

## ANDY BRINGS A TOUCH OF THE X-FACTOR TO THE GREAT CHRISTMAS PUDDING RACE!

CHRISTMAS is coming – and so is the wackiest event of the festive London calendar – the Great Christmas Pudding Race in aid of Cancer Research UK.

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual race – a Covent Garden institution - will take place on Saturday December 5 in the west piazza of Covent Garden.

Former X-Factor finalist and Eurovision Song Contest entrant Andy Abraham will lead the pre-race entertainment for the crowds, along with award-winning opera singer Kevin Kyle. Andy and Kevin, who has toured in Phantom of the Opera, will sing a selection of their own material and Christmas songs.

During the Great Christmas Pudding Race, teams of six have to negotiate their way round an It's-A-Knockout-style course of obstacles and inflatables while carrying a Christmas pudding on a tray and being squirted with foam.

This year, teams of fancy dress reindeers, Christmas fairies and bees have registered to take part. Previous years have seen teams of Medieval knights, cowboys, assorted animals, Ozzy Osbornes, and of course, Christmas puddings.

Steve Squires, from the Lime's Lemons team, said: "The Great Christmas Pudding Race has become an institution in Covent Garden. It's great fun to take part, hilarious to watch and amid all the foam and the puddings flying left, right and centre, it raises a huge amount of money to help Cancer Research UK carry on its life-saving work."

Last year the Great Christmas Pudding Race raised more than £17,000 and overall the event has contributed more than £900,000 to Cancer Research UK.

Louise Selman, area volunteer manager for the charity said: "It's an event not to be missed. It's organised by a fantastic committee of volunteers, it's in a great, festive setting and it's a huge boost each year to our work."

The event begins at 11.30am with an aerobic warm-up for the teams.

Prizes include the coveted Christmas pudding trophy plus awards for the most creative fancy dress costumes.

To enter a team in the race or for more information about the event, visit:  
[www.xmaspuddingrace.org.uk](http://www.xmaspuddingrace.org.uk)

**About Cancer Research UK**

- Cancer Research UK is the world's leading charity dedicated to beating cancer through research.
- The charity's groundbreaking work into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer has helped save millions of lives. This work is funded entirely by the public.
- Cancer Research UK has been at the heart of the progress that has already seen survival rates double in the last thirty years.
- Cancer Research UK supports research into all aspects of cancer through the work of more than 4,800 scientists, doctors and nurses.
- Together with its partners and supporters, Cancer Research UK's vision is to beat cancer.

For further information about Cancer Research UK's work or to find out how to support the charity, please call 020 7121 6699 or visit [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org)