

ASTLEY & TYLDESLEY

MINERS' WELFARE

Cycle Speedway Club

2009 PRESS CUTTINGS

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Record attendance at speedway awards

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club hosted their Annual Presentation & Social Evening in the splendidly refurbished and extended Concert Room in the Miners' Welfare Club at Gin Pit.

A club record attendance of 71 people enjoyed the evening which consisted of bingo, an excellent buffet, an array of trophies presented to riders and an extensive range of presents

Cycle speedway

awarded to officials and helpers - all rounded off with a disco supplied by DJ Lee Phillips.

In addition to presenting trophies won on the track in club events during the season, the following riders were recipients of the club's annual awards, selected by the Club's coaches:

J Fisher & Sons Young Rider of the Year - Adam Phillips;

Rory Blackwell Cup for Best Newcomer - Ben Dickenson; North West Trophies Cup for Best Novice - Luke Jamson; Most Improved Rider - Joel Partington.

A & T's new Club sponsor is J Fisher & Sons, a transport haulage company, of Atherton, and the club's AGM is being held this coming Thursday (November 20) in the Miners' Welfare Club, 7.15 pm start.

A&T prize guys rewarded at club's big night

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club hosted their annual presentation and social evening in the refurbished and extended concert room in the Miners' Welfare Club at Gin Pit.

A club record attendance of 71 enjoyed the evening which consisted of two games of bingo, an excellent buffet, an impressive

array of trophies presented to riders, an extensive range of presents awarded to officials and helpers, all rounded off with a disco supplied by DJ Lee Phillips.

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the club's coaches:

J. Fisher & Sons Young Rider of the Year - Adam Phillips; Rory Blackwell Cup for Best Newcomer - Ben Dickenson; North West Trophies Cup for Best Novice - Luke Jamson and Most Improved Rider - Joel Partington. Astley & Tyldesley have a new club sponsor in J. Fisher & Sons,

a transport haulage company, of Atherton.

Best wishes for a full and speedy recovery go to Laura Allen, who is due to undergo surgery on an injured knee.

A & T are holding their Club AGM tonight (Thursday) in the Miners' Welfare Club, 7.15 pm start.

Cycle speedway AGM

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway held the club's AGM in the Miners' Welfare Club last Thursday.

A constructive meeting took place in which plans were agreed and a committee elected for the 2009 season. Priority work this winter is the completion of the club's Development Plan and Business Plan, as it looks to access funding available and expand its activities in a long term approach.

Changes to the Committee have seen Lee Phillips resign his position as Junior Team Manager, to be replaced by Brian Dickenson. Gary Nuttall stepped down as Track Manager, but retains the position of Treasurer. Brian Smith was elected as the new Track Manager. Paul Whitelegg moved into the vacant position of Development Officer, with Joanne Whitelegg becoming the Assistant Treasurer. The other post holders were unchanged.

The new Club Committee is: Bill Phillips - Chairman, Go-Ride Contact; Mike Hack - Secretary, Team Manager; Coach, Press Officer; Gary Nuttall - Treasurer, Coach; Joanne Whitelegg - Assistant Treasurer; Brian Dickenson - Junior Team Manager; Brian Smith - Track Manager; Paul Whitelegg - Development Officer; Lousie Watson - Club Welfare Officer and Len Priestley - Webmaster.

Committee elected

Cycle speedway

ASTLEY & Tyldesley held the club's AGM in the Miners' Welfare Club on Thursday evening.

A very constructive meeting took place in which plans were agreed and a committee elected for the 2009 season.

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Gary Nuttall stepped down as Track Manager, but retains the position of Treasurer.

Brian Smith was elected as the new Track Manager.

Paul Whitelegg moved into the vacant position of Development Officer, with Joanne Whitelegg becoming the Assistant Treasurer.

The other post holders were unchanged.

Cycle speedway:

Astley & Tyldesley are staging a BMX /Speedway Charity meeting, in conjunction with Simon Barber and the Mid-Lancs BMX Club, at Gin Pit on Sunday, December 28.

Registrations take place at 12 noon, with the racing expected to start at 12.30pm and be concluded by around 3pm.

All registered British Cycling members are invited to compete, on BMX bikes, with a £5 entry fee, proceeds to go to a charity to be decided on the day.

This event has been held on several occasions in recent years and it has been a popular fun event.

Anybody requiring further details should contact Simon Barber on (01925) 227304, or visit the A & T Club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk

Gearing up for new cycle speedway season

REMI Burchardt has been appointed Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club captain for 2009.

The Leigh based 2004 European Junior Champion is ready to embark on his fourth season for A and T and is keen to see the club make progress this season in the Northern League.

A and T riders Przemek Binkowski and Dariusz Pilas have both been selected to race for a strong Poland squad competing in the World Championships in Australia next month.

Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club start their pre-season training at Gin Pit on Sunday.

The under 13s session will be held between 2pm and 3pm, followed by the seniors' session between

3pm and 4pm. Sunday sessions will run up to and including March 1.

Junior sessions will also be held on Tuesdays, starting at 7pm, with seniors' Thursday sessions at 7pm running from February 5.

The first Northern League match of the season is scheduled for March 8.

Existing, former and new riders are all invited to attend the sessions, which take place at the cycle speedway track at the Astley and Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley, M29 7DW.

For further information, contact Mike Hack at m.hack@blueyonder.co.uk.

A&T ready to get back in the saddle

Cycle speedway: ASTLEY & Tydesley Cycle Speedway Club start pre-season training on Sunday (February 1) at Gin Pit. The juniors session (U13s) will be held between 2pm and 3pm, followed by the seniors session between 3pm and 4pm.

The juniors sessions will also be held on Tuesday evenings, starting at 7pm, from February 3 onwards, with the seniors sessions held on Thursday evenings, starting at 7pm, from February 5 onwards. Sunday sessions will run through up to and including March 1.

