

ASTLEY & TYLDESLEY

MINERS' WELFARE

Cycle Speedway Club

2008 PRESS CUTTINGS

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Prezmek's back in saddle for A&T

POLISH international rider, Przemek Binkowski, has agreed to re-join Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway club. The Torun based rider made his name in British cycle speedway with three successive campaigns with A & T between 2002 and 2004, before returning to Poland to do his National service and then switching to Coventry. Now the rider, who was a member of Poland's European Team Cup winning side in 2006 and still holds the Gin Pit track record, has re-joined the A & T club.

Team manager Mike Hack is delighted with the news, as A & T look to get back to winning ways after a poor 2007 season.

● **ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club** are inviting people to their twice weekly club practice sessions.

The club is looking to recruit some new local riders and whether people have ridden before or are a complete newcomer, riders of any age and ability, male or female, are welcome.

The club has bikes and helmets for hire, at just £2 per session. Club sessions are run by the Club's qualified Level 2 British Cycling Club coaches.

A & T members are pre-season training at present, in preparation for the opening league match on Sunday, March 30.

The club boasts excellent facilities and have achieved the prestigious Clubmark accreditation from Sport England.

The floodlit track is next to the Astley & Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley.

Training sessions take place on Sundays (2pm for juniors aged 13 and under, followed at 3pm for seniors aged 14 and over) and on Tuesday's (7pm for juniors aged 13 and under, 8pm for seniors aged 14 and over).

And the club has received a grant of £671 from Wigan Council's Community Chest fund.

An application for £900 had been made by Astley & Tyldesley Development Officer Aimee Hack, for the purchase of six junior 24" wheel cycle speedway bikes, for use by youngsters at the club's practice sessions.

Club spokesman Mike Hack said: "The award is most welcome in that it fills the gap between our range of 20" wheel and 26" wheel bikes, bringing the club's stock of bikes up to 29."

Binko makes his return to the racetrack

POLISH international, Przemek Binkowski, has agreed to re-join the Astley & Tyldesley Speedway club.

The Torun based rider made his name in British cycle speedway with three successive campaigns with A & T between 2002 and 2004, before returning to Poland to do his National service and then switching to Coventry.

Now the rider, who was a member of Poland's European Team Cup winning side in 2006 and still holds the Gin Pit track record, has re-joined the A & T club.

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Speedway opportunity

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Sporting heroes take major awards

LEIGH'S sporting heroes almost made it a clean sweep of winners at the 8th Wigan Borough Sports Awards at the JJB Stadium.

But they still made it an outstanding night of local success by taking five of the six major awards.

The annual ceremony, organised by Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, recognises the hard work and dedication put in by competitors, coaches and sports clubs from all over the Wigan Borough during the past year. The event adopted a Chinese theme in honour of the Beijing Olympics later this year.

Special guest speaker Marc Woods, a twelve time Paralympic medallist, gave an inspired speech about his own triumph over adversity before presenting Wigan and Leigh's own sporting heroes with their awards.

A staggering 114 nominations were received for the six awards up for grabs: Coach of the year; Club of the Year; Volunteer in Sports of the Year; Sports Achiever of the Year; Disabled Sports Achiever of the Year; and The Wilf Brogan Unsung Hero in Sport Award. Each award winner will now go on to represent Wigan Borough at the Greater Manchester Sports Awards on Friday 11th April. **Sports Achiever of the Year** Winner - Daniel Greaves aged 15 from Leigh

Runner Up - Michael Grundy - Wigan and Leigh Wrestling Club

Finalist - Mattie McKiernan - Leigh Cricket Club
Daniel belongs to the City of Liverpool Trampoline Club. He has been involved in trampolining for five years and faces a 40 mile round trip six days a week to attend training. Daniel is a dedicated sportsman who trains 30 hours per week but is also dedicated to his academic work and is currently completing a BTEC First Certificate in Sport Course in his own time.

Daniel said: "I would like to thank my Mum and Dad for all their support. I really love to compete and show people what I can do and I really believe that if I keep working hard I can be there in 2012. Tonight is really the icing on the cake; I'm absolutely delighted to win this award."

