

## NEWS

# Jersey Crapauds try to knock the French off their perch

They may not have won, but the Harriers were still a hit at the river jousting in Dinan

By Michael Morris

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A TEAM of cross-country runners have taken a punt at a different sport and have made quite a splash in the process.

Jersey's Crapaud Hash House Harriers – a social running club – travelled to Dinan to take part in a charity river jousting competition.

It is believed to be the first time that a team from Jersey has entered the competition and while the Islanders failed to make it beyond the group stages of the contest they made such an impact that they have already been invited back next year.

The Joutes Nautiques competition was held on the River Rance with 20 French teams taking part alongside Team Crapaud.

River jousting involves two opposing jousters attempting to knock their opponent off a platform with the victorious team scoring five points for each round they win. The jousters are supported by a team of rowers who attempt to build up as much speed as possible as the two boats approach each other.

Paul Harding, a member of Team Crapaud, said that because many of the competing teams have had more than ten years' experience the Jersey team were up against it from start. 'It was very good fun and something completely different,' he added.

'A friend heard about it and gathered a team together. We weren't sure whether we would be accepted at first because it is normally only French teams but they seemed to be happy that a team from Jersey was there. There were thousands of people out watching from the river bank, which was quite amazing to see.

'The Mayor of Dinan said how much he appreciated a team from Jersey coming over and invited us back next year – I certainly would have thought that we will look to have a team again next year.'



Jersey's Crapaud Hash House Harriers were made welcome at the Joutes Nautiques, held in Port de Dinan by charitable organisation Kiwanis International



Mr Harding added that he hoped more Jersey teams would take part next year and said that a team from Guernsey had also expressed interest in competing in the event.

The event was run by educational charity Kiwanis International.

## Island charities in Lloyds award final

By Shannyn Quinn

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TWO Jersey charities were among six organisations to receive £1,000 at an awards ceremony that recognises 'life-changing' work by Channel Islanders.

The Lloyds Bank Foundation in the Channel Islands made the grants at the regional Charity Achievement Awards. Representatives from the charities will now travel to London later this year to attend the national final, at Lloyds Bank's headquarters, where there is an opportunity to win up to £10,000.

The awards were created to celebrate the 30th anniversary of all Lloyds Bank Foundations in the British Isles and to further recognise the amazing and life-changing work of small and medium-sized charities.

Jersey Employment Trust won the Entertaining Collaboration category.

Guernsey Disability Alliance, Creative Learning in Prison, Every Child Our Future, and Headway Guernsey were the Guernsey winners.

John Hutchins, executive director of the Lloyds Bank Foundation in the Channel Islands, said: 'I am delighted for all the charities concerned that they have received this additional recognition for the hard work they do on a day-to-day basis to help make a difference in Islanders' lives. It will be a unique experience this autumn for not only the charities, but the foundations as well, and it will be exciting to see the local finalists' work showcased on a larger, national scale.'

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