Signpest

Issue 53 - December 2017

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Newsletter





Apple Day 2017

A big thank you to everyone who came along to our second apple day on Saturday 21st October. This year we headed to Langar's Church Green and despite the wind managed to produce several litres of juice from apple donations. Thanks to Sylvia and Peter for letting us raid their orchards. We had a steady band of volunteers and participants across the four hours and even had a visit from our funders Veolia who presented us with a community award plaque which we are going to display in the village hall. Big thanks to Claire Pegg, Robin Coles and Chris Harper for all their support on the day.

In addition to the community apple press and crusher which is available to anyone in the two villages to borrow for a small refundable deposit, we have been successful in securing further funding from Veolia for a pasteuriser and supplementary equipment to help process our large quantities of apples! The pasteuriser is also available to borrow for any of your pasteurising needs whether its

bottling juice or preserving and canning fruit and vegetables.

Next year we look to return to the village hall for apple day and make use of the kitchen to process fruit for bottling and preserving with the new pasteuriser in addition to the usual apple pressing. If you would like to get involved, have fruit to donate or would like to borrow the equipment at any time of the year please do get in touch. Langar scouts enjoyed borrowing the press for the evening and were pleasantly surprised by the tasty result of their efforts.

Lastly thanks to Paul Chatterton at Merrivale who once again collected our builders bag of apple pulp to put in the digester to create electricity.

For more information and to borrow the equipment please contact: Jodi Carter-Davies via email at jcarterdavies@gmail.com or by calling 869794.



Signpost Autumn Review

Autumn is always a busy time of year in the Parish. The evenings draw in and the first smell of wood smoke drifts across the streets as folk light their fires for the first time. In my Parish calendar there was a lull during September, other than the dependable Vale Café of course, as we got to grips with the end of the summer. During October there was a flurry of happenings.

Apple Day on the village green in Langar was a chilly but fine event with many people bringing apples to be processed into beautiful fresh juice. I gather that in addition to the press there is now a pasteuriser that can be borrowed so the shelf life of the precious juice can be extended without recourse to the freezer.

Halloween bought a coven of little witches and warlocks trick or treating. We tell ours that if there is no pumpkin then don't go knocking. This unwritten rule seems to be a (nearly) universal

truth and it was a joy to walk about the parish with little groups of children enjoying themselves. I had the pleasure of witnessing the final few minutes of the Brownies' spooky party. The experience put me in mind of all the volunteers that do so much right here in our community to enrich our lives in a myriad of ways.

As I write it will be Armistice Day this weekend. 99 years since the end of the first world war. Poignant times. November races into December and cold, carols and Christmas. But before we get there I would like to pause a moment and think fondly of our recently retired postmaster, Tim, who died this week following a long illness. Tim was a character in the village. The Post Office is where many after school sweets were bought and resulting memories made. He will be missed.

Alan Carter-Davies 8th November 2017





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Dates of Forthcoming Parish Council meetings commencing at 7.30pm in Barnstone Village Hall

Thursday 21st December 2017 Thursday 18th January 2018 Thursday 15th February 2018

Please submit any articles for the next newsletter by mid February for delivery mid March



You Can't Ride a Bike in a Trench!



It is hard to believe now, but prior to World War One it was thought that by equipping soldiers with bicycles and forming them into specialised mobile units a tactical advantage could be achieved. The Army Cyclist Companies were established as a mobile force using bicycles to move around the battlefield quickly and provide reconnaissance duties when cavalry was not available. They would also be able to cover greater distances than marching infantrymen and

worked as a Servant on the farm of John Archer in Langar.

He enlisted on 31st May 1915 as a Private with 46th (North Midland) Divisional Cyclist Company and Army Service Number 223. As this was officially a Territorial Unit, Frank was not automatically required to serve overseas, but he signed a declaration confirming that should the need arise, he would serve overseas.

A British Army Cyclist in action. IWM.



could be deployed more quickly to potential hot spots. Inevitably the stalemate of trench warfare resulted in these units being of little use in their original format.

The title of the article is a quote from one of two men from the Parish, who served as Army Cyclists. He was Charles Harry Goodwin. The other was Frank Sydney Faulks. Below is the story of the two men's service during the war.

