

Sport . . . Sport . . . Sport . . . Sport . . . Sport . . . Sport

Pier-jumping finals held at harbour

Pier-jumpers from around the country arrived in Bridlington on Sunday last to take part in the first-ever National Pier-Jumping Championships for the Harbour Commissioners Trophy.

There was a strong contingent from Scarborough and Whitby in the Yorkshire category, while Brighton and Dover had powerful teams representing the South Coast.

The team from Wales had to withdraw due to vertigo, and the Lancastrian team, based in Wigan, blamed lack of practice when failing in the first round.

Eight teams entered the knock-out competition with the first wins going to Yorkshire, South

Coast, Scotland, and West Country.

In the semi-finals, Yorkshire gave the West Country a hard fight to come out on top, while Scotland and the South Coast battled to a draw.

A tie-breaking jump by Andy Brique saw South Coast go through to the final.

A series of ten jumps by each team formed the final, with Yorkshire jumping first.

A less than perfect synchronised plunge by Adams and Lane

dropped points for the South Coast (see picture below).

Yorkshire's final jump, by local man Billy Jones, who jumps under the name The Flaneburg Rocket, gained full points for an splendid free-style jump, with tucked knees and bare chest, which saw Yorkshire scramble to victory by five jumps to four, one halved.

A senior member of the harbour staff awarded the trophy to Billy Jones on behalf of the Commissioners.

The local group now move to Flamborough Head where the next set of jumps takes place.

"This will be a much harder jump," said Billy Jones. "There is no room for error. Danger is there, yes, but the thrill of the jump is wonderful. The only real danger is if you miss the water and hit the rocks."

Worm-charming ko competition

Local worm-charmers are limbering up for the Yorkshire finals in the national knock-out competition. The event will be staged on the grassed area between the Coastguard Station and Sewerby at the end of this month. Worm-charmers lie on grass encouraging worms to the surface by tickling the lawn with their fingers.

"All we need is a good old-fashioned downpour over Easter," said one.

Darby 'n Joan Grand Prix this summer

Grand Prix racing with a difference comes to Bridlington in August. Following a similar event held last year in Ireland, Luke O'Zayde and Phil O'Sanne, the organisers, are bringing pavement scooter racing events to the town in a "Darby and Joan Grand Prix" along the south promenades.

The event will be held on Sunday, 27th August, during the summer bank holiday weekend.

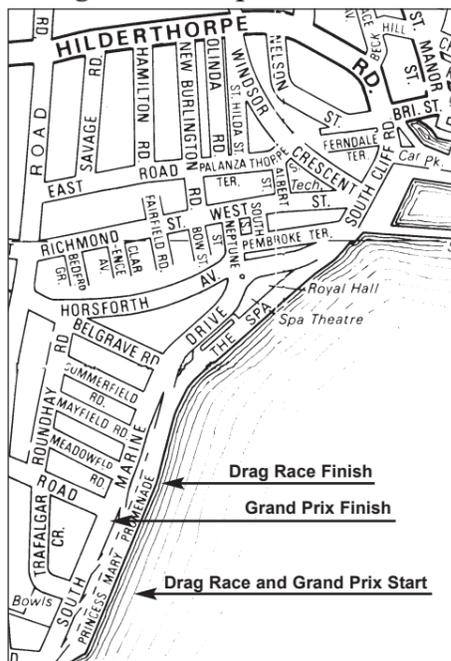
Latest plans for the event include a parade of entrants' vehicles through the town centre, a grand prix style race and a drag race along the South Promenade.

Final timings for the day's activities have yet to be decided, but the organisers visualise the parade at 11am, starting at Limekiln Lane car park. The parade will pass North Marine Drive to St Anne's Road, down Promenade, Cross Street, Bridge Street, South Cliff Road, and South Marine Drive to finish in the grounds of Hilderthorpe School.

