Carnival parade floats into town

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CARNIVAL Day at Swaffham saw one of the longest parades in recent years, with a total of 25 floats, walking groups and decorated commercial vehicles taking part.

Organisers are hopeful that this year's nine days of events, culminating in Sunday's Carnival Day, will realise a profit of about 6,000 to go to the East Anglian Air Ambulance and Swaffham First Responders.

Carnival committee chairman Dennis Tallon was relieved that the rain which saw Friday night's outdoor rock concert by Face First switch indoors to the Assembly Rooms held off for Sunday's finale.

Hundreds of people lined the Market Place to watch the carnival entries being judged by Town Mayor Pam Buxton, South West Norfolk MP Gillian Shephard and Mary Dunn from the air ambulance.

Swaffham and Litcham Home Hospice Support Group's float, Wreck of the Caribbean, won the Ben Emmerson trophy for the new category of best overall entry.

The hospice group also won the motorised float section, with Breckland Christian Fellowship's entry, Let the Son shine in, taking second place.