

Signpost



Issue 51 - June 2017

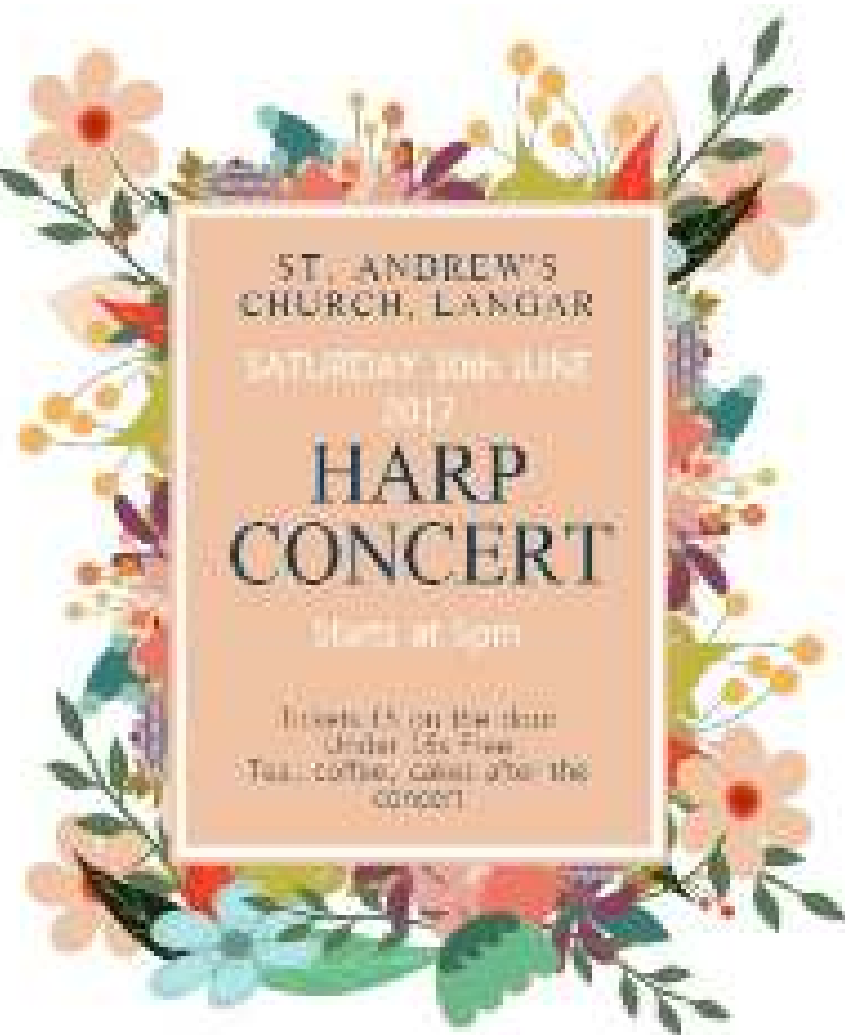
Langar cum Barnstone Parish Newsletter



**Look out for the festival brochure
for all the exciting events in
Langar and Barnstone**



Thank you to Karen Seaton who took all the photographs in this issue including this one of the beautiful Snake's-Head Fritillaries at our local Naturescape Wildflower Farm on Coach Gap Lane



ST. ANDREW'S
CHURCH, LANGAR

SATURDAY 10th JUNE
2017

HARP CONCERT

Starts at 5pm

Tickets £5 on the door
Under 16s Free
(Tea/coffee/cakes after the concert)

Mobile Library dates for 2017

Langar – Unicorn's Head
11.15-11.40am

Barnstone – Main Road opposite
Orchard Close 11.45-12.00noon
on the following dates:

25th May, 22nd June, 20th July, 17th
August, 14th September, 12th
October, 9th November,
7th December, 4th January 2018

Butterfly Walk

Borders Wood, Owthorpe

Sunday 9 July

10.30 a.m. Start



A circular walk of approximately 2 miles using public footpaths and bridleways through Borders Wood. There is one steep climb and one steep descent.

Target Species: **Silver Washed Fritillary** and other woodland species and possibly **Purple Emperor**.

Meet at **SK669327**

Parking on nearby grass verges. Please do not park at the entrances to the two bridleways at this location as these are used as farm access roads.

Please note that this walk passes a location used for Sporting Shooting so there may be noise of gunfire during part of the walk.

Contact: Nigel Wood 01949 860001 or nibarwood@btinternet.com

Why not sign up to receive emailed updates from our website www.langarbarnstone.co.uk?

It's simple to do - go to the bottom of the home page and enter your email address – done!

For information about parish matters, please contact the Clerk, Claire Pegg,

Tel: 01949 860123

Email: langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com



Welcome to our new County & Borough Councillors



'Goodbye' to County Councillor Richard Butler

It is with sadness that we say 'goodbye' to our County Councillor Richard Butler, who has served this community for 16 years.

Throughout his tenure, Richard has consistently supported the parish council in an open and friendly manner and endeavoured to maintain good links between the County and Parish.