Lunch will be provided by WRVS for all participants in the grounds, with Lucozade and Irn Bru provided by Tescos.

The grand prix event will start at 2pm on Princess Mary Promenade. Vehicles will be allocated spaces on the grid by draw.

There are three heats, one for retired



women, another for retired men and a third for others below retirement age.

First and second in each heat will take part in a grand final over two laps.

The scooters will race along Princess Mary Promenade, past the Spa to South Cliff Road. They then pass along Bridge Street, Beck Hill, Hilderthorpe Road and

back along South Cliff Road. The vehicles will then stay on South Marine Drive to the finishing line opposite the bowling green.

The evening event will be a drag race along Princess Mary Promenade, starting at 7pm.

Competitors will race along a quarter of a mile track, the shortest time being the winner.

Local firm Eden Mobility will provide pit-stop facilities in the school grounds, with batteries, tyres, go-faster stripes etc.

Entry forms will be available at the shop during July, and there is a limited entry of twenty contestants in each race. It's a case of first come, first served.

Entrants will pay £20 to enter each category, but the final showdown is free to competitors.

The top prize is a fortnight for four in Filey, while all entrants in the final will be presented with bottles of Lucozade and Phyllosan.

Local councillors have praised the organisers for staging the event here.

Mick's Sportin' Bits

•**Soccer:** We apologise to the Bridlington Town forward who was reported to have scored with the last sh*t of the game when it should have read "last shot."

•**Boxing:** Who is the local heavyweight boxer who has found a sponsor by offering advertising space? On the soles of his size 12 boots!

•**Bowls:** Who were the mixed doubles pair at Alexandra's match overheard saying they would prefer to have it on the green? What?

•**Darts:** A misunderstanding occurred when Dale Brown said he needed a double to finish off his opponent in a recent competition. A fan brought him a double scotch but Dale was the one who was finished.

•**Rugby:** Bridlington's rugby players have been warned not to eat baked beans or garlic before a match. Opponents have complained about distasteful odours while in the scrums.

•**Golf:** Who was the Links golfer warned not to wash his balls in the club's kitchen sink?

•**Angling:** Due to the restrictive quotas dictated by the EC, and the lack of fish in the Bay, this year's annual fishing festival will be replaced by hook-a-duck off the south pier.

•**Skiing:** Our Winter Olympic hopeful Bob Sleigh is seeking sponsorship for equipment to practice the downhill slalom event. Without funding he will be restricted to the snowball fight section of the Games.

•**Equestrianism:** Bempton rider Ivy Norse has been delighted with the response from both the Princess Royal and Harvey Smith in her request for instruction. Her pronunciation of "Naff orr!" is perfect and her V-sign elegant.

•**Road Racing:** Sewerby runner Alf Tupper took on the A19 in a recent practice run. "I was done for by the time I got to Thirsk," he said. "The A19 had an excellent start at Doncaster and there was no sign of it flagging as it sped on towards Teesside," he added.

•**Scrabble:** Who was the local player who put down tiles spelling q-w-e-x-t-z-y-s - using her opponent's "e" - and claimed it was "a disease of sheep"? She would have scored 446 for the move but was successfully challenged, and eventually lost the game.

•**Pigeon Racing:** Whose birds are having such a bad run of luck that they would only be in contention for a title if the fanciers' wife won first place in a pie competition at the local WI meeting?

Pictures at top show competitors in the final of the Pier-Jumping Championships held in Bridlington last week.

Bottom: Competitor Billy Jones practising at Flamborough. His specialist jump is the reverse scarecrow with double knee tuck (jumping backwards with arms outstretched and both knees bent).



Guest driver and vehicle at the Grand Prix will be American Aaron Ainsley Aardvaark, of Aspen, Arkansas, with his rocket-assisted armchair, capable of speeds over 165mph.



"I bet he drinks Carling Black Label!" Spotted on Bridlington's south side sea front trying his skill with his water pistol.



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