Signpest

Issue 56 - September 2018

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Newsletter









Saturday 20th October, Barnstone Village Hall

COME AN ENJOY OUR LIVE MUSIC OOMPAH SHOW WITH DINNER INCLUDED.

Join Vale Ventures for a brilliant Bavarian Night and celebrate in true Oktoberfest style. Karl's Brass, one of the best Oompah Bands in the country, will be your hosts for the evening.

Hot themed German supper included.

Live music, comedy, party spirit games, vibrant atmosphere, food included, bar – fab fun for all!

Choice of Tickets:

White: £15 for food and entertainment

 Blue: £20 for food and entertainment, including 3 pints of real ale or 3 glasses of wine

Doors open at 7.30pm and evening starts 8.00pm.

Email, message or call:

Sarah: sarahfleming uk@yahoo.co.uk Mob: 07492060273

Charlotte: cmazers@hotmail.co.uk Mob: 07590310215



Barnstone Village Macmillan Coffee & Cake Afternoon



Friday 28th September 2018 From 1pm onwards Barnstone Village Hall

Having a Coffee and Cake Event is the perfect chance to catch up over a cuppa and a slice of something delicious for a great cause. One in three of us will face cancer, and the money raised at our event will help us make sure no one has to face it alone.

Coffee & Tea Cakes & Goodies Mini Beauty Treatments

Raffia



For more information please contact Justine Harper 07811 919802

Or Josie Morrissey 07791878938



The Vale Market Café

Saturday 13th October 2018

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

Forthcoming dates 10th November & 8th December 2017









GRANBY, BARNSTONE & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Poppy Art Competition Exhibition of Entries

Granby Village Hall

Saturday 29th and

Sunday 30th September 2018 Entries exhibited in 3 categories on the theme of the poppy: Drawing / Painting/ Mixed Media

Photography / Graphic Design

Textiles/Sculpture

The Exhibition is open to all visitors. Come and see the entries!

Judging of entries to take place on Sunday 30th September

Winners announced and prizes awarded at 3 pm

Community Apple Day

Saturday 20th October

We are delighted to announce that we will be holding this year's Apple Day in the school Playground at Langar on Saturday 20th October from 2pm onwards. Bring along your apples, turn them into juice and take it away with you.

As usual volunteers would be greatly welcome to come and help operate the equipment, as would any eating apple donations, we can organise collection. Any surplus juice made will be sold at the Vale Market Cafe with proceeds going to New Village Hall funds.

We are still working on the logistics but in addition we may organise a bottling element to the day so you can stew, bottle and pasteurise your apples, giving you the opportunity to make your own apple sauce. This may be held at the Village Hall on the Sunday depending on levels of interest. Thank you to the anonymous local who dropped off some preserving jars for this purpose!

Apple day is a great way of bringing the community together. This is our third event and it would be great to see a good turn out. You don't need to bring along apples to take part, just come and have a go.

Got an Orchard full of apples? Don't forget the community apple press, crusher and pasteuriser are available to hire at a small cost.

If you can help in any way or want to borrow the equipment please get in touch by calling Jodi on 869794 or email jcarterdavies@gmail.com





Barnstone Under Five Group Open Morning

Tuesday 2nd October 9.30-11.00am Barnstone Village Hall

Come along for coffee, cake, chat and play

Enquiries on: 07974145392 (Lucy)





Countryfile Ramble 2018

In aid of



Everyone is welcome to join a walk round Colston Bassett on Sunday 7th October, meeting at The Martin Arms, Colston Bassett, at 11am Distance approx. 4.5miles – allow approx. 2 hours Recommend weather appropriate clothing including walking boots or shoes For more information contact Claire - 01949 861181 or email: Claire.pegg1@gmail.com

Donations welcome - collection bucket on the day or online at: https://mydonatetelethonsappeals.bt.com/donate/cin2018/CiNRamble.html







Auction and Table Top Sale

Dove Cottage Day Hospice, LE14 4EX Saturday 29th September 12noon & bidding at 1.30pm prompt Refreshment served throughout Free entry



If you have items for donation please phone 01949 860303

Lantern Walk

Oakham Castle
Saturday 13th October
4.30pm for pre-party walk, 6pm for official start
Registration now open. Please phone 01949 860303 or go online www.dovecottage.org



Notice of
The Annual General Meeting of
Langar cum Barnstone Village Hall Committee
to be held at Langar cum Barnstone Village Hall, Main Street,
Barnstone on
Thursday 29th November 2018
At 7pm
Members of the public welcome to attend

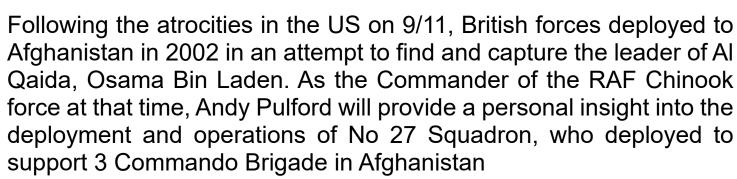






GRANBY, BARNSTONE & DISTRICT BRANCH, ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HUNTING OSAMA – RAF CHINOOK OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN IN 2002 An illustrated talk by Andy Pulford

SATURDAY 27th OCTOBER 2018 at 7.30 pm BARNSTONE VILLAGE HALL



TICKETS £10 TO INCLUDE LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FROM ANDREW CHARLETT 01949 861446

CHARITY FROG RACE

Operated by Radcliffe on Trent Rotary Club



Saturday 24th November 2018 7 pm for 7.30 pm Barnstone Village Hall

Great fun for all ages

Light Refreshments Available Bar & Raffle

TICKETS £5

Available from Joan and Andrew Charlett 01949 861446 and Dot Clayton on 01949 860022

Proceeds to Breast Cancer Research at Nottingham City Hospital and the Brownies Village Bench

BELVOIR HEALTH GROUP Bingham, Cotgrave & Cropwell Bishop

FLU CLINICS 2018 For patients 65+, in a clinical risk group or pregnant women

Patients who are registered with our Bingham, Cotgrave & Cropwell Bishop surgeries are welcome to attend any of our flu clinics irrespective of where you are registered

At this year's FLU clinics, if you are eligible, you can also have a SHINGLES & PNEUMONIA vaccination at the same time as your annual flu vaccination.