Disabled Sports Achiever Winner - Daniel Dawoud aged 15 from Hindley

Runner Up - Dean Cartwright - Wigan Athletic Ability Counts Club

Finalist - Anthony Burgoyne - Multi Sports Club/Allstar Athletics Club

Volunteer in Sport of the Year

Winner - Martin Buckley aged 18 from Leigh

Runner Up - Sharon Seaton - Westleigh Basketball Club

Finalist - Jo Cleworth - Westleigh Ladies Netball Club
Martin, from Westleigh

Basketball Club, is an inspiration to other young volunteers and players. Over the past year he has given up 15 hours per week to basketball.

Martin has completed his Level 2 Coaching Award and has delivered sessions to primary schools, at community days, coached the Girls Youth Games Team, the Under 16s boys teams and Under 15s mixed team.

Martin is currently basketball's 'Young Volunteer of the Year' in the UK. He was also awarded a Township Young Volunteer Award in 2007.

Martin said: "I'm really shocked to win. I've picked up a lot of accolades lately, but it's extra special to win this one. I try and strike a good balance between playing and coaching. It's worth putting the hours in because I get a lot out of it - especially when we are winning! I'd like to thank all of the team at Westleigh, especially Sharon Seaton, and I'm really looking forward to another successful year."

Coach of the Year

Winner - Lee Glynn from Winstanley

Runner Up - Peter Daulby - Wigan Seagulls Sports Acrobatics Club

Finalist - Cathy Green - Haigh Hall Ladies

Club of the Year

Winner - Westleigh Basketball Club

Runner Up - Highfield Grange Football Club

Finalist - Tyldesley Rugby Union Football Club

This is the second year running that the club has won this award. The club is renowned for its support of young volunteers. In 2007, 14 young players gained their level one basketball coaching qualification, four gained their level two qualification, and four gained their level two table officiating awards.

The club has secured over £40,000 of funding to work on various projects including forming an Under18s National League team and starting a Sunday league. The club is currently working towards four star accreditation, coordinates a schools programme in Golborne and have given support to many community events throughout 2007.

Andy Seaton said: "This really is unbelievable. To win two years on the trot is unprecedented and it is an honour for everyone involved with the club. We all work really hard and being recognised like this makes all of that effort very worthwhile. We are a club that operates seven days a week and we are really progressing well. In a matter of a few years we have progressed to play at county and even national level; we are all very proud."

The Wilf Brogan Unsung Hero in Sport Award

Winner - Jo Riches from

Tyldesley RU

Runner Up - Mike Hack - Astley and Tyldesley Cycle Speedway Club

Finalist - Margaret Byrne - Golborne Parkside Amateur Rugby League Football Club
Jo has been involved at the club since 1998 and quickly became a valuable and committed volunteer. Jo has been responsible for securing over £12,000 through various grants to develop the club and holds the posts of Junior Chairman, Fixtures Secretary and Club Coach Coordinator. She has used her roles effectively to implement the club's development plan.

As schools liaison officer, Jo has personally delivered over 150 curriculum and after school clubs and co-ordinated 15 school tournaments for primary and secondary schools. As well as being involved at Tyldesley, Jo sits on the Lancashire Women's and Girls Rugby Committee and is Treasurer for the North West Women's and Girls Rugby Development Committee.

Jo said: "This is fantastic! It's so satisfying to win this and it's great recognition, not only for me, but for the club as well. I do put a lot of hours in but I get so much satisfaction out of it; it's very worthwhile. We've got a club that is really going places now and I'd like to thank all of the volunteers at the club and the Sports Development Unit for their wonderful support."

Two new signings

ASTLEY and Tyldesley Speedway have announced two new signings for the 2008 season.

Andy Knowles is an experienced Blackpool based rider who has joined A & T this season on a full transfer, after spending his entire racing career with Sheffield.

Andy is keen to cut back on his travelling and will be a valuable addition to the A & T senior squad. He has previously raced for A & T on a secondary registration in midweek Manchester League events.