Frank Faulks was born in 1894 in Langar, the second son of John and Mary Ann Faulks. John was a Labourer at the Blue Lias Lime Works in Barnstone. Frank

After training and Home Service he embarked for France from Southampton on 14th October 1915 arriving in Rouen two days later. He joined the Company in Bethune where they continued training and helping repair roads. On 4th November the Company moved into new billets at Calonne-sur-Lys from where its members did a variety of jobs including Brigade Orderlies, carrying out Road Patrols and acting as Trench Guides. In December the next move was to St Venant where forestry work was added to the list of tasks.

All this was to change on Christmas Day when the Company entrained at Lillers for Marseilles, where it arrived at midnight on 27th December. On 1st January 1916 the Company transferred from the British Expeditionary Force to the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force and sailed to Alexandria in Egypt, via Malta, on 5th January arriving on 12th January. The next move was to Shallufa Camp on the East Bank of the Suez Canal, where Frank and his comrades manned sentry positions to prevent any approaches being made near the canal by Turkish troops in addition to yet more training.

The stay was short, however, as the Company returned to Alexandria on 31st January, where they spent three days repairing the bicycles which had been damaged in transit before embarking for Marseilles on 4th February and arriving back in France on the 9th.

The period up until 9th May was spent carrying out a range of duties behind the lines. On this date the 46th (North Midland) Divisional Cyclists Company ceased to exist as it became the 46th Company, XVIIth Cyclist Battalion, Army Cyclist Corps retaining 4 Officers and 95 Other Ranks, the remainder being transferred to Surplus Personnel. One of

those surplus was Frank who was transferred to 46th Division Base at Rouen on 15th June. The creation of the Army Cyclist Corps resulted in a renumbering of the men and Frank's Army Service Number changed to 13276.

Frank was posted to VIIIth Corps Cyclist Battalion on 17th December 1916 and joined the unit in its billets in Poperinghe, Belgium. The relevant page on Frank's Army Service Record is difficult to read but it would appear that he spent Christmas of 1916 in hospital. The battalion remained in Poperinghe until the middle of May 1917. It was largely involved in activities behind the front line including laying cables for the Signals, supporting the Provost Marshall in policing duties and once again acting as Trench Guides. There then followed periods at Fromelles for physical training before returning to the Ypres area at Steenwerck in September and then Poperinghe in November until April 1918. It was during this time that Frank was granted leave in the UK from 14th March until 6th April.

May 1918 saw the battalion being used in its proper role when it moved to Bavinchove on the French/Belgium Border. From its base here it was used to carry out reconnaissance patrols for VIII Corps.

Le Bois Sabot where Frank Faulks and his comrades saw their first action.



The next month would see the battalion take part in its first major action.

Since 21st March the German Army had carried out a number of successful attacks during its Spring Offensive and had driven back the British and French Armies and was in danger of threatening Paris. To help support the French Army, British Units were transferred to the area around Reims. As part of this Frank's battalion was moved to Chalons-sur-Marne on 15th May where they underwent training under French Instruction. The Germans launched their third Spring Offensive on 27th May. This would become known as the 3rd Battle of the Aisne and the speed and ferocity with which they struck resulted in immediate gains in territory and the capture of many Allied prisoners. On 1st June VIIIth Corps Cyclist Battalion was in position on the Vandieres to Verneuil road to the West of Epernay overlooking the River Marne. Frank and his comrades had been placed there to hold up the German advance, which was threatening to outflank the British and French forces already fighting to the North. Some of the action took place in the Bois Sabot. They remained here in continuous action until the 11th. A number of attacks were made against the Germans and in one a group of nine Germans from the 39th Prussian Regiment were captured along with a machine gun. In total the Cyclists suffered four casualties, one officer and three other ranks killed. The number of wounded is not known.

Following this action the battalion was withdrawn to Camblain d 'Abbe, where it remained until October. Here it added Antiaircraft duties to the other tasks it carried out. The battalion returned to action from mid October in its intended role of providing reconnaissance and advanced guard support to the advancing British troops. Sadly this resulted in six of the battalion losing their lives on 24th October near Valenciennes.

The advance continued into Belgium facing a surprisingly determined German resistance until 11th November when VIIIth

Battalion found themselves near Nimy in Belgium at the end of hostilities.

Peace brought the opportunity for further leave and Frank was to spend the period from 21st to 27th December in Paris. On 25th February he was back in the UK at Clipstone Camp, near Mansfield awaiting demobilization which came through two days later.

