

E.V. Ryazanova

THE BRITISH FESTIVE TIMES CALENDAR

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

Е.В. Рязанова

Календарь британских  
праздников

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SARATOV 2014

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Данное учебное пособие представляет собой сборник, посвященный праздничным календарным датам Великобритании. В пособие включены наиболее популярные календарные события: Рождество, Пасха, День Святого Валентина, канун Дня всех Святых, ночь Гая Фокса. Пособие предназначено для изучения культуры и традиций англоговорящих стран и может использоваться на занятиях по английскому языку, в рамках спецкурса «Британоведение», а также для организации внеаудиторной и самостоятельной работы студентов.

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## ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Данное учебное пособие представляет собой фольклорную серию британских праздников. В разработке содержатся учебные и игровые материалы, связанные с праздничными традициями на Британских островах.

Пособие содержит интересный лингвострановедческий материал, связанный с историей возникновения праздников, их происхождением и современными светскими особенностями. Основываясь на фольклорных традициях, преимущественно Великобритании, автор приводит и нетрадиционные для подобных изданий сведения: кулинарные рецепты приготовления праздничных блюд, сказочные сюжеты по теме, песенный материал, отрывки из Библии, и фрагмент Рождественского спектакля.

Пособие может быть рекомендовано для работы со студентами 2-3 курсов гуманитарных вузов, изучающими английский язык и культуру, в том числе для курса «Британоведение», внеаудиторной и самостоятельной работы и проведения праздников на английском языке. Пособие соответствует требованиям ФГОС ВПО для подготовки бакалавров гуманитарных специальностей по иностранному языку, направлено на формирование навыков межкультурной коммуникации, способности к познавательной деятельности и развитию социокультурной компетенции обучающихся, что соответствует учебным программам по иностранному языку, разработанным в университете.

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## PREFACE

People of different cultures celebrate holidays. Although the word “holiday” literally means “holy day”, most secular holidays are not religious, but commemorative in nature and origin.

This book represents a collection of the main celebrations of British Holiday Calendar. It compiles the origins and traditions of the most popular festivities of the year:

October, 31 - Halloween ,  
November, 5 - Bonfire Night,  
December, 25 - Christmas,  
February, 14 - Valentine’s Day  
Sunday in March or April - Easter.

These accounts have been chosen out of the wide range of British traditions for they are still alive today and can be seen by anyone at least in the modern form. They enchant us by their beauty and combination of pagan and Christian rituals and their importance for the lives of the people.

Some recipes of traditional cuisine and food instructions for different occasions are included. The book also comprises authentic poetry, songs and folk tales, Bible story and a script for a Christmas pantomime given in the Appendix.

The manual is provided with exercises and tasks for students’ feedback.

We hope that this book will be of great use for the students and teachers of English in their social and cultural studies and will help to organize the outclass activities.

*Study language together with cultural environment!*



## CELEBRATE! HALLOWEEN (OCTOBER 31)



On October 31st, dozens of children dressed in costumes knock on their neighbour's doors and yell 'Trick or Treat' when the door opens. Pirates and princesses, ghosts and popular heroes of the day all hold bags open to catch the candy or other goodies that the neighbours drop in. They give each

other the costumes and try to guess who is under the masks.

Like in many British celebrations, the origins of Halloween lie both in pre-Christian and Christian customs. Currently, it is supposed that it originated as a pagan Celtic festival of the dead. At the same time it appears to be the eve of the major Catholic festival as November 1st has become a religious holiday known as All Saints' Day (or formerly, All Hallows' Day) from the 8<sup>th</sup> century. The day before the holy day is known as All Hallows' Eve. The word 'Halloween' comes from this form.

*Origin:* October 31st was the eve of Celtic New year. The Celts were the ancestors of the present-day Irish, Welsh and Scottish people. On this day ghosts walked and mingled with the living, or so the Celts thought. The townspeople baked food all that day, and when night fell, they dressed up and tried to resemble the souls of the dead. Hoping that the ghosts would leave peacefully before midnight of the New Year, the people carried the food to the edge of the town and left it for them.

Much later, when Christianity spread throughout Ireland, and October 31st was no longer the last day of the year, Halloween became a celebration mostly for children. 'Ghosts' went from door to door asking for treats, or else a trick would be played on the owners of the house. When many of Irish people immigrated to the USA in the 1840s, the tradition came with them.

Halloween is one of the few festivals whose popularity has increased, not declined, in recent years. Since about 1980, the media have shown growing interest, shops are full of scary masks and witches' hats, children have taken to roaming the streets in costumes, knocking on doors, saying a rhyme, and expecting money or sweets.

Today, school dances and neighbourhood parties are popular among young and old alike. More and more people celebrate Halloween. They dress up like historical or political figures and go to masquerade parties or simply for a walk. One can buy a costume in the special shop. In some cities, costumed children and their parents gather at shopping malls early in the evening. Stores and businesses give parties, with games and treats for children. Teenagers enjoy costume dances at their schools.

*Traditional symbols and games:* As Halloween originated as a celebration connected with evil spirits, witches flying on broomsticks with black cats, ghosts, goblins and skeletons have all evolved as symbols of Halloween. They are popular trick-or-treat costumes and decorations for greeting cards and windows. Black is one of the traditional Halloween colours, probably because Halloween festivals and traditions took place at night.

Pumpkins are also a symbol of Halloween. The pumpkin is an orange-coloured squash, and orange has become the other traditional Halloween colour. Carving pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns is a Halloween custom also dating back to Ireland. A legend grew up about a man named Jack who was so stingy that he was not allowed into heaven when he died. His spirit was doomed to wander around the countryside, holding a lantern to light his way. The Irish people carved scary faces out of turnips representing "Jack of the Lantern", or Jack-o'-lantern. When the Irish brought their customs to the United States, they carved faces on pumpkins because in the autumn, they were more plentiful than turnips.

Apples and nuts, readily available at this time, were a traditional Halloween food (the other name is 'Nut-Crack Night'), and appear in several old games now

revived for children's parties. Players have to catch in their teeth apples floating in water, or hanging from a string, or balanced on a heap of flour.

One of the most popular games at Halloween parties is called pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey: one person is blindfolded and spun slowly so that he or she will become dizzy.

Then the person must find a paper donkey hanging on the wall and try to pin a tail onto the back.

The fact is that the whole atmosphere of the holiday is cheerful and humorous.

The main idea is in the struggle between evil and good. People dressing the spooky costumes do not support the evils, but laugh at them. The prove of this is in the traditional Halloween's wish: *Witching you a happy Halloween!*

***Comprehension exercises:***

Answer the questions using the information from the text.

1. What is the origin of the word "holiday" ?
2. What happens on October 31st in Britain and America?
3. What does the word "Halloween" mean?
4. How did the Celts celebrate the New Year?
5. How was the tradition of the festive brought up to America?
6. What are the symbols of Halloween?
7. Who was "Jack of the Lantern"?
8. What are the traditional Halloween games?

Prove that the following statements are right or wrong:

1. Originally Halloween is a religious holiday.
2. Americans were the first to introduce the holiday.
3. Many people make costumes for masquerade parties.
4. Black is one of the traditional Halloween colors.
5. The Irish used pumpkins for carving the scary faces.

6. The atmosphere of the holiday is terrifying and mysterious.

*Communicative tasks:*

1. Describe the costume for a Halloween party you would like to be dressed in.
2. Draw a donkey and play 'pin-the-tail-of-the-donkey' with your fellow-students. Explain all the rules of the game before starting it.

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## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LANCASHIRE WITCHES?



At the beginning of the 17th century witchcraft interested almost everyone and many trials took place throughout the land. The clerk to the judges of Lancaster Assizes - one Thomas Potts- published a record he had made of the trial of witches from Pendle Forest. Later on his account was republished with the enthusiastic support of none other than Sir Walter Scott.

Early in the 17th century witches were on everybody's minds. Lancashire witches were believed to dwell on and around Pendle Hill. It is the highest hill in the area and the home of wind, rain and cloud. The reality is that atop the mountain there is a plateau of considerable size with lots of bogs and no trees on it. The climate often gives Pendle a capping of cloud and mist. People of the area say; 'If you can see Pendle, it's going to rain; if you can't see Pendle, it's raining!'.

For years rumours had been circulating around Pendle about women who were in league with the devil. They earned the reputation for casting spells on the local people or for causing problems such as turning cow's milk sour.

The farmers and traders of the Pendle country sometimes met the representatives of the witch's families (such as Demdike, Chattox and their offspring). It was best to give them a trifle and let shuffle on their way to the next hapless people, otherwise a cow might develop sudden violent pains, or someone in the family could fall ill, or some other calamity occur.

The judgement day ♦♦

Lancaster Castle,  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 1612

of Anne Whittle; Elizabeth Debice; Anne Redlern;

Alice Autter; Katherine Hewit; John Bulcock;

Jane Bulcock; Alizon Debice; Isobel Robey .

Dou shall all goe from hence to the Castle, from whence  
you came, from thence you shall bee carried to the place of  
execution - where your bodies shall bee hanged,

until you be dead

And God Have Merrie Upon Your

Soules ♦

♦ ♦ ♦

Lancashire people believed that they could use different charms against the spirits of darkness. A charm was a special thing which was reputed to protect against the evil influences. A witch charm included stones, holed at the centre. They were strung so that they could be hung up or draped from the neck. Also rowan wood was recommended as a protection against these harmful creatures.

Demdike and Chattox were the names of the most well-known witches.



Stories grew up from those times and people today still refer to them as local legend. In the present day the witch stories tend to be used for commercial reasons; For example to promote the area or to sell novelties associated with witches, but only in an amusing way and not with any serious intentions.

*Comprehension questions:*

1. What area of England is very popular with witches?
2. Describe the Pendle Hill. Why, do you think, this hill was believed to be the favourite witches' place?
3. What charms could protect people against the evil influences?
4. Do people believe in the existence of the witches nowadays?
5. Look at the pictures and decide what is the difference between the images of the English witch and Russian "baba-jaga".
6. Read and retell the folk tale about the Lancashire Witches given in the Appendix.

## SOME RECIPES OF TRADITIONAL CUISINE.

In the realm of traditional English cooking, Lancashire is probably best known for simple foods such as hot-pot, tripe and onions, pea-soup and, black puddings. Families of mill-workers and miners would be raised entirely on the filling and nourishing dishes often considered to be the only traditional dishes produced by this country.

Traditional cuisine is a fascinating part of folk heritage. Many of the cooking instructions are not so much recipes, more a way of life.

In this booklet we offer you to try some Lancashire meals from the area of the Pendle Hill and traditional Halloween's food.

### **Witches' Brew.**

Witches are supposed to have had cauldrons in which they brewed all manner of noxious and obnoxious receipts. This one for **Nettle Beer**, however, is one that can be recommended with confidence.

Two gallons (4,54 litre) of well-washed young nettles to be put in a pan on top of two gallons of water; also half an ounce of bruised root of ginger, four pounds of malt, four ounces (one ounce = 28 gr.) of sarsaparilla and two ounces of hops.

Boil for twenty minutes, and strain into a pound and a half of caster sugar, stirring until the sugar has gone and it is time to put in one ounce of creamed yeast. When the beer starts to work, empty into bottles or a cask and cork or bung securely:  
*Spells a 'poppin'!*

### **Lancashire Raised Pie.**

Sing a song of sixpence,  
A pocket full of rye,  
Four and twenty blackbirds,  
Baked in a pie.  
When the pie was opened,



The birds began to sing;  
Was not that a dainty dish,  
To set before the King?

Lancashire raised pie may not be made from blackbirds, but one version certainly raised a cheep or two, as will be told anon.

Take 2 lbs of pork, slice the lean and season with pepper and salt. Stew the bones in a pint of water, adding a pinch of salt and pepper, for about two hours; straining off the gravy and set aside, allowing it to coagulate.

Mix a generous pinch of salt with a quarter pound of shredded beef suet, and melt in a half pint of boiling water kept over an open flame. Have ready a bowl containing 1,5 lbs of flour, and tip the hot fat and water into it, mixing the while.

Knead to a pleasing stiffness and separate enough for the pit top, making the greater portion into a round ball. Press onto its top with one hand, palm down, and as the hand depresses, forming the base of the pie beneath it, the sides, with some help from the other hand will rise up, taking shape and symmetry. Do not, on any account, let the case go cold but put in the meat slices, scatter minced fat between, and go on building up until the case is full.

Moisten the edges with egg mixture, and having prepared the pie lid put it on top, not forgetting to make a hole in the centre so the gravy can be poured in later on. Dress the lid with any spare pieces of pastry, paint with egg mixture and bake in a good oven for about three hours. When the pie is nearly done pour in some of the melted gravy through the hole in the roof.

Some cooks make pies, depending on the contents, with one of those pot funnels poking through the crust to vent off the steam. One of them had some sort of reed and pea in it, so that when the pie was baking it was supposed to sing. Which is where this particular recipe began.

## **Halloween Treats (American recipes).**

### *Dried Pumpkin Seeds*

After carving your pumpkin, separate the pulp from the seeds. Rinse the seeds and spread them out to dry. The next day, add enough melted butter or margarine to coat each seed. Spread the seeds onto a cookie sheet and bake in a 300-degree oven for 20 minutes or until they are slightly brown.

### *Caramel Apples*

Take the paper wrapping off about 100 caramels and put them in a saucepan. Put the saucepan over a pan of boiling water. Boil the water until the caramels melt. Put a wooden stick into the top of each apple, dip the apple into the caramel. Let them cool on wax paper, and enjoy!

### *Popcorn Balls*

Combine 1/2 cup of corn syrup, a teaspoon of vinegar and 1/2 teaspoon of salt in a saucepan. Heat to 250 degrees Fahrenheit, or until a small spoonful of the mixture forms a hard ball when dropped in water. Remove from heat and add 1 teaspoon of vanilla. Put warm popped corn in a large greased bowl. Slowly pour the syrup over the popcorn, tossing with greased fork until mixed thoroughly. Be careful, it's hot! When it's cool enough to handle, butter your hands and shape popped corn into 3-inch balls. Place on waxed paper until cool and no longer sticky, then wrap in waxed paper.

## SCARY STORIES



No Halloween party is complete without at least one scary story. Usually one person talks in a low voice while everyone else crowds together on the floor or around a fire. The following is a retelling of a tale told in Britain and in North Carolina and Virginia.

### **“What Do You Come For?”**

There was an old woman who lived all by herself, and she was very lonely. Sitting in the kitchen one night, she said, “Oh, I wish I had some company.”

No sooner had she spoken than down the chimney tumbled two feet from which the flesh had rotted. The old woman’s eyes bulged with terror.

Then two legs dropped to the hearth and attached themselves to the feet.

Then a body tumbled down, then two arms, and a man’s head.

As the old woman watched, the parts came together into a great, tall man. The man danced around and around the room. Faster and faster he went. Then he stopped, and he looked into her eyes.

“What do you come for?” she asked in a small voice that shivered and shook.

“What do I come for?” he said. “I come - for YOU!”

(The narrator shouts and jumps at the person near him!)

### ***Comprehension tasks:***

1. Dramatise the story “What do you come for?”
2. Invent your own scary stories in prose or in verses and perform them in class.

## BONFIRE NIGHT!



Happy  
Guy Fawkes Day!

*Bonfire Night or Guy Fawkes Night* is celebrated in Britain annually on November 5th. The event is accompanied by firework displays, the lighting of bonfires and the ceremonial effigy-burning of one Guy Fawkes. The origin of this celebration stems from events which took place in 1605 and was a conspiracy known as «The Gunpowder Plot», intended to take place on November 5th of that year (the day set for the opening of Parliament). The object of The Gunpowder Plot was to blow up English Parliament along with the ruling monarch, King James I. It was hoped that such a disaster would initiate a great uprising of

English Catholics, who were distressed by the increased severity of penal laws against the practice of their religion.

The conspirators, who began plotting early in 1604, eventually expanded their members to a point where secrecy was impossible. One of their number, Thomas Percy (who had contacts at the Court of King James), hired a cellar beneath the House of Lords. Within this cellar were secretly stored 36 barrels of gunpowder, overlaid with iron bars and firewood. The plan went awry, however, by way of a myserious letter received by Lord Monteagle on October 26th (10 days prior to the opening of Parliament). Monteagle, brother-in-law of Francis Tresham (another of the conspirators and likely author of the correspondence... although this was never proven), was urged in the letter not to

attend Parliament on opening day. When the message was revealed to the First Earl of Salisbury and others, they took steps which led to the discovery of the hidden cache and the arrest of Guy Fawkes on the night of November 4th as he entered the cellar. The majority of the other conspirators, either overtaken as they attempted to flee or seized shortly thereafter, were killed outright, imprisoned or executed.