Patients under the age of 18 years should not attend these clinics as they will be invited to attend clinics at a later date.

CLINIC DATES

Unfortunately, due to delays and restrictions in the delivery of flu vaccines this autumn, we are having to make changes to our planned programme of flu clinics as follows:

Cropwell Bishop	Tuesday	25 th September	CANCELLED
Cotgrave	Thursday	27 th September	CANCELLED
Bingham	Saturday	29 th September	9.00am – 2.00pm
Cotgrave	Thursday	4 th October	2.00pm – 6.00pm
Cotgrave Cropwell Bishop	Thursday Tuesday	4 th October 9 th October	2.00pm – 6.00pm 2.00pm – 6.00pm

THESE ARE DROP IN CLINICS YOU DO NOT NEED AN APPOINTMENT

Please note that supplies are limited due to national restrictions and that whilst we anticipate having sufficient vaccines in place at each of our clinics, there is a small chance that the correct vaccine for you may be unavailable at the time at which you attend. If this is the case, the options will be discussed with you at the time.

Any patient of Belvoir Health Group is welcome to attend any of these clinics.

Further clinic dates will be announced following the initial clinics.



The Vale Arts Group is becoming inter village now! Not just Langar and Barnstone, Cropwell Bishop and Plungar - but we now have a new member from Harlaxton! We also have a local new member, welcome to them both. We have had quite a few things going on over the last few months. The Village

over the last few months. The Village Festival just missed out on the last Signpost by being at the end of June, but we had our usual Sunday Exhibition. Sadly some of our Group were unable to attend the actual event, but that did not stop them coming forward with pictures, cards, weaving, glass art among some of the things that were on display. Our chosen charity this year was the ROY CASTLE LUNG FOUNDATION and we donated £150.00 to this worthy organisation.

The most incredible display of knitting (it is an Artform) was put together by Jane Morris, Kath Rose and Marisa Jones. A much rushed few lessons to both girls and boys at Langar C of E Primary School. The knitted Beach scene that was done was fantastic and well commented on by everyone that saw it.

The EYES was the second part of the school display, thanks to Silvana Robinson's pastel lesson and then free license given to the children and what amazing eyes looked back at those who came to see the display, from cats to monsters!

Luke Mazers with Nicky Pulford painted poppies with the children using watercolours. They attempted to do a poppy-fall similar to the one in London a couple of years ago, coming out of the battlements into the moat and I can say they pulled it off quite successfully. An achievement for our Group, getting involved with the children at the school are

involved with the children at the school and giving them something artistic to think about and their parents the pride that comes with looking at something their child has created. Thanks to you all that took part.

We had Lenie Hartzner come over to give us an afternoon of model painting. We had Clive Jones, came and sat, All of us that participated now know that circles and cylinders are very helpful for drawing any form with joints - like Clive. There were some pieces sort of resembling Clive and some were - well.....different, let us say. We have been invited by the Royal British legion to enter 'Poppies' into a competition to be held in Granby church. The poppies can be in whatever artistic medium you want and we as a group are putting in some entries. There are three groups of entries and it should be a most interesting day. Anyone wanting further information on this event please contact Andrew Charlett -01949861446.

We sadly lost one of our original members, Pat King due to a long illness. Our thoughts go to her family. A lovely lady missed by the group.

We have not stopped looking for new members and our doors are always open on Tuesday afternoons between 2pm and 5pm at the Village Hall.

All enquiries contact Gillian Clarke 01949861015.

Recycle Week - Recycling. We do. Because it matters...

Recycle Week, now in its fifteenth year, runs from 24 - 30 September 2018.

Throughout #RecycleWeek we'll be sharing lots of recycling tips and facts, and busting a few common recycling myths on social media - so keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter feeds!

Why not send us your best re-use or recycling tips and we'll share our favourites on social media, just use the hashtag <u>#RecycleForNotts</u> and/ or tag @NottsCC in.



What's more, we'll be running competitions with some recycle-tastic prizes up for grabs too!



On average 76% of UK households put items that aren't recyclable in the recycling bin. We get it - knowing what to put in the right right bin can be a bit confusing so check out our new BinSmart leaflet! It's full of handy information of what can be recycled in kerbside bins in Nottinghamshire.

Be BinSmart, download the guide now.

http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/1328/kerbsiderecyclingbinsmartleaflet.pdf

Almost 1/5 of the food we buy ends up in the bin – why not keep a weekly food waste diary to find out how much food you may be wasting, and see where you could save money. There are lots of handy tips and recipes to store food longer and use up leftovers on the Love Food Hate Waste website!



https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/why-save-food



September Update



Festival walkers at the site of St Ethelburga's

Project SEAL has been active both on site and off site over the summer months. Work has continued with the sieving of the spoil heaps to recover any finds and to cover over the exposed archaeology to protect this for future research. Unfortunately we have not been able to progress as quickly as we would have hoped as the record - breaking temperatures and sunshine have made it unsafe to work on site due to the risk of heat exhaustion and the soil has become baked hard making digging and sieving impossible.