Charles Harry Goodwin appears to be unique among those from Langar and Barnstone who served in World War One in that he recorded his experiences in an autobiography. At the age of 82 Harry wrote his memoirs and these have been edited and published by Stan Smith as A Charmed Life- a Kimberley Nurseryman's Story.

Harry was the third son of George Hudson and Charlotte Goodwin. He was born in Stanton by Dale, Derbyshire on 8th September 1896. George Hudson Goodwin was a Coal Agent and Hay Dealer, who bought the Unicorn's Head, four cottages and 60 acres of land between Langar and Harby from the Wright family in 1885. George built the house now known as The Hawthorns on Main Street, Langar in 1912 and lived there until his death in 1916. Harry's brothers, George Samuel and James Alfred, also served in World War One and their names appear on the Parish Roll of Honour. The youngest child was Charlotte Mary born in 1898. Tragedy struck the family in 1905, when Harry's mother was found drowned and floating in the Erewash Canal near their home, White House, Stanton Gate. She was only 36 years old. In the 1911 Census Harry is shown living at Stanton by Gate with his father, stepmother, and sister, Charlotte.

Harry attended school both in West Hallam, Derbyshire and Sandiacre before attending Heanor Secondary School. At the age of 14 he left school to be a Farm Pupil with Joseph Rutter at Huttoft, Lincolnshire following in the footsteps of his oldest brother, George Samuel. He did not remain here long before moving to a fruit and rose farm at Smeeth near Wisbech. Harry then worked for Messrs. Lowe & Son of Beeston.

It is likely that Harry enlisted on 31st May 1915, the same day as Frank Faulks, as a Private with 46th (North Midland) Divisional Cyclist Company and Army Service Number 221. Harry states in his memoirs that he first joined the South Notts Hussars,

later transferring to the 46th, but there is no reference to this on either his Medal Record Card or Medal Roll. Unfortunately his Army Service Records have not survived so his story cannot be confirmed.

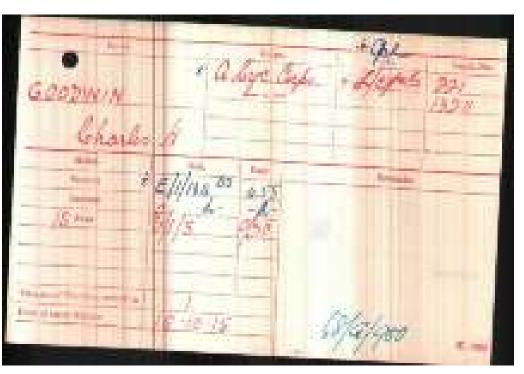
Like Frank Faulks, Harry volunteered for overseas duty and, after training, landed in France on 15th October 1915. His service mirrored that of Frank including the short period of service in Egypt. Their service together ended on 9th May 1916 when the

46th (North Midland) Divisional Cyclists Company ceased to exist becoming the 46th Company, XVIIth Cyclist Battalion. Unlike Frank, Harry was one of the 95 Other Ranks retained with the unit. The creation of the Army Cyclist Corps resulted in a renumbering of the men and Harry's Army Service Number changed to 13211.

For the majority of Harry's service with XVIIth Cyclist Battalion duties involved repairing and rewiring trenches, providing messengers, guarding roads and directing traffic and providing temporary support to undermanned gun batteries. Harry received two wounds caused by shrapnel, one of which required rapid

treatment for Tetanus. He was also buried by a shell and had to be dug out by his comrades. The routine was rudely changed with the commencement of the German Spring Offensive on 21st March 1918. The XVIIth were in Arras undertaking training when the German's launched its offensive around St Quentin. On 26th March the cyclists were "standing to" in fighting order and on 28th they were ordered to go to the support of 15th Division in the army lines east of Tilloy. They remained in the line until relieved on 30th March. April was spent in and around Arras strengthening defences and

Charles Harry Goodwin's Medal record Card.



digging new

trenches before moving to Wagnonlieu doing more of the same.

On 3rd September the XVIIth moved to Hendecourt to be at the disposal of 63rd (Royal Naval) Division in supporting the Hood and Drake Battalions. After a brief flurry of action the cyclists returned to their usual duties of trench maintenance, cable laying, directing traffic etc. The relevant pages for October and November 1918 are missing from the unit War Diary but Harry's memoirs suggest that the cyclists were called upon to fight as originally intended by moving quickly on their bicycles and fighting as cavalrymen.

