

# GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER

No. 191 October 1990 Editor: Serena Dolton, 6 Middlefield Drive. Tel: 675182

## EDITORIAL

Articles for the November Newsletter must be in before Wednesday 17th October.

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr. Govan was our speaker at the September meeting and his subject was Glass Engraving.

He commenced by giving us a brief, fascinating history of glass throughout the ages beginning with the Venetians in 2000 B.C.

Several beautiful examples of his own work were on display and after showing us how he used a hand-tool with a diamond cutter, Mr. Govan invited us to sign our names on a tumbler – not so easy as it looked!

The 75th anniversary of the W.I. movement was celebrated on September 11th by a tea-party in the garden of the Old Forge. Thank you to all who came to this special occasion. £30.29 was collected from the proceeds and with donations this amount has been sent to the Children's Hospice at Milton in Cambridge.

Next month on Thursday October 11th our guest speaker, Mrs. Betty Whitefield, will be talking about Painting and Pastels and members are invited to enter a flower – drawn or painted – for the monthly competition which she will judge.

The meeting begins at 7.30 p.m. in Pettward Hall – see you there!

Pat Smith, President

## ST. ANDREWS CHURCH

### HARVEST SUPPER

Thank you to John and Betty Wright for lending us their home for the Harvest Supper. It was a delightful background for a most enjoyable evening. The meal which was prepared and provided by church members was delicious and Betty's Pavlovas were memorable!

The proceeds raised £230 for Church funds.

### Calendar for October

7 11: Sung Eucharist

21 11: Morning Prayer

28 9.45: Family Service

On either Sat 3rd or Mon 5th November, St Georges School are holding a fireworks show for their pupils and have asked the church to organise a hot dog stand, as they are again kindly making the event an open one for the village to attend. More details in the next newsletter. The money raised by the church stall goes to the Church Urban Fund, started by the Archbishop of Canterbury for alleviating acute needs in our inner cities. This arose because of the Report he commissioned *Faith in the City*. Recently its sequel has appeared: *Faith in the Countryside*, which has revealed pockets of poverty in our supposedly affluent rural areas, but it is the inner cities where the denial of basic human dignity is at its worst, so I hope you will eat a banger with us for that reason alone, while you watch the bangs in the sky.

Talking about big bangs, I see that Stephen Hawking's book *A Brief History of Time* is still up among the 10 best sellers. He is the 46 year old, wheelchair-bound wreck of a man, paralysed by motor neuron disease, almost unable to speak, but who occupies Newton's chair as Lucasian Professor of Maths at Cambridge and is reckoned to have the edge on Einstein as the most brilliant astro-physicist ever. He sorts out big bang theories, quarks and black holes as you or I would unravel tangled up shoelaces. So where does God come in? as Napoleon drily asked Laplace when he showed Bonaparte his grand scheme. "Sire, I have no need of that hypothesis", was Laplace's lofty reply, but Hawking is not nearly so dismissive, even though he is clearly no regular Sunday attender. Less pessimistic than Einstein, with his famous question "did God have any choice in creating the universe?" (yes, there's quite a sting there if you read it carefully!), he plumps for the big bang origin of the universe, between about 10 and 20 thousand million years ago. So Genesis is right after all, trumpet some well-motivated but misguided christians. Not in the least. The bible isn't and never was an astro-physics manual. Perhaps some ancients sensed, mystically, the oneness of time, energy and matter (now *there's* a thought), but any idea of 'true believers' judging Stephen Hawking with fingers hovering over

the early chapters of Genesis is as repellent as today's agnostics who reckon that just because they can understand Ohm's Law and do a differential equation or two, they are therefore intellectually superior to the christian faith. Hawking takes us out of our tiny closed minds – and made us *wonder*, like they did at Bethlehem. The luckless congregation at St Andrews will no doubt be getting an earful or two more along these lines during October, but I'll probably be myself again by November.

*Michael Skliros, P-i-C*

### CHURCH ROOF

What are 'they' doing about the roof? It seems to have fallen to one man's lot to obtain estimates, seek grants and deal with the bureaucratic mounds of paper work. He has also organised the covering of the hole (but the tarpaulin has blown off again!) while we wait for committees to meet and decide if and how much money we may have or be loaned.

The estimate is £8,000 – £10,000 and no doubt will rise the longer it is left. The Church members can only raise a fraction of that cost and there is no reason why they should be expected to find that sum. The Church is part of the Village Heritage.

Is there anyone who would organise a 'Repair our Roof' campaign or form a group e.g. "Friends of St. Andrews". The roof has to be repaired if the Church is to go on serving this village.

Spare a thought for the wife of the man on whose plate it seems to have landed. I need the sleep!

*Pat Smith, The Old Forge*

### ST. ANDREW'S MINI-LOTTO

Prize-winners are as follows:

#### 28th August

(223) Mrs. R. Macro  
Middlefield Drive, Gt. Finborough £4.85

(079) Mr. J. Grimaldi  
Westlegate, Gt. Finborough £3.25

#### 4th September

(098) Mrs. D. Jeffery  
Oak Close, Gt. Finborough £4.85

(188) Mrs. A. Skinner  
Middlefield Drive, Gt. Finborough £3.25

#### 11th September

(138) Mrs. O. Durrant  
Boundary Cottages, Gt. Finborough £4.80

(157) Mrs. B. Southgate  
Spring Row, Stowmarket 3.20

#### 18th September

(080) Mrs. A. Proctor  
White Horse Cottage, Gt. Finborough £4.80

(198) Mr. C. Chaplin  
The Bungalows, Gt. Finborough £3.20

The sums of £8.10, £8.10, £8.00, and £8.00 respectively have been added each week to Church funds.

*Hilary Smith*

### PRIZE BINGO

The next Prize Bingo session will be held at the Pettiward Hall on October 17th, commencing at 7.00 p.m. Proceeds will be for the village hall funds. Everyone welcome.

*Hilary Smith*

### CANDLESTICK CLUB

A film show will be held at Peter Jorden's at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, October 11th commencing at 7.00 p.m. This will be presented by Mr. Parsons, on India. New members will be most welcome.

*H. Sparkes, Sec*

### GREAT FINBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

An invitation . . .

Every Friday afternoon at 2.40 p.m. we have a school assembly, when the children celebrate their individual achievements and share their work with each other. These assemblies have been an important part of our school week.

Parents are welcome to join us for these assemblies and we would also like to extend an open invitation to members of the village community to come into school at this time. You will be most welcome at any of our Friday afternoon assemblies from 2.40 p.m. until 3.15 p.m.

*A.G. Sykes, Headteacher*