Off site we held two successful events as part of the Langar & Barnstone Village Festival. The open day at St Andrew's attracted a large number of visitors, both locals and people from further afield, who enjoyed trips down the crypt as well as viewing the medieval graffiti and learning more about the

history of the church. We surveyed the medieval cross slabs in the South Transept and one of these has been dated to 1250 to 1350, a period soon after the current church was built and St Ethelburga's was active as a pilgrim site.

The second event was an evening walk from St Andrew's to St Ethelburga's where David Bate described what as been learnt about the history of the site using a number of finds dating from the Roman period up until the 17th century. Over 40 people joined us on the walk and a number of these have expressed interest in joining Project SEAL.

We hoping to put on a display about the project at a future Vale Market Cafe. Keep you eyes open for this and come along and have a chat.

Nigel Wood

Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council Contacts

Website: www.langarbarnstone.co.uk

Parish Clerk, Claire Pegg 6 Park Road, Barnstone, NG13 9JG

01949 860123

langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Cllr Adrian Bellamy 1 Butlers Field, Langar, NG13 9HS

Cllr Jeff Fry, (Chairman) 24 Park Road, Barnstone, NG13 9JG cllrfrylbpc@gmail.com

Cllr Chris Harper 75 Park Road, Barnstone NG13 9JF

Cllr Jason Hollands 39 Park Road, Barnstone NG13 9JF **Cllr Katy Morris** Richill, Mill Lane, Aslockton NG13

23 Musters Road, Langar NG13 9HN <u>cllr.simpson.lcb@btinternet.com</u>

Cllr Trevor Simpson,

(Vice Chairman)

cllrbellamylbpc@gmail.com cllrharperlbpc@gmail.com cllrhollandslbpc@gmail.com cllrmorrislbpc@gmail.com

Parish Councillor vacancies

The Parish Council needs your help. We currently have three vacancies. Perhaps you have considered becoming a councillor but need more information to take the next step. By becoming a parish councillor you will actively contribute towards improving the quality of life in our villages. We are a friendly bunch – we get things done in Langar & Barnstone! Full training will be provided – if you would like more information please contact Claire Pegg, the Parish Clerk, on 01949 860123 or email langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com







Retirement of Councillor Ron Brooks

One of my first tasks as Chairman of the Parish Council is to share the news that Ron Brooks has announced his retirement, and to voice our appreciation of his long service to our two villages.

Ron joined the Council in May 1983 and served continuously as a councillor for 35 years, many of them as Chairman. Speaking personally, I found his extensive



local knowledge a tremendous resource to call upon when I became a Parish Councillor and I know his unrivalled understanding and experience of Council procedure has proved invaluable to many over the years.

Ron will be missed. On behalf of the Council and our local community, I'd like to extend our best wishes to Ron and Jenni for a happy retirement.

Jeff Fry, Chairman, Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council

1st Barnstone Brownies

By the time this goes to print, Summer holidays will be over, and 1st Barnstone Brownies will be entering a new phase in its 63 year old existence.

We currently have 28 girls and 4 waiting excitedly to join. We are taking 20 girls to PGL at Caythorpe in September and we are about to embark on the new Brownie Programme. In November I am joining with Joan and Andrew Charlett to organise a 'Frog Race' to raise money for Breast Cancer and to replace the bench on the corner of Works Lane.....to be 'The Brownie Bench....subject to Parish Councils approval.

Our dilemma and worry for our future lies with our Leadership. Lu Denty 'Little Owl' who has been with us for over 15 years has decided very

reluctantly to give up at Christmas after a number of life changing events, the latest being a mastectomy in August. Di Taylor helps us out when we need her, but has changed her allegiance to Staunton Brownies. That leaves me, 'Brown Owl' and Vicki Page ' Barn Owl' and our amazing Young Leaders Emma and Phoebe.

Our Beaver, Cub and Scout units have folded due to a lack of Leaders (not children).

We don't want this to happen to us. If there's anyone out there who could lend us a hand (weekly, monthly or even now and again) on Tuesdays in term time 6 to 7.30pm, we would be very grateful. HELP!

Best wishes Brown Owl, The Owls, Owlets and Brownies 01949 860022







2018 is a memorable year which will be marked in the Community by a number of events including the Remembrance service which falls, appropriately, on the 11th November.

Please refer to the village notice boards and the village website langarbarnstone.co.uk for more information.

Report on Langar & Barnstone Festival 16-24 June 2018

The 6th year of the Langar and Barnstone Festival didn't disappoint with 18 events across the nine days. We threw in a few new events including the Adults Acting Workshop, The family film night, Open Church and the PTA organised a wonderful magic show for all the children. Nigel's history walk took a new direction with a very well attended walk over to the archaeological site of St. Ethelburga's. Old favourites were still well attended with requests for more Quiz nights at the village hall!



I think the triumph this year however were the festival wreaths with over 50 popping up on front doors across the two villages. Great suggestion by Sarah Smith and Justina Harper. Congratulations to the two winners; In first place with her G&T themed contribution Martine Carrington from Langar and in 2nd place with a music themed wreath, Jill O'Sullivan from Barnstone. Thanks to the Unicorn's Head for donating prizes. The

bunting also looked fab, thanks to a donation by Tarmac of an additional 400m. I have to say I thoroughly enjoyed the community picnic organised by Tamsin; sharing scones and watching the kids fling marshmallows with the lolly stick trebuchets they had built was quintessentially British and I finally made it on a tour of Tarmac works which was absolutely fascinating.