At some point in his service he was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal and then Corporal.

On his demobilization Harry returned to work for Lowe's in Beeston before setting up his own Plant Nursery at Kimberley. His business became very successful and he continued with this until his retirement at the age of 70. He died in July 1987.

Nigel Wood



Barnstone Village Hall Saturday 10th February 2018 7 - 11pm

Traditional Burns Night Supper

With Barn Dance/Ceilidh

Tickets Adults £10 Children (under 14) £5

Available from Joan & Andrew Charlett 01949 861446

Bar Available

All proceeds to Nottingham Breast Institute Nottingham City Hospital SAVE THE DATE

St Patrick's night Sat. 24th March 2018

St Ethelburga's Project Update



An aerial view of the site taken in September 2017

In the previous issue of *Signpost* I reported on the investigations that had been carried out by the Field Detectives to determine the site of the lost church of St Ethelburga's and the possibility of this becoming a community project.

This initial research and exploratory work has confirmed the potential for a bigger

Community Archaeology Project. As a consequence MB Archaeology have been brought on board to provide professional support and help with volunteer training, seeking funding etc. Discussions with the County Archaeologist and other interested bodies are ongoing as to the best ways to proceed and the Community Archaeological Project is in the early planning stages. We hope to have a clear view of these by the New Year.

A number of people from the parish have visited the site and some have already become actively involved. We

will be looking for volunteers to carry out a number of roles. These will include being trained to excavate the site, to clean and prepare finds, to act as site guides, to help engagement with local groups and organisations, to raise funds, develop a website and so on - watch this space!

Nigel Wood



A piece of
Roman roof
tile (left) and a
piece of
worked bone or
ivory (right)
found on site at
St Ethelburga's.



Belvoir Archers Established 2011



Our 7th Winter Windsor tournament on 7th October 2017 saw 51 archers attend from across the county.

The weather held off all day even though it was a little bit grey and overcast. As normal it was a little breezy on the field but the main thing it was dry until all of the tents (except the Judges Gazebo) were packed away. The heavens opened on calling off the Raffle and the presentation.

The Clubs tournament in July has been granted UK Record Status again for the four year and the Club will also be arranging a World Archery Round in April.

As winter is now approaching, the clubs activity on the field will be reducing. We will be hoping to arrange a "Frost bite" round on Saturdays throughout the winter months (it is a postal round against other Archery Clubs) and you

will see the Club shooting on Boxing day in our Tradition Club archery competition.

The Club will be moving to shooting indoors and for a change we will be shooting on Monday nights at Cotgrave leisure and as the last couple of years the indoor Knockout tournament will take place.

The Club has also arranged for the use of Barnstone Village Hall on Tuesday evenings as well as Friday Evening and

some Saturdays for coaching and training sessions for our members.

We will be arrange a beginners course in April so if you are interested in trying archery please contact us it is very addictive.

More information about Belvoir Archers and how we are doing can be found on our web page www.belvoirarchers.co.uk



No Time to Take a Breath for Langar Children

This term at Langar C of E Primary School we've been on trips, making displays, trying new sports and being employed in new jobs! Classes 3 and 4 (years 4, 5 and 6) have been to the Jorvik in York, and class 2 (years 2 and 3) back in time to World War 2 at Perlethorpe. At Jorvik we went on a ride to see what it would be like in the Viking era. I must say it wasn't the nicest! It was very smelly and horrible seeing people on the toilet (they were fake)!

Fifteen people went to a tag rugby festival. At first no-one had a clue how to play it! We got split into three group a boy team and two mixed teams. In the end we won a few matches and lost a few. And we came out of the festival with big grins on our faces.

By Katie Delahay

"Don't Harvest the Crops Before They're Ripe"

This half term Langar C of E primary school has been celebrating the harvest festival. We all brought some food in for the Friary and Dove cottage, we also brought in some money for self-help Africa. Self Help Africa provide tools for villages and people so they can grow their own food. Every class prepared a contribution to the service which was held in church; class one sang a song called the Three Seeds, class 2 read a poem and a prayer, class 3 told us about Self-Help Africa and class 4 wrote some proverbs.

