



# Entries from all quarters

## British Championships

Although the longer home international was cancelled because of the lack of support there were entrants from Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and Jersey present for the British championships, even a Czech.

The residual two day event missed the first of the autumn storms by a couple of days but was a week too early for the glorious autumn sunshine of the following weekend. Instead, there was a moderate southerly wind, low cloud and drizzle to a greater or lesser extent.

The decision was made to shift the venue from Freshwater West to Whitesands at a fairly late stage. Even in normal times it would have been the better part of an hour's drive for anyone needing to change venues but with some motorists driving as slowly as 16 mph in order not to risk breaking the new 20 mph limits the drive was pretty stressful and did not improve everyone's view of road safety.

On Saturday the southerly wind was along the beach, gradually increasing and the rain becoming more persistent. Waves were under a metre high, giving shortish rides. A lifeboat arrived mid morning, did a circuit of the bay and disappeared again but there were no more problems at the beach than the need to have the upwind end of the judges' shelter lower than the other end to stop the wind getting under it and sending it skywards.

Sunday's high water start was rather more lumpy, grey with rain, the rain and wind dying away during the morning although the low cloud took much of the day to lift. With it, the surf also dropped away although it was still possible to get runs, including a long one in reverse. Eventually the sun broke through at times, by when it was low water and the judges were peering into the distance against the declining sun.

By the end of the day 15 classes had been decided, the largest,

