

Ugly Mugs: Gargoyles & Grotesques of Gloucestershire!

Gurn a Gargoyle!

Gurning is an old rural tradition in England, where people compete to try and pull the ugliest face. It is thought the custom started due to eating bitter crab apples!

The world championships are held annually in Egremont, Cumbria. To gurn, competitors place a horse-collar or 'braffin' over their heads, which acts as a frame! People with false teeth are often the best gurners as the lack of teeth in the mouth gives the jaw greater flexibility!

Can you be a championship gurner? Have a go in the mirror and see! Why not ask your parent or carer to photograph you while gurning!



Two classic gurners in action!