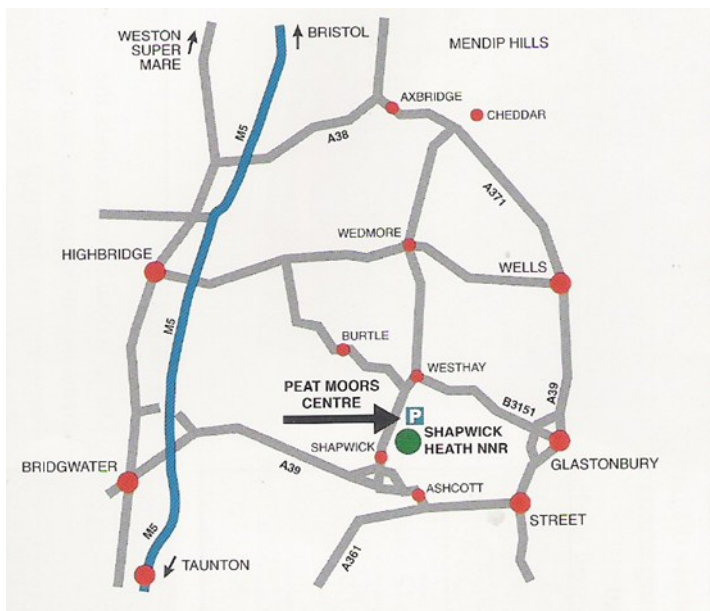


## Where to find us:



**Avalon Marshes Centre  
Shapwick Road, Westhay  
Somerset BA6 9TT**

To book contact Julie Merrett on 01458 860120  
or e-mail: [julie.merrett@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:julie.merrett@naturalengland.org.uk)

Photos courtesy of Lynne Newton, Andrew Kirby and Dave Beszant



## Shapwick Heath NNR Public Events 2016



Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>  March  7-10am	<b>Behind-the-Scenes Birdwatching Tour</b>  A chance to join Natural England's Senior Reserve Manager on a guided walk around some of the less publicly-accessible parts of the reserve. We hope to see the first of our Spring migrants, hear bitterns booming and take a look at the cormorant colony on Canada Farm.
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>  April  10am-4pm	<b>A Wild Day Out in Spring</b>  The first of our big family fun days at the Avalon Marshes Centre. A day chokka-blok with environmental games, trails and crafts, and our ever popular trailer rides across the reserve. No booking necessary. FREE event.
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>  June  10-4pm	<b>Avalon Marshes Open Day</b>  Meet staff and volunteers from all the conservation organisations that work on the Avalon Marshes, to learn more about the work we do, at our annual showcase event. Plus environmental games, trails crafts and trailer rides to keep younger members of the family entertained. No booking necessary. FREE event.
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>  July  10-4pm	<b>National Meadows Day</b>  A chance to explore our wonderful wildflower meadows in full bloom. A tractor and trailer will transport people from the Avalon Marshes Centre up the road to Canada Farm, where there will be guided walks, information, games & trails, plus an opportunity to meet some of the Red Devon cows that graze our fields. No booking necessary. FREE event
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>  July  9pm- Mid- night	<b>Dusk Bat Walk</b>  Join the incredibly knowledgeable members of the Somerset Bat Group for a guided walk around Shapwick Heath at night, to discover how many different species of bat use the reserve as their home and hunting grounds. Places limited, booking essential. Charge £5 per person.

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>  August  10am-4pm	<b>Otter Walk</b>  Join reserve staff and members of the Somerset Otter Group for a day spent learning about otter ecology and behaviour. Includes a tour of the reserve to look at otter tracks and signs, with hopefully a site of this elusive species as well! Places limited, booking essential. Charge £5 per person.
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>  September  10-4pm	<b>A Wild Day Out in Autumn</b>  A family fun day at the Avalon Marshes Centre with games, trails and crafts. Children can learn about our migrating birds, build a birdbox, have a go at pond-dipping and much more, including the mandatory trailer ride across the reserve. No booking necessary. FREE event.
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>  September  10am-3pm	<b>Neolithic Man on the Marshes</b>  Our reserve is famous for the 'Sweet Track' - the oldest manmade walkway in Europe. Take a tour with reserve staff to learn about how neolithic man survived on these wild marshes. Some practical activities may be involved, so people can get a taste of what life might have been like! Places limited, booking essential. Charge £5 per person.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>  October  7-10am	<b>Small Mammals on Shapwick</b>  Join reserve staff as they open a set of small mammal traps, and meet some of the creatures that make Shapwick their home. Learn to recognise tracks and signs of common species of mammal on this early morning tour of the reserve. Places limited, booking essential. Charge £5 per person.
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>  November  10-4pm	<b>Winter Wild Day Out</b>  Help the wildlife in your garden get through the winter by making birdfeeders, habitat hotels and hedgehog boxes... the last of our family fun days at the Avalon Marshes Centre. Complete with tractor rides across the reserve. No booking necessary. FREE event.