The first Northern League match of the season is scheduled for March 8 (fixtures are due to be issued shortly). Existing, former and new riders are all invited to attend the sessions, which take place at the cycle speedway track at the Astley & Tydesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley. The club has bikes and helmets for hire.

For further information, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk or contact Mike Hack at m.hack@blueyonder.co.uk

A & T riders Przemek Binkowski and Dariusz Pilas have both been selected to race for a strong Poland squad that is competing in the World Championships in Australia next month.

Remi Burchardt (pictured leading) has been appointed A & T captain for the 2009 season.

The Leigh-based 2004 European Junior Champion is ready to embark on his fourth season for A & T and is keen to see the club make progress this season in the Northern League.



LEADING THE WAY: A & T Cycle Speedway ace Remi Burchardt (above right) in action

John - he's 50 years a hero

UNsung heroes of sport were honoured at a special ceremony last week.

Coaches, teams and sports clubs gathered on Friday night for the ninth annual Borough Sports Awards.

And Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo Club was named Club of the Year.

Special guest speaker was 400m runner and silver medalist at the 4x400m relay in the Atlanta Olympic Games Mark Richardson.

He said: "These winners tonight are an inspiration. When I first started out I went to a local club and said 'I want to win an Olympic medal' and the coach there just looked at me and said 'that's a worthy ambition let's see what we can do'.

"Winning silver in Atlanta was a wonderful feeling and it all started for me at local level.

"It's the feeder system to national and international success. Everyone's success starts here at grass roots."

The annual ceremony at the JJB Stadium, organised by Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust's (WLCT) Sports Development Unit, recognises the hard work and dedication put in by competitors, coaches and sports clubs from all over the Wigan Borough during the past year. A staggering 108 nominations were received with 320 people attending the ceremony.

WLCT Executive Director for Sport and Healthy Living, Martin Eden said: "The stories we have heard tonight

have been truly inspirational. "This is one of the most thriving and exciting sporting hot spots in the country and that's due to the tremendous dedication, commitment and spirit from all those who week in week out take part in sport throughout Wigan Borough.

"I would like to thank the Sports Development Unit for organising another fantastic night."

The ninth Annual Wigan Borough Sports Awards was sponsored by JJB Sports, as well as individual award sponsors Wigan Borough Sports Council, Wigan Athletic Football Club, Wigan Disability Sports Forum, Optimum Sport, Wish FM, Ferryman Blue Graphic Design, Greater Manchester and Wigan Police and the School Sports Partnership. Each of the winners received a personalized t-shirt from ADM Direct as a memento of the night.

The 2008 Wigan Borough Sports Awards Winners were:

Club of the Year Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo Club (has accreditation in both swimming and water polo and is only the third club in the country to have gained the swim 21 and water polo 21 accreditation).

Runner-up: Leigh Rugby Union Football Club

Finalist: Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club

Coach of the Year Winner: Roy Wood - Aspull Wrestling Club

Runner-up: Gillian



WINNER: John Charlson (Atherton Cricket Club) Winner of the Wif Brogan Unsung Hero In Sport Award.

Runner-up: Laura Riches - Leigh Harriers and Athletics Club

Finalist: Declan Gregory - Aspull Wrestling Club

Unsung Hero Winner: John Charlson - Atherton Cricket Club. John began work as Atherton Cricket Club's secretary in 1958, this being his 50th year in post. He has spent 20 years as the U11s coach. John ensures the day-to-day running of the club, overseeing its development from an impoverished organisation in to a highly respected outfit

Sports Achiever Winner: Jenny Meadows - Wigan Harriers and Athletics Club

Finalist: Steve Hilton - Leigh Genesis Junior Football Club

Disabled Sports Achiever Winner: Hazel Johnson - Bryn Badminton Club

Runner-up: Anthony Burgoyne - Allstars Athletics Club

Finalist: Adam Rigby - Wigan and District Wheelchair Tag Rugby Team

Sports Achiever Winner: Jenny Meadows - Wigan Harriers and Athletics Club



SILVER STREAK: Olympic Games runner-up Mark Richardson was guest speaker

with good modern facilities.

Runner-up: Arnold Woodcock - Westleigh Cricket Club

Finalist: Kenneth Buxton - Leigh and District Angling Association

Volunteer of the Year Winner: Nicky Slack - Aspull Wrestling Club

Runner-up: Shaun Rotherham - Warriors Junior Football Club

Finalist: Phil McNamee - Multi-Sports Club

Team of the Year Winner: Standish Community High School Year

Finalist: Standish Community High School Year

Runner-up: Arnold Woodcock - Westleigh Cricket Club

Finalist: Kenneth Buxton - Leigh and District Angling Association

Volunteer of the Year Winner: Nicky Slack - Aspull Wrestling Club

Runner-up: Shaun Rotherham - Warriors Junior Football Club

Finalist: Phil McNamee - Multi-Sports Club



IN THE SWIM: Mavis Bent received the award on behalf of Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo Club.

7 Rugby League Team Winner: Tyldesley Thunder Netball Team

The Martin Lynn Special Contribution to Sport Award Winner: Jim Keating - St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

Runner-up: Paul Kelly - Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Finalist: Jade Cartwright - Abraham Guest High School

Wigan Society

Wigan Borough Sports Awards at the JJB Stadium



Sylvia Artymiuk, Mike Hack, Bill Phillips, Laura Watson, Ben Dickenson, Adam Phillips, Louise Watson, Brian Dickenson, Helen Sanderson and Lee and June Phillips.

Sporting champions celebrated at ceremony

LEIGH is home to sporting champions again.

The town was well represented among the winners of the ninth annual Borough Sports Awards, staged at Wigan's JJB Stadium on Friday.

Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo Club won the Club of the Year prize, while Atherton Cricket Club's John Charlson collected the Unsung Hero honour.

Laura Riches, of Leigh Harriers Athletics Club, was runner up to Wigan Harriers' Jenny Meadows in the Sports Achiever reckoning.

Leigh Rugby Union Club were runners up in the club category, with Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club also a finalist.