While the plot itself was the work of a small number of men, it provoked hostility against all British Catholics and led to an increase in the harshness of laws against them. Even to this day, it is the law that no Roman Catholic may hold the office of monarch and the reigning king or queen remains Supreme Head of the Church of England.

A modern theory regarding the involvement of Guy Fawkes in the Gunpowder Plot is that he was not trying to blow up the Houses of Parliament at all, but merely attempting to assassinate King James who, it was believed, had reneged on his promise to put a stop to the persecution of Catholics. In any event, it remains unclear whether the conspirators would have been successful in their plan, even if they had not been betrayed. Some believe that the gunpowder they were planning to use was so old as to be useless for the task.

Today, one of the ceremonies which accompanies the opening of a new session of Parliament is a traditional searching of the basement by the Yeoman of the Guard. It has been said that for superstitious reasons, no State Opening of Parliament has or ever will be held again on November 5th. This, however, is a fallacy since on at least one occasion (in 1957), Parliament did indeed open on November 5th. The actual cellar employed for the storage of the gunpowder in 1605 by the conspirators was damaged by fire in 1834 and totally destroyed during the rebuilding of the Palace of Westminster in the Nineteenth Century.

Also known as «Firework Night» and «Bonfire Night», November 5th was designated by King James I (via an Act of Parliament) as a day of thanksgiving for «the joyful day of deliverance». This Act remained in force

until 1859. On the very night of the thwarted Gunpowder Plot, it is said that the populace of London celebrated the defeat by lighting fires and engaging in street festivities. It would appear that similar celebrations took place on each anniversary and, over the years, became a tradition. In many areas, a holiday was observed, although it is not celebrated in Northern Ireland.

Guy Fawkes Night is not solely a British celebration. The tradition was also established in the British colonies by the early American settlers and actively pursued in the New England States under the name of «Pope Day» as late as the Eighteenth Century. Today, the celebration of Guy Fawkes and his failed plot remains a tradition in such places as Newfoundland (Canada) and some areas of New Zealand, in addition to the British Isles.

***Comprehension questions:***

1. What do the words 'the Gunpowder Plot' stand for?
2. What was the aim of the plotters?
3. What events happened around the 5 of November in 1605?
4. Who was involved in the Plot?
5. How was the Plot discovered?
6. What happened to Guy Fawkes and the other conspirators?
7. What was the social and political outcome of the plot?
8. How is the Gunpowder Plot remembered?
9. Are the Houses of Parliament still searched before State Opening?
10. Does the cellar where Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament still exist?

## GUY FAWKES AND THE STORY OF A PLOT



Born on 13 April 1570 at High Petergate in York, Yorkshire, Fawkes was the only son of Edward Fawkes and Edith Blake. His mother had given birth to a daughter a few years earlier, named Anne, who died at age seven weeks on 11 November 1568. Guy was baptised in the church of St. Michael le Belfrey on 16 April 1570 as a three-day-old baby. In the five years following Fawkes's birth, his mother bore two more daughters, Anne (named in honour of the earlier deceased child) and Elizabeth.

Fawkes, originally raised as a Protestant, was a pupil of the Free School of St. Peters in York, located in «Le Horse Fayre». This school had been founded by Royal Charter of Philip and Mary in 1557. At this place of learning, Fawkes' schoolfellows may have included John and Christopher Wright, both of whom would be among the conspirators of the Gunpowder Plot, and Thomas Morton, who became Bishop of Durham. At St. Peter's, Fawkes was taught by John Pulleyn, kinsman to the Pulleyns of Scotton and a suspected Catholic who, according to some sources, may have had an early effect on the impressionable Fawkes.

Fawkes's father was a descendant of the Fawkes family in Farnley; he was either a notary or proctor of the ecclesiastical courts and later an advocate of the consistory court of the Archbishop of York. Edward's wife, Edith Blake, was descended from prominent merchants and aldermen of the city. Edward Fawkes died in 1579, and his widow remarried in 1582, to a Catholic, Denis Bainbridge of Scotton. The family were known to be recusants, resisters of the authority of the Church of England, and it is probable that his stepfather's influence contributed to Guy's affiliation to Catholicism; Fawkes finally converted to

Catholicism around the age of 16. In the same year that Fawkes converted to Catholicism (1586), he would be made brutally aware of the repression the English Parliament enacted on local Catholics. Margaret Clitherow, later known as the «Pearl of York», was martyred in her hometown that year by being crushed to death. She had originally been arrested for harbouring Catholic priests in her home.

After leaving school, Fawkes became a footman for Anthony Browne, 1st Viscount Montagu. Browne was one of the leading statesmen during the time of Catholic monarch of Scotland Mary and was also allegedly implicated in the Ridolfi plot. Browne took a dislike to Fawkes and fired him after a short time. However, his grandson Anthony-Maria Browne, 2nd Viscount Montagu re-employed Fawkes as a table waiter. In 1591, Fawkes inherited his father's estates. After renting them out for a while as a way to earn money, he sold his stakes in them to Anne Skipsey.

There is a possibility that Fawkes was married. The International Genealogy Index, compiled by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, records a marriage between «Guy Fawkes» and «Maria Pulleyn» in Scotton during 1590. The same records also note the birth of a son named "Thomas" to Fawkes and Maria on February 6, 1591. However, these entries appear to have been taken from some secondary source and not from actual parish register entries. Thus, they cannot be authenticated.

It is believed that Fawkes left England in either 1593 or 1594 accompanied by one of his Harrington cousins who later became a priest. Their destination was Flanders, where Fawkes enlisted in the Spanish Army under the Archduke Albert of Austria.

In Continental Europe there had been a series of Wars of Religion stemming from a Protestant-Catholic issue in relation to the presumption of the French throne. England was divided, the English Protestant crown supported Navarre, while the Catholics of England supported the Catholic League and



Pope Sixtus V, through the Duke of Guise. Sir William Stanley had raised an army in Ireland to fight in the Spanish Netherlands. Fawkes, along with his Jesuit cousin Richard Collinge went over to Flanders to join him against the Dutch Revolt. Fawkes spent ten years fighting for the Spanish Catholic cause as a soldier. It was while fighting with the Spaniards that he adopted the name Guido, and he gained considerable expertise with explosives.

Physically by now, Fawkes was apparently most impressive in appearance, being a tall and powerfully-built man with thick reddish-brown hair, a flowing moustache, bushy auburn beard and grey-blue eyes. He has also seemingly adopted the name or affectation of «Guido» instead of «Guy».

During his stay in Spain, Fawkes renewed his acquaintance with former schoolmate Christopher Wright and the pair began to work toward rallying Spanish support for an invasion of England upon the death of Queen Elizabeth I. This mission would ultimately prove to be a fruitless one.

Upon his return from this rallying journey, Fawkes was informed while in Brussels that Thomas Wintour has been asking for him. Around the time of Easter, when Wintour was preparing to embark for England, Stanley presented Fawkes to him. Although it cannot be absolutely proven, it seems likely that it was at this time Wintour informed Fawkes of the conspirators' intentions.

Some time between Easter and May, Fawkes was invited by Robert Catesby to accompany Thomas Wintour to Bergen in order to meet with Juan De Velasco, Constable of Castile, who was on his way to the Court of King James I to discuss a treaty between Spain and England. Some time in May of 1604, Fawkes met with Robert Catesby, Thomas Percy, John Wright and Thomas Wintour at an inn known as the «Duck and Drake», located in the fashionable Strand District of Londong. There, he agreed under oath with Percy to join the other three in the Gunpowder Conspiracy. This oath was then sanctified in an adjoining room by the performing of mass and administering of the sacraments by the Jesuit priest, John Gerard.

It was at this time that Fawkes assumed the identity of one «John Johnson». Posing as Percy's servant, Fawkes was entrusted to take care of the tenement which Percy had rented. Around Michaelmas, Fawkes was asked to begin preparations for the mining work, which was the original plan of the conspirators (later abandoned altogether) in order to gain access to the Houses of Parliament. However, these mining preparations had to be delayed until early December, given that the Commissioners of the Union between England and Scotland were meeting in the same house. Eventually, the work in the mine proved too slow and too difficult for men who were unaccustomed to such physical labor and further accomplices were sworn into the Plot.

Fawkes and the other conspirators rented a cellar beneath the House of Lords. By March 1605, they had hidden 1800 pounds (36 barrels, or 800 kg) of gunpowder in the cellar. The plotters also intended to abduct Princess Elizabeth (later Elizabeth of Bohemia, the «Winter Queen»). A few of the conspirators were concerned, however, about fellow Catholics who would have been present at Parliament during the opening. One of the conspirators wrote a warning letter to Lord Monteagle, who received it on 26 October. The conspirators became aware of the letter the following day, but they resolved to continue the plot after Fawkes had confirmed that nothing had been touched in the cellar.

Lord Monteagle had been made suspicious, however; the letter was sent to the Secretary of State, who initiated a search of the vaults beneath the House of Lords in the early morning of 5 November. However, nothing was moved, in order not to alert the conspirators that the plot had been uncovered.

On Wednesday, October 30, Fawkes (apparently ignorant of the letter's existence) inspected the cellar once more and satisfied himself that the gunpowder was still in place and had not been disturbed. The following Sunday (November 3), a few of the leading conspirators met in London and agreed that it appeared the authorities remained unaware of the Plot. However, all but Fawkes made plans for a speedy exit from London. Agreeing to remain and

watch the cellar by himself, Fawkes had already been given the task of firing the powder (doubtless due to his munitions experience in the Low Countries where he had been taught how to «fire a slow train»). His orders were to embark for Flanders as soon as the powder had been fired and to spread news of the explosion throughout the Continent.

The following Monday afternoon, Thomas Howard (Earl of Suffok and the Lord Chamberlain) searched the buildings of Parliament. In the cellar, he discovered an unusually large pile of faggots and noted the presence of Fawkes, whom he



described as a «very bad and desperate fellow». When asked who claimed this suspicious pile, Fawkes replied that it belonged to Thomas Percy, his employer. These details were reported to the King and believing by the look of Fawkes

that «he seemed to be a man shrewd enough, but up to no good», the cellar was searched a second time...a little before midnight on the following evening. Fawkes had sought out Percy that same day in order to warn him, but had returned to his post before nightfall. Once again, the pile of faggots, coal and iron bars were searched. This time, the powder unearthed.

Fawkes, who was resolved to blow himself up along with Parliament if need be, was seized as he attempted to ignite the powder charge. Upon his person was discovered a watch, slow matches and touchwood. Fawkes was arrested and taken before the privy council where he remained defiant. When asked by one of the Scottish lords what he had intended to do with so much gunpowder, Fawkes answered, «To blow you Scotch beggars back to your own native mountains!»

During the early morning hours of November 5, the Privy Council gathered in the King's bedchamber and Fawkes was brought in under guard. He declined to reveal any information beyond the fact that his name was «Johnson» and that he was a servant of Thomas Percy. Further questioning later that day unveiled little more than Fawkes' apparent contempt. When asked by the King how it were possible that he could conspire to such a hideous form of treason, Fawkes responded that a dangerous disease required a desperate remedy...and that his intent was to blow all the Scotsmen present back to the border.

By order of King James, «gentler tortours» were first to be administered to Fawkes, since torture was contrary to common law unless authorized by the reigning monarch or Privy Council. Eventually, on November 7, Fawkes' spirit was broken. He confessed his true name and that the Plot had been confined to five men. The following day, he recounted the events of the conspiracy without naming names...but, on November 9, Fawkes identified his fellow conspirators, having heard that some of them had already been arrested at Holbeche.

There is no record of exactly what forms of torture Fawkes was subjected to, although it is almost certain that manacles were employed and, most probably, also the rack. It would appear that he was also confined for some period of time to the infamous «Little Ease» located in the Tower of London...a cell so small that it was impossible to stand, sit or lie down properly with any degree of comfort.

On Monday, January 27, 1606, the trial of the eight surviving conspirators commenced in Westminster Hall. The proceedings were little more than a legal formality since a guilty verdict had almost certainly already been handed down. The conspirators pled their innocence...a plea which caused some consternation among those present at the trial.

On Friday, January 31, 1606, Guy Fawkes, Thomas Wintour, Ambrose Rookwod and Robert Keyes were taken to the Old Palace Yard at Westminster and hung, drawn and quartered «in the very place which they had planned to

demolish in order to hammer home the message of their wickedness». The last of the four to suffer his appointed fate was Fawkes...the «romantic caped figure of such evil villainy». A spectator to the scene later wrote:

‘Last of all came the great devil of all, Guy Fawkes, alias Johnson, who should have put fire to the powder. His body being weak with the torture and sickness, he was scarce able to go up the ladder, yet with much ado, by the help of the hangman, went high enough to break his neck by the fall. He made no speech, but with his crosses and idle ceremonies made his end upon the gallows and the block, to the great joy of all the beholders that the land was ended of so wicked a villainy.’

According to «A Narrative of the Gunpowder Plot» written by David Jardine in 1857, Fawkes should not be regarded as a «mercenary ruffian, ready for hire to do any deed of blood; but as a zealot, misled by misguided fanaticism, who was, however, by no means destitute of piety or humanity».

### *Comprehension questions:*

1. What family was Guy Fox brought up in? What were his mother and father?
2. What have you learnt about his step-father and cousin? What religion did his family support?
3. What school did Fox go to? What is known about his classmates?
4. How did he get to fight in the Spanish Army? What skills did he get there?
5. When and where did Guy Fox meet the other conspirators? What were their intentions? What plan was first proposed? Why was it a failure?
6. What was their second plan? What part of work was Guy Fox responsible for?
7. Why was the plot discovered? What was written in the letter to Lord Manteagle?
8. How did Guy Fox behave after he was seized? Why did he tell the names in the end? How did his behaviour characterize him?
9. How were the conspirators executed?

## THE REIGNING MONARCH



James Charles Stuart... later James I of England and VI of Scotland... was born during the time known as the Reformation. His birth took place on June 19, 1566 at Edinburgh Castle in Scotland. He was the son of the ill-fated Mary, Queen of Scots (who was beheaded in 1587), and her second husband, Henry Stewart, Lord Darnley (who was murdered in 1567). James was a mere

13 months old when he ascended to the throne of Scotland on July 29, 1567, his mother having been forced to abdicate in favor of her infant son. He assumed the official rule of Scotland at the age of 19. On March 24, 1603, upon the death of his childless aunt, Elizabeth I (who named no successor), James united the kingdoms of Scotland, Ireland and England under one rule, forming the foundation for what would later come to be known as the British Empire. Thus, the line of Scottish kings ended with James VI.

Like many monarchs of the time, James was reared by tutors and became an exceedingly capable linguist. Indeed, he once remarked that he could speak Latin before he could speak his native Scots and typically had no need for a translator when conducting business with other heads of state.

James was married by proxy on August 20, 1589 to Anne Oldenburg of Denmark, the official wedding between the couple taking place on November 23 of that same year. Born on October 14, 1574 in Skanderborg Castle, Anne was the second daughter of King Frederick II of Denmark and Norway. Anne died

on March 4, 1619 at Hampton Court Palace and is buried in Westminster Abbey. Together, Anne and James had given birth to nine children, two of whom had survived till they were grown-ups: Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia (also known as «The Winter Queen») and Charles (later King Charles I who ascended to the throne upon the death of his father and was later martyred).

James held the Roman Catholic religion in contempt and believed strongly in the Divine Right of Kings. He was afflicted with strong views on a wide range of matters, notably the evils of tobacco, witchcraft and puritanism. The most serious difficulties focused on his relations with the Puritans and Parliament – complicated by the fact that the Puritans were increasingly strongly represented in Parliament. Despite the fact that he endured racism and slander as a native Scot ruling the English populace, he managed to cultivate the love and admiration of many of his subjects and proved himself as a highly capable monarch. During the reign of James, the first successful colonies were planted upon the American mainland...Virginia, Massachusetts and Nova Scotia (in South East Canada), for example.

In July 1604, James appointed 54 men to a committee organized for the purpose of formulating a new translation to the Bible. This proposed translation did not go without opposition. The Catholic religion, for instance, was vehemently against translating the Bible into the «common tongue». Nevertheless, the work continued and the King James or Authorized Version of the Bible was published in 1611. It is the best-selling book of all time and, for many Christians, remains the absolute and final word of God.

Throughout his life, James was something of a sickly man, plagued with crippling arthritis, weak/spasmodic limbs, abdominal colic, gout, insomnia and a number of other chronic illnesses. He also had physical handicaps which affected his legs and a tongue which was too large for his mouth. In addition, some authorities believe he may have had congenital diseases of the nervous system. To add to his ill-health, James suffered from depression after the loss of

his beloved Anne. James I of England and VI of Scotland died on March 27, 1625 at Theobolds Park in Hertfordshire, England. He was 59 years old and is buried in Westminster Abbey.

