

Grantham Journal Articles

Circa 1913 - 1923

Written by Richard (Dick) Westbrook Baker the then village correspondent
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Richard Westbrook Baker



Vestry Meeting - Lively Proceedings

The usual Easter vestry meeting was held in the church on Friday afternoon. The Vicar of Oakham, Rev. J. Mould, presided. In opening the meeting the Chairman observed that they were assembled for two objects, as specified in the notice, viz., the passing of the last year's accounts and the appointment of churchwardens for the ensuing year. He therefore called upon the churchwardens to produce their accounts and vouchers. As far as the accounts were concerned, he might say they were the best they had had for some time, the offertory especially being very good. - Mr. Swingler, junr., contended that the previous year's accounts should be dealt with first of all, as they were disallowed by the vestry at the last meeting.

The Chairman ruled that he would have nothing to do with the previous year's accounts; that meeting was called to settle those of the year just closed, and he would allow nothing else to be done. - Mr. Swingler, senior, said that being so, there need have been no meeting at all. The Vicar still maintained his point, saying that although not passed in vestry, the accounts had been put right. Miss Skeffington remarked that it was quite unnecessary to have a vestry meeting, if the accounts could be put right without.

The Chairman called upon Mr. George Stafford to read out the several items, which he proceeded to do. When he had reached the second item, one, of 19s 1d Mr Swingler, junr. remarked "*Now give him a kiss, George*"! which caused considerable amusement. The accounts showed that there was a deficit of £4 2s. 3d. on the year just closed, and the Chairman remarked that he hoped to get one or two subscriptions and that as last year's deficit had been paid, they might take it that this year's would be also.

The dissentients still continuing the discussion, the Chairman determinately ruled that the former accounts could not be touched, adding that after the vote of last year, duly recorded in the parish book, the churchwardens could do nothing; they had shown by the vouchers that the money they had received had been honestly expended, and they could not go a step further. The dissentients only could have followed it up by further vote or by law suit, but this they had not done, and so there was an end of the matter before the vestry. - It was then proposed by Mr. Swingler, junr., and seconded by Mr. R. W. Baker, that the accounts be not passed, as last year's accounts were still undisposed of. Mr. George Stafford proposed that the accounts be passed, and on a show of hands, the resolution, to pass the accounts was carried by seven votes to six.

The Chairman then renominated Mr. John Henry Rudkin as Vicar's warden, and on the proposition of Mr. Stafford, seconded by Mr. Bartram, Mr. F. Wright was unanimously elected parish warden.

The wordy warfare then broke out afresh. Mr. Swingler, senior, said that something ought to be done in reference to the charities, as the further they went the greater was the muddle. It appeared to him that it was no use saying anything, especially at the vestries. The poor's dole had already been lost.

The accounts then again cropped up, but the Vicar said that the bother last year had nothing to do with either Vicar or Churchwardens, it was a purely personal quarrel. - Mr Swingler still maintained that the Vicar's action had been wrong all through, and that his refusal to allow them to discuss the previous year's accounts was, to say the least, unworthy of him.

The Vicar said that he had consulted the law books, and as they had allowed their time and chance of action to pass, they could do nothing more in it. The accounts were now passed, and they might rest assured that there were friends who would make good the deficit.

Mr Swingler, junr, said that to alter the books was to say the least an inconsistency. If they were overhauled and put into form, he should then consider the matter at an end, but at present he could not say so. He then added "*You are a man of money, Mr Mould, but you will have to leave it behind you!*" On this the Vicar rose, and curtly declared the meeting at an end, saying "*I am very much obliged to you, gentlemen for your attendance, and wish you good bye once more.*"

Mr Swingler, junr., remarked "*We can't say good bye, Mr Mould, we don't like you enough for that*" adding to Mr. George Stafford "*Did you get your kiss, George?*"

Rutland Rural District Council Meeting

A meeting of the Rural District Council was subsequently held, Mr. Finch again being in the chair.

A Langham Complaint - Mr. Hubbard asked when something was going to be done to the old cottages at Langham which had been previously complained of as unsafe? The Sanitary Inspector replied he understood the owner had made them safe; at any rate, he had pulled down the chimney. Mr. Ruddle I don't think so. Mr. W. Watchorn said he saw the property the previous day, and it appeared to be in the same condition.

The Inspector said, irrespective of the chimney, (he did not think the outside walls were unsafe, they were an eyesore, certainly. It was the children playing inside the buildings where the danger came in. The Clerk said if children trespassed inside the buildings, this Council had no control over that, providing the walls themselves were safe. The Inspector: I don't think they would blow down on to the roadway. Mr. Hubbard I think they would. There are strong complaints about it in Langham. Mr. Baker supported Mr. Hubbard's remarks.

The Chairman: We cannot do what we have not got powers to do. The Inspector said he would go and inspect the property again that afternoon, and see the owner.

The Sanitary Condition Of Market Overton

The Inspector produced a letter from Dr. Rolleston, the County Medical Officer, commenting upon the insanitary condition of the village of Market Overton, the drainage system being defective, the water supply very polluted, and a system of scavenging was required. The Inspector also reported in his journal that part of the village drained into a small tank, and it got away without being intercepted. A larger tank was required.

The Chairman said now that dryer weather prevailed, the water supply of Greetham, which had been in abeyance, should I be gone into again. - In regard to this question, a subsequent report by the County Medical Officer of Health related to a water supply for some property outside led up to one or two houses and then after that were simply blind roads. There were scores, hundreds, he might say, of such roads in the district, and he hoped the Committee had taken all the evidence they could get about them, as it was a very dangerous principle for them to embark upon.

The Clerk stated the two cases before the Committee were each dealt with on their merit. The Chairman said they had ascertained as far as they could that these roads in former times were repaired by the parish. Mr. Stafford said the road at Whissendine was the only way they could get to the Churchyard with a vehicle. Mr. Healy said he did not think that constituted a public road. They did something of the sort at Exton, where a road led to a Chapel, but he thought, with all deference, they had no right to do it. It was a wrong principle altogether to take over these kinds of roads. He would like to ask how far it was proposed to take over the road at Hambleton? The Clerk replied as far as it had been ascertained it was previously mended. Mr. Healey I can promise you this, if you take over these roads, there will be others brought up. Mr. Hubbard said they had two or three similar roads at Langham, which they had proved were formerly repaired by the old Parish Surveyor, but the Council had declined to take them over.

Mr. Baker said one very bad road at Langham was not even a blind road, but went right round by a number of houses and out again, He thought this was equal to Whissendine. Mr. Stafford said the road in question at Whissendine also went to six or seven cottages. Mr. Hubbard: The road at Langham goes to more than cottages; there are some good houses. Mr. Marriott said when the roads first came under the District Council, it was laid down that the Surveyor should repair all roads that the parish had repaired hitherto, and he believed it was generally done on those lines throughout the district. It might have been that some of these roads which had been repaired by the parish did not want doing when the District Council took the roads over, and therefore they had not been brought forward. But wherever it had been found that the old highway surveyors had repaired a road it was laid down that these should continue to be, mended.

Mr. Healey: May I ask what evidence the Highway, Committee had that this road at Hambleton had been repaired by the parish? The Chairman said it was upon the evidence of their Surveyor, and an old resident, Mr. Fryer, eighty years of age, who said he remembered it being repaired by the pariah, and also Mr. Palmer, who at one time lived in the vicinity. Mr. Healey: Has the parish award been consulted? The Clerk said the parish award could not be found. Mr. Healey: I am fighting for a principle; I am not fighting over these particular roads. Mr. Stafford: I can remember the road at Whissendine being repaired by the old Parish Surveyor. Mr. Marriott: It was decided to work on the principle of what the roads were when they were first taken over by the District Council.

Mr. Baker said the road he referred to at Langham led to three farmhouses, besides cottages, and the Council would not do that. Mr. Healey: My point is they all ought to be done if one is done. Mr. Baker: We have brought the Langham one up several times, but cannot get it done. Mr. Healey said if the Council adopted the principle that wherever sufficient proof was forthcoming that these roads had been repaired in the past that they would be taken over, he would not object to the two in question being repaired. Mr. Marriott said that was the general custom. After further discussion, it was decided, in the absence of the Surveyor, who had attended the Committee meeting, to defer a decision upon the matter until the next meeting.

- 1914 - Jun 27 Congratulations from all parts of the country have this week been showered upon Major-General John Fielden Brocklehurst, C.B., C.V.O., Lord-Lieutenant of Rutland, upon his elevation to the Peerage. His name appeared in the King's Birthday honours on Monday, and the title he has taken is that of Baron Ranksborough.
- Major-General Brocklehurst, who is very widely respected, is an extra equerry to Queen Alexandra, and was equerry to Queen Victoria. Formerly Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards, he is now honorary Colonel of the 5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment. He served in the South African War as Brigadier-General Commanding 2nd Cavalry Brigade, in the Egyptian Expedition, 1882, and in the Sudan, 1884-5. He succeeded the Earl of Lonsdale as Master of the Cottesmore, and proved a popular leader. He was born in 1852, is eldest son of the late Mr. Henry Brocklehurst, of Foden Bank; and married, in 1878, Louisa Alice, second daughter of the late Hon. Laurence Parsons, son of the second Earl Ross#. His Rutland residence is Ranksborough, near Oakham, and in the county town he is welcomed by rich and poor alike. His interest in agriculture; upon which Rutland so much depends, is great. Through his efforts, the County Society has entered upon a new lease of life. He is a liberal subscriber to the prize fund, and has always been keen in encouraging the breeding of good shorthorns and hunters.
- 1914 - Jul 04 Anniversary Services were held in the Baptist Chapel, on Sunday last. The sermons were preached by Mr. J. M. Hubbard, of Leicester, to large congregations. Special hymns were sung and good collections taken.
- 1914 - Jul 25 Choir Outing - The members of the Church choir and bell-ringers had their annual outing on Saturday, leaving Oakham shortly before 5a.m. Liverpool was reached about ten o'clock - Sight-seeing commenced at the main landing stage, the docks being, eagerly inspected, and a few of the party were lucky enough to be shown over the "Mauretania," which is more to be compared to a large hotel than anything else, everything being-up-to-date for comfort and accommodation.
- Scoutmaster R.G. Isaac took his troop of Boy Scouts, arrangements having been made by him previously for two of the Liverpool Scouts to meet them and act as guides, which they did, taking their visitors to various places of interest. New Brighton appeared to be the general meeting place the afternoon where much fun was caused by the side show. After a very enjoyable day home was reached between three and four o'clock on Sunday morning, and it is worthy of note that scarcely a member of the choir was absent from service at 11 a.m. Both the choir and ringers wish to heartily thank all these who so kindly subscribed to their enjoyment, also to Mr. Isaac for all the trouble taken in the arrangements, which turned out so successfully.
- 1915 - Aug 07 **Musical Success** - At the recent School examination held in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music, Miss Nora Clancey, pupil of Miss F. Lee, successfully passed the Primary Division in pianoforte playing.
- War Anniversary - In accordance with the appeal made by the Lord Lieutenant of the county in our last week's issue, a parish meeting was held on Wednesday evening last, in the School, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. E. Hubbard. Present - Messrs. G. Ruddle, W. Bristow, W. Almond, W. Royce, R. W. Baker, G. E. Steele, T. Munday, H. Shillaker, J. Edgson, Mr. and Mrs. Grant, the Rev. T. H. and Mrs. Wood, and others. The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Ruddle, and seconded by Mr. W. Almond, and carried unanimously :- "*That, on this, the anniversary of the declaration of a righteous war, this meeting of the inhabitants of Langham records its inflexible determination to continue to a victorious end the struggle in maintenance of those ideals of liberty and justice which are the common and sacred cause of the Allies.*" The National Anthem was sung at the close of the meeting.
- 1915 - Sept 04 **Pte. Ernest James Munday** of the 5th Leicester's (T.F.), who was severely wounded in the trenches on June 16th, and died on Saturday last in King George's Hospital, London, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Munday, of Langham. The remains were brought by train on Wednesday morning to Oakham station, where they were met by a detachment of soldiers from Loughborough, who escorted the coffin to Langham Church, where it was guarded until the funeral at three o'clock in the afternoon. When the mourners entered the Church the scene was very impressive. The full surpliced choir, of which the deceased was a former member, commenced the hymn, "Brief life is here our portion." Other hymns sung were "Now the labourer's task is, o'er" and, at the graveside, "On the Resurrection Morning." The service was impressively taken by the Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Wood. At the close, volleys were fired over the grave, followed by the weird notes of the "Last Post," sounded by two buglers. There was a very large and sympathetic congregation present. The deceased was only nineteen. years of age. Beautiful wreaths were sent from the following:- In loving memory from his sorrowing Father and Mother; In loving memory, from his Aunt, Uncle, and Cousin; With love, from Uncle Tom and Family; With deepest sympathy, from his cousins at Thimble Hall; In affectionate remembrance from Uncle Tom, Gertie and Family; With love, from Aunt and Uncle Wilson (Melton Mowbray); In loving memory of a dear brother, from Cyril; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Grant; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Breakspear and Family; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Davenport and Family; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. Ruddle and the Brewery Staff; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. H. Burton; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Williamson; With deepest sympathy, from Mrs. Burdett and Family; In deepest sympathy, from the Members of the Langham and Barleythorpe Mothers' Union, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Lord Ranksborough, who was present at the funeral in uniform, very kindly made arrangement for the firing party, and entertained them at his own expense. The late Ernest Munday was employed at the Langham Brewery before enlistment, and was much respected by his fellow workmen. Half muffled touches were rung on the Church bells in the evening.

1915 - Sept 11

Visit of the Yorkshire Evangelist - On Sunday last, Miss Ruth E. Storer, the Yorkshire evangelist, preached two very excellent sermons in the Baptist Chapel, at which large congregations attended. She is well known as a powerful and impressive speaker, and has conducted services each evening up to Thursday. The final service is to be held on Monday. Special hymns were sung on these occasions.

Farewell Sermon - On Sunday the Rev. T. H. Wood, who has resigned the, living of Langham, preached two farewell sermons, in which he thanked all the Church workers for the great help they had given him during the five years he had been here. After morning service, a presentation was made to Mr. Wood by Mr. Owen Smith (in the unavoidable absence of Lord Ranksborough) of a cheque for £19 14s., subscribed for by some of his parishioners as a token of esteem and appreciation, wishing him success in his new parish. The reverend gentleman, in acknowledging the gift, asked the Churchwardens to convey to the subscribers his thanks for their kind recognition of his services. Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Steel undertook the collection.

A Vegetable Show took place on Saturday afternoon, on Miss Finch's lawn, kindly lent, when sixty exhibits were staged for competition. Prizes offered in nine classes were won as follows :-

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Round white potatoes	Curtis Williamson	J. Rowett	G. Harris
Kidney potatoes	C. Williamson	G. Harris	W. Peet
Peas	E. Bryant	J. Rowett	W. Gale Sewell
Broad beans	Tom Faulks	Jas. Munday	A. Wright
Kidney beans	Tom Faulks	Philip Williamson	Mrs. Prince
Onions	E. Bryant	P. Williamson	J. Rowett
Carrots	C. Williamson	G. Harris	J. Rowett
Collection of vegetables (two prizes)	W. Gale Sewell	J. Rowett	
Cooked potatoes	Mrs. J. Rowett		

The show was promoted by Mr. J. Austin, with Mrs. J. Smith as treasurer, and was a very successful first attempt. The exhibits were all sent through Miss Hollingshead for the benefit of the wounded soldiers, for which she so kindly collects a weekly supply. The subscribers to the prize fund were Lord Ranksborough. Mr. Owen Smith, Major Dawson, and Miss Finch, the latter giving away the prizes to the successful competitors. The judges were Messrs. Wm. Meadows and H. Shillaker. It is hoped that a show on these lines may become an annual affair.

1915 - Sept 25

A Biplane was observed passing over this parish on Wednesday afternoon, in a southerly direction.

The New Vicar - The Bishop of Peterborough has conferred the benefice of Langham on the Rev. W. A. Mandall, curate-in-charge of Cosgrove, Northants.

Decease - It is our sad duty to record the death of Mr. James Munday, the father of Pte. Ernest James Munday, who was buried with military honours as recently as September 1st. Mr. James Munday was fifty-four years of age, and succumbed to a very severe attack of pneumonia on Monday last. The interment took place on Wednesday afternoon. Thus, father and son were laid to rest within three weeks. Great sympathy is felt for the widow and young children, who are practically left unprovided for.

1915 - Oct 10

Harvest Thanksgiving - The annual harvest thanksgiving service was held in the Baptist Chapel on Thursday week. The Rev. W. E. Hurst, of Leicester, preached an excellent sermon to a large congregation. The building was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The services were continued on Sunday last when Mr. Green, of Uppingham, was the officiating minister. The Chapel was crowded at both services. Miss Annie Weed, L.R.A.M., of Leicester, contributed solos which were greatly appreciated. The funds from the sale of decorations with the collections, were divided between the Leicester Infirmary and Chapel expenses. Suitable hymns were well rendered by the choir.

1915 - Oct 23

Matrimonial - The wedding of Trooper Frank Basil Hoy, 18th Hussars, to Edith Nellie Meadows, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Meadows, was solemnised in the Parish Church on Thursday morning, by licence. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Bainbridge, assistant curate of Oakham. The bridegroom, who has served with distinction at the front, having been wounded twice, and is now recovering from his last wounds, received special permission from the War Office to be married. The happy couple, who were the recipients of many presents left for Hull to spend the honeymoon.

1915 - Oct 30

Killed in Action - The official news of the death in action on the 13th October, of Sergt. J. Casterton, 5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.), was received by his mother yesterday (Friday) morning.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday, the edifice being very tastefully decorated. The preacher was the new Vicar the Rev. W. A. Mandall (who is shortly to be inducted). A floral service was held in the afternoon and there were many gifts of fruit, eggs, &c. for the Leicester Infirmary. At the morning and evening services the anthem, "Blessed be the Name of the Lord" (Mauder), was sung by the choir. The collections in the morning and afternoon were for the Church expenses, and that in the evening, together with the amount realised from the sale of fruit and vegetables used in the decorations, was given to Leicester Infirmary.

1915 - Nov 06

Lance Corpl. T. Munday, who has been through a course of machine gun instruction at Strensall Camp, Yorks., has just passed as a first-class machine gunner.

Sergt. J. T. Casterton, of Langham. As we briefly announced last week, the sad news of the death in action of Sergt. J. T. Casterton, 5th Leicester's (T.F.), came as a blow to his many friends living in Langham, his native place. He fell bravely and fearlessly serving his King and country, and setting a worthy example to many quite as able to go. Sergt. Casterton joined the Territorial Force on its formation, and was very regular at all drills. He was employed in Lord Ranksborough's gardens previous to the war. A memorial service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening, when the vicar made touching references to the character of the dead hero, who took his place with great regularity in the belfry for each Church service, and was very useful in helping to further the training of the local troop of Boy Scouts. The mother of the deceased is most grateful to those who wrote such sympathetic letters to her in her trouble. Amongst others, she received a very kind letter from Lady Ranksborough, and one from Captain Beasley (at the front), who formerly commanded the Company, speaking in the highest terms of the late Sergeant.

1915 - Nov 13

National Register - Messrs. T. Swingler and R. W. Baker have been appointed canvassers under Lord Derby's recruiting scheme.

Sudden Death - On Thursday morning week, Mrs. Rebecca Fraser was found dead in Hinman Cottage, where she resided alone. At the inquest, held by Mr. M. H. Pugh, deputy coroner, the evidence showed that a neighbour, Jane Sewell, on Thursday morning, visited Mrs. Fraser, and, receiving no answer to her knock, she tried the door. Finding it unfastened, she went in and found Mrs. Fraser lying on a couch in the living room covered with blankets. She appeared to be dead. P.C. Foyle was sent for, and he found that the woman had been dead some time. He saw a light in her house at 12.15 a.m. on Wednesday. Dr. Clapperton, of Oakham, said death was caused by a fatty heart, which was affected by disease of long standing. In his opinion, the woman might have been dead 48 hours. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

1915 - Nov 15

A Most Enjoyable Whist Drive took place on Thursday evening week, in the Institute, the proceeds to go towards providing a useful Christmas parcel for all those from this parish who are fighting at the front. Seventy-six players competed for handsome prizes given by Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Burn, Messrs. G. Ruddle, Owen Smith, D. Tidd, H. E. Hubbard, and R. W. Baker, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded. The winners were:-

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Consolation
Ladies	Miss Bella Sewell	Mr. McClelland (as lady)	Miss Challen	Miss Holloway
Gentlemen	Mr. W. Colbourne	Mr. T. Thornton	Mr. W. Bristow	Mr. Fred Williamson (The Lodge)

1915 - Dec 04

Soldiers' Comforts - At a Meeting held in the Church Room at the Vicarage, last week, convened by the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., it was unanimously decided that a parcel of warm comforts, &c., should be sent to all the men from this parish and Barleythorpe serving at the front. As the members of the Institute had commenced on similar lines, of which the Vicar was unaware, for the same worthy object, it was agreed to amalgamate the two funds, and Messrs. Lee and Stacey kindly consented to canvass for subscriptions. Many who do not feel equal to subscribing in money are knitting some warm articles. It would be well to remind all the kind workers that the parcels have to be sent off very shortly.

Induction - The Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., who was appointed to the Vicarage of Langham in September by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough, and privately instituted by him a short time ago at Peterborough, was formally inducted on Thursday evening week. Archdeacon Moore, of Oakham and Uppingham, performed the office of induction, and the Rev. J. H. Charles, M.A., R.D., read the lessons. There was the usual ceremony of conducting the new incumbent to the Church door, the belfry, font, pulpit, and the altar, the clergy being attended by the only Churchwarden present, Mr. Reuben Steel. The service was fully choral. The Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., took his degree at Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1904, and was ordained curate to Raunds, Northants, in 1905, was curate at St. Mary's, Peterborough, in 1906, and went as curate-in-charge of the parish of Cosgrove, Northants., in 1913, from whence he was selected by the Bishop as Vicar for this parish.

1915 - Dec 11

Omission - Our correspondent unwittingly omitted the names of Mr. Edwin Royce and Miss M. A. Sewell in the list of canvassers for the soldiers' Christmas parcels in our last issue.

Soldiers' Comforts - As a result of the house-to-house collection in Langham and Barleythorpe, to which has been added the money from the Institute whist drive, the sum is expected to realise over £20. Forty plum-puddings have been made by ladies, at Miss Hollingshead's house. Each parcel, which had to be despatched by yesterday (Friday), contained 1 plum-pudding, 1 cake, 1 pair of mittens, tobacco, and cigarettes. Mrs. Dawson, of the Old Hall, very kindly arranged a concert on Tuesday evening in the Institute, to augment the funds. Unfortunately, the incessant downpour prevented many from coming, but a goodly company assembled. The items were all well rendered, and many were the encores. Programme-Part song, School children; songs, Capt. Robert Noel, Miss Joan Dawson; banjo solo, Mr. H. Ellingworth; songs, Mrs. Burn; duet, Miss Joan Dawson and Capt. R. Noel; recitations, Miss Nora Clancey, Miss Sybil Segrott; duet, Miss J. Dawson and Capt. R. Noel; banjo solo, Mr. H. Ellingworth; songs, Capt. R. Noel, Mrs. Burn, Miss J. Dawson. A novel competition was introduced. The competitors in turn had to stand on a barrel, balance themselves, and sing a verse or two of a song. This caused great amusement, the failures, of course, being many. Mrs. Dawson gave prizes for the successful ones. The Vicar at the close thanked Mrs. Dawson very heartily for promoting the entertainment.