Recent County Council Boundary changes have resulted in Langar being included within Bingham West Ward and Barnstone within Bingham East Ward.



Welcome! to Katy Morris, our newest co-opted Parish Councillor, from Butlers Field, Langar. Her contact details can be found on the website www.langarbarnstone.co.uk



*Sarah Bailey, Rushcliffe
Borough Councillor
Thoroton Ward*



*Neil Clarke, Notts County
Councillor, Bingham West*



*Francis Purdue Horan,
Notts County Councillor,
Bingham East*

Vale Ventures

Vale Ventures have had another busy year! We ran a table top sale in April last year where we managed to sell all the old crockery and bric a brac that had been hoarded in the shed and raised £150 for the village hall. Fright Night was our Halloween themed event in October when a packed hall of witches, monsters and scary clowns danced the night away. Our Pantomime this year was Gingerella which sold out three performances and raised £350 for Dove Cottage and £150 to buy

Geocaching equipment for the Scouts. We're currently busy hand making photo bunting to decorate Langar and Barnstone during the Village Festival and invite villagers, group leaders and local businesses to bring along any old photos of the villages through the years to the VMC in May where we'll turn your photos into bunting to celebrate life and community in our two villages.

Charlotte Mazers
20th April 2017

Your Councillors



Alan Carter Davies, Parish Council Chairman, lives on Main Street, Langar. He works for the WEA in Nottingham and is a freelance web designer.

Alan Carter-Davies	Chairman	Chestnut Farm, Main Street, Langar
Ron Brooks	Vice Chairman	35 Park Road, Barnstone
Adrian Bellamy		1 Butlers Field, Langar
Trevor Simpson		23 Musters Road, Langar
Val Gell		27 Park Road, Barnstone
Jeff Fry		24 Park Road, Barnstone
Chris Harper		75 Park Road, Barnstone
Katy Morris		14 Butlers Field, Langar

Full contact details available at www.langarbarnstone.co.uk/yourcouncil

Chairman's Annual Report 2016/2017

It has been a privilege to serve as your chairman this year. The Parish Council said goodbye to long standing councillor Rod Whitehead. We all wish him well with his new endeavours. Coming on board we have three new councillors. Katy Morris, Jeff Fry and Chris Harper. It is good to see new councillors standing up on behalf of our community.

It is to community that I turn first. This year has shown that Langar and Barnstone enjoy a vibrant social life together. Apple Day drew juice lovers from all over the Parish with four generations chopping, pulping and pressing together. If you didn't make it try hard to this year. The resulting juice was great. None was left, even the pulp went to the anaerobic digester to generate electricity.

There have been a few ceilidhs this year. Between the blisters and red faces, we must be boasting some of the best rehearsed dancers in the area by now. Great fun was had by all, long may it continue.

We are lucky to have so many active community groups in our Parish. Arts, Cafés and Productions not being the least of it. I can affirm that the Parish Council will continue to support community actions wherever we can. On the infrastructure side of things we now have (as I am sure you are all aware) a new outdoor gym. The equipment has been designed to be low impact so there is really no excuse not to seek it out and give it a go.

Not much has changed with the village hall. A few minor alterations here and there. The main thing has been the introduction of WiFi, free for all visitors. This offers additional facility and widens the appeal of the hall as a venue. We saw the new WiFi in action during our experimental small business surgery. We invited small businesses based in the Parish to meet with media consultants to discuss web and print issues. Although not oversubscribed, those who did attend reported a positive experience. One of the visiting consultants has redeveloped our own Parish Council website. We are very pleased with it.

Following last August's Parish planning meeting we followed up on a request and now have a hearing loop in the hall. The discussions about the safety of the C28 (Bingham Road) are continuing with the Highways Department of the County Council. The movement on this has been a traffic survey which was recently undertaken on Musters Road to monitor how much traffic passes through the village. It turns out, unsurprisingly, to be a lot. What happens next and how this data is to be used is under discussion now.

It is with some sadness that we say goodbye to the Cubs, the Beavers and the Women's Institute. Without new volunteers, they have closed and will be missed I am sure by all who attended. I would like to say thank you on behalf of the Parish Council to the organisers who ran their organisations so well for so long.



In the wider community, we no longer have a Post Office in the Parish. Our post master has retired and we wish him well.

We do, however, welcome back the Unicorn's Head. After what seems like forever, Beth and Jez are back at the helm in a rejuvenated pub that stands to serve for the next 300 years.

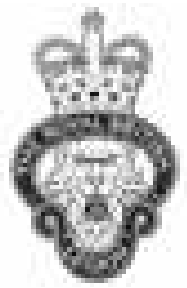
Next year promises to be as packed as this one has been. We have work to do on the forward plan and we have new boundaries with new Borough and County councillors to work with. There are lots of ideas buzzing around. Now where did I put my pen?