Westleigh Cricket Club's Arnold Woodcock was runner up in the Unsung Hero section, with Leigh and District Angling Association's Kenneth Buxton a finalist.

Tyldesley Thunder Netball Team were finalists in the Team of the Year category, while Leigh Genesis Junior Football Club's Steve Hilton was a finalist in the Coach of the Year award.

* More details, including achievements of the winners, are in our online story at leighjournal.co.uk.

Szychalski and Jamroszczyk sign up

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club are busy planning for the forthcoming season, which starts with a tough away match against Northern League champions Hull on March 22.

Gone from last season's squad are Polish international Darek Kurkowski, who is taking a year out of the sport, and Joe Allen, who has left the club.

A&T have moved smartly to replace the missing riders by signing Polish duo Pawel Szychalski from Czestochowa and Piotr Jamroszczyk from Zielona Gora.

Szychalski arrives in the UK this

week, while Jamroszczyk will be available from May onwards.

Both riders narrowly missed qualifying for last year's European Individual Final.

Local youngsters Ben Dickenson and Luke Jamson have been impressive in pre-season training and will be given their opportunities in the A&T first team this season.

Pre-season training continues at Gin Pit, Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, every Sunday, 2pm for juniors and 3pm for seniors, as well as Tuesdays at 7pm for juniors and Thursdays at 7pm for seniors.

Polish international Rafal Dulinski signs up for A&T

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club have signed 23-year-old top Polish international, Rafal Dulinski, to race in Northern League matches.

Rafal races for the European Club Champions, Torun, in the Polish League and finished fourth in last year's European Individual Final.

He also raced in the recent World Individual Final and was a member of the Poland team that finished second in the World Cup in Australia.

He will make his A&T debut in the Northern League opener at Hull on Sunday.

Another welcome signing is Sheffield youngster, Leon Wilde, who joins A&T

on a secondary registration for Northern League matches.

Leon was the second highest placed British rider in the recent World Junior Individual Final in Australia, finishing in ninth place.

Club training sessions will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays only, with matches at weekends.

Dulinski rewired up for A&T bow

Speedway:

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club have signed 23-year-old top Polish international Rafal Dulinski to race in Northern League matches.

Dulinski races for European Club Champions Torun in the Polish League, and finished fourth in last year's European Individual Final.

He also raced in the recent World Individual Final and was a member of the Poland team that finished second in the World Cup in Australia.

Dulinski will make his A & T debut in the Northern League opener at Hull on Sunday, March 22.

Another welcome signing is Sheffield youngster Leon Wilde, who joins A & T on a secondary registration for Northern League matches.

Wilde was the second highest-placed British rider in the recent World Junior Individual Final in Australia, finishing in ninth place.

A & T have now completed their pre-season Sunday training sessions. Club training sessions will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays only, with matches at weekends.

A & T have welcomed many new riders to their pre-season training sessions and look forward to them making the step up to racing for the club in official competitive matches.

The Club now has an impressive squad of riders, across all levels and is looking forward to making its mark in 2009.

A&T win at Hull

ASTLEY and Tyldesley opened their cycle speedway season with a win at reigning Northern League champions Hull on Sunday.

Both teams observed a minute's silence before the match in memory of long serving A&T helper, Ron Hack, who had died earlier in the week.

The match got underway and some terrific racing took place.

A&T took control, aided by some misfortune to Hull with several riders falling, to open up a 17 points lead at the interval.

The track was swept and heavily watered during the interval and this changed things dramatically.

It was now A&T's turn to encounter falls and exclusions and just three races later, Hull had closed the gap to five points.

However, the track dried out in a strong wind and A&T recovered to run out winners 94-82.

Rafal Dulinski made a most impressive debut, winning three races and suffering an unfortunate exclusion for slowing in heat 11.

All the other A&T riders weighed in with important contributions and recorded an impressive win against a Hull side that fought hard throughout the match.

A&T's youngsters put in a good display against a more experienced Hull team in the Combination match.

Ben Dickenson, Luke Jamson and Andy Knowles all won races, with Laura Watson, Adam Watson and debutant Colin Farn all beating older opponents.

A&T trailed by four points with four races left before Hull put in a late charge to run out 67-53 winners.

First match

ASTLEY and Tyldesley host their first home match of the cycle speedway season at Gin Pit on Saturday.

All of northern England's top youngsters will be on show at the first regional round of the British Youth and Junior League, with the first race scheduled to rev-up at 1pm.

A and T have been building up their squad of youngsters, who have impressed in pre-season training sessions.

The track is located at the Astley and Tyldesley Miners Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Astley.

Speedway:

ASTLEY & Tyldesley opened their season with a visit to reigning Northern League champions Hull.

Both teams lined up and observed a minute's silence before the match, in memory of long-serving A&T helper Ron Hack, who had died earlier in the week.

A&T quickly took control, aided by several Hull riders falling, to open up a 17-point lead at the interval.

The track was swept and heavily watered during the interval, and this changed things dramatically.

It was now A&T's turn to encounter falls and exclusions and Hull closed the gap to five points.

However, the track dried out in a strong wind and A&T recovered to run out 94-82 winners.

Rafal Dulinski made a most impressive debut, winning three races and suffering an unfortunate exclusion for slowing in heat 11, while all the other A&T riders weighed in.

A&T's youngsters put in a good display against a more experienced Hull team in the Combination match - Ben Dickenson, Luke Jamson and Andy Knowles all won races and Laura Watson, Adam Watson and Colin Farn all beat older opponents - before they went down 67-53.

A & T host big opener

General round-up

Speedway

ASTLEY and Tyldesley host the first home match of the cycle speedway season at Gin Pit this forthcoming Saturday.

All the North's top youngsters will be on show at the 1st Northern Regional Round of the British Youth and Junior League.

A and T have been building up their squad of youngsters, who have impressed in pre-season training sessions. First race is at 1pm at the track, which is located at the Astley and Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley.

