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### **Dirty Dozen Hop for Cider**

Twelve runners from Weston Athletic Club did their level best to burn-off the extra calories consumed in Easter eggs at Monday's annual Bunny Hop race in Shapwick. Heavy rainfall in the days leading up to the event made the 7.5 mile course tougher than usual, with plenty of mud on tap to slow runners down. A flooded 50m stretch of farm track a mile before the finish at least gave all participants the unavoidable opportunity to get the worst of the mud off their legs and trainers in a two-foot-deep icy mud bath.

Matt Wheeler enjoyed another successful race hot on the heels of his efforts at Butleigh the weekend before. Matt finished fourth overall in an impressive time of 50.31 averaging just over a 6.30 minute mile in challenging conditions. Joe Withers was next from the club to finish and collect his commemorative bottle of local cider in 56.40. Martin Hurcombe followed in 58.10. Hot on Martin's heels came the club's first female finisher Nia Davies in 58.36. Nia was followed by Sian Roberts in 1.03.22 and Pam Withers in 1.12.08. Pam's performance earned her first place in her category, and it was a successful morning's racing for the club as Nia, Matt, Martin and John Hinchliffe also placed in their age categories.

The Easter weekend also proved profitable for Chris McMillan who secured another race victory to add to his growing string of successes in 2018. Chris was overall winner at the Hanham Horror multi-terrain race, finishing the six mile course in 35.14, averaging under a six minute mile. Club mate Josh Harris also finished inside the top ten in 40.37.

The next race organised by the club is the sixth prom run of the season on Thursday April 26. The main five mile race starts on the seafront near the Tropicana at 7.30pm and is preceded by the one mile junior race at 6.45pm. Runners can enter on the night or online at [www.westonac.co.uk/promrun](http://www.westonac.co.uk/promrun).

ENDS

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