Cllr Alan Carter-Davies
17/04/17

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council
ANNUAL RETURN - Section 1 : Statement of Accounts
Accounts for Year from 01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017

Box	Description	Year ending	
		31/03/2016 £	31/03/2017 £
1	Balances brought fwd	41,366	58,230
2	Annual precept	35,830	35,792
3	Total other receipts	14,241	12,133
4	Staff Costs	14,696	14,378
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	-	-
6	Total other payments	18,511	30,859
7	Balances carried forward	58,230	60,918
8	Total Cash and Short Term Investments	58,230	60,918
9	Total Fixed Assets and Long Term	119,881	128,036
10	Total Borrowings	-	-

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
Granby, Barnstone & District Branch



President: Sir Andrew Pulford GCB CBE

Chairman: Mr Andrew Charlett BA MPhil

**Secretary: Mr David Powell, Summer Cottage, Green Lane, Granby, Notts.
NG13 9PR**

REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

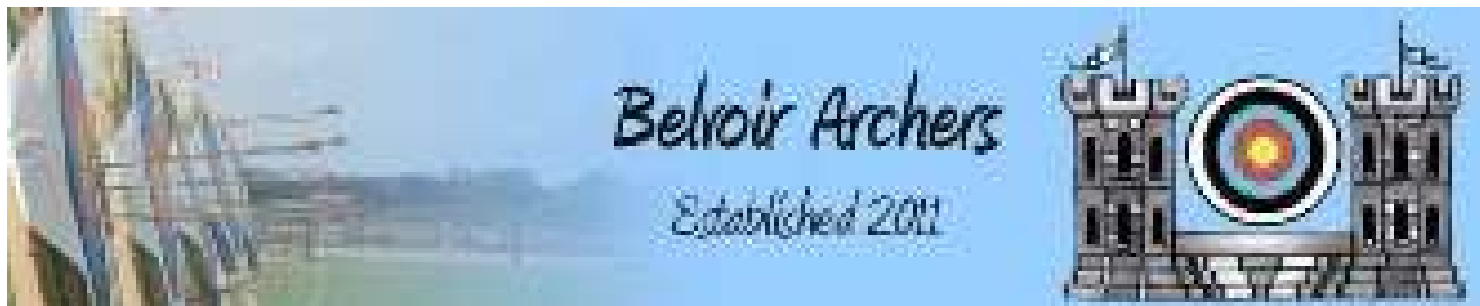
THURSDAY 20th APRIL 2017

The Granby, Barnstone & District Branch of the Royal British Legion has been in continuous existence since its foundation in 1935. Its role is to further the aims and objectives of the Royal British Legion and offer support and assistance to existing and ex-Service personnel and their families. The local Branch covers the two parishes of Langar cum Barnstone and Granby cum Sutton. In 2014, due to a decline in local membership and the resignation of some Officers from the committee, it was decided that the Branch needed assistance from a larger Branch nearby to enable it to continue to function. Fortunately this assistance was provided by the Colston Bassett, Owthorpe and Cotgrave Branch and we were able to undertake a vital recruitment drive to bring our membership numbers back up to an acceptable level and also recruit some new Officers and Committee members to bring the Branch up to fully operational status. In January 2017 we were able to satisfactorily demonstrate that we had achieved these objectives to the satisfaction of the Nottinghamshire County Committee and the National Membership Council. In consequence we were able to resume the status of a full Branch, an achievement we are extremely proud to have accomplished.

Our main aim is to raise funds for the annual national Poppy Appeal, which culminates each year with the Remembrance Service and parade, which is held alternately in St. Andrew's church, Langar and All Saint's church, Granby. Fundraising during this period is assisted by a small band of volunteers who perform house to house collections within the two communities as well as collection tins hosted by local businesses. In addition our members provide help and support, where required, to Service and ex-Service personnel and their dependants and are able to put people in touch with other agencies to provide further assistance when necessary. There is also a number of events held throughout the year in which members and their friends are able to participate and these events are hosted by nearby Branches in this area.

Information concerning the Branch is published on the Langar cum Barnstone website and similarly on the Granby cum Sutton website. New members or volunteers who wish to assist with the fundraising for the Poppy Appeal can find contact details on either of these websites.

*Andrew Charlett
Chairman*



April 2017

Club:

The Club continues to remain about 46 members.

We have just had our 6th Annual AGM and Founder Members shoot which was very well attended.

The Club purchased a secure container based toilet unit after it was raised at our AGM in 2016. Lack of toilet facilities was causing a problem for our disabled, lady and junior members and would prevent some of them renewing their membership.

We have held a number of Competitions over 2016: World Record Status competition in April which was well attended especially by some archers from the ArcheryGB Senior, Junior and Paralympic Team. Our summer and Winter Windsors which saw archers from across Nottinghamshire as well as entries from around the country.

Coaching:

Over the past year the Club has strengthened its coaching team with the addition of a new level 1 coaches and we have 2 Coaches undertaking their level 2 course. This brings the club up to 6 ArcheryGB Qualified coaches. Over the winter months Belvoir Archers have been using the Barnstone Village Hall fortnightly on a Saturday for one to one coaching sessions as well as every Tuesday and Friday nights for general shooting.

