

MARKET TOWN AWARDS 2007

MARKET TOWN: KNARESBOROUGH

PROJECT NAME: THE GREAT KNARESBOROUGH BED RACE

Partners: The Lions Club of Knaresborough, Harrogate Borough Council, North Yorkshire Police, Stray FM, various sponsors including Piccadilly Motors, and many Local Community and Voluntary Groups

Category: Environment and Culture

The Knaresborough Bed Race is an annual event held in June when thousands of visitors from all over Yorkshire and the North East, as well as many visitors from further afield, descend on the picturesque market town of Knaresborough to watch this enormously popular event. The event is hosted by the Lions Club of Knaresborough but involves a whole range of other statutory, voluntary and community organisations throughout preparation and delivery.



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Teams decorate bed frames according to the annual theme and after a parade through the town, the beds race through the town, having to cross the river Nidd before reaching the finish line!

Many teams race just for the fun of it and to raise money for charities and

good causes, both local and national.

The Bed Race has:-

- Engaged the local community.
- Brought different groups together.
- Enhanced the town's profile.
- Improved perceptions of the town.
- Increased local pride in the area.
- Encouraged people to take exercise.

All teams that enter the race pay an entry fee, and local businesses have provided sponsorship.

The Organisers have been approached by groups in Belgium and America who are interested in developing a Bed Race for themselves.



Contact: Mr Gordon Renton, 5 Kirkham Court, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, HG5 8LB
Tel: 01423 867835 Email: gordonrenton@yahoo.co.uk