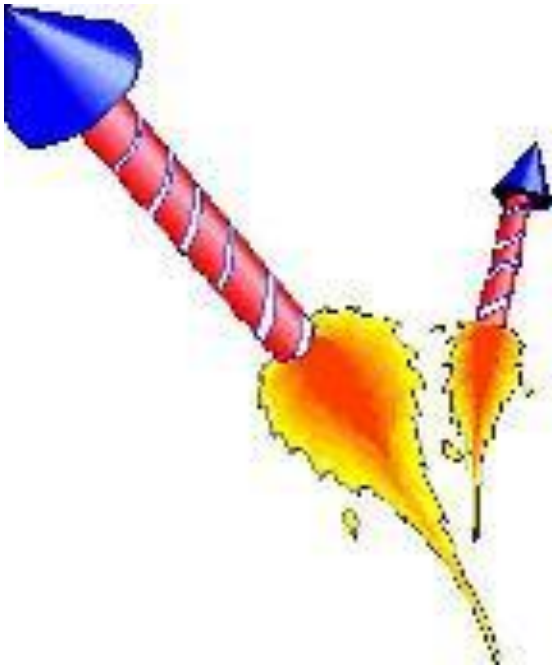
Prince William of England is directly descended from James I of England and VI of Scotland through the lineage of both his father (Charles, present Prince of Wales and heir apparent to the throne) and mother, the now deceased former Princess of Wales...the Lady Diana Spencer.

*Comprehension questions:*

1. When was James I born? Who were his mother and father?
2. At what age did he become the king of Scotland?
3. How did he become the King of England? What impact did this event have for the British Empire?
4. Was he an educated monarch? What skills did he possess?
5. Whom was James I married to? What were his children?
6. What kind of monarch was he? How did he treat Catholics and Puritans?
7. What famous book was translated into the English language under the rule of James I?
8. What kind of illnesses did James I suffer from? When did he die?
9. What are his famous descendants?



## THE CEREMONIAL TRADITIONS



**The Bonfire:** It is believed that the very night the Gunpower Plot was thwarted in 1605, bonfires were lit in London to celebrate its defeat. As early as 1607, there is a record of bonfire celebrations taking place in Bristol on November 5th and it was traditional for children to black their faces with the ashes in imitation of Guy Fawkes who, it was believed, performed a similar function in

order to try and camouflage himself. Bonfires were often used to cook potatoes known as «roasters» on this special night. Bonfires themselves, however, did not begin with Guy Fawkes. They are ancient rituals of celebration which have been present from the earliest times in the British Isles and throughout Europe.

**The Fireworks:** Fireworks have been a traditional part of the celebrations since 1677. Fireworks (known in modern times as pyrotechnics) probably originated in medieval China when Chinese alchemists, who knew that saltpeter endowed fire with energy, were experimenting with chemicals in a search for the elixir of life. In approximately 850 A.D., *saltpeter* was combined with *charcoal* and *sulfur*. The end result was gunpowder. It appears that gunpowder arrived in Europe in the Thirteenth Century and inspired the invention of the *cannon*. Around the same time, the art of true pyrotechnics was developed in Italy and by the Fifteenth Century, fireworks were being used in *pageants* and celebrations throughout Europe.

The first record of fireworks being employed in England was during the wedding of Henry VII in 1486 and increased in popularity during the reign of Elizabeth I who created a "Fire Master of England." Early classical fireworks

were decidedly lacking in color. Granulated charcoal left *a trail of orange sparks*...iron filings would glow white...and chemicals such as *amber* would emit *pastel flames*, but there were no rich colors until the 1830s when *potassium chlorate*, *copper*, strontium and barium were used in their creation. Magnesium was later added to brighten the effect of the fireworks and by 1900, powdered aluminum was used to create much the same effect at less cost.



The Guy: The exact date when «guys» were first introduced into the November 5th festivities is not known, but it would have been while James I was still on the throne. Later, after the reign of Charles II, children began making guys a few days prior to the event and then parading their creations through the streets while chanting: «*Penny for the guy*». The money collected was later used to purchase fireworks. The tradition of tossing the guy into the bonfire probably began in the Eighteenth Century and included *effigies* of the Pope, the Young Pretender and Devils as much as they did Guy Fawkes. The custom of burning the guy had become an integral part of the celebrations by the Nineteenth Century. The model guys are usually grotesque with a clumsy air about them. The head is often *villanous-looking* and may *sport a brightly-colored mask*.

In 18th-century England, the term «guy» was used to refer to an effigy of Fawkes, which would be paraded around town by children on the anniversary of the conspiracy. It is traditional for children to stand on street corners with their creation asking for a small donation using the term «Penny for the guy». In recent years this has attracted controversy as some regard it as nothing more than begging. Whilst it was traditional for children to spend the money raised on

fireworks, this is now illegal, as persons in England under the age of 18 may not buy fireworks or even be in possession of them in a public place. This is not the case in other parts of the Commonwealth but sales are restricted in some ways.

The word «guy» subsequently came to mean «an odd-looking fellow», after the grotesque effigies of Fawkes. In the mid-nineteenth century United States this meaning broadened to refer to any man, and ultimately any person, with no pejorative connotation.

Fawkes was ranked 30th in the 2002 list of the 100 Greatest Britons, sponsored by the BBC and voted for by the public. He was also included in a list of the 50 greatest people from Yorkshire. The Guy Fawkes River and thus Guy Fawkes River National Park in northern New South Wales, Australia were named after Fawkes by explorer John Oxley, who, like Fawkes, was from North Yorkshire. In the Galápagos Islands a collection of two crescent-shaped islands and two small rocks northwest of Santa Cruz Island, are called Isla Guy Fawkes.

## CHANTS AND RHYMES

*Remember, Remember  
The fifth of November  
Gunpowder Treason and Plot.  
We see no reason  
Why Gunpowder Treason  
Should ever be forgot!*



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The chants and rhymes which accompany the celebration of Guy Fawkes Night are as integral to the custom as the burning of the Guy and the lighting of fireworks. Many such ditties have been composed over the years...examples of the important aspects of freedom of expression and the right of an individual to his or her own personal beliefs. What follows is merely a small sampling of what might be heard on the evening of November 5th.

Remember, remember the fifth of November  
Gunpowder, treason and plot.

I see no reason why gunpowder treason  
Should ever be forgot.

Guy Fawkes, Guy Fawkes,

'Twas his intent

To blow up the King and the Parliament.

Three score barrels of powder below,

Poor old England to overthrow.

By God's providence he was caught

With a dark lantern and burning match.

Hurrah for our bonfire,  
Oh, pile it up high,  
For tonight...yes tonight...  
When it blazes up bright  
A traitor must die!  
How he'll crackle and burn,  
Our jolly old Guy!  
In the middle we'll throw him,  
No mercy we'll show him,  
The traitor must die!  
Go, old Ragamuffin,  
Don't stop to ask why,  
You know that the reason  
Was Gunpowder Treason!  
So, burn till you die!

(«Old Guy Fawkes» from a 19th Century Calendar)

The Gunpowder Treason and Plot,  
I know of no reason  
Why the Gunpowder Treason  
Should ever be forgot.  
Guy Fawkes, Guy Fawkes, t'was his intent  
To blow up the King and Parli'ment.  
Three-score barrels of powder below  
To prove old England's overthrow;  
By God's providence he was catch'd  
With a dark lantern and burning match.  
Holloa boys, holloa boys, let the bells ring.

Holloa boys, holloa boys, God save the King!

Remember, remember the fifth of November

Gunpowder, treason and plot.

I see no reason, why gunpowder treason

Should ever be forgot.

Remember, remember, the fifth of November,

Gunpowder, treason and plot!

A stick or a stake for King James' sake

Will you please to give us a fagot

If you can't give us one, we'll take two;

The better for us and the worse for you!

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

## ONE RECIPE OF TRADITIONAL CUISINE

Parkin is eaten on Bonfire Night. As it improves with keeping, remember to make it well in advance and to never even attempt to cut it for at least a couple of days as it is far too sticky.

350g/ 12oz/ 2,25 cups medium oatmeal  
170g/ 6oz/ 1,5 cups plain flour  
pinch of salt  
30g/ 1oz/ 1,5tablespoons suger  
Large pinch of ground ginger  
Large pinch of ground nutmeg  
Large pinch of ground mace  
225g/ 8oz/ 0,75cup black treacle  
115g/ 4oz/ 0,5cup butter  
75ml/ 5tablespoons/ 0,25cup milk  
5ml/ 1teaspoon bicarbonate of soda  
30g/ 1oz/ 0,25cup flaked almonds (optional)

- 1 Mix the oatmeal, flour, salt, sugar, and spices in a bowl.
- 2 Gently warm the treacle with the butter without allowing it to get too hot. In a separate pan heat the mlk to blood temperature and add the soda.
- 3 Pour both liquids into the oatmeal mixture and stir well. Grease and line with greaseproof paper a roasting tin and pour in the mixture.
- 4 Bake in a preheated 180°C/ 350°F/ gas4 oven for about 40 minutes or until the parkin is firm to touch. If you like, scatter the almonds over the top after it has cooked for 15 minutes.

### *Comprehension questions and tasks:*

1. What are the ways of celebrating Bonfire Night? What difficulties do modern children face if they want to keep the tradition going ?
2. Draw or make an effigy of Guy Fox together with your classmates. Learn one of the poems by heart.
3. What have you learnt about the fireworks? Learn the new words and make up a short presentation on the history of pyrotechnics?
4. Explain the meaning of the modern word guy. How has it derived from the name of Guy Fox?
5. How is the name commemorated today? Find the information about the places named after Guy Fox in the internet and report it to the class.

## CHRISTMAS IN BRITAIN



Christmas is a joyful religious holiday when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. The Christmas story comes from the Bible. An angel appeared to shepherds and told them that a Savior had been born to Mary and Joseph in a stable in Bethlehem. Three Wise Men from the East (the Magi) followed a wondrous star which led them to the baby Jesus to whom they paid homage and presented gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Most people in Britain see Christmas as the major festival of the year- an occasion for parties, giving and receiving gifts, eating and drinking, and generally having fun.

The many non-religious traditions associated with Christmas are in fact not very old, dating back only to the 19th century. These are mostly for children. On Christmas Eve, children hang stockings at the end of their beds or over the fireplace. They are told that Father Christmas arrives at night from the North Pole on his flying sleigh pulled by flying reindeer, climbs down the chimney and fills each stocking with presents. The children open their presents-put there secretly by their parents- on Christmas morning.

Lunch is the most important point of Christmas Day. The traditional lunch consists of roast turkey with vegetables, followed by Christmas pudding, which is made up with dried fruit and brandy. Sometimes a coin is put in the pudding as a surprise. Plum pudding, mince pie, traditional trifle, nuts, fruit and chocolates are also eaten.



## Father Christmas , Saint Nicolas and Santa Claus



In Scandinavian and many European countries the tradition of giving presents is associated with the names of Father Christmas, or Saint Nicolas. Saint Nicolas is represented as a kindly man with a red cloak and a long white beard. He visited houses and left gifts, bringing people happiness in the coldest months of the year. Another character, the Norse God Odin, rode on a magical flying horse across the sky in the winter to reward people with gifts.

These different legends passed across the ages to make the present-day Santa Claus.

Immigrant settlers brought Father Christmas to the United States. Father Christmas's name was gradually changed to Santa Claus, from the Dutch name for Father Christmas which is Sinter Claas. Although he has origins in Norse and pre-Christian mythology, Santa Claus took shape in the United States. Americans gave Santa Claus a white beard, dressed him in a red suit and made him a cheery old gentleman with red cheeks and a twinkle in his eye.

American children believe that Santa Claus lives at the North Pole with his wife. During the year he lists the names of the children, both those who have been good and those who have been bad. He decides what presents to give to the good children. He oversees the manufacturing and wrapping of the presents by his helpers.

Santa Claus supposedly gets his list of toys from the millions of children who write to him at the North Pole. Children also find Santa Claus at shopping malls across the country. They sit on his lap and tell him what they want for Christmas. Of course, their parents are probably nearby listening in as well.

On December 24, Christmas Eve, Santa hitches his eight reindeer to a sleigh, and loads it with presents. The reindeer pull him and his sleigh through the sky to deliver presents to the children all around the world, that is if they have been good all year.

Several American towns maintain the spirit of Santa Claus. The New England state of Connecticut has a Christmas village where "Santa" and his elves give out gifts. In New York, a small town called the North Pole was designed for Santa Claus. There is a post office, a church and a blacksmith shop, to repair the shoes of the reindeer.

In Britain a special telephone service exists, so if you dial a certain number you can be connected with Father Christmas personally. It is especially popular with parents on Christmas Eve when they are trying all the possible opportunities to put their children to bed. This one works immediately for the children are told by Father Christmas himself that he is just going out and they must be fast asleep in order to receive their presents.

Of course, Father Christmas and Santa Claus exist only in our imaginations. But they both together with Saint Nicolas are spirits of giving. Christmas has been associated with gift giving since the Wise Men brought gifts to welcome the newborn Jesus Christ.

## Christmas Cards



Another important custom of Christmas is to send and receive Christmas cards, which are meant to help express the sentiment of the season. Some are religious in nature, others are more secular. Christmas cards are now so essential part of the Christmas festivities that it is hard to believe that they are little more than a hundred years old.

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, it was a pleasant custom to send complimentary verses, often of the sender's own composition, to particular friends at Christmas, or on other great occasions. For this purpose, specially prepared sheets of paper with engraved headings and ornamental borders, were frequently used. Similar sheets were used by schoolboys for the "Christmas pieces" given to their parents at the end of the winter term. Ornamental stationery for these two purposes was sold in considerable quantities in the first half of the century, and from it the true Christmas card, with its printed pictorial decoration, seems to have developed.

The first pictorial card was designed by J.C. Horsley in 1843 and published by Summerly's Home Treasury Office in 1846. About a thousand copies were sold. This was the small beginning of a fashion which has never since looked back. By about 1870, the Christmas card had become really popular in England, and a few years later it reached the United States.

People begin sending cards early in December to friends, acquaintances and co-workers. The post office advises customers to mail early in the season and avoid the Christmas rush. Some people heed the advice; others wait until the last minute and then are upset when their loved ones have not received the greeting card or the present which they sent.

Possible Christmas Greetings and Wishes:

You deserve a happier Christmas  
than you ever have known before;  
One that's filled with Angel's joy  
and a very great deal more.  
And that's just what you are being wished  
at this most festive time  
together with life's very best  
when the New Year bells all chime!

It's nice to send greetings at New Year for you.  
It's nice to send wishes that are meant to come true.  
So may you have a Christmas that brings nothing less  
than pleasure and comfort and great Happiness!

Have a season full of days  
that leave you with warm  
memories of happiness all ways!

## Christmas Symbols and Decorations



### The Christmas Robin

The origin of the robin as a Christmas bird dates back not more than 100 years. In the middle of the last century the Post Office dressed its postmen in bright red coats of a colour to match the official red of the pillar boxes. Because of this striking uniform, the postmen themselves came to be known as 'redbreasts', and there are references in the novels of Anthony Throlope to 'robin postmen'.

Almost all the early cards showed a cheerful robin redbreast, often bringing the welcome Christmas mail in its beak, or sometimes actually knocking on the door, just like the postman himself.

The 'robin postmen do not appear in the streets nowadays, and their present-day successors wear a sober bluish-grey, but they still carry vast loads of robin-adorned cards each festive season.



### Christmas Greenery

Brining in greenery for the decoration of buildings at the midwinter festival is a custom of extreme antiquity. Long before the Christmas era began, evergreens, which flourish when everything else in nature is withered and dead, were regarded as symbols of undying life, and used in magical rites to ensure the return of vegetation. The early Christian Church condemned this traditions and forbade the faithful to take any part in them. They were not to burn candles at midwinter, as the pagans did, nor yet fix on their door posts laurels destined soon to be burnt. But time and the innate conservatism of ordinary people, gradually softened these harsh views.

Best-loved of all, now as in the past, are holly, ivy, and mistletoe. They are strong life-symbols, not only because they are evergreens, but also because, unlike most plants, they bear fruit in winter. The prickly holly, with its bright red berries, is traditionally masculine and therefore lucky to men, as the smooth variegated she-holly and the trailing ivy are to women.

Holly and ivy are frequently included in the Christmas decorations of churches. But the mistletoe is never allowed inside a church at any time. Unlike other evergreens, which also had their heathen significance once, mistletoe has never quite lost its pagan and magical associations.