Krzysztof Studzinski is a 20-year-old Polish rider, from Torun. A team-mate of Darek Kurkowski and Przemek Binkowski in Poland, this will be his first season racing for an English club. He raced in last year's World Championships in Poland, but was eliminated early on at Czestochowa. The new signings compensate for the retirement of Lee Phillips and the doubts over the availability of Chris Finnigan, Joe Allen and Laura Allen.

New recruits

ASTLEY & Tyldesley cycle speedway club has made two new signings for the 2008 season.

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Understandably, Knowles is keen to cut back on his travelling and will be a valuable addition to the A & T senior squad. He has previously raced for A & T on a secondary registration in midweek Manchester League events.

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The new signings compensate for the retirement of Lee Phillips and the doubts over the availability of Chris Finnigan, Joe Allen and

Laura Allen.

Cyclists ready for action



ASTLEY and Tyldesley open their cycle speedway season with a home fixture against Stockport this Sunday.

A and T are looking to improve on last year's poor season and move up the Northern League table. Two winter signings will be making their debuts in A & T colours, Polish international Przemek Binkowski and Andy Knowles.

Racing takes place at the cycle speedway track

adjacent to the Astley & Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley.

The first race is at 2pm, when the 2nd team match starts, followed by the main event, the 1st team match, at 3 pm. Spectators are welcome, with free admission and car parking, and match programmes and refreshments on sale. For further details, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk

MP Andy gets on his bike



CABINET minister Andy Burnham is on his bike. The Secretary of State, Department for Culture, Media & Sport attended a British Cycling Go-Ride coaching session at Lowton High School in his Leigh constituency. He used the opportunity to learn about how the Go-Ride scheme is getting children involved in cycling and how it is teaching them essential bike handling skills and providing access to quality cycle coaching. British Cycling's Go-Ride

scheme, which is part-funded by Sport England, has recently expanded its coaching team with the potential to coach up to 90,000 children in 2008. Mr Burnham said: "It is great to see how Go-Ride is working as a dedicated cycle coaching programme to get more children involved in cycling. It not only helps them to keep healthy and improve their confidence on a bike, but could also identify some of our Olympic stars of the future!"

Speed win

ASTLEY and Tyldesley speedway opened their Northern League programme with a hard fought 79-68 win over Stockport on Sunday.

A and T welcomed Polish star Przemek Binkowski back after a four year absence and he went through the card unbeaten, winning all his five races to take maximum points. Tomasz Wlodarczyk lost just once to former British Champion Terry Norman, with good scores from both Darek Kurkowski and Joe Allen, each reduced by a race exclusion. Stockport ran out easy winners in the Combination match, 75 - 45.

On Saturday, A and T host the first Northern Regional Round of the British Youth & Junior League series, starting at 1pm. On Sunday, A & T are again at home, racing against Bury in a Northern League encounter. The 2nd team match starts at 2 pm, followed by the 1st team match at 3pm. Both matches are at the cycle speedway track located at the Astley & Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley, M29 7DW.

●For more Leigh sport visit leighreporter.co.uk

Opening victory

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Newcomers make mark

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway hosted the opening round of the new North West Go-Ride Grand Prix series at Gin Pit last week.

Several newcomers took part, after a short coaching session, it was on with the racing. Ben Dickenson and Joel Partington ran out as joint top scorers, each dropping just one point, with Adam Watson and Matthew Turnbull finishing a further point behind. A & T take on Hull in a Northern League clash at Gin Pit on Sunday. The first race is at 2pm, with the main event, the first team match, starting at 3pm.

Riders lose first match

SUNDAY'S Northern League cycle speedway match at Gin Pit saw Astley & Tyldesley come head to head with Hull after both teams had won their opening two matches of the campaign.

However, A & T, already missing key riders, were rocked by the late withdrawals of Tomasz Sz wajorek and Andy Knowles. The visitors arrived at full strength, sensed victory and deservedly took the points, easily winning 102-76. Former European Junior Champion, Remi Burchardt, once again raced unbeaten for A & T, with good back-up from Tomasz Wlodarczyk and young Joe Allen. But, Hull were stronger in depth, with all but one of their riders scoring double figures.

