



IN THE SADDLE: These children were unconvinced about their noble steeds



ON YOUR MARKS: Some very young jockeys get taken to the start line for the big race



FRIENDLY FACE: The donkeys came from Weston-super-Mare

Children take up the reins for village's annual donkey derby

James Roberts

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HORSING AROUND: Quirky tradition sees kids race animals to raise money for village's senior citizens

CHILDREN got in the saddle and raced donkeys around a field as a much-loved bank holiday tradition returned on Monday.

Bampton held its annual Donkey Derby in Sandford's Field and dozens of residents turned up to watch one of the village's favourite events.

First held in the late 1960s, the donkey races see kids take centre stage, with their parents able to bet on the outcomes for a good cause.

The event is run by Bampton's Society for the Preservation of Ancient Junket-

ing (SPAJERS), which was formed in 1953 and also runs the village's famous shirt race in May.

Proceeds go towards a day out for Bampton's senior citizens, with the money sending two coach-loads of pensioners to Weston-super-Mare today.

The donkeys used on Monday were hired from the seaside town and senior citizens were invited to familiarise themselves with the animals they will see on Weston's famous beach.

Race co-ordinator Don Rouse, who has been in-

involved with the Donkey Derby for 51 years, said: "It was typical Bampton – everyone pitching in to have a lot of fun and raise money for our old folk."

"The one worrying moment was the first race, where the donkeys were a bit tense."

"But after that they calmed down and everyone enjoyed themselves – even the donkeys loved it. It's a great day for the community and our old folk will get their day out, which is the main thing."

SPAJERS was born from the village fundraising groups set up for the corona-

tion of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

The Donkey Derby is one of several events run by the organisation, with fair-ground rides, Aunt Sally and crockery smashing featuring alongside the races.

Mr Rouse said: "The day out was quite a big event and that has been going ever since. Obviously life has changed a lot but the race has stayed the same."

"Every donkey is sponsored by someone in the village and local businesses sponsor the race – it's a real community event."

● Giddy up, Daisy!



August 29th 2018

YOUNG riders saddled up for Bampton's annual Donkey Derby on Bank Holiday Monday **SEE PAGE 3**

Picture: Ric Mellis

DONKEY DERBY 2018

On behalf of the Spajers, I would like to welcome you to our Donkey Derby. Many people are intrigued by our name, which stands for the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Junketing ! It is an organisation devoted entirely to the Senior Citizens of Bampton and provides all of them with a monetary Christmas present and usually, an outing to the sea side in the Summer. As well as our annual events such as the Shirt Race, Quizzes, Bonfire Night, occasional day trips and the Donkey Derby, we also have Josie's Draw which is coming up soon so be sure to get there for a great night out. Our Motto is "Dynamic Yet Disciplined" so I hope you will be suitably impressed by all our members and helpers that are manning the stalls and trying to help us raise lots of money for what we feel is a good cause. We are in need of help at all our events, so if you feel you could help please speak to one of our committee members. We are also in need of some more committee members- we meet once every 2 months or so in the Town Hall for about one hour. It would be a great shame if this unique group was to fade away due to lack of support. I hope that you will enjoy your day with us and maybe win lots of prizes, if not a fortune on the Tote. Best wishes to you all.

Mat

Chairman

S.P.A.J.E.R.S Committee Members

David Hawkins (President)
Jeff Dando (Treasurer)
Josie Buckingham
Peter Davis
Ollie Weaver
Andrew Money

Mathew Green (Chairman)
Suzy Macpherson (Vice-Chair)
Lynne Pointer
Don Rouse
Jenny Walsgrove
Helen Cadd

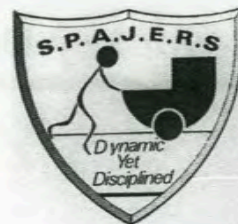
Thank you for helping us support our village!

The Midcounties Co-operative

The SPAJERS would like to thank all the staff at the Bampton branch of the Midcounties Co-op Food Stores for their continued support over the last few years.