A&T relying on top men

ASTLEY and Tyldesley cycle speedway team lost 103-75 against Edinburgh in a Northern League match.

Darek Kurkowski and Remi Burchardt were in great form for A&T, with Kurkowski losing only once and Burchardt unbeaten until a last race exclusion.

Youngster Luke Jamson won two races for A&T.

However, home team Edinburgh fielded a solid scoring line-up and that was too strong for an A&T side that relied too heavily on its top scoring riders.

A&T hosted the opening North Regional Round of the British Youth and Junior League Series at Gin Pit.

A&T's youngsters put in a great showing to finish second on the day, pushing last year's Northern group winners, Sheffield, hard all the way.

The hosts provided the winner in four of the seven individual grand prix finals, with Adam Turnbull winning the under eights category, Adam Watson the under 10s, Adam Phillips the under 12s and Laura Watson the girls' category.

Final team score was: Sheffield 157, Astley and Tyldesley 144, Stockport 94, Hull 63, Bury 6.

This Sunday sees A & T taking on Bury in a Northern League match at Gin Pit, starting at 2 pm.

This will be followed by a second-team match at 3.45pm and the opening round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix Series at 5pm.

Shock Kurkowski departure rocks sorry A & T

Cycle speedway:

ASTLEY & Tyldesley took on local rivals Bury in a Northern League match at Gin Pit on Sunday.

A & T were rocked by the absence of top rider Darek Kurkowski, who has returned to Poland after losing his job.

Bury took the lead in heat 3 when Ben Dickenson suffered the first of his two race exclusions, and they moved 10 points ahead after an exclusion to Remi Burchardt in heat 7.

Bury eventually ran out winners, 99-78, the best for A & T being Dariusz Pilas, who lost just once, while Burchardt had four wins out of his five races.

A dramatic second team match saw A & T throw away a comfortable eight-point lead at the halfway stage.

In the re-run Bury looked set to win the match, but a great ride by A & T's Luke Jamson saw him pull off a last-bend pass to take the race win and ensure that the match was drawn 59-59.

Jamson was the best for A & T with 14 points, Dickenson and Joel Partington each scoring 12.

Joel Partington was the winner of the opening round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix series, winning all four races to score 16 points, while second place went to Adam Watson, on 14 points.

On Sunday, A & T stage the opening round of the Northern Grand Prix and Fours League series at Gin Pit. First race is at 12 noon.

Kurkowski returns to Poland as A&T fall to Bury

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club took on Bury in a Northern League match at Gin Pit on Sunday. A&T were rocked by the absence of top rider Darek Kurkowski, who has returned to Poland after recently losing his job.

Bury took the lead in heat three when Ben Dickenson suffered the first of his two race exclusions.

The visitors moved 10 points ahead after an exclusion to A&T skipper

Remi Burchardt in heat seven and were always in control after that.

Despite A&T's best efforts, Bury eventually ran out winners 99-78.

Best for A&T was Dariusz Pilas, who lost just once while Burchardt had four wins out of his five races.

A dramatic second-team match saw A&T throw away a comfortable eight-point lead at the halfway stage.

The turning points were

when Bury pulled back points after a fall by reserve Stefan Whitelegg in heat eight and then another exclusion to Dickenson in the last race.

In the re-run, Bury looked set to win the match but a great ride by A&T's Luke Jamson saw him pull off a last-bend pass to take the race win and ensure that the match was drawn 59-59.

Jamson was best for A&T with 14 points, while Dickenson and Joel Partington

each scored 12.

Joel Partington was the winner of the opening round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix Series, winning all four races to score 16 points.

Second place went to Adam Watson, on 14 points, while four riders tied for third place after scoring 10 points each.

On Sunday, A&T stage the opening round of the Northern Grand Prix and Fours League Series at Gin Pit. First race is at noon.

British Club Championships

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club took on local rivals Stockport in a Northern League match at Gin Pit on Sunday.

A&T got off to a good start and were in control of the first half, leading by five points at the interval.

However, A&T suffered a disastrous second half and despite leading by seven points with just four races to go, ended up losing the match 75-72.

Dariusz Pilas raced unbeaten, while skipper Remi Burchardt lost just once for A&T, but two race exclusions to Ben Dickenson in the closing stages were too much to overcome.

A&T were well beaten in the Combination match, 41-78, as Stockport fielded virtually the same team against A&T's youngsters. Luke Jamson was best with 11 points for A&T.

Adam Watson won the second round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix series at Gin Pit on Sunday, dropping just one point.

A&T raced at Hull on Saturday in the Under 19s British Club Championships and were eliminated at the semi-final stage as Birmingham went on to win the title. Ben Dickenson was top scorer for A&T with nine points.

This Saturday sees A&T hosting the Women's British Club Championships at Gin Pit.

Six teams will be contesting the event, including A&T who are fielding a women's team for the first time.

First race is at 2pm at the Astley and Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley.

Fourth in British Club Championship

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club hosted the fourth annual Women's British Club Championship at Gin Pit on Saturday.

Defending champions Leicester held off a strong challenge from Ipswich to retain the title, with Wednesfield taking third place.

Astley & Tyldesley, Hethersett and Sheffield had their own strong tussle throughout the match to determine the lower positions and it was A&T who made a late run to take fourth place overall, with Michelle Hughes leading the way.

That was a good achievement, considering that only Laura Watson competes regularly at cycle speedway. Newcomers Beren Airstone and Helen Brown both rode well for A&T.

Result: Leicester 69, Ipswich 65, Wednesfield 55, Astley and Tyldesley 39, Hethersett 36, Sheffield 29.

A&T were in action in the second round of the Manchester League Grand Prix series at Bury.

Some good racing saw A&T finish second



Astley and Tyldesley women's cycle speedway team with their fourth-place medals

out of four teams in both the senior and junior matches.

This Sunday will see a busy day of cycle speedway action at Gin Pit, where A&T will host the Northern Cup meeting featuring all eight northern clubs. Racing starts at noon.