A & T fielded a team of youngsters in the Combination League match, with debutant Jason Elliott turning in an excellent performance.

However, a much more experienced Hull team ran out winners, 73-45.

Cycle team thrashed

A DEPLETED Astley & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway side was thrashed by Hull in Sunday's Northern League match at the Hessele Raceway.

Remi Burchardt and Darek Kurkowski both won races for A & T, but Hull won ten of the eighteen races by the maximum scoreline to run out 108-64 winners.

It was a similar story in the Combination (2nd team) match, as Hull easily took the points with a 91-56 win. A & T put in a better showing in the second round of the Manchester League Grand Prix series at Bury. Remi Burchardt raced unbeaten in the Division One (senior) match, with Dariusz Pilas losing only once, as A & T took a second successive win in this series.

The Division Two (junior) match was won by Stockport, with A & T pipping Bury for second place.

CYCLE SPEEDWAY

STOCKPORT staged the opening round of the new Northern Individual Grand Prix series on a wet Sunday.

A&T's Ben Dickenson and Jason Elliott both reached the U-16 Grand Prix Final, with Ben finishing third after a fall and Jason excluded for moving at the start.

Remi Burchardt raced unbeaten in the Senior qualifiers, with Tomasz Wlodarczyk dropping just one point to Remi. In the Grand Prix Final, Remi drew the graveyard grid number one, spun right round and finished third.

Tomasz took the win and Mike Hack finished fourth in the Veterans Grand Prix Final.

●Just four A&T riders made the trip to Hull for the Second Northern Regional Round of the British Youth & Junior League series.

Adam Phillips took first place in the under-10 Grand Prix Final, with Adam Watson taking second. In the under-16 category, newcomers Ben Dickenson and Jason Elliott maintained their excellent start to cycle speedway, with Ben taking first place and Jason third in the Grand Prix Final.

Riders are back on track

ASTLEY & Tyldesley cycle speedway got back to winning ways in the Northern League with a 81-69 victory at Stockport on Sunday.

The match was closely fought, in strong windy conditions and on a dry track that cut up.

A & T held a slender 4 points lead after heat 12, before pulling clear in the last three races to secure the win. Remi Burchardt raced unbeaten, with both Darek Kurkowski and Tomasz Wlodarczyk losing once each and great support from Mick Knowles, winner of two races.

A young and inexperienced A & T team were heavily beaten by Stockport in the Combination match, 83-37. Ben Dickenson was the only A & T rider to beat an opponent. Club training nights continue to be held every Tuesday evening at the track located adjacent to the Astley & Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, in Gin Pit Village.

Newcomers are always welcome. For further details, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk

A&T club hosts Grand Prix

ASTLEY & Tyldesley cycle speedway hosted roundtwo of the North West Go-Ride Grand Prix series at Gin Pit. Coach Gary Nuttall led the session, which featured handicap racing, to cater for the range of age differences in the 11 rider field.

This evened up the scores somewhat, but Ben Dickenson still showed his ability, dropping just one point from his four rides, whilst Jason Elliott lost out only to a machine failure last time out. Laura Watson won two races in her first competitive outing.

A & T had six riders competing at the third Regional Round of the British Youth & Junior League series at Heckmondwike.

Adam Turnbull performed creditably to take third place in the U8 Final, whilst Adam Phillips and Adam Watson took first and second places respectively in the U10 Final. Ben Dickenson won the U16 Final, ahead of Jason Elliott, whilst Matthew Turnbull competed in the U18 event.

Riders make it three wins in a row

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway made it three successive wins with victory in the third round of the Manchester League Division One series at Stockport.