Kissing under the mistletoe seems to be an entirely English custom, only found in other countries when English settlers have carried it there. Its long-lived popularity may be partly due to the fact that, until at least as late as the early seventeenth century, the English were much given to kissing as a form of greeting. Various foreign visitors noted with surprise and pleasure how freely men and women kissed each other on meeting and parting, and how even strangers, on their first introduction into the family, were permitted and indeed expected, to kiss the host's wife and daughters on the lips.

Times have changed since then, and manners with them; but even today a girl who stands under mistletoe must expect to be kissed and, by custom, has no real right to refuse.



## Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree that now spreads its lighted and decorated branches every year in so many different countries came originally from Germany. The first mention of it dates only from the early seventeenth century, but it is possible that it existed in some form or another well before that time. The early trees apparently had no candles; but from the middle of the eighteenth century onwards, candles are frequently mentioned. So lovely an adornment could ever have been omitted once it had been introduced.

The first English example of a Christmas Tree of which we have a precise record was one arranged by a German member of Queen Caroline's household for a children's party in 1821. This, although the giver called it a tree, was actually a branch of evergreen fixed on a board, decorated with gilt oranges and almonds, and having a model farm, complete with animals, round its base.

## Christmas Gifts



The giving of presents at Christmas-time has a long pre-Christian ancestry. Before Christianity was known in the world, gifts of various kinds used to be exchanged at some of the pagan religious festivals of midwinter.

Children in the British Isles, the United States and elsewhere in the English-speaking world, look to Father Christmas (or Santa Clause) for their gifts on Christmas Eve. They are usually not disappointed! Apart this family members wrap up their gifts and leave them at the bottom of the Christmas tree to be found on Christmas morning.



## The Christmas Pantomime



A pantomime is a traditional English entertainment at Christmas. It is meant for children, but adults enjoy it just as much. It is a very old form of entertainment, and can be traced back to 16th century Italian comedies.

There have been a lot of changes over the years. Singing and dancing and all kinds of jokes have been added; but the stories which are told are still fairy-tales, with a hero, a heroine, and a villain. The hero always wins the beautiful princess, the fairy queen is triumphant and the demon king is defeated.

In every pantomime there are always three main characters. These are the 'principal boy', the 'principal girl', and the 'dame'. The principal boy is the hero and he is always played by a girl. The principal girl is the heroine, who marries the principal boy in the end. The dame is a comic figure, usually the mother of the principal boy or girl and is always played by a man.

In addition you can be sure there will always be a 'good fairy' and a 'bad fairy' - perhaps an ogre or a demon king.

Pantomimes are changing all the time. Every year, someone has a new idea to make them more exciting or more up to date. There are pantomimes on ice, with all actors skating; pantomimes with a well-known pop singer as the principal boy or girl; or pantomimes with a famous comedian from the English theatre as the dame. But the old stories remain side by side with the new ideas.

## Christmas Luminarias and the Custom of "Las Pasadas" in the USA



One custom in Texas and other parts of the American Southwest warmly welcomes Christmas visitors. People cut designs out of the sides of paper bags. Then they put enough sand in the bottom of the bag to hold a candle. They line their walkways with the bags and light the candles after dark. Guests can easily find their friend's walkway and follow the candles up to the door.

In San Antonio these "luminarias" are placed all along the River Walk, a paved walkway alongside the San Antonio River, and an old custom called "Las Pasadas" is acted out.

"Las Pasadas" represents the journey that Mary and Joseph took from Nazareth to Jerusalem on a winter night 2000 years ago. Mary was about to give birth to Jesus, on their way to be counted in the census. The inns were full and the only place they could find to rest was a barn. Jesus was born there and was placed in a manger, or wooden bin for feeding animals.

Two young people are chosen to play the roles of Mary and Joseph. They follow the luminarias up to a house and knock on the door. Joseph asks the owner if they can stay there for the night. The owner refuses to let them in, because the house is full. They knock at several more houses until finally someone lets them come in to stay for the night. The house where the couple is invited was chosen before the

celebration, and has a doll in a manger, representing Jesus. When the couple arrives at the house, they and the people who have followed sing Christmas carols and eat the food provided by the ‘innkeeper’.



***Comprehension questions and tasks:***

1. What is the origin of Christmas?
2. What is the non-religious tradition of Christmas celebrations?
3. What kind of food is prepared for the occasion?
4. What have you learned about the background of Father Christmas and Santa Claus?
5. Role play: student A: a little child, asking questions about Father Christmas;  
student B: a grown-up, trying to be convincing.
6. Why do you think the Christmas card has become so popular since it was introduced more than a hundred years ago?
7. Make up your own Christmas Greetings Card for friends and relatives.
8. Compare Russian and English Symbols and decorations for Christmas and the New Year. What is similar? What are the differences?
9. What are the rules of acting out a Christmas Pantomime?
10. Choose any appropriate story and stage it according to the rules.

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н.Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

## Some Recipes of Traditional Cuisine



Nowadays roast turkey with all the trimmings - chipolatas, chesnut stuffing, roast potatoes, Brussels sprouts and bread sauce - is considered the traditional British Christmas meal, but in fact turkey is relatively recent import from America. Before it arrived the British used to tuck into far more exotic fare. At Elizabethan Christmas banquets roast swan was served with side dishes of boar's head, a baron of beef, spiced beef, huge hams and that extra-ordinary culinary feat of a boned goose stuffed with a boned capon, stuffed with a boned pheasant, stuffed with a boned partridge, stuffed with a boned quail stuffed with sweetmeats.

Mince pies have also changed. Once they were eaten before the meal and made from real mincemeat - often fat mutton - baked with fruit and spices in cases to represent Christ's manger. Even Christmas Pudding is not the same: in medieval times it was known as Plum Porridge or Pottage and made with beef and veal stewed with prunes, currants and raisins, spices, sugar sack ( a once popular wine from the Canary Isles and similar to sherry), lemon juice and claret., but by the nineteenth century the meat had been dropped and it became more like our modern day version.

### Baked Ham

Many households still sport a baked ham on the bone on their Christmas sideboards, festively dressed in a paper ruffle. Some hams, especially if they are dry-cured, need to be soaked overnight in water otherwise they taste too salty. the most effective way of baking a ham is to wrap it up in a 'huff', a flour and water paste, which seals in all the juices and prevents it from drying out. Do remember that once all the meat has been carved, the bone can be used to make a superb split-pea soup.

5.5-6kg/12-14lb ham  
1.35kg/3lb plain flour  
850ml/1.5pints water  
cloves

1 Soak the ham overnight in cold water. The next day drain the ham and dry it thoroughly.

2 mix the flour with enough of the water to make a stiff paste, roll out the paste and wrap it around the ham, pinching the edges together tightly and sealing them with a little water.

3 Bake the ham in a preheated 180C/350F/gas4 oven, allowing about 25 minutes per 450g/lb.

4 Remove the ham from the oven and break the huff. Lift out the ham and leave to cool for about 5 minutes. Then peel off the skin - you can usually just pull it off with

your hands - and trim the fat. With a sharp knife score the fat crossways into a diamond pattern and stud the centre of each diamond with a clove.

5 Brush the ham all over with the glaze of your choice (see below) or, if you are using breadcrumbs, press them into the fat. Turn up the oven to 190C/375F/gas5 and roast the ham for 30 minutes.

### **Marmalade glaze**

75ml/5tablespoons marmalade

20ml/1tablespoon/1.5tablespoons whisky

Mix together and spread over the ham.

### **Mustard glaze**

50ml/3tablespoons clear honey

50ml/3tablespoons English mustard powder

salt and freshly ground black papper

Melt the honey and stir in the mustard. Season and spread all over the ham.

### **Breadcrumbs**

450g/1lb/4cups dry breadcrumbs

5ml/1teaspoon finely chopped parsley

salt and freshly ground black pepper

Mix the ingredients together and press them firmly into the ham's layer of fat. This is best done while the meat is still warm.

### **Cumberland Sauce**

Serve either hot or cold with the ham.

150ml/0.25 pint ruby port

juice and graded zest of 1 orange

225g/8oz redcurrent jelly

5ml/1teaspoon mustard powder

salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 Simmer the port and orange zest for 2-3 minutes, stir in the redcurrant jelly and simmer for a further couple of minutes until it has melted.

2 Mix together the orange juice and mustard powder and add to the redcurrant mixture. Season and simmer for about 2-3 minutes.

### **Pickled Pears**

6 large ripe pears, peeled cored and sliced

450g/1lb/2 cups sugar



250ml/1cup red wine vinegar  
1 cinnamon stick  
10 cloves  
5ml/1teaspoon allspice  
5ml/1teaspoon nutmeg

1 Put the pears in a saucepan, add enough water to cover the pears and bring to the boil.

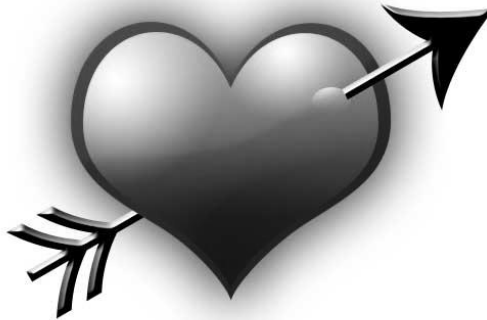
After 5 minutes stir in the suger and vinegar and then add the cinnamon stick, cloves, allspice and nutmeg. Simmer for about 25 minutes, then remove from the heat and leave to cool overnight.

2 The following morning, drain the pears and pack into sterilized jars. Boil the cooking liquor to reduce by about one third and pour over the pears. Seal while warm and keep for at least one month before eating to allow the flavours to mellow.



САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЩЕРБАКОВОГО

## VALENTINES DAY



St. Valentine's Day has roots in several different legends that have found their way to us through the ages. One of the earliest popular symbols of the day is Cupid, the Roman God of love who is represented by the image of a young boy with bow and arrow.

Three hundred years after the death of Jesus Christ the Roman emperors still demanded that everyone believed in the Roman gods. Valentine, a Christian priest, had been thrown in prison for his teaching. On February 14, Valentine was beheaded not only because he was a Christian, but also because he had performed a miracle. He supposedly cured the jailer's daughter of her blindness. The night before he was executed, he wrote the jailer's daughter a farewell letter, signing it, "From Your Valentine". Another legend tells us that this same Valentine, well-loved by all, wrote notes from his jail cell to children and friends who missed him.

Another Valentine was an Italian bishop who lived at about the same time. He was imprisoned because he secretly married couples, contrary to the laws of the Roman emperor. Some legends say he was burned at the stake.

February 14 was also a Roman holiday, held in honor of a goddess. Young men randomly chose the name of a young girl to escort to the festivities. The custom of choosing a sweetheart on this date spread through Europe in the Middle Ages, and then to the early American colonies. Throughout the ages, people also believed that birds picked their mates on February 14!

Whatever the odd mixture of origins, Valentine's Day is now a day for sweethearts. It is the day when you show your friend or loved one that you care. You

can send candy to someone you think is special. Or you can send roses, the flower of love. Most people send "valentines", greeting cards named after the notes that St. Valentine wrote from jail.

Valentines can be sentimental, romantic, and heartfelt. They can be funny and friendly. They are usually anonymous between unknown people.

People of all ages love to send and receive valentines. Handmade valentines, created by cutting hearts out of coloured paper, show that a lot of thought has been put into making them personal. Valentines can be heart-shaped, or have hearts, the symbol of love, on them. In elementary schools, children make valentines for their classmates and put them in a large decorated box, similar to a mailbox. On February 14, the teacher opens the box and distributes the valentines to each pupil. After the pupils read their valentines, they have a small party with refreshments.

You can write a short rhyme inside the heart:

Roses are red,

Violets are blue

Suger is sweet

And so are you!

Or you can buy a valentine with a message in it. If you are shy, you can sign it, "Your Secret Admirer".

For teenagers and adults, major newspapers throughout the country have a Valentine's Day offer. Anyone can send in a message destined for a would-be sweetheart, a good friend, an acquaintance or even a spouse of fifty years. For a small fee, the message is printed in a special section of the newspaper on February 14.

Songs such as "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" have become popular during the 20th century in the United States. These songs for sweethearts are usually sung in four-part harmony without musical instruments. Groups who sing these songs have become known as "Barbershop Quartets" because barbers sang them in their shops as they cut hair.

## VALENTINE SYMBOLS

The ornaments that decorate valentines are symbols of love and friendship. Ornaments for early valentines were made by hand. Each had a special meaning. A fan meant "Open up your heart". A ribbon meant "You are tied up", or "You are my girl". Lace was the same or "You have caught my heart in a net".



At Valentine parties romantic symbols were sometimes hidden in a cake. Each guest got a slice and if he was lucky a symbol. The symbol told his fortune. Sometimes the symbols were put in gift packages instead. Rice meant a wedding. A ring meant a wedding too, or an engagement. A coin meant a person would marry someone wealthy. Sometimes a boy got a red mitten. "To get the mitten" meant his girl didn't like him.

Hearts are the most common romantic symbols denoting eternal love. Candy, cookies, and even cakes are made in heart shapes for valentine parties. Red roses are also often used as a love emblem.

Little hearts appear on valentines themselves. Wedding rings and lover's knots tie the couple together. Angels and children bless a happy marriage. Harps and lyres play romantic music.

## THE STORY OF CUPID

One of the most famous valentine symbols is Cupid with his bow and arrow. He goes back to Roman times. Here is a story the Romans told about him.



Cupid was the son of a beautiful goddess, Venus. Wherever Venus went Cupid went too. He was a merry little god and he liked to see people happy. He went around shooting gold-tipped arrows into the hearts of humans. Then they fell in love. Venus, his mother, had a golden mirror. She looked into it every day. She saw the most beautiful face in the world. One day Cupid found his mother crying. "Alas", she said, "I have lost my golden mirror".

Cupid went in search of the mirror. He looked here and looked there, but he couldn't find it. Then he flew over a meadow where some sheep were grazing. Among

the sheep stood a shepherd. As Cupid looked down, beams of light flashed up into his eyes. He saw that the light came from something in the shepherd's hand. The little god flew low over the shepherd. The sheep were startled by the sound of his wings. They began to bleat and ran away.

The shepherd looked up. Cupid saw his rough, bearded face. He saw what the shepherd held in his hand. It was Venus' golden mirror. The little god was angry. He cried out, "You have dared to look at your ugly face in my beautiful mother's mirror!" He struck the mirror from the shepherd's hand. It fell to the ground and broke into hundreds of pieces. Plants with beautiful blossoms sprang up where the mirror had broken. Later people called the flowers "Venus Looking-Glass".

### **WELSH LOVE SPOONS**

The giving of a carved spoon by a lover to his lass as a token of affection is a Welsh custom, which dates back to the 17th century. Spoons were also made for social occasions such as courtship, weddings and christenings. Each spoon is made individually and consequently tells its own story.

The Welsh spoon is unique as it is developed from the 'cawl spoon', a spoon used for eating Welsh broth. Each cawl spoon was an individual spoon made by the man for the household. This carving of spoons developed into the Love Spoon as the handle became a vehicle for the 'spooner' to tell of his love by means of symbols.

Hearts are common and should be full hearts and not fretted out. Chain links represent being linked together in affection. Grooves may be cut to outline a house or church and be filled in with coloured wax, thus giving a picture of "My house is yours" or "I wish to take you to church". A cockerel or peacock is often carved on a wedding spoon as a wish for fertility and a horse-shoe for good luck. There are in fact innumerable symbols which represent the individual wishes of the 'spooner'.

#### ***Comprehension questions and tasks:***

1. What do the legends say about Valentines?
2. What kind of holiday did the Romans celebrate on February 14?
3. What is the modern tradition of celebrating the festival?

4. What have you learnt about the Welsh love spoon? Describe how it looks like and compare it with the Russian wooden spoon.

5. Compose your own Valentine card.

True or false:

1. Valentine's Day has several origins dating back to the ancient Italy.

2. Young Romans used to choose the name of a young boy to escort to the festivities.

3. Nowadays it is enough to send a little present to a person on Valentine's Day to show that you care.

4. Only young people love to send «valentines» these days.

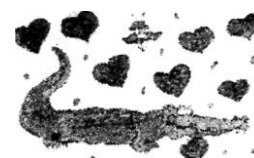
5. Hand-made valentines are not popular today.

What would you think of the person's attitude to you if you receive one of the following: a fan, a ribbon, a lace, rice, a ring, a coin, a red mitten, a love-spoon?

Retell the story of Cupid.