Michelle leads the way at the British champs

Cycle speedway:

ASTLEY & Tyldesley hosted the fourth annual Women's British Club Championship at Gin Pit on Saturday.

Defending champions Leicester held off a strong challenge from Ipswich to retain the title, with Wednesfield taking third place.

Astley & Tyldesley, Hethersett and Sheffield had their own strong tussle throughout the match to determine the lower positions and it was A & T who made a late run to take fourth place overall, with Michelle Hughes leading the way.

This was a good achievement, considering that only Laura Watson competes regularly at cycle speedway. Newcomers Beren Airstone and Helen Brown both rode well for the team.

Women's British Club Championship result: Leicester 69 Ipswich 65 Wednesfield 55 Astley & Tyldesley 39 Hethersett 36 Sheffield 29.

A & T were in action at Bury on Wednesday evening in the 2nd round of the Manchester League Grand Prix series. Some good racing saw A & T finish 2nd out of four teams in both the senior and junior matches.

This Sunday will see a busy day of cycle speedway action at Gin Pit, when A & T host the Northern Cup meeting, featuring all eight Northern clubs. Racing starts at 12 noon. For further details, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk



HAUL: A&T riders with their medals



Cycle speedway latest

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Spirited A&T fight in Northern Cup

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club hosted the Northern Cup meeting at a wet and windy Gin Pit.

Drawn in the second senior semi-final, A&T put up a spirited fight and were in contention most of the match for a place in the final before tailing away in the closing heats.

Skipper Remi Burchardt was in great form, beaten only once.

Match score: Hull 52, Bury 41, A&T 34, Stockport 31.

Stoke were winners of the

senior final, ahead of Hull, Heckmondwike and Bury.

A&T were well beaten in the Junior Cup, as Sheffield retained their trophy.

Ben Dickenson was best for A&T with nine points.

Match score: Sheffield 48, Hull 44, Stockport 40, A&T 26.

A&T's youngsters had a great day's racing at Bury in the third northern round of the British Youth and Junior League Series on Saturday.

Their win overall puts them in a strong position and a repeat win in the next

round at Stockport will see them into the national series as winners of the northern region.

Match score: A&T 126, Sheffield 104, Stockport 97, Bury 66, Hull 39.

A&T riders dominated the Individual Grand Prix Finals, winning five of the seven categories.

Wins were recorded by Adam Turnbull (under eights), Adam Watson (under 10s), Adam Phillips (under 12s), Ben Dickenson (under 18s) and Laura Watson (girls).

A&T seal second win of Division Two series

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club hosted the third round of the Manchester League Grand Prix Series on a very wet night at Gin Pit.

The track held up well after several days of heavy rain and plenty of good racing was dished up under the Gin Pit floodlights.

Stockport took their first win of the series in the Division One (senior) match, with A&T pipping Sheffield, winners of the first two rounds, by a single point.

Result: Stockport 38, Astley and Tyldesley 21, Sheffield 20, Bury 0.

Current Division One positions after three rounds: Sheffield 9, Astley and Tyldesley

8, Stockport 6, Bury 3.

There was a good turn-out of riders for the Division Two (junior categories) match, necessitating in 32 races being held over three matches.

A&T took their second win of the series, beating Stockport and Sheffield, with Bury not present.

Adam Watson raced unbeaten in the under 10s category, while Ben Dickenson raced unbeaten in the under 19s category.

Result: Astley and Tyldesley 75, Stockport 67, Sheffield 58, Bury 0.

Current Division Two positions after three rounds: Astley and Tyldesley 10, Stockport 9, Bury 4, Sheffield 3.

Grand Prix

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club's junior squad have missed out on qualification for the British Youth and Junior League Series.

They visited a very wet Stockport track for the fourth and final northern round at the weekend, needing a win to go through.

But rivals Sheffield sealed the win on the day and the qualification, with A&T claiming third place behind Stockport and finishing second overall.

Result: Sheffield 175, Stockport 115, Astley and Tyldesley 100, Bury 49, Hull 42.

A&T had three riders who made it a clean sweep of individual Grand Prix final wins in the northern series, with Adam Turnbull winning the under eights final, Adam Watson the under 10s final and Adam Phillips the under 12s final.

Those three riders have qualified for the national Grand Prix rounds and they are likely to be joined by some more A&T riders once the overall scores nationally have been finalised.

On Sunday, A&T take on league leaders Stoke in a Northern League match at Gin Pit. First race is at 2pm.

SPEEDWAY

ASTLEY & Tyldesley's junior squad took to a very wet Stockport track for the fourth and final northern regional round of the British Youth and Junior League series on Saturday.

A win for A&T would have seen them qualify for the national series, but it was rivals Sheffield who took the win on the day, to qualify for the national series. A&T took third place on the day, behind Stockport, to finish second overall in the northern series.

FINAL MATCH SCORE: Sheffield 175
Stockport 115 Astley & Tyldesley 100 Bury 49
Hull 42.

A & T had three riders who made it a clean sweep of individual grand prix final wins in the northern series, with Adam Turnbull winning the Under-8 final, Adam Watson the Under-10 final and Adam Phillips the Under-12 final. Those three riders have definitely qualified for the national grand prix rounds and they are likely to be joined by some more A&T riders, once the overall scores nationally have been finalised (the South West Round yesterday was postponed due to heavy rain and will have to be re-arranged).

On Sunday A & T take on league leaders Stoke in a Northern League match at Gin Pit. First race is at 2 pm.

SPEEDWAY RESULTS

Manchester League Division 1: Stockport 52
Astley & Tyldesley 42 Bury 13 Sheffield 0

Manchester League Division 2:
Stockport 71 A&T 64 Sheffield 51 Bury 41
Northern League: A&T 59 Stoke 121

Northern League Combination Division:
Astley & Tyldesley B 66 Stoke B 54

● Under-8 riders Max Evans and Tyler Koch took joint victory in the Third Round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix series. Another U-8, Adam Turnbull, took third.

