

# SPORTS

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## DARTS

# GIB. PLAYERS MAKE SEMIS. IN 'OPENS'

Justin Broton and Dylan Duo were 'in the money' at the recent Torremolinos and Gib. Kronenbourg 'Open' championships amongst really tough competition, each reaching a profitable semi-final, but just failing to go that one step further.

The 'Torre' event has been going for 26 years and attracts over a hundred regular darts players from the UK, where darts is almost a religion, attracted by the cash rewards as well as the sun and sand. Several of Gib.'s leading 'arrowsmiths' made the trip to 'Torre' and young Justin Broton, Hon. Sec. of GDA, made it through to the semi-finals (and the money) before he was knocked-out by the eventual winner Wayne Davies. They then made



Justin Broton - 'cash from Torre'

their way back to the Rock in time for Saturday's Gib. Open.

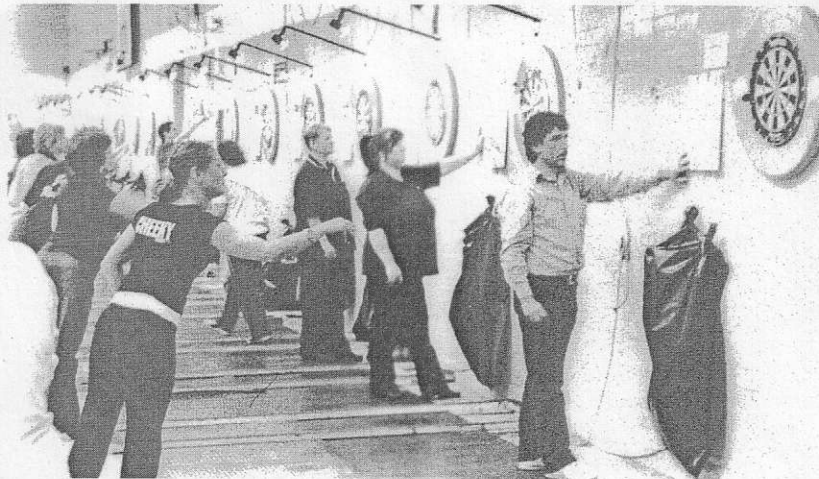
Several dedicated members of the Gibraltar Darts Association have worked extremely hard to find the sponsors to provide the cash incentive to coach many of these darts players down the coast for the day's third Gibraltar 'Kronenbourg 1664' Open in the Stadium sportshall, which takes a lot of work in organising.

Taking a leading role in the organisation - and pride in setting up the 17 board arena - was 'long-time champion' George Federico who 'winning his board' managed to reach a quarter-final with the toughest of draws before losing to the eventual winner Wayne Davies from Wales. There was a mix of International players, professionals, county and super league players from the United Kingdom and from around the world. Both tournaments also boasted record numbers in attendance this year.

At the Gib Open there were a Singles tournaments for Men and Women with prize funds reaching 3500



Dylan Duo, Steve Robertson, Louise Simmonds, Wayne Davies, Jan Robbins and Sid Smaller - top money winners at Gib. Kronenbourg 'Open'



Action on all 16 boards in Victoria Stadium sportshall.

Euros and a place for both winners to represent as Gibraltar Champions in the Winmau Darts World Championships this year.

There was a larger entry for the Gibraltar 'Open' (123) than for Torremolinos (104) and the male players were drawn into similar groups on boards with 'all play all' to decide a 'Board Winner' and a place in the final 8 - the quarter-finals.

Several local players came close, but only 'local champion' Dylan Duo made it, carrying all local support into his quarter final where he beat Alan

Collins to advance to the semi-final - where he 'suffered' a set-back. Trail-ing 3 sets to 1 to Steve 'Longshanks' Robertson (another 'Torre' semi-final-ist), Dylan was sure that he was playing a 'best of seven' match, only to hear the MC proclaim 'And the winner is....'

'Longshanks' went on to lose a closely fought final to the 'Welsh Dragon' Wayne Davies, who made it a 'Double' when he took the trophy, the major cash award of 1000 euros and that cherished entry into the Winmau World Masters as Gibraltar



Wayne Davies 'doubles' his money



Delight for Louise



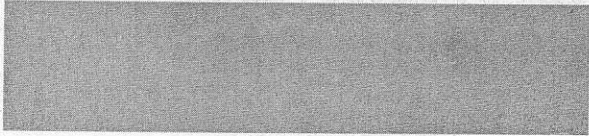
Sid Smaller and Dylan Duo beaten in semis.

### WOMEN'S FINALS

Jan Robbins	}	Jan Robbins	}	Louise Simmonds
Mandy McKenzie				
Louise Simmonds	}	Louise Simmonds		
Kate Drake				

Champion. For the first time, the female players were contesting their own tournament on boards at the end of the hall.

Louise Simmonds was ecstatic when she beat Jan Robbins in the Women's final and gained similar honours along with the 500 euros first prize.



**MEN'S BOARD FINALS**

