

Signpost



Issue 55 - June 2018

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Newsletter



Alan Carter Davies

The Parish Council would like to say a big 'thank you' to our esteemed Chairman, Alan Carter Davies for all his hard work and support. He has served the community as a Councillor for five years, and as Parish Council Chairman for the past two years. We will miss him and wish him luck in his new ventures.



'Souper' lunch at Barnstone Village Hall – all welcome!

We are trying to gauge support for a new venture - a simple 'Souper' lunch, on the last Tuesday of the month, to coincide with the Outreach Post Office session, between 11.30am – 1.30pm. It is hoped that the first Lunch will be held on Tuesday 26th June. It will be an opportunity for people to get together for a chat and a catch up with neighbours and friends over a bowl of homemade soup and a roll. There would be a small charge to cover costs. Transport could be arranged if required. Whether you're a new mum with a young

baby or an older person looking to make new friends, everyone is welcome. Make Barnstone Village Hall your new meeting venue!

Please let us know if you would like to participate in any way, including providing transport or helping to run the session. Contact Claire Pegg, Parish Clerk on 01949 860123 or email langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

A small selection of groceries is now available for sale by the Post Office. These include essential items such as tea, coffee, sugar, soup, fresh bread, cakes, sweets & chocolate.

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council Parish Councillor vacancies

Would you like to take a more active part in our community? Have you considered becoming a parish councillor? By becoming a parish councillor you will actively contribute towards improving the quality of life in our villages. This important role will require you to attend at least one meeting per month. Some active councillors attend two or more. It's up to you how much time you can share. Remember, your parish council is crucial to representing the needs and wishes of its residents. Full training is gladly provided. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the Parish Clerk, Claire Pegg, Email langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com or telephone 01949 860123. We are looking forward to hearing from you.



Noisy Wheelie bins

Please be considerate to neighbours if you put out your bins early in the morning.



Litter and dog fouling in our villages

We like to think that we are all proud of where we live. Unfortunately this does not apply to everyone as there has been a marked increase in the amount of litter and dog mess found in our villages. Dog mess is a hazard to everyone including animals. Please could you ensure that you pick up after your dog, and take home any litter.

Parish Council meeting dates

Meetings are held at 7.30pm in Barnstone Village Hall on Thursdays on the following dates:

- 21st June,
- 19th July,
- (no meeting in August),
- 20th September

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council

ANNUAL RETURN - Section 2 :Accounting Statements

Accounts for Year from 01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018

Box	Description	Year ending	
		01/04/2017 £	31/03/2018 £
1	Balances brought fwd	58,230	60,918
2	Annual precept	35,792	35,192
3	Total other receipts	13,910	8,650
4	Staff Costs	16,155	16,028
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	nil	nil
6	Total other payments	30,859	12,578
7	Balances carried forward	60,918	76,154
8	Total Cash and Short Term Investments	60,918	76,154
9	Total Fixed Assets and Long Term Investments	128,036	128,535
10	Total Borrowings	nil	nil

1st Barnstone Brownies

The Brownies are doing really well. We have 28 members and more on the waiting list.

Spring brought out our daffodils in the pots outside the Village Hall and around the phone box. We're still working on the bench idea in that area and the need to smarten up the box itself. So far we have only one person from the village who has offered to help us. We are trying to improve our community.

We did the Big Garden Birdwatch as part of the Seasons badge. We had a great evening over at Cropwell Bishop where we met up with other Brownies and Rainbows from our District for a St George's themed evening.

Our plans for the future include our annual Open Evening which includes our now famous 'Ice Cream Parlour', and the Brownie Ceilidh, a super opportunity for a village knees up. These two events are part of the Parish Festival in June.

Please support us.

Our biggest excitement will be our stay at PGL Caythorpe in September with lots of other Brownies.

The new Guiding Programme for all sections is to be launched in May. That'll be an interesting challenge for our leaders to bring on board!