- 1915 - Dec 18 **Musical Success** - At the recent School examination, held at Stamford, in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, Miss Candace Munday, pupil of Miss F. Lee, successfully passed the "Higher" Division in pianoforte.
- 1915 - Dec 24 **News has just been received of the death of Pte. George Brain**, a son of the Rev. Alfred and Mrs. Brain, of Stratford, Victoria, who left a lucrative post in Melbourne, enlisted, and proceeded to the front at July to do his bit for King and Country. He was invalided with enteric fever, and died on board the hospital boat "Nevasa" on Oct. 24th, and was buried at sea. Deceased, who was only twenty years of age, was a grandson of the late Mrs. Ann Baker, and a nephew of Mr. R. W. Baker.
- 1916 - Jan 01 **Musical Success** - At the recent Metropolitan examination, held at the Royal Academy, Miss Frances Lee was created a Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music. Miss Lee has been the recipient of many congratulations on her brilliant success.
- Sick and Dividing Club** - The annual meeting was held last week, at the Wheatsheaf Inn, when a dividend of 7s. was paid to each member, with a good reserve balance. The Club was only started in April, and great praise is due to Mr. W. Peet, the hon. secretary, and the other officers in making it thus successful. All the retiring officers were re-elected, and 17 new members enrolled, making a total of seventy. It was resolved to receive juvenile members from 14 to 16 years of age at half the ordinary subscription.
- 1916 - Jan 08 **Whist Drive** - A very successful and enjoyable whist drive, for the benefit of the Leicester Royal Infirmary, was held in the Institute, on Thursday week. One hundred and twenty competed for the valuable prizes given by the Countess of Lonsdale, Miss Halliday, Mrs. Wellington, Mrs. W. B. Shelton, Messrs. Freeman, Hardy, and Willis, D. N. Royce, J. P. Pye, George, Davies, Hassan, F. Whittle, Boston and Jackson, and J. E. Whitehouse. Winners:- Ladies - 1 Mrs. A. Harris, 2 Mrs. Parr, 3 Mrs. Walter Matthews, 4 Mrs. Geeson, 5 Miss Burton, booby Miss Hilda Weston, hidden number Mrs. W. Skillett. Gentlemen - 1 Mr. G. Ruddle, 2 Mr. F. Hickin, 3 Mr. G. E. Steele, 4 Mr. T. Lee, booby Mr. J. Watson, hidden number Mr. T. Nourish. In the weight guessing competition, Mrs. Geeson was the winner, and "took the cake." Many of the refreshments were kindly given. Mrs. W. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, was the promoter of this entertainment, and, with her assistants, must be heartily congratulated on the result, £8 10s. being forwarded to the institution.
- 1916 - Jan 15 **Leicester Royal Infirmary** - Collections amounting to two guineas were taken at the services in the Baptist Chapel on January 2nd. The money has been forwarded to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.
- School Treat** - The children's annual treat was given in the Baptist school room on Thursday evening week. A tea was provided, and the prizes awarded to the successful pupils by the Rev. Paul Shipley. Games, etc., were afterwards indulged in, and altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent.
- Acknowledgement** - Mrs. W. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, has, since forwarding the money obtained from the whist drive, received a letter of thanks, with the terms of a committee's resolution, from Mr. Harry Johnson, the Governor and Secretary of the Leicester Royal Infirmary, asking her to convey to all associated with her in the effort the acknowledgment of the Committee for their interest.
- A Sad Case** - Another pathetic page has to be added to an already very sad chapter by the death on Monday evening of Mrs. James Munday, from pneumonia. It will be remembered that her eldest son, who was mortally wounded at the front, was buried on Sept. 1st. Her husband, Mr. Jas. Munday, took a chill at the funeral, and was buried three weeks later to the day, and now his widow has passed away as stated, leaving a young son, who is in service, and three younger children, aged 9, 7, and 4 respectively.
- The Church Choir** annual supper, to which were invited the bell ringers, churchwardens, sidesmen, and all Church workers, was held on Friday evening week in the "Noel Arms" club room, where upwards of sixty sat down to an ample spread provided by host and hostess Simmonds, in their well-known style. The genial chairman was the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., Mr. Owen Smith, Vicar's Warden, occupying the vice-chair. After supper, various toasts were proposed. In the unavoidable absence of the Organist, the Vicar, in asking Mr. R. Steel to propose the toast, thought not only had Miss Lee recently brought a great honour upon herself but also upon the choir as she was their organist, and he wished on behalf of himself and every member to heartily congratulate her on being able to place the letters L.R.A.M. after her name. The company then adjourned to the Institute, where dancing and various games were indulged in until the small hours, when everyone retired, having fully enjoyed themselves. The choirmaster, Sergt. R. G. Isaac, was responsible for all the excellent arrangements. Mr. A. Barnett ably officiated at the piano.
- 1916 - Jan 22 **Barleythorpe - Leicester Royal Infirmary** - The house-to-house collection by Mrs. A. V. Watchorn has realised £2 6s. 6d.
- 1916 - Jan 29 **An Excellent Cinematograph Show** was given on Thursday evening week, in the Baptist schoolroom by the Rev. Paul Shipley to a large audience. The pictures, which were very interesting, included "The Rocky Mountains," "Spring-time," "Niagara Falls," "Lumbering in Hungary, and "Pride," the latter concluding by depicting the usual "fall." The Rev. Paul Shipley takes a great amount of trouble to show fresh films from time to time, but just now they are very difficult to obtain. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for the enjoyable entertainment. A collection for expenses and Sunday School funds was taken.

- 1916 - Feb 05 **National Egg Collection** - An earnest appeal is made for contributions to the weekly collections at Langham, which are now commencing; even one egg will be gratefully accepted. Mrs. Ruddle who is and has been for some time diligently nursing in a large hospital for the wounded in Chichester, wishes us to say if people could only realise what an egg is to a poor wounded soldier, she is quite sure this appeal will not be in vain. Mr. D. Tidd has kindly undertaken to receive contributions, and will forward them to the proper quarter.
- Whist Drive and Dance** - A very successful whist drive and dance took place on Thursday evening week, for the benefit of the Institute funds. Thanks are due to the donors of prizes, viz., Mrs. E. Royce, Mrs. W. Watchorn, Mrs. T. Weston, Rev. W. A. Mandall, Messrs. W. Colbourne, G. Ruddle, J. McClelland, and R. W. Baker. Many also gave refreshments. One hundred and eight players competed.
Winners:- Ladies: 1 Mrs. Jordan, 2 Miss Burton, 3 Mrs. Withers; hidden number, Miss Falkner.
Gentlemen: 1 Mr. W. H. Powling, 2 Mr. Stafford Smith, 3 Mr. W. Church; hidden number, Mr. A. Harris
- 1916 - Feb 12 **The Institute** - After defraying all expenses, £6 has been paid into the Institute funds from the recent whist drive and dance. This is very gratifying to the Committee and members.
- Church Services** - Owing to recent events, evensong was taken on Sunday afternoon instead of at the usual time, 6.30. This course will be continued at present.
- A Jumble Sale**, promoted by Mrs. Burn, was held at the Institute on Wednesday week, to obtain funds for buying materials for the Red Cross work. Excellent articles were sent, the majority being sold, and about fifteen guineas was realised.
- 1916 - Mar 4 **Vegetable Show** - At a recent meeting in the Parish-room, presided over by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., it was decided to hold a second annual vegetable show, in August. A Committee was formed, consisting of Messrs. Faulks, J. Lee, W. Peet, O. Stacey, G. E. Steele, and H. Shillaker; secretary, Mr. J. Austin; treasurer, Miss Finch. The Committee trust that every one will try and support the movement, knowing that at a time like the present, the growing of vegetables is a necessity, and they earnestly ask all the competition to give their exhibits to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.
- Bible Society** - The annual meeting of the Langham branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held on Wednesday evening week, in the Parish-room. The Vicar, who was in the chair, referred to the excellent work done by this Society, and introduced the deputation, the Rev. E. B. Nickisson, Vicar of Renhold, Bedford, who referred to what the Bible Society is doing for prisoners in our country, and stated that there was a Bible, prayer and hymn book in every cell in all prisons in the United Kingdom.
- The distribution of the Scriptures amongst our soldiers and sailors, and, in fact, all those taking part in this great war, was then described, and mention was made of the fact that over three million copies of New Testaments, Gospels, &c., had been printed in thirty different languages, and sent, to twelve different countries in connection with the war. He also spoke of the work among the heathen in Central Africa. Mr. R. Healy, of Oakham, the indefatigable secretary, read the amounts from the boxes:- Miss S. Hubbard 6s 11d., Miss C. E. Hubbard 5s, 5d., Mr. Arthur Conder 4s. 6d., Miss Mary Harris 4s., Miss Emily Prince 3s. 11d., Master John Feet 2s 1½d. Subscriptions collected by the local hon. secretary, Miss C. E. Hubbard, with 5s. taken at the meeting, £3 6s. 4d., against £5 0s. 1½d. last year. A very cordial vote of thanks was passed to both speaker and Chairman. Miss C. E. Hubbard kindly accompanied the hymns. The success of the Society in this district is in a great measure due to the hard work done by Mr. R. Healy.
- 1916 - Apl 6 **In Memoriam** - Evensong tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon at 3 o'clock will take the form of a memorial service for the late Sergt. Thompson.
- Barleythorpe - Annual Parish Meeting** was held on Wednesday week, Mr. W. Watchorn presiding. Mr. Watchorn was again elected chairman, and he with Mr. W. S. Sharpe, were reappointed Overseers of the poor. Mr. W. S. Sharpe was also appointed to represent the parish on the Oakham Burial Joint Committee. The Overseers' and Burial Accounts were laid before the meeting.
- Sergt. E. Thompson, Leicester** - It is with sincere regret we record the death of Sergt. E. Thompson, Leicestershire Regiment (T.F.), in action, which took place on March 10th, The official news was received by his parents in Langham, on Saturday last. The deceased, who was a fine specimen of a soldier, had been through some very heavy engagements, and earned the highest praise both from his officers and comrades. Both Major Beasley and Lieut. Bloor have written most sympathetic letters to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, saying they had not only lost a soldier but a friend, who was always ready and to be thoroughly depended upon. The late Sergt. Thompson was acting as Sergeant-Major at the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had so many letters and expressions of sympathy that they wish to thank their many friends for their kindness in their great trial.
- 1916 - Apl 29 **The Easter Vestry Meeting** was held on Monday evening, in the school room, the Vicar, the Rev W. A. Mandall, M.A., presiding. Also present were Messrs. Owen H. Smith, R. Steel, T. Swingle, G. Ruddle, Sergt. R. G. Isaac, J. Austin, R. Revell, R. W. Baker, H. Shillaker, T. O. Rouse, W. Smith, T. Weston, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. W. Watchorn, Miss Finch, and others. The Vicar again nominated Mr. Owen Smith as his warden, and Mr. Reuben Steel was unanimously re-elected parish warden. The sides-men were re-elected en bloc. Votes of thanks were given to

the Churchwardens, choir, choirmaster, bell-ringers, Sunday School teachers, and the auditor (Sergt. Isaac), for their services during the past year. Colonel Dawson and Mr. Swingler were again chosen as lay representatives to the Rural-decanal Conference. The Vicar said he wished to start a men's Guild for the purpose of keeping the Churchyard and other things in order. He thanked those present for attending that meeting; he was pleased to see them so interested in Church work. Mr. Baker said this was the Vicar's first vestry meeting in Langham, and he was sure they all hoped he would be there for many more. The Vicar briefly returned thanks.

1916 - May 6 **A Whist Drive**, promoted by Mrs. W. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, for funds to obtain materials for garments for the wounded, was held on Thursday evening week, in the Institute. The following kindly gave prizes :- Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Burn (2), Mrs. Selby-Bigge (2), Mrs. Blair (2), Mrs. Ruddle, Messrs. C. Matkin, Owen H. Smith and W. Watchorn. A good number of players competed, and the winners were :-

Ladies 1, Miss Wright 2, Mrs. A. Harris 3, Mrs. S. Smith 4, Miss Dawson 5, Miss Fountain consolation Miss Earp
Gentlemen 1, Mr. A. Thompson 2, Mr. E. Byrom 3, Mrs. Berridge (as gentleman) 4, Mr. G. E. Steele 5, Rev. W. A. Mandall consolation, Mr. A. E. Green

Mrs. Watchorn thanks those who gave prizes and refreshments, and all who helped in the arrangements.

1916 - May 13 **Gallantry** - A card, forwarded by Pte. Ronald E. Shuttlewood, who is fighting at the front, was received yesterday week by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Shuttlewood, as follows:- "XVII Division, 3,850 Private R. E. Shuttlewood, 52nd Machine Gun Co. Your name has been brought to the notice of the Major-General commanding the 17th Division for gallantry on 1st March, 1916. F. Mumford, Colonel, AA. and Q.M.G., 17th Division." It is not only gratifying to his parents to receive this news, but it is a great honour to the village, as this brave lad only attained his 17th year in September last.

1916 - May 14 A Very enjoyable whist drive in aid of the Cricket Club was held in the Institute on Thursday evening week, seventy-two players taking part. The prize-winners were :- Ladies 1 Mr. T. Munday, Mr. T. J. Walker (both playing as ladies), 3 Mrs. A. Harris, Mr. A. Steel (lady). Gentlemen - 1 Mr. A. E. Roberts, 2 Mr. G. Arnold 3 Mr. B. Hayes, 4 Mr. W. Skidmore. The Committee wish to thank those who provided the prizes, viz, Messrs G Ruddle, G. Aldridge, W. Watchorn, B. Williamson, Owen H. Smith, D. Tidd, and R. W. Baker; also Mrs. Dawson, Mrs Ruddle, Mrs. J. Smith, Mrs. Squires. Miss Hollinghead, G. Aldridge, and Mr. H. J. Hubbard, for their kindness in contributing the refreshments.

1916 - May 27 **Campanology** - To celebrate Empire Day, a quarter peal, consisting of 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, was rung on Wednesday evening, by H. Shillaker treble, R. W. Baker 2, Curtis Williamson 3, G. Towell 4, W. E. Higgs 5 (conductor), T. Clarke tenor. Time 45 minutes. Messrs. W. E. Higgs and G. Towell hail from Oakham.

Empire Day was celebrated in great form by the School children. At nine o'clock a procession was formed, headed by a contingent of the village Boy Scouts, and the Girl Guides, with flags. The village was paraded, and on arriving in the new playground, the flag was saluted, and the National Anthem and Rule Britannia were sung. The children were in charge of Mr. and Mrs. McClelland, and their correct marching showed great care had been taken with their training. Before the children were dismissed, the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, addressed them, and said it was the first time they had been asked to celebrate Empire Day. He was very glad to see them all so keen. He wished them not only to think of England, but also of our Colonies, Canada, Australia, and others, without whose willing help we could not have done what we have in the present crisis.

We must all be proud to belong to this vast Empire, and every child present should say to itself, "*I must try and grow up to make myself a good subject and citizen; my duty as I grow older must be to keep the old flag flying, and prove myself worthy of the great Empire to which I have the honour to belong.*" The children were very kindly entertained to tea in the Old Hall garden by Lord and Lady Ranksborough, Miss Finch, Mr. Owen Smith, Mr. Ruddle, and Colonel and Mrs. Dawson. Sports followed, Colonel Dawson providing the prizes. The Vicar and Mr. and Mrs. McClelland gave valuable assistance.

1916 - Jun 17 **In Memoriam** - Evensong tomorrow (Sunday), in the Parish Church will take the form of a memorial service for the late Lord Kitchener and Pte. Sidney Albert Stimpson.

Pte. Sidney Albert Stimpson - a native of this village, who nobly gave his life for his country in the recent naval battle on the North Sea. The sad official news was received from the Admiralty by his stepfather, Mr. E. Bryant, last week, that every one on board the "Black Prince," the deceased's ship, unfortunately went down with her. The deceased, who had lost both his parents, was only 19 years of age. He joined the Navy in the autumn of 1914, and was always a well-behaved, bright lad.

1916 - Jun 24 **Volunteers** - At a meeting in the Institute on Thursday week, Mr. Ruddle in the chair, it was decided to form a platoon of the 1st Batt. Rutland Volunteer Regiment. Several members were enrolled, and drill will shortly commence in Mr. W. Royce's field, kindly lent for the purpose.

Accidents - Willie Potter, a boarded-out lad under the poor-law, who resides with Miss Walker, had the misfortune while at play near the School to fracture his left arm on Monday morning. He is progressing favourably. Mr. Tom Faulks, who was knocked down by a beast on Sunday morning, is not so badly hurt as was feared at first. He was very much bruised and shaken.

A Memorial Service was held on Sunday evening in the Parish Church for the late Lord Kitchener and Private Sidney Albert Stimpson, Royal Marine L.I. a native of this village. There was a large congregation. A part of the burial service was read by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., who also preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon. Special psalms and hymns were sung, and the bells were rung half-muffled.

Baptist Chapel - The Sunday School anniversary services were held on Sunday. Two excellent and interesting sermons were preached by Miss Ruth Storer, the Yorkshire Evangelist, and the building was crowded, both afternoon and evening. Special hymns were sung by the scholars. On Monday evening, Miss Ruth Storer related to a large congregation "The Second Part of My Life Story," which was listened to with great interest and was much enjoyed. The collections were very good.

1916 - Jul 8

The Feast - The usual services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., preached two excellent sermons, the congregation in the evening being very large. Well-known psalms and hymns were sung, the services being very hearty. Great pains had been taken with the choir by Sergt. R. G. Isaac, the choirmaster, ably assisted by Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., as organist. The usual custom of strewing the Church with hay was observed. There were no cricket matches in the week, as most of the young men are away. The only excitement for the juveniles is a set of roundabouts. Evidence points out every year that "feasts" are getting things of the past.

Boy Scouts - On Thursday afternoon week, the first Oakham B.P. Boy Scouts, numbering eighty, paraded in Oakham Market Place under Scoutmaster T. Robins, and marched to Langham, proceeding to "Ranksborough," where an inspection was held by Lord Ranksborough. His Lordship was very pleased with the boys, and afterwards complimented them very highly on their smartness, &c., and strongly urged upon them the necessity of strictly carrying out the scout law. The boys then partook of tea, which an advanced party (under Leader Alf Robins) had prepared for them. After an enjoyable outing, the troops left Langham shortly after eight on their homeward journey. The steadiness in marching and general turnout of the boys created a great impression, to which the excellent bugle band contributed in no small degree.

1916 - Jul 15

R.V.R. - The members who have joined the Langham platoon of the 1st Battalion, Rutland Volunteer Regiment were sworn in on Tuesday evening in the Institute by Lord Ranksborough.

Soldiers' Comforts - From the proceeds of the jumble sale and whist drive, organised respectively by Mrs. Burn and Mrs. Watchorn, materials were obtained and many willing helpers of this village and Barleythorpe have converted them into 35 pairs of socks, 50 flannel under vests, 8 night shirts, and 46 day shirts. Many of these have been sent to the men serving at the front from both villages, some to the Hambleton Hospital, and others elsewhere. Those who have so kindly assisted will be amply repaid by the thought that they have somewhat comforted the brave lads who are fighting our battles.

1916 - Jul 29

In Memoriam - Evensong tomorrow (Sunday) in the Parish Church will take the form of a memorial service for the late Private Harry Cole.

Musical Success - At the recent School examination at Peterborough in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, the following pupils of Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., were successful in pianoforte playing, in the lower division, with distinction Miss Louisa Thurman (Knossington), primary division, pass; Master Thomas Isaac (Langham).

Private Harry Cole, of the Manchester Regiment, a native of Langham, was killed in action on July 1st. The sad official news was received by his widowed mother, Mrs. H. Cole, on Saturday morning. Her three other sons are serving in France. The deceased was for some time in the employ of Lord Ranksborough. He had served five years in the Territorial Force, and joined the Manchester's in November, 1914. Always a bright and popular lad, he was unsurpassed as a dutiful and affectionate son. He was a nephew of Mr. F. Cole, the well known Exton trainer.

1916 - Aug 12

The School has broken up for the summer vacation.

The Church Sunday School Treat was held on Thursday afternoon week. The children were invited to Mr. R. Watchorn's grounds at Teigh, where they were kindly conveyed by Mrs. John Smith and Mr. Hollingshead, with the addition of a brake. The whole outing was well arranged and superintended by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, assisted by several teachers. Mr. and Mrs. R. Watchorn are heartily thanked for making the visit such a success. The children happily reached home without any mishaps, after thoroughly enjoying themselves.

1916 - Aug 26

The news of the death of Gunner Percy Albert Smith (Dick), a native of Langham, reached his mother, Mrs. Arthur Wright, at the end of last week. He left the employ of Mr. W. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, to join the Leicester County Police Force, and volunteering for active service he was sent to France in January last. He was attached to a Howitzer battery. His mother has received many sympathetic letters, one from the chaplain who buried him, which states that deceased was struck by a shell in the body, and died almost immediately. Another letter from the Chief Constable of Leicestershire (Mr. E. Holmes) says :- "During the two years your son was a member of the Force his conduct was excellent. He won the respect of all who knew him, and I was very proud to have him. All his comrades in the force deeply regret his loss." This brave young soldier was twenty-five years of age, and his many friends have the consolation that he died like a brave man at his post of duty."

Vegetable Show - The cottagers' second annual, vegetable show was held on Thursday afternoon week, in a field kindly lent by Mr. Owen Smith, of Langham House. The quality of the exhibits was excellent, and the attendance fairly good, considering the heavy downpour. Messrs. Dalby and Hetterley, of Oakham, were the judges, and their awards were as follows:-

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Round white potatoes	J. Rowett	W. Peet	C. Williamson.
Kidney white potatoes	J. Rowett	H. Shillaker	C. Casterton.
Round coloured potatoes	E. Bryant	A. Wright	P. Williamson.
Kidney coloured potatoes	T. Faulks	C. Williamson	H. Shillaker.
Peas	Burdett	E. Bryant	W. Williamson.
Kidney beans	C. Casterton	P. Williamson	T. Faulks.
Broad beans	D. Burdett	G. Burdett	A. Wright.
Carrots	W Williamson	G. Harris	G. Burdett.
Spring sown onions	A. Wright	T. Faulks	Mrs. Prince.
Vegetable marrow's	C. Casterton	A. Wright	W. Williamson.
Shallots	C. Casterton	D. Burdett	W Williamson.
White turnips			C. Williamson.
Cabbage	G. Burdett	W. Peet	E. Bryant.
Cauliflower	P. Williamson	E. Bryant	T. Faulks.
Rhubarb	E. Bryant	C. Williamson	A. Wright.
Tray of vegetables	W. Williamson	G. Burdett	J. Rowett.
Cooked potatoes	Mrs. G. Harris	Mrs. B. Steel	Mrs. Rowett.
Allotments - One rood	C. Casterton	G. Burdett	
Half-rood	E. Bryant	G Veasey	

The arrangements were well carried out by the Committee, who are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts.

