



Plastic not fantastic: The No2Plastics street champions meet. Photo Ruth Anders

Street champions take up the campaign against plastics

By Ruth Anders

The neighbours must have thought Ann Inglis was throwing a party, when the doorbell rang time and again, and the dripping umbrellas were brought through to the living room.

The first meeting of the No2Plastics Street Champions had taken months to set up and on a cold wet autumn night, we didn't expect many to turn up. Imagine our excitement when we finally had a group of nine round the table exchanging ideas and lively commitment to the campaign.

With two apologies, No2Plastics has a team of eleven, all united as a result of Ann's original letter to *The Archer* in May and subsequent reports.

Each street champion was allocated a section of High Road shops to visit with a questionnaire ascertaining their interest in the campaign to reduce and one day hopefully eliminate single-use plastics in East Finchley.

Already making waves

Many stories are expected when we meet again in the New Year, but in no time we had some notable successes. Michael Doukaki, owner of Josephines Flowers, was the first to contact us unprompted to lend his support.

And a visit from street champion Deb Scott to charity shop All Aboard so fired up local manager Leslie Cavendish that, after some pondering, he wrote to the charity's CEO with a proposal that all 18 shops across London and Manchester be asked to unite in banning single use plastics from their outlets. This is big news indeed.

Leslie said: "My chat with Deb really made me think, and All Aboard needs to lead the way as a charity. I'm

determined to see what we can all do."

Reader-power

No2Plastics needs you, readers of *The Archer*, to encourage our shops and to join the groundswell of customers wanting to make a difference. It is important that both retailers and customers embrace this change.

Please add your voice to the N2 campaign by joining our 'No2Plastics - East Finchley' Facebook group or by writing to no2plastics@gmail.com and telling us what you think.

Headscratcher

From page 8: Bowl, Fowl, Foal, Goal, Goat, Gnat. Please note there may be more than one solution.

RICKY SAVAGE ...

"The voice of social irresponsibility"

Un-rock 'n roll rebel

Three things make a rock 'n roll star: sex, drugs and, well, rock 'n roll. The problem is that the perma-tanned star of *Summer Holiday* claims that he's the real deal because he doesn't do that kind of thing, the sex and drugs bit anyway. So let's start celebrating 60 years of Cliff Richard's career with the sex... and I don't mean anything sordid.

In fact, there's not much to say. Back when he was just starting out he broke Delia Wick's heart, later he had a thing with his co-star Una Stubbs, he nearly married Jackie Irving and got seduced by Carol Costa. Most blokes get into bands to get laid, but Cliff didn't. Sex just isn't something that drives him.

And now to drugs. Simple, he doesn't do them, except he was so nervous before he did Eurovision he tanked himself up on valium.

Finally to the music. There's too much of it to take in and most of it isn't rock 'n roll. Shame, really, because it all started so well in 1958 with *Move It*. Written by his then guitarist Ian Samwell, not on the hood of a Dodge but on a bus, this was Britain's first real rock 'n roll record. It made the Top 10 and gave us an answer to Elvis.

The problem was that Cliff followed the same path and by 1961 was well on the way to films and family entertainment. In this pre-Beatles world he was the biggest star of 1962 and 1963. By 1965 he'd had 23 consecutive top 10 hits but the next decade wasn't too good for Cliff. He turned into a semi-magic Christian, doing light entertainment TV shows and Eurovision and joining in Mary Whitehouse's back-behind-the-net-curtains campaign.

Then in 1976 some coke-crazed genius decided that now was the time to reinvent Cliff as Rock Cliff. Suddenly we got guitar-driven rock, the *I'm Nearly Famous* comeback LP and the likes of Elton John wearing Cliff badges. This proved that either irony was dead or Cliff had produced something worth listening to.

For some weird reason the reinvention worked. Even I don't need to feel embarrassed about liking *Carrie* or *Wired for Sound*. These are seriously good songs and even if he hasn't matched them since it doesn't matter. As Tony Parsons wrote: if you don't like at least some Cliff, you can't say you like pop music.

Get your rocks off

The Amateur Geological Society is a friendly group based in north London which welcomes new members of all ages, amateur and professional.

The society meets on the second Tuesday of each month in Finchley Baptist Church, East End Road, N3, at 7.30pm, when a guest speaker is invited to give an illustrated talk on a topical geological subject.

Talk topics have ranged from Essex geology, Darwin as a geologist, minerals of the Natural History Museum through to One Million Years of the Human

Story. Guests are welcome but there is a small charge of £2 per adult. Refreshments are available after the talks.

The Society also organises geological field trips in London, Hertfordshire and further afield. Membership is £15 a year for ordinary members, £20 for a family and £10 for a student. Find more details at www.amgeosoc.wordpress.com.

Holy Trinity Church Church Lane, East Finchley Church of England

We're a warm and friendly congregation who look forward to welcoming you

Sunday Parish Communion at 10.00 am

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Fr. Marius Mirt is happy to answer any enquiries:

email: marius.mirt@htef.org.uk tel: 020 3565 4430
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A friendly welcome awaits you

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