Best wishes,
Brown Owl, the Owls and Owlets and the Brownies



The Vale Arts Group

Summer Exhibition

June 17th 11am ~ 3pm Barnstone Village Hall

Relax, unwind and enjoy the visual treats from our local Artists including the pupils of Langar C of E Primary School. Hot/cold drinks and delicious cakes available. Free Entry. All donations welcome for our charity



BOY CASTLE
LUNG CANCER
FOUNDATION

Supporting the
Langar-cum-Barnstone Festival 2018



As from Middle of April Belvoir Archers have started to venture to shoot outside on the field.

Our Indoor Winter Handicap Knockout competition had a nail biting final with Steve Mason narrowly beating Clare Brown. Well done to both of them.



Martin Jones and Bryan Haynes (who had been selected to represent Nottinghamshire in the Longbow category) came third at the East Midlands Clout Competition on 25th March 2018.

It was a lovely warm and sunny day for our World Record Status Double 720 on Saturday 14th April 2018, we had a full field of archers from across the Country (including a group of Archers from Guernsey) as well as from the members of the present GB Squad. The group from Guernsey did very well and took a bunch of medals back home with them.

We have our Summer and Winter Windsor's taking place on 21st July 2018 and 6th October 2018. For the fourth year our Summer Windsor has been given National Record Status. We are still the only record status Windsor shoot in the Midlands if not

the country and we already received entries for both of these competitions

For the first year we are holding a shoot for Archers who are only within classifications of 2nd or 3rd Class. This is a shoot to allow for those who are not used to competitions to come and shoot in a relaxed and friendly environment.

We have been invited back to do a Have a go as part of the Dove Cottage Fete on Sunday 13th May 2018 as well as taking part in the Barnstone and Langar Village Fete on 16th June which also is part of ArcheryGBs big weekend event.

Unfortunately, we have had to put back the beginners course and some of the monthly have a go's due to personal circumstances within the coaching team but we hope to put these on very soon . We will be holding Have-a-Gos on the last Thursday of each month. Booking is essential



if you are interested in trying archery or wish to have a go, 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

207 Squadron Memorial, Langar, Rededicated



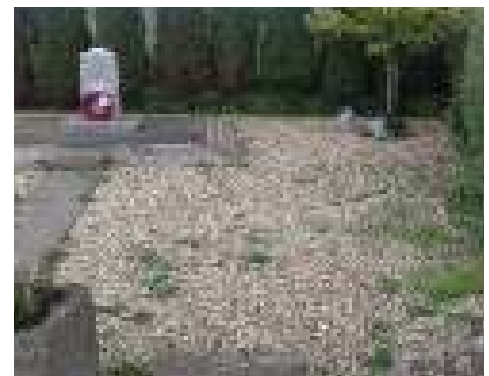
The memorial to 207 Squadron, Royal Air Force located at Langar Airfield has been renovated and rededicated thanks to the efforts of Langar resident, Philip Clarke. Philip formerly served with the Royal Rhodesian Air Force and is a member of the Keyworth Branch of the Royal Air Force Association. On a visit to the memorial earlier in 2017 he was disappointed to find its surroundings had become untidy and people were walking past without noticing its presence. He decided

something needed to be done.

Philip contacted Luke Mazers, the Lengthsman employed by Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council, who advised him that the area around the memorial needed clearing, a new membrane was required to prevent weed growth and fresh gravel laid to provide a suitable surface. Philip obtained funding from the Keyworth

Branch of RAFA but, as a result of the generosity of John A. Stephens Ltd of Nottingham in providing the membrane at cost

price and Bagforce Aggregates Group of Harby in providing the gravel free of charge, not all of the funds were required. Luke Mazers, in his spare time, carried out the clearing of the area, laid the new membrane and spread two cubic metres of gravel.



207 Squadron Memorial prior to refurbishment



Philip Clarke and Standard Bearers

The Service of Rededication was held at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday, 19th November, 2017. It was attended by almost 60 people with representatives from the Royal Air Force Association, the Royal British Legion, 207 Squadron Association, 207 Squadron, Air Training Corps, Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council and members of the local community. Afterwards attendees enjoyed refreshments provided by The Unicorn's Head, which was frequented by the airmen of 207 Squadron whilst serving at Langar Airfield.