We have seen an improvement in all of the members who undertook this coaching.

We have a programme of beginner courses and have a go over the summer months.

We took part in the Dove Cottage Fete last year and have been invited to take part in their Fete again this year which is on 14th May 2017.

We are taking part in the Langar Barnstone Village Fete and are very happy to be doing a Have a Go again on Saturday 17th June which coincides with the National big weekend for Archery GB.

Field:

We were very happy that the Parish Council took the decision to place a lock on the gate to the field and we have noticed an improvement with the cleanliness and general state of the field. We get quite a number of good reports back from other Archers who visit us as to the state of the field, which we are proud to help keep clean and tidy.

It is very nice to see an increase in the usage of the Skate board bowl and Mugga by those it was designed for (skateboarders and community).

Vicky Jones
Secretary for Belvoir Archers



Forever Young

Remembering the People of Langar & Barnstone who served in World War One

Nigel Wood

A4 size, 188 pages, fully illustrated

Published on a CD in PDF format for reading on
PC's, Laptops, Tablets and Electronic Book Readers

Published April 2017

Based on 5 years' research this book tells the stories of the 101 people connected with Langar & Barnstone through birth, education, work or residency who served in some way during World War One. Included are 29 names which do not appear on the Parish Roll of Honour or War Memorial.

Price £5.00

Proceeds from the sales of the book will be equally distributed between Vale First Responders, 1st Barnstone Brownies, St Andrew's Church, Langar and the Barnstone, Granby & Sutton Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Contact Nigel Wood on 01949 860001 to purchase a copy



The Vale Market Café
Saturday 10th June 2017
Barnstone Village Hall
10 am – 12 noon

Eat and drink with friends & neighbours
Browse the stalls & purchase locally
made or sourced produce and exchange
books

Note: Festival Café Saturday 24th June
Forthcoming dates 8th July & 9th
September 2017



Granby, Barnstone & District Royal
British Legion
Invite you to their
September Luncheon
Barnstone Village Hall

Sunday 10th September 2017
12.30 for 1.00pm
Raffle

Performance by Granby & Sutton
Singers

Tickets £8 in advance
From Andrew Charlett 01949 861446
Proceeds to Branch funds



Langar cum Barnstone WI Closure

It is with regret that I have to inform
the parishioners of Langar cum
Barnstone that the WI held its final
meeting on 9th March 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to
thank all those who have supported
the WI in many ways over the past
years.

Jennie Brooks
Past President

Parish Council Meetings

Generally held on the 3rd Thursday of
each month except August. Full
meeting calendar available on the
website under **Your Council**.

Thursday 15th June

Thursday 20th July

Thursday 21st September

Members of the public are welcome to
attend all Parish Council meetings.
There is a special Open Session at the
start of each meeting between 7.30 –
7.45pm, for residents to ask questions
or raise items of interest.

Agendas and Minutes are available on
the village noticeboards and on the
website at www.langarbarnstone.co.uk



Cotgrave Festival

Cotgrave Welfare Sports Field

Saturday 17th June 2017

Duke Flying Angels



Disco Dome



Go Karts



K9 Dog Show



Drumming Workshops



Wrestling



Plus: Archery, Astronomy, Big Bounce,
Body Zorbs, Circus Skills, Egg Catching,
Kids' Activities, Sumo Suits, Wacky Wheelbarrows,
Stalls, Food, Children's Games Area, Youth Expo.

Starts: 11am

Entry: £1 (Children under 12 free)



LOTTERY FUNDED

www.facebook.com/cotgravefestival

Vale Market Café - Report of Activities for the Parish Meeting April 2017

The Vale Market Café continues to operate on the second Saturday of each month (except August) from 10 am to 12 Noon in the village hall. It is now in its sixth year of operation and continues to be well patronised by parishioners and even some customers from outside the parish. Although it is a not for profit organisation it does make a small surplus each month from its sales of snacks, beverages, bread, vegetables and eggs. This surplus is available to provide financial assistance, where required to community events and initiatives. This year we have donated £200 to assist Vale Ventures in producing bunting showing villages's history for the annual Langar cum Barnstone Festival. The Vale Market Café will be hosting an event during the Festival. The Festival Café will be offering for sale a typical English breakfast on Saturday 24th June 2017 from 10 am to 12 Noon.

This year we have also developed a Facebook page and we are hoping that this will provide useful promotion of our activities. Word of mouth is also a very important part of promoting our events and we have gained some new customers from both of these activities. We also publish notices of our next events on the parish website and through flyers, which our volunteers

deliver to houses within our community. We have also gained some new customers from people passing by and dropping in to try our products.

