



YOUNG ARCHER

Who's that guy?

By Diana Cormack

Mention the name Guy Fawkes and everyone thinks of the Gunpowder Plot. The strange thing is that the men plotting to blow up the Houses of Parliament 400 years ago in 1605 chose Guy Fawkes to be part of their group because he wasn't known in London.

Originally from Yorkshire, Guy had been living abroad as a soldier, where he had learned a lot about explosives. His job was to wait alone overnight on 4 November in a cellar under the Houses of Parliament with 36 barrels of gunpowder put there by the plotters. Then, when King James 1 came to open parliament the next day, Guy was supposed to light the fuse leading to the gunpowder and run away before the king and all his members of parliament were blown up.

The reason behind this was that the conspirators were Catholic and did not want a non-Catholic king and his government ruling the country. Their plan was discovered after one of the group, who wanted to protect a friend, sent a letter warning him not to attend the king's opening ceremony. Guards were sent to search the building and Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder were found.

For their crime of treason the plotters were terribly tortured and eventually executed

in January 1606. After this it was ordered that special prayers of thanks should be said every year on 5 November. In the following years people began to hold celebrations with huge bonfires on top of which an effigy of Guy Fawkes was burned. Children begged for money to buy fireworks by making their own "guy" and "Penny for the guy" became a familiar cry on our streets.

Bonfire Night is also known as Guy Fawkes' Night. So the name of a man chosen because nobody knew him is still remembered 400 years later!

*"Please to remember
The fifth of November,
With gunpowder,
treason and plot.
I see no reason*

*Why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot!"*

To mark the 400th anniversary there is a special Gunpowder Treason exhibition being held at the Tower of London. Call 0870 756 7070 or visit www.tower-of-london.org.uk for more details

Reading winners sail in

By Sheila Armstrong

This year's summer holiday reading scheme - The Reading Voyage - was very successful in Barnet with over 3,000 children taking part.

At East Finchley Library, 207 children signed up and 93 completed the scheme by reading six books or more.

Rachael Reilly, Children's and Youth Librarian at East Finchley, told *THE ARCHER* that the winners' party at the library on 27 September was very suc-

cessful. A total of 51 winners received their Reading Voyage certificates on the day.

The Reading Voyage is sponsored by the charity The Reading Agency, which works with libraries to promote reading with children. More information from www.readingagency.org.uk.

East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2

Sundays at 11.00 am and 6.30 pm

For more information
please contact the Church Office
Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)

Visitors always welcome

All Saints' Church,
Durham Road, East Finchley
Church of England

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.
Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.
Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life.
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,
on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.
Experienced singers are always welcome.
Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>

Up, up and away!

By Helen Drake



Photo by Helen Drake

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

The school received a thank you letter from Homeless Action in Barnet for the generous donation of food in tins and packets collected at the annual Harvest Assembly.

Book Fair week gave parents and children the opportunity to purchase fiction and non-fiction books; the commission received enabled the school to buy more books for the library.

Sixty-five tickets provided by Vue Cinema were offered on a first come, first served basis for a special preview screening of Nanny McPhee.

A special gourmet evening to taste the dishes of school chef Francois Nouillat and his Restaurant Ecole team, along with a licensed bar and a food quiz, was organised for parents by the Holy Trinity School Association.

Arty Fact Theatre Company visited the school and performed to all the classes.

Martin Schools

The junior school took part in Black History Month celebrations. One aspect taken was to invite visitors in who could impress upon the children the possibilities for people from all backgrounds to succeed in different careers. This term Year 6 are reading 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin.

Year 6 had a wonderful week and learned a lot about history, geography and nature on their School Journey at the Pestalozzi Village near Hastings. Being away from home was a new experience for many, which developed the children's social skills and helped them to compare their local environment with the seaside town.

Year 4 have been involved in animation workshops on the theme of Hans Christian Anderson. This came about because the Phoenix cinema recommended the school to the Barbican Centre, whose team has been most impressed with the pupils' work and enthusiasm.

A bright new office now welcomes visitors as they enter Martin Infant School.

BBC Television is filming infants for their CBBC programme 'Higgle Biggle'.

Parents were also invited in by written invitation from their children to sample the new school dinners. There has been such a fantastic response to this that it may become a permanent feature of the school day.

Bishop Douglass School

FINCHLEY

Hamilton Road, East Finchley N2 0SQ

Temporary Exam Invigilators

Required for January 2006 and / or mid-May to July, invigilators to supervise public examinations. Those appointed will be given full training. Payment is at the rate of £ 10.00 per hour.

The person appointed will work hours to suit the exam timetable, but should be prepared to start work at 8.30 a.m. And work until the end of the afternoon (approx.4.00 p.m.)

Bishop Douglass is a rapidly improving school with a positive future and a commitment to raising standards in every direction.

This is an opportunity to ensure that our students write their examinations in accordance with the regulations of the Examining Bodies in an orderly and supportive environment.

Please forward your C.V. and letter of application to:

Mrs. K. Weston 020 8815 5045
kwatson@bishpouglass.barnet.sch.uk

If you were near the High Road in East Finchley on Friday 7 October at 4pm, you would have seen a cloud of 282 blue balloons floating up into the sky as Martin Schools' parent teacher association (PTA) launched its 2005 balloon race.

"We wanted to celebrate the completion of major building works that have taken place in the school and also raise some money," said Azra Nath, Chair of the PTA. "We thought that holding a balloon race would be a spectacular and fun way to do both."

Children and staff returned after the summer holidays to find the Year 1 classroom spaces reconfigured into two spacious rooms, and new offices created for the deputy heads of both schools. Infant School secretaries Muna Whitaker and Helen Matthews have moved into a smart new office on the ground floor near the main entrance. "It means we are much more accessible to parents," said Muna.

Amanda Neilson, vice-chair of the PTA explained: "We had to obtain permission from the Civil Aviation Authority and co-ordinate with the London Terminal Control Centre to release so many balloons. On the day, it took us two hours to fill the balloons with helium and it was a bit tense keeping them tethered down in the net. We didn't want any to escape and get a head start in the race!"

The last time Martin Schools PTA held a balloon race, the winning label was sent back from Belgium. "It will be interesting to see where they come back from this time," said Azra.

As we go to print, the PTA reports that 11 labels have been sent back so far from several places including Clapham Common, Mitcham in Surrey and Cheshunt in Hertfordshire. One label has even been returned from Tufter, a cat who lives in Soho.