

1969

Night work to finish Apollo

BOYS and girls of Tenterden youth club kept up all night patrols to protect the stalls and equipment on the eve of Monday's big gala, but they were still unable to stop vandals getting in and doing a little damage.

Bunting was torn down at a corner of the Recreation Ground and somebody climbed a flagpole to bring down the flag.

For the all-night watchers and for the boys who made the giant Apollo 11 spacecraft, centrepiece of the gala, the event meant practically 24 hours non-stop work.

The builders of the Apollo only knocked off at 3.30 a.m. on Monday in their race to get it finished. They restarted with their colleagues at 8 a.m. After working hard, mainly in the background, all day, they set to work when the last visitor had gone to restore the large site to its previous immaculate condition.

For their labours, they had the satisfaction of having played a prominent part in the most successful gala to date. More than 3,000 people were there and about £400 was

raised to help pay off the debt on the youth club headquarters.

This beats last year's record of £350.

Ald. Reuben Collison, the mayor, emphasised the permanent asset to Tenterden which the club represents. The building cost more than £7,000, he said, and there was, when the gala began, a debt of £2,150.

Fifteen-year-old Elizabeth Tyson kept her promise and braved the cool blustery weather in a bikini to pose for a "guess her weight" competition. She stuck it out bravely, though she had to accept the shelter of a coat in the intervals when business was slack.

RESULTS

Treasure Island — Mark Aitken, Bourne House, Woodchurch; Tug o War — Duke of York "A" (Cranbrook) beat Duke of York "B"; Girls' tug o war — Tenterden Youth Club beat Duke of York; Fancy Dress — Over-all winner Amanda Willgrove, 3, "Diddyman"; under 10 years — Clare Eggleton, 17 months, "Andy Pandy"; over 10 years — "Harvest", Mary Parr, Valerie Rich, Rachel Crease, Amanda Purnell, Jillian Potter.

● Pictures on Page 16.



Tenterden Youth Club