

SUPER WHITSON

Southend more or less on sea just about epitomises the Cockney holiday spirit, and in a Whitsuntide nobody'll forget - if you weren't overdressed, it was perfect.

Relaxing was lovely. In a crowd like that, nobody's conspicuous; you can just do what you like.

Look what they've won: They ought to go in for Beat the Clock.

Fast and furious; just the thing to settle the mid-day meal.

Manchester gave a reminder that Whitsun is a religious festival. Altogether, 20,000 children took part in the traditional Procession of Witness. It was begun by Sunday Schools 159 years ago and has been a Whit Monday institution ever since. Every Anglican Church in Manchester provided its contingent to walk in the procession to the Cathedral.

The Procession, said the Bishop and the Dean of Manchester, bears witness that the Gospel is a living reality.

At Gosling Stadium, out at Welwyn Garden City, it was Kart Race Day; that's the latest form of Motor racing, and it's catching on all over the country. Brian Jordan and other aces in this field think nothing of hurtling their Karts round the track at 70 miles an hour.

This meeting had R.A.C. blessing, which shows how Karts have come up in the world recently. And speaking of that 70 miles an hour, that's some speed when the seat of your pants is only about two-and-a-half inches clear of the tarmac.

The track at Welwyn is 550 yards long, and most of the races were of ten laps. The engines were in the hundred-to-200 c.c. class. The winner now was Brian Jordan. That chap Brabham must look to his laurels.

It's Olympic Games year. And for that dedicated runner Gordon Pirie that means more limelight than ever. In the 3,000 metres could he repeat the triumph of the first day and be first at the tape, as he was in the fifteen-hundred? What a marvellous Double that would make. The British Games meeting was sponsored by News of the World.

Pirie was up against the best runners in Europe over this distance. Early on he was content to let G.E. Everett act as pacemaker. Now, Everett, was followed by A.D. Gordon and Derek Ibbotson; Pirie in fourth place. After two-and-a-half laps Krayszkowiak of Poland took the lead; Pirie just behind him.

Last lap. Pirie took the lead and Rose Volgi began to challenge. Gordon beat the Hungarian in the fifteen-hundred, and it looked like a Pirie victory again.

Yes, it was the 3,000 metres for Gordon Pirie. His time 7 minutes, 57.2. On this form he looks pretty well certain of an Olympic Gold Medal.