### **SOME RECIPES OF TRADITIONAL CUISINE**

Traditional Lancashire cuisine presents a wide range of substantial but very simple foods. Some of the cooking instructions are rather old and have their own history. All of them have different origins and demonstrate the English way of life and specific sense of humour.



In this booklet we have chosen some recipes which can be cooked specially for St. Valentine occasions. Dear ladies! Try to prepare these simple things for your sweethearts and you'll see the results!

#### **Moonshine**

"Take four small sponge cakes and one small tin of preserved apricots. Line a glass dish with halves of the fruit, cover these with a layer of sliced sponge cakes. Take the juice from the tin and pour over the cakes. Then put another layer of apricots.

Boil one pint of milk sweetened with three ounces of castor sugar, beat the whites of three eggs to a stiff froth and drop a tablespoonful at a time into the boiling milk, and then set place on top of the apricots. Sprinkle with sugar. A custard moat may be made of the remainder of the milk and yolks of eggs and poured round the dish. Best eaten cold as a sweet or a supper dish.

### **Love-paste**

This has been described as the nearest thing to shortbread to be found in Lancashire.

Slightly over half the quantity of butter is rubbed into flour with a pinch of salt. A sprinkle of sugar is added and the mixture kneaded together, then pressed into a buttered tin and baked. It is often rolled as thinly as possible. covered with jam then another layer is put on top and the edges sealed.

The same kind of cake is made in other areas and called Courting Cake.

### **Kiss-Me-Quick-Pudding**

4 oz butter (1 ounce makes 28.35 grammes)

4oz castor sugar

4 oz flour 4 eggs

2 teaspoon baking powder

4 tablespoon raspberry jam

Beat the butter until light and creamy then beat in the sugar. Add the sieved flour and baking powder a little at a time and alternately with the well beaten eggs. Beat in the jam and mix well. Put into a buttered basin and steam for two hours.

### **Bride Cake**

2,5 lb flour (lb means pound; 1 pound makes 373.2 grammes)

1,9 lb butter

1 lb currants

1 lb sultanas

2,5 pint white wine (1 British pint makes 0.57 litre)

1 lb sugar

8 eggs

spice to taste

8 oz sweet almonds

8 oz candied peel

1,5 glasses brandy

Cream the butter, stir in sugar, beat egg whites until dry and add to the butter and sugar. Beat the yolks and add them to the flour with the spices. Beat both these mixtures together for half an hour. Mix in the fruit candied peel, wine and brandy. Pound the almonds in a mortar with a little orange-flower water and mix in thoroughly. Put into well buttered and lined cake tins, cover with buttered papers to prevent burning and bake for several hours in a moderate oven.

Ground almonds could be used to replace the whole nuts. This rich type of cake is usually covered with almond paste then royal icing.

Charles Dickens once visited Lancaster and stayed at an inn "where they give you Bride-cake every day after dinner without the trouble of being married".

### **Crock Pie (don't take it seriously)**

After one memorable evening celebrating, a Blacko husband returned home so bemused that he broke all the cups in the kitchen. Later, while he was sleeping, his wife put all the broken crocks in a pie dish and covered it with a pastry crust, baking it to perfection.

We are not told the outcome of this strategy, only that next day the husband set off to work, taking the "pie" with him.



## VALENTINE HUMOUR



There are lots of funny stories describing love affair and the relations between men and women. Here are several examples of traditional British jokes connected with the occasion.

\*\*\*

A man and a woman are getting blind drunk in a bar, when the woman topples off her stool and collapses on the floor. The man, much to the disgust of the landlady, just carries on drinking. “Why don't you do something?” asked the landlady. “I can't,” replied the man, “I'm her brother”. “What do you mean?” spluttered the landlady. “Surely that's all the more reason for you to help her!”

“Nonsense!” replied the man. “How can I be a brother and assist her at the same time?”

\*\*\*

A Scottish gentleman was spending his holiday in Vienna. The town was very beautiful and his guide was a very beautiful young lady too. “I will have the best memories of her,” he thought. Before he left he decided to give her a present to thank her for her kindness. He wanted to be sure that the present was something that she liked and he asked her what presents she liked best of all.

“You know that I like to look beautiful and put on pretty things”, she said, “so I would like something for my neck, for my ears or my fingers!”

Next morning the Scottish gentleman appeared with a present - a diamond ring? A gold bracelet? - No, a piece of soap!

\*\*\*

What is the difference between a diplomat and a lady?

If a diplomat says “Yes”, it means “Perhaps”;

If he says "Perhaps", it means "No";  
If he says "No", he is not a diplomat.  
If a lady says "No", it means "Perhaps";  
If she says "Perhaps", it means "Yes";  
If she says "Yes", she is not a lady.

The subject of love and beauty can be treated in sarcastic easy way typical of the English people. A good example of the English sense of humour is in the poem given below. The translation has been made by one of the school students.

### **Mona Lisa**

*By Brenda M. Weber*

Behind kaleidoscopic eyes  
There's no mystery there that lies.  
She's the one to see it all  
From her position on the wall.  
We look for something in her smile,  
We stand to study her awhile,  
Her face of beauty that we seek.  
What would she say if she could speak?  
Is her beauty, oh, so rare?  
Is she a mirror image of me?  
Is that what I'm supposed to see?  
Mona's portrait on the wall –  
A combination of us all.  
There's a touch of her hair.  
That hint of prism in her eyes  
Makes her appear to be so wise.  
The playful curvature of her lip  
On her cheeks can dance a quip.  
She's a beauty this Mona Lisa  
But so is the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

## Мона Лиза.

(translated by V. Philippov)

На миг взглянув на сей портрет,  
Ты видишь глаз её мерцанье,  
Они чисты как лунный свет,  
Как ясных звезд с небес сиянье.

И лишь на миг взглянув туда,  
Ты оторвать не можешь взору.  
Себя ты видишь в ней тогда,  
Когда ты видишь в ней другого.

Она – слияние нас всех:  
Веселых, занятых и грустных.  
Что мог поведать нам портрет,  
Умей он говорить по-русски?

И сравнивал заморский критик,  
С Пизанской башней красоту,  
Кой наградил её ваятель,  
Рисуя кистью по холсту.

На миг взглянув на сей портрет,  
Встречаешься ты с ней глазами.  
Попробуй разгадать секрет,  
Замаскированный устами.

### *Comprehension exercises and tasks:*

1. Find the example of a word game in one of the humorous stories. Dramatize the humorous stories in class.
2. Choose the Russian anecdote on the topic and tell it to your classmates in English trying to preserve the humour of the situation.
3. Compose your own translation of the poem *Mona Lisa* by Brenda. M. Weber.
4. Read the English fairy-tale *The Paddo* in the Appendix of the book and dramatise it in class. What Russian fairy-tale does it remind you of?

## ***CELEBRATE! EASTER!***

Easter is one of the great Christian festivals of the year. It is full of customs, folklore and traditional food. However, Easter in Britain has its beginnings long before the arrival of Christianity. Many theologians believe Easter itself is named after the Anglo-Saxon goddess of the dawn and spring - Eostre.

In Britain Easter occurs at a different time each year. It is observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere. This means that the festival can occur on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Not only is Easter the end of the winter it is also the end of Lent, traditionally a time of fasting in the Christian calendar. It is therefore often a time of fun and celebration.

People celebrate the holiday according to their beliefs and their religious denominations. Christians commemorate Good Friday as the day that Jesus Christ died and Easter Sunday as the day that He was resurrected.

The joy and hope of Easter Resurrection has been symbolized for centuries by lambs, rabbits, lilies and crosses. The simple egg, however is perhaps the oldest and most universal symbol of rebirth and new life. The custom of offering Easter eggs, either chocolate or hard boiled and colored, dates back well beyond the early years of Christianity to the most ancient pagan traditions.

### **EASTER TRADITIONS AND ORIGINS**

Easter traditions and symbols are abundant. But what are the origins of these Easter traditions? *The Easter Season*. Easter is not only a holiday but a season unto itself. To many religious people, it marks a time of miracles and a reaffirming of faith. To those with a more secular view of the world, it is a celebration of the end of winter, a time to look toward the warmth of the coming summer and a chance to shed the heavy, dour clothing of the winter for the bright colors of spring. Easter traditions and symbols are well known: the Easter Bunny, Easter eggs and Easter baskets have become hallmarks of this spring festival. Yet there is more to them than meets the eye.



*Origin and Traditions.* Long before Easter became the holiday it is today, the spring festival was celebrated by the people around the world. Although associated with the sun and the Vernal Equinox, the celebration was originally based on the lunar calendar. The name Easter is derived from the Saxon Eostre (which is synonymous with the name of the Phoenician Goddess of the Moon, Astarte), a Germanic goddess of spring and the deity who measured time. As Christianity grew and spread throughout the world, it was common practice to adopt, modify, convert or take over existing non-Christian festivals, sacred locations and even names, and assimilate them into the Christian theology. The Romans used this method of cultural absorption for centuries as a

way of expanding and firming up the Empire. Given the fact that Christianity had its roots in Roman ways, it is not surprising that the same technique was used to spread belief in Christ. The best example of this was in ancient Britain where the bearers of the Cross built their churches and monasteries on the very sites where far more ancient rites had been held. Because Eostre, also known as Ostara, was the goddess of spring and her symbolism dealt with renewal and rebirth, the Christian belief in the resurrection of Christ fit well with these themes. The connection between Christ's Resurrection and Jewish Passover, which, in addition to the dramatic story of the flight from Egypt, also contains elements of a spring celebration, made the merging of the two religious traditions easily accomplished.

## RELIGIOUS EASTER CELEBRATIONS

There are a few important dates in the ecclesiastical calendar that fall before Easter Sunday.

**Shrove Tuesday**, **Ash Wednesday** and **Lent**. If you live outside the UK, you probably haven't heard of Shrove Tuesday. But you probably know it by its other name, *Mardi Gras*. Pancakes were originally eaten on Shrove Tuesday -- the Tuesday before Lent -- to use up eggs and fat before the fast of Lent. Today, these pancakes are generally made of eggs, milk and flour. The word "shrove" comes from "shrive," meaning "the confessions of sins" -- something done in preparation for Lent.

**Ash Wednesday** is a day of fasting that gets its name from the practice of sprinkling ashes over those engaging in the fast of Lent. Has anyone ever apologized to you by saying, "Let me put on my ashes and sackcloth..."? This is where that saying originated. Those wishing to receive the sacrament of penance were known as "penitents." They wore sackcloth and were required to remain apart from the Christian community until Maundy Thursday. This practice fell into disuse during the eighth, ninth and 10th centuries, when the beginning of Lent was symbolized by placing ashes on the heads of the entire congregation.

Today, Christians have a cross put on their forehead in ashes. The ashes are usually made from the previous year's blessed palm fronds from Palm Sunday, and are usually wet with holy water before being used.

The name *Lent* comes from the Middle English *lenten*, meaning "spring." Lent signifies 40 days of fasting in order to imitate the fast of Jesus Christ after his baptism (the Epiphany). Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 46 days before Easter Sunday, when it ends.

**Palm Sunday** is the sixth and final Sunday of Lent. In many churches, it is the beginning of Holy Week, a week of observances leading up to Easter Sunday. Palm Sunday occurs one week before Easter and marks Jesus' entry into Jerusalem when his supporters waved palm fronds to celebrate his arrival. Today, many people use the ashes from palm fronds used on the previous year's Palm Sunday to mark a cross on the forehead of penitents on Ash Wednesday.

**Maundy Thursday.** The word "maundy" may have come from the maund (or mand) basket used by the fishermen in the English counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. Centuries ago, there was a fair held on this day in Norwich (Norfolk), at which vendors sold horses, cattle and general merchandise. Some of the fisher-folk brought their maund baskets filled with items to sell, including fish. Clothing and hats were sold, as it was customary to buy a new item of clothing for Easter Sunday. This may well have been the origin of the Easter bonnet and the notion of wearing new spring attire for Easter.

Maundy Thursday may also have come from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning "commandment," as in the Biblical words of Jesus:

"A new command I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." (John 13:34, NIV)

Many Maundy Thursday services begin with these words.

**Good Friday.** The Friday before Easter is called Good Friday, and is a somber observance of Christ's crucifixion on the cross. Christians believe that the death of Jesus Christ on the cross made it possible for them to know peace with God. They wanted to celebrate their peace rather than observe Friday as a day of mourning or sadness.

The name may also be derived from God's Day, since in the first two centuries, the word "good" would only ever have been used as a description for God. The Saxons and Danes called this day Long Friday, and Good Friday in Danish is Langfreday.

**Easter Sunday.** Easter Sunday celebrates Jesus' resurrection. Along with Christmas, Easter is considered one of the oldest and most joyous days on the Christian calendar. Religious services and other Easter celebrations vary throughout the regions of the world and even from country to country. In the United States, many "sunrise services" are held outside on Easter morning. These early services are symbolic of the empty tomb that was found early that Sunday morning and of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem before sunrise on the Sunday of his resurrection.

"Do not be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him." (Mark 16:6, NIV)

It is important to understand that Easter was not celebrated or mentioned in the Bible. Rather, the three-day period from Good Friday through Easter Sunday has become a traditional observance of when Christians believe that the crucifixion, burial and resurrection of Christ occurred.

## SYMBOLS FOR EASTER

### *The Cross:*



The 'Cross' is not only a symbol of Easter but also one of the most important symbols of Christian faith.

### *The Lamb:*

The Oldest symbol of Easter, lamb the meekest animal on earth was traditionally offered to Gods.

### *Eggs:*



Easter eggs painted with bright colors represent the sunlight of spring. The exchange of eggs in the springtime is an ancient custom, which was followed even before the festival of Easter was recognized.

### *Easter Bunny:*

The symbol of the Easter bunny originated is associated with the pagan festival of Eastre. Goddess Eastre was worshipped through her earthly symbol, the rabbit.

The Easter Bunny is a rabbit-spirit. Long ago, he was called the `Easter Hare`. Hares and rabbits have frequent multiple births, so they became a symbol of fertility.

The Easter Bunny, like Santa Claus, has become a popular children's character. But it may be that the Easter Bunny is something of a historical mistake. At some point, the hare was replaced by the rabbit (some say that this is because it is difficult to tell hares and rabbits, both long-eared mammals, apart).

### *Easter Lily:*



The Flower is associated with Madonna as a symbol of purity and is also considered to be a symbol of resurrection.

### *Hot Cross Buns:*



Hot cross buns used to be kept specially for Good Friday with the symbolism of the cross, although it is thought that they originated in pagan times with the bun representing the moon and its four quarters.

The custom of eating hot cross buns goes back to pre-Christian times, when pagans offered their god, Zeus, a cake baked in the form of a bull, with a cross upon it to represent its horns. Throughout the centuries, hot cross buns were made and eaten every Good Friday, and it was thought that they had miraculous curative powers. People hung buns from their kitchen ceilings to protect their households from evil for the year to come. Good Friday bread and buns were said never to go moldy. This was probably because the buns were baked so hard that there was no moisture left in the mixture for the mold to live on. Hot cross buns and bread baked on Good Friday were used in powdered form to treat all sorts of illnesses.

Hot cross buns now are eaten throughout the Easter season. These small, lightly sweet yeast buns contain raisins or currants and sometimes chopped candied fruit. Before baking, a cross is slashed in the top of the bun. After baking, a confectioners' sugar icing is used to fill the cross.

An old rhyme was often sung by children awaiting their sugary treat:

"Hot cross buns, hot cross buns, one a penny, two a penny, hot cross buns.

If you do not like them, give them to your sons, one a penny, two a penny, hot cross buns."

## **EASTER EGGS**

Wherever Easter is celebrated, there Easter eggs are usually to be found. In their modern form, they are frequently artificial, mere imitations of the real thing, made of chocolate or marzipan or sugar, or of two pieces of coloured and decorated cardboard fitted together to make an egg-shaped case containing some small gift.

A real egg, hard-boiled, dyed in bright colours, and sometimes elaborately decorated still appears upon countless breakfast-tables on Easter Day, or is hidden about a house or garden for the children to find.

Because eggs are obvious symbols of continuing life and resurrection, the pagan peoples of ancient China, Egypt, Greece, and Persia used them, centuries before the first Easter Day, at the great Spring Festivals, when the revival of all things in Nature was celebrated. The early Christians saw them as emblems of Christ's Resurrection, and adopted them as holy and appropriate gifts for Eastertide. Eggs were brought to church to be blessed at the beginning of the festival, given to the parish priest and to kinsmen, friends and neighbours, and used in some of the rituals of the season.

As eggs were forbidden food all through Lent, their reappearance on the table after so long an absence must have been one of the minor joys of the Easter feast.