1916 - Sept 9

Barleythorpe - Wounded - Official news was received yesterday week by Mr. J. Breakspear that his eldest son, Sergt. J. W. Breakspear, of the Lincoln's, had again been wounded, making the third time. Mr. Breakspear has two other sons serving. Sergt. Breakspear sent home last week one of Princess Mary's boxes which had been sent out by her in 1914. He picked it up recently in one of the first line German trenches. It had no doubt been taken from a British prisoner in the first instance.

	LANGHAM	OAKHAM
	S. Haigh.	T. Pollard,
	W. Church,	W. S. Woodcock,
	J. C. Bernick	B. Strickland
	Rev. W. A. Mandall,	J. W. Lidgett,
	G. E. Steele,	G. Appleton,
	W. P. Royce	G. Phillips
	D. Tidd,	G. Peasgood,
	S. J. Fowler,	Lt. Vollam,
	G. Ruddle	J. E. Whitehouse
	W. Colbourne.	R. Corney,
	3. McClelland,	R. Crawford,
	R. W. Baker	E. Stimson
	Totals	

1916 - Sept 16

In Memoriam - Evensong, tomorrow (Sunday) at 6.30 will take the form of a memorial service for the fallen heroes who went from this parish and Barleythorpe.

Tennis Tournament - The children's tennis tournament, promoted by Mrs. Ruddle to obtain funds for socks and pillowcases for the Graylingwell War Hospital, Chichester, has been played, after postponement owing to the wet weather. The following were the winners:-

1st Miss H. Dawson and Master Stretton Dixon; 2nd, Miss V. Clark and Master Eddie Dawson; consolation, Miss Joan Ruddle and Master A. Selby Bigge. The tournament took place in the garden at Harewood House and was well contested. There were twenty entries.

The prizes were given by Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Ruddle, and Dr. Clapperton. £3 8s. was obtained for the Hospital, in which Mrs. Ruddle has been nursing for some time.

1916 - Sept 23

The Institute - The adjourned annual general meeting was held on Monday evening. Regret was unanimously expressed that the genial President, the Earl of Lonsdale, was unable to preside as usual. Present at the meeting were:- Messrs. G. Ruddle (Hon. Treasurer), G. E. Steele (Hon. Secretary), Joe Edgson, W. Church (Barleythorpe), G. Aldridge, W. P. Royce, T. Weston, J. McClelland, H. E. Hubbard, R. W. Baker, D. Tidd, and T. Burdett. The chair was taken by Mr. Baker, who called upon the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer for their reports, which were accepted, and a hearty vote of thanks passed for their interest and trouble. Votes of thanks were given to Mr. Baker for auditing the accounts, and to Mr. McClelland for printing copies of the balance-sheet, The same officers were re-elected for the ensuing year with three new members on the Committee, Messrs. T. Weston, Joe Edgson, and Rev. W. A. Mandall, in the place of two resigned and one, Sergt. J. Casterton, whose death in action was keenly felt by all.

1916 - Oct 7

Bainton Poor Estate - Owing to the heavy, though necessary, expenditure in repairing the roofs, &c., on this property, the participators in Langham of the annual dole derived from this source will, unfortunately this year find their share much curtailed.

Wounded - Mr. and Mrs. George Harris have just received news that their second son, Pte. George Harris, of the Leicester's, has again been wounded. This brave lad, who is only twenty-one, was wounded and buried in a dugout about a year ago, in the battle of Loos. This time, he was blown into the air by a shell, besides being shot in the right leg, on September 26th. He is now in hospital abroad.

Rutland Volunteers - At a Committee meeting, in the Institute, on Monday evening, Mr. R. W. Baker presiding, it was decided to allow the use of the large room one night per week during the winter months to the Langham Contingent for drills, &c., in return for which the members have promised to hold a whist drive later on for the benefit of the Institute Funds.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held in the Baptist Chapel on Thursday evening week. There was a large congregation, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. D. H. Jenkins, of Leicester. The building was very tastefully decorated, and a sale subsequently took place of the fruit, flowers, &c., which, with the collection, realised a good sum. The services were continued on Sunday, when sermons were preached afternoon and evening by Mr. Bruce, of Melton Mowbray, to crowded congregations. The amount obtained on Thursday and at these services was divided between the Leicester Royal Infirmary and Chapel Funds.

1916 - Oct 14 **The Harvest Thanksgiving Services** were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. The sermon in the morning was preached by the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., Vicar, and in the afternoon the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. G. E. Britten, Vicar of Somerby, who preached an excellent sermon to a large congregation. Special hymns and psalms were used and the anthem, "Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem," was well sung by the choir. The sale of fruit and vegetables, with which the fine old edifice had been so tastefully decorated, was held on Monday evening, the proceeds of which, with half the collections, will enable Mr. R. Steel to forward £8 9s. 0d. to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

1916 - Oct 28 **Barleythorpe** - The Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., Vicar of Langham and Barleythorpe, held a short service by request at the Manor Farm, on Sunday evening, which was well attended, the congregation greatly enjoying the service and address. This may be the forerunner of more of these services, as some of the parishioners are not able to travel the distance to the neighbouring Churches.

National Mission - The Rev. H. V. Williams, who has been addressing meetings in Langham, held two meetings here on Thursday and Friday afternoon week. The first was held at the Manor Farm in a room generously provided by Mr. W. Watchorn, which was crowded to excess. The Earl of Lonsdale kindly allowed the use of the large mess-room in the stable-yard for the Friday meeting. Suitable arrangements were made by Mr. G. Underwood, and the place was full, not only of villagers and stablemen, but of many from Langham and Witham. Very interesting and powerful addresses were given, which were attentively listened to. The singing of the special hymns was very hearty.

National Mission - The meetings of the National Mission were held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday week, with a very gratifying and successful result. There were administrations of Holy Communion, and services for women and girls, all of which were largely attended. The evening services (held in the school room, which was crowded each night) were greatly enjoyed the "messenger" being the Rev. H. V. Williams, curate of Hugglescote, whose brilliant and eloquent addresses (of which he gave seventeen in the neighbourhood) held everyone spellbound. The Church choir attended, and the well-known hymns used were heartily joined in by all.

1916 - Nov 4 **Mothers' Union** - On Wednesday week, a service was held in the Parish Church by the Rev. W. A. Mandall for the members of the Mothers' Union, after which they were kindly entertained to tea in the Institute by Miss Finch. The mothers much enjoyed some dancing, also the recitations and songs by Miss Matthias (Greatham), Miss Braddle, and the Girls' Friendly Society.

Special Constables - Two of the county magistrates, Mr. E. Hanbury and Mr. W. L. Sargant, attended at the Institute on Monday evening for swearing in a further number of special constables. The following made the declaration :- The Rev. W. A. Mandall, Messrs. G. Harris, J. Rudkin, H. Segrott, J. Austin, W. E. Crane, R. Barrie, G. Arnold, J. Edgson, A. W. Humphrey, W. Smith, W. Edgson, R. H. Faulks, and P. B. Harris. At the close Mr. Hanbury said he was very pleased to see such a large number present, he thought it was very good of so many to attend.

Barleythorpe Wounded - News has been received by J. Breakspear, foreman for Mr. W. Watchorn, that his second son Pte. Alfred Breakspear, Lincolnshire Regiment, was wounded on October 23rd, but is getting on well. He is in hospital in Norfolk. This is the second time Alf has been wounded. Mr. Breakspear's eldest son, Sergt. J. W. Breakspear, who has been wounded three times, is again gallantly taking his part, in the fighting line.

Missing - Official news was received on Wednesday by Mr. and Mrs. W. Skillett that the youngest of four sons serving at the front, Rifleman George Skillett, K.R.R. had been reported missing between the 3rd and 10th of last month. Though only very young, the lad was an excellent shot, and had not been out long. He was always a bright intelligent youth, and very popular. He was employed for some time in the Langham Brewery office. The sympathy of his many friends goes out to his parents.

1916 - Nov 18 **Piscatorial** - While fishing in some local water, on Tuesday morning, Mr. R. W. Baker captured a pike weighing 9lbs. 5oz., and measuring 35 inches in length.

Promotion - Corpl. T. W. Munday has been promoted to Sergeant. He is giving instruction in a Midland camp in machine gunnery. This promotion is all the more deserving, as it has been earned not only by keenness, but by a thorough study of machine gun work.

A Very Enjoyable Whist Drive was held on Thursday evening week, in the Institute, to obtain funds for the Langham Platoon of the Volunteer Battalion. Ninety-two players took part. Winners:- Ladies : 1 Mrs. Dawson (Burley), 2 Mrs. E. Royce, 3 Mrs. Underwood (Oakham).

Gentlemen: 1 Mr. F. Pawlett, 2 Master T. Isaac; 3 Sergt. T. W. Munday.

Thanks are due to the donors of prizes, viz., Messrs. G. Ruddle, J. McClelland, D. Tidd, W. P. Royce, T. Weston, and R. W. Baker, and also to those Who so kindly provided refreshments. Mr. Royce very ably acted as timekeeper. Lord Ranksborough very generously contributed £5 towards the funds.

Soldiers' Comforts - As a result of the house-to-house collection in Langham and Barleythorpe, kindly undertaken by Mrs. Simmons, Miss Sewell, Messrs. J. Lee and R. Steel, to which has been added the balance left from last December, the sum realised is about £25 10s., which is to be spent in sending a Christmas parcel to each soldier serving from these parishes. At a meeting of the Parcels Committee, on Monday evening, the Vicar in the chair, it was decided that every man should have a parcel equivalent to that sent twelve months ago.

The Committee urge upon parents and friends the necessity of sending in the men's addresses to the Vicarage as soon as possible. Further subscriptions are still needed. During the collecting, refusals to subscribe towards a little happiness for our brave lads were few and far between.

1916 - Nov 25

Death of Mr. Harris - The death of Mr. A. Harris took place on Wednesday morning, at Ilam, Derbyshire. Deceased, who had lived and occupied land in this parish for many years, went to Ilam some time ago, although not well at the time, to the funeral of his brother, after which he was taken worse, and was not able to return home. He passed away peacefully in his sleep. Every sympathy is felt for the widow in her bereavement.

1916 - Dec 2

"Missing" - Official news was received last week that Pte. W. Thorpe had been missing since October 26th.

Soldiers' Comforts - As more funds are needed to enable the Parcels' Committee to send the usual Christmas gifts to the men who are obeying their country's call, the Institute Committee have arranged for a whist drive to be held, the funds to be given to this worthy cause. Gifts of refreshments will be welcomed.

Pte. Wm. Thorpe, of Langham, of the Royal Sussex Regiment, has been reported missing since Oct. 26th. The sad news was received last week by his grandmother, Mrs. Ellen Thorpe, by whom he was brought up. Pte. Thorpe, who is only 22 years of age, was employed by Mr. Edwin Mantle, of Langham, before enlisting in the autumn of last year. Always of a bright and respectful disposition, it is no wonder he was very popular, and his many friends join in their sympathy with his relatives.

1916 - Dec 9

Soldiers' Comforts - As a wish had been expressed by many parishioners that a public meeting should be held to talk over the arrangements of the above, one was, accordingly, called on Tuesday evening, in the school room, but only about a dozen, beside the Committee, attended. The Rev. W. A. Mandall took the chair, and it was unanimously resolved that the Committee go forward with the good work.

Demise - We regret to announce the death of Mr. W. Colbourne, who has represented the Langham Brewery for the past eighteen years. He, unfortunately, took a chill on Thursday week, which turned to severe influenza, with complications and he passed away early on Wednesday morning, in his 53rd year, Deceased, who was widely known, was very highly respected for his integrity and straightforward dealings.

He proved a very able hon. secretary for the Langham branch of the National Conservative League; he was also one of the first to join the local Volunteer Corps, and acted as a special constable. The deceased was a very practical and successful fisherman, being a prominent member of the Oakham "Jolly Anglers" Society, winning many prizes from time to time besides which he won outright the challenge cup given by the late Mayor Parry. He leaves a widow and one son, who have the sincere sympathy of a wide circle of friends. The funeral takes place today (Saturday).

1916 - Dec 16

A Lecture was announced to be given in the Institute on Monday evening by Mrs. M. A. Manton, of Burley, on the subject, "The War and Almighty God," but, as only about half-a-dozen people attended, the lecture was postponed, and the money returned.

Whist Drive - A very enjoyable whist drive was held in the Institute on Thursday evening week, the proceeds to be devoted towards the Soldiers' Parcels Fund. Owing to counter attractions, the attendance was not quite up to the usual standard. However, sixty players competed for the prizes, kindly given by Mrs. W. Watchorn, Sergt. T. W. Munday, Rev. W. A. Mandall, Messrs. J. Edgson, R. T. Stevens, and H. E. George. Winners :-

Ladies:- 1 Miss Thorpe (Oakham), 2 Master T. Isaac, 3 Master C. Davenport (the two latter playing as ladies).

Gentlemen:- 1 Sergt. R. G. Isaac, 2 Mr. G. Underwood (Oakham), equal 3 Mons. Antoine, and Messrs. R. W. Baker and J. Thompson (the last-named winning in cutting). The Committee thank all who so kindly provided refreshments.

Funeral - The remains of the late Mr. W. Colbourne were laid quietly to rest in the churchyard on Saturday. The service was impressively read by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, and the hymns, "Peace, perfect peace" and "Thy Will be done" were sung in Church. In attendance on the bier were four of the brewery employees. The mourners were as follows :- Mrs. Colbourne (widow), Mr. B. Colbourne, Newmarket (brother), and Mrs. Colbourne, Mr. J. Alderwood (brother-in-law), Mrs. Banner, Mrs. Tillyer (sister-in-law), Miss Alderwood, and Miss Nora Alderwood (nieces). In addition were Mr. and Mrs. Ruddle, four officers of the Oakham Volunteer Corps, Messrs. G. T. Sills, F. W. Nichols, R. Dalgliesh, and W. Woodcock, were present in uniform, and there also were present Messrs. W. H. Powling, C. Dale, J. C. Kernick, G. Simmons, H. E. Hubbard, J. McClelland, W. P. Royce, R. W. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Steele, Mrs. F. Needham, Mrs. A. Butcher, Mrs. E. Royce, and many others. There were many beautiful floral tributes from the following:- From Wife and Son; Dad and the Girls; Brother and Sister; Bert and Edie; Walter and Fanny; Mabel, Nora, and Jim; Jim and Becky; Mr. and Mrs. Beedle and Dolly (Newmarket); Peggy (Peterborough); Mr. and Mrs. Ruddle; the Brewery Staff; Colonel and Mrs. Dawson; Eddy, Judy, and Andy Dawson; King's Head Anglers; Mr. and Mrs. Osborn and

Family; Mr. and Mrs. Falkner (Ilston-on-the-Hill) ; Mrs. F. Needham (Oakham); Mr. and Mrs. A. Butcher (Oakham).

The Annual Meeting of the Sick and Dividing Club was held last week at the Wheat Sheaf Inn. This Club which is only in its infancy, has a large increase in its membership. Fifty-seven adult members received 10s. each, and five juvenile members 5s. each, a balance being carried forward of £4 1s. 4d. £8 8s. had been paid out to sick members during the year. Mr. G. E. Steele is an able president, with the valuable assistance of Mr. W. Peet as hon. sec.

1917 - Jan 13

Whist Drive - The annual whist drive, promoted by Mrs. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, in aid of the Leicester Royal Infirmary, was held in the Institute, on Thursday evening week, and proved quite a record success. One hundred and fifty-six competed for the sixteen prizes, which were kindly presented by Mrs. Dawson, of the Old Hall.

Winners :- Ladies : 1 Mrs. Reeves, 2 Mrs. Peasgood, 3 Mrs. Dennis, 4 Miss Nixon. 5 Miss Pitt, 6 Miss Hibbitt, hidden number Mrs. Page, booby Mrs. Skillett.

Gentlemen : 1 Mr. J. McClelland, 2 M. Hanssens, 3 Mr. J. C. Crowe, 4 Mr. G. E. Steele, 5 Mr. Croft, 6 Mr. Cook, booby Mr. A. Dexter. The following very kindly gave prizes :- Messrs. Freeman, Hardy, and Willis, Hassan, Hayes Bros., Boston and Jackson. Chambers Bros., W. H. Smith and Son, E. J. Whitehouse, J. Shucksmith (Stamford), C. Matkin, W. H. Ellingworth. H. W. Pye, W. W. Roberts, Mrs. J. Knight, Miss Davies, Miss Halliday, and Mrs. F. Sharpe. Several pounds of tea were sent by Mr. Owen H. Smith, and pheasants by the Earl of Lonsdale, whilst many subscriptions were received, including a cheque for £1 1s. from Lord Ranksborough, Refreshments were freely given from all sources. The receipts amounted to £19 13s. 8½d., expenses £1 2s. 8½d. A cheque has been forwarded to the Secretary of the Leicester Royal Infirmary for the handsome sum of £18 11s. Mrs. Watchorn wishes to sincerely thank the many who supported her.

1917 - Jan 20

Whist Drive - Mrs. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, has received the intimation from the Secretary of the Leicester Royal Infirmary that, at a recent Committee meeting, the following resolution was carried : "That the cordial thanks of the Governors be conveyed to Mrs. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, for her great kindness for once again organising a whist drive at Langham for the funds of the Infirmary, from which the large sum of £18 11s. 0d. has been raised, and that a record be placed upon these minutes of the Governors' appreciation of the splendid help which has for some years been forthcoming from Langham and district, largely through the interest of Mrs. Watchorn and her friends."

Demise - We regret to record the death of Mr. Stephen Leaver, of Ranksborough, which took place on Tuesday week, in Oakham Cottage Hospital. The deceased, who was in her [his] 47th year, was just recovering from a severe attack of influenza when double pneumonia set in, with the above result. The late Mr. Leaver had been in the service of Lord Ranksborough altogether about twenty-five years, and had proved himself a faithful and confidential servant, performing many minor secretarial duties for his Lordship, apart from his ordinary routine. The funeral took place on Saturday. The widow, unfortunately, was too prostrated to attend, The remains were followed by Mr. and Mrs. Bowlzer (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mrs. John Bowlzer (sister-in-law), and several of the house servants.

Amongst the many who attended in the Church were Lord Ranksborough, Messrs. Sills, P. C. Nichols, S. Dalglish, P. W. Nichols, and G. Ruddle, officers of Rutland V.D.C., of which the deceased was a very keen member. A beautiful wreath was sent by the house, servants. Every sympathy is felt for the widow, who is left with three boys, aged respectively 11 years, 4 years, and 17 months.

1917 - 3 Feb

Leicester Royal Infirmary - The enthusiasm of the residents of Langham and district for the funds of the Infirmary is again exemplified by a contribution of, £3 8s. 9d., the result of the annual collection in Langham by Mrs. G. Burdett. This, following on the proceeds of the recent whist drive arranged by Mrs. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, from which the record sum of £18 11s. 0d. was raised, speaks well for the generosity of the inhabitants.

Social Evening in connection with the Church choir, instead of the usual supper, was held in the Institute, yesterday (Friday) evening week. About 60 were present, including many relations and friends of the members. Ample arrangements had been made by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, and the choirmaster, Sergt. R. G. Isaac, with Mrs. Isaac superintending the refreshment department, which gave every satisfaction. Mr. Barnett played for dancing, "musical chairs," &c., and Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., kindly accompanied the songs by Messrs. G. Gale, J. Brakespear, and R. W. Baker. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

1917 - Mar 3

Military Medal - Mrs. Prince, of this village, received the following official message on Feb. 24th :- The 1st Anzac Corps Commander has awarded the Military Medal to C. W. Prince, R.F.A., for the following act of bravery:- On Jan. 31st, 1917, whilst under heavy shell fire and in extreme danger, assisting his Commanding Officer in extinguishing a fire which broke out on an anti-aircraft gun lorry (caused by a shell bursting ten feet away), and in removing live rounds of ammunition to a place of safety. Their cool behaviour and prompt action saved the complete destruction of the gun lorry and some 800 rounds of ammunition, some of which were actually exploded. (Signed) W. N. Adams, Captain, R.F.A. (T.), for O.C. "O" Anti-aircraft Battery. Needless to say, every one in Langham is proud of This brave young soldier, who is well under 20 years of age. He was employed by Lord Ranksborough for some time before he was called up. His mother has received many hearty congratulations on her sons noble example.

1917 - Mar 10

The Church - Commencing tomorrow, evensong will begin at six o'clock.

Demise - In connection with the death of Mr. Leonard Sharman, which took place recently, aged 61, it may be stated that the Sharman family have occupied land under the Earl of Gainsborough in this parish for over sixty years. Mr. John Sharman died some years ago, and the farm has been carried on by the deceased and his brother, Mr. George Sharman, who finds now that he

is unable to continue the business single-handed. The late Mr. Leonard Sharman was much respected by all who knew him.

Bible Society - The annual meeting of the Langham Branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held on Monday. The Vicar, Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., who presided, spoke of the good work done in distant lands as well as amongst soldiers and sailors, and said the Society deserved the prayers and sympathy of all Christian people. Miss A. G. Hubbard (at present residing in Langham), a missionary at Tetuan in connection with the North African Mission, spoke of the great dependence of this mission on the Bible Society for the supply of the necessary Scriptures for the natives. She had been working there for 25 years, and the need for the supply of God's Word was very great in those parts. The deputation, the Rev. E. E. Nickisson, Vicar of Stagsden, Bedford, specially dwelt on the excellent work done amongst the soldiers and sailors, and referred to two or three cases of officers and men whose lives ' had been definitely transformed by reading some of; the Testaments and Gospels distributed by the Society. In conclusion, he made every earnest appeal for funds for the Society which is in great need of help. The accounts were read by the corresponding secretary, Mr. R. Healy, Oakham, as follows :- Boxes, Miss Mary Harris 3s. 10d., Miss C. E. Hubbard 4s. 6½d., Miss S. Hubbard 11s. 8d., Miss Emily Prince 2s. 9d., Master J. Peet 2s. 4½d., Miss Ivy Shuttlewood 5d.; total £1 5s. 7d. Subscriptions collected by Miss C. E. Hubbard £4 7s. 1d., against £3 14s. 6d. last year. The collection at the meeting realised 12s. 7½d., making a total of £6 5s. 3½d., against £5 7s. 4½d. last year. Mr. R. Healy, of Oakham, has worked extremely hard for the Society and his efforts have been crowned with success.

1917 - Mar 17 **Distinction** - Miss E. M. Barker, who resided in this village for some years before the war broke out, has been mentioned "for valuable services in connection with the war." Miss Barker, who was a teacher in the Oakham National School was a member of the Rutland (10) V.A.D., and was one of the volunteers for hospital nursing. She has been in the 2nd Eastern General Hospital, Brighton, nearly two years, doing valuable work among the wounded. Her many friends are proud of the honour she has deservedly received.

1917 - Apl 14 **The Annual Vestry Meeting**, which was announced to be held yesterday (Friday) evening, has had to be postponed until next week.

Easter Sunday - Holy Communion was administered in the Parish Church, at 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, and after morning prayer, to a large number of communicants. At the morning service the choir sang the "Te Deum" (Woodward) and the anthem, "Let us Keep the Feast," the latter also being taken at evensong, which now commences at 6.30. The singing was very hearty. Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., ably presided at the organ, and two excellent sermons were preached by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A.

