

And they are off!



Shelley Jory
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SHELLEY Jory is one of the UK's leading powerboat racers and the top female in her sport. Last year she became the face of Honda Powerboat Racing. Each month Shelley gives *All At Sea* readers an insight into her amazing life.

THE first race of the power boating season took place in sunny Bournemouth last month.

Spectators lined the beaches from Boscombe to Bournemouth Pier to watch the Royal Motor Yacht Club Brass Monkey Grand Prix.

The sun did shine on the brave racers but with a force 4-5 in Bournemouth bay the sea conditions were not too kind and the chill factor was cold!

The great thing about these basic races it means that anything goes. Basically if it floats and has got an engine you can race it.

All different classes of boats competed together in this friendly race from the magnificent P1 Evolution boat – *Team Honeyparty.com* to Lings Honda 150 recently purchased by Dean Gibbs who is also preparing a Round Britain boat.

Even some of our faithful safety fleet took part. Gordon Compton in his safety rib My Pleasure successfully completed the race.

Team Honeyparty.com took the chequered flag, their first race since bringing the boat to the UK. Throttleman, team manager Mark Pascoe and driver Neil Holmes lapped their way to victory completing the 36 nm course in 34 minutes. The sound of the engines could be heard across Bournemouth bay as the boat thundered around the course at speeds in excess of 100mph.

"The boat performed flawlessly



Evolution Class Racing action - British GP Cowes

and never missed a beat," said Pascoe. "The Brass Monkey was a great opportunity to continue our development programme as the 2008 Powerboat P1 World Championship season draws ever closer."

But the actual Brass Monkey Trophy is awarded to the first F1 boat home so that meant the big boys could not take it. Therefore it went to *Notorious* a good old Honda 225.

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The final standings were *Honeyparty.com* a Skater powerboat in 1st, *Bat out of Hell* V24 in 2nd place, *Hot Lemon* Scorpion Rib 3rd place and *Notorious* Honda 225 in 4th place.

New calendar for P1

THE Powerboat P1 World Championship will have the most exciting calendar in its history with the introduction of five new venues.

They include the inaugural Grand Prix in the Middle East and first ever French and Spanish Grand Prix of the Sea.

The season will comprise a minimum of 14 races in seven host cities starting in Italy in early May and concluding in the Middle East in mid-October.

The Italian Grand Prix of the Sea will be run in conjunction with the Italian Powerboat Series, ensuring the strongest possible

starting line up.

The final European round will once again take place in Portimao, Portugal which, along with Valletta, Malta, are the only host cities remaining from last season's calendar.

These highly popular European destinations will be complimented by Grand Prix events in Marseilles, France and Vigo, Spain with Hammamet, Tunisia adding additional spice and anticipation to P1's new look and enhanced calendar.

I really cannot mention P1 without revealing my own exciting news. I am

delighted that I will be competing in the P1 Evolution class this year!

Team Raymarine has joined forces with the American Team Lucas Oil and I have been signed up as driver with Nigel Hook, team owner and throttleman. I am also pleased to announce a new sponsor me for this venture, a lean manufacturing consultancy www.goinglean.co.uk.

They specialise in lean manufacturing consultancy and the P1 team is going to endeavour to learn those Japanese "lean" techniques to improve our performance in the pit area and boat preparation.

A very exciting summer ahead!



Honeyparty.com



Lings Honda closes in on Honeyparty.com

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