

April Fool's Day



Throughout the world, practical jokes are played on unsuspecting victims on the first day of April. But the reason for this is very obscure.

The likeliest explanation lies in 16th century France, which changed from the old calendar, when New Year's Day fell on March 25, to the new one which made it January 1. If March 25 fell in **Holy Week**, the custom of visiting friends and exchanging New Year gifts was postponed until April. With the calendar change, some jokers may have continued to pay the visit on **April 1** to fool unsuspecting friends