Flag Sale - £1 2s. 9d. was raised last week by selling flags by five of the Baptist Sunday School children, on behalf of the National Crusade for the Children of our Homeland and our Allies. On Sunday week, each scholar was presented with a flag, and a collection amongst them realised 3s. 9d. The children have earned well merited thanks for their enterprise. At the Good Friday service, conducted by the Rev. Paul Shipley, another 8s. 6d. was forthcoming for the above funds, making the total £1 15s. The Oakham choir assisted in the singing, and Mr. Walter Sewell contributed two solos, which were much enjoyed.

1917 - Apl 21 **Flag Day** - £2 9s. 11½. was obtained in this village for the Prisoners of War Fund. The collectors were :- Miss G. Tidd, Miss Joan Ruddle, Miss Judy Dawson, Master A. Dawson, and Miss Judy Ruddle.

Omission - In our report, last week, of the Easter services in the Parish Church, our correspondent inadvertently omitted to state that the Church was very tastefully decorated.

The Institute - The annual general meeting was to have taken place on Monday evening, but, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the president, the Earl of Lonsdale, was unable to come and preside; the meeting was, therefore, formally adjourned until early next week, to enable his Lordship, who takes such a keen interest in the welfare of this Institute, to attend.

1917 - Apl 28 **Wounded** - Official news has been received by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Taylor, of the Cottage Farm, that their son, Private Harry Taylor, was wounded on April 6th in the Persian Gulf.

Musical Success - At the recent School examination at Stamford, in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music. Miss Louisa Thurman, of Knossington, pupil of Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., successfully passed the Higher Division in pianoforte.

The Annual Vestry Meeting was held in the School on Friday evening week - The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., presided, and there were also present Mrs. Dawson Mr. and Mrs. T. Weston, Mr. and Mrs. R. Steele, Mrs. Rouse, Messrs. Owen H. Smith. G.E. Steele, G. Ruddle, W. Royce, J. Rowett, J. Sewell H. Shillaker, Sergt. R. G. Isaac, and R. W. Baker. The Vicar thanked the wardens, Messrs. O. H. Smith and R. Steele, for the work they had done in the past year. He again nominated the former as his warden, and G.E. Steele was unanimously re-elected for the parish. The Church and charities accounts were passed. The following were elected sidesmen :- Col. Dawson, Messrs. G. Aldridge. T. Rowse, T. Weston, J. Rowett, J. Lee, and John Faulks. The Vicar thanked all church workers and all those who had helped to beautify the Churchyard. Mr. Owen Smith proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the sidesmen, organist, bell ringers, choir, Sunday School teachers, magazine distributors, and all who helped in connection with the Church affairs. He particularly mentioned the good singing by the choir under the care of Sergt. R. G. Isaac. Many people who had stayed with him had been particularly struck with the singing.

Serjt. R. G. Isaac was thanked for auditing the accounts, and was reappointed.

1917 - May 5

At a Recent Scripture Examination in connection with the Leicestershire and Rutland Sunday School Union, on the subject, "The Ministry of Jesus" the ten scholars of the Langham Baptist Sunday School who entered in Class A were successful in gaining certificates. The work of two of them, John Peet and Willie Jackson, was so creditable that they were awarded prizes. Eight Schools entered in this class, but this one gained the highest position for the number of scholars competing. This success should be highly gratifying to the teachers.

May Day - Quite a welcome change was made this year in the "May bush" business. Instead of the usual doll reclining amongst the thorns of a blackthorn branch, flanked by two or three faded daffodils. Mrs. Dawson, of the Old Hall, came to the rescue and had her donkey and cart very gaily decorated with red, white and blue ribbons and flowers, with the Queen of the May, Lally Steele, seated in state and looking very becoming in her white dress and wreath. She was escorted round the village by the School girls, suitably dressed, carrying flags and singing patriotic songs. The collection was given to the Red Cross Fund. It was quite a good display, and great thanks are due to Mr. Dawson, who is ever ready to help the children in a deserving object, and it was most praiseworthy on their part, as the whole thing was their own suggestion. The sum collected in Langham and Barleythorpe was £3 8s. 8d.

The Institute - The adjourned annual meeting was held on Saturday evening, a large number of members attending, the President, the Earl of Lonsdale, presiding. The Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer's report were read and passed, the balance in hand not being quite so large as last year, owing to the increased prices of coal, etc. The officers for this year are :- President, the Earl of Lonsdale; Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. E. Steele; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. E. Ruddle. The Noble Chairman spoke of the good work done by these two officers, who had thrown their heart and soul into the working of the Institute, which had proved so successful. Votes of thanks were given to Mr. McClelland for printing copies of the balance-sheet and to Mr. R. W. Baker for auditing the accounts. The Committee were re-elected en bloc. Mr. George Gale, a soldier wounded in the retreat at Mons, and still disabled, thanked the officers on behalf of all the soldiers wounded or on leave who came into the village and had been allowed the use of the Institute free of charge: The following resolution was put to the meeting and carried with much applause :- "That the members here assembled desire to thank the Earl of Lonsdale for his many kindnesses from time to time and for the unceasing interest he takes in the welfare of this Institute." His Lordship briefly replied, and when the meeting broke up heartily shook hands with every member.

1917 - May 19

Fourteen Special Constables from this village attended the review at Oakham on Sunday last.

Wounded - News has been received by Mrs. Catherine Smith that her second son, Pte. John Henry Smith, of the Leicester's is now in hospital abroad, suffering from a wound in the right arm.

In Memoriam - Evensong in the Parish Church tomorrow (Sunday), at 6.30, will take the form of a memorial service for the late Rifleman George Skillett, of Barleythorpe, particulars of whom will appear next week.

1917 - Jun 2

The Death of Mrs. William Hubbard, wife of Mr. W. Hubbard, farmer, took place on the 20th inst. Deceased had been in somewhat indifferent health for some years, the end coming rather suddenly. She was in her 63rd year. The late Mrs. Hubbard was the fifth daughter of the late Mr. Francis Danzy Smith, of Langham. She leaves three daughters, with whom and Mr. Hubbard every sympathy is felt on the loss of one who was most highly respected. The funeral took place on Thursday week, in the churchyard, a large number of relatives and friends attending. A quantity of beautiful wreaths were sent.

1917 - Jun 23

Wounded - Mrs. H. Cole has received the news that her third son, Corpl. F. B. Cole (Manchester's), who was attached to the Machine Gun Section, has been wounded in the right leg by shrapnel, and is now in a Brighton Hospital. Mrs. Cole had her youngest son killed in July last, Pte. R. H. Cole, her second son, has been in hospital, suffering from trench legs, since the beginning of January. Her eldest son, Driver G. W. Cole, R.F.A., is still at the front. All four boys joined the colours in the autumn of 1914. This is a very creditable record for one family, and quite naturally the mother (a widow) is very proud of her brave soldier sons.

A Memorial Service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening, in memory of the late Rifleman George Skillett, of Barleythorpe, particulars of whom appear on another page. A very large congregation attended. Hymns were sung, and a very touching sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., taking for his text St. John xv., 26, "The Comforter." The "Dead March," while the congregation stood, was played by Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., before the recessional hymn. This brave young soldier was very highly respected, and was for several years a useful and regular member of the Church choir. On the war shrine in the Church had been placed a beautiful laurel wreath, with white roses, bearing a card which read, "To the memory of George Skillett, our Barleythorpe hero, who died bravely doing his duty."

War Shrine - A white cloth has been placed on the war shrine in the Parish Church. It has been most artistically worked by Miss Leah Breakspear, of Barleythorpe, and has been very much admired.

Flag Days do not appear to be "flagging," for on Saturday flags were sold here and at Barleythorpe for the benefit of the Leicester War Hospitals Committee Fund. The following collected - Miss L. Isaac 13s. 6d., Miss E. McClelland 13s., Miss M. Sutton 9s. 8d., Miss J. Ruddle 9s. 6d., Miss B. Matthew 5s. 11d., Barleythorpe, Miss J. and Master Sam Watchorn 8s. 5d. ; total, £3.

Missing - Official news was received by Mrs. W. Palmer, jun. last week, that her husband, Pte. W. Palmer, of the Leicester's, was wounded on the 3rd May, and is now missing. Pte. Palmer volunteered in the spring of 1915, and went abroad last September. He was employed by Lord Ranksborough before enlisting and was always an industrious and steady man. The sympathy of all goes out to Mrs. Palmer and her six little children.

A Bowls Match, civilians and volunteers, was played on Wednesday on Lieut. Ruddle's lawn. The former were captained by Mr. R. W. Baker, and the latter by Lieut. Ruddle, who, with Mrs. Ruddle, very kindly entertained both teams with their well known hospitality, Scores :- Military - Lieuts. F. W. Nicholls, T. Robins, and W. S. Woodcock, 22; Captain J. C. Remick, Staff Sergt. Hartopp, and Lance-Corpl. W. Moss, 27; Sergt. J. McClelland, Corpl. G. E. Steele, and Lance-Corpl. W. P. Royce, 10; Lieut. A. Barnett, Captain Hayes, and Lieut. G. Ruddle, 31; total 90.

Civilians - Messrs. D. Tidd, G. Phillips, and J. C. Barnett, 31; Messrs., R. Corney, R. Crawford, and E. Stinson, 31; Messrs., G. Simmons, W. Church, and W. Clarke, 31; Messrs. G. Appleton, A. B. Strickland, and R. W. Baker, 26; - Total 119.

1917 - Jun 30

Pilgrimage - The villages of Langham and Barleythorpe were visited last week by three Pilgrims who had undertaken to tour this district. Few difficulties were encountered by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, in successfully arranging board and lodging for them in the various houses. Nearly every house was visited, and the open-air meetings were attended by a large and appreciative number of people.

The Sunday School Anniversary Services were held in the Baptist Chapel on Sunday. Two very excellent and instructive sermons were preached by the Rev. W. Hoad, of Melton Mowbray. Special hymns were well sung by the scholars, who had been ably trained by the Misses C. Hubbard and G. Tidd. Satisfactory collections were taken for the Sunday School funds. The congregations were large, but the heavy downpour, though so welcome, prevented many from attending.

1917 - Jul 7

The Feast - The usual services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday, which was, according 'to custom, strewn with hay.' Holy Communion was administered at 7.30, and after morning service at which the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., preached an appropriate sermon. The anthem, "I will lift up mine eyes" (Dr. Clarke Whitfield), was well sung by the choir at each service. Special hymns and psalms were taken. The Rev. E. T. Glasspool, Vicar of Whissendine, in the evening preached an interesting sermon to a crowded congregation: The Oakham Town Band paraded for service in the evening, and accompanied two of the hymns, and their performance was excellent. They afterwards rendered sacred music in the square. Few visitors were seen this year, and, as there were no roundabouts, &c., the juveniles unanimously agreed that it was "no feast"

1917 - Jul 14

Vegetable Show - At a meeting of the Committee, in the Parish room on Monday evening, the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, presiding, it was decided to hold the annual show on August 9th. Mr. J. Austin is the Hon. secretary.

Potato Spraying - A meeting was held on Tuesday evening, to consider the advisability of obtaining a sprayer for the use of those whose potatoes needed it. Mr. Ruddle was chairman, and it was decided a sprayer should be procured.

1917 - Jul 28

Institute - At a special meeting of the Committee on Friday evening week, it was unanimously decided to forward a message of condolence to the President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lonsdale, on the occasion of the death of his mother, the Dowager Countess of Lonsdale.

The Cultivation of Allotments - At a meeting on Friday evening week, Mr. H. E. Hubbard in the chair, with Messrs. G. Ruddle and W. P. Royce representing the Parish Council, and Messrs. J. Lee, H. B. Shillaker and G. E. Steele, the Vegetable Show Committee, the latter kindly undertaking the duties of hon. secretary, it was decided to appeal for subscriptions to augment the prize offered for the best cultivated allotments. Subscriptions have already been promised by Miss Finch, Messrs. G. Ruddle, H. E. Hubbard, W. P. Royce, and R. W. Baker.

1917 - Aug 4

Cookery - A course of practical instruction in household cookery, under the auspices of the County Council, was announced to be given in the Institute, commencing on Wednesday week, by Miss M. Yates, instructress in domestic subjects. The attendance has amounted, so far, to practically nil.

The Death occurred of Mr. W. Almond, at the age of 70, yesterday week, after a rather severe illness. Deceased had lived here all his life, and occupied land under the Earl of Gainsborough for many years. He acted in the capacity of assistant overseer for a considerable period, and was also from time to time manager for Lord Ranksborough. The late Mr. Almond was a well read man, and his advice on many subjects was often sought. He was a total abstainer, and an ardent Baptist, being superintendent of the Sunday School for the past ten years. Deceased was recognised as an authority on shorthorns and sheep shearing, giving instruction in the latter subject at the classes in various parts of the county under the surveillance of the late Mr. B. Painter. He was a good cricketer, and latterly acted as umpire for the village club, in which he took a great interest. The funeral took place on Monday, in the Baptist Chapel yard, the Rev. Paul Shipley taking the service very impressively. Two of the deceased's favourite hymns were sung, Miss G. Tidd officiating at the organ. The mourners were - Mrs. Almond (widow), Mr. Wm. Almond (son), Nurse Almond, Mr. Chas. Almond, Mrs. H. Peet, Mr. and Mrs. Brown (Whissendine), Mrs. Moore (Melton), Mr. T. Leadenham. Lord Ranksborough, Messrs. E. Nourish, N. Squires, Mr. and Mrs. Till, and many others also attended. There were some beautiful wreaths, one from the Sunday School children, with whom the late superintendent was great favourite

1917 - Aug 11

Roll of Honour - The sad news was received last week that as nothing more had been heard of Private Wm. Thorpe, Royal Sussex Regiment, he must be believed to be dead from the 21st of October, 1916. Great sympathy is felt for his grandmother. Mrs. Ellen Thorpe, by whom he was brought up. Private Thorpe was only twenty-two years of age, and was very popular and much respected.

War Wedding - A very quiet but interesting wedding (by license) [licence] was solemnised in the Parish Church yesterday (Friday) week, by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall. M.A. The contracting parties were Private Joe Nourish, M.T., A.S.C.. son of Mr. E. Nourish, and Miss Edith Lily Rowett, youngest daughter of Mr. J. Rowett, who gave the bride away. Miss Nora Clancey was bridesmaid, and Mr. Tom Nourish was best man. The bridegroom came home on leave for ten days from France, where he has been for two years, this being his first leave. Both bride and bridegroom belong to this village, and they departed after the ceremony for Grantham for the honeymoon, with everyone's best wishes.

The Annual Vegetable Show, promoted chiefly through the energetic work of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Austin, was held on Thursday week, and proved a great success. The show was to have been held (by kind permission of Mr. Ruddle) in the grounds of Harewood House, but, owing to the incessant rain, he kindly allowed the use of a large shed, and rendered every assistance. Thanks are also due to the subscribers, the committee, the judges, and to the Hon. Treasurer, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, with the Hon. Secretary. Awards :-

Round White Potatoes -	1 W. Peet,	2 A. Wright,	3 H. Shillaker.
Kidney White ditto -	1 C. Williamson,	2 E. Bryant,	3 J. Rowett.
Peas in pods -	1 Mrs. G. Burdett,	2 T. Hubbard,	3 T. Worsdale.
Kidney Beans -	1 T. Hubbard,	2 Mrs. G. Burdett,	3 T. Worsdale.
Broad Beans -	1 T. Hubbard.	2 Mrs. G. Burdett,	3 G. Harris.
Carrots -	1 A. Wright,	2 T. Hubbard,	3 J. Rowett.
Onions -	1 G. Harris,	2 T. Hubbard,	3 Mrs. G. Burdett.
Vegetables -	1 Mrs. G. Burdett,	2 G. Harris,	3 T. Hubbard.
Cooked Potatoes -	1 G. Harris,	2 Mrs. Ben Steel.	
Round Coloured Potatoes -	1 E. Bryant,	2 C. Williamson.	
Kidney ditto -	1 H. Shillaker,	2 C. Williamson,	3 A. Wright.
Vegetable Marrow -	1 T. Hubbard,	2 T. Worsdale,	3 G. Harris, 4 E. Bryant.
Shallots -	1 T. Williams,	2 Mrs. Prince,	3 A. Knight.
White Turnips -	1 J. Rowett,	2 G. Harris.	
Cabbages -	1 A. Wright,	2 E. Bryant,	3 Mrs. G. Burdett.
Rhubarb -	1 A. Wright,	2 E. Bryant,	3 T. Worsdale,
Beet -	1 C. Williamson,	2 G. Harris.	
Lettuce, cabbage -	1 G. Harris.	Lettuce, Cos -	1 E. Bryant, 2 T. Hubbard.

1917 - Aug 25

The Judging of Allotments resulted as follows:-

New Allotments :	One rood -	1 T. Hubbard,	2 A. Wright.
	Half-roods -	1 W. G. Maude,	2 E. Bryant.
Old Allotments :	One rood -	1 Mrs. G. Burdett,	2 Fred Faulks.
(Ashwell Road)	Half-rood -	1 W. Cloxton,	2 G. Veasey.

The judges were Messrs. W. Hetterley and Dalby.

1917 - Sept 8

Bowls - The return match, Civilians v. Volunteers, was played on Captain Ruddle's lawn on Friday week. The former were captained by Mr. R. W. Baker, and the latter by Captain Ruddle. In this match the tables were turned, the Volunteers fairly "wiping the floor" with the Civilians. Captain and Mrs. Ruddle very kindly entertained the teams in their usual hospitable manner, and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. Scores :-

Volunteers G. E. Steele, F. Whittle, W. P. Royce, 31.; A. Allen, J. McClelland, W. Woodcock, 31 ; W. Moss, Hartopp, J. C. Kernick, 31; C. Matkin, A. R. Barnett, G. Ruddle, 31; total, 124.

Civilians - T. Pollard, R. Crawford, E. Stimson, 11; D. Tidd, C. Packer, J. C. Barnett, 21 ; G. Simmons, W. Church, R. Corney, 24 ; A. B. Strickland, G. Appleton, R. W. Baker, 27 ; total, 83.

1917 - Sept 22

The Official News of the death in action, on August 17th, of Private Arthur Cox, was received by his mother on Wednesday. The deceased soldier enlisted in September, 1914, in the Leicester's, and was afterwards transferred to the machine Gun Corps. He was severely wounded in the back and left leg, and died while being conveyed to hospital. This brave young soldier, who was in his 24th year was the third, son of the late Mr. Philip Cox, the well known Ranksborough earthstopper. Previous to enlisting he was employed by Mr. W. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, who found him a man to be always thoroughly relied on. Deep sympathy goes out to his mother and family on the loss of such a highly respected son.

1917 - Sept 29

Last week, in the Langham news, we announced the death of Pte. Arthur Cox, who was killed in action on August 17th. He enlisted in September, 1914, in the Leicester Regiment, later being transferred to the M.G.C. Pte. Cox was in his 24th Year.

1917 - Oct 6

A Memorial Service was held in the Baptist Chapel, on Sunday evening, in memory of the late Private Arthur Cox (killed in action), whose photo appeared in our last issue. A very touching sermon was preached by the Rev. Paul Shipley to a large congregation. The deceased soldier was at one time a member of the choir, and afterwards acted as organ-blower. Appropriate hymns were sung, Miss G. Tidd presiding at the organ. A beautiful wreath was sent with a card "Greater love no man hath -, In memory of Private Arthur Cox, from Mr. and Mrs. W. Watchorn." Mr. Watchorn was the deceased's former employer before enlisting, and was present at the service.

- 1917 - Oct 13 *The sad official news of the death in action*, on Oct. 1st, of Gunner John Charles Smith, R.F.A., was received on Monday last. This brave young soldier, who was in his 23rd year, was the eldest son of Mr. W. Smith, who has farmed in Langham for many years. He joined up in May, 1915. Always of a quiet disposition, and leading a good and upright life, he earned the highest respect from all who knew him. The deepest sympathy goes out to his father and family, who have the comfort of knowing that he laid down his life for his country like a brave soldier.
- Golden Wedding* - Many congratulations from their numerous friends were bestowed on Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Royce, on the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding-day, October 3rd. Mr. and Mrs. Royce have lived in the village for many years and have always helped in anything useful. Mrs. Royce especially has worked hard in connection with district nursing.
- Wounded* - Mr. and Mrs. George Harris have received the news that their second son, Pte. George Harris of the Leicester's, was wounded on October 1st, and is now lying in a Scotch Hospital. He is in his 22nd year, and has now been wounded three times. Mr. and Mrs. Chris Williamson have received news that their adopted boy, Pte. William Walters, Leicester's, was wounded for the second time on October 1st, and is now in hospital in Norfolk. He and Pte Harris were comrades in the battle, in which they received their wounds. Everyone wishes them a speedy recovery.
- 1917 - Oct 20 *Memorial Service* - A special service will be held in the Parish Church tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon, in memory of several fallen heroes from this village.
- Harvest Thanksgiving* - The annual harvest thanksgiving services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday last. Holy Communion was administered at 8.30 and after morning service, at which the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., preached an excellent sermon. The pulpit was occupied in the afternoon by the Rev. J. T. Jones, M.A., Rector of Pickwell, who gave a very able discourse to a large congregation. The choir sang the anthem, "Sing Praises," and the usual harvest hymns were taken. The sacred edifice was most beautifully decorated by many willing hands. The gifts of fruit, vegetables &c., were the largest ever seen in the Church. A pleasing feature was during the processional hymn at evensong, after, the choir had reached the chancel, many children proceeded to the altar railings and presented their gifts, which were received by the Vicar. With the disposal of the articles of decoration and half of the collections, Mr. R. Steel has been enabled to forward a cheque for £9 8s. 1d. to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.
- Pte. H. Horton and Pte. J. R. Horton, of Langham* - The sad official news has been received by Mrs. Horton, Langham, of the death in action, on 28th September, of her youngest son, Pte. Herbert Horton. The deceased joined up in March, 1915, and had not been home on leave since. He was aged 29 years. His death arose through gas shells, causing blindness and other complications. His family have received very nice and comforting letters from the Sisters in charge of his hospital, and also from the Captain of his unit. Mrs. Horton's fourth son, Pte. J. R. Horton (Lincoln's) has been posted missing since April 28th. Another letter arrived in June, saying that nothing more had been heard of him. He was in his 31st year. Mrs. Horton and family have every sympathy in their bereavement.
- 1917 - Oct 27 *Wounded* - Mr. and Mrs. Blundell have received official news that one of their twin sons, 2nd Lieut. J. Blundell, R.F.A., is in hospital in France suffering from severe shot wounds in the hand and head. He is only nineteen, and is a nephew of Mr. R. W. Baker.
- Soldiers' Parcels* - A meeting was held in the Parish room on Monday evening, the Vicar in the chair, to decide, what is to be sent in the Christmas parcels to the men from Langham and Barleythorpe at the front. It was decided to make a collection, and further arrangements to augment the funds will be made.
- A Memorial Service* was held in the Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, in memory of several heroes from this village who have laid down their lives for their country. The congregation was very large. The 1st Battalion Rutland Volunteer Regiment, "A" (Oakham), accompanied by the bugle band, attended, under the command of Capt. G. Ruddle, and numbered over one hundred strong, including detachments from Whissendine, Braunston, Wing, Manton, and Langham, who paid the last respect to their dead comrades. Lieut. F. W. Nichols, Second-Lieut. E. H. Hassan, and Second Lieut. J. L. Shelton were also present. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., preached a most impressive sermon, and special hymns were sung. The bells were rung half-muffled.
- 1917 - Nov 24 *Flag Day* - Saturday was set apart here as a flag-day for the Red Cross funds. The collectors worked hard with the following results - Miss Hollingshead £1 1s. 10d., Miss Tidd 19s. 10½d., Mrs. Ruddle 13s. 3½d., total £2 15s.
- Campanology* - The choirboys who have been learning to ring are progressing very well. Three ladies who have also joined are getting very handy with the ropes, they are Miss Lilian Smith and the Misses Candace and Phyllis Munday. Are there not three more ladies brave enough to learn, and so complete a ladies' team? The ringing for each service on Sunday was excellent considering the short time the juniors have been learning. Their instructor is Mr. H. Shillaker.
- 1917 - Dec 1 *Joy Bells* - The Church bells were rung on Saturday afternoon to celebrate the famous success achieved by our Army earlier in the week.
- Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Gifts* - An excellent house-to-house collection has been made here and at Barleythorpe to enable the appointed Committee to forward something at Christmas to every man serving from both parishes. Owing to the high price of commodities, coupled with the expense of postage, packing, &c., it has been decided to send to each man his share in money, as tobacco, cigarettes, and eatables can be purchased at a cheaper rate from their military stores.

