



Pancake Race 2007

Yo Ho Ho and off we run!!



Newbury's Town Crier, Brian Sylvester and Mayor Gillian Durrant with the elite Pirates team and one of Newbury Racecourse's jockey sponsors.

A new year, a new venue of Newbury's newly refurbished Market Place and lots of new members of staff to join in the annual challenge of the Soroptomist's Pancake race. The theme of "Global Warming" slightly perplexed us with concerns to our costumes this year, but after some serious brain storming in the admin department, we came up with Pirates. "Why?", I hear you say, well think about it - pirates only ever use wind assisted vessels (no carbon emissions there) and they have historically recycled everybody else's treasure (no landfill troubles with them). So we delved into our dressing up box and, well, this is what we came up with! Obviously we did a great job (well the girls did anyway!) because we won the "Best dressed team award".



All together now "Har har Jim lad!!!"

From left to right, new Services Officer Joanne Lempriere keeps her good eye on Admin Assistant Sue Page, new Services Officer Caroline Parkinson and Accounts Assistant Karen Hutt.



Oh dear boys, way too scary, you're sending shivers up me timbers!

From left to right this motley crew are Cllr Arthur Johnson (Pyle Hill Ward), Chief Executive Graham Hunt, new Services Manager Granville Taylor, oh, and that is Jim lad, Jim McFerran, Direct Services Officer.



Stand by Rapid Response cars, Chief Executive Graham Hunt is off, flanked by the solicitors of Gardner Leader and the lads from Snappy Snaps. Sue Page shows how a pancake should be tossed (according to the rules) whilst Gary Poulson from the Volunteer Centre battles for the lead.



Team talk time to discuss tactics and what they had actually put in the mulled wine that cleared your airways a treat!!



The crowds gathered to await the new phenomenon of global warming "It's raining pancakes!" The traditional pancake throwing from the steeple of St Nicolas Church is about to begin, with the children from the Rocking Horse Nursery doing the collecting.



Phew, are we glad that's done for another year, all this grinning is giving us jaw ache!!

Another great community event in Newbury, which was well attended and well enjoyed by participants and observers alike. This year it was broadcast live by Kick FM (how, I'm not quite sure as somehow they managed to spend most of their time running and tossing, as they made it into the final!!!). They also donated some of the lovely photos above as our roving photographer couldn't see over the Rapid Response cars!

The pancakes served by the ladies of the Soroptomists in the church hall of St Nicolas, were once again a triumph and richly deserved after all that running. The Newbury Weekly News also took some great photos (again some of which are printed courtesy of the Newbury Weekly News on this website).

Of course as well as being great fun, the Pancake Race does make a huge amount for the Naomi House Hospice for terminally ill children in Scotney Witney and the pancake lunches were raising money for the Chiltern Air Ambulance.

Next year, we've decided that a little more training and a few warming up exercises might be helpful in our pursuit of not coming last. However, on reflection, maybe we should stick to the costume prizes!!!

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