The memorial was erected and first dedicated in 1994 and commemorates those serving with 207 Squadron at Langar between 20th September 1942 and 11th October 1943 during which period 247 airmen lost their lives on active service. The

squadron was equipped with Avro Lancaster bombers.

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council has taken on the responsibility, and has made provision, for the continuing maintenance of the memorial and its surroundings.



Philip Clarke with Alan Carter Davies, Chairman of Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council (left) and Luke Mazers, Parish Lengthsman

Langar Church of England Primary

It's all change here at Langar Church of England Primary! We had a slightly sad end to the spring term as we bid a fond farewell to Mr Johnson - Executive Head Teacher, and Mrs Hughes a part time teacher in class 1. Mr Johnson was influential in securing the current position of the school which was rated outstanding in the SIAMS inspection carried out by the Diocese last January and Mrs Hughes has ensured that many children have had a secure yet exciting start to their primary school careers. Both will be missed but we are excited about the opportunities that change can bring and I am delighted to be able to introduce myself as Acting Head Teacher.

Whilst in the midst of change much remains the same. The dedication of our staff to the delivery of high quality education for all the pupils in our care is a constant. Since starting back to school two weeks ago, we have provided many enhancing and enriching opportunities. Mrs Petchell worked with Luke Mazers and Langar and Barnstone Art Group to put on art workshops to launch our summer term 'Create' topics where

the children learned how to work with collage, water colours and pastels. Mr Gibson and Mr Owen-Jones have coordinated several sporting events and festivals and our girls football team got through to the semi-final of the Rushcliffe Girls' Cup. The school savings club was launched on Thursday through LifeSavers in association with Nottinghamshire Credit Union. Through the programme children are encouraged to ask moral and social questions about money, and financial education lessons have become a regular slot on class timetables. Members of our local community play a vital role in this, volunteering to help run the bank alongside a team of children. Thanks to all who have put themselves forward.

We have many events planned for the summer term and would encourage members of the local community to watch out for these opportunities to come to school and meet our wonderful staff team and fantastic children.

Mrs Emily Brown (Acting Head Teacher)



Plastic Pollution Focus Gains Local Primary School Second Place In Prestigious International Art Competition

Colston Bassett Primary School in South

Nottinghamshire has been awarded second place by the **David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation**

(DSWF) in their annual **Global Canvas Art Competition**. Over 4,500 school children from 15 countries took part in this year's competition, which was to produce an imaginative mini-exhibition using various creative media, including artwork, sculpture and poetry using the theme 'Into the Wild'.

The competition is part of the DSWF's Art for Survival programme and aims to encourage young people to express their concern for the environment using art. The competition is open to children aged-16 or under and entries can be submitted by year-groups or the whole school. Entries were received from the UK, Columbia, Russia, Hong Kong, Singapore

and Malaysia, amongst others.



The final of the competition was held at the Natural History Museum, London, on Thursday 15 March 2018. The competition entries were judged by CBeebies 'Minibeast Adventure with Jess' presenter, Jess French, competition sponsors Michael O'Mara books and DSWF'S Chief Executive, Karen Botha.

For the children at Colston Bassett Primary School it

was a whole-school effort and they worked collaboratively to construct their artwork from waste material collected from their homes. The children chose to particularly focus on plastic and its polluting and harmful effects on wildlife and the environment. Their artwork was complemented by a poetry tree constructed from poems and Haikus written by the children about the importance of conservation and the

impact of human activity on endangered species and their habitats.

The children also wrote a presentation that concluded with the message that our household waste can be recycled into something beautiful and, by 'recycling, reusing and reducing', we can all help 'Save our planet Earth'.



The competition complements the ethos of the school to provide a stimulating and enjoyable learning environment, and by helping to develop core values of tolerance and respect while caring deeply about the environment and the planet.

The competition judges loved the children's entry and commended them on their beautiful and colourful design and imaginative use of materials. The judges were also impressed by the inclusive approach adopted by the school as all the children were involved.