So there we have it for another year. Two years coordinating the festival I would love to pass the baton on to someone else to coordinate just to keep the festival fresh with new ideas so it doesn't become stagnant! So if you fancy getting involved please do give me a shout! Finally thanks to all the event organisers and to all of you who turned out and came, I salute you x

Jodi Carter-Davies jcarterdavies@gmail.com / 869794



Belvoir Archers members have taken advantage of the hot warm summer with lots of club members turning up on our club nights

Belvoir Archers did well in the Nottinghamshire League shoot with Sue Haynes coming first in the Ladies compound and our Compound team of Peter Sanderson, Tony Drabble, Bryan and Sue Haynes came second. In the Oregon Challenge, Sue and Bryan Haynes, Tony Drabble and Peter Sanderson were all selected for the Nottinghamshire Team

On Saturday 16th June 2018 Belvoir Archers held a "Have a Go" Archery session as part of the Barnstone and Langar Village Fete. We gave taster archery session to 19 people. We would like to thank Jodie Carter-Davies and everyone involved in a successful Fete.

We held the first every 2 and 3rd Shoot on 24 June 2018. It was a shoot for those 2nd Class and 3rd Class archers who have not either shot a competition and it was relaxed shoot with over 20 participants and a number of archers who had never shot at a competition before take part. The shoot was very popular that the club is holding another shoot on Saturday 1st September

Paige Jones was part of the winning Nottinghamshire Compound Team at the Junior National Outdoor Championship at the start of July as well as coming third in her Category and breaking 3 Nottinghamshire County records. Paige followed this by taking part in ArcheryGB 2018 Youth Festival which was held a Lilleshall at the end of July. Paige was part of the Nottinghamshire Compound Team and Mixed Compound Team who both took silver and Paige won an individual gold with a convincing win over her opponent.

Saturday 21st July 2018 saw the 5th Record status Windsor being held by Belvoir Archers. There were 66 archers in attendance from across Nottinghamshire as well as from across the Midlands and Yorkshire. The weather was very sunny with a little breeze and the day went very well and one of the Archers who had taken part in our 2nd and 3rd Shoot also took part in this event.

Belvoir Archers Winter Windsor is schedule to take place on the 6th October 2018 and we already have a lot of interest in this competition.

Start of November will see the club moving indoors to Cotgrave Leisure Centre where the indoor competition will commence where some of the head to heads from last year will be replayed.

From Mid-October 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 sessions for our members.

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

How to forage responsibly and safely

It is vital to avoid damaging wildlife habitats or rare species, so check you are allowed to forage in the area before starting to pick. When foraging, ensure you leave plenty behind for wildlife and only pick from an area with a plentiful supply. Only take what you plan to eat and take care to avoid damaging the roots of plants as you pick.

Take a good field guide with you and always be sure you can positively identify any plant before you pick it, and never eat any plant you are unsure of. Taking part in a foraging course with an expert is a good way to learn how to forage safely and responsibly.

Bramble (Rubus fruticosus) cultivar, ripening berries. This prickly shrub grows in woods, hedges, heaths and waste places. It is usually found in a tangled straggly clump, with prickly, toothed leaves that turn reddish green in the autumn. The berries should be a deep purpleblack when picked. There are so many delicious Blackberry recipies

Hawthorn berries, also known as haws. This abundant shrub can be found in woodland, hedges, scrubland, on heaths and downs. The round red berries (haws) grow in small bunches and have a gentle, apple-like taste. They can be used to make wine or a sort of candy called hawthorn leather. This involves simmering the haws in a little water until soft and straining off the pips. You then add sugar as you would to make a jam but keep reducing the liquid until it thickens. When cool, it resembles a strip of candv.

Rosehips used as a replacement for citrus fruits during the Second World War, they where widely collected and made into syrup for flavouring foods. They can be found in hedgerows, rough grass and scrub. It grows up to 3m (10ft) high. The leaves grow in pairs of toothed leaflets, the flowers are pink or white, and the fruit is orange-red and oblong shaped. Watch out for thorns and be sure to remove the inner seeds.

Elderberries can be added to crumbles, jams, drinks or pies. Widespread and easily found in woodland and hedgerows. The bark is corky and the green slightly toothed leaves grow in groups of five. These small, dark red-black berries grow in clusters and can be added to sweet pies, crumbles or jams.

Keep an eye out for wild **strawberries** in country lanes and hedgerow. Although small and hard to

find, these berries are well worth the search. They are bursting with flavour and best eaten straight from the plant. They can be found on grassy banks and in open woodland, low on the ground. The leaves are grouped in threes and are toothed and shiny.

Hazelnuts are often found in woodlands and hedgerows. These nuts are ripe for picking when the leaves are just beginning to turn yellow. Often found in woods, hedgerows and scrubland, try giving a branch a good shake and searching below the tree. The leaves are roundish, downy and toothed while the nuts are encased in a green, leafy cup. The name is from the Anglo Saxon 'haesel', meaning 'hat', referring to the frilly case that covers half the nut. There are approximately 18 species.

Nothing says autumn like the sweet chestnut. The tree prefers a mild climate, lime-free soil and moisture. Unlike the conker (similar in appearance), the nuts are delicious. Pierce the skins, roast, peel and dip in butter and salt.

Find the forest floor littered with acorns. Also known as the oaknut, acorn species vary in shape and size. Oak trees grow in woods as well as singly or in small groups. All acorns are edible, although tannins make most bitter.

Technically a walnut is not a true botanical nut but rather the seed of a drupe or drupaceous nut. These non-native nuts are something of a Russian Doll; a smooth, pale-green outer layer covers a further, knobbly shell that gradually hardens. The inner nut resembles two halves of a brain.