The Langham Institute Committee, in order to augment the funds, arranged a whist drive and dance, in the Institute, on Thursday evening week, one hundred and twenty-four players taking part. The prize-winners were:-

Ladies:- 1 Miss D. Wright, 2 Miss Brooks, 3 Mrs. Wallace, consolation Miss L. Harris.

Gentlemen:- 1 Mr. G. Herring, 2 Mr. G. E. Steele, 3 Mr. J. Castor, consolation Mr. Osborne.

Mrs. Ruddle kindly presented the prizes, which were given by Messrs. G. Ruddle, G. Leaf, G. E. Steele, H. Hassan, R. W. Baker, Mrs. A. Harris, and the Misses Judy Ruddle and Betty Matthew.

The Earl of Lonsdale no sooner heard of this worthy effort than, with his usual large heartedness, he sent a quantity of game to be disposed of, and the amount realised swelled the funds considerably. Thanks are also due to all who gave subscriptions or refreshments, and for the many who gave unstinted help, which made the whole evening a huge success. Dancing was afterwards kept up with great spirit.

Mr. J. F. Grimily, a soldier who has just recovered from shell-shock, very ably presided at the piano gratuitously, and also accompanied Mr. George Gale (another of our wounded heroes) in his songs, which were much enjoyed. Mr. G. E. Steele made an admirable M.C. The house-to-house collection amounted to £30 17s. 8d., and the proceeds from this entertainment £15 10s., total £46 7s. 8d. There are over 100 men serving from the combined parishes, and this goodly sum will show them that we at home thoroughly appreciate the sacrifices they are making for us,

1917 - Dec 15

Promotion - In the London Gazette, dated Dec. 10th, the name appears of William Ernest Bristow, Royal Garrison Artillery, to be 2nd Lieutenant. This young officer is the eldest son of Mr. Wm. and Mrs. Bristow, of this village, who are to be congratulated on his success. The recipient is only twenty years of age.

Concert and Dance - A very successful entertainment was held in the Institute on Thursday evening week, in the form of a dance, with songs and recitations interspersed. The Vicar (the Rev. W. A. Mandall), Messrs. G. E. Steele, F. W. Nichols, R. W. Baker, the Misses M. Steel, and Candace Munday, were the contributor's, and their songs were very much enjoyed. Mr. Grimbley kindly and ably presided at the piano. The result will add between two and three pounds to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Christmas Fund.

1917 - Dec 29

Sick and Dividend Club - The annual meeting was held at the "Wheat Sheaf" on Saturday. In the unavoidable absence of Mr., G. F. Steele, the chair was taken by the Hon. sec., Mr. W. Peet. From the balance-sheet, it appeared that £42 11s. 6d. had been paid into the funds this year, £14 5s. had been disbursed in sick pay and a death levy to one member of £2 18s. Fifty-two members had received 7s. 6d. each, and five members 3s. 9d.. carrying forward a balance of £3 14s. 3d. As this Club has only been formed about two years, it has already proved itself a success, thanks to the management. The following were elected officers for 1918 :- President, Mr. G. F. Steele; hon. treasurer, Mr., W. Needham; Hon. sec., Mr. W. Peet; Committee :- Messrs. Cloxton, J. Edgson. H. Faulks, R. Steel, and W. Gale. Eight new members were enrolled.

1918 - Feb 2

Letters have been received from nearly all those serving from this village and Barleythorpe expressing thanks for the money presents sent at Christmas.

A Social Evening in connection with the Church choir was held, in the Institute on Tuesday evening. A large and enthusiastic company assembled, including many relations and friends of the members. Ample arrangements had been made by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, and the energetic choirmaster, Mr. R. G. Isaac, who was responsible for the refreshment department. All sorts of games and various dances kept the programme going without the least slackness. Mr. J. F. Grimbley very kindly played for the dancing, and Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., played most of the accompaniments to the songs, which were given by the Misses M. Steel, C. Munday, Hilda Weston, Messrs. G. Gale, R. W. Baker and the Rev. W. A. Mandall. Thanks are due to the subscribers and all who contributed to the refreshments.

1918 - Feb 9

The Annual Whist Drive promoted by Mrs. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, in aid of Leicester Royal Infirmary, was held on Thursday evening week, in the Institute, and far outshone all previous efforts. One hundred and seventy-two competed for the twelve valuable prizes generously given by Oakham people, viz., Miss Thorpe, Miss Davies, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Wellington, Miss Halliday, Messrs. R. and H. Chambers, Messrs. Jackson and Boston, Messrs. Freeman, Hardy, and Willis, Messrs. Hassan. Mr. F. Sharpe, Mr., Roberts, and Mr. George. The following were the winners:-

Ladies -1 Miss R. Darby, 2 Miss Needham, 3 Miss Tomlinson, 4 Miss Tailor, 5 Mrs. G. Stoke, consolation Mrs. Arthur Harris.

Gentlemen -1 Mr. T. Clarke, 2 Mr. Edwards, 3 Mr. Woodhouse, 4 Mr. A. Watchorn, 5 Mr. W. Church, consolation Mr. Jim Steel.

A very enjoyable dance followed, the room being quite crowded, Mr. J. F. Grimbley kindly officiating in his able manner at the piano. Messrs. W. P. Royce and G. E. Steele made most efficient M.C.'s. Mrs. Watchorn is to be very highly congratulated on the brilliant, success she achieved, well backed up by her willing band of helpers. Mrs. Watchorn thanks all who gave the splendid prizes for the drawing, those who sent subscriptions, and those who rendered help so willingly.

The noble institution named will benefit the sum of £31 15s. 6d. - an example which is worth following.

1918 - Feb 23

Gratitude - Mrs. Watchorn has received from the House Governor and Secretary of the Royal Leicester Infirmary a copy of a resolution passed by the Committee, that a letter of hearty gratitude and sincere thanks be conveyed to Mrs. Watchorn and her friends for the splendid sum of £30, the result of a recent whist drive and dance, at Langham.

A Lecture was given in the Institute on Monday evening, entitled "The War Aims of the Allies". Pictures of various scenes in the war were very ably explained by Mr. H. J. Allen, of London, the lantern being manipulated by the Unionist Agent, Mr. G. Burbidge, of Oakham, who was accompanied by Mr. G. Phillips. Mr. Ruddle was chairman. There was a good attendance.

1918 - Mar 2 *Parish Council* - A meeting was held in the Institute on Monday evening, Mr. H. E. Hubbard in the chair. The Clerk, Mr. McClelland, reported that he had made enquiries, and ascertained that the War Agricultural Committee were not providing seed potatoes this year, and it was unanimously resolved to hold a parish meeting next week to take a general opinion in deciding the matter. Mr. R. G. Isaac was appointed a member of the Council in the place of Mr. Edgar Williamson, who has left the village. Mr. Wm. Edgson was re-appointed parish constable for the ensuing year.

1918 - Mar 9 *The Institute* - A committee meeting was held on Monday evening, Mr. Ruddle in the chair, when the complaints of the noise and bad behaviour of the juvenile members were discussed, and it was agreed to take drastic steps to have the annoyance put an end to at once.

The Parish Meeting was held in the Institute, on Monday evening, to decide the potato question leftover from the Parish Council meeting. Mr. H. Hubbard, occupied the chair, and only about a dozen people attended. The Clerk, Mr. McClelland, read papers from the Rural League and from the Food Supplies Committees urging the necessity of producing as many potatoes as possible. The Clerk was instructed to write to several firms for the prices, and orders in cwts. for about half a ton were given in the room, principally for "Arran Chief" one of the best kinds recommended. Mr. Ruddle kindly promised to buy a sprayer, and let anyone use it, for which he was thanked. Any one wanting seed potatoes through this source should communicate with Mr. McClelland at once.

1918 - Mar 16 *Roll of Honour* - Mrs. William Palmer was officially notified on Monday that as nothing more had been heard of her husband, Pte. W. Palmer, since May 3rd, it must be presumed he was killed on that date. The deceased soldier, who enlisted at the age of 35, was in the employment of Lord Ranksborough. He was always a steady, hard-working, reliable man, and was very highly respected. The sympathy of all is extended to his widow who is left with six children the eldest fourteen and the youngest four years of age.

1918 - Mar 30 *Parish Council* - At a meeting in the Institute on Monday evening, it was decided to drop the seed potato question.

Campanology - The boys and lady bell-ringers have, by their regular practices, on Thursdays and Saturdays, made good progress, and on Saturday evening they rang a touch of 120 "grandsire doubles" in good style as follows:- C. Davenport, treble, Miss Candace Munday 2, Miss Lilian Smith 3, H. Shillaker 4, R. W. Baker (conductor) 5, Tom Isaac tenor. The age of the treble ringer is 15, and of the tenor 13½ years. This performance reflects great credit on their instructor. Mr. H. Shillaker.

A Very Enjoyable Whist Drive, followed by a dance was held in the Institute, on Thursday evening week, given by the Volunteers, on behalf of the Institute funds. Ninety-six players competed for the prizes very kindly given by Captain Ruddle, Messrs. Jackson & Boston, Mr. Hassan, Capt. P. C. Nichols, Mrs. Watchorn, Mrs. Butcher, and Mr. R. W. Baker. Winners:- Ladies -1 Miss Connie Peasgood. 2 Miss Collins, 3 Mrs. E. Royce, consolation Miss J. Dales. Gentlemen -1 Mr. Harry Chambers, 2 M. Duchane, 3 Mr. H. Shillaker. The committee wish to thank all who helped, by giving refreshment or in any Other way.

1918 - Apl 6 *Easter Services* - The services, in the Parish Church on Easter Sunday were:- Holy Communion at 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, and after midday service, the total number of communicants being 108. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A. preached in the evening to a large congregation. The anthem "I Will Praise the Name of God," was well sung by the choir. Owing to the illness of the organist, Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., the services of Miss Smith were sought at the last moment, and she took both services most creditably. This young lady created somewhat of a record, as she not only played through these services, but took her place in the change ringing, on four occasions during the day commencing with time early service at seven.

British and Foreign Bible Society - The annual meeting of the Langham branch was held on Tuesday week, when the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., took the chair. The deputation the Rev. H. C. Threlfall, B.A. gave an account of what is being done by the Society in its various fields of labour, dwelling especially upon the work amongst our soldiers. The boxes yielded:- Miss Mary Harris 4s. 1½d. Miss C. E. Hubbard 7s, Miss S. Hubbard 11s 10d., Miss Emily Price 8s 6d., Master Jno. Peet 2s 9½d., Miss Ivy Shuttleworth 1s 2d.; total £1 15s 5d. Total last year £1 5s 7d. The collection at the meeting realised 12s 6d. The subscriptions, it is hoped will be collected shortly by the local secretary Miss C. E. Hubbard. The Rev. P. Shipley undertook the musical duties of the evening. Votes of thanks closed the meeting.

1918 - Apl 13 *For The Easter Services*, the Parish Church was beautifully decorated. Two handsome floral tributes - a wreath and a cross - were laid on the war shrine, in loving memory of two brave lads who had given of their best.

Parish Council - The annual meeting was held in the Schools on, Monday evening Mr. H. E. Hubbard was re-elected chairman, with Mr. E. T. Marshall as vice-chairman. Messrs. G. Ruddle and Mr. H. E. Hubbard were re-appointed overseers, with Mr. J. McClelland as clerk.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday evening, there being a very small attendance comprising Messrs. H. E. Hubbard (chairman), J. McClelland (clerk), G. Ruddle, R. G. Isaac, W. P. Royce, R. Mantle, E. T. Marshall, R. W. Baker, G. E. Steele, and H. Condor. The list of the charity distribution, of which Messrs. E. T. Marshall and W. P. Royce are the trustees, was considered satisfactory. Papers were read by the Chairman from various bodies urging the necessity of keeping pigs. It was resolved that nothing be done until there was some prospect of obtaining more feeding stuffs.

Sudden Death - An inquest was held at the Lodge Farm, by Mr. V. G. Stapleton, Coroner, on Saturday evening on the death of the two months old son of Mr. Philip Williamson. The jurymen were Messrs. Edwin Mantle (foreman), G. E. Steele, H. Conder, G. Aldridge, C. Papworth, W. G. Mantle, E. Bryant, and A. Wright. The mother Annie Williamson, said on the previous morning, she fed the child, and left it upstairs at 6.30. She went up again at 7.30, but, thinking the child was asleep, she did not go to it again until about eight o'clock, when she found it was dead. It seemed quite well the previous evening. Mr. W. M. Keal, surgeon, said in his opinion convulsions were the cause of death, and the jury returned their verdict accordingly. Great sympathy is felt for the parents in their sad bereavement.

The Easter Vestry Meeting was held on Monday evening, there being a moderate attendance. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., presided. The charity and Church accounts were passed. The year's collections created a record, and showed a balance in hand of over £11. The Vicar spoke of the good work done by the retiring Churchwardens, and especially of Mr. Reuben Steel, upon whom the burden of the work had fallen. Mr. Owen Smith, his colleague, being away so much on important business. He again nominated Mr. Owen Smith as his warden, and Mr. R. Steel was unanimously re-elected for the parish. The Vicar proposed a vote of thanks to all the Church workers, and spoke of the progress the boys and lady ringers had made. The sidesmen, Messrs. Aldridge, J. Faulks, J. Lee, T. Rowse, J. Rowett and T. Weston, were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. Wm. Smith. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for taking the chair.

1918 - Apl 20

Barleythorpe - The Sad Official News was received last week of the death in action, on March 24th, of Corpl. Alfred Breakspear third son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Breakspear, the Manor Farm. The deceased was only twenty-three years of age, and was employed by Sir Herbert Raphael, of Allstree Hall, Derby as gardener, before joining up, in September, 1914. He had been wounded twice, and was home on leave as recently as March 19th. This brave lad was very highly respected. He led a steady, upright, life, and gave satisfaction to his employers. He regularly attended Langham Church where, as a boy, he was organ blower for several years.

The sympathy of their large circle of friends is extended to the family. There is still the eldest son fighting after being wounded three times, the second son having been discharged with bad feet.

1918 - May 4

A Memorial Service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening, in memory of the late Lieut. Harold Lubbock, Corpl. Alfred Breakspear, and Pte. Bryant Smith, who have nobly laid down their lives in doing their duty for King and country. There was a very large congregation. Suitable psalms and hymns were sung, and a very appropriate and touching sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall. The "Dead March" was played by the organist, Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., the congregation standing. The bells were rung half-muffled. On the war shrine in the Church were laid some beautiful floral tributes by kind friends and loving relatives, as a last mark of respect to the faithful dead.

1918 - May 11

May Bush - The children of a patriotic turn of mind assembled and paraded the village with their garlands collecting for the Red Cross Funds £2 6s. 9d., which was very creditable. Flowers were almost unobtainable this year.

1918 - Jun 7

Flag Day - The recent Flag Day for the Leicester and Leicestershire Alexandra Collection Committee realised £1 17s. 3d., which is very gratifying.

Gratitude - In consequence of recent serious losses in stock by Mrs. Cox, a widow, and Mr. Walker, two smallholders, a collection was kindly undertaken by the members of the Women's Institute, in order to somewhat lighten their burden. A generous response was the result from this village and Barleythorpe, and the amount has been divided between them.

Campanology - To celebrate the anniversary of the King's birthday, a touch of 720 Grandsire Doubles was rung on Monday evening on the Parish Church bells by the following - C. Davenport treble, Miss C. Munday 2, Miss L. Smith 3, R. W. Baker 4, W. E. Higgs (Oakham) conductor 5, H. Shillaker, sen., tenor, time 26 minutes. This is very creditable to the ringers of the first three bells, as it is their first 720. Other short touches were rung, taken part in by H Shillaker, jun., J. Cloxton, and E. Munday.

1918 - Jun 29

Baptist Chapel -The anniversary services were held on Sunday, when two excellent sermons were preached by Mr. W. Pryke, of Bourne. Very large congregations assembled, especially at the evening service, when the Chapel was quite full. The musical portions were ably undertaken by the Misses C. Hubbard and G. Tidd, who were also responsible for the special singing by the scholars, which was much enjoyed.

The Institute - The annual general meeting of the members was held on Monday evening when Mr. R. W. Baker presided over a fair attendance. Excellent reports were read by the hon. Sec. and hon. treasurer on the year's work, which resulted in the balance sheet showing up well on the right side. Mr. G. E. Steele was unanimously re-elected hon. sec., and Capt. Ruddle hon. treasurer, and they were heartily thanked for the trouble and pains they had taken during the past year. The Committee was re-elected en bloc.

The proposition was carried unanimously that, all soldiers and sailors home on leave should have the free use of the Institute. Mr. Baker was re-elected auditor, and thanked for his past, services. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

1918 - Jul 6

British and Foreign Bible Society - The collection of subscriptions has realised £4 14s. 10d., against £4 7s. 1d. last year. The total receipts of all kinds from Langham for this year amount to £7 2s. 9d., against £6 5s. 3½d.

Feast Services - The usual feast services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. Holy Communion was administered at 8.30. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., preached a most appropriate sermon at the morning service. A children's service was held in the afternoon, and the Rev. R. E. Jones, Rector of Market Overton, occupied the pulpit in the evening, preaching a very interesting sermon to a large congregation. The excellent choir which this fine old Church is fortunate in possessing sang the anthem "God is our hope and strength" (Caleb Simper) at both services, and special psalms and hymns were taken. Miss Lee L.R.A.M., ably presided at the organ.

The usual custom of strewing the Church with hay was observed.

1918 - Jul 6

Oakham Guardians

At a monthly meeting of the above, held at the Union Workhouse on Monday, H. Finch presided, and there were also present :- Mr. J. Stafford (vice-chairman), the Rev. W. H. Barry, Messrs. R. W. Baker and J. S. Dennison.

The Clerk (Mr. Batts) presented the list of attendances of members during the year ended April 8th, this being as follows :-

R. Watchorn	8	W. Watchorn	5	J. R. Bettinson	1	W. Freeman	8
W. Wilford	0	J. Skirth,	2	T. Thurman	1	J. B. Marriott.	7
E. Makey	0	F. M. Bradshaw	4	J. Healey	12	A. E. Hibbitt	8
P. W. Munton	3	C. H. Dixon, M.P.	0	Captain Cooper	4	J. A. Wilford	6
A. Palmer	0	R. W. Baker	13	H. E. Hubbard	3	J. W. Chapman	3
E. W.P. Conant, J.P.	0	R. Partridge	4	J. W. Brown	6	N. W. Wortley	0
H. R. Finch J.P.	11	J. S. Dennison	10	J. Hibbitt	4	F. Sleath	2
A. B Strickland	6	T. Gillson	6	C. A. Muntz	0	J. Stafford	12
G. F. Houghton	0	Rev. C. A. C. Bowlker	4	Rev. W. R. Barry	4	Rev. M. A. Thomson	2
C. Christian	0						

Mr. Chapman, Mr., Partridge, the Rev. W. H. Barry, Rev. C. A. C. Bowlker, and the Rev. G. Christian have been: elected on the Board during the year. The number of inmates of the House was reported to be 58, against 62 in the corresponding week of last year, and the number of vagrants relieved, 41, against 62 in the same week twelve months ago.

The Boarding out committee recommended that the payment to foster parents maintaining children belonging to The Union be 8s. 6d. a week for a child over ten, and 7s. 6d. under that age. The recommendation was adopted.

1918 - Jul 20

Promotion - The many friends of Sidney Clancey, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Clancey, of Ranksborough, will be pleased to hear that he has received a commission in the Leicestershire Regiment. Second-Lieut. Clancey has been wounded once, and had the unique experience of being buried by shells twice in one day. He has served in the Army about four years. He is 25 years of age.

1918 - Jul 27

Wounded - Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Steel received by wire, on July 9th, from the officer commanding an Australian clearing station in France, the sad news that their son, Lance-Corpl. Herbert C. Steel, Highland L.I., was suffering from severe gunshot wound and left thigh fractured. Happily, his parents have received another wire to say he had been taken off the dangerous list and moved to a stationary hospital. He has written home in his usual good spirits, and his many friends wish "Gussie" a speedy recovery.

1918 - Aug 10

Musical Success - At the recent School examination, at Stamford, in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of music and the Royal College of Music, the Misses Maud Burton (Oakham) and Lucy Isaac (Langham) successfully passed the Primary Division in pianoforte. Both are pupils of Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M.

Estate of Lieutenant The Hon. Harold Lubbock - Lieut., the Hon. Harold Fox Pitt Lubbock, Grenadier Guards, of 15, Lombard Street, E.C., banker, who was killed by a shell on April 4th, son of the late Lord Avebury, has left property to the value of £39,663 3s 10d. Probate is granted to the Hon. Dorothy Charlotte Lubbock of the Old Hall, Langham, widow, elder daughter of Mr. H. W. Forster M.P., and Lord Avebury, of 15 Lombard street, brother. The testator gives to his wife £1,000, the household and personal effects, and the income from all his property. On her decease, the residue is to be divided between his children.

1918 - Aug 24

The Annual Vegetable Show was held on Thursday week, in the grounds of the Old Hall, kindly lent by the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock. Miss Finch opened the show, which, through the energetic work put in by Mr. J. Austin, hon. secretary, proved a great success. The entries numbered 151, against 82 last year, and the whole of the exhibits were excellent. A large number of people attended. Many vegetables sent in "not, for competition" were afterwards forwarded to hospitals. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, worked hard as usual, and Miss Hollingshead proved a valuable assistant.

