

Bath Half Marathon

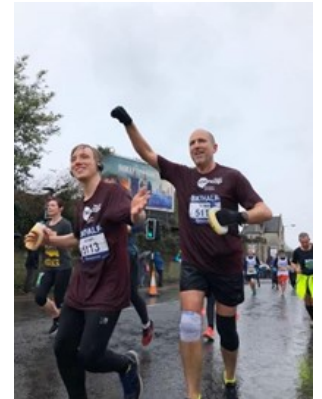
On the 15th March 2020 the region was divided. Should they run? Should they boycott one of the biggest charity fund raising events in the area? We too had mixed feelings. We had 19 runners who had been training hard for over 6 months. We had a sense of responsibility for our runners and our members; the Bath Half Marathon was to still go ahead despite opposition from locals.

We decided for the safety of our members the MMP cheer squad would not be in attendance but we would fully support our runners in whatever decision they made. And just like the region they too were divided. 10 of our runners joined over 6000 others and ran the 13.3 miles at the Bath Half Marathon. Huge thanks goes to Vince, Aaron, Matt, Jemima, Naomi, Michaela, Mark, Kelly, Alice and Pete; you guys were awesome and made the decision to carry on in the face of uncertainty. However, equally as important, Sarah, Georgine, Lisa, Diane, Myfi, Lee, Ali and Russ joined 100's of 'virtual' Bath Half-ers. This meant they ran the full distance of the Half Marathon where they lived so from Bristol to Devon they braved the rain, avoided the crowds, gave their all and achieved their goals. The virtual Bath Half-ers sent in photos of themselves and their running route as proof.

What an amazing community spirit; not only was it a great day of uniting two different reactions to the challenges our nation is experiencing at the moment but between them these guys have raised over £4600, and the sponsor money is still coming in too!

So from all the members, volunteers staff and trustees thank you so much for supporting our charity, raising much needed funds and giving us some fantastic news to share with our community.

You can view all our photos on our Facebook page, there is an album called Bath Half 2020.



Mencap Club Closures

We have made the decision to close all Keynsham Mencap clubs for the foreseeable future. All activities and events are cancelled. We do not know yet how long the closures will be for, and we'll be closely following the guidance and advice issued by the government.

We really want to make sure we all stay in touch - if you haven't already please join our **Keynsham Mencap Advocates** Facebook group where we can all talk and support each other during this time. We will be sharing lots of useful information and resources on our website too.

The office will be closed but office staff will be working from home and you can contact Laura (manager) by mobile 07792722471 or email laura@keynshammencap.org.uk.

Dinner and Auction Postponed

Following the meeting of the trustees, the clear directive given by the Prime Minister and with the co-operation of the Apex Hotel we will be postponing the Keynsham Mencap dinner and auction until **Saturday 3rd October 2020**.

We feel this is the best outcome for a challenging situation that is affecting all our lives; we very much hope to see you and your guests at this new date when we feel the current social position would have eased.

We are looking forward to one big celebration! For anyone who has purchased raffle tickets we will provide a full refund in line with our obligations under the Lotteries and Gaming Licence guidelines. A raffle will be drawn at the new date and tickets for this will be sold nearer the time.

Thank You!

To the Apex Hotel, and all the companies that donated raffle and auction prizes who have been really understanding and supportive of us needing to move the date.

All of our staff and volunteers who are working hard behind the scenes to try and put extra support in place for our members and families.

Mencap Hoodies

We still have hoodies and t-shirts available to order / purchase.

£20 for a hoodie / £8 for a t-shirt. You can order through Amanda in the office by emailing:

Amanda@keynshammencap.org.uk

You can call the office 0117 986 5659, but you might need to leave a message at this time.



Celebration Picnic!

We are going to be organising a big get together when this current situation is all over.

We'll be meeting up in Keynsham Park for a huge picnic and games. Members, staff and volunteers, along with their families are all welcome to join in.

There will be no charge; we just want to get everyone together! You'll need to bring your own picnic and we will provide some bats/balls, outdoor games etc.

At this stage we can't set a date until we know when it is safe for us to socialise together again, but we will let you know as soon as we do.

We can't wait to see everyone!



Membership Renewal

Please remember that you still need to return your membership renewal for this year. You must return your signed form, even if you pay your fees by monthly standing order.



Co-op Community Fund

We are delighted to be in receipt of a grant of over £5,000 from the St James Foundation.

Joanna Hughes from the organisation visited Club25 to present a cheque. It was World Book Day and the members were in costume from James Bond, Greatest Showman, Harry Potter, Wind in the Willows and more!



Volunteer Birthdays! April

Happy birthday to...

Katie White

Mac McDowell

Ann Dowding

Mel Beaven

Julian Cole

April Siva

Niall Tomlins

Have a great day!



This is a worrying and unsettling time for everyone. Please look after yourself, be kind, and stay safe. Join our online community on Facebook, look out for resources and information on our website and keep in touch with us. We would love to hear from you.

Contact Details

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