

## **WADEBRIDGE CARNIVAL SAFETY ADVICE**

This document has been produced to help you ensure that the carnival is safe for those taking part and for the people who support it.

The onus for safety rests with the Carnival Committee; float operators, drivers and organisers. The committee respectfully reminds those taking part of the responsibilities they are undertaking.

Carnivals are an important part of the colour and culture of local communities. The safer Carnival Campaign involves ongoing consultation between the Police, Local Authority Road Safety Units and the carnival organisers. Together they have agreed common sense safety measures, which will protect participants and onlookers alike. The advice stated below will ensure that carnivals will continue to operate in a region with a rich carnival tradition and that the risk of injury to any person will be minimal.

**The vehicle and any trailer forming part of the float must comply with Section 40A of the Road Traffic Act 1988. Please read the following advice and ensure that those involved with this float comply with the safety measures aimed at ensuring needless accidents are prevented.**

**A certificate of insurance or suitable indemnity must be in force covering the use of the vehicle and float in the carnival. The vehicle must have a valid tax disc displayed and a MOT certificate if required.**

A float vehicle or trailer must be mechanically sound and not be suffering from corrosion or defect that is likely to lead to failure. Any float or equipment carried on the vehicle or trailer should be so secured and substantial enough for the purpose. The vehicle or trailer must be suitable to perform the job it is intended; e.g. you cannot pull a 10 tonne trailer with a Land Rover 90 Series, because the drawing vehicle was not designed for that purpose nor are the brakes capable of stopping such a load.

You cannot carry more people than the vehicle was designed to carry. Passengers carried on an open vehicle or trailer may fall off and injure themselves. Passengers must not be in a position where their safety is compromised. Anything carried on or bolted to a vehicle or trailer must be secure at all times. The test to be applied in all cases must be: would the vehicle or trailer or the load or passengers be in any way likely to cause injury to any person carried in, on, or in the vicinity of the vehicle whilst it is on the public road? If you think it is then the vehicle should not be used. You are criminally liable and possibly liable in Civil Law if subsequent injury is caused.

No passengers may be carried on the carnival float unless that float is proceeding in the carnival procession, except on lathe floats where an attendant may be carried to assist the driver. No-one so carried shall climb on or off a float unless it is stationary and there is contact with the driver. Any such procession may only proceed at walking pace when passengers are carried on a float.

Each float must be under the supervision of a suitable person(s) who will walk alongside the float. As a guide, provide 2 supervisors for every 30 feet of float. No water, flour or other missiles should be thrown from the float.

**ONLY** walkers must hand out advertising material and samples. Collection tins must not be operated from floats. Only walkers may collect using approved collection tins or buckets.

A means of communication, either verbal or radio must be available between the driver and the passengers of the float to halt the vehicle immediately should the need arise. No one will climb on or off a vehicle or trailer whilst in the procession unless the vehicle is stationary and one of the supervisors is in contact with the driver, who will be told, when it is safe to proceed. Under no circumstances will the consumption of alcohol be allowed immediately before or during the procession by any driver or other person carried in or on the carnival float or anyone supervising the float on foot.

In train vehicles, the tow bar will be supervised to ensure that no-one crosses between vehicles, or rides on the tow bar.

Children should be seated or secured and adults should be provided with handholds if standing. Anyone seeking fire prevention advice would contact his or her local fire safety department. Adherence to this advice will ensure that the carnival is fun and safe for all.

**Please display in your windscreen. NB any float not displaying this notice will be automatically disqualified from entering the carnival**

**THIS VEHICLE HAS BEEN  
CERTIFIED SAFE AND  
PROPERLY DOCUMENTED BY  
THE ENTRANT**

**Signature.....**