Beech trees grow alone but are easily recognisable. The tight, prickly shells open in early autumn, dropping their fruits to the ground. The nuts – also known as beech masts – were once fed to pigs. The leaves are bright green, alternate and oval. The nuts grow with four, three-sided nuts to one brown prickly husk. It tastes similar to a walnut, but gather early, as you will have squirrels to contend with.

Contrary to popular belief, poppies in England do not contain opium. The seedheads are ready for picking when they are a grey-brown colour and have small holes just underneath the flat top. Put the whole seed heads into a paper bag and shake. Remove the heads; the seeds left in the bag can be used for sprinkling on bread, cakes and rolls.

Abridged from

http://www.countryfile.com/countryside/top-10foods-forage-september



Langar & Barnstone Roll of Honour 1914 - 1918



Sunday, 11th November 2018 marks the centenary of the ending of the First World War. In the 1920's a Roll of Honour was drawn up of those from Langar and Barnstone who served in the war and displayed in St Andrew's, Langar and St Mary's, Barnstone. My research into the people from Langar & Barnstone serving in World War One has highlighted a number of significant omissions

from the roll. With the support of the Parish Council and the Granby, Barnstone & District Branch of the Royal British Legion a new Roll of Honour has been drawn up to include the missing names with local artist, Luke Mazers, using his skills in calligraphy to produce the finished article.

As a consequence of this the following names will be added to those who served:

Charles Goodwin
William Hatton Greaves
Muriel Katherine Huskinson
Harriet Hannah Mees
William Rawlings
John Thomas Shephard
Frank Laurence Starbuck

The Parochial Church Council has kindly agreed to the revised Roll of Honour being permanently displayed in St Andrew's. It will be dedicated at the Annual Service of Remembrance on Sunday, 11th November.

It is hoped that as many of you as possible will be able attend this service to remember those on the Roll of Honour and others from the Parish who served their country when called upon to do so.

Nigel Wood



Summer & Autumn 1918



The final Summer and Autumn of World War One would continue with further casualties involving men connected with Langar and Barnstone including seven who would lose their lives. The first of these was George Slater, a Quarryman working for the Barnstone Blue Lias Lime & Cement Company. George was the second son of John and Mary Slater. He was born in Granby in 1884. By 1891 his father had died and his mother was working as a seamstress to provide for her four children, none of whom were old enough to start work.

The 1901 Census records that George was working as a Lime Quarryman and living with his now remarried mother. On 21st July 1904 he enlisted in the Army becoming 7397 Private George Slater, 2nd Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. He transferred to 1st Battalion on 21st September 1906 and served with this battalion until transferring to the Reserve on 20th July 1907. On his return to civilian life he again worked as a Quarryman at the Barnstone Works. He married Ethel Beet at Bingham Register Office on 11th October 1910 and their first son, Cyril, was born on 21st December of the same year. A second son, Victor was born in September 1913.

George was recalled from the Reserve and posted to 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment on 5th August 1914 arriving in France on 9th September. He was mentioned in both the 19th and 24th December 1914 issues of the *Grantham Journal* as being on active service and being in receipt of comforts, including a cardigan, provided by the people of Granby. A further mention appeared in the edition of 2nd October 1915 recording the fact that he had been home on leave from 24th to 30th September and, despite having been wounded twice, he was in "the pink" of condition.

On 29th September 1915 George was appointed Lance Corporal (Unpaid). This was the start of a topsy-turvy career of promotions and demotions. He became Lance Corporal (Paid) on 14th November 1915 but lost his stripe and forfeited 2 days' pay for being absent from 19th to 20th April 1916. In June 1916 he was once again appointed as Lance Corporal (Unpaid) and on 15th September was appointed as both Lance Corporal (Paid) and Acting Corporal. Further promotions were Lance Sergeant (Paid) on 28th April 1917 and Acting Sergeant on 5th July 1917. On 21st July his service was extended under the Military Service Act (1916) following the expiration of his terms of service and he was granted Home Leave. His Army Service Records hint at a possible overstaying of this leave as on 7th October he was tried by Field Court Martial for "Absenting himself without leave". He was sentenced to be reduced to the ranks and 28 days of Field Punishment No.

By May 1918 he had been reappointed as Lance Corporal and it was with this rank that he was to meet his death. According to a report in the *Grantham Journal* of 3rd August 1918 his widow, Ethel, was informed by George's Commanding Officer that he was shot by a sniper at 1.00 a.m. on 15th July 1918 whilst in the process of placing a man on sentry duty. George is buried in Grave XV. A. 14. of Nine Elms Cemetery, Poperinghe, Belgium.

The second to die was Alonzo Burrows who was born in 1892 in Mexborough, Yorkshire, the son of Samuel and Annie Burrows. By 1905 the family had moved to Nottinghamshire as a news item in the *Grantham Journal* of Saturday, 23rd September described a serious accident which befell seven year old Cecil Kibble of Granby and mentioned the role played by Alonzo in getting help for Cecil. Between

morning and afternoon school Cecil had gone alone to the farm of Mr W Bateman and had found a cart set back with its shafts pointing upwards. Unable to resist the temptation he grabbed the shafts and swung on them causing the cart to crash down on him, trapping his legs and fracturing his thigh. His cries were heard by Alonzo, who carried him home where the doctor was summoned and Cecil then transferred to hospital.