SPEEDWAY

ASTLEY & Tyldesley had five riders in the Northern Grand Prix Round at Stockport.

Adam Watson scored a 16pts maximum in the U10 category, Adam Turnbull scoring 11. Laura Watson scored 7 in the U16s category, with Ben Dickenson and Luke Jamson each scoring 11 in the U19 category.

And Ben Dickenson scored 11 and Luke Jamson 8 in the Ken Graham Memorial Trophy at Bury on Saturday.

Watson scores maximum

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club had five riders racing in the Northern Grand Prix round at Stockport on Sunday.

Adam Watson scored a maximum 16 points in the U10s category, with Adam Turnbull clinching 11 points.

Laura Watson gained seven in the U16s category, with Ben Dickenson and Luke Jamson each chipping in with 11 in the U19s age class.

Meanwhile Dickenson had scored 11 points and Luke Jamson contributed eight in the Ken Graham Memorial Trophy at Bury the previous day, Saturday.

A&T's new secondary registration signing, Piotr Jamroszczyk, also made an impressive British racing debut.

He scored 19 points and finished runner-up overall after losing a run-off with Wednesfield's Terry Norman.

A&T have been awarded the staging of the U16s and Open British Individual Finals in August 2010.

It is the most prestigious meeting on the domestic calendar, and preparations have already begun to stage the Bank Holiday bonanza.

A&T take on Hull this Sunday in a Northern League match at Gin Pit.

First race is at 2pm.

Highest loss yet at home

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club suffered a 126-150 whitewash defeat at the hands of Hull in their Northern League match at Gin Pit on Sunday.

A&T had numerous riders who did not make themselves available for a variety of reasons as they went down to their biggest home defeat yet.

Luke Jamson put up a brave fight for the home side but Hull took revenge for their opening day home defeat at the hands of A&T by scoring maximum points in every race.

A&T's youngsters produced a spirited show in the combination match before losing to an older and more experienced Hull side 7-1-49.

Jamson played a real captain's role with two race wins and twice shepherding his debutant partner, Matthew J Turnbull, for a shared heat.

Adam Watson raced unbeaten to extend his lead in the fourth round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix Series.

Max Evans and Colin Farn each scored 14 to take joint second place.

A&T started round five of the Manchester League Grand Prix Series at Bury as clear leaders of senior Division One but took a blow when Mike Hack pulled out injured after one ride.

Sheffield won and are now one point clear with one round to go. Stockport pipped A&T by three points on the night for second place.

A&T went into the latest round of Manchester League junior Division Two as joint leaders with Stockport, who scored one point more than A&T on the night to move clear with one round remaining. Watson once again raced unbeaten in the under 10s category.

School ready for Olympic day

LOWTON High School will be staging its own Olympic Games today, Thursday.

The event is planned as part of a transition programme that has involved students from Year Nine at the high school and Year Five pupils from its feeder primaries.

Children from Gilded Hollins, Lowton Junior and Infant School, Lowton West, Lowton St Lukes, Lowton St Marys, Christ Church Pennington, St Peters (Leigh), Leigh Central and Leigh C of E will be taking part.

Staff and students from Lowton

High have organised the event which will involve an opening and closing ceremony together with a range of sporting and academic challenges.

SPEEDWAY

ASTLEY & Tyldesley suffered a whitewash at the hands of Hull in their Northern League match at Gin Pit on a hot Sunday afternoon.

A&T had a whole host of riders who didn't make themselves available for a variety of reasons, as they went down to their biggest ever home defeat. Luke Jamson put up a brave fight for the home side, but Hull took revenge for their opening day home defeat at the hands of A&T, by scoring maximum points in every race.

A&T's youngsters put up a spirited show in the Combination match, before losing to an older and more experienced Hull side, 71-49. Luke Jamson played a real captain's role with two race wins and twice shepherding his debutant partner, Matthew J. Turnbull, for a shared heat.

Adam Watson raced unbeaten to extend his lead in the 4th round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix series. Max Evans and Colin Farn each scored 14 to take joint second place.

A&T were well represented at Round 5 of the Manchester League Grand Prix series at Bury on Wednesday evening.

● A&T started the night as clear leaders of the Division 1 (senior) league, but took a blow when Mike Hack pulled out injured after one ride. Sheffield took the victory on the night, with Stockport pipping A & T by three points for second place. Sheffield's win puts them a point clear, with one round to go.
Manchester League Division 1 match result:
Sheffield 50 Stockport 40 Astley & Tyldesley 37 Bury 16

● A&T started the night as joint leaders with Stockport of the Division 2 (junior) league. Stockport scored a point more than A&T on the night, to move one point clear with one round remaining. Adam Watson once again raced unbeaten in the U-10s category.
Manchester League Division 2 match result:
Stockport 69 Astley & Tyldesley 68 Sheffield 49 Bury 41

Turnbull leads the way

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club were well represented with nine riders in the first national round of the British Youth and Junior League at Norwich on Saturday.

A&Ts riders gave good accounts of themselves in an extraordinary day's racing, featuring a record field of 169 riders.

In the under eights event, Adam Turnbull scored

12pts and won the C final, with Max Evans scoring 10pts and finishing third in the 'D' final, while Tyler Koch scored 8pts.

Adam Watson scored 11pts in the under 10s event and won the D final.

A&Ts best performer was Adam Phillips, who scored 15pts in the under 12s event and finished second in the A final.

Laura Watson scored 8pts

in the girls' event, taking a heavy fall and injuring her wrist in the process, but has qualified for the B final.

Finally, in the under 18s event, Ben Dickenson and Luke Jamson each scored 10pts, whilst Matthew Turnbull scored 6pts. Ben has qualified for the B final and Luke has qualified for the C final.

Unfortunately, the day's

racing, which started at noon, was abandoned at 10pm as darkness fell.

Around 200 races had been staged but the last seven races - the under 18s and girls' finals - were not staged.