The Committee wish to thank the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, the judges, Messrs., Dalby and Hetterley (Oakham), who gave great satisfaction, and everyone who helped. Awards :-

Round while potatoes,	F. Faulks.	C. Harris,	E. Bryant.
Kidney potatoes,	H. Shillaker,	Curt Williamson,	C. Goodram.
Round coloured potatoes,	E. Bryant,	T. Faulks,	Curt Williamson.
Kidney potatoes	H. Shillaker,	Curt Williamson,	E. Bryant.
Peas,	E. Bryant,	D. Burdett,	G. Burdett.
Beans,	T. Worsdale.	T. Hubbard,	P. Faulks.
Broad beans,	Hubbard,	T. Worsdale.	
Long Pods.	F. Faulks.	T. Hubbard.	
Spring sown onions.	F. Foyle,	C. Casterton,	T. Faulks.
Eschallots.	D. Burdett.	T. Hubbard,	C. Casterton.
Winter-sown onions	T. Hubbard,	W. Williamson,	H. Condor.
Marrow	T. Hubbard,	J Rudkin,	A. Wright.
Cauliflower,	A. Wright,	T. Faulks,	
Cabbages,	D. Burdett,	T. Faulks,	F. Faulks.
Beet,	G. Harris.	D. Burdett.	Curt Williamson.
Long Carrots,	F. Faulks,	A. Wright,	T. Hubbard.
Short-Horn-Carrots.	F. Foyle,	J. Rowett,	G. Burdett.
Parsnips,	G. Harris,	G. Burdett.	T. Hubbard.
Turnips,	G. Harris,	T. Faulks.	
Cabbage lettuce,	T. Worsdale.	E. Bryant.	
Cos lettuce.	T Hubbard.	H. Shillaker.	
Rhubarb,	A. Wright,	D. Burdett,	E. Bryant.
Six vegetables,	D. Burdett.	T. Faulks,	T. Hubbard.
Cooked potatoes;	Mrs. Ben Steel	Mrs. Starkey,	Mrs. Harris.

1918 - Aug 31

The Lady Bell-ringers are anticipating a visit to the Oakham belfry this (Saturday) evening.

Discharged - Pte. George Harris, the second son of Mr. and Mrs. George Harris, has just received his discharge from the army. Although only in his 23rd year, he has been wounded three times, and is still under medical treatment. It can well be said he has served his King and country faithfully.

Allotments - The result of the allotment judging by Messrs. W. Hetterley and Dalby is as follows :-

New allotments -	one rood	1st Tom Hubbard,	2nd F. Foyle;
	half rood	1st E. Bryant,	2nd J. Sewell;
Old allotments -	one rood	1st D. Burdett,	2nd F. Faulks;
	half rood	1st G. Veasey	2nd W. Dolby
cleanest rood on both allotments		Tom Hubbard,	h.c. D. Burdett;
cleanest half-rood		G. Veasey.	

S.P.G. - A meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon in the Old Hall, by kind permission of the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock. The meeting was opened by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, and a very able and earnest address was given to a large attendance by Miss Watson, of Burmah, who spoke of the valuable work of the Society and the progress it has made. Tea was partaken of in the Hall. The speaker was kindly entertained afterwards by the hon. secretary, Miss Hollingshead, who wishes to thank the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock and all who kindly gave refreshments and subscriptions.

1918 - Sep 7

Recital - A short violin recital was given in the Parish Church after evensong on Sunday, by Mrs. Thring, who played the following pieces:- "Sonata" (Handel), "Canzonetta" (Tchaikowsky) [Tchaikovsky], "Larghetto" (Handel), "Air" (Bach). The playing, which was from memory, was greatly enjoyed by a large congregation. Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., very ably played the accompaniments. Mrs. Thring is the daughter-in-law of a late Headmaster of Uppingham School.

1918 - Sep 14

School Treat - The annual Church Sunday School treat was held on Thursday afternoon week. Tea was taken at the vicarage and the children afterwards adjourned to Mr. Nourish's field, where a set of roundabouts and swing boats had been engaged. The Rev. W. A. Mandall superintended the arrangements, and was ably assisted by the Sunday School teachers. Thanks are due to all who kindly subscribed towards the funds.

Promotion - Corpl. Frank Cole, son of Mrs. Cole, who enlisted in 1914, has been promoted to the rank of Sergt. Sergt Cole has been wounded. He was recently in the Manchester's, but has been transferred to the Yorkshires. He worked in the Brooklands Hotel, Sale, Manchester, before enlisting. Always a bright and straightforward young man, his promotion is most gratifying to his many friends.

Prisoner of War - Private Wm. Walters, of the Leicester's, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Williamson with whom he made his home, has been reported missing for some time, but official news has recently been received that he was captured by the Germans on May 27th. Private Walters has been wounded twice; he is now only 21 years of age, enlisting when 18. He worked before enlisting with his grandparents, stone carting etc. He is a quiet, well conducted lad, and is much respected by all.

- 1918 - Sep 28 *News has just been received* that Pte. T. Rowett, London Regiment, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rowett, has been wounded for the second time. On the present occasion he was injured in the chest and head, and is in an American Hospital in France. Mr. and Mrs. Rowett have received a very nice letter from the Chaplain of the Regiment, speaking in the highest terms of their son. His many friends will be pleased to hear that he is going on favourably.
- 1918 - Oct 12 *Lance-Corpl. Herbert Steel* son of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Steel, who was wounded so badly last July, has been removed to the London Hospital Denmark Hill, where it was found that another operation would have to be performed to him. His friends will be glad to hear he is improving, though some what slowly.
- The Harvest Thanksgiving Services* were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. At morning service, the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., preached a very able sermon. The pulpit was occupied in the afternoon by the Rev. A. C. Neely, Vicar of St. Mary's, Peterborough. The congregations were large. The choir sang the anthem, "He Giveth Food," Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., presiding at the organ. The sacred edifice was most tastefully decorated and never has it looked nicer. During the processional hymn at evensong, after the surpliced choir had reached the chancel, many children proceeded to the altar rail and presented their gifts. With the disposal of the vegetables, &c., and half the collections, Mr. R. Steel has been enabled to forward the goodly sum of £6 14s. to Leicester Royal Infirmary. After evensong the Rev. W. A. Mandall proceeded to Peterborough. and preached at the St. Mary's 6. 30 service.
- Barleythorpe* - The Wedding, by special license [licence], of Pte. Walter Johnson and Miss Florence Smith, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Smith, of this village, was solemnised in Langham Church on Tuesday week, by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall. Mr. Albert Smith (brother) gave away the bride, who, with her sister, Miss Ida Smith, bridesmaid, were charmingly attired. The bridegroom, who was formerly in the employ of the Earl of Lonsdale, has served about three years in Mesopotamia, and left two days after his wedding for France. Hearty congratulations and good wishes were showered upon the happy pair.
- 1918 - Oct 19 *A Concert was given in the Institute* by the Hambleton concert party, in aid of the Hambleton Hospital. There was a very large audience, and the programme was thoroughly enjoyed.
- On the Flag Day* recently held here for the Leicestershire and Rutland wounded, the following were the amounts received :—Miss J. Ruddle 10s. 6d., Miss B. Matthews 10s. 1½d., Miss L. Isaac 9s. 4½d.; total £1 10s.
- The Death of Mr. George A. M. Baker took place at Bournemouth on Tuesday morning. Deceased was the second son of the late Mrs. Baker; and brother of Mr. R. W. Baker. He had suffered from tuberculosis for some years, violent haemorrhage hastening the end. He was 53 years of age.
- The Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held in the Baptist Chapel on Thursday evening week. There was a large congregation, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Paul Shipley. The sacred edifice was beautifully decorated. After the service the fruit and vegetables were disposed of. The services were continued on Sunday, when the Rev. Geo. Kennedy, of Peterborough, preached very able and interesting sermons. Special hymns were sung, Miss G. Tidd ably presiding at the organ. The amount realised from the sale and the collections was divided between the Chapel funds and Leicester Royal Infirmary, £6 6s. being forwarded to the latter, with 10s. 6d. also very kindly given by the Sunday School children towards the Children's Hospital.
- 1918 - Oct 26 *Mission* - The Bishop's messenger, the Rev. A. Linwood Wright, vicar of St. Mark's, Leicester, commenced his work here on Tuesday morning with Holy Communion at 7.30. A women's meeting was held in the afternoon and a general meeting in the evening. All were well attended.
- Soldiers' Christmas Presents* - A meeting was held on Monday evening, the Rev. W. A. Mandall in the chair, to discuss the subject of again sending Christmas presents to those serving at the front from this village and Barleythorpe. There was a good attendance, and collectors were appointed. It is hoped that people will send in the addresses to the Vicar of their relations serving, as last year this was neglected, in many cases after frequent requests, causing the voluntary workers much needless trouble.
- 1918 - Nov 23 *Empingham - Campanology*, The Langham bell-ringers, by permission of the Rector, the Rev. T. H. Owen, M.A. visited this belfry on Thursday evening week, when 720 Grandsire Doubles were rung by the following:- J. Cloxton treble, Miss C. Munday 2, Miss L. Smith 3, R. W. Baker 4, W. E. Higgs (conductor) 5, Tom Isaac tenor (18 cwt). Time 26 minutes. The age of the treble and tenor ringers is 15 and 14 years respectively. Other touches were rung with Miss Phyllis Munday, C. Davenport, C. Shillaker standing in, conducted by H. Shillaker. The striking was excellent throughout considering that not one of the lads is over fifteen years of age. The ringers wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells.
- Soldiers' and Sailors' Presents* - The house-to-house collection in this village and Barleythorpe for Christmas presents for all our lads serving their country has met with very hearty support. A great many things have been generously given, and it has been decided to hold a sale in the Institute next Saturday afternoon, when Mr. Fred Wright has kindly offered his services. The goods include a pony, a goat, a live sheep, live poultry, live rabbits, game, fowl corn, roots and clothes, &c.

1918 - Nov 30

Killed in Action - The sad official news of the death in action, on the 29th October, of Private A. G. Gosling has been received by his grandmother, Mrs. George Williamson, of Langham, who had made home for him from a child, his father losing his life from enteric fever in the South African war in 1900. The deceased lad, who was only 19 years, was a member of the Rutland Volunteer Corps before joining the Notts. and Derby Regiment in 1917, but had been transferred to the 10th Essex Regiment when he met his death. He only went to the front as recently as August. The late Pte. Gosling was employed by Lord Ranksborough before enlisting, and was always a quiet well behaved youth, and much respected. He died faithful to the end, and his name will be recorded in that already long list of glorious heroes who have gone but can never be forgotten. A memorial service was held in the Baptist Chapel on Sunday evening, when very touching references were made to the deceased by the Rev. Paul Shipley.

1918 - Dec 7

In Memoriam - Evensong tomorrow in the Parish Church will take the form of a memorial service for the late Private George Gosling, killed in action.

The Bells - A team of bell-ringers from Peterborough will visit the belfry this afternoon. The team consists partly of ladies, and also of members who live in the Rev. W. A. Mandall's former parish in Peterborough.

The Autumn Sale promoted to augment the funds to provide a Christmas money present for all the "boys" from Langham and Barleythorpe was held in the Institute on Saturday afternoon. Appeals were made for goods to sell, and a very generous response resulted, the gifts including a sheep (sent by Lord Ranksborough), 15 pheasants (Lord Lonsdale), goat (Mrs. Burn), mirrors (The Honble. Mrs. Lubbock), polyphon (Mrs. Ruddle), cigars (Mr. Tidd), load of turnips (Mr. R. Mantle), firewood (Mr. Rudkin), fowls, ducks, rabbits, eggs, jam, a cake (Mrs. Simmons), weathercock, oil painting, &c. Mr. Fred Wright (Messrs. Royce) very kindly gave his services, and kept the large company very much amused by his frequent witticisms. The sale realised £36, so with the amount collected, it is expected the total will reach close upon £80. The Committee thank all who so kindly sent goods.

1918 - Dec 14

A Memorial Service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening for Private G. Gosling, who was killed in action on Oct. 29th. Suitable hymns were sung, and part of the Burial Service was read by the Rev. W. A. Mandall, who, in his sermon, spoke of the earnest and thorough way the deceased carried out his duties as a Boy Scout when he (the Vicar) was connected with them. There was a large congregation. The bells were rung half-muffled.

Campanology - Eight members of the Peterborough Association of Change Ringers, consisting of three ladies and five men, visited this belfry on Saturday afternoon and rang various touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles, the local ringers taking part in the latter. An adjournment was made at five o'clock to the Vicarage, where tea was kindly provided by the Vicar. In the evening, the Oakham belfry was visited, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, &c., were rung. The ringing throughout was excellent, and the ringers thoroughly enjoyed the visit. Their only regret was that they could not take the Oakham peal home with them.

1918 - Dec 21

Very Little Excitement was manifested here on polling-day - This village was well to the fore with regard to the numbers voting, owing to the kindness of Mr. Ruddle and Mr. N. Squires, who provided the vehicles for conveying the oldest men and the lady voters to the polling booth at Oakham. Mr. Ruddle's car made something like twenty journeys. Mrs. Ruddle occasionally relieving at the wheel. Mr. Squires' dog cart was also busy all day. Without this assistance very few of the lady voters would have undertaken the journey.

Returned Prisoner - Pte Wm. Walters, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Williamson, with whom he makes his home, arrived from Germany on Monday. He was captured by the Germans on May 27th, at Rheims.

He and his equally unfortunate comrades were formed up, made to lay their rifles flat on the ground, and hold their hands above their heads. One man getting tired of this position, lowered his arms somewhat, and was immediately shot.

The German Officer then declared that, the English had been shooting with Dumdum and explosive bullets. On our officers denying this they were either shot or bayoneted. The German officer then ordered a machine gun to be turned upon the prisoners, but fortunately, another officer of higher rank came up and stopped this wholesale murder. The prisoners were then marched by some enemy cavalry for two days and two nights without food or drink. Walters was put into some stables to look after sick horses, his food consisting of a piece of black bread, about four inches square, and half-an-inch thick - a 24 hour ration (a sample of which he has brought home). It looks partly to consist of sawdust, and gives off an offensive smell. This was supplemented with an occasional bowl of cabbage and mangel soup. In July, he had to go into hospital, suffering from diphtheria and dysentery, and he is sure he would never have come out alive had he not been fairly well treated by a German sister, who before the war nursed for some years in a London hospital and in Bristol. One day Walters was ordered out of bed to help to carry in a wounded German, but he was so weak he was unable to stand, and fell down. A whip was immediately produced and, he was severely lashed. His grandmother has been sending 10s. per month to the Red Cross, from whom, no doubt, his four parcels were sent every month; letters have also been sent twice a week, but since his capture neither parcels nor letters have reached him. He has seen plenty of our officers and men shot and bayoneted after capture, and also men who have had their hands or toes chopped off.

Pte. Walters will require some very careful nursing to bring back his strength. He is very wasted and ill, but he must be congratulated in getting away with his life from such inhuman brutes. He joined up when 18 years of age and he is now 21. Everybody is pleased to see him again for he is very highly respected.

1918 - Dec 28

School Managers - A meeting of the managers was held on Thursday evening week. There were present - the Rev. W. A. Mandall (chairman), the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, Mrs. Burn, Messrs. Ruddle, H. B. Hubbard, and R. W. Baker. After other items of business had been discussed, it was decided to have the School thoroughly disinfected and colour washed during the Christmas holidays if possible.

Sick and Dividing Club - The annual meeting of the Langham Sick and Dividing Club was held at the "Wheatsheaf" on Thursday week, when a dividend of 5s. 6d. per member was paid out. It was unanimously decided to continue the Club, and the following officers were elected :- President, Mr. G. E. Steele; treasurer, Mr. H. Needham; secretary, Mr. H. B. Shillaker; Committee, Mr. J. Cloxton, Mr. J. Edgson, Mr. W. Gale Sewell, Mr. H. Faulks, and Mr. R. Steel; auditors, Mr. W. G. Sewell and Mr. G. E. Steele; sick visitor, Mr. R. Steel.

The Women's Institute on Friday evening week organised an invitation whist drive, which was held in the Institute. Every member invited a friend and a very enjoyable evening was spent by the large number who attended. The refreshments, which were kindly provided, were excellent. The following were the prize-givers:- The Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, Mrs. Burn, Mrs Davenport, Mrs. Ruddle, Mrs. Bristow, Mrs. Wallis, and Mrs. Arthur Harris. Winners :-

Ladies : 1 Mrs. G. E. Steele, 2 Mrs. Minnie Steel, 3 Miss Laker, 4 Mrs. W. Cloxton, booby Miss D. Bristow.

Gentlemen 1 Mr. S. Edwards, 2 Mr. W P. Royce, 3 Pte. S. Smith, 4 Mr. E. Sewell, booby, Master C. Shillaker.

Heartly cheers were given to the ladies for the kind entertainment, also to Mrs. Ruddle and the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, the latter giving away the prizes.

1919 - Jan 4

A Dance was held in the Institute on Thursday evening week, the proceeds being for the benefit of St. Dunstan's. There was a good attendance, and dancing was kept up with great spirit, an enjoyable evening being spent.

Christmas Services - The usual services were held on Christmas day with Holy Communion at 7.30, 8.30, and midday, the Rev. W. A. Mandall officiating. The bells gave forth their joyous sounds and the fine old Church was tastefully decorated. On Sunday, at evensong, the usual custom was observed, the choir singing carols in lieu of a sermon.

New Year's Greetings - The Church bells were rung half muffled on New Year's eve from seven to nine. The ringers were then kindly entertained and refreshed by Mrs. T. and the Misses Munday (two of latter being ringers). At 11.15 an adjournment was made to the belfry. After short touches, the mufflers were removed, twelve strokes were sounded on the tenor bell, and joyous peals greeted 1919, the bells being lowered at 12.30. The ringers wish to thank those who so kindly entertained them.

The Langham Bell Ringers cycled to Buckminster on Saturday afternoon, and rang several touches on the musical bells of the Parish Church. The following were the ringers :- The Misses C. and P. Munday, Miss L. Smith, H. Shillaker, R. W. Baker. Tom Isaac, J. Cloxton, and C. Shillaker. The ringers were very kindly entertained to tea before ringing and were provided with refreshments afterwards by Mr. Hawley, sen., the Rector's churchwarden to whom they tender their sincere thanks.

1919 - Jan 11

A Dance was held in the Institute on Thursday evening week, there being a large attendance. The proceeds were towards the present fund for the prisoners of war from this village and Barleythorpe. Every man serving had a Christmas present in money. In the case of the unfortunate prisoners, parcels were sent through the Red Cross, which, as the armistice had not been signed, were promptly appropriated by the Germans. After the fighting ceased, it was unanimously determined that these brave lads should not be "done" out of the present, so through this successful dance that worthy object, was attained. Excellent music was provided by Mr. A. Barnett (piano) and Mr. Wearn (Violin).

1919 - Jan 18

Barleythorpe - Musical Success - At the recent school examination held at Stamford in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music, Miss Joan Watchorn, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Watchorn, of the Manor Farm, successfully passed the primary division in pianoforte. She is a pupil of Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., of Langham.

Langham School Treat - The annual Baptist Sunday School children's tea, was held on Thursday evening week. The Rev. Paul Shipley was present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent in games, etc. Many of the old scholars home on leave were invited, among whom were the two who had lately been released from German captivity. Private Joe Conder had the honour to hand the prizes to the successful children, which concluded a very enjoyable entertainment.

Returned Prisoner - Pte. J. Conder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Conder, arrived last week from Germany where he had been a prisoner since Sept. 1915. He joined the 8th Batt. Lincolns in Sept. 1914, when only 19. On Sept. 26th, 1915, at Loos, he, with five men, had orders to hold a post with a Lewis gun at all costs until their battalion could retire, owing to the advancement of the enemy in overpowering numbers. The supply of ammunition being exhausted, they were surrounded by Germans and taken to Celle camp, where they were inoculated. Private Conder was engaged in road-making on some moors, his food consisting of very inferior coffee and one slice of horrible bread, which had to last him until evening, when a bowl of cabbage or turnip broth was supplied for supper. After a time he was sent with others to work in an iron foundry at Dusseldorf, but as they thought they would be assisting in making weapons for the destruction of their own comrades they refused to work, and were at once sentenced to 14 days cells. Then they were sent back to road-making until the armistice was signed. When Boxing-day arrived Private Conder, with eight Frenchmen, escaped at night, and reached Holland, after eight days march. They were taken to Coeverdon camp, where they were very kindly treated, and Private Conder landed at Hull last week.

He had been in captivity over three years, but was never knocked about. He only received some of the parcels and letters sent but wishes to express his heartfelt thanks to all the kind friends who sent him food and other things; without the former he does not think he could possibly have lived. Private Conder is now enjoying two months furlough.

1919 - Jan 25

A Christmas Tree and Tea were given to the children in the Institute on Wednesday week. A very fine tree was kindly sent by Lord Ranksborough. Valuable presents were provided, each child receiving one. The contributors to the presents were Lord Ranksborough, the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, Messrs. Owen and Vivian Smith, Mr. Vesey and Mrs. Burn. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed, and thanks are due to all who so kindly helped. Each child was presented with a cracker, kindly given by Mrs. Ruddle, Mrs. Leaver, Miss Hollingshead, Mrs. Watchorn, and Mrs. Wallis, very nicely decorated the tree. The greatest praise is due to Mrs. Ruddle, who worked very hard towards the successful result.

M.B.E. - Included in the recent list of new members of the Order of the British Empire "for courageous conduct at a munitions fire" is the name of Mr. Hugh Wright, chief meat agent, Ministry of Food. Mr. Wright was born and brought up in this village, where his father was in business. He also taught for some years in Oakham National School under Mr. J. C. Kernick, and was generally a successful competitor in athletic sports. Mr. Wright was very good at cricket, and was much missed when he left the neighbourhood, though he returned now and then at the "feast" to have one more knock with his old comrades. He was in charge of the Co-operative Meat Department at Woolwich before taking up an appointment during the war under the Ministry of Food. His many friends will be pleased to hear of the honour bestowed upon him.

For The Red Cross - The exhibition and sale of toys made by the Langham Women's Institute has brought in the handsome sum of £6 5s. 6d. The remainder of the toys were given to the children's tree. It is remarkable how lifelike are these toys, which include rabbits and dogs. They do great credit to the amateur makers.

An Entertainment promoted by Mrs. Ruddle, in aid of the Red Cross funds, was given in the Institute on Friday evening week. Professor Goddard was the principal entertainer, Mr. T. Robins accompanying him on the piano. Mr. Burn and Miss Weston kindly contributed songs, accompanied by Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., which were greatly appreciated.

1919 - Feb 01

Ashwell - The Langham Ringer's, by kind permission of Mrs. Barnes, visited this belfry on Saturday evening. The following took part in the ringing, the Misses C. Munday and L. Smith, Messrs. H. Shillaker, W. E. Higgs, R. W. Baker, T. Isaac, J. Cloxton, and Second-Lieut. C. Ball. A short touch was rung with two of the Ashwell ladies who have recently commenced to learn standing in and they acquitted themselves well. The ringers wish to thank Mrs. Barnes for the use of the bells

Langham - The Annual Social Evening in connection with the Church choir, bell-ringers, Sunday School teachers, and other Church workers was held in the Institute on Friday evening week. A company numbering between sixty and seventy assembled, including several soldiers and a sailor home on leave, who had received invitations. Ample arrangements had been made by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, and the energetic choirmaster, Mr. R. G. Isaac, who was responsible for the refreshment department. Games and dancing were interspersed with singing by the following :-

duets by Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., and Mrs. Simmons; songs by the Misses Hilda Weston. M. Steel, C. Steel, Shevill, Mr. R. Baker, and the Rev. W. A. Mandall. Most of the items were encored the duets being especially enjoyed. Mr. A. Barnett played for dancing, and Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., many of the accompaniments. Thanks are due to the subscribers and to all who contributed to the enjoyable evening.