The *Nottingham Evening Post* of Thursday, 22nd April, 1909 carried another story involving Alonzo but this showed him in a different light! After stealing a bicycle lamp, the property of George Howitt, from a cowshed in Cotgrave on 12th April, Alonzo, then aged 16, was questioned by Police Constable Harry Huffer. Initially he denied knowing anything about the matter and P.C. Huffer had no reason to doubt him. However, on hearing about the alleged offence, Alonzo's father questioned him and took him back to see P.C. Huffer. This time, he admitted the offence and returned the lamp. Alonzo was bound over under the First Offenders Act to be of good behaviour for 12 months, his father giving surety and paying the costs. It is likely that the Burrows family was living in Barnstone at the time and the 1911 Census shows them living in Ivy Cottages with both Samuel and Alonzo as Cement Workers.

Alonzo's Army Service records have not survived so it is not known when he enlisted but we do know that he did so in Nottingham and arrived in France with his regiment on 1st June 1915. The 9th Lancers were a cavalry regiment and had suffered terrible casualties in the first weeks of the war in the Autumn of 1914 before trench warfare became the norm. Alonzo must have been one of the much needed replacements. For most of the period from Alonzo landing in France to the Spring of 1918 the 9th Lancers were mainly involved in support work, digging trenches, mounting guards and occasionally going into the trenches as infantrymen to relieve regular troops. All this was to change on 21st March 1918 with the start of the German Spring Offensive.

Following an intense artillery bombardment German Storm-troopers smashed through the British Front Line near St Quentin and quickly

over ran the defenders. The 9th Lancers were called on to fill the gaps created by the confusion and were involved in a running battle over three days as they fought and withdrew from Doingt, near St Quentin across the old Somme Battlefield. Between 21st March and 31st March, 42 of Alonzo's comrades were killed, almost matching the numbers killed in the first three months of fighting in 1914. Miraculously Alonzo survived. By August 1918 the German attacks began to peter out and the opportunity was taken for the Allies to go on the offensive. The combined attacks by the British, French and American Armies caught the overstretched Germans off guard and the fighting quickly developed into a more mobile form. This was ideal for Cavalry and the 9th Lancers would be heavily involved. On 9th August 1918 the 9th Lancers were ordered to follow the infantry advance closely and exploit any openings. Alonzo's unit – "A" Squadron under the command of Captain Grant - was ordered to follow the infantry into the village of Vrely. On entering the village the squadron was held up by enemy machine gun fire and some casualties resulted. The squadron took up a position in a sunken lane to the north of the village. As the infantry advanced "A" Squadron then moved with them clearing the ground north and east of the village. On reaching the Vrely – Meharicourt Road the infantry halted but "A" Squadron continued south eastwards towards Fouquescourt, across ground covered in shell holes, old trenches and barbed wire. After crossing the Meharicourt - Rouvroy road the advance guard reported enemy machine guns ahead. The squadron deployed and began to gallop towards the enemy. Several casualties were suffered but the advance continued until more machine guns on the right flank of the squadron opened fire. This resulted in almost half of the horses becoming casualties and the remainder turned left and re-joined the rest of the regiment at the Meharicourt Road. During the day the 9th Lancers casualties were: 1 Officer wounded, 1 Officer wounded & missing, 1 Other Rank killed, 22 Other Ranks wounded. 1 Other Rank unaccounted for, 42

Horses killed, 14 Horses wounded and 14

Horses missing. As Alonzo died of wounds on

10th August he is likely to have been one of

the 22 O.R. wounded the previous day either during the action in Vrely or in the attack on the machine guns.

10332 Private Alonzo Burrows, "A" Squadron, 9th (Queen's Royals) Lancers, was originally buried in Dury Hospital Military Cemetery but was re-interred in Grave IIIA BB. 9, Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, France.

Ten days after Alonzo's death, Reginald Cecil Pritchett was killed in action on 20th August. Reginald was born in 1890 in Plungar, Leicestershire. It would appear that he was orphaned in some way as there is no census record for his parents. In 1891 he was living with his grandparents, Thomas and Ann Pritchett, in Plungar. By 1911 he had moved to Barnstone where the census shows him working as a Farm Servant for Jesse and Mary Ann Parnham.

It is not known when he enlisted at Alfreton, Derbyshire but he served as 201253 Private Reginald Cecil Pritchett, 1/5th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters. The battalion formed part of 46th (North Midland) Division and spent most of 1917 and 1918 in the area around Foucquieres in Northern France. On 16th August 1918 the 1/5th relieved the 1/6th Sherwood Foresters in the trenches in the Essars Section. Over the following days the battalion sent out a number of patrols and these found evidence that the Germans were retreating with confirmation on the 18th that some of the German trenches had been evacuated. The next day the battalion pushed forward and advanced beyond Le Touret, capturing 8 prisoners and 2 machine guns and killing many of the Germans. During this period 10 Other Ranks were killed, one of whom was Reginald. Initially his death was recorded as being on 19th August but records now show him to have died on 20th August 1918.

Reginald is buried in Grave VI. C. 7 in Foucquieres Churchyard Extension, France. More than a month would pass before George James Shephard would die in action on 30th September. Known as Jim to his family he was born on 12th March 1897 in Barnstone, the son of George and Mary Shephard. George was a Steam Crane Driver at Barnstone Cement Works. His brothers and

sisters were Ernest born in Donnington, Herefordshire, Gertrude and Florence, twins born in Granby, John Thomas, Mabel and Kate all born in Barnstone.

The 1911 Census shows Jim living with his widowed mother in Barnstone and working as an Errand Boy. He later worked at the Barnstone works himself. Jim enlisted in 1917 and was posted to 13th Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment.

Late September 1918 saw the start of the 5th Battle of Ypres with the Allies attempting to force the Germans away from the Ypres Salient. As part of the early actions in the battle, Jim's Battalion was tasked with acting as the vanguard in the crossing of the River Warnave near Nieppe, France. This involved erecting three bridges over the river and advancing towards Armentieres. After initial failure a second, successful, attempt to cross was made on the 29th and patrols pushed forward on 30th September. Stiff opposition was met in the form of machine gun and rifle fire and bombs resulting in casualties to the East Lancs. Sadly Jim was one of the casualties.