As well as selling food, beverages and locally sourced produce, the Vale Market Café also provides a good venue for parishioners to meet up and chat. There is also a quite well stocked library where people may exchange or purchase books. We also have a limited space for local traders to exhibit and sell their products. The charge is £5 per stall for each event. The Vale Market Café also provides a platform to broadcast details of forthcoming events to parishioners who patronise us. This is a useful mechanism for disseminating information within our community. The Vale Market Café is run by the community for the benefit of the community and relies on the help of a band of willing volunteers. Without these volunteers it would not be possible to function. Currently we have a group of 15 volunteers and we are always keen to recruit more. Anyone interested can visit the Café and have a chat with us or contact us through the details provided on the parish website and our Facebook page.

Andrew Charlett
Chairman

Langar & Barnstone Walking Group

Report for Village Meeting, April 2017

The Ladies Walking Group now comprises about 20 people, and the turnout can be anything from just a couple of walkers to larger groups of 12 or more. Anyone is very welcome to join us – weekly walks take place early evenings from April to September (weather and light permitting), on different days of the week to enable as many people to come as possible.

Each walk is led by someone who knows the route, and we follow footpaths across fields, along canal

The following week saw the group setting out across Fletcher's Field in Barnstone, with Marie leading us along well-marked paths to come out on the Granby Road. The programme also includes Bingham's Linear Walk, the 'Gunthorpe & Bulcote Circular', a trek across the fields from Langar to Colston Bassett and back, and an expedition to find the elusive Muston orchid fields.

Tuesday 20 June will see a community walk over the Barnstone Bump as part of the Langar & Barnstone Festival. Anyone who wants to join this is invited

towpaths, farm tracks and old railway lines. Most walks are about three miles long and, apart from a few stiles and occasional overgrown hedges, are not too much of a challenge.

After a convivial planning meeting held at The Nag's Head in Harby, the Spring 2017 schedule was drawn up and began on 4 April with a stroll along field paths and village lanes around Whatton and Aslockton. It was lovely to see the changes in scenery since our last walk along that route.

to gather at the Brownies' kiosk at the Works Lane junction at 6.45pm.

It's all very casual and sociable, with no commitment, no cost and no equipment needed. Just turn up in comfortable walking shoes and bring an anorak. For details of where and when the walks are taking place, please contact Claire at the Parish Council.

All the walkers would like to express our thanks to Claire for keeping us on our toes!

Ladies Walking Group Spring 2017

A selection of walks in June/July

WALK 10 – Cropwell Bishop to Cropwell Butler

Date: Monday 5th June
Time: 6.45pm
Meet at: Memorial Hall, Nottingham Road, CBishop
Distance: approx. 3 miles
Circular walk along canal path, fields, village paths
Contact: Claire 01949 861181

WALK 11 – Gunthorpe & Caythorpe circular

Date: Monday 12th June
Time: 6.45pm
Meet at: Car park opposite Unicorn (by river)
Distance: approx. 4 miles
Level circular walk along riverbank and field tracks
Contact: Claire 01949 861181

WALK 12 – Barnstone Bump – Langar & Barnstone Festival Walk – everyone welcome

Date: Tuesday 20th June
Time: 6.45pm
Meet at: Brownie's kiosk Works Lane
Distance: approx 3 miles
Circular walk around Barnstone - lovely views of the Vale from top of hill
Contact: Cate 01949 861077 or 07969 565371

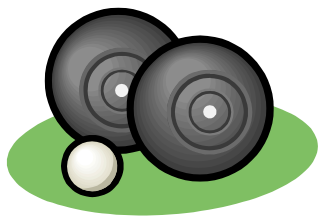
WALK 13 – Farndon

Date: Wednesday 28th June
Time: 6.45pm
Meet at: The Riverside Pub, North End, Farndon
Distance: approx. 3 miles
Contact: Marie 07973 711023

WALK 14 - Harby circular

Date: Monday 3rd July
Time: 6.45pm
Meet at: Harby Village Hall car park
Distance: 2-3 miles
Circular walk including canal tow path & village lanes
Contact: Millie 01949 861504





Barnstone Bowls Club



As I write this article the new season has just got underway and we are looking forward to the next five months playing the relaxing game of bowls on our excellent green on balmy sunny days. Our fixture list provides lots of competitive bowling at all levels and there are also beginners' games, club competitions etc. We are extremely pleased to welcome six new members this season with a few more still thinking about it; don't think too long the season will rapidly slip by.

If you fancy joining us please contact a member if you know one or use the numbers below. We have a qualified bowling coach available so you can have a lesson if you want one. It's great fun and you are assured of a warm welcome. Try it; you'll not be put under any pressure.

And of course, the social side is brilliant. Our social secretary has organised day trips to Windsor in June and Sheringham in August and a long weekend to Weston-Super-Mare in October. Social evenings in the Clubhouse and at local pubs and

restaurants are planned too. It's a great club; come and join us.

You can give David Brown a ring on 01949 850675, Jim Besson on 0115 933 4375 or Steve Wrate on 01949 861353.