We have also received a certificate from the Diocese as we got rated outstanding in our SIAMS inspection on 12th January 2017. This was presented by Archdeacon David Picken who came into our Collective Worship which was led by the Faith and Values Leaders.

By Daisy Carter-Davies

Langar Primary School Pupils Take Over the School!

The children at Langar C of E Primary School have taken over the school with a 13

new job application system! Children apply for jobs to help teachers all around the school and are given new responsibilities – plus they take some weight off the shoulders of the adults. Pupils have been applying for jobs set up by the teachers, using a real application and interview system. Adults from around school have put up posters advertising their jobs by listing the skills needed and the work required. Next, pupils take an application form and fill it in, then hand it into the teacher running that particular job. Some of the jobs this year have been:

Office Assistant - our Office Manager, Mrs Whelan, needed some assistants to help her with shredding, answering the phone, taking messages and sorting out letters and leaflets. This year's successful applicants were: Amelie R. Sophie M. Sophie P, Alfie H. House Captains - At our school we have four houses (Fire, Earth, Water, Air) and this year we needed captains to lead them. The leaders would help younger children and read out how many points their house has. This year's successful applicants were: Fire: Annie Besson, Earth: Callum Wright, Water: Amelie Clayden, Air: Hugh Pain. Fruit and Milk Moniters - The PTA kindly pay for every child at our school to have a piece of fruit each day as a snack. The children who do this job count, place in to trays and distribute the fruit. This year's successful applicants are - Tilly, Lex W, Katelyn K, Emmanuel M. Faith and Values Leaders - As our school is a Christian school, we have collective worship every day. We really needed some pupils to set up the projector and sound system and to also lead collective worship sometimes. This year's successful applicants are: Ellie M, Paddy H, Josh D, Millie M, Robert H, Verity H, Lucas S.

By Rebecca Lee



As I indicated in the May article, a lot of changes were in the offing on the plant. Well I'm glad to say that they have come to fruition. The old parts of the plant have been demolished and this has made for a more uncluttered view from my office window. I can't quite see Belvoir Castle but the vista is a lot better. As you can tell, improving my work experience is the main reason why the old buildings had to go. The fact that we have more storage space, safer access routes and improved walkways are a pleasant if unintended consequence!

Talking of views, I was on top of one of our silos the other day and could see Lincoln Cathedral looking magnificent on the horizon; according to Google earth I was seeing it from a distance of 27.3 miles! It struck me how impressive it looked, on its elevated site high above the City of Lincoln. The thought then occurred to me about how others must have seen this building.

To the Medieval serf it must have been both a powerful religious symbol and awe inspiringly massive. To the Bishop of Lincoln it was his seat of power, the centre of his world and maybe a luxurious spring board to higher office. To the bomber crews from RAF Scampton it would have been seen through apprehensive eyes as it disappeared in the slipstream of their

It disappeared in the slips

Merlin powered planes but a welcome way point as they returned home many hours later.

pw, you may conclude, having witnessed me wandering off into flights of fancy, that most of my time is spent standing atop the silos, day dreaming about Serfs, Bishops and Pilots and that I have too much time on my hands! This is not the case; Barnstone remains as busy as ever in fact we have recently had some of our most productive weeks.

What it does indicate however, is that it's good to find some space in the day to think. In fact I was leant on a railing not so long ago contemplating things when an apprentice asked "If I was alright"

"Yes" I replied "Just thinking"

This demonstrates to me how things have changed for the better during my working career. When I was an apprentice I would no more have approached the works manager than flown to the moon.

The fact that an apprentice on this site has the confidence to do so, shows to me that we have an open culture. This is something of which I am very proud.

Our Safety and Environmental performances have been good for the past year and as ever we are looking to improve on them next year.

One great innovation that we have installed is a visible indication on the rear and sides of our Fork lift Trucks. This demonstrates clearly the safe exclusion zone to the rear and sides of the truck. Allied to this is a blue spot light at the front which warns of the vehicles approach. Both are simple but effective ideas.

In the summer, in conjunction with the village Festival, we welcomed many visitors onto the plant for a tour of the facilities and the feed back that I received was that it was found by the participants to be informative

FLT Showing the red light exclusion Zone with person adopting the correct approach by respecting the exclusion zone. As President Trump might Tweet "Very good, very safe, probably the safest thing I've ever seen"

FLT Showing the red light exclusion Zone with person ignoring the exclusion zone.
As President Trump might Tweet "Very bad, very dangerous probably the dangerousest thing I've ever seen'

and interesting. We shall do the same again next year.

