwick Church 4-6pm,
May 26th



Shapwick and Polden CC Home Fixtures

5 May—2nd XI Middlezoy
12/5 May—1st XI Lansdown
19/5 May—2nd XI Ashbrittle
26/5 1st XI Ilminster



Useful Contact Details

Parish Council - Clerk -Sue Williams 01458 210749
shapwickpc@btinternet.com
Village Hall - Secretary Claire Brown 01458 210784
shapwickvillagehall@gmail.com
Hall Bookings—shapwickvhbookings@gmail.com or
01458 210329

CLUBS

Cubs—Adam Smith 07508 468173
Cricket Club—Martin Baker 01458 831131
Friends of Shapwick Church—Jane Walker 210137
Pilates—Lita de Alberdi 01458 446883
Shapwick Runners— www.shapwickrunners.co.uk
WI – Sue Sellick 01458 210357
Yoga—Mel Blackshaw 07812 667911

Annual Parish Meeting—22nd May 2018

7pm Shapwick Village Hall—come and find out what our village organisations having been doing over the past year! All welcome.

To be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

(please note change of date from that previously advertised)

 **Shapwick Starlets WI** 
Invite you to our
Somerset Day Craft Fayre
Saturday 12th May 2 - 5 pm
Shapwick Village Hall

- Emma Duke Driftwood Art
- Slipper Box
- Unique Classique jewellery
- Polden Wood Turning
- K-Kraft photographic cards
- Sparklers Dichroic glass jewellery
- Dawn Lawrence, Author and more.....

 **Tea & cakes**
 **Raffle**  **Games**
All welcome!

Lite Bite Lunches



The next lunch is on

21 May 2018 12:30pm—2.00pm

St Marys Church.

For further information please contact Helen on 210885



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Sue Williams by **20th May** or to shapwicknews@yahoo.co.uk

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