The last Tribute Night on 31st March raised £2,500 for Macmillan Cancer Support, which took the total raised to over £33,000. The tributes to The Beach Boys and The Four Seasons were excellent and roughly 300 people packed the large concert hall at Cotgrave. Thank you to everyone who supported the event by buying tickets, donating to Macmillan and giving a raffle prize. The next one is not until 1st December but will be well worth waiting for. The FAB 4 will be playing Beatles favourites. This group were booked for four nights at The Cavern in Liverpool during the city's celebration of 50 years of The Beatles. Top class. Put it on your calendar or in your diary. You can reserve your tickets now if you would like.

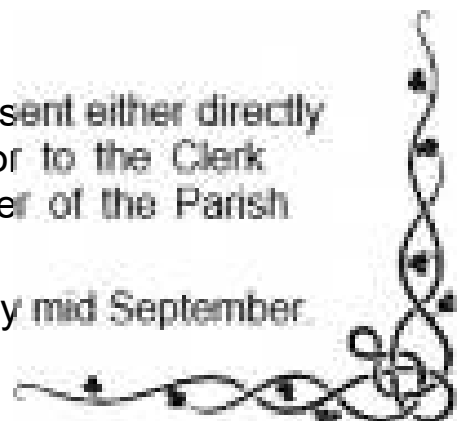
I look forward to seeing you on the bowling green.

Steve Wrate



Articles for next newsletter (September) should be sent either directly to Heather Whitaker (lbparishmag@gmail.com) or to the Clerk (langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com) or any member of the Parish Council.

Deadline 31st August for publication approximately mid September.



Our Summer 'Pop-up' Cafés
Home-made
CAKES etc & COFFEE or TEA
(Some savouries may be available)
in Langar Church

from 10.00 am to Noon
on Saturdays

June 3rd, July 1st,
August 5th & September 2nd

1st Barnstone Brownies

Our Brownie Pack has been running now since 1955 and has seen many changes in both uniform and its Programme. The Guiding Movement tries hard to keep up to date with the needs of young girls of today.

In our Pack we try to follow the Programme and include what the Brownies want to do too. This Programme is about to change once again and update itself. So this will mean a new challenge for the Leaders and no doubt more training sessions!

We do have some traditions which we upkeep. We still have a toadstool, sing the Brownie song, call our

Leaders by Owl names and use the original Six names (Elves, Pixies, Imps and Gnomes). We also play some games which Brown Owl used to play when she was a Brownie in the 1950s!

.....And we always sing Brownie Bells at the end of our meeting.....and then say:-
'This is the way a Brownie salutes
This is the way she stands

This is the way we all run home
Ready to Lend A Hand
AND MIND YOU DO!....SHOO!
The Owls and Owlets



The Summer of 1917

The Summer of 1917 saw the commencement of the Third Battle of Ypres, more commonly known as Passchendaele. This battle was fought on and off from 31 July until 10 November, a period of 3 months and 6 days, until it ground to halt in stalemate in the deep Flanders mud. The battle would cost the lives of two local men and the capture of a third, who would remain a prisoner of war until peace came in 1918.

John Roworth was born in 1893 in Bingham, the son of Walter and Sarah Roworth. He was known to his family as Jack. His two brothers, Thomas and Walter, were born in 1890 and 1895 respectively in Bingham. Sadly their father died in 1898 leaving Sarah as a widow to bring up the boys. By the time of the 1901 Census Sarah had moved to Langar, where she worked as a Laundress. Jack and Walter lived with their mother and Thomas was living with his grandparents, Thomas and Elizabeth Blatherwick, in Oxton. Sarah, Jack and Walter were still living in Langar in

1911. Jack was employed as a Groom (Domestic) having spent some time as a Gardener and Walter as a Farm Labourer, but would later work at the Barnstone Cement Works. Thomas and Elizabeth Blatherwick had also moved to Langar where Thomas Roworth worked as a Horseman on a Farm.

On 7th November 1914 Jack enlisted in the Army along with Arthur Bryan Turner having volunteered to join 1/7th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters, The Robin Hoods. At enlistment he was given the Service Number 3466. After training in the UK Jack landed in France on 25th June 1915. He was one of 103 Other Ranks under Lieutenant Pyatt who joined the battalion at Poperinghe, Belgium on 29th June, bringing the battalion up to full strength. July through to September was spent in the Ypres Salient, mainly in the area around Sanctuary Wood. During this period the battalion experienced its first major actions in fighting off a number of



The mud of Passchendaele.