Dariusz Pilas top scored, dropping just a point to Darek Kurkowski in heat 7. Darek's only points dropped were when he fell in heat 4, whilst trying to pass Pilas on the last bend. Remi Burchardt dropped his first points in the series, losing to Kurkowski (twice) and to Terry Norman of Stockport. A & T had a good turn-out of juniors for the Division 2 (junior) match and they took runners-up spot on the night. Ben Dickenson impressed with 15 points in the U-16 match, whilst Matthew Turnbull scored a valuable 15 points in the U19 category. Adam Phillips won two races in the U13 match, as he continued his step up a category to race at a higher level.

Astley & Tyldesley hosted the third and final round of the North West Go-Ride Grand Prix series.

Riders were handicapped, based on age and previous scores in the series. However, this didn't stop impressive first year rider Ben Dickenson from recording another victory on the night, to win the series overall.

Top show by weakened A&T

WITH several late withdrawals, it was very much a makeshift Astley & Tyldesley cycle speedway team that took to the track for Sunday's Northern League match against Heckmondwike at Gin Pit.

The visitors must have fancied their chances of winning at Gin Pit for the second successive year, but A&T put in a great display of determination and teamwork to run out deserved winners, 76-69.

Remi Burchardt won all his five races, whilst youngsters Luke Jamson and Adam Phillips put in some great rides to beat their older and more experienced opponents. Key to A&T's win was the experience and know-how from brothers Mick and Andy Knowles, who along with veteran Mike Hack, scored vital points in decisive races.

A&T competed at Hull on Saturday in the Veterans British Club Championship. The riders put in some good performances, but were eliminated at the semi-final stage by Wednesfield (Wolverhampton) and Leicester.

Pilas goes close to breaking track record

ASTLEY and Tyldesley cycle speedway hosted round four of the Manchester League Grand Prix series at Gin Pit.

There was another excellent turn-out of riders, with 45 appearing in 48 heats, which were completed in two hours.

A well prepared track saw some fast times in the senior match, with A & T's Dariusz Pilas recording the fastest time of the season, 42.19 secs, when winning heat three, which is less than one second outside Przemek Binkowski's five year old track record. Pilas recorded a 16 points maximum in the Division One (senior) match, as A & T romped to their fourth successive victory in this series.

A & T's Darek Kurkowski and Remi Burchardt both won races, with the only serious opposition coming from Stockport's former British Champion Terry Norman. Disappointingly, Bury failed to field a single rider. Dariusz Pilas now leads the Grand Prix series by a point, overhauling the earlier

leader Remi Burchardt.

Stockport extended their lead in the Division Two (junior) series, with a convincing win, whilst Bury pipped A & T for second place on the night.

It was pleasing to see A & T fielding five riders who were making their first appearances in this competition, having progressed through the weekly training sessions and the early season North West Go-Ride Grand Prix series. Best rider on the night for A & T was Adam Watson, who dropped just one point in the U10 match.

British Champs comes to town!

Cycle speedway:

ASTLEY & Tyldesley will be hosting the U13 British Cycle Speedway Club Championships at Gin Pit this Saturday, July 19.

Ten teams have entered the competition, which will see two semi-final matches taking place at 12.30 pm and 2pm with the top two teams from each semi-final progressing to the final, at 4.30 pm.

The A&T club is delighted that the match is being sponsored by the Rotary Club of Astley, and that several official guests, including the Mayor of Wigan, will be in attendance.

Spectators are welcome to attend the event, with admission and car parking free and with refreshments and match programmes on sale.

The event will see Britain's best young cycle speedway racers in action, as Midlands club Sandwell defend the title that they won last year.

The racing takes place at the Astley & Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley, M29 7DW.

For further information, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk.

A&T host top British event

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Phillips shines for A&T

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway hosted the U13 British Club Championships, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Astley, at Gin Pit.

Heavy rain for much of the preceding week and on the morning of the match rendered track conditions heavy for the first match of the day.

A young Astley & Tyldesley team did well to finish third in the first semi-final, behind Stockport and Ipswich but ahead of Bury and Leicester. A & T's Adam Phillips recorded a 16 points maximum score, winning all his four races.

A competitive second semi-final took place as the rain eased off and conditions improved.