Upon receiving the award, Colston Bassett School's art teacher, Kate Prince said, "We are all delighted and thrilled to receive second place in this wonderful competition; we were up against some extremely impressive competition. The children all worked extremely hard on our entry and took to heart the current message that we all need to act on plastic pollution.

"The children loved their visit to the Natural History Museum and enjoyed hearing about the important work carried out by the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation. We can't wait to enter again in 2019!"

Colston Bassett Preparatory School is a small, independent, co-educational primary school located in the picturesque village of Colston Bassett in the heart of the Vale of Belvoir, on the Nottinghamshire/Leicestershire border. The school's head teacher is Mrs Ruth O'Dell and the school's competition entry was overseen by the school's art teacher, Mrs Kate Prince.

The school can be contacted by email at: **office@colstonbassettschool.com**; tel: **01949 81118**; web: **www.colstonbassettschool.com**.

Press: Sheila Greaves, **sagreaves@gmail.com**; **07761 573656**

The David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF) is a wildlife conservation charity funding key conservation projects across Africa and Asia. Their mission is to increase awareness to people around the world about the need to protect and conserve wild animals and their habitats. They fund conservation projects across Africa and Asia that fight wildlife crime, protect natural areas and engage local communities in finding long-term, sustainable solutions to protect their native wildlife. They also campaign for stronger laws and protectionist policies for wildlife and fund investigations to expose the illegal trade in endangered species. The DSWF can be contacted by email at: **jo.elphick@davidsshepherd.org**; tel: **01483 272323**; web: **www.davidsshepherd.org**

Dove Cottage

Lantern Walk

Saturday 13 October 2018

6 pm at Oakham Castle

Dove Cottage Hospice is very excited to announce that a 3 mile sponsored walk will take place on 13 October starting at Oakham Castle. The event is very kindly being sponsored by Melton Building Society. All profits from the event will go towards funding Dove Cottage Hospice.

Registration available early July –

www.dovecottage.org



The Cropwell Bishop Singers



We practice every Monday night 7.30pm to 9pm in the Methodist Church on Nottingham Road and we are always looking for new members, especially Men. Why not come along and give us a try!
No Auditions or singing experience necessary - phone 9893632.

Nevile & Langar Ward Newsletter

for Colston Bassett, Langar, Owthorpe, Kinoulton, Hickling Pastures Hickling and Upper Broughton.

New bins for recycling on the go

The council has always been keen to encourage recycling at home and on the go.

Two new bins will be placed in Ruddington, Keyworth, Radcliffe and Bingham to add to the existing units already in place on Central Avenue in West Bridgford.

This will allow residents to recycle mixed food and drink cans and plastic bottles whilst out and about. The bins will be emptied by our Streetwise teams who will ensure the waste is separated and brought back to the depot.

Items will be then sent on for reprocessing and recycling at the Mansfield Material Recycling facility where all of our blue bin waste currently goes.



Planning

The Nevile & Langar Ward has experienced some controversial planning applications over the last few months. Can I please urge all interested parties to make their comments on the Rushcliffe Planning web site and also forward a copy of their comment to:

Cllr.tcombella@rushcliffe.gov.uk so that I have all residents views should I need to make a presentation at the RBC planning meeting

Tree Update

Parish Councils should begin to identify areas where tree-planting schemes could be introduced – village gateways, avenues, play areas, memorials etc. and begin to make some initial enquiries with landowners. To kick-start the programme the Borough are going to supply 10 Native trees to the parish councils to help to start the re-population of Rushcliffe. They are also offering 2 trees to residents together with the necessary advice for maintaining them.

Rushcliffe will be issued in the summer. It is hoped that reports on Parish's proposed schemes will be given at the Town & Parish Forum on 21st September. There will also be guidance and training in the appointment of Tree Wardens.

POLICY 37 of the Local Plan Part II, the draft of which is out for consultation, addresses the subject of Tree removal, replacement and planning permissions. Its good to see Rushcliffe listening.

DNRC

Defence & National Rehabilitation Centre.