The Midcounties Co-operative

Community Owned, Community Led, Community Rewarding
Working together to create a better fairer world



Welcome to

The S.P.A.J.E.R.S

2018

Donkey Derby & Fete



at Sandfords Field

August Bank Holiday Monday

2.00pm Start





2018 Donkey Derby - Race Card.



Race 1 - St Hugh's Carswell Dash

Sponsored by St Hugh's School

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|---|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Bampton Morrismen | Morris Dancer by Banbury Bill o/o Maid of the Mill |
| 2 | The Morris Clown | Clowning around by Golly o/o Beer at The Morris |
| 3 | The Talbot | White as a Sheet by Horace o/o The Talbot |
| 4 | The Romany Inn | Well-Fed-&-Watered by Glynis o/o The Romany |
| 5 | The Horseshoes | Beer and Big Screen o/o The Horseshoes |
| 6 | Tom Clarke | Down from London o/o Quoina and on the hunt |

Race 2 - A K Timms & Sons. Stakes (Wooden)

Sponsored by A K Timms, Builders Merchants

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|---|--------------------|---|
| 1 | Prestige Buildings | Straight and true by Prestige Buildings o/o I'm a level |
| 2 | Tommy Papworth | Retirement by No Papers o/o Emmie's. |
| 3 | Graham Taylor | My Salvation by Ejector Seat o/o Meteor |
| 4 | Rosebank | Rosie by Jane o/o Rosebank. |
| 5 | Liz Tanner | Daisy Sixpence o/o Tanner |
| 6 | Mr. A E Walker | Woodburning Stove by Walkers o/o Burford |

Race 3 - Calais Oak Classic

Sponsored by Animals at Home

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|---|--------------------|---|
| 1 | Prestige Buildings | Incompetent Parish Council o/o Little Person Syndrome |
| 2 | Don Rouse | Abandoned by Spajers o/o Must Get Home |
| 3 | Dixie Deane | Knot by Archers o/o True |
| 4 | Jeff Dando | Playing by Ear o/o Tune |
| 5 | Lord Donoughmore | Real by Anagram o/o Earl |
| 6 | Frank Hudson | Four Winds by Bungalow o/o Bampton |

Race 4 - The Bampton Garden Plants Challenge

Sponsored by Bampton Garden Plants

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|---|----------------------|--|
| 1 | Bampton Cricket Club | Slogged by Batsman o/o The Ground |
| 2 | Mr. R Saunders | Penelope by Pitstop o/o Fuel |
| 3 | Mrs. Smith | Blanket by Smith o/o Witney |
| 4 | Mr A E Walker - | Kiln-Dried Logs by F Walker o/o Compton Abdale |
| 5 | Andrew Money | Watching Paint Dry o/o time |
| 6 | Chris Collett | Landscapes by Hard Work o/o nothing. |

Race 5 - The Bampton Library Annual Challenge

Sponsored by Bampton Library

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|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | T Tanner | Garage Door by Up & Over o/o Remote Control |
| 2 | Jenny & Archie | The Last Dab |
| 3 | Liz & Dave Rose | Punters' Delight By Bet On Me o/o Dead Cert |
| 4 | The Other Bampton Morris | Silence by Morris Dancers o/o Bells |
| 5 | Biz Gooddy | B & B by Biz o/o Wheelgate |
| 6 | Craig Godwin | Cool Runnings by Godwins o/o The Pieces |

Race 6 - The Burford Garden Company Bucking Bronco

Sponsored by Burford Garden Company

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|---|---------------------|--|
| 1 | Mat & Jacquie Green | Trombocino by the Beanstick o/o Allotment. |
| 2 | Archery Club | Fast arrow o/o bow by 'eck that was close! |
| 3 | Mike Connor | Donkey by Mike o/o Jubilee |
| 4 | Josie Buckingham | Family by Buckingham o/o Palace |
| 5 | Dave Robinson | No rain on fete day by the brook o/o Luck |
| 6 | Martin Drew | Delighted by Feet o/o Pain |

Race 7 - The No Trauma, We're Not On Duty Stakes

Sponsored by Bampton Surgery

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|---|------------------------|---|
| 1 | Nick & Jenny | Rocky by Bronwen o/o Pembroke |
| 2 | Geraint Chatwell | Pixie Ponty by Maeric o/o Cymru |
| 3 | Helen Grimwade | Hassled by Grumpy o/o The Old Nag |
| 4 | Joe Wright | Time for a pint o/o hours left for jobs |
| 5 | Brian and Ann Ferguson | "The Glen" --- New home o/o Holly Tree |
| 6 | David Hawkins | Smokey by Bonfire o/o Mill Green |

Race 8 - Polished Salon, best hoof forward

Sponsored by Polished Salon

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|---|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | Suzi & Ian Macpherson | Highland Jig by Fearsome Mac o/o Porridge Oats |
| 2 | T Hely-Hutchinson | Asterisk by Coronet o/o Nel |
| 3 | Peter Davis | Amphibious by plane o/o Duck |
| 4 | Phil Walsgrove | Led astray by mischievous children o/o School |
| 5 | Mr. H Thomas | Fire View by Woodworm o/o Lew |
| 6 | Lynne Pointer | Patchwork by pieces o/o Sew and Sew |















GRAND
DRAW

DUMMIES IT'S CANDY TIME LOLLIES

BUCKE