Those events will now be raced at the second round at Sandwell.

The venues for the last three rounds all have floodlights, unlike Norwich.

Unbeaten quartet steer Astley and Tyldesley to title victory

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club have won the Manchester League Grand Prix Division Two title.

Stockport hosted the sixth and final round and a dramatic night's racing saw both leading teams overhauled, with Stockport winning the Division One honours.

Division One match result:

Stockport 51, Sheffield 40, Astley and Tyldesley 23, Bury 0.

Final Division One positions: Stockport 15 match points (218 race pts); Sheffield 15 (186); Astley and Tyldesley 13 (174); Bury 5 (62).

Astley and Tyldesley's youngsters pulled off a surprise but deserved win to beat Stockport and draw level on match points.

A&T's five-point win was

enough to overturn a two-race points deficit to Stockport at the start of the night to take overall victory in the Division Two (junior) series by three race points.

Four A&T riders - Adam Watson, Adam Phillips, Luke Jamson, Ben Dickenson - raced unbeaten on the night.

Adam Watson sealed victory overall in the under 10s

Individual Grand Prix series, with Ben Dickenson winning the under 19s Individual Grand Prix series.

Division Two match result: Astley & Tyldesley 76, Stockport 71, Bury 28, Sheffield 15.

Final Division Two positions: Astley and Tyldesley 20 (429), Stockport 20 (426), Sheffield 8 (241), Bury 8 (198).

Speedway youngsters victory

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club travelled to Stoke to take on the unbeaten Northern League leaders on Sunday.

The meeting was ridden in appalling conditions throughout, as heavy rain fell for

most of the afternoon. Stoke ran out 120-59 winners in the Division One match.

Piotr Jamroszczyk made his debut for A&T and he was in the thick of the action throughout, with some fast starting, and was A&T's only race win-

ner in heat 14.

A&T's youngsters and newcomers teamed up to take a 63-57 win over Stoke in the Combination (second team) match.

Ben Dickenson, Will Evans and Luke Jamson lost only once each.

Watson takes top honours

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club's Adam Watson raced unbeaten to win the under 10s category in the Northern Individual Championships at Stockport.

He scored a maximum 16pts. Adam Turnbull finished third with 11pts.

Adam Phillips was runner-up

with 15pts in the under 13s category, while Ben Dickenson was third in the under 19s race.

Laura Watson achieved 11pts in the under 16s category.

The next match at Gin Pit is on Wednesday at 7.15 pm when A&T stage the Manchester League Under 10s and Under 16s Individual Championships.

Riders back on track

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club returned to winning ways with a convincing 99-81 win over Edinburgh in Sunday's Northern League match at Gin Pit.

Piotr Jamroszczyk was the star of the show for A and T, winning all his five races on his first appearance at Gin Pit.

Dariusz Pilas also raced unbeaten, with Remi Burchardt losing just once.

Local youngsters Ben Dickenson and Luke Jamson were in good form, providing strong support to the top trio.

Newcomer Regan Bond won the fifth round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix series, beating Max Evans in a run-off, after both lads had finished with 16 points.

Another newcomer, Kian Crane, scored 12 to finish in third place.

Ben Dickenson put in a fine performance to qualify for the under 19s British Individual Final at Wednesfield, Wolverhampton.

He saw off some strong opposition to get there and scored eight points in the final.

At the fifth round of the Northern Grand Prix series at Heckmondwike, Adam Watson scored a 16 points maximum in the under 10s category, with Colin Farn finishing with 11.

Laura Watson totalled 10 points in the under 16s category, while Ben Dickenson and Luke Jamson each scored 15 in the under 19s event, dropping their only point to each other.

Ben takes fine third

ASTLEY and Tyldesley's up and coming youngster Ben Dickenson put in a determined shift to take third place in the Manchester league under 19s individual final at Bury on Wednesday evening.

Team mate Luke Jamson suffered an exclusion first time out and that ended his hopes of a trophy.

In the under 13s championship, A&T's under 10s Champion, Adam Watson, put in a great performance to finish in fourth place on the night.

Adam reaches the final

A & T had riders competing in this weekend's British Individual Championships in the Midlands.

Racing in the under 10 Individual Championships at Bretford, near Rugby, 8-year-old Adam Turnbull put in a great display to narrowly miss out on qualifying for the final. Adam Watson however, did qualify for the final, where he scored a creditable 13 points to finish in eighth place, as Exeter's James Robinson won the title. Racing in the Ladies Individual Championships, Laura Watson qualified for the final, where she scored six 6 points. Leicester's Lucy Whitehead regained the Ladies title, whilst her teammate Amy Crouch retained the under 16 girls title.

Ben Dickenson was in action at Birmingham in the Senior Individual Championships and he put in a great showing to come through a tough qualifying round to reach the semi-final.

Ben then scored six points in the semi-final and was eliminated.

Stockport hosted the third and last of the Manchester League's Individual Finals on Wednesday evening, in its 60th anniversary season. Stockport's Terry Norman took the trophy with a 16 points maximum score, whilst A & T's Ben Dickenson put in a good performance to score 12 points and finish in fourth place.

Biggest win of year for A&T

ASTLEY and Tyldesley travelled over the Pennines to take on Heckmondwike in a Northern League encounter at Firth Park on Sunday.

The home side were below strength and were never in with a chance of repeating last season's win over A & T.

Piotr Jamroszczyk, Remi Burchardt and Dariusz Pilas all raced unbeaten for A and T, with good support from the rest of the team, as A&T romped to their biggest win of the season, 97-40.

A&T were once again well represented in the third national round of the British Youth and Junior League series, with nine riders making the long journey to Poole.

The squad turned in some excellent performances, as they continue to improve at this level of racing.

Adam Phillips won the under 12s A final, while Adam Turnbull and Max Evans finished second and third, respectively in the under eights A final.

Laura Watson took third place in the Girls B final, while Ben Dickenson finished fourth in the under 18s B final, unluckily picking up a puncture while leading the race.