You will recall in the last Newsletter I was encouraging support for the DNRC at Stanford and entries to be made in their poetry competition.

I am therefore somewhat embarrassed, yet proud to have had my poem selected as the Rushcliffe entry.

A DREAM OF HOPE

They came back full of
despair
from battles unknown.
Broken and battered with
little hope of repair
to a place of retreat.

Can we calm the mind?
Are we able to help?
Let the body unwind
and bring back hope.

Stanford will stand as a
haven of hope,
for each wounded sole
who returned to their
families,
not yet quite whole.

A tranquil space
In Rushcliffe's green
pastures.
A healing place
away from disasters.

We'll remember their fight
and duty to Nation,
a passion for right
to see wars termination.

Join with me now in praise,
not that we ever should
forget the sacrifice given
by the brave and the good.

Armed Forces support drop in sessions now available in Rushcliffe

Current and former members of the Armed Forces and their families can now seek support at drop-in sessions in the borough in conjunction with the Royal British Legion.

Every third Thursday of the month personnel can find out more information on practical help and advice

Sue Nettleship runs the sessions on behalf of the Legion at Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre on Rectory Road in West Bridgford.

Next sessions run from 10am to 12 noon Thursday April 19 and Thursday May 17.

The borough also now has its own Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club which meets at the Goose at Gamston on the last Saturday of the month at 9.30am.

All serving and former members of the forces and their families are welcome. Find out more at the group's facebook page 'Nottingham Rushcliffe Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club'.



Spring 1918



For some reason the year 1918 has not entered the popular memory of World War One as much as the years 1916 with the Battle of the Somme and 1917 with the Battle of Passchendaele despite it being the year in which victory was eventually achieved. For Langar and Barnstone it would be the most tragic of all the years of the war. In total 13 men associated with the parish were to lose their lives compared with 1 in 1914, 5 in 1915, 7 in 1916 and 4 in 1917. Before victory could be achieved many battles had to be fought with the first being in March with the German Spring Offensive.

The Germans were fearful that the entry of America on the side of the Allies in 1917 would result in large numbers of extra troops being available for an Allied attack in France and Belgium during late Spring or early Summer of 1918. To pre-empt

this a plan was drawn up to use troops freed up from the Eastern Front following the defeat of Russia to increase the numbers available for the Western Front. In the Autumn of 1917 the German and Austrian armies had successfully used shock tactics using specially trained "Stormtroopers" to break through the Italian Front Line around Caporetto and drive back the Italians to the River Piave and the gates of Venice. The plan was to use the same tactics on sections of the Western Front known to be poorly defended and especially on areas recently taken over by the British from the French.

Preceded by one of the largest artillery bombardments of the war and helped by foggy weather on the day the German Army made its first attack on 21st March on the St Quentin Front. On this day and in the subsequent attacks in March and April on

other parts of the Front Line five local soldiers were to die. These are their stories.



R/38745 Rifleman John Edwin Spencer, 8th Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps

John Edwin Spencer was born in 1898 in Barnstone, the son of Edwin and Mara Spencer. His father was a General Labourer at

the Barnstone Cement Works.

John had two younger brothers, Arthur and William Leonard. He was known to his friends and family as Jack.

The 1911 Census shows all three sons living at home in Barnstone and still attending school. From a series of post cards written to Jack in 1916 and 1917 by friends who were already serving in the Army, we know that he was employed as a servant at the Rectory in Plumtree, probably as a gardener. The Rector at this time was Reverend David Fitzherbert Wright, who had been the Rector of Langar and Barnstone until November 1915, so it is likely that Jack and he knew each other from attendance at St Andrew's and Langar School. While working at Plumtree Jack was very active with the Church Lad's Brigade being promoted to Corporal. He was also a keen bell-ringer.

The post cards from George Glover, who was born in Normanton, were full of gloomy tales of poor food, hard work and of missing life at

Plumtree during his his training at Brocton Camp, Staffordshire. In these he mentions other mutual friends who were then in training including a Walter Moore and Frank Machin Braisby, who was born in Plumtree. The post cards from Clifford Dawn, originally from Granby, are more upbeat, possibly because he had already achieved promotion to Corporal while serving with 3rd Battalion, Sherwood Foresters in Sunderland.

