



VICTORY CHRISTMAS 1945

This photograph first appeared on January 5th 1946. It is reproduced here with the kind permission of the Lancashire Evening Post.

On Saturday 29th December 1945, 300 children up to the age of 14 years, from Chipping, Thornley, Leagram, Little Bowland and Chaigley, attended a party given by the Home Guard and National Fire Service. The occasion was a combined V.E., V.J. and Christmas celebration, using the surplus money in the social funds of the two services.

The Women's Institute, W.V.S., A.R.P. services and school teachers all helped with the event. The children enjoyed a real party tea, including ice cream! The Preston Guardian of January 5th 1946 reports that, "the room had been beautifully illuminated and decorated."

After tea the children enjoyed "a cinema show, a 'magical entertainer', an illuminated Christmas tree and, of course, Father Christmas in traditional dress."

Music had been provided by a radiogram, with a microphone to help with the singing. A fancy dress competition was judged by Mrs Rainford and friend, who presented the non-prize winners with one shilling each, to avoid disappointment. The memorable party ended with each child being presented with a new sixpence and a bag of sweets.