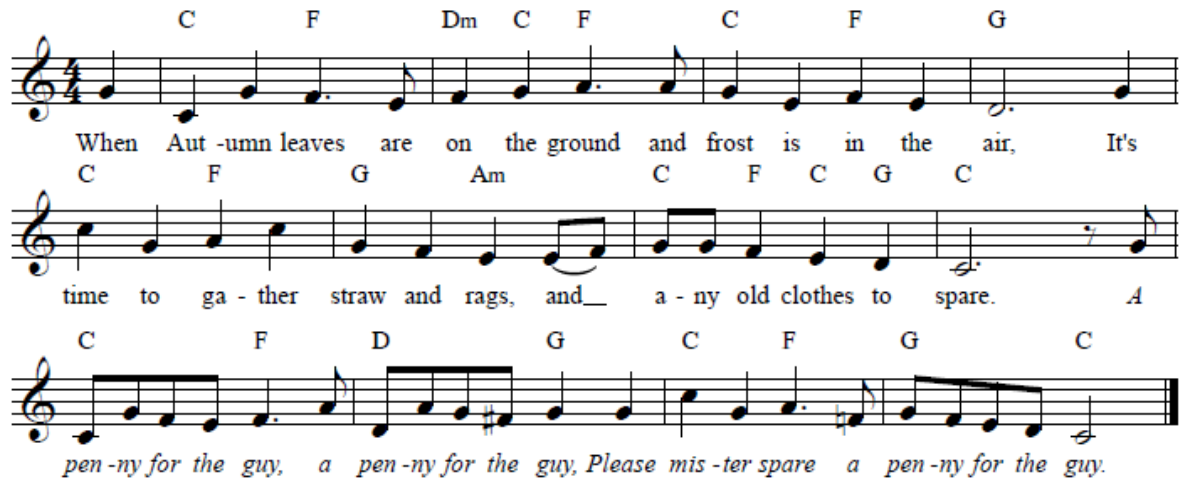


A Penny for the Guy

Words and Music: Nigel Harbron



C F Dm C F C F G

When Aut -umn leaves are on the ground and frost is in the air, It's

C F G Am C F C G C

time to ga - ther straw and rags, and a - ny old clothes to spare. A

C F D G C F G C

pen -ny for the guy, a pen -ny for the guy, Please mis -ter spare a pen -ny for the guy.

When Autumn leaves are on the ground and frost is in the air,
It's time to gather straw and rags, and any old clothes to spare.

*Ch: A penny for the guy, a penny for the guy,
Please, mister, spare a penny for the guy.*

He must have arms, he must have legs all tied at their ends with twine,
With a hat on his head and a card 'round his neck, he is a sight quite fine.

And when at last your guy is made, a pitch is what you need.
Make sure your bogey's wheels are oiled so you can move around at speed.

Late Friday at the factory gate should make a bob or two,
But don't try hanging 'round the pub where abuse is all you're due.

And when the pennies have rolled in, to the corner-shop you steal,
With luck you'll have enough to buy Jumping Jacks, and a Catherine wheel.

When finally the night comes round when the flames are set to rise,
Make sure you place your guy on high so his throne he occupies.



The original Guy



A photograph from 1998 by Steven Lee, but which one is the Guy?

Of course, Bangers were what we really wanted to buy, but I couldn't fit them into the song! The Banger par excellence was the Cannon, but it cost 2d. Put one of those in a tin, and it really did blow it apart. Jumping Jacks were brilliant for scaring the girls. They were a tube of gunpowder shaped like a concertina. Once dropped on the ground, they bounced and banged all over the place, causing the meek to flee. On reflection, it was a good idea to run, as dresses and short trousers gave no protection from fireworks. I don't think you can buy either Cannons or Jumping Jacks nowadays - and it's probably just as well!