Only a small, partly burnt scrap of paper survives of Jack's Army Records but this confirms that he attested on 1st May 1917 and joined King's Royal Rifle Corps two days later. Jack was to die in the fighting of 21st March.

The exact circumstances of Jack's death are unknown and the War Diary of 8th Battalion, K.R.R.C. for 21st March only offers limited information as follows: In the line around Orvilliers 21/3/18 (hearsay evidence)

The morning was very misty. Our Gunners put down a barrage at 4.45 a.m. on the strength of last night's

reports. At 5 a.m. the enemy opened up his fire, shelling right away from the front line to divisional H.Q., which were at Clastres. He used large quantities of gas shell.

Of the entire battalion in the line only two reached the transport camp. Their story is that owing to the thick mist the Boche was able to get right round them, through a gap he had made in the 36th Div on our left without being seen. They say that the enemy were at Battalion H.Q. before they reached our own front line.

We have since heard from an officer who was taken prisoner (Major Barber commanding "A" Company) that his company was completely surrounded & fought for four hours until their ammunition was expended.

While this was going on in the front line, all men at the transport camp were organised into a body under Captain Tetley for the defence of the canal crossing at Jussy. Here they engaged the enemy and fought a rearguard action to Flavay where

they held the enemy for a short time. During this fighting Captain Tetley's bravery was extraordinary.

From this time until 27th various odd bodies were formed, and no record can be given for the fighting during this period.

27/3/18

The division was relieved in the line on this day and Captain Tetley

brought back what remained of the original battalion, its drafts and the residue of 41st Trench Mortar Battery (in all about 90 men) to Grandvillers

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission Records show that 64 men from Jack's battalion died during this period of fighting. Of these only eight have a known grave. Jack was

originally buried by the Germans in Urvillers German Cemetery but his grave was lost in later fighting along with those of the others buried in the same cemetery and he is now commemorated on Urvillers German Cemetery Memorial in the St Souplet British Cemetery. Jack's death was officially accepted as having occurred on 21st March 1918.

30742 Private George Edward Izzitt, 9th Battalion, Royal Scots

George Izzitt was born in 1891 in Long Clawson, the son of George and Mary Hissett (sic). George senior was an Ironstone Quarryman and died in 1899. In addition to George there were four other children, Sarah Elizabeth, John Robert, Gertrude and Charles.

It has not been possible to find out much about George or his connection to Langar or Barnstone, in part due to the various forms of spelling of his surname (Izzitt, Izzett, Hissitt or Hissett) and the absence of his Army Service Records.

In 1901 George and Charles were living with their mother in Colston Bassett and Sarah Elizabeth who was now married to Charles Spencer. Sarah's husband was a Waggoner born in Langar in 1866. By 1911 Charles and Sarah Spencer had moved to Long Clawson but there is

no record of George on the 1911 Census. George's mother, Mary, was buried on 27th November 1916 at St Andrew's, Langar.

It is not known when or where George enlisted or for how long he served in France prior to his death.

On 21st March 1918 the 9th Battalion, Royal Scots was at Beauvois-en-Vermandois, near St Quentin, where it had been engaged in Company and Specialist training. At 5.30 a.m. orders were received to man battle positions as the battalion came under gas and shellfire with the start of the German offensive. At 12.30 p.m. on the following day the battalion was ordered to withdraw to Villevecque with "C" Company covering the withdrawal. At 4.30 p.m. a further withdrawal was ordered, when the 2 Officers and 30 men, who were the survivors of "C" Company re-joined the battalion. Under heavy shellfire the battalion withdrew to Voyennes, which

was reached at 5.30 a.m. the next day. George was killed in action on the 22nd March but it is not known if he was a member of the "C" Company rearguard.