Earlier in the year we embarked on a plan to raise the profile of Science and Engineering and to try and attract more youngsters into our industry. Part of this was to embrace the Science Technology Engineering & Maths (STEM) program and we are very fortunate on the plant to have our own STEM ambassador in Josie Morrissey who is our Environmental Coordinator.

To further encourage this process we contacted local schools and had a very positive response from through their Lead Stem teacher Mr Richard Walters.

Many thanks to them and we are looking forward to working closely with the school in the future.

As a start we



welcomed 15 year old Y11 Toot Hill student Taylor Adams to the plant for a weeks work experience. He spent time with all departments on the plant and particularly enjoyed his day in the laboratory. He was a credit to his school and he took the very different environment that a factory offers in his stride. Unfortunately for him he had to have the obligatory photo with me to send him on his way!



Taylor's the one in the Hi-Viz.

So until the next time it just remains for me to wish you a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Vale Arts Group

Since the last Signpost, we have had two ladies come along and demonstrate their Art to our Group.

Lenie Hartzer spent an afternoon trying to show us how to create a watercolour of Tom Hanks. There was much dashing around each artist trying to copy the photograph with some amazing and hilarious results. What Lenie did get through to us however is a better understanding of how paint with watercolours and how to get the effects we require....she made it look so very simple. Our photographers have done something amazing with everybody's efforts by overlaying them onto the photo (Photographically of course) just so that you could see for yourself how well you had created the

facsimile of Tom Hanks! Thanks Lenie!

Pat Rogers, asked us to bring a 'not less than 300 page hard back book', page height not less than 21cms, a pen and a centimetre ruler. The pattern was then followed by marking each page with two marks.....all the way to the end of the book (300th page), Pat then showed us how to fold the pages to help to form the picture of a heart we were striving towards achieving. No-one actually completed the task as time ran out, but the results were beginning to show and hearts were emerging. This event boosted the Chairman, Luke, into suggesting we have a permanent VALE ARTS GROUP folded book display as an advert in the Village Hall.



1st Barnstone Brownies

Sadly we were missing from the last edition of the Signpost, but, with 24 Brownies, we're still alive and kicking (not sure about the Leaders!) Our theme for this term has been all about improving the self-esteem and ambitions of girls in particular. We have been promoting the idea that 'Girls can do anything'you may have spotted our phone-box in Barnstone with the slogan 'Brownies Can'!

We have had visiting instructors to help us earn the First Aid badge and the Free-being me badge.

Meanwhile the pots outside the Hall have been planted up and we await the bulbs in the Spring. Lastly, for the first time ever we are holding a December Sleepover at the Magpies Nest in Elton, so....Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Any 7 to 10 year old girls out there?..come and join us.

The Owls 01949 860022







207 Squadron Memorial, Langar Airfield Re-dedication service Sunday 19th November





Seeing in Black & White Exhibition

West Bridgford Library

Friday 3 November - Sunday 26 November. FREE

An exhibition by East Midlands based photographers in the Print Project Group, who specialise in monochrome photography.

Explore your Archive

Nottinghamshire Archives

Friday 24 November. FREE

Booking is required

Join Inspire's heritage team as they showcase the Archives' latest documents and catalogues and celebrate the county's history.

St. Nicholas' Yuletide Grotto

Sherwood Forest Country Park

Saturday 25 November - Sunday 17 December. £5

The forerunner to Father Christmas, and the traditional bearer of Yuletide gifts, St Nicholas will be in his medieval-style grotto each weekend until Sunday 17th December, ready to welcome visitors.

Yuletide Treasure Trail

Sherwood Forest Country Park

Saturday 25 November - Sunday 7 January .£1

Enjoy some of the forest's midwinter magic on this self-guided weekend trail around the Major Oak path, with a sweet reward for all those who complete the clues!





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Carthigton Crystal Glasses
Ear Accessories & Wine Racks
Candles & Gills

"Great shap! It is now my 'go to' place for special gifts. If we needed any furniture I would buy it here as well."

Funtasia stars with bade of olean - definitely my own go-in place! Super friendly team and very knowledgeable! Befa and chair delivered personally. Artificat customer service! Well mirth the short trip from West Bridginal.









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