German attacks aimed at capturing Ypres including some in which the Germans used Flame Throwers . On 13 October 1915 the Robin Hoods were involved in the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt, a German stronghold in the front line at Loos in France. In this action the battalion lost 4 officers and 33 other ranks killed, including Arthur Bryan Turner, 7 officers and 107 other ranks wounded and 1 officer and 7 other ranks missing. Jack was one of the wounded and was evacuated to the UK to recover. The *Grantham Journal* of 15th January 1916 carried a report on Jack being at home in Langar as part of his recuperation from his wounds. By June 1917 he was back in France at 14th Infantry Base Depot at Etaples awaiting posting to a front line battalion. From here he wrote a letter to Sarah Cooper, his former Schoolmistress at Langar, dated 25th June 1917. In the letter he describes meeting Sarah's son, Dennis, and another of his friends from Langar, Sidney Goodman, expressing the hope that they would serve together. This was not to be as Jack was posted to 12th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters with a change of Service Number to 266010. This was a Pioneer Battalion, the role of which was to carry out tasks such as digging and repairing trenches and dugouts and maintaining the light railways serving the front line. The soldiers were also expected to fight as infantrymen as and when required. Jack joined his new battalion, which was based at Sherwood Camp in the Ypres Salient. In early August the

battalion was working on salvaging light railway materials including rails and extending a new light railway near Armagh Wood. This was hazardous work as there was constant shellfire and sniping by the Germans. The Battalion War Diary for 9th August records that "A" Company could not work due to hostile shelling but "C" Company had 129 Other Ranks maintaining and repairing the Vormezeele - Larch Wood Light Railway and "D" Company had 125 Other Ranks continuing work on the track from Hedge Street Tunnel to Larch Wood. During these works 8 Other Ranks were killed along with 15 wounded and 2 missing as a result of shell fire. One of those killed was Jack. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial to the Missing. The *Grantham Journal* of Saturday, 10th August 1918 contained the following:
In loving memory of Pioneer John (Jack) Roworth (Sherwood Foresters, late Robin Hoods) Of Langar, who was killed in action August 10th (sic), 1917, aged 24 years

*Sleep on, dear Jack, your
duty's done,
For England you did your
best;
Those who loved you most in
life
Will miss you most in death.
From his sorrowing Mother
and Brothers, Walter and
Tom (with the colours)*

It is not known why his family thought he died on 10th August as all surviving records give the date as 9th August.

Jack was not the first to die, this was to be Sidney Charles Goodman, the son of Joseph and Sarah Goodman . Sid was born on 5th March 1898 in

*Jack Roworth photographed when
working as a gardener at Langar Rectory*

Colston Bassett, where his parents were living on Chancery Row. By 1901 the family had moved to Langar where Joseph worked as an Agricultural Labourer for James Stokes at Langar Grange. At this time the family comprised daughters, Flora, Edith Emma and Ellen, and sons, William Edward and Sidney. The Census for 1911 shows that the family had increased by the addition of another daughter, Elizabeth and a son, Joseph. Sidney was recorded as a Farm Worker. Sadly Flora had died in 1909.

It is not known for certain when Sid enlisted in the Army but it was possibly in July 1915 in Nottingham. His Medal Roll entry records that he first served with 17th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters. In the absence of his Army Service Records it is not possible to say how long he was with this battalion or if he saw any action in France with it. In a letter dated 29th June 1917 written by John Roworth to his former schoolmistress, Sarah Cooper, he mentions that he had met up with Sid as they were both at 14th Infantry Base Depot, Etaples, France awaiting posting to a battalion and that they hoped to serve together. Sadly, this was not to be as Sid would be posted to 1st Battalion, Sherwood Foresters. Sid would, however, serve with Sarah Cooper's son, Dennis.

On 28th June 1917 Sid made out his Will as follows:

In the event of my death I, the undersigned, leaves all my property and effects to my father,

Mr J Goodman

Limes Cottage

Langar

Notts

1st Battalion, Sherwood Foresters was serving in the Ypres Salient in Belgium and spent the first part of July in the trenches before moving to Beaumetz les Aire to begin training ahead of the Third Battle of Ypres. On 29th July the battalion moved into the trenches at Halfway House near the Bellewaarde Lake. Tuesday 31st July was Zero Day and saw the opening of the offensive with the Battle of Pilckem Ridge being the first engagement. The battalion attacked through Hooze and skirted Bellewaarde Lake, heading via the various ridges. Fighting continued through to 2nd August and at some point Sid was killed. As his body was not found his death is recorded as being on or about 31st July 1917.

He has no known grave and, along with Jack Roworth, is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

The third person mentioned in John Roworth's letter was Dennis Mark Millington Cooper, who was born on 14th April 1898, the son of Langar Schoolmistress, Sarah Cooper, and



The Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres on which both Jack Roworth and Sid Goodman are commemorated.