A Red Cross Report dated 9th September 1918 confirms that George had been killed in action, his body being reported as having been found and identified by a German Infantry Regiment on 10th April 1918 and

that he was buried between Caulaincourt and Pontru.

As with many casualties of the German Spring Offensive, George has no known grave and is commemorated on Panel 13 & 14, Pozieres Memorial to the Missing, France.

41696 Lance Corporal William Goodman, 10th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters

William was the eldest son of Joseph and Sarah Goodman and was born in Colston Bassett. His baptism record gives his year of birth as 1891 and the date of his baptism as 13th November 1891. In 1911 William was living with his family in Langar and was working as a Farm Labourer.

Only the first two pages of William's Army Service Records survive and these show that he enlisted in Nottingham and his service was counted from 24th November 1915. He initially served with 16th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters before transferring to the 10th Battalion. Both his Medal Record Card and Medal Roll give his rank as Private. However, the

Register of Soldiers' Effects and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission records show his rank as Lance Corporal at the time of his death.

On 21st March the 10th Sherwood Foresters were at Bertincourt, near Bapaume when the German offensive began with a barrage at 5.00 a.m.. During the day the battalion was moved towards Hermies and held a position dug in on the bank of the Velu-Hermies railway line. The next day the Germans attacked on the left flank a number of

times but were successfully repulsed. At 1.00 p.m. on the 23rd the order was given that Hermies was to be evacuated. The battalion was pressed hard by the Germans as it withdrew towards Rocquiny and suffered many casualties. The following days saw further withdrawals due to the strength of the German attack until the battalion was able to stop for rest at Henencourt, halfway between Bapaume and Amiens, a withdrawal of some 20 miles.



During the fighting total casualties were 2 Officers killed, 5 wounded and 1 missing and 24 Other Ranks killed, 120 wounded and 52 missing. It is likely that William was

counted as one of the 52 missing as his death is recorded as being "on or since 23rd March 1918". He was probably killed during the initial confusion of the withdrawal.

He has no known grave and is commemorated on Bay 7 of the Arras Memorial to the Missing, France.

53683 Private Herbert Smith, 11th Battalion, Cheshire Regiment

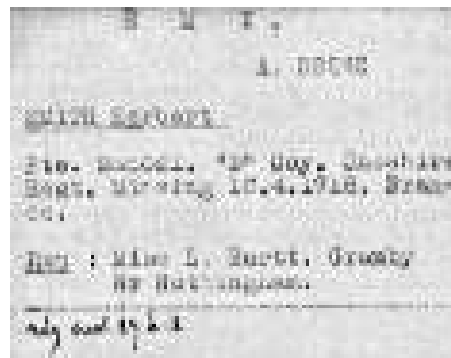
Herbert Smith was born on 16th November 1894 in Barnstone in one of the cottages opposite The Rookery.

He was baptised at St Andrew's, Langar on 23rd December 1894. His parents were Henry and Hannah Smith. In the Census of 1901 Henry is shown as being a Cement Burner working at the Barnstone Blue Lias Lime Company's works. Herbert was a schoolboy attending Langar School. By 1911 the family had moved down the road to Station Farm, Granby, where Henry was working as a Waggoner. Herbert, now aged 17, was working as a Cowman.

On enlistment Herbert was posted to 18th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters on 19th April 1916. By this time he was working as a Groom and General Help on the farm. After training he was posted to France with "C" Company, 10th Battalion, Welch Regiment. On 7th December 1917 he was admitted to the War Hospital in Bath suffering from the effects of having been gassed. He was well enough to return home on leave to Sutton, where his parents now lived, from 13th to 23rd December 1917. This was to be the last time they would be together as, after recovering and further training in the UK, he returned to France in March 1918, first with the 3rd Battalion, Welch Regiment, before

transferring to 11th Battalion, Cheshire Regiment.

Herbert's mother wrote to the War Office asking for details about Herbert as she had heard nothing from him for five weeks. Her concern was raised because up until then he had been a



regular letter writer. In addition to Herbert's mother, Lucy Burt of Granby contacted the Red Cross for

any news about his fate. Obviously both she and the family hoped that he had been taken prisoner of war.

