

Halloween In The Orchard

Lynsted's much anticipated, spooky Halloween event took place on Saturday 27th October - a chilly, but dry evening. Starting in the daylight, the following 2 hours were packed with ghoulish activity, fun and excitement as the dark gradually descended upon the Cherry Orchard.

The stage had been set earlier in the day with large coffins, skeletons and all manner of devilish prop that had been kindly given to us by Martin, who has only recently moved out of the village. The atmosphere was further enhanced by the dancing flames of the fire, glowing carved pumpkins, vast array of costumes and make-up and great music from 'The John Smith Experience'.

Whilst our visitors availed themselves of comforting warm beverages from the WI ladies, chilled alternatives from Ed and Dylan's bar or burgers and hot dogs from our hardworking bbq cooks, our 'Master of Ceremonies' - Bruce Bell - directed the proceedings. Even the most wary Ghoul was drawn to the light-hearted yet vaguely scary 'Spook's Parade' and the fun of a dance and sing-a-long, inevitably culminating in the ever-popular 'Time Warp'.

Warmth and sanctuary could be found in our Storyteller's Tent where some children are simply spellbound by June Well's wonderful tales - one Mum remarked that her son would stay listening all night, if he could!

It is always reassuring to find that the simple games still go down well with the children, whether they are ghost bowling with pumpkins or trying to hook witches' fingers with hoops and the help from Matthew and 3 extremely capable and confident young teenagers was very much appreciated.

By the time that an award for the 'Best Carved' pumpkin was presented, the 2 hours had pretty much flown by. One Mum on 'facebook' commented that the family had, "Loved it! The kids had loads of fun".

Lizzie Spilman, events coordinator, said that it had been a, "Wonderful evening with so many appreciative comments, lots of happy people and excited children. It made all the hard work worthwhile. I loved it!"

Events in the orchard are only made possible by the planning of the orchard Committee and the support of so many people from the community. Special Thanks must be extended to Pip and Sue Neaves, who continue to allow the village to use their wonderful orchard for these events.

Watch this Space for next year's event's dates!

Report by Ann Haffenden