1919 - Feb 22

Whist Drive - A very successful whist Drive was held in the Institute on Tuesday evening, 84 players competing for the handsome prizes kindly given by Messrs. Hassans. Messrs. Boston and Jackson, Messrs. G. Ruddle, W. P. Royce, D. Tidd, T. Weston, and R. W. Baker. Winners :-

Ladies - 1 Miss A. A. Simmons, 2 Mrs. Edwin Royce, Sergt. Hyder (as lady).

Gentlemen - 1 Mr. A. Harris, 2 Mr. T. Pearse, 3 Mr. C. Casterton (Egleton), Hidden No. Mrs. Moore (Ashwell). The Rev. W. A. Mandall was second highest in the gentlemen's section, but gave up his claim to a prize. Mrs. Ruddle was responsible for the excellent and ample refreshments, and she also presented the prizes to the successful players. A guessing competition in the charge of Mrs. Starkey of "how many cherries in the cake" brought in £13s. 3d. The proceeds were for the Institute funds. The Committee wish to thank all who gave prizes, refreshments, and help in any way.

The School - At a meeting of the School managers last week at which the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, Messrs. G. Ruddle, H. E. Hubbard, and R. W. Baker were present, Miss Candace Munday was appointed assistant teacher.

1919 - Mar 22

Decoration - Lieut. Victor Blundell, R.A.F., one of the twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. H. Blundell, and nephew of Mr. R. W. Baker, had the M.C. pinned on his breast by his Majesty the King at a recent investiture at Buckingham Palace. Lieut. Blundell is twenty-one years of age, and was well known in this village as a boy. He still carries a bullet in his left thigh, which it is thought better not to extract.

Church Heating - A well-attended meeting was held on Wednesday evening week to discuss, amongst other things, the best means of raising funds to provide a new and more up-to-date apparatus for the better heating of the Church. It was unanimously decided to hold working parties, all the ladies present forming the committee, and weekly meetings for cutting out and sewing were arranged. Subscriptions for materials are needed, and the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, set a fine example by heading the list with £5. A whist

drive, also, is to be held. New cassocks and surplices for the choir have been very generously promised by Mr. Vivian Smith.

The Annual Parish Meeting for the election of the Parish Council was held on Monday evening, Mr. R. W. Baker in the chair. The following were again elected Parish Councillors :- Messrs. E. Bryant, H. Conder, H. E. Hubbard, R. J. Isaac, B. T. Marshall, E. Nourish, W. P. Royce, G. Ruddle, and J. Sewell. The accounts of the dole for which Messrs. Marshall and Royce are the trustees were passed. A letter was received from the Clerk of the County Council, asking this meeting to appoint someone to sign the warrants for payment at the rate of 2d. for every rat (not less than half-grown) killed, between March 13th and June 1st, 1919. Mr. Baker, who was unanimously appointed, hoped that the rats would be brought pretty fresh.

1919 - Apl 12

Cricket Club - A meeting was held on Wednesday evening week, at the "Black Horse." to ascertain if it was possible to restart, the Club, which had been suspended for five years. Mr. Ruddle was voted to the chair; also present were Messrs. G. E. Steele, H. E. Hubbard, E. T. Marshall, Harold Hubbard, R. Steel, Tom Munday, C. Sewell, H. Shillaker, R. W. Baker, and the Rev. W. A. Mandall. It was decided to restart the Club, and the following officers were elected :- Captain, Mr. Ruddle; vice-captain, Mr. W. P. Royce; hon. secretary, Mr. G. E. Steele; Hon. treasurer, Mr. E. T. Marshall; Committee, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, Messrs. W. P. Royce, W. Watchorn, R. W. Baker, H. E. Hubbard, Chas. Sewell, and G. Burdett. Mr. Squires very kindly consented to the Club again using his field, under the usual arrangement. A ground committee was also elected. It was decided to ask Lord Ranksborough to become president, and the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, Messrs. W. T. Vesey, Owen Smith, Vivian Smith, and Colonel Raymond Green M.P., vice-presidents.

1919 - May 03

Whist Drive - One of the most successful whist drives was held in the Institute on Wednesday evening week. There was a large and representative attendance, of over one hundred. Eight handsome prizes were given by Lord Ranksborough: Mr. W. Watchorn, Mrs. Wellington, Messrs. Owen H. Smith, W. Watchorn, R. W. Baker, and Pte. Geoff. Watchorn (N.Z.M.G.C.). The winners were - Ladies 1 Mrs. Wallis, 2 Mrs. H. Cole; 3 Mrs. Hart (Oakham), consolation Mrs. Arnitt. Gentlemen : 1 Mons. Jean Deleu, 2 Sergt. Geoff. Williamson, 3 Mr. E. Edwards, consolation Mr. Albert Smith (Barleythorpe). Mrs. Watchorn was responsible for the excellent refreshments, and Mr. R. W. Baker for the other arrangements. Tickets were taken for boxes of chocolate, the winners kindly putting them up for sale again, as did some of the whist drive winners with their prizes. The proceeds of this enjoyable entertainment were towards the funds for providing a new heating apparatus in the Parish Church, and the gratifying sum of £15 7s. 4d. was handed to the Vicar, the hon. treasurer. Thanks are given to all who helped in any way.

1919 - May 10

Campanology - Another bell-ringing recruit, Miss Phyllis Munday, distinguished herself on Wednesday evening week by piloting a bell for the first time through a touch of 120 Grandsire Doubles, the ringers standing as follows :- C. Davenport treble, Miss Phyllis Munday 2, Miss L. Smith 3, Miss C. Munday 4, H. Shillaker (conductor) 5, C. Shillaker (tenor). Time, 25 minutes. This is the first 720 conducted by H. Shillaker, and the striking was excellent throughout.

Special Constables - A meeting was held on Monday evening to consider what steps should be taken to raise the necessary funds for joining in the special constables' supper and entertainment at Oakham. It was hoped that many residents would voluntarily subscribe towards this, the only reward, after two years' patriotic services rendered by those who left their beds ungrudgingly to turn out on many bitter nights.

The section leader, Mr. R. W. Baker, has already been promised several subscriptions, but more are needed.

Church Choir - A meeting was held on Thursday evening Week, for the purpose of supplying a long felt want in the form of a Choir Committee, and to elect a choirmaster in the place of Mr. R. G. Isaac, who had resigned owing to his duties being so far from home. Mr. McClelland was elected to fill this position, and Mr. R. W. Baker was appointed hon. secretary and treasurer. The Committee consists of Messrs. W. Watchorn, J. Breakspear, J. Sewell, the Misses Simmons, C. Munday, M. A. Sewell, with Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., and Mr. McClelland ex-officio members. A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Vivian Smith for the handsome gift of new surplices and purple cassocks for the choir.

The Easter Vestry Meeting was held in the School yesterday (Friday) evening week. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, MA., presided. The Charity and Church accounts were passed, the latter showing the handsome balance of £31 4s. Sid. The Vicar proposed a hearty vote of thanks to both wardens for the hard work done, to which Messrs. O. H. Smith and R. Steel suitably replied. Mr. Smith was nominated by the Vicar as his warden, and Mr. R. Steel was re-elected for the parish. The sidesmen, Messrs. G. Aldridge, J. Faulks, J. Lee, Rowett, Rouse, W. Smith, and T. Weston were re-elected en bloc. The usual vote of thanks was given to all Church workers. Mr. Baker was thanked for auditing the accounts, and was re-appointed. A vote a thanks to the Vicar for presiding terminated the meeting.

1919 - May 24

Rats - The total number of rats killed in this village under the County Council scheme up to Tuesday last was one hundred.

Dance - A very successful and enjoyable dance, at which about 80 attended, was held in the Institute on Wednesday evening week, in aid of the new Church heating apparatus. Mrs. Burn, the promoter, is to be congratulated on the success of the undertaking. The room was very prettily decorated with flags, flowers, and plants, many of the latter being kindly lent. Dancing was kept up with great spirit, until the small hours, to music by Messrs. Barnett (piano) and Snart (violin). Messrs. G. Leaf and R. W. Baker were M.C.'s. The sum to be handed over is £21 13s. 3d. Thanks are due to all who sent refreshments, subscriptions, or gave help in any way.

- 1919 - Jun 21 **Special Constables** - Most of the special constables from this parish attended the dinner given in the Victoria Hall, Oakham. The following very kindly subscribed towards their entertainment :- Rev. W. A. Mandall, Messrs. G. Ruddle, R. W. Baker, D. Tidd, C. Squires, H. Hollingshead, G. Simmons, W. P. Royce, J. Davenport, Sergt. G. Williamson, G. E. Steele, H. E. Hubbard, J. McClelland, E. T. Marshall, J. Lee, and Edwin Mantle.
- The Institute** - The annual general meeting was held on Monday, when Mr. H. W. Baker presided. Excellent reports were read by the hon. secretary and hon. treasurer, and there was a good balance on the right side. Mr. G. E. Steele was unanimously re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. G. Ruddle, hon. treasurer, and heartily thanked for their trouble and pains during the year. The committee was re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Messrs. Tom Nourish and T. Hubbard, jun. It was decided that in the future very drastic steps would be taken by the Committee to a stop to noise and damage by the junior members. Mr. Baker was re-elected auditor.
- Womens' Institute** - The members met in the garden at Harewood House, on Friday week, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Ruddle, the President, when a company of over seventy attended, including some of the Oakham members. Mrs. Sills, Oakham, gave a very useful address on jam making, and this was followed by tea and cakes. Unfortunately, the boisterous wind and cool atmosphere spoiled the enjoyment of the garden, so a move was made to the Institute for a small jumble sale, the takings amounting to £12, which will provide an outing to Fort Henry next month. On Saturday, some of the junior members went to the meeting of the Oakham Women's Institute, and gave a very clever and lively rendering, of a small play, entitled, "Love Germs."
- 1919 - Jul 05 **Promotion** - Quartermaster-Sergt. T. Munday, M.G.C., eldest son of Mr. Tom Munday, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant-Major. This will be very pleasing to his many friends, as Sergt.-Major Munday was always very popular in this, his native, village. He has been awarded the Meritorious Medal, and has been mentioned in dispatches. He is still in Mesopotamia.
- Buckminster - Bell Ringers' Outing** - By the kind invitation of Mr. G. Hawley, the Langham bell-ringers journeyed to Buckminster on Thursday week. On their arrival they were entertained to an excellent tea by Mr. Hawley. An adjournment was afterwards made to the Church, where various touches were rung by the following:- The Misses C. and P. Munday, and Miss L. Smith, Messrs. W. E. Higgs (Oakham), H. Shillaker, H. W. Baker, J. Cloxton, C. Shillaker, and E. Munday. Mr. Hawley again refreshed the ringers before their departure, and they wish to thank him for his kind hospitality, which was much enjoyed.
- 1919 - Jul 12 **The Feast** - The annual feast services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. Holy Communion was administered at 8.30, and after the midday service, the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A., read the form of thanksgiving appointed by the Bishop. The pulpit was occupied in the evening by the Rev. S. R. Barnes, Rector of Ashwell, who preached a very excellent sermon to a crowded congregation. The choir effectively sang the anthem, "God is our Hope," at both services, and special psalms and hymns were sung. The Church was, according to the usual custom, strewn with hay. Amusements this year, in the shape of "roundabouts," etc., were conspicuous by their absence, and the juveniles voted it a "very tame affair." A cricket match, versus the officers from Burley hospital, which resulted in the home team being defeated by three runs, was played on Monday, and on Tuesday, v. Brandon, the home team was victorious.
- 1919 - Jul 19 **Garden Fete** - A very successful garden fete was held in the grounds of Harewood House on Thursday week, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Ruddle. The Hon. Mrs. Gretton opened the proceedings and was presented with a large bouquet by Miss Joan Watchorn, of Barleythorpe. There was a huge attendance, 968 people paying for admission. The proceeds were towards the new heating apparatus for the parish Church. The whole affair was managed by a large and representative committee, with the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, at the helm.
- The ladies of Langham and Barleythorpe** had plied their needles to some purpose, judging by the well made articles on their different stalls; there were also stalls for baskets and eggs, pottery, flowers, fruit, and ice cream and lemonade, all of which did good business. Many were the games, including a "hoop-la," which seemed to extract the coppers with ease out of the visitors' pockets. The refreshments were all that could be desired. All who had the welfare of their Church at heart lent a helping hand in some way, and so ensured success. It is believed that about £300 will be the result of the undertaking. A very enjoyable open-air concert, promoted by Mrs. Burn, was given, and this realised a good sum towards the funds. Among, the many gifts to be disposed of was a fat sheep, a lamb, a pig, rabbits, fowls, a wheelbarrow, a load of wood, and many other things. Mr. Ellingworth's excellent band played during the afternoon, and for dancing in the evening.
- 1919 - Jul 26 **The Peace celebrations** commenced on Saturday morning with some lovely music from the fine old Church bells, and at eleven o'clock a procession was formed which marched round the village, headed by an impromptu band, composed of school children blowing various instruments and dressed in suitable costumes. The capital way in which, they acquitted themselves showed what pains Mr. and Mrs. McClelland had taken with them. The former headed the party, belabouring a drum. A short open-air service was afterwards held in the new playground, and an address given by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall. A cricket match, Club v. Demobilised Soldiers, was played in the afternoon, sports for the children being carried on in another part of the field, which was kindly lent by Mr. C. Squires. Tea, in which most of the onlookers joined, was provided. Sweets were also distributed amongst the children. The men's sports occupied the evening, and there were many interesting competitions, the high jumping

being particularly good. During the latter part of the programme, the weather acted rather as a “damper” on the proceedings.

Mr. George Harris very thoughtfully provided a kind of variety entertainment for the juveniles, which they enjoyed immensely. A free concert was afterwards given in the institute, which was packed. All the items were much appreciated, especially the part songs by members of the Church Choir. The whole of the expenses are being defrayed by subscriptions, Lord Ranksborough, very kindly giving £5 and Mr. Ruddle also gave a handsome subscription and a large supply of refreshments. The several committees worked very hard to make this a successful and memorable day, and their labours were not in vain. Mr. H. R Hubbard conducted all the preliminary meetings for the arrangements in a most able manner.

1919 - Aug 09

Omission - In our report last week of the meeting of the Board of Guardians, Mr. R. W. Baker's name was inadvertently omitted by our correspondent from the list of those attending,

Musical Success - At the recent School examination, held at Stamford in connection with the Association Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music, Miss Dorothy Haines (Barleythorpe) and Master Sidney Smith (Oakham) successfully passed the elementary division in pianoforte. Both are pupils of Miss Lee, L.R.A.M.

1919 - Aug 23

Allotments - The result of the allotment judging by Messrs. W. Hetterley and G. Dalby is as follows:- Old Allotments: Roods - 1 Fred Faulks, 2 T. Williams, res G. Steel. Half-roods - 1 G. Veasey, 2 W. Cloxton, res W. Dolby. New Allotments: Roods - 1 Tom R. Hubbard, 2 C. Casterton, res W. Williamson. Half-roods 1 E. Bryant, 2 John Sewell, res. C. Papworth. T. Hubbard was awarded the prize for the cleanest rood, and J. Sewell for the cleanest half-rood. The judges spoke in the highest terms of the excellent condition of the allotments.

The Annual Vegetable Show was held on Thursday week, in the grounds of the Old Hall, kindly lent by the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock. A large number of people attended. The exhibits were excellent, and the show proved a great success, through the energetic work put in by the hon. secretary, Mr. J. Austin. Messrs. W. Hetterley and G. Dalby were the judges, and their awards gave general satisfaction. The Committee wish to express their hearty thanks to the judges, the subscribers, and to the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock for the use of her grounds, also to Mrs. Burn and Mr. Owen H. Smith for throwing their gardens open, and to those who helped in any way to make the event pass off successfully. Awards :- Round white potatoes - 1 Tom Faulks 2 Geo. Faulks. Kidney white potatoes - 1 T. R. Hubbard. 2 Tom Faulks. Round coloured potatoes - W. Williamson. Kidney coloured potatoes - 1 H. Shillaker, 2 E. Bryant. Peas in pod - 1 T. R. Hubbard, 2 W. Williamson. Kidney beans - 1 Fred Faulks, 2 T. R. Hubbard. Broad beans - 1 Fred Faulks, 2 T. R. Hubbard. Long pods - 1 T. R. Hubbard, 2 Tom Faulks. Spring-sown onions - 1 T. R. Hubbard, 2 E. Bryant. Eschalots - 1 T. R. Hubbard, 2 G. Burdett. Winter-sown onions - 1 G. Burdett, 2 W. Williamson. Marrows - T. Munday. Cauliflower's - 1 E. Bryant, 2 Tom Faulks. Cabbage Fred Faulks, 2 E. Bryant. Beet - 1 J. Austin, 2 T. R. Hubbard. Long carrots - 1 G. Burdett, 2 T. E. Hubbard. Shorthorn carrots - 1 G. Harris, 2 T. R. Hubbard. Parsnips - 1 G. Burdett, 2 T. R. Hubbard. White turnips - 1 E. Bryant, 2 G. Burdett.. Cabbage lettuce - 1 F. Faulks, E. Bryant. Cos lettuce A. Wright. Rhubarb - 1 D. Burdett, 2 A. Wright. Vegetables - 1 Tom Faulks, 2 Geo. Burdett. Cooked potatoes - 1 Mrs. G. Harris, 2 Mrs. Curtis Williamson. Four varieties of potatoes (special) -1 H. Shillaker, 2 W. Williamson. Wild flowers - 1 Maggie Hubbard, 2 Violet Shillaker. Wild grasses - 1 Ben Walker, 2 Bertha Hubbard. Rabbits - 1 Herbert Williamson, 2 Bertie Steel, 3 Fred Hubbard. The vegetables were forwarded to Leicester Royal Infirmary and Mr. Austin has received a very appreciative letter of thanks from the Secretary.

1919 - Sep 06

The Anniversary Services were held on Sunday, in the Baptist Chapel. Two very excellent sermons were preached by Mr. Liddiard, of Leicester, to congregations. Special hymns were sung, the Rev. Paul Shipley ably presiding at the organ. The collections were most satisfactory.

1919 - Oct 11

The Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held in the Baptist Church on Thursday evening week. There was a large congregation, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. D. Jenkins, of Leicester. The sacred edifice was beautifully decorated, and the fruit and vegetables were afterwards disposed of for the benefit of the Leicester Infirmary. The services were continued on Sunday, when the Rev. R. W. Winstanley, of Uppingham, preached two very able and interesting sermons. Special hymns were sung, Miss C. Hubbard very ably presiding at the organ. Good collections were taken, which will be divided between the Infirmary and Church funds.

Bowls - Through the kindness of Mr. Ruddle, the annual bowls match with Oakham was held in his grounds on Thursday, Sept. 25th, resulting in a win for the visitors by 9 points. Mr. and Mrs. Ruddle very kindly entertained both teams to tea and refreshments. At the close of the game, Mr. J. E. Whitehouse proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ruddle for the very enjoyable afternoon. Scores :- Langham : W. Church, S. J. Fowler, and G., Ruddle, 19; G. Simmonds, W. A. Mandall, and W. Clarke, 31; J. McClelland, G. E. Steele, and W. P. Royce, 31; J. C. Kernick, J. C. Barnett, and R. W. Baker, 31; total 109. Oakham G. Peasgood, A. B. Strickland, and J. E. Whitehouse, 31; J. W. Lidgett, W. Hetterley, and A. E. Billows, 29; R. Crawford, H. Fowling, and R. Corney, 27; F. Ford, H. Chambers, and A. Green, 31; total 118.

A Unique Potato Show, promoted by Mr. Fred Faulks, who also kindly gave the prizes, was held in the Institute on Thursday, Sept. 25th. competitors were confined to an eight-mile radius, and the prizes offered were for the six heaviest potatoes, and for the six of the best quality, the awards being, as follows :— Heaviest potatoes - Equal 1, Mr. G. Trigg, Langham, Gatehouse, and Mr. J. Squires, Oakham, weight 10lbs. 5oz., prize of £2 divided; 2, £1, to

Mr. Pridmore, Market. Overton, 9lbs. 10oz. Six best quality potatoes - 1, £1. Mr. Pridmore; 2, 5s., Mr. John Glenn, Langham.

There were altogether about thirty entries. The judges were Messrs. Lee, H. Shillaker, Dalby, and W. Hetterley. Mr. T. Munday was in charge of the show, and with Mr. G. E. Steele acting as hon. secretary, the arrangements were well carried out. It may be suggested that a show of this kind would have created more interest had it been held somewhat later, as so many of the late potato crops had not been lifted.

1919 - Oct 18 **Peace Celebrations** - The Committee of the Peace Celebrations held a meeting on Thursday evening week to pass the accounts, &c., Mr. Ruddle occupying the chair. The balance sheet showed £11 in hand. It was unanimously resolved that this be given towards a memorial to those who have fallen, if there is one erected in the village. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. McClelland for so ably acting as hon. secretary and treasurer.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in the Parish Church on Sunday. In the morning, the Vicar (the Rev. W. A. Mandall, M.A.) preached a very able sermon. The pulpit in the evening was occupied by the Rev. U. H. Allen, Vicar of Hambleton, who preached a very instructive and interesting sermon. There were large congregations. The choir sang the anthem, "He giveth food to all flesh," Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., very ably presiding at the organ. The beautiful old Church was most tastefully decorated, the gifts of fruit and vegetables exceeding those of previous years. At the Sunday School service in the afternoon, the children presented their gifts. With the disposal of the fruit and vegetables, and half the collections, the goodly sum of about £17 3s. 6d. will be forwarded to Leicester Royal Infirmary.

1919 - Nov 01 **A Very Enjoyable Whist Drive and Dance** was given in the Institute on Wednesday evening week by the members of the Women's Institute, in aid of St. Dunstan's. 120 players took part in whist, and the following were the prize winners:- Ladies: 1 Miss G. Edwards (Langham), 2 Miss M. Serman, 3 Mrs. Wallis (Langham). Gentlemen : 1 Mr. L. Wooley (Barleythorpe), 2 Mr. W. H. Hart (Oakham), 3 Mr. Jarvis. The Hon. Mrs. Lubbock very kindly gave away the prizes. Dancing was afterwards indulged in, Mr. A. W. Barnett officiating at the piano. Mrs. Starkey presided over a cake weight guessing competition. The Committee wish to thank all who gave refreshments or helped in any way to make the event such a success.

1919 - Dec 20 **A Sale of articles left from the recent sale and garden fete** was held in the Institute on Thursday week, followed by a well attended whist drive, in which ninety-two players took part. The following were the prize-winners :- Ladies: Mrs. Prince 1, Mrs. Wallis 2, Miss Davis 3, lowest, score Miss Dalymount. Gentlemen: Mr. G. Aldridge 1, Mr. Steel 2, Mr. G. Steele 3, lowest score Mr. C. Shillaker. There were also several side shows, which were well patronised. The Committee wish to thank all those who gave prizes, refreshments, or helped in any way. On Friday, a jumble sale was held, and business was brisk. The whole of the takings for the two days were devoted to the Church heating funds.