A superbly prepared track greeted the riders for the final. Stockport held a one point lead after heat 10, with Ipswich a further two points adrift.

Exeter then took complete control of the match, to win each one of the last six races and take the trophy, finishing an emphatic 12 points clear of their nearest rivals. Stockport took second place after a tie break with Ipswich, with Wednesfield fourth.

Awards to all final competitors were presented by the Mayor of Wigan, Cllr Rona

Winkworth. Another official guest was the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Andy Burnham MP. Astley & Tyldesley made the short trip to Bury on Sunday for a Northern League fixture.

In a typically hard fought local derby encounter, A & T opened up an eight points lead at one stage, but were pegged back to three points close to the end. A & T held on to win the match 89-87. For A & T, Remi

Burchardt raced unbeaten and would have been joined by Darek Kurkowski, but for a machine problem when leading a race.

A & T's youngsters raced to a convincing win over Bury in the Combination match. Laura Watson took a heavy fall in heat 2, but bravely continued and scored vital points. Joe Allen and Ben Dickenson were best for A & T.

Cyclists wheely have something to celebrate



TRIUMPH: Astley and Tyldesley celebrate winning the Manchester League Division One. Pictured are: Remi Burchardt, Darek Kurkowski, Dariusz Pilas, Mike Hack.

ASTLEY and Tyldesley visited Stoke for a Northern League match, with riders missing on holiday – but the welcome inclusion of Przemek Binkowski and Tomasz Sz wajorek for their second appearances of the season.

Stoke moved into a seven points lead after heat 2, but A & T fought back to take a three points interval lead.

The lead changed hands twice again before Stoke levelled the scores in heat 16. With tension mounting, it was A & T who kept their composure and sealed the match with two successive 6-4 heat wins, to run out 91-87 winners.

A & T can feel justly proud of a magnificent performance in inflicting Stoke's first defeat of the season.

For A & T, Remi Burchardt and Darek Kurkowski lost once each, as did Dariusz Pilas, after his exclusion in heat 2.

Both sides gave it their all in what was a really good, highly competitive match.

A & T ran out easy winners in the Combination (2nd team) match, winning 85-51. Mike Hack, Mick Knowles and Joe Allen all lost only once each.

The Manchester League Senior Individual Final took place at Bury in midweek. Remi Burchardt became the fifth A & T rider to win this prestigious event, which has been staged every year since 1955.

He dropped his only point to teammate Dariusz Pilas, who eventually lost out in a second place run-off to Stockport's Terry Norman, after both riders had scored 18 points.

Adam is star of the show for A&T

ASTLEY & Tyldesley Cycle Speedway's young starlet Adam Phillips turned in a terrific performance to finish second in the British U10 Individual Final at Poole, Dorset, on Saturday. Phillips dropped just one point in his five races to total 19 points and tie for first place. However, he was beaten in a run-off by Philip Day, of Gt Blakenham, Suffolk.

A & T's Adam Watson also qualified for the final, finishing on 9 points.

On the same day, A & T's Laura Watson scored 7 points in the British Women's Individual Final, also at Poole. Astley & Tyldesley hosted the Manchester League Junior Individual Championship Finals at Gin Pit on Wednesday evening.

The youngsters put on a great show of enthusiasm and determination, as rain fell heavily throughout the evening.

Despite the weather, the Gin Pit track held up superbly all night.

A & T's Adam Phillips raced to a comfortable 16 points maximum to win the U10 event, with Adam Watson taking 3rd place.

Former A & T rider Dylan Radcliffe, now with Stockport, was a convincing winner of the U16 category, racing to a 20 points maximum. There was a run-off for second place, which was won by A & T's impressive first year rider Ben Dickenson. A & T entertain Edinburgh in a Northern League match this Sunday at Gin Pit. First race is at 4pm.



RIDERS OF THE STORM: The top three braved the rain

Starlet Phillips makes a splash at Poole!

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run-off for 2nd place, which was won by A&T's impressive first year rider Ben Dickenson.

Members of the Astley & Tyldesley Club are delighted with the magnificent successes of the Great Britain cycling team at the Olympic Games.