The envelope of the letter sent by Dennis Cooper to his mother from the Prisoner of War Camp in Darmstadt.

her husband, Henry. Henry was a stonemason, who sadly died as the result of an accident at his yard in Lenton on 26th September, 1901. Dennis worked as a Railway Clerk having joined the Great Northern Railway on 14th October, 1912. On reaching his 18th birthday he attested to join the Army on 12th May 1916. He was mobilized on 2nd March 1917 and initially posted to 8th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment. He arrived in France on 8th June and was transferred to 1st Battalion, Sherwood Foresters on 29th June. Dennis was involved in the same action in which Sidney Goodman was killed in action. After consolidating its position the Dennis' Battalion was attacked on its left flank by the Germans at 4pm on 1st August and it was during this action that Dennis was wounded and captured. He received gunshot wounds to the right thigh and right upper arm. Initially reported missing his fate was discovered when his mother received a letter from Dennis dated 29th August sent from the hospital of

Darmstadt Prisoner of War Camp in Germany. The next news from Dennis was in a postcard dated 25th September sent to his sister, Edna, from Giessen POW Camp. In this he reassures the family that his wounds are healing and that he is among a group of English prisoners. It was not until 21st December 1918 that he was repatriated to England. After a period of leave he was posted to the Territorial Forces Depot at Derby on 26th February 1919 and then to 3rd Battalion, Sherwood Foresters on 23rd April 1919. Two days later he was admitted to Seaforth Hospital with a gunshot wound to the buttock! After two days in hospital he was transferred to King's Lancashire Military Convalescent Hospital in Blackpool where he remained until 7th July, when he was returned to 3rd Battalion. He was eventually demobilized and transferred to the Reserve on 11th October 1919 and returned to work as a Clerk with the Great Northern Railway.

It's over nine months since I last gave an update on Barnstone Plant. So, there is plenty to catch up on - not least, is the news that the swallows are back!

For those of you who may recall my last Signpost article (and if you do it proves you have a first-class memory), I relayed the fact that in 2016 they nested in the Gents' toilets. Unfortunately, this particular area is now out of bounds to them but there are plenty of other, possibly more suitable sites for them such as under the many eaves and overhangs around the plant.

We are now well integrated into our parent company, CRH and are seeing the benefits of being part of such a forward-thinking organisation. We are, to pinch a phrase from Mrs M, benefiting from a 'strong and stable' working environment which has enabled us to have our most productive period in my 11 years as Plant Manager.

Safety remains top of our agenda and contrary to the popular cliché, Health and Safety has not gone mad or even a bit dopey; it is a positive aspect of our business and does not interfere with the efficient running of the plant. I would take the opposing view which is that it is mad **not** to have Health and Safety as our top priority.

We are building a philosophy of openness where 'a stitch in time saves nine'. In other words, it's far better to report an incident that could have happened but was avoided, than to keep quiet and allow it to happen on another occasion when it might cause an injury.

As I pointed out, output has been the best I have ever seen, so what has changed?

The machines are the same, the products are the same and the raw materials are still the same. Yes, you've guessed it - it's the people! Everyone on site feels involved in achieving the best for both themselves and Barnstone Plant. There is a new level of motivation. In my view this is because we are investing in training and developing our people. We have a superb team on the Plant with a good blend of old-timers (like me) and young ambitious people who are keen to drive the business forward. We can all see a great future for us and our families and we are working hard to secure that future.

Whilst developing our existing team, we are keen to encourage the next generation to join our industry. With this in mind, we have set aside June 23rd as our Engineering Day - this aligns with an international event called IWED (International Women in



Engineering Day). We are inviting pupils from our neighbouring schools to join us to discover the range of opportunities that there are within Tarmac.

We are also investing in the hardware on site. Key pieces of plant are getting refurbished or replaced and most pleasing of all is the removal of some of the old redundant buildings. It's been over 11 years since the stack last emitted anything so we can hold onto it no longer! It has to go and it is going. Sadly, for those of you who will be hoping for some Fred Dibnah style experience, I have to disappoint you. The concrete column that is the chimney will be 'chewed' to pieces by a machine that could easily have a starring role in either Transformers or Jurassic Park.

A lot of the other old 1930's buildings will also be 'biting the dust'

or more accurately 'bitten to dust'. This will be of great concern to our resident pigeons who rely on these as shelters but I'm sure that with their usual guile, cunning and resilience they will quickly find pastures new.

However, it could be a 'Brucey' bonus for our resident Peregrine falcon who could find some easier pickings over the next few months as the sky fills with disorientated pigeons!

The removal of these redundant buildings over the next few months will make our site more attractive for neighbours, visitors and employees. We are looking forward to seeing many of you on the 17th June when we have our open day as part of the Langar and Barnstone Festival.

Chris Stephens

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If you wish to book tickets or for more information please contact us by using details below:

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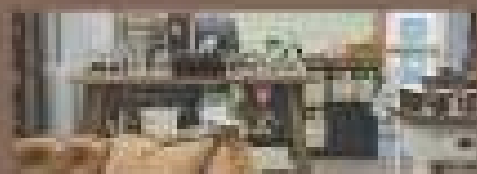
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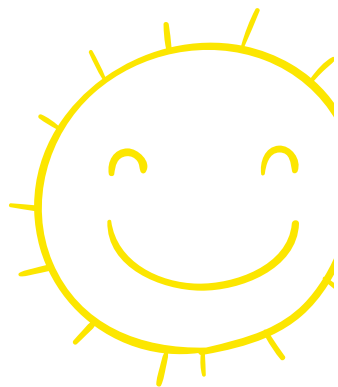


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