1919 - Dec 24 **Whist Drive and Dance** - The Women's Institute on Thursday evening held a whist drive and dance. Every member invited a friend, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by a large company. Excellent refreshments were provided. Ninety-six players took part at whist, and the prize-winners were :- Ladies : 1 Miss Eva Burdett, 2 Miss E. Prince, 3 Mrs. A. Harris. Gentlemen : 1 Mr. Arthur Harris 2 Mr. J. Steel, 3 Mr. Cecil Burdett. Very nice prizes were provided. Dancing was afterwards indulged in, Mr. A. Barnett presiding at the piano. All those invited wish to thank the donors for their kind entertainment.

1920 - Jan 03 **Christmas Carols** - The Church choir, numbering about 30, visited many of the houses in this village and Barleythorpe on Christmas Eve, and sang carols. They were very kindly refreshed by Mr. and Mrs. Ruddle at Langham, and by Mr. and Mrs. Watchorn at Barleythorpe.

Musical Success - At the recent School examination, at Stamford, in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, Miss Lucy Isaac, a pupil of Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., successfully passed the elementary division in pianoforte playing.

Dance - A very enjoyable invitation dance, promoted by Mrs. Watchorn, of Barleythorpe, was held in the Institute on the evening of the 26th ult., Dancing was kept up with great spirit until a late hour. Mr. A. Barnett very ably presided at the piano. Excellent refreshments were provided.

Pig Club - Like many other things during war time, the village Pig Club had become somewhat dormant, but it has suddenly reasserted itself and the usual supper once more took place in the Institute, on Saturday evening. A very pleasant time was enjoyed under the genial chairmanship of Mr. G. Ruddle. Songs were contributed, Miss Candace Munday kindly acting as accompanist. The arrangements were successfully carried out by Mr. J. McClelland, the indefatigable hon. secretary, while the catering was in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. T. Munday, which, of course, speaks for itself.

Organ Recital - Through the kindness of Mr. Owen H. Smith, of Langham House, a very excellent Organ recital was given in the Parish Church, on Sunday afternoon. There was a large congregation. and every item was thoroughly appreciated. Programme :- Voluntary, Mr. H. Nicholson, A.R.C.O; hymn 197; cello Sonata in E Major (Valentini.), Miss Joan Willis; recitative and aria, "He Shall Feed His Flock" (Handel), Miss Sibyl Cropper; Organ solo, Dr. Malcolm Sargent; two carols, Langham Church choir; solo, (a) "God is My Shepherd," (b) "I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness," "By the Waters of Babylon" (Dvorak), Miss Sibyl Cropper; cello solo, (a) "Prelude" (Bach), (b) "Menuet,"

Miss Joan Willis; organ solo, Dr. Malcolm Sargent; solo, "A Little Town of Bethlehem" (traditional English melody), Miss Sibyl Cropper, with cello obligate Miss Joan Willis; hymn 227; recessional hymn "Abide With Me." Miss F. Lee, L.R.A.M., accompanied the hymns. The collection, towards the heating funds, realised £13 10s.

Barleythorpe - Sudden Death - The some what sudden death has occurred of Mrs. Neal, wife of Mr. Tom Neal, who has been employed in Lord Lonsdale's stables for many years. On Monday morning, Mr. and Mrs. Neal rose at five o'clock, their usual time. - Deceased ate a hearty breakfast and proceeded to prepare her laundry work. About ten o'clock, someone in the village called to leave some clothes, and found Mrs. Neal had collapsed on the floor of the wash house, having had a seizure. She was taken into the house, and a doctor sent for, but she never regained consciousness, and passed away about 3.30 in the afternoon. Deceased was 58 years of age, and was very highly respected. She leaves two daughters and one son. The sympathy of everyone goes out to the bereaved husband and family.

1920 - Jan 10

Empingham - Campanology - The Langham Church bell-ringers, by kind permission of the Rector the Rev. T. W. Owen, visited this belfry on Thursday evening week. Several touches, were rung, the following ringers taking part :- The Misses C. and P. Munday, Miss L. Smith, Messrs. Shillaker, sen., H. Shillaker, jun. R. W. Baker, C. Shillaker, T. Isaac, and J. Cloxton. The striking of the bells was remarkably good throughout. The ringers wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells.

1920 - Feb 07

The Annual Social Evening in connection with the Church Choir was held yesterday (Friday) evening week, in the Institute. About 80 were present, including many Church workers, relations, and friends, of the members, who spent a very pleasant, evening in games, dances, etc.

There was not a dull moment. Glees, duets, trios, and songs were given at intervals by members' of the Choir. Miss Lee L.R.A.M. acting as accompanist. Mr. A. W. Barnett played the dance music. The excellent refreshments were entirely in the hands of Mrs. G. Simmons and were all that could be wished for, and the greatest praise is due to her. The Committee and members wish to thank all who so kindly subscribed or helped in any way to ensure such a successful evening.

A Dinner and Entertainment were kindly given by Lord Ranksborough on Wednesday evening week, in the Institute, to all soldiers who had served during the war from this village and Barleythorpe. The whole of the catering arrangements were undertaken by the Women's Institute Committee, and were perfect in every detail. The menu consisted of various hot joints, plum pudding, cheese, and celery to which ample justice was done. Plenty of liquid refreshments were forthcoming, and every man seemed to thoroughly enjoy himself. In a very neat speech, Lord Ranksborough spoke of the good work done by these men, and told them to "keep it up." During the evening, his Lordship pinned medals for bravery, etc., on the breasts of three Langham men, Ronald Edwards, Chas. Prince, and T. W. Munday, reading out the accounts of their valour in turn. The rafters fairly shook with the cheering that greeted the three gallants. Professor Sewell, from London, engaged by Lord Ranksborough, gave a very amusing entertainment. - conjuring, ventriloquism, manipulating rings, etc. finding a very valuable assistant in "Charlie" who created roars of laughter. Glees, quartettes [quartets], etc., were sung by the Glee Class, led by Mr. McClelland, who had trained them to the hour. Other songs were also given, Lord Ranksborough is heartily thanked for his great kindness to those who thoroughly appreciated the compliment.

1920 - Feb 14

Women's Institute - At the second annual meeting, the president, vice-president, secretary, and committee were all re-elected, and a good programme drawn up for the year. The business was followed by a play, "War Time Memories," well performed by some of the younger members, and dancing and singing.

Exton - Campanology - On Thursday evening week, through the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. W. Collis, five Langham and one of the Oakham bell ringers paid a visit to this belfrey. Several touches were rung, also a quarter peal of "Grandsire Doubles," the ringers standing as follows :- Shillaker, junr., treble ; Miss C. Munday, 2; Miss L. Smith, 3; R. W. Baker, 4; W. E. Higgs (Oakham), conductor, 5; H. Shillaker, senr., tenor. Time 47 minutes. The striking was exceedingly good. The ringers, wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the beautiful bells.

1920 - Feb 28

Royce - February 24th, at Langham, Edward Royce, the beloved husband of Mary Royce, aged 82 years.

Langham - A Jumble Sale, promoted by the members of the Women's Institute, was held, in the Institute on Thursday week, the proceeds going towards the fund for obtaining a new piano. The handsome sum of about £31 was realised.

The Death of Mr. Edwin Royce took place on Tuesday morning. The deceased had a stroke towards the end of last week, from which he never rallied. The late Mr. Royce was in his 83rd year, and was born in Langham, and had occupied land under Lord Gainsborough practically all his life, only retiring a few years ago, in favour of his son, Mr.: W. P. Royce. The deceased celebrated his golden wedding as recently as October, 1917. He was highly respected by his many friends, and leaves a widow, four sons, and two daughters, with whom the greatest sympathy is felt in their bereavement.

1920 - Mar 06

Vegetable Show - At a meeting of the Committee, on Monday the Rev. W. A. Mandall in the chair - it was decided to hold the show again this year. The Hon. Mrs. Lubbock has kindly consented to the show again being held in the grounds of the Old Hall, and she is also undertaking the office of hon. treasurer, owing to the resignation of Miss Finch, who is shortly leaving the village. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Finch for the great interest she has always taken in the show.

1920 - Apl 03

In Memoriam - A beautiful tablet to the memory of five former members of the Baptist Church has been erected on the west wall of this sacred edifice. At the Sunday afternoon service the unveiling was performed by the

Rev. Paul Shipley, after giving a most impressive and touching address to a large congregation, composed not only of the regular worshippers, but many of other denominations, who came to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of the brave.

The tablet is of grey marble on a black background and is headed with the dates 1914-1919, with the following wording:- "To the glory of God and in grateful and honoured memory of William Palmer, William Thorpe, Arthur Cox, Percy Smith, George Gosling, who laid down their lives in the Great War. Let those who come after see to it that their names be not forgotten."

1920 - Apl 10

A Very Successful Whist Drive and Dance, on Easter Monday, in the institute entirely promoted by Mr. T. Weston, was to raise funds towards the Church heating apparatus. For the whist, there were 142 players, the donors of prizes being Mrs. W. Watchorn, Messrs. Hassan, Mr. Richardson, Messrs. Jackson and Boston, Mr. R. W. Baker, the Co-operative Society, the International Stores, Miss Hollingshead, and subscriptions by Messrs. W. Keal and Bobart. The following were the winners :-

Ladies: 1 Mrs. W. Bristow, 2 Mrs. Farrants (Oakham), 3 Mrs. Walker. 4 Miss Jackson, hidden number Miss Candace Monday.

Gentlemen 1 Master J. Clarke. 2 Mr. Richardson, 3 Mr. Tom Nourish, 4 Mr. E.: Bryant, booby Master H. Segrott. The prizes were given away by Miss Hilda Weston. Mr. Weston - (who acted as timekeeper) is to be congratulated on the success of his efforts. The donors of refreshments and prizes are heartily thanked. Messrs. J. R. Richardson and S. Smith were the M.C.'s for the dancing.

1920 - Apl 17

The Easter Vestry Meeting was held on Saturday evening, the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, presiding. The Church and charity accounts were passed. The Vicar proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to both wardens for the work done, also to the organist, choirmaster, choir, bell-ringers, sidesmen, and all Church-workers, for their services during the past year. Mr. O. H. Smith was again nominated by the Vicar as his warden, and Mr. Reuben Steel was re-elected for the parish. The sidesmen, Messrs. G. Aldridge, J. Faulks, J. Lee, J. Rowett, T. O. Rouse, W. Smith, and T. Weston, were all re-elected with the addition of Mr. Wallis. Mr. R. W. Baker was thanked for auditing the accounts, and was re-elected. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting. The parochial Church Council meeting, announced to follow, was adjourned owing to the small attendance.

The Institute - The annual general meeting was held on Saturday evening, the Earl of Lonsdale presiding. The Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer's report were read and passed, and considered very satisfactory, there being a good balance in hand. The officers for the year are - President, the Earl of Lonsdale; hon. treasurer, Mr. G. Ruddle; hon. secretary (to be elected later); Messrs. W. Royce and T. Munday resigned from the Committee, and Messrs. A. Hibbitt, E. Bryant, and T. Rowett were elected. As so much damage has been done to the Institute property, arrangements were made for a responsible member to act as supervisor. It was resolved to obtain an estimate for outside repairs. Mr. R. W. Baker was thanked for auditing the books, and asked to do so next year. A very hearty vote of thanks was given to his Lordship for presiding, and showing such an interest in the welfare of the Institution.

1920 - May 20

Oakham Guardians - Triple Contest for the Chairmanship - The annual meeting of, the Oakham Board of Guardians was held at the Union Workhouse, on Monday, the members present being - the Rev. W. H. Barry, Messrs. W. Freeman, R. W. Baker, P. Sleath, W. Watchorn, J. H. Manton, J. W. Chapman, Jno. Stafford, A. R. Partridge, G. H. Thurman, J. R. Bettinson, J. H. Hollis, A. E. Hibbitt, J. Skirth, C. Harvey Dixon, H. E. Hubbard, G. F. Houghton, E. Maley, F. M. Bradshaw, A. B. Strickland, J. W. Brown. Mr. Freeman was voted to the chair, pro tem. With regard to the election of Chairman for the ensuing year, it was decided on a division, that in the event of there being more than one nomination, the voting should be by ballot.

Mr. Bettinson then proposed Mr. Baker for the position, Mr. Strickland seconding. - Mr. Healey moved Mr. Stafford, the retiring vice-chairman, and the Rev. W. H. Barry seconded. - Mr. Healey was proposed by Mr. Hollis, and seconded by Mr. Thurman.- The ballot resulted as follows :-

Healey 10 votes, Baker 6, Stafford 4, and Mr. Healey was therefore declared elected. On taking the chair, Mr. Healey observed it was a most unexpected development, for he never dreamed of having the honour of being elected chairman, but if they thought him competent and worthy, he would cast no reflection on their judgement, though he was doubtful for himself for a good many reasons. At the same time, he thanked them very heartily. He thought in the near future there would be important duties for them, as Guardians, to perform, and perhaps the most important one that would immediately come before them was the suggested amalgamation for indoor purposes of the Uppingham and Oakham Unions, which would require a good deal of consideration. While they were all there, primarily, to care for those who were not able to care for themselves and were a direct charge upon the Guardians of the poor, they were also there to watch the interests of those who found the money, and in this direction he was convinced the amalgamation of the two Unions would tend not only for efficiency, but economy.

There were two propositions for the office of vice-chairman, and a ballot resulted in the election of Mr. Baker, by 11 votes, to 9 for Mr. Freeman.

Committees were elected :-

Rural District Council - The first meeting of the year of the above council was afterwards held, when on the motion of Mr. Harvey Dixon, seconded by Mr. Hibbitt, Mr. Healey was elected Chairman without opposition. - Mr. Healey, in returning thanks, observed that, the Council had a good many things looming in the future which had to be dealt

with seriously, most important of all, perhaps, being the housing question. They were very nearly a defaulting Council in this respect, and looked like having the "bludgeon" descend on them, as they were told a fortnight previously, but it was withheld for the present, for which they should be very glad. He hoped they would all co-operate to deal with the matter. - Mr. Baker was appointed vice-chairman, on the proposition of Mr. Bettinson, Mr. Partridge seconding.

1920 - May 22

Barleythorpe - The Sad News of the death of their eldest son, Sergt. W. Breakspear, at Shipton, Market Weighton, was received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Breakspear, last week. The late Sergeant had served twelve years in the Army, five in India, and two in England before the war broke out, when he was at once sent to the front with the renowned Lincoln's, and had been badly wounded for the third time in September, 1916, again returning to the front when convalescent. Although employed in Post Office work for some time since demobilisation, trouble from his many wounds kept returning, and after some months in hospital he appeared somewhat better, when a sudden relapse set in, and his parents were sent for, his mother and sister arriving after the long journey about an hour before he passed away. The deceased soldier was very highly respected. Bearing an exemplary character, he was a credit to the British Army. He was in his 35th year, and leaves a widow and two children. The late Sergt. Breakspear was buried with military honours, on Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Breakspear's three sons served in the war, and they have now lost the eldest and youngest. The sympathy of everyone goes out to the parents, the widow, and children, and all the family.

1920 - Jul 10

Bowls - Through the kindness of Mr. Ruddle the annual bowls match with Oakham was played in his grounds on Thursday week, resulting in a draw, Mr. Ruddle kindly entertained both teams to tea and refreshments.

The Feast - The Feast services were held in the parish Church on Sunday. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, preached a very appropriate sermon in the morning, and the pulpit was occupied in the evening by the Rev. F. W. Collis, Vicar of Exton, whose excellent sermon was greatly appreciated by a large congregation. The fine old Church was, according to custom, strewn with hay. The Oakham Boy Scouts paraded with their bugle band, for morning service, cleanliness, smartness, and good behaviour being the leading features of this youthful body. The Oakham "Ivy Leaf" Band attended the evening service and ably accompanied two of the hymns. The choir sang at both services, the anthem used at the recent choral festival at Oakham, and special psalms and hymns being taken. Miss Lee, L.R.A.M., ably presided at the organ. The band afterwards gave a selection of music in the square. Roundabouts, etc., are this year conspicuous by their absence, much to the disgust of the juveniles.

Woman's Institute - An exhibition of the work done by members of the various Women's Institutes in Leicestershire and Rutland was held in the Junior Training Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday and Thursday week. The Langham members came off with flying colours, taking no less than six first prizes, three seconds, and one third, the second, largest number of awards taken by any Institute in the two counties and the greatest number of first prizes, for which the County Federation are giving a special prize to this Institute. This report is very gratifying to those who have worked so hard, and it is evident the management of this Institute is in the right hands: The following are the awards :- Chamois gloves: 1st Miss Gertrude Hubbard, 2nd Mrs. Arnett; leather gloves: 1st Mrs. Ruddle; knitted gloves; 2nd Miss Gertrude Hubbard; knitted socks : 1st Miss A. McKay; baby's shoes ; 2nd Miss A. McKay; bottled vegetables : 1st Miss Lucy Harris, 3rd Mrs. Starkey; blouse: 1st Mrs. W. Bristow, crochet : 1st Mrs. W. Bristow.

1920 - Oct 20

War Memorial - A hastily-called meeting was held on Friday Evening at the Institute. Mr. Owen H. Smith in the chair when it decided to erect a cross in memory of those men from the parish who fell in the Great War. The question of the site is left to the selection of the relatives of the fallen. The following were elected to form a Committee :- The Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, Mrs. Watchorn, Mrs. Tidd. Mr. Owen H. Smith, the Rev. W. A. Mandall.

Death of Mr. R W Baker of Langham - Vice Chairman of Oakham Rural Council and Guardians

It is with greatest regret we record the death of Mr. Richard Westbrook Baker, of Langham, vice-chairman of the Oakham Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, which occurred during the morning of Sunday last while in bed. Deceased, who was of independent means, was a bachelor and lived by himself in one of his own houses in the centre of the village and it was due to this fact that his death was not discovered until some few hours after it had taken place. For a considerable time, Mr. Baker, who was of somewhat stout build, had suffered with his heart but had not of late, we believe, been under medical treatment. He was in Oakham early on Saturday evening, and was about the village, being last seen and spoken to shortly after ten o'clock, as he was proceeding home. For Sunday morning he had made an appointment to take someone in the sidecar of his motorcycle to dine at Saxby, and it was his failure to keep this that led to his being found soon after midday. It was first conjectured he might have gone to Church and when it was ascertained this was not so, Mr. Wm. S. Shuttlewood, after failing to get any response to his knocking at the door and calling, procured a ladder, and, looking through the bedroom window, saw Mr. Baker lying on the bed.

Receiving no answer, Mr. Shuttlewood entered the room and then found that he was dead. P.C. Clarke, who is stationed in the village, was informed and Dr. Jerwood, of Oakham, was soon in attendance, but could only say that death had taken place some few hours previously.

Mr. Baker was 56 years of age, and a son of the late Mr. Edward George Baker, Langham Hall, who died at a comparatively early age, and Mr. Baker lived with his mother until her death a few years ago. She was a Miss Marshall of Buckminster, where she is buried. A brother of Mr. Baker died a short time since at Bournemouth, and his two sisters are Mrs. Blundell and Mrs. Brain, the latter being in Australia with her husband, the Rev. A. Brain, who formerly lived at Langham. Mr. Baker's grandfather, Mr. Rd. Westbrook Baker of Cottesmore, was a well known agriculturist and estate agent in the middle of last century, being with the then Earl of Gainsborough, and he was one of the founders of the Rutland Agricultural Society, and also the old Rutland Ploughing Society. He also established the allotment system at Cottesmore in 1830. He built in 1850 the Langham Brewery, which eventually passed into the ownership of Mr. Henry Harrison Parry, and on the latter's death it became the property of Mr. Geo. Ruddle.

Considerable property in Langham was owned by the late Mr. Baker, whose death we are now recording, and recently he disposed of the Old Hall to the Hon. Mrs. Lubbock, while previously a farm, on the outskirts of the village, was purchased by the Earl of Lonsdale. For a considerable number of years the late Mr. Baker had been one of the representatives for Langham on the Oakham Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, and was one of the most regular attendants at the meetings; in fact, he made it a point of missing as few as, possible, and in April past this services were recognised by his colleagues appointing him vice-chairman of both these bodies. He was at one time chairman of the Langham Parish Council.

He was an enthusiastic campanologist, and a member of the Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers, and a honorary member of the local Societies. He was the leader of the ringers' band of Langham. Church, and had taken part in several important peals at Langham, Oakham, Melton Mowbray, and elsewhere. He was very fond of dogs, and was a member of the Committee of the now defunct Oakham Dog Show, one of the best shows in its time in the country.

For many years, up to the South African War, the deceased was in the Leicestershire Yeomanry, and went out with that Regiment to the South African War, being invalided, home with a poisoned thumb. He was a keen all-round sportsman, the rod and gun being perhaps his favourite recreations. He was always very fond of cricket, but had not played of late years owing to the condition of his heart.

In temperament, Mr. Baker was of the "hail fellow well met" type, genial and, cheery with everyone, young and old, and to his friends and acquaintances, in fact to everyone who knew him, "Dick" Baker was the name he was best known by.

He was of course well known throughout the district, and highly esteemed, and in many ways he will be missed, while his death, occurring in so tragically sudden a manner has occasioned the deepest regret. He had for some years acted as local correspondent for the Grantham Journal.

Mr. Baker as a Ringer - Mr. J. Jackson, of Belton writes:

The death of Mr. R. W. Baker of Langham Rutland, will be severely felt by many in the Oakham area, but by ringers especially, as he was one of the pioneers and great personalities of the art locally, and always did his best to encourage good ringing, whether be on five, six, or eight bells. He could not often be persuaded to take a "clanging bell" on 8, but he was always willing to - as he termed it "play the accompaniment" that is, ring the tenor or cover bell in Grandsire or Stedman Triples, and he did it right well too, striking the heaviest, bell with machine like precision. The writer well remembers one of his achievements at Colston Bassett (one of the most beautiful peals in the country).

The band consisted of two pairs of brothers, a father and son, and two oddments from Rutland. A peal of Stedman Triples was attempted with that accomplished ringer, the late Mr. A. P. Wakley, Burton-on-Trent, conducting, and Mr. Baker on the tenor. When the peal (5,040 changes) had been in progress some two hours, it was noticed Mr. Baker was in great distress, with quite a pool of perspiration on the floor in front of him, that had dropped off his forehead, so the conductor asked him to hold on a, few more minutes and he would call the bells round, which he did successfully, but, of course, the peal was lost, as only about two-thirds of it had been completed. The bell was tried by other members of the band at the cessation of peal attempt, and the wonder was how Mr. Baker had stood it so long. It was found on examination the bell was binding on the gudgeon (or axle), which made it terribly hard to swing a 23 cwt. bell. He was a member of the Midland Counties' Association of Change Ringers, and a vice president of the Framland Society of Ringers. His jovial. personality endeared him to all, and he will he greatly missed by others besides his ringing colleagues. A dumb peal will be attempted at Langham today, August 28th, by members of the Melton Mowbray and Belton (Rutland) hands of ringers, as a, token of respect to his memory.

The Inquest - An inquest was held on Tuesday evening by the County Coroner (Mr. V. G. Stapleton of Stamford), at the Noel's Arms Inn, Mr. R. C. Dalton (Messrs. Phillips, Evans, and Dalton, solicitors, Stamford) being present on behalf of the representatives of the deceased. - Dr. Bernard E. Jerwood, of Oakