

News

'Help us to stop drink drivers'

POLICE are calling on the public to assist them in their clamp-down on drunken drivers this Christmas.

Launching Thames Valley Police's annual drink-drive campaign on Monday, Superintendent Mick Doyle of the force's Roads Policing Unit urged people to help prevent inebriated drivers from getting behind the wheel.

"We need the help of the public to put pressure on those who insist on putting others in danger by continuing to drink and drive," he said.

Supt Doyle had a message to those thinking of driving while over the legal limit: "We test thousands of people, don't take the chance - it just isn't worth it."

Drink-drivers and those refusing to take breath tests could face losing their licence for at least 12 months, six months in jail and fines of up to £5,000.

Anyone with information about drink-driving can call the police on 0845 8 505 505 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

For breaking news see our website at: www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk

Step up to the plate!

One more team needed to take part in contest at the Magnet

By Laura Enfield
laurae@haylismedia.co.uk

AN URGENT rallying call has gone out after several teams dropped out of this year's Cracker Challenge.

Organisers had been gearing up for a bumper year of inflatable fun at the Magnet Leisure Centre, Maidenhead, on Tuesday, with 12 teams signing up for the charity event.

But they were dismayed when half of the teams pulled out with no explanation last week. They are now hoping others will step up to the plate.

Daniel Houston, from the Magnet, said: "I have no idea why they pulled out."

"We have had people drop out before but never to this magnitude. And it's teams who have always been very supportive."

The Cracker Challenge is well known for its sumo wrestling and obstacle course, and turning even the most demure of office workers into bouncing balls of aggression.

It is the keystone of the Advertiser's annual Cracker Appeal and last year raised £3,800 to help pay for Christmas parties and outings for hundreds of elderly people, children and adults with learning difficulties.

The Magnet and Advertiser teams always enjoy a friendly rivalry and the event has been getting bigger and better each year.

So it came as a shock when



PILLOW FIGHT: Swinging opponents try to knock each other from their perch at the Cracker Challenge. Ref:97682-2

some teams bowed out with just days to go.

On Monday, thanks to a rash of frantic phone calls, Daniel had managed to bring the number of teams back up

to nine, with 3G and Lane 4 signing up.

But he is still on the hunt for one more.

He said: "We have never had to run it with nine before."

Contributors to Christmas Cracker Appeal

Mr & Mrs Jones; Lions Club of Maidenhead Swimarathon; Granville Residential; Sehlbach & Whiting Ltd; Chandlers Removals; Heath Buckeridge; Cardinal Clinic; Abba Warehouses Ltd; Copas Traditional Turkeys; Newbury Weekly News (Printers) Ltd; Local Cleaning Services; Lodgings of Windsor & Maidenhead; B&R Fallowfield; The Chartered Institute of Marketing; Littlewick Green

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Thank You.
Total so far: £7,719.40

Pets Corner



HAPPY TALK: Four-year-old Tia would love a home and garden of her own.

TIA is about four years old and is mainly white with some tabby patches.

She is very friendly and talkative and is looking forward to a loving home in a safe area where she can have access to a garden.

She has not lived with children but could live with sensible children over 10.

If you would like to give Tia a home then please call Cats Protection on 01628 634796.

Cats Protection would like to thank all those who have supported us in 2008 and of course also those who have adopted one or two of our many cats and kittens.

We hope we can count on your continued support for 2009.

Busy time at fair

RIDES on a miniature train were among the highlights for children at the annual Christmas fair at Wessex Primary School, St Adrian's Close, Cox Green, on Sunday afternoon.

The train, supplied by the Lions Club of Maidenhead, travelled around the playground carrying more than 200 passengers in all.

There were activities and attractions to suit old and young, including arts and crafts, games, fancy dress competition, a tombola, Santa's grotto, performances from the school choir and street dance group and a secret present room, where children bought gifts for their parents.

The £2,300 proceeds from the fair will go towards renovating the school's playgrounds.

PTA chairman Nik Haines said: "We seem to get busier each year."

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