There are many ways of tinting and decorating the eggs, some simple and some requiring a high degree of skill. They can be dipped into a prepared dye or, more usually boiled in it, or they may be boiled inside a covering of onion-peel. Ordinary commercial dyes are often used today for colouring, but originally only natural ones, obtained from flowers, leaves, mosses, bark, wood-chips, or other sources, were employed. In England, gorse-blossom was commonly used for



yellow, cochineal for scarlet, and logwood-chips for a rich purple. Spinach leaves gave a fine green, and so did the petal of the purple anemone called the Pasque-flower. The outer skin of an onion, wrapped round an egg and boiled with it, is still very often used to obtain a delicate mottled yellow, or a pleasant brown.

An egg that is boiled really hard will last for year; some very fine specimens, originally decorated for the poet's children, are still preserved in the Wordsworth Museum at Grasmere. Here and there also, others have survived as relics of Easters long gone by. But naturally, they are scarce, since only a very few eggs, cherished for superstitions or sentimental reasons, ever survived the first year. The majority were either eaten during the festival, or broken to pieces in the vigorous egg-games that were played at this season.

## EASTER GAMES

Easter, like Shrovetide, was formerly a season when many lively and energetic games were played. In Oxfordshire, even now older people sometimes refer to Easter Monday as Ball Monday, because of numerous ball-games that used to be played on that day. Stoodball, knurr-and-spell, trapball, ninepins, handball, bowls and football were all customary pastimes of the Easter holidays. So was tipcat, which is not a ball-game, but is played by striking in mid-air a piece of wood called a cat with a stick, or castoff. Another favourite was prisoners' bars, which we now think of as children's game only, but which was quite commonly played by adults until about the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

All these games flourished at Easter, and many made their first appearance then, but they were also played at other times of the year.

Since eggs have always been symbols of renewed and continuing life, it is likely that these egg-games once had a religious or magical significance, though in their later forms they often appear as pastimes of the simplest kind. In one which was formerly popular both in France and in Great Britain, eggs were tossed into the air and caught again as they fell. The player who dropped one had to pay a forfeit. Another, which still survives is egg-shackling. In it, a hard-boiled egg is firmly grasped in the right hand and used as a weapon to strike the eggs of other players, the object being to break these whilst keeping one's own intact. The winner of each round keeps broken egg for himself. Egg-shackling in England was always mainly a northern sport, but a milder game, bearing the same name and usually played on Shrove Tuesday instead of at Easter, has been recorded during the nineteenth century in the south-western counties. At Powerstock school, in Dorset, a game so-called consisted of shaking eggs gently in a sieve. As each one was cracked, it was removed until only the strongest remained.

Another traditional Easter game which still flourishes in northern England and Scotland is egg-rolling. It takes place on Easter Sunday or Monday, and consists of rolling coloured, hard-boiled eggs down a slope until they are cracked and broken after which they are eaten by their owners.

Egg-rolling is known in at least one city in the United States of America, though it was not one of those traditional customs which crossed the Atlantic with the early settlers. It was introduced in 1877 by MRS Madison, the wife of the President at that time, who taught the children of Washington D.C. how it was done, and opened the grounds of the White House to serve as their Easter Monday rolling-ground. Since then the game has been regularly and enthusiastically played there every year, except in times of war, and by now it has almost become a traditional American custom in its own right.

The custom of an Easter egg hunt began because children believed that hares laid eggs in the grass. The Romans believed that `All life comes from an egg`. Christians consider eggs to be `the seed of life` and so they are symbolic of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## **EASTER HARE CUSTOMS**

The hare was the sacred beast of Eastre (or Eostre), a Saxon goddess of Spring and of the Dawn. A widespread European tradition makes it the bringer of Easter eggs. In England, children in many families search in the garden, or in nooks and crannies of the house, for the eggs that the hare has concealed there. In Yugoslavia, they go to the stables to find the hare's nest in the hay. The little baskets in which German and Hungarian children collect their Easter gifts are often adorned with the figure of a hare, and so are Easter cards in many parts of Northern Europe. In the United States of America, the Easter Rabbit has taken the place of the European hare, but this is simply a variant of the same tradition. Rabbits and hares are often confused in folk-belief, especially in regions where the former are better known.

In Leicester, until towards the end of the eighteenth century, one of the principal festivities of Easter Monday was that known as Hunting the Hare. The Mayor and Corporation officials rode in their scarlet robes, accompanied by a great crowd of townsfolk, to Black Annis` Bower, a cave on the nearby Dane Hills. This cave was a place of sinister reputation, supposed to be inhabited by a terrifying creature called Black Annis, or Anna, who had sharp teeth and long nails, and devoured human beings when she could catch them. From what ancient hill-spirit, local deity, or perhaps human cave-dweller, her legend sprang has long since been forgotten. And the cave, which she was traditionally said to have dug out of the solid rock with her finger-nails, has now been filled in. Until well into the nineteenth century, however, she was remembered as a kind of bugbear, or as a witch who once lived under the Castle and used to run along secret underground passages from its cellars to her Bower on the Dane Hills. Leicester children were often warned not to go too near her cave, for if they did, she would seize them, scratch them to death, suck their blood, and hang their skins up to dry on an old pollard oak growing nearby.

The Easter on day revels opened with games and sports. Then, at noon, began what had probably been a real hare-hunt originally, though in the later years

of the custom it had degenerated into a drag-hunt in which the corpse of a cat soaked in aniseed-water was used. The trail was laid on a zigzag course running from the cave-mouth downwards into the town and ending outside the door of the Mayor's house. Hounds and horsemen poured down the hill, through lanes and alleyways and streets, leaping fences and cutting off garden-corners on their way, cheered on by crowds of shouting spectators, and followed by large numbers of foot runners. When the hunt was over, the Mayor provided a feast for his friends, and so the cheerful, nosily celebration ended.

## **EASTER LIFTING**

Lifting, or Heaving, at Easter was a very popular custom, particularly in north-western England and on both sides of the Welsh Border, until the second half of the nineteenth century. On Easter Monday, parties of young men visited the various houses of the parish in which they lived, carrying a stout chair that was decorated with greenery, flowers, and ribbons. In this chair, the women of each house were made to sit in turn, young and old alike, and were hoisted three times into the air and turned round. The lifters were then entitled to claim a kiss and a small gift of money as their reward. On the Tuesday the women went round with the chair and lifted the men. In some places, this day-order was reversed, so that the women went out on the first of the `Heaving days`, and the men followed on the second. On both days, Lifting ceased punctually at noon.

Lifting does not seem to have been customary in north-eastern England. But in Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire, young men used to snatch the shoes from the feet of girls on Easter Sunday, or Monday, and the girls retaliated by seizing the boys' caps or hats on the following day. Shoes and headgear were afterwards redeemed by a kiss and a few coins.

This custom was observed as part of the traditional Easter merrymakings in both rural areas and towns. It was a cheerful and often very charming rite, in which everyone knew what was expected of him or her, and willingly took part.

As time and changing ideas played their role, the custom of Lifting existed as long as the middle of the nineteenth century, and by the beginning of the twentieth century it practically had died out.

## **MORRIS DANCING**

Morris dancing is a traditional English form of folk dance which is also performed in other English-speaking countries such as the USA and Australia. The roots of morris dancing seem to be very old, probably dating back to the Middle Ages.

In the dance men dress up in costumes with hats and ribbons and bells around their ankles. They dance through the streets and one man often carries an inflated pigs bladder on the end of a stick. He will run up to young women in the

street and hit them over the head with the pigs bladder, this is supposed to be lucky!

***Comprehension questions and tasks:***

1. What are the pre-Christian origins of Easter celebrations?
2. What important Christian dates fall before Easter Sunday?
3. What are traditional English symbols for Easter? Why Easter eggs have become so popular?
4. Have you ever known about Easter games? What traditional games are popular with the children?
5. What kind of traditional festivities are connected with the hare?
6. Explain the rules of Easter Lifting. Why was it so popular in the previous centuries? Would you like to take part in it?
7. What traditional dance is often performed on Easter days?
8. What kinds of cakes are traditionally made for Easter? Find the recipe in this booklet and try to bake one.
9. What peculiar traditions have been observed in different parts of England?
10. Compare Russian and English customs for Easter. What is similar? What kind of differences can you find?

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ А.С. ПУШКИНА

## SOME RECIPES OF TRADITIONAL CUISINE

These two old Easter recipes take a little extra effort but are well worth it. If *Hot Cross Buns* and *Easter Crown Bread* are not already part of your family traditions, you will want to add them this year.

### *Hot Cross Buns.*

Hot Cross Buns are traditionally served on Good Friday (the Friday before Easter) and during the Lenten season, but they are good anytime. This recipe will make 2 1/2 dozen buns. 2 packages active dry yeast (1/4 ounce each) 1/2 cup warm water\*

1 cup warm milk\*

1/2 cup sugar 1/4 cup softened butter or margarine

1 teaspoon vanilla 1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

6 1/2 to 7 cups all-purpose flour

4 eggs

1/2 cup dried currents

1/2 cup raisins

2 Tablespoons water

1 egg yolk

1 cup confectioner's sugar

4 teaspoons milk or cream

Dash salt 1/4 teaspoon vanilla

Have the water and milk at 110–115 degrees F. In a large mixing bowl, dissolve the yeast in the warm water. Add the warm milk, sugar, butter, vanilla, salt, nutmeg, and 3 cups of the flour. Beat until smooth. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating the mixture well after each addition. Stir in the dried fruit and enough flour to make a soft dough.

Turn out onto a floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic, about 6 to 8 minutes. Place in a greased bowl and turn over to grease the top. Cover with a damp towel or plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size (about 1 hour).

Punch the dough down and shape into 30 balls. Place on lightly greased baking sheets. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes). Using a sharp knife, cut a cross (or X) on the top of each roll. Beat the water and egg yolk together and brush over rolls. (You will probably have more than you need, discard the unused egg glaze.) Bake at 375-degree F. for 12 to 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, make icing by combining the last four ingredients. Stir until smooth, adjusting sugar and milk to make a mixture that flows easily.

When rolls are baked, cool on wire racks. Drizzle icing over the top of each roll following the lines of the cut cross.

### ***Easter Crown Bread***

To decorate this pretty Easter crown, you will need 5 colored eggs but they must be UNCOOKED. Be sure to use non-toxic dyes as you color them.

3 to 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour (divided use)

1/4 cup granulated sugar

1 package active dry yeast 1 teaspoon salt

2/3 cup warm milk

2 Tablespoons softened butter or margarine

2 eggs 1/2 cup chopped mixed candied fruit

1/4 cup chopped blanched almonds

1/2 teaspoon anise seed

5 uncooked eggs

Non-toxic egg coloring Vegetable oil

In a large mixing bowl, combine 1 cup flour, sugar, yeast, and salt. Add the milk and butter and beat with an electric mixer for 2 minutes on medium. Add the eggs and 1/2 cup flour and beat on high for 2 minutes.

Stir in the fruit, nuts, and anise seed, mixing well. Stir in enough remaining flour to form a soft dough. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic (about 6 to 8 minutes). Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease the top. Cover with a damp cloth or plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size (about 1 hour).

About 30 minutes before dough has finished rising, color the 5 eggs (leave them uncooked) with non-toxic dyes. When dry, lightly rub them with vegetable oil.

Punch down the risen dough. Divide in half. Roll each half into a 24-inch rope. On a greased baking sheet, loosely twist the two ropes together. Form into a ring and pinch the ends together. Gently split the ropes and tuck the 5 colored uncooked eggs into the openings. Cover and let rise again until doubled (about 30 minutes). Bake in a 350-degree F. oven for 30 to 35 minutes or until a golden brown. Remove from the baking sheet and cool on a wire rack.

### ***The Hare Pie***

In England, in Hallaton (in the County of Leicestershire), every Easter Monday, there is the Hare Pie Scramble and Bottle Kicking. The story goes that a woman was saved by a hare running across the path of a bull on Easter Monday hundreds of years ago. As a token of her appreciation, she bequeathed a piece of land to the rector. The sole condition to this bequest was that the rector have a hare pie made to be distributed to parishioners together with a large quantity of ale every year.

The ingredients of this hare pie include

- 4 pounds of flour
- 2 pounds of lard
- 2 hares

- 3 pounds of onions
- 7 pounds of potatoes
- Seasoning

The pie is cooked on Easter Monday, using a 20-inch square tin, at either Torch House, which belongs to Torch Trust for the Blind (previously Hallaton Convent), or at the Bewick Arms.

The pie is paraded in a procession through the village from the Fox Inn to the gate of St. Michael's Church. Immediately behind the pie in the procession are the three "bottles" that are used for the Bottle Kicking match.

### ***Lamb to Taste Like Venison***

Nothing beats a leg of new spring lamb roasted with sprigs of rosemary, slivers of garlic and served with a gravy made from its juices. Unfortunately, if Easter is early, it is rare to find new season's lamb and you are far more likely to be fobbed off with a piece of hogget - overwintered lamb - which is far less tender and sweet.

Faced with this option, the best way to tackle it is to marinate it as in this eighteenth-century recipe.

- 1 leg of lamb, weighing 1.35-1.8kg/3-4lb
- 20ml/1tablespoon/1 1/2tablespoons olive oil
- 30g/1oz butter
- 3 medium carrots, sliced
- 3 medium onions, sliced
- 2 celery sticks, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- 575ml/1 pint/2 1/2cups red wine
- 150ml/1/4pint/2/3cup white wine vinegar
- 2 bay leaves
- 6-8 juniper berries, crushed
- 6-8 peppercorns, crushed
- 10ml/2teaspoons sea salt
- sprig of fresh rosemary
- sprig of fresh thyme
- 40ml/2tablespoons/3tablespoons finely chopped parsley
- 20ml/1tablespoon/1 1/2tablespoons redcurrant jelly

1 With a sharp knife score the leg of lamb crossways into a diamond pattern, trimming away any loose bits of fat. Put the meat in a snugly fitting dish.

2 To make the marinade, heat the oil with the butter and saute the carrots, onions, celery and garlic for about 5 minutes. Pour in the wine and vinegar, add the bay leaves, juniper berries, peppercorns and salt and bring to almost boiling point. Cover, turn down the heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in the

rosemary, thyme and parsley and leave to cool.

3 Pour the cold marinade over the lamb and leave it in a cool place for four days, turning and basting the meat twice a day.

4 To cook the lamb, first strain the vegetables from the marinade and scatter them on the bottom of an ovenproof dish. Drain the lamb and place it on top. Sear it in a preheated 230°C/450°F/gas8 oven for 15 minutes, reduce the heat to 180°C/350°F/gas4 and cook for another hour, basting occasionally with a little of the marinade liquid.

5 Allow the joint to rest for about 15 minutes before carving. To make the gravy, bring the remaining marinade liquid to the boil and reduce it by one third. Stir in the cooking juices from the lamb and the redcurrant jelly and reduce by another third. Adjust the seasoning and serve with the meat.

## LET'S DECORATE SOME EASTER EGGS!

There are lots of ways to decorate Easter Eggs. You can go to the store and buy an egg-coloring kit. It will turn out some very pretty eggs. You might make your own colored solutions with food coloring or natural ingredients, vinegar, and hot water. You can do dye resist, etchings, painting, gluing, double dipping, and so much more. You will find lots of suggestions in books at the library so be sure to check there. Here some ideas to get you started.



### *Pass It On*

*This is a great activity for a group of friends and family. You will need a hard-boiled egg for each person and a collection of colored markers. The smaller tip permanent markers work best.*

Everyone gather around the table. Each person takes an egg and draws hair on it. Then each one passes their egg to the person next to them. That person draws the eyebrows. Pass the eggs again and draw the eyes. Keep passing and drawing until all the parts the face are done. You can include cheeks, nose, mouth, ears, and special features like freckles and moles. Then everyone can admire the results! if you think you can't draw well enough to do this, just get the Sunday comics out to use as inspiration.

### *"Tie-Dye" Eggs*

*Ahh... remember the 60's? The good old days of love beads, bell-bottoms, hair, and tie-dye T-shirts. Well if you can (and I'm not saying I can) then these eggs will bring back memories. And if not, they are mighty pretty anyway.*



*You may want to use rubber gloves for this project or you may be caught red-handed!*

Make up several colored dyes with food coloring or egg dye. Be sure they are strong solutions (about 2 Tablespoons of water to a tablet of dye). Add two or three drops of vinegar to each color for staying power. Now, dampen a piece of cloth with water and wrap it around the egg. With an eye dropper, drop spots of different colors of dye on the cloth. Twist the cloth tightly around the egg so the colors blend together. Gently unwrap the egg and let it dry.