Adam Watson finished second in the under 10s C final, with Luke Jamson finishing fourth in the under 18s C final.

Matthew Turnbull took second place in the under 18s D final, while Tyler Koch was placed third in the under eights D final.

A and T take on Heckmondwike in the return Northern League match next Sunday, starting at 2 pm.

After this, A & T will be racing against Stockport in a combination challenge match.

The sixth and final round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix series will complete the day's racing.

Spectators are welcome to watch the racing at the track located next to the Astley and Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Gin Pit, Astley.

A&T duo unbeaten

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club rode to a big 95-45 win against Heckmondwike in a Northern League encounter at Gin Pit on Sunday.

For the second Sunday running, Heckmondwike could field only four riders and the outcome was never in doubt.

For A&T, both Dariusz Pilas and Remi Burchardt were unbeaten by an opponent, with Ben Dickenson defeated just twice.

Afterwards, A&T took on Stockport in a Combination Challenge match.

Both sides blooded their youngsters to give them much needed match practice. Stockport ran out 66-54 winners, leading from the first race and throughout the match. Best for A&T were Joel Partington, beaten once, and Matthew J Turnbull.

A&T also hosted the sixth and final round of the North West Go-Race Grand Prix Series.

Riders went off a varying range of handicaps, as set by the referee, throughout the match.

On the day, Luke Jamson took the honours, losing only once. Joel Partington finished second with 17 points, while Jake Read and Joe Pickford tied for third place with 16 points apiece.

However, the overall series was decided lower down the day's scoring.

Max Evans scored 14 points on the day and, with closest challenger Adam Watson also scoring 14 points, emerged as overall winner of the series with 69 points, with Adam taking second place with 67.

Luke Jamson finished in third place overall in the series on 57 points.

Individual champions

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club's individual champions have been crowned.

Ben Dickenson, Laura Watson, Joel Partington, Adam Watson and Adam Turnbull all sealed glory at the Championships staged at Gin Pit.

In the first match, Adam Watson raced unbeaten to take the under 10s title, with Stefan Whitelegg runner-up and Jamie Sinclair third.

Turnbull lost only to Watson and Whitelegg to take the under eights title one point ahead of Max Evans, with Kian Crane third and Tyler Koch fourth.

The second match featured under 19s, under 16s, under 13s and open categories.

Dickenson raced unbeaten to take both the under 19s and open categories.

Luke Jamson lost only once to finish runner-up in both categories, with Matthew Turnbull taking third place in the under 19s section.

Laura Watson was triumphant in the under 16s category.

Joel Partington lost only to Dickenson and Jamson to take the under 13s crown and third place in the open category.

Adam Watson finished runner-up in the under 19s category, with Max Evans third.

Astley and Tyldesley were represented by 10 riders in the fourth and final national round of the British Youth and Junior League Grand Prix series at Sheffield.

Adam Phillips completed a terrific achievement a year after winning the under 10s series.

He started the day as leader in the under 12s competition, six points ahead of his nearest rival, Matt Haddock, of Wednesfield.

Both riders qualified for the A final, with Phillips drawing the unfavourable outside grid.

Haddock got away for the race win but Phillips gated round from the outside to secure second place in the race and that was enough to give him overall victory in the eight-round series by a solitary point.

Phillips will be eligible to defend his under 12s title next year.

Adam Turnbull started the day in third place in the under eights Grand Prix.

His win in the B final was enough to secure third place overall.

Meanwhile, Bury hosted the sixth and final round of the Northern Junior Grand Prix series.

Adam Watson scored his sixth maximum score in the under 10s category to go through the series unbeaten and take the title, with teammates Colin Farn and Adam Turnbull taking second and third places overall to make it a clean sweep for Astley and Tyldesley.

Ben Dickenson raced unbeaten on the day in the under 19s category but that was not enough to overhaul Luke Jamson, whose total of 13 points on the day was sufficient to give him the overall series title, with Ben runner-up.

Stockport won the overall team element of the series, with Astley and Tyldesley finishing runners-up in an eight-team competition.

A&T came back strongly to gain victory

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club made the short trip to Stockport for the final Northern League match of the season.

A&T trailed by three points at the interval but came out strongly in the second half to win 77-72.

Tomasz Wlodarczyk raced unbeaten for A&T, with Remi Burchardt beaten only in heat five and Dariusz Pilas beaten

only in heat 15.

Ben Dickenson had three race wins, along with two last places.

It was Andy Knowles' last match before retiring and he had the satisfaction of seeing A&T win to climb above Bury and draw level with Edinburgh on match points, for fourth place.

Two heat wins to the Dickenson/Partington pairing

in the first four heats of the combination match saw A&T take a seven-point lead in the Combination (second team) match.

Stockport hit back strongly to win the match 68-50.

Luke Jamson and Dickenson won two races each for A&T.

This result sees A&T finish in third place in the final table.

Watson wins youth award

END of season awards have been presented to members of Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club.

The J Fisher and Sons Young Rider of the Year Award went to Adam Watson, with the Rory Blackwell Trophy for the Best Newcomer going to Colin Farn, the North West Trophies Cup for the Best Novice being handed to Max Evans and the Most Improved Rider prize going to Adam Turnbull.

A Special Award has gone to Matthew Turnbull for his sterling efforts on and off the track.

Following the death of long-serving club volunteer Ron Hack in March, three members of the Hack family - widow Kath and sons Mike and John - bought a new cup to commemorate Ron's contribution to the club over 18 years.

The Ron Hack Memorial Cup will be presented annually to the Volunteer of the Year and the inaugural winner of the award was A&T track manager Brian Smith.

The annual charity BMX/cycle speedway event takes place at A&T's track at Gin Pit on Sunday.

Registrations will be at 11.30 am, with racing starting at noon. There is a £5 entry fee. Entries are open to all British Cycling registered riders, with riders to race on their own BMX or mountain bikes.