

Events Group Report

The scarecrows for the 5th Annual Scarecrow Competition were displayed between 25 October and 3 November.

There were 26 weird and wonderful entries across the three categories of Family, Adult and Group.

There have been a large number of viewings of the various scarecrows over the week. Amy Paterson, who is the lead on the Events Group, has a full set of photos.

The entries were judged by Cllrs Adrian Brophy and Jan Warwick and our thanks go to them for this, it cannot have been easy choosing the winners. The winners are:

- Family: The Grave Robber, 18 Plovers Down
- Group: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, St Marks Brownies
- Adult: Feathers McStraw, 7 South View Road

Amy presented the winners with a certificate and the responses from them were fantastic... They have all regularly entered and were very happy to have won.

The Events Group are mindful that there was a mixed reaction to merging the competition with Halloween. Two of the entries were vandalised, which was a great shame. Both had been photographed beforehand (and photos given to judges) and so were not disadvantaged in the judging.

Thanks also to David Higgins with the map production.

Overall, very successfully run and coordinated by Amy and a very big thanks to Amy and the rest of the team for this.

Morgan Mitchener-Banks, the grandson of Brian Mitchener (the former Chair of the PC), who is a student at Winchester University, did another story on the scarecrow competition this year.

Amongst others, Morgan interviewed one of the Events Group, Marianne Foster, who was well placed to answer all his questions and promote the competition.

Cllr Kirkby has asked for the link to the interview, so the PC can include it on our website and on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Hopefully a set of photos can get to the Hampshire Chronicle in time for the next edition.

With the Scarecrows out of the way thoughts are now on Christmas, so the focus is now on the 6th Annual Christmas Event.

The Events Group hope to have a tree donated from an estate just outside Alresford. The estate is sending some pictures, so that the Events Group can see if there is anything suitable. They have also said they may be able to get the tree to us. The Events Group will however plan a backup, just in case.

Christmas tree erection is planned for Saturday 7 December.

The WI are all geared up to organise the refreshments in the evening.

Publicity will start soon.