

Pepper Nose and the party

By Martin S. Beckley

It was Pepper Nose's birthday and he decided to have a party and invite his friends for tea. He went next door to ask his best friend, Lemon Head, but Lemon Head was not at home. So Pepper Nose walked over to the wizard's tree, but the wizard was not at home either. Pepper Nose knocked on Mr. Onion's door but nobody answered. 'I wonder where they have all gone?' he thought. He saw that Mrs. Bun was in her shop so he went there. 'Hello Mrs. Bun, can I buy some cakes please?' he asked. Mrs. Bun said, 'I'm sorry Pepper Nose, but I have just sold all my cakes and I won't be making any more until tomorrow.' Pepper Nose was sad but he thought he could make some sandwiches instead. 'I'm having a party this afternoon, would you like to come?' he asked Mrs. Bun. 'Sorry, but I have to do something else today.' As Pepper Nose walked home he went past the wizard's tree and saw that the wizard was now in. 'Would you like to come to my party?' he asked. 'Sorry Pepper Nose, but I'm busy today, maybe another time?' Pepper Nose felt a bit upset that nobody was going to be at his party. He went home and made one sandwich just for himself. He sat down in his empty house and with a sad voice, said to himself, 'Happy birthday Pepper Nose.'

Just then there was a knock at his door. Pepper Nose jumped up excitedly and opened the door. A large goose stood outside. It said, 'Hay Pepper Nose, you can't catch me.' And the goose ran off down the path. Pepper Nose chased after the goose. They ran around the corner, over the hill, through the wood and stopped at the edge of the lake. They were both worn out from running and so they sat down for a rest. After a while, the goose said, 'Ok, it is time to go back.' He got up and started running. Pepper Nose did not know what was going on, but he still chased after the goose. Finally they got back to Pepper Nose's house. 'Thank you for playing,' said the goose and flew off. Pepper Nose watched the goose fly over the green where all his friends had gathered. There were tables full of cakes. There were balloons tied to trees. There was a big pile of presents on the grass. Everyone shouted 'SURPRISE!' and then they sang Happy Birthday. Lemon Head gave Pepper Nose a glass of fizzy drink. Pepper Nose did not know what to say, his friends had not forgotten his birthday after all. He took a sip of the drink and the bubbles popped in his nose. Pepper Nose sneezed and made his fizzy drink splash all over his face. Lemon Head and Pepper Nose laughed and laughed until their sides hurt.