Sadly, the news was not good. His Army Record shows that he was missing, presumed to have died, sometime between 10th and 20th April 1918. In fact he was killed in action on 20th April along with 47 other members of his battalion whilst fighting a rear uard action against an overwhelming German attack in the area between Ploegsteert and Kemmel to the south of Ypres in Belgium.

Herbert's body was never found and so his is one of some 35,000 names on the Tyne Cot Memorial to the missing of the Ypres Salient who lost their lives between August 1917 and November 1918. He was just 23 years old.

39054 Private Francis Herbert Patrick, 1/4th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Yorkshire Regiment)

Frances Herbert Patrick was born in 1899 in Barnstone, the youngest son of William and Frances Patrick.

William was a Railway Labourer and the family lived at Laburnum Cottages, Barnstone. Other children were Frances Mabel, William Edward, George Percy, Charles Ernest, Rose Ann and half-brother, Thomas Higginson.

Shown as a schoolboy on the 1911 Census, Francis had become a Warehouseman by the time he enlisted on

21st March 1917 at the age of 17 years and 313 days and was posted to 1st Training Reserve Battalion. He was then posted to 4th Reserve Battalion, Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

During his training he was to fall foul of the military authorities and had two entries on his Charge Sheet. The first was over the Christmas period of 1917. He failed to return to his barracks at Rugeley by midnight on Christmas Day, not returning until 3

His personal effects comprising two letters, photos, a religious book, a knife, a wrist disc and chain, a key on a ring and one disc were sent to his mother, Frances, on 30th September 1918.

p.m. on 27th December. For this offence he was only "admonished". His next transgression occurred on 20th January 1918 at York when he failed to report to barracks by 11.55 p.m.

and was found by the Police at York Railway Station at 9.30 a.m. the next day. For this he was "reprimanded".

It is surprising that he appears to have had no pay deducted or be confined to barracks as was the normal practice.

Perhaps he was given the benefit of his youth.

Having been appointed Acting Lance Corporal on 14th November 1917 he also retained this rank.

On 1st April 1918 Francis went overseas to serve in France and reverted back to the rank of Private. He wrote his will on 3rd April leaving all of his possessions to his mother.

On 11th April he was posted to 1/4th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's Regiment. On this day the battalion was involved in fighting around, and

withdrawing from, Nieppe as the Germans continued their Spring Offensive. The 12th and 13th saw the battalion enter and hold Bailleul with fighting continuing the next day around Steam Mill. April 16th and 17th were spent holding the line at St Jans Cappel. There is then a gap in the

Battalion War Diary until 25th April when the battalion is reported to be at Vein being held in readiness for an expected German attack. It was during this fighting that Frederick was wounded. A telegram dated 25th April from No. 24 General Hospital, Etaples, reported his death was due to

gunshot wounds to the back and chest. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission gives his date of death as 21st April 1918.

He is buried in Grave XXXIX, Row K3, and Etaples Military Cemetery, France.



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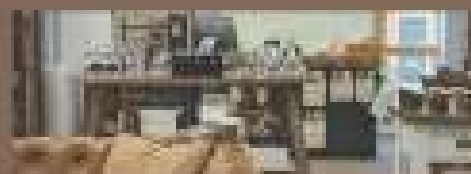
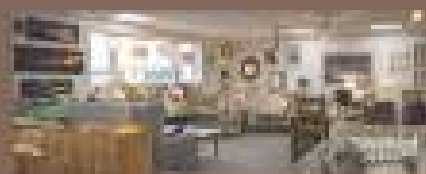
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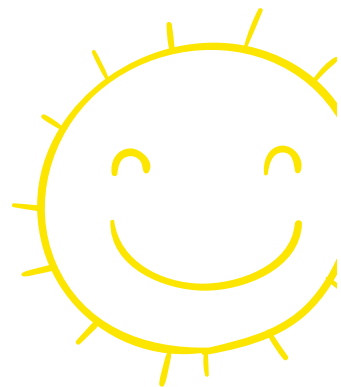


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