

CVCA Scarecrow Festival Report

This year's festival theme was "Yorkshire – on't park for t'park", raising money to improve facilities for the children's play area. It has been one of the most successful scarecrow festivals to date, raising an overall total of £4,414.23.

A number of new people joined the organising committee this time, bringing new and fresh ideas to the planning and co-ordination of the event.

There were no issues regarding the delivery and set up of the marquee and St John's School had their annual school disco in the tent on Thursday afternoon. The scarecrow committee organised the bar and food after the disco and this proved popular. Pamela Hales ran a game of Play your Cards Right for the children.

This year the committee organised race night. All proceeds raised went to our fundraising fund. Feedback was very positive and the bar was very successful!

The scarecrow competition had 42 scarecrow entries, which was a record total. We also introduced new voting categories and prize giving was held on Saturday evening. The Methodist Church organised the cream teas at the start of the week.

The fete on Saturday was very successful. We had entertainment in the tent throughout the afternoon. There were various live acts performing and these were very popular, keeping people on the park throughout the afternoon. We had a number of stalls and games set up on the park and food was also available. Afternoon tea was organised in the tent and the Yorkshire Tea company donated items for this. The bake-off competition had a record number of 53 entries, including a new category for jam making. We also promoted our sponsors this year, with a banner displayed in the marquee and subsequently hung on the railings by the memorial after the event.

Saturday evening was also well attended. The Dansettes played on Saturday evening and we made a record amount on the bar. This year we used hired bar staff on Friday and Saturday evenings.

On Sunday morning, the marquee family church service took place in the tent. Clifton and Lightcliffe Brass Band then performed after the church service. The draw for the raffle took place during the interval. Although there weren't a great number of people in the tent, the majority of people had a picnic on the park due to the warm weather.

Thanks go to:

- All members of the scarecrow organising committee and people who donated their free time over the festival, including all live acts who performed in the tent;
- Pamela Hales for running the Play Your Cards Right game;
- The Armytage Arms donated money from their weekly quiz;

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- Janet Stanley for organising the scarecrow competition and all the committee members involved in the printing and delivery of leaflets and also to the Methodist Church for organising the cream teas at the start of the week's competition;
- Karl Green from the Holiday Inn, for volunteering to judge entries plus children from St John's School;
- Allison Rushton and Julie Farey for co-ordinating the bake-off competition;
- Clifton Rangers for their involvement at the fete on Saturday;
- A total of £190 was raised from the joint church collection. Thanks to both churches for their generous donation.