### ***Natural Dyes for Easter Eggs***

This year instead of using a coloring kit from the grocery store, why not use some natural dyes. Here are some ideas. Usually, the more of the natural ingredient you use and the longer the egg soaks (maybe even overnight) the darker the color will be.

**REMEMBER:** *Not all of these eggs will be safe to eat. Do not eat eggs that sit in hot water for many hours or overnight. Save those for decorations.*

#### Red

Save the skins from red onions and boil with the eggs for 1/2 to 1 hour. Remember the more skins you use and the longer you soak the darker the color will be. A smaller amount of skins will produce a nice lavender.

#### Pink

Soak your hardboiled eggs in cranberry juice or the juice from pickled beets.

#### Violet Blue

Soak your hardboiled eggs overnight in hot water to which you have added violet blossoms.

#### Lavender

Soak your hardboiled eggs in grape juice, or, add 2 teaspoons of lemon juice to the Violet Blue water to lighten the color.

#### Yellow

To a cup of hot water, add 1 to 1 1/2 teaspoons of tumeric and 1/2 teaspoon vinegar.

#### Golden Tan

Save the skins from yellow onions. Add them to the water when you hardboil your eggs.

#### Brown

To a cup of hot water, add 1 Tablespoon of instant coffee, and 1/2 teaspoon vinegar.

#### Green

Add 1/4 teaspoon of baking soda to a bowl of the water from Violet Blue before soaking your eggs. You can also soak your eggs in liquid chlorophyll. (Buy it at the pet store or drug store.)

## Pretty Pastels

You can rub blueberries and cranberries right on the shells for soft blues and pink. Blend them for another pretty result.

## ***Eggshell Mosaics***

*If you've always admired the floors of the Roman baths or the sidewalks of Rio, (Huh? What is she talking about!?) you will want to try your hand at this. Save all those colored shells from your Easter Eggs to make a pretty mosaic picture. Use a dark colored paper for a striking effect.*

Break the colored shells into small pieces. You will want to make them small enough that they will lie flat but not so small that they are too difficult to handle. If you like, you can separate the colors by categories onto different plates.

Use a fine marker to outline a design on a piece of tagboard or thin cardboard (the back of a writing tablet is great). Keep the design fairly simple without too many very small areas. Spread white glue in one area of the design and fill it in with eggshell bits, leaving a small gap between the pieces. Continue until your design is filled. Be sure not to cover up your outline. Keep the mosaic flat while it dries overnight.



САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ ГАБРИИЛЫ ПЕТРОВНЫ СКОБЕДИНОЙ

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## APPENDIX

### THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES



LANCASHIRE is a famous and noted place, abounding with rivers, hills, woods, pastures and pleasant towns, many of which are of great antiquity. It is also famous for witches, and the strange pranks they played.

Some time since lived one Mother Cuthbert, in a little hovel at the bottom of a hill, called Wood and Mountain Hill (Pendle). This woman had two lusty daughters, who both carded and spun for their living, yet were very poor, which made them often lament their want. One day as Mother Cuthbert was sauntering about the hill-side, picking the wool off the bushes, out started a thing like a rabbit, which ran about two or three times and then changed into a hound, and afterwards into a man, which made the old dame tremble, yet she had no power to run away. The man, putting a purse of money in her hand, and charging her to be there the next day, immediately vanished away, and old Mother Cuthbert returned home in envy and fear.

The old woman opened not her purse until she came home, and then found in it ten angel coins; so, calling to her daughters, she told them what had happened. The wenches rejoiced that the treasure of the house had increased, that they might stuff themselves with beef and pudding which they had long been strangers to; and advised their mother to go again as he had ordered, and so she did.

The first thing she saw was a tree rising out of the ground which moved towards her, and, to her surprise, multiplied into a very thick wood round her, so that she was afraid of losing herself, when on a sudden she saw a house, and heard the sound of music. This appeared most strange, however, she took courage and went towards it, when she found a great many women all dancing and revelling,

and the house appeared like a stately palace, and the tables were furnished with a great variety of delicacies.

The dance being ended, she was desired to sit at the table with the rest, but she hesitated at first, till at length, being hungry, she fell roundly to. After dinner the matron who received her, by striking the floor with her wand, caused various familiars, in the shape of cats, bears, apes and others, to enter and dance while she played on the gridiron and tongs.

This done, taking Mother Cuthbert aside, she demanded how she liked the cheer and sport. She answered very well, but desired to know where she was and her company.

Mother Crady then told her that she was Witch of Penmure, a great mountain in Wales, and the rest were her countrywomen. And wishing to have her of the sisterhood, she had contrived this way to entertain her, to show her that she might always live rich and merry.

Mother Cuthbert, overcome with persuasions, consented, when immediately they anointed her breast with a certain ointment, then, speaking a charm or two, they gave her the rest to use upon occasion, and also in another box a little thing like a mole, that was to be her imp. So, all mounting upon a coal-staff, away they flew and she with them; but they left her at the door of her own house, and kept still on their way with the wind.

Mother Cuthbert being thus entered into the society of witches, by the force of her ointment, and counsel of her imp, who could speak when he pleased, and turn himself into divers shapes, finding the power she had, began to play many pranks.

Sometime before this, the Mayor of Lancaster had caused Mother Cuthbert to be whipped for breaking his pales to make a fire in the cold winter, which she resented much; and now, knowing her power to revenge it, she trudges thither, where she found him carousing with many friends.

She took an opportunity to slip a letter into his hands, and retired unknown, which he had no sooner read, but telling his company he must run a race, he immediately went into the next room, and stripped himself stark naked. Then, taking a hand-whip, he ran into the street, lashing his sides and back, crying,

‘There he goes! I win! I win!’

Whilst the people followed, calling him to stay, thinking he was mad, yet he ran on to the further end of the town, lashing himself till he was bloody. At which time, coming to his wits, he was in the greatest consternation, swearing the devil had put this trick upon him; for all the time he imagined he had been on horseback, and was riding a race, not feeling the lashes he gave himself till he had completed his number, and filled the measure of the witch’s resentment.

Mother Cuthbert, growing more and more perfect in her art, resolved to bring in her daughters to witchcraft; they were content to be ruled by the mother, and she anointed them, and used the best means she was able to make them perfect in their new trade.

Their names were Margery and Cicely. One time Cicely, the younger daughter, fell in love with a gentleman’s son who lived about a mile from their home. Since he was too high and mighty to wed her, she decided to have him in her arms at any rate. Therefore, knowing he liked hunting, she often turned herself into a hare to make him sport, and still drew him towards her mother’s house, for when he went that way he used to call in to chat with them; and that was what had caused in Cicely the first fatal passion.

But once this had liked to have proved fatal, for the charm wanting something of its force, one of the leading hounds had caught her by the haunches, just as she was entering her creep-hole, and gave her a terrible pinch. Happy was it for her that she was so near, or her loving had been forever spoiled.

The young man, supposing the hare to have run into the house, entered and found Cicely rubbing her back in some pain. Puzzled, he went away, and she for the future grew cautious of showing him any more sport of that kind.

But when he was going to be married to a beautiful young gentlewoman, she by enchantment caused the lady to lose herself in a wood, and there cast her in a deep sleep for a day and a night. In the meantime she impersonated the bride. But knowing it could not long continue, she cast him likewise into a deep sleep, and then fetched the young lady to his arms, so that when they both awaked, they thought they had been all the time together.



САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ Н. Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО

## THE WILD ROVER

I've been a wild ro-ver for ma-ny's the year, \_\_\_\_\_ And I've  
 spent all me mo-ney on whis-key and beer, \_\_\_\_\_ And now I'm re-  
 tur-ning with gold in great store, \_\_\_\_\_ And I ne-ver will play the wild  
 ro-ver no more, And it's No, Nay, Ne-ver, \_\_\_\_\_  
 No Nay Ne-ver No more, \_\_\_\_\_ Will I play \_\_\_\_\_  
 the wild ro-ver, \_\_\_\_\_ No, Ne-ver \_\_\_\_\_ No more.

I went to an alehouse I used to frequent,  
 And I told the landlady my money was spent.  
 I asked her for credit she answered me 'Nay,  
 Such custom as yours I could have every day.'

### CHORUS

I brought up from my pockets ten sovereigns bright  
 And the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight.  
 She said 'I have whiskeys and wines of the best,  
 And the words that I told you were only In jest.'

### CHORUS

I'll go home to my parents, confess what I've done,  
 And I'll ask them to pardon their prodigal son.  
 And when they've caressed me as oft times before,  
 I never will play the wild rover no more.

### CHORUS



## THE FARMER'S CURST WIFE

1. It was of a farm - er in Che - shire did dwell, Sing  
fol de rol lad - die I day, And by the old de - vil was  
known ve - ry well, Sing fol de rol lad - die I day.

2. The devil came to him one day to his plough,

Saying: One of your family I must have now.

3. I don't want thee nor thy son Jack,

But it's thy old bitch of a wife I'll have.

4. The old devil he tumbled her into his sack

Just like an old pedlar a-carrying his pack.

5. He took her and threw her down at hell's door,

And bade her stay there, not to rise any more.

6. Up come the young devils all fettered in chains,

She up with her pattens and beat out their brains.

7. The odd little devil peeped over the wall,

Saying: Take her back, daddy, or she'll kill us all.

8. So he hoist her up all on his back

And like an old pedlar went packing her back.

9. The women they are so much better than men,

When they go to hell they're sent back again.

## WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE DRUNKEN SAILOR

What shall we do with the drunken sailor, what shall we do with the  
drunken sailor, what shall we do with the drunken sailor early in the  
morning? Hooray, and up she rises, hooray, and up she rises,  
hoo-ray, and up she rises early in the morning.

1. Take him and shake him and try to awake him...
2. Give him a dose of salt and water...
3. Give him a dash with a bason's rubber...
4. Put him in a long boat till he's sober...
5. Pull out the plug ana wet him all over...
6. Heave him by the leg in a running bowline...
7. That's what to do with a drunken sailor...

**THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHS**  
**(A SCRIPT OF CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME, BY KAYE UMANSKY)**

Staff:

Empress

Emperor

Imperial Mum

Prime Minister

Fishweedle and Bogus (tailors)

**ACT I, Scene 4**

*The Emperor's Chambers. The EMPEROR, wearing an outrageous outfit, sits on his throne with a huge catalogue on his lap, the EMPRESS files her nails, the IMPERIAL MUM knits and the FOOTMEN stands discreetly in the background.*

EMPRESS: Any luck, darling?

EMPEROR: *(crossly)* No. *(He throws down his catalogue.)* Nothing's right! There's simply nothing that catches my eye. It's all dull, dull, dull. Dull and dowdy.

IMPERIAL MUM: Poor diddums. Does he want an egg with some soldiers?

EMPEROR: Not right now, Mumsy. I'm too upset.

EMPRESS: There must be something, darling.

EMPEROR: There isn't, I tell you. It's all last year's stuff. I'm looking for something new. Something bang-up-to-the-minute. I want everyone to say, "Wow! The Emperor's really outdone himself this year." It's got to have that "Wow!" factor.

EMPRESS: And it's got to go with the tie.

EMPEROR: And look right with my crown. Oh, It's hopeless, simply hopeless. *(He stamps his foot.)* What am I going to do?

*(Enter the PRIME MINISTER with a handful of ribbons.)*

**PRIME MINISTER: Sire! I've just got the ribbons...**

EMPEROR: Yes, yes, I can see that, Prime Minister. Well, you can take them back again. I've changed my mind.

PRIME MINISTER: Ah. Well, that's all to the good, Venerable Majesty. You see, there are a couple of chaps outside that I rather think you should meet...

*(Enter BOGUS and FISHWEEDLE with the loom. Pushing the PRIME MINISTER out of the way, they sweep their hats and then they bow very low.)*

**BOGUS: Gracious Emperor! Bright Star Of The Firmanent!**

**IMPERIAL MUM: Oooh! Get him!**

FISHWEEDLE: We tremble in your presence, O Gorgeous One!

EMPEROR: Yes, all right, that'll do. What's all this about?

BOGUS: That's what I like. Straght to the point. We won't waste your time, sire! We are offering you the opportunity of a lifetime. The chance to be the first to model a suit made out of the new wonder material – Polyfabuloso Cloth!

EMPEROR: Polyfabuloso?

PRIME MINISTER,

EMPRESS and

IMPERIAL MUM: Polyfabuloso?

BOGUS and

FISHWEEDLE: Polyfabuloso Cloth.

(BOGUS and FISHWEEDLE sing the following song, to the tune of 'Polly Wolly Doodle'.)

### **POLYFABULOSO CLOTH**

It's the latest thing on the fashion scene,  
It's Polyfabuloso Cloth!  
It comes in red, white, blue and green  
Does Polyfabuloso Cloth,  
It's new! It's you!  
It's resistant to the moth,  
You'll look real cute in a Sunday suit made of  
Polyfabuloso Cloth!

What's the latest word on every lip?  
Polifabuloso Cloth!  
It's the happenin' thing. It's hot, it's hip,  
It's Polyfabuloso Cloth!  
Doesn't stain in the rain,  
Doesn't show spilled egg or broth,  
So have no doubt, get yourself decked out in  
Polyfabuloso Cloth!

EMPRESS: Oooh! Freddy! How Exciting! I wonder if it'll go with your new tie?

BOGUS: Marm, it will go with everything. And that's not all. It has...*(He lowers his voice to a thrilling whisper.)* Magical Properties!

IMPERIAL MUM: Oh my! Fancy! I'm coming over all funny.

EMPEROR: Magical Properties? What magical properties?

FISHWEEDLE: Polyfabuloso, sire is a specialist fabric. It is intended only for the eyes of the highly intelligent. People of taste. People who know True Beauty when they see it. In other words, to your average thicko, it's Totally Invisible!

EMPEROR: Good heavens. Really?

EMPRESS: Oh, Freddy. You've got to have it. You've simply got to!

EMPEROR: What do you think, Mumsy?

EMPERIAL MUM: My big boy's the Emperor. He can have what he wants. If he wants eggy soldiers, he can have eggy soldiers. If he wants a new suit...

EMPEROR: Yes, all right, thank you, Mumsy. Er – is it very expensive?

BOGUS: (*draws in his breath*) It'll cost you, sire. Gold thread's not cheap you know. And the magical stuff's not easy to come by. Specialist shops, you know? Pay through the earhole.

EMPEROR: Oh, I can afford it all right. I'm rolling. And I was looking for something special to wear in the Grand Parade...

PRIME MINISTER: Oh, go on, Your Majesty. Treat yourself.

EMPRESS: Oh, do, darling. Say yes!

EMPEROR: Well. I must admit it sounds very intriguing.

BOGUS: Excellent! That's that then.

FISHWEEDLE: Now all we need is the money.

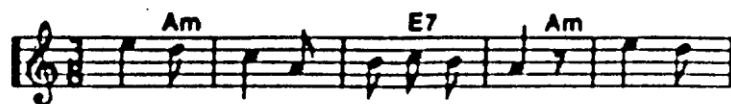
EMPEROR: Of course. See to it, would you, Prime Minister? And give them enough to buy whatever they need.

BOGUS: You won't regret it, sire.

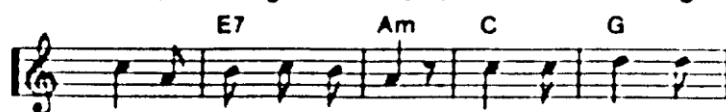
FISHWEEDLE: I think we can safely say that the sight of Your majesty at the Grand Parade will be something the crowds will never forget!

(ALL exit.)

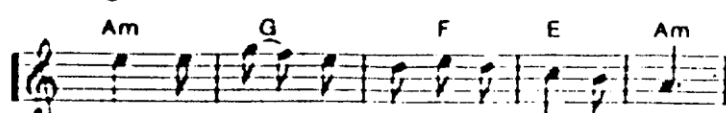
## WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE



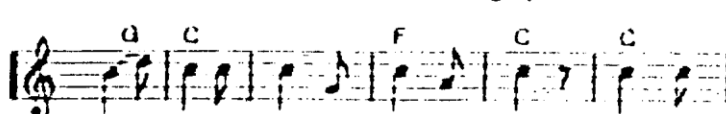
We three kings of Or-i-ent are, bear-ing



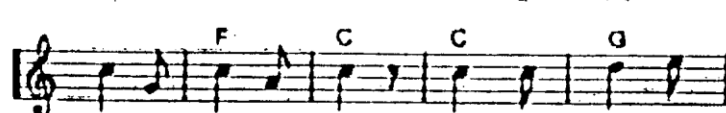
gifs we traverse a - far Field and foun-tain.



