Guy Fawkes

5 November

Bonfire night has been celebrated on November 5th ever since Guy Fawkes was caught attempting to blow up the houses of parliament and kill King James 1st in 1605. Nowadays it is an excuse to wrap up warm and watch firework displays throughout the country.

What to do

Chat about how your residents remember bonfire night. Talk about building huge bonfires and keeping a few fireworks in a tin. Residents may recall putting rockets in milk bottles and lighting them. Nowadays, most displays are organised events, but they used to be family organised affairs. Children used to go hunting the next day to find spent rocket cases.

Make a guy!

Everyone will remember getting their dad’s old trousers and shirt and making a guy to burn. Stuff a pair of trousers and a shirt with scrunched up newspaper. Use a flower pot and a hat for the head. Make a traditional sign saying “Penny for the guy”.

Celebrate

If you can’t get to an organised display. Buy some sparklers and let off in the garden. Be aware of any pets who may be upset by flashes and noise. Alternatively use glow sticks.

Bonfire night food

Jacket potatoes wrapped in foil with melted cheese, sausages, mugs of soup and hot chocolate and bags of fudge will help set the scene.

Get crafty

Make a firework picture using black card and either paint with splodges of bright coloured paint or felt tips (Try blowing a dot of paint with a straw to mimic rockets exploding).

Wrap up and go out

For more able residents, wrap them up warm and take to your nearest firework display for a fun evening out. For those who can’t get out, sit in a comfy chair next to the window.

Traditional Fireworks

Who can remember these old favourites?

Catherine wheel
Sky rockets
Sparklers
Jumping jacks
Roman candle
Bangers
fountains