Congratulations go to all the team, in particular to Jason Kenny and Steven Burke.

Both riders were regular attenders at the cycle speedway coaching sessions run by Mike Hack at Gin Pit a few years ago, when they were members of the North West Talent Team.

Jason took the gold medal in the Men's Team Sprint and the silver medal in the Men's

Individual Sprint, whilst Steven took the bronze medal in the Men's Individual Pursuit.

The success of the GB cyclists was doubtless responsible for inspiring five new riders to come to this week's club night at Gin Pit.

This is another example of A&T, as a Go-Ride Clubmark club, benefiting from being affiliated to British Cycling.

A&T entertain Edinburgh in a Northern League match this forthcoming Sunday at Gin Pit. First race is at 4pm.

For further details visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk

ASTLEY & Tyldesley took on Edinburgh in a Northern League match at Gin Pit on Sunday.

In a very close, competitive and sporting match there were never more than four points separating the two teams but A & T held a slender lead for most of the match and held on to win 90 - 87.

A & T's Polish international riders were in great form, with both Remi Burchardt and Dariusz Pilas winning all their races.

Darek Kurkowski won four races, with a machine failure stopping him in his other race, whilst leading. Edinburgh fielded

Internationals add touch of Polish

a solid experienced line-up that regularly frustrated the efforts of A & T's youngsters, who give it plenty of effort and eventually provided sufficient support to the top three to ensure a win. Joe Allen's tally of 11 points proved to be decisive in A & T's win.

A & T's Adam Phillips took a great win in the penultimate National Round of the British U-10 Grand Prix series at Wednesfield, Wolverhampton on Saturday. This moves him into

the lead in the series, with the final round to come at Ipswich later in September. Adam Watson and Ben Dickenson also performed creditably in the U-10 and U-16 Grand Prix respectively.

Training nights are held every Tuesday at the track at the Astley & Tyldesley Miners' Welfare Club, Meanley Road, Gin Pit, Astley. Sessions start at 7pm, with newcomers welcome. For further details, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk

Ace Adam takes the trophy

ASTLEY and Tyldesley's Adam Phillips (pictured) has won the British U-10 Grand Prix series.

Adam went into the final round of the series with a slender three points lead over his nearest challenger, James Robinson, of Newport. He outscored his rival in the qualification races at Ipswich on Saturday and was able to take his place in the 'A' Final, safe in the knowledge that the overall title was already secured, as Robinson only qualified for the 'B' Final and therefore could not catch his points tally.

Adam Watson took second place in the U10 D Final, Ben Dickenson took third place in the U16 C Final, whilst Ben Keen was edged out of a place in the U16 Finals.

A and T hosted the 2008 Club Individual Championships under the Gin Pit floodlights in midweek. Newcomer Josh



Peacock beat Adam Turnbull in a run-off to take the U8 title, after both had tied on 14 points. There was another run-off required, to determine the U10 title. This time Adam Watson beat Stefan Whitelegg, after both

had finished on 11 points, with impressive newcomer Colin Farn taking third place.

Joel Partington was a clear winner of the U13 category, winning all his four races, with first year rider Josh Gore taking second place. Ben Dickenson took the U16 title, with a 14 points haul, which was sufficient to put him in a run-off for 2nd place in the Open category, where he was beaten by Darek Kurkowski. Roy Heslop retained his veterans title, while the overall winner of the open category was Dariusz Pilas, who raced to an impressive 16 points maximum and recorded the fastest time of the night.

Adam produces Grand finish



ASTLEY & Tyldesley cycle speedway rider Adam Phillips, pictured above, has won the British U10 Grand Prix series. He went into the final round of the series with a slender three points lead over his nearest challenger, James Robinson, of Newport.

He outscored his rival in the qualification races at Ipswich on Saturday and was able to take his place in the 'A' Final, safe in the knowledge that the overall title was already secured, as Robinson only qualified for the 'B' Final and therefore could not catch his points tally.