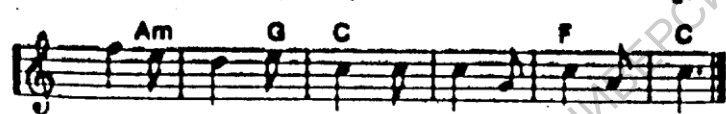
moor and moun-tain, fol-low-ing yon-der star



Oh star of won-der, star of might star with



roy-al beau-ty bright. West-ward lead-ing



still pro-ceed-ing. guide us to the per-fect Light.

We three kings of Orient are.  
 Bearing gifts we travel so a-far.  
 Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
 following yonder star.  
 Oh, star of wonder, star of might,  
 star with roal beauty bright.  
 Westwards leading still proceeding,  
 guide us to the perfect Light.

Born a Babe on Bethlehem's plain,  
 gold we bring to crown Him again;  
 King forever, ceasing never,  
 over us all to reign.  
 Oh, star of wonder, star of might,  
 star with royal beauty bright,  
 Westwards leading, still proceeding,  
 guide us to the perfect Light.

# SILENT NIGHT

*pp* C G7 C

1. Si - lent night, Ho - ly night, All is calm, all is bright,  
2. Si - lent night, Ho - ly night, Shep - herds quake at the sight.  
3. Si - lent night, Ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

*pp*

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ ГЕОРГИЯ ПЛЫШЕВСКОГО

F C F C

'Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child, Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,  
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia;  
Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ ГЕОРГИЯ ПЛЫШЕВСКОГО

G7 C G7 C

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ the Sa - vior is born, Christ the Sa - vior is born.  
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ ИМЕНИ ГЕОРГИЯ ПЛЫШЕВСКОГО

## JINGLE BELLS

John Pierpont wrote "Jingle Bells" in 1857. It is one of the first Christmas songs that American children learn.

*Dash-ing through the snow, in a one-horse o-pen sleigh,*

*O'er the fields we go, laugh-ing all the way.*

*Bells on Bob-tail ring, mak-ing spir-its bright; What*

*fun it is to ride and sing a sleigh-ing song to-night!*

*Chorus*

*Jin-gle bells, jin-gle bells, jin-gle all the way.*

*Oh! What fun it is to ride in a one-horse o-pen sleigh!*

*Jin-gle bells, jin-gle bells, jin-gle all the way.*

*Oh! What fun it is to ride in a one-horse o-pen sleigh!*

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of 12 staves of music. The first four staves are the main melody with lyrics. The fifth staff is the start of the chorus. The sixth and seventh staves are the chorus with lyrics. The eighth and ninth staves are the chorus with lyrics. The tenth and eleventh staves are the chorus with lyrics. The twelfth staff is the end of the chorus with lyrics. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, Am7, D7, G, C, Am7, D7, G, C, G, Am7, D7, G, C, C, G, D7, G.



## NOWELL, NOWELL

1. No - well and No - well, the an - gels did say, While  
 shep - herds there in the fields did lay; Lay - ing  
 in one night and fold - ing their sheep, A win - ter's night\_ both  
 cold and bleak. No - well and No - well, No -  
 - well and No - well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

2. And then there did appear a star  
 To wise men three in country far;  
 And to the earth it gave a great light  
 And there it continued a day and a night.
3. Betwixt an ox-manger and an ass  
 There our blessed Messiah was.  
 To save our souls from sin and thrall  
 He is the Redeemer of us all.

## AS I SAT ON A SUNNY BANK

1. As I sat on a sun - ny bank, A  
 sun - ny bank, a sun - ny bank, As I sat on a  
 sun - ny bank On Christ - mas day in the morn - ing.  
 4. O he did whi - stle and she did sing And  
 all the bells on earth did ring, For joy our Sa - viour  
 Christ was born On Christ - mas day in the morn - ing.

2. I saw three ships come sailing by,  
 Come sailing by, come sailing by,  
 I saw three ships come sailing by,  
 On Christmas day in the morning.
3. And who do you think were on the  
 ship,  
 Were on the ship, were on the ship,  
 And who do you think were on the  
 ship,  
 But Joseph and his Fair Lady?

## THE VIRGIN UNSPOTTED

1. The Vir - gin un - spot - ted the pro - phets fore -

- told Should bring - forth our Sa - viour which now you be -

- hold, To be our Re - deem - er from death, hell and

sin. Which A - dam's trans - gress - ion in - vol - ved us in.

Then let us be mer - ry, cast sor - row a - way; Our

Sa - viour Christ Je - sus is born on this day.

2. Now Mary's full time being come as we find,  
 She brought forth her first-born to save all mankind.  
 The inn being so full for this heavenly guest,  
 No place could be found for to lay him to rest.
3. Then presently after the shepherds did spy  
 Vast numbers of angels for to stand in the sky.  
 How happy they conversed, most sweet did they sing,  
 All glory and praise to our heavenly king.

## THE PADDO (The Lancashire fairy-tale)

A poor widow was one day baking bannocks, and sent her dochter wi' a dish to the well to bring water. The dochter gaed and better gaed, till she came to the well, but it was dry. Now, what to do she didna ken, for she couldna gang back to her mother without water; Sae she sat down by the side o' the well, and fell a'greeting.

A Paddo then came loup-loup-louping out o' the well and asked the lassie what she was greeting for, and she said she was greeting because there was no' water in the well.

"But," says the Paddo, "an ye'll be my wife I'll gie ye plenty o' water.' And the lassie, no' thinking that the poor beast could mean anything serious, said she would be his wife, for the sake o' getting the water.

So she got the water into her dish and gaed awa' hame to her mother and thought no' mair about the Paddo till that night, when, just as she and her mother were about to go to their beds, something came to the door, and when they listened they heard this sang,

"O open the door, my hinnie, my heart,  
O open the door, my ain true love;  
Remember the promise that you and I made,  
Down i' the meadow, where we twa met.'

Says the mother to the dochter: "What noise is that at the door?" "Hout," says the dochter, "it"s naething but a filthy Paddo.' "Open the door," says her mother, "to the poor Pad-do." So the lassie opened the door, and the Paddo came loup-loup-louping in, and sat down by the ingle-side. Then he sings,

"O gie me my supper, my hinnie, my heart,  
O gie me my supper, my am true love;  
Remember the promise that you and I made,  
Down i' the meadow, where we twa met.'

"Hout," quo' the dochter, "wad I gie a filthy Paddo his supper?"

"O ay," said the mother, "e"en gie the poor Paddo his supper.'

So the Paddo got his supper; and after that he sings again,

"O put me to bed, my hinnie, my heart,

O put me to bed, my am true love;

Remember the promise that you and I made,

Down i' the meadow, where we twa met.'

"Hout," quo' the dochter, "wad I put a filthy Paddo to bed?" "O ay," says her mother, "put the poor Paddo to his bed". Then the Paddo sings again,

"Now fetch me an axe, my hinnie, my heart,

Now fetch me an axe, my ain true love;

Remember the promise that you and I made,

Down i' the meadow, where we twa met.'

The lassie wasna lang o' fetching the axe; and then the Paddo sang,

"Now chap aft my head, my hinnie, my heart,

Now chap aft my head, my am true love;

Remember the promise that you and I made,

Down i' the meadow, where we twa met.'

Wed, the lassie chappit aff his head; and no sooner was that done than he started up the bonniest young prince that ever was seen. And the twa lived happy a' the rest o' their days.

## THE EASTER STORY AS TOLD IN THE GOSPELS (KING JAMES VERSION)



or God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. ([John 3:16-17](#))

### ***The Last Supper***

And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he said unto them: and they made ready for the passover. And in the evening he cometh with the twelve. ([Mark 14:16-17](#))

And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them; and they all drank of it. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. Verily I say unto you. I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God. ([Mark 14:22-25](#))

### ***Jesus is Crucified***

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.

And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand; and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying Hail King of the Jews! And they spit on him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him and led him away to crucify him. ([Matthew 27:27-31](#))

And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. And there followed him a great company of people and women, which also bewailed and lamented him. ([Luke 23:26-27](#)).

And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

Then said Jesus, Father forgive them; for they know not what they do. ([Luke 23:33-34](#))

Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did. ([John 19:23-24](#))

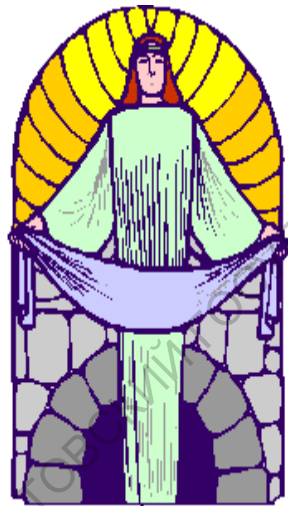
### ***Jesus Dies and Is Buried***

And it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and the vail of the temple was rent in the midst. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, he said, Father into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man. ([Luke 23:44-47](#))

When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. ([Matthew 27:57-60](#))

And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses beheld where he was laid. ([Mark 15:47](#))

### ***Jesus is Risen!***



And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. ([Mark](#)

[16:2-7](#))

So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. ([Mark 16:19-20](#))

## THE EASTER BUNNY

*by M. Josephine Todd, 1909*



There's a story quite funny,  
About a toy bunny,  
And the wonderful things she can do;  
Every bright Easter morning,  
Without warning,  
She colors eggs, red, green, or blue.

Some she covers with spots,  
Some with quaint little dots,  
And some with strange mixed colors, too—  
Red and green, blue and yellow,  
But each unlike his fellow  
Are eggs of every hue.

And it's odd, as folks say,  
That on no other day  
In all of the whole year through,  
Does this wonderful bunny,  
So busy and funny,  
Color eggs of every hue.

If this story you doubt  
She will soon find you out,  
And what do you think she will do?  
On the next Easter morning  
She'll bring you without warning,  
Those eggs of every hue.



## MEETING THE EASTER BUNNY

*by Rowena Bennett, 1930*

On Easter morn at early dawn  
before the cocks were crowing  
I met a bob-tail bunnykin  
and asked where he was going.

"Tis in the house and out the house  
a-tispy, tipsy-toeing,  
Tis round the house and 'bout the house  
a-lightly I am going."

"But what is that of every hue  
you carry in your basket?"  
"Tis eggs of gold and eggs of blue;  
I wonder that you ask it.

"Tis chocolate eggs and bonbon eggs  
and eggs of red and gray,  
For every child in every house  
on bonny Easter day.

"He perked his ears and winked his eye  
and twitched his little nose;  
He shook his tail -- what tail he had --  
and stood up on his toes.

"I must be gone before the sun;  
the east is growing gray;  
Tis almost time for bells to chime." --  
So he hippety-hopped away.



## **FUNNY BUNNY**

*by Bob Tucker*

Little Easter, the comedienne bunny,  
Tried too hard at being funny.  
She juggled and she dropped the eggs  
They fell and smashed between her legs.

Poor Easter left the stage in shame  
And thought that she might change her name.  
But then that bunny read this ad,  
"This Sunday we need help real bad.

"So Easter Bunny kept her name  
And through the years has gained much fame,  
When Easter's Sunday comes each year.  
She delivers eggs and we all cheer.

## **EASTER ISN'T EASY**

*By Bob Tucker*



I heard a funny bunny say,  
"I just go nuts on Easter day.  
I hide about a zillion eggs  
And baskets tangle up my legs.

"I'm tired, my eyes are full of tears  
And overflowing to my ears.  
If I'm to work more Easter Days  
At my age I should change my ways

"I know I must do something rash  
So I'll start saving all my cash  
Then next year, with a little luck  
I'll deliver in my pick up truck."

## BUNNY SONG



(Tune: *The Yellow Rose of Texas*)

Oh, the Easter Bunny's coming, she's the one I long to see.  
She's got eggs in her basket, she's bringing them to me.  
I'm looking out the window and I hope she gets here quick,  
I need marshmallow bunnies and a little chocolate chick.

Oh, I love Easter Sunday and it comes round every year  
Right now I'm so excited cause the Easter Bunny's here!  
The Easter eggs are lovely, with swirls on them because,  
The Easter Bunny paints them with her little furry paws.

We'll take the eggs and hide them, all up and down the hill,  
And I'll go back to find them with my little brother, Bill.  
We will pile up all the goodies and I'll eat all I can take,  
And then end Easter Sunday with a big old belly ache.

*Now sing briskly:*

Oh, the Easter Bunny's coming, she's the one I long to see.  
She's got eggs in her basket, she's bringing them to me.  
I'm looking out the window and I hope she gets here quick,  
I need marshmallow bunnies and a little chocolate chick.

I need marshmallow bunnies and a little chocolate chick!  
I need marshmallow bunnies and a little chocolate chick!

**THE FOLLOWING IS A WORK OF FICTION. IT IS NOT ABOUT ANYBUNNY WE KNOW**

he Easter Bunny yawned, stretched, and rolled over. He opened one eye and noticed a small purple crocus flower blooming. He began sniffing the air and Tsneezed. "Roses", he thought, "I can smell roses."



The Easter Bunny leaped to his feet. "It's time," he thought, "it's time. I must awake everybody. The earth is coming to life! It's waking up!! The earth is waking up! I must hurry and tell everybody." The Easter Bunny hopped to the bunny trail and began shouting, "Wake up, everybody. Wake up. The earth is coming to life!"



Bunnies began to awake everywhere. Spring chickens also heard the shouting, and trotted to the bunny trail. Soon hundreds of bunnies and chickens were at the bunny trail to greet the Easter Bunny. The whole bunny trail was a chorus of chickens and bunnies excitedly claiming, "Spring is here. The earth is coming to life!"

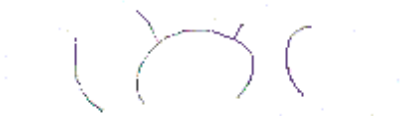


The Easter Bunny found a large rock and hopped on top of it to address everybody. "Okay, everybody, quieten down," said the Easter Bunny. "Quieten down." All eyes and ears focused on the Easter Bunny. "I would like to thank everybody for coming," he said. "I hope you all got enough rest this winter." The bunnies and chickens chuckled and nodded, yes. "Good, he said. Because we all know what time it is again. The Easter egg hunt is only a few weeks

away. Last year you did a great job, so you can all give yourself a hand for that." All the bunnies and chickens began to applaud.



"I do need to mention though that last year we barely had enough eggs in some areas. So that we don't run short of eggs, we'll need to increase production this year to a dozen eggs per day per Spring chicken. "Oh my," cackled the chickens, "a dozen eggs a day."



"Now I know that's a lot," said the Easter Bunny, "but remember, it's for the kids."

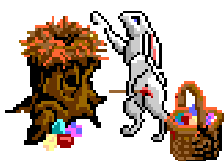
"We'll do our best," clucked one Spring Chicken. "You can count on us boss," clucked another.



"Great!" said the Easter Bunny. "I appreciate everybody's positive attitude. I always know I can count on you every year. "I would like to compliment the bunnies on a job well done last year on painting and hiding the Easter eggs," said the Easter Bunny.



"But there can always be room for improvement, so lets be a little more careful this year in where we hide the eggs. Some children complained that the eggs were hidden in places to high up for them to reach. Some others got stepped on and broken. So lets not get in a hurry when hiding the eggs."

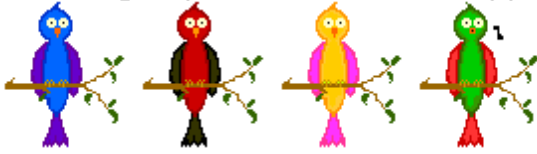


"You got it boss," said several bunnies.

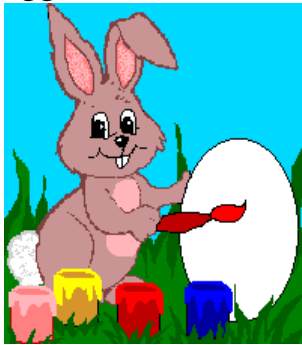
"Okay, lets get started everybody," shouted the Easter Bunny. "We all know what needs to be done."

So, the work began for the Easter egg hunts.

As the Spring chickens laid the eggs, they sang, "Rockin Robin."



The bunnies went to work painting the eggs all different colors. They matched the egg colors to the colors of the flowers. Soon the entire earth was filled with the sounds of the chickens and bunnies getting ready for the Easter egg hunts.



The Easter Bunny hopped around making sure all was going well and answering questions. As he saw the bunnies hiding the completed eggs, he told them, "be sure and hide the eggs in a good location, so that nothing happens to the eggs before the children locate them."



The Easter Bunny filled him a basket full of painted eggs, and helped the other bunnies hide the eggs. In a couple of weeks the job was completed.



But the most fun part was still yet to come for the bunnies and Spring chickens. They enjoyed hiding under sheds and in the woods so they could watch the happy children fill their Easter baskets full of eggs.









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