



Pancake pros compete against community

Teams across Reading are preparing for the pancake race of the year which is due to take place in Broad Street on Shrove Tuesday, 5 March 2019.

Hundreds of people gather for the annual event which has been running in the town for over 20 years.

Teams from local business don their fancy dress outfits and run in relay races, flipping pancakes along the way. After a series of knock-out heats, the champions will be presented with the coveted frying pan trophy, while awards are also given for the 'Best Dressed' and 'Team Spirit'.

Last year 34 teams took part including Thames Valley Police, John Lewis and Castle Vets. Blandly & Blandly Solicitors are the ones to beat this year after stealing the show and being crowned the champions in 2018 and 2016, while also coming runners-up in 2017.

The event is run by Launchpad and aims to bring the community together for a bit of fun while raising funds to help and support homeless people in Reading.

Ian Caren, Launchpad's Chief Executive, said: "The Pancake Race is our most popular event and is thoroughly enjoyed by all, whether you are taking part or spectating, it is a sight to behold! This year is our 22nd Pancake Race, so it really is a Reading regular.

“Launchpad is very much a local charity working in very close partnership with the Reading community. It’s the community that keeps us going and we really have an amazing one here in Reading. The support we get from our young people, right through to the older generation, from businesses, organisations and schools, is just overwhelming. The Pancake Race is a really fun way for all ages and abilities to get involved and join in with this incredible sense of community spirit.”

Melvyn, who was involved last year, said: “What a great event, my four volunteers loved it. Seeing so many local businesses coming together to raise money in a fun way is a lovely sight to see.”

This year there are 36 places up for grabs for teams of four. The event is extremely popular, so places go quick. In order to secure your spot, download an application form from our website. Send your completed form to us along with a payment of £50 by Tuesday 26 February in order to secure your place.

On the day, teams will arrive in Broad Street Mall between 11.45am and 12.15pm for registration and photos. We’ll then parade to Broad Street where races begin at 12.30pm with the award presentations at approximately 1.30pm.

