


Halloween Advice

It is that time of year when Ghosts and Ghouls descend, witches in black dresses with black cats cast spells and Wizards start waving their wands

So I thought I would pass on some advice which you can share with your NW members.

Halloween as we know is derived from an ancient Celtic Festival which marks the end of the agricultural year and the beginning of Winter. Held on the 31st October, it is believed that on this night the barriers between our World and the Spirit World were at their weakest allowing loved ones who had passed away to return to Earth.

Originally called Hallows Eve it was officially recognised in 1006 as the night before All Souls Day, and over time the name has been shortened to Halloween and is celebrated by an evening of pranks where children dress up as ghouls, witches, monsters and ghosties and go playing trick or treat on their neighbours in the hope of being given a treat - usually sweets! 

So a few tips to ensure that your Halloween goes without incident:



If you have young children, please go trick or treating with them and make sure you know where they are.



Older children should go in a small group or with friends/family - it is more fun than going on your own.



Take a mobile phone with you.



Only visit familiar houses - or where there is an outside light on.



DO NOT ENTER any houses - trust your instincts - do your trick or treating on the doorstep.



Walk on pavements and not in the road, take care when crossing roads.



Think about the time and don't call on anyone too late.



If people don't answer the door - don't pester them - they may not wish to take part.



Most of all **BE CAREFUL** - playing tricks on people that are messy or destructive can land you in trouble - keep it fun and light hearted.



When it comes to pets on Halloween:



Leave your pets at home whilst you are out trick or treating.



It is unwise to dress them up - they may look cute but the costume could be restricting, annoying or unsafe. Even the sweetest pets can get snappy if they are uncomfortable.



Be careful of pets around a lit pumpkin - curious pets could knock it over and cause a fire or run the risk of getting hurt.



Trick or Treat sweets are not for pets - Chocolate can be poisonous to a lot of animals and tin foil and cellophane wrappers can be hazardous if swallowed.

Have fun and enjoy - be safe !