His death was reported in the *Grantham Journal* of 9th November 1918 as follows:

Pte G. J. Sheppards, Barnston

Pte Geo. Jas. Sheppards, who was killed in action on September 30th, was the youngest son of Mrs Sheppards and the late Geo. Sheppards, of Barnston. He joined up in August 1917, and was attached to the East Lancashire Regiment. Previously he was employed at the Barnston Blue Lias Company's Works. His officer, writing to Mrs Sheppards, says - "I shall miss him myself very much, as he was for a long time my runner, and was always cheerful and ready to do anything he was asked. All N.C.O.'s and men of the Platoon send their deepest sympathy. His place will be hard to fill".

He has no known grave and is commemorated on Panel 77 to 79 & 163A of the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing in Belgium.

The *Grantham Journal* article was not the only instance of misspelling his name as, despite being correctly spelt on the Roll of Honour he appears as James Shepherd on both the

Order of Service for the unveiling of the Parish War Memorial and on the War Memorial itself. Charles Fiddies was the next to die on 13th October whilst serving as a Private with 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards. Charles was born in 1890 in Batley, Yorkshire, the son of Robert and Jane Fiddies. Robert was a Railway Signalman. A sister, Lilian, was also born in Batley in 1892. The family had previously lived in Scrooby, Nottinghamshire, where brothers, Robert Wilmott and Oliver, were born in 1887 and 1889 respectively. By 1901 the family had moved to Bingham and were living on The Banks.

In 1909 Charles married Louie Smithson of Granby and their first child, Irene, was born in 1909 in New Tupton, Derbyshire. According to the 1911 Census Charles and Louie were living in Ivy Cottages, Barnstone, Charles being a labourer at the Cement Works. and their second child, Robert, was born there in 1913. It is not known when Charles enlisted but he embarked for France on 15th August 1915, landing the next day, with 4th Battalion, Grenadier Guards. He later transferred to the 1st Battalion.

He was killed in action during fighting around the Solesmes Railway Cutting. It is likely that he was in the post on the right of the Grenadier Guards' line which was attacked by a party of eighty Germans under cover of an intense Minenwerfer barrage. Only one Grenadier escaped.

Charles is buried in Grave D25, Quievy Communal Cemetery Extension, France.

The second last soldier connected with the parish to die was M/305539 Private William Hatton Greaves, Army Service Corps, who died of Pneumonia on 3rd November 1918 whist serving in Ireland. William was the son of Edward and Emma Greaves and the brother of Herbert Walter Greaves.

The Greaves family farmed in Langar at Langar Lodge. William and his wife, Ada, had a daughter, Rhoda Margaret, who was born in Langar in 1907. By 1911 William and Ada had moved to Long Clawson where William ran the Long Clawson branch of the motor and cycle business he owned in partnership with his brother, Herbert, who ran the Harby branch. In addition, the brothers held the

contract to transport the Post between the villages and Melton Mowbray. William was a skilled driver and motor cyclist.

William's Army Service Records have not survived but it is known from his Commonwealth War Graves Commission record that he served with 615th Motor Transport Company, Army Service Corps. This unit was based in Ireland and it is likely that he was with this unit throughout his service as he appears not to have qualified for the War and Victory Medals, suggesting Home Service only.

William died from Pneumonia as a complication of Influenza.

He is buried in Melton Mowbray (Thorpe Road) Cemetery.

Unlike his brother, William is not commemorated on the Langar & Barnstone Roll of Honour and his name does not appear on the War Memorial.

The final casualty was 64389 Sergeant John Lamb, M.M., "Y" 19th Trench Mortar Battery, Royal Field Artillery, who died of wounds on 8th November 1918, just three days before the end of the war.

John was born on 23rd January 1885 in Hognaston, Derbyshire, the son of Thomas and Esther Lamb. Thomas was a farmer. In 1908 John married Susan Marriott. Their son, Thomas, was born in January 1911 in Lockington, Leicestershire and shortly afterwards they moved to Northfields Farm, Barnstone, where John worked as a Farm Labourer. John enlisted in Nottingham and was posted to the Royal Field Artillery. He arrived in France on 20th July 1915. His award of the Military Medal was announced in the London Gazette of 12th March 1917. At this time his rank was Acting Bombardier.

John is buried in Grave II. G. 27 in Awoingt British Cemetery.

Nigel Wood

GRANBY, BARNSTONE & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION THE GREAT PILGRIMAGE 90



In 1928, ten years after the end of the First World War, a group of 11,000 pilgrims returned to Belgium and Northern France to visit the battlefields and cemeteries of that conflict and to pay homage to their fallen comrades. This year, 90 years later, the Royal British Legion decided to repeat the pilgrimage. Granby, Barnstone & District Branch wished to take part and pay homage to those men from our community who had fought and died in World War 1 and to visit the cemeteries where many of them are laid to rest.

