

Pie race to continue 200-year-old tradition on family fun day

# Fig roll to entertain hundreds in village

SOUTH Cheshire's most bizarre family fun day is ready to roll on Saturday.

Wybunbury's Fig Pie Wakes will attract hundreds of visitors to watch competitors roll their specially made pies from the Swan Inn down Main Road, to see how far they travel.

The unique race is thought to date back at least 200 years - there is a poster still intact advertising the event as long ago as 1812.

It fizzled out around 1920 because it had largely become an excuse for drunkenness and rowdy behaviour - one man even died after a scuffle in a pub.

But it was revived 10 years ago and now at least 100 competitors take part each year, with hundreds more cheering them on as they roll their pies down the steep hill. The winner

by Alan Jervis

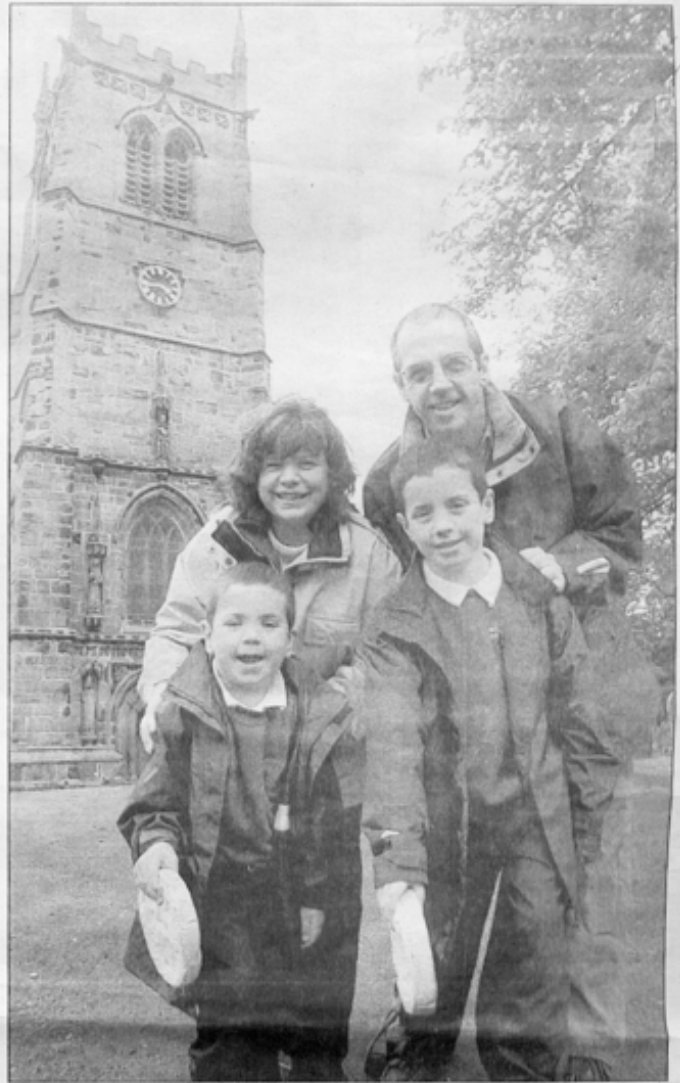
receives a cup for the year, a bottle of port and a cheese.

The event is organised by the Wybunbury Tower Trust. Spokesman Barbara Colbert said: 'The pies are made from a special recipe, available at the Swan Inn, the Red Lion and the Post Office - and competitors are warned, they are not edible.'

The race is not the day's only attraction.

There will be stalls, refreshments, two traditional morris dancing troupes, Punch and Judy and guided tours of the leaning tower of the former St Chad's Church, which dates back to 1470.

If the day proves to be thirsty work, the Swan Inn is holding a beer festival. The fun starts at 2pm and the race is at 3.30pm.



**PIES THE LIMIT:** Jane, Chris, Harry and Oliver Dare limber up for this Saturday's Fig Pie Wakes at Wybunbury.

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