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There was another run-off required, to determine the U10 title. This time Adam Watson beat Stefan Whitelegg, after both had finished on 11 points, with impressive newcomer Colin Farn taking third place. Joel Partington was a clear winner of the U13 category, winning all his four races, with first year rider Josh Gore taking second place. Ben Dickenson took the U16 title, with a 14 points haul, which was sufficient to put him in a run-off for second place in the Open category, where he was beaten by Darek Kurkowski. Roy Heslop retained his veterans title, while the overall winner of the Open category was Dariusz Pilas, who raced to an impressive 16 points maximum and recorded the fastest time of the night.

Northern Grand Prix in town

Cycle speedway:

AFTER some excellent wins this season in the Northern League, it was a below strength Astley & Tyldesley side that took to the track at Heckmondwike.

And A & T paid the price by being beaten by a Heckmondwike side that recorded their first win of the season.

A & T kept the scores close in the first half, trailing by two points at the interval, but the home side took three maximum heat wins in the second half, to give a final score of Heckmondwike 81 Astley & Tyldesley 68. Tomasz Włodarczyk and Remi Burchardt won seven races between them for A & T, but only Ben Dickenson provided strong support.

Heckmondwike had former British Champion Colin Wheeler making his debut for them and he was beaten only twice.

A & T are hosting the fifth and final round of the Northern Grand Prix series at Gin Pit this forthcoming Sunday, 12pm start.

The racing features the full range of categories.

For further information, visit the club's website at www.astleycyclespeedway.org.uk.

Weakened A&T pay the price

AFTER some excellent wins this season in the Northern League, it was a below strength Astley & Tyldesley cycle speedway side that took to the track at Heckmondwike.

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A & T are hosting the fifth and final round of the Northern Grand Prix series at Gin Pit on Sunday, 12 noon start.

Ben rides to success

ASTLEY & Tyldesley cycle speedway hosted the fifth and final round of the Northern Grand Prix series at Gin Pit on Sunday.

Despite heavy rain during much of the preceding week, the track was in superb condition for the event.

This is one series that A & T have put low on their priority list, due to other commitments, so no A & T riders were in the overall series winners, although Ben Dickenson took a great win in the Combination Grand Prix Final, beating his more experienced rivals.

A & T wrap up their 2008 season with a vital Northern League clash against league leaders Stoke.

The match takes place on Sunday at Gin Pit and promises to be a cracker, as A & T inflicted Stoke's only defeat of the season at Stoke in August. Stoke need a win to keep their title challenge alive, whilst A & T need a win to secure third place in the final league table. Racing starts at 2pm with the Combination (2nd team) match, followed by the first team match at 3pm.

The curtain falls on a good season with defeat by Stoke

Cycle speedway:

ASTLEY and Tyldesley rounded off their 2008 outdoor season when they took on Stoke in a Northern League match at Gin Pit on Sunday.

On a glorious sunny afternoon, an exciting match took place on a fast, grippy track.

The first four races were close before disaster struck A & T, as first Ben Dickenson and then Remi Burchardt were excluded for starting infringements and Stoke moved into a seven points lead.

Stoke extended their lead when Burchardt suffered another start exclusion in heat 13. Stoke went on to win the match, 94-82, to set up a title decider when they go to Hull next week. With Edinburgh winning their re-arranged home match against Bury, this result means that A & T have finished 4th in the final Northern League table.

A & T fought hard against the league leaders, but once behind were unable to claw back the deficit. Tomasz Włodarczyk and Darek Kurkowski were in great form for A & T, each scoring 18 points, as was Dariusz Pilas, who's score was reduced when kicked off his bike by an opponent in an incident that went unspotted by the referee.

Stoke also took the points in the Combination (2nd team) match, winning 65-55. Veteran Mike Hack top scored for A & T with 12 points and received good support from Roy Heslop, Luke Jamson and Joel Partington.

Curtain falls on good season

ASTLEY & Tyldesley hosted the fifth and final round of the Northern Grand Prix series at a sunny Gin Pit on Sunday.

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The match takes place next

Cycle speedway

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