



Deputy Town Mayor's Report

April 2017

Great Yateley Bake Off



Saturday 1 April, St Peter's Church School

I represented the Town Mayor in the Great Yateley Bake Off held at St Peter's Church on April Fool's Day, where four local celebrities were required to bake and decorate 12 cup cakes in front of a vocal audience of at least 50 of Yateley's residents. They had organised their very own 'Mary Berry' in the shape of Glenda, and a couple of suspicious looking gents posing as Mel and Sue.

Andy the Vicar came prepared with his own personalised cooking vestments, a rather tasty pinny emblazoned with the old King's crown and the endorsement "Keep Calm - The Vicar's Baking A Cake". The Curate, Sarah, was self-sifted into the mix as she had organised the event, almost as a swan song as she departs soon for her new parish in Bournemouth. Sue of Discoveries completed the female line up, wearing a tasteful selection of Discoveries' second user gear, which she threatened to sell off and, we all presumed (ok, me only then) remove from about her person in the Auction that was to follow the competition. Yours truly, stood in for the Mayor on this occasion.



The event was ably compered by Richard and Roger, or 'Mel' and 'Sue' as they were constantly referred to the entertainment of the audience.

Of course, as the comperes had prepared their script with various "Crisp" jokes, they were rather more than disappointed to find me stirring the cake mix instead. I explained that I was asked by Gerry following a phone call which went something like this:

"Hello Buddy, what'yer doing on the first of April?"

Hesitating, due to it being April Fool's Day, I admitted, "Nothing, Gerry."

"Can you fill in for me at the Church, all you gotta do is eat up some cakes."

That sounded too simple to be true, so I asked, "How many cakes and how big are they?"

"Only little cup cakes, a dozen."

"I can manage that," I boasted, thinking I'll skip lunch.

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“Oh, one other thing, Buddy, you’re competing against other celebrities.”

“Celebrities?”

“Yeah, like the Vicar and other local celebrities.”

As I am built for comfort rather than speed, this was the race for me, I thought, I could always skip breakfast, be lean and mean.

“OK, Gerry I can manage that.”

It didn’t turn out quite as expected, and money was raised through entrance fees and the cakes were sold off by auction, varying from £5 up to £20. Sue kept her clothes on too, so it was all good clean fun!

Andy won the cup with a splendid tableau, with Sue finishing runner up with a splendid easter nest.

At least I didn’t finish last.