The Branch Standard Bearer, Ken Kirk, and I left Nottingham early on Sunday 5th August and travelled to Lille, which



would be our base for the next three days. On Monday 6th August we travelled to Belgium to visit the battlefields and cemeteries of the Ypres Salient, which had seen intense fighting for the majority of the war. In Zonnebeke in Passchendaele, we first visited a fine museum containing an extensive collection of memorabilia from the various battles in the area as well as a preserved and renovated trench system, complete with dug outs, to experience what life would have been like for the soldiers. We then made our

way to Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest cemetery for soldiers killed in this part of Flanders. The site holds the graves of 12,000 soldiers, 80% of which have no name and the headstones are engraved with 'Here lies a soldier of the Great War' and beneath 'Known only unto God'. Around the perimeter of the cemetery is a flint wall containing panels of Portland stone inscribed with the names of 35,000 soldiers with no known grave. The visit to this cemetery was an extremely humbling experience. From here we went to the village of Passchendaele itself, the site of one of the bloodiest battles of the war, fought between July and November 1917 in atrocious conditions. At Crest Farm. near the village, four divisions Corps troops Canadian fought ferocious battle between 26th October and 10th November 1917, incurring 4,000 dead, 7,700 wounded and 1,000 gassed, to capture and hold the Passchendaele ridge. Nine Canadian soldiers were awarded the Victoria Cross for their bravery, more than any other battle in the history of Canada. The



memorial to their bravery is a large granite block in the centre of a circular terrace. Travelling to Ypres we visited the In Flanders Field Museum, an interactive installation housed in the old Cloth Hall of which the town. was completely destroyed during the various battles taking place around the town in World War 1 and rebuilt after the war. Leaving Ypres we then visited the battlefields of Messine Ridge. From 7th - 14th June 1917 a series of battles took place to move the German troops from the high ground South of Ypres. In the weeks preceding the battle Canadian. Australian, New Zealand and British miners had dug a series of tunnels nearly 5.5kms in length and 24 - 37m in depth below the German front line positions and laid 454 tonnes of explosive. At 3.10am on the morning of 6th June the mines were detonated. The sound of the explosions was heard in London and Dublin.

On Tuesday 7th August we set out to visit the battlefields, cemeteries and memorials associated with the Somme offensive. We first visited Ulster Tower near Thiepval. The tower is 21 m in height and is a memorial to the men of the 36th Ulster Division who fought in this area and took part in an heroic charge on 1st July 1916 on the first day of the Somme offensive. From here we visited the nearby Thiepval Wood which has been preserved as a site of the Battle of the Somme and contains many preserved trenches from that conflict. Alongside the wood is the Connaught Cemetery, containing the graves of 1.268 British and Commonwealth soldiers, half of whom are unidentified, particularly those who served with the Connaught Rangers during World War 1. We then visited Thiepval Memorial, It

comprises a series of intersecting arches and is over 45m in height. Within its



walls are contained several Portland stone tablets engraved with the names of 72,000 British and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before March 20th 1918. The majority of them died in the Somme offensive of 1916.

We were then taken to Delville Wood, the scene of various engagements from 15th July to 3rd September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. This was the first engagement of the 1st South African Infantry Brigade, who as part of the 9th Scottish Division, captured the Wood from German forces and held it until they had to withdraw on 19th July. During this engagement there were 7,517 casualties, including 2,536 amongst the South African troops. There is now a fine museum and memorial dedicated to the South African Brigade. From here we travelled to the Arras memorial and cemetery. The memorial commemorates 35,000 soldiers of British, South African and New Zealand forces with no known grave. Many of those commemorated would have been killed in the Battle of Arras, which took place between 9th April and 16th May 1917. Also on this site is the Flying Services Memorial, which commemorates almost 1,000 airmen of the Royal Flying Corps, the

Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Air Force who were killed on the Western Front in World War 1 and who have no known grave.

Finally we visited Vimy Ridge and the Canadian National Vimy Memorial, situated 10kms North of Arras. This is an impressive monument which occupies 117 hectares on the crest of Hill 145, the site of Canada's most significant engagement in World War 1. It comprises twin pylons of white limestone, standing 27m tall and surrounded by 20 symbolic sculptures, the largest of which, the Canada Bereft figure represents the nation of Canada mourning her dead. The memorial contains the names of 11,285 Canadian soldiers who lost their lives in the conflict and who have no known grave.

On Wednesday 8th August we took part in probably the most poignant part of our visit. We travelled to Ypres, where 1,200 Standards were carried by their Bearers, followed by 1,200 Wreath Bearers. We marched, in ranks of four, through the town and across the main square towards the Menin Gate. This memorial is one of the most well- known war memorials in the world. It commemorates 54.000 soldiers from the Commonwealth who died before 16th August 1917. Since 1928 the Last Post has been sounded every evening at 8pm under the memorial by buglers of the Last Post Association. When the procession arrived at the Menin Gate a service was undertaken and the Last Post Ceremony was performed. Following this the Wreath Bearers formed up and laid their wreaths under the Gate. Both Ken and I were extremely overwhelmed by the magnificent way in which deep respect for our fallen ancestors was shown by all who took part, many of whom were less than 30

to have been able to pay our respects in this way.

Although the whole trip was quite demanding on the energies of those participating, we would not have wished to have missed this important tribute. There are many memories that will last with us for the rest of our lives, in particular the vast numbers of dead who



have no known grave or who are buried in the cemeteries without a name. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission have done and continue to do a most marvellous job in keeping these graves and memorials impeccably managed and maintained. May we express our thanks to both the Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council and the Granby cum Sutton Council Parish for their generous contributions, which enabled us undertake this pilgrimage.

Andrew Charlett
Chairman
Granby, Barnstone & District Branch

formed up and laid their wreaths under the Gate. Both Ken and I were extremely overwhelmed by the magnificent way in which deep respect for our fallen ancestors was shown by all who took part, many of whom were less than 30 years of age. We were immensely proud 25 If you would like to read the full version of Andrew's article you can find it at www.langarbarnstone.co.uk on the Village Information page under Royal British Legion. A limited number of printed copies will be available at the Remembrance Service.

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