

WSM

'Sport, but not as you know it'



Did you miss out on the London Backward Run? Fear not, there is one more chance to experience the madness (and sense) of backward running



It's coming soon! Enter and get practising

www.wackynation.com

01884 255896

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Welcome to another very irregular edition of WSM.

Are you too much of a wimp for cheese rolling and too lazy for the Totnes Orange Race? Don't fancy getting covered in Gravy or mud, but you still want some crazy fun?

I am delighted to announce that the **5th UK Rock, Paper, Scissors Championships** will be taking place on the evening of **Saturday 22nd October**. The contest has also moved to the Knights Templar pub (nearest tube stations are Holborn and chancery lane) in central London. There will yet again be the hugely popular street RPS game and new for this year, a team contest. Entry to the individual event is £10 which also includes a wacky nation book (whilst stocks last) and £3 of street money.



We have secured the whole pub for the evening so bring along all your friends and have a mad evening of scissor sandwiches, avalanches and bureaucrats. Don't forget that it's not all down to luck. There are strategies and mind games to gain an advantage and there are even acceptable ways to cheat so long as the referee and audience don't notice. We hope to make it a real fun evening of crazy entertainment. For rugby fans out there, don't forget the world cup final is at 8am the next morning so why not make a whole night of it. Enter now at www.ukrockpaperscissorschampionships.com



WILLIAM HILL LONDON BACKWARD RUN

If you thought July was daft, silly season steps up a gear in August. More on what's coming up shortly. July saw the inaugural William Hill London Backward Run. No

surprise that world champion and TV celebrity Garret Doherty from Ireland won both the men's races including a staggering sub 4 minute 1km. Awesome!!! Janel Carter of USA and Meg Moulton won the 1km and 3km female races respectively. But everyone who entered the race deserves recognition for attempting one of the toughest running races and no injuries too except for a guy running forwards who tripped over a pothole as he stared at the race in disbelief!

Also in July there were crazy victories for....

Zoomer became **world snail racing champion** in a time of 3 minutes of 23 seconds. Ian Ashmeade wins the 41st World Pea Shooting title. Mark Cooper yet again won the **Tything Barn 'bare if you dare' 5km**. I managed third place but sadly slipped down the final standings because the results are age-adjusted. This means that a 90 year old would only have to walk the course to be outright winner. Finally Artemis Scarheart won the gold medal and a new suit at **the 7th Chap Olympiad**. Along the way Artemis proved his prowess at ironing board surfing, shouting at foreigners, moustache wrestling, butler baiting and the blue ribbon event, umbrella jousting.

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Coming up in August...

If you missed out on the London Backward Run, why not enter the **UK Backward Run** in Heaton Park, Manchester on Sunday 14th August. Just £15 guarantees you entry to one mile of retro-madness. You even receive a medal, T-Shirt and first-hand experience of exercise's best kept secret. Did you know that backward running burns a third more calories than forward running? More info and entries at www.reverserunning.com



Saturday 6 August: World Hen Racing Championships - Barley Mow Pub, Bonsall, Derbyshire

Sat 13th–Sun 14th: **Worthing Birdman**

Sun 14th to 21st: **Salcombe Regatta**, Devon – wacky events for the kids and adults including a mud race and a waiter and waitress race.

Tuesday 23rd August: **Totnes Orange Races** – Totnes, South Devon

You think running 400 metres downhill with an orange is easy do you? Think again!!

Tip: Throw your orange underarm and take it steady



Sunday 28th August: **World Bog Snorkelling Championships** – Bog, Middle of field, nr Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys

Monday 29th August: **World Gravy Wrestling Championships, Rose n Bowl pub**

Tip 1: Don't move too fast and keep low, especially if you come up against any of the karate club. Above all look stupid.

Tip 2: DON'T ask for extra gravy if you stay for the roast dinner

Monday 29th August: **Football in the River** (don't stand too close – the players love to get the spectators the wet)

BUT, this year there will be no World Walking the Plank contest. This would have been the 14th contest. Nor will there be any crab catching in Walberswick... crabs in Suffolk are celebrating. Nor a Gambo Race in South Wales. The world's becoming too normal.



Overseas

Saturday 20th August: **Henley on Todd Regatta** (dry river bed boat race) – Alice Springs, Australia

Who needs water for a boat race? The only thing wet will be the crates of XXXX



Friday 26th – Saturday 27th August: **Potato Days** (including mashed potato wrestling) – Barnesville, Minnesota, USA



Wednesday 31st August: **La Tomatina** (mass food fight) – Spain: Don't wear white. Don't waft around a video camera. Wear goggles. Have fun!!! Any town in the UK keen to take on their own version, please get in touch.

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Further ahead...

If running nude is just way too much craziness and backwards too ridiculous, then how about barefoot running. Battersea Park hosts a 5km barefoot fun run in aid of tree-athon.



There is also a world record attempt for most entrants in a 100 metre barefoot race. Wacky Nation will be there, will you? More information at www.treesforcities.org.



New York City are also hosting a barefoot run in September (see right).

Tuesday 13 September: Uncle Tom Cobley Downhill Race:

There's off road and then there's off road! Ostensibly, this is a short cross-country race around the Dartmoor village of Widecombe with a couple of nasty twists. Firstly, competitors have no idea where the exact starting point will be until a fleet of Land Rovers drops them off minutes before the race begins; the start can be anywhere along the hillside overlooking the village. Then to make things even trickier, paths, roads and tracks are all out of bounds as competitors make their way back into the village completely off-piste. Whatever route you decide upon at the start, avoid running down the wrong hillside (see right) and finding yourself inadvertently heading towards Cornwall! Later on in the day



there is a pantomime horse race, bale tossing and square bale rolling. Muscles and insanity required in equal supply! More info at www.widcombefair.com

Finally...**Bare to Run**. First it was a walk, then a cycle, a run and then some guy walking it nude. Now one crazy guy called Anthony Band is in the middle of running from Lands End to John O'Groats

barefoot. He's raising money for Help for Heroes and can be sponsored at www.baretorun.co.uk. Whatever next - Backwards? Now, there's an idea...

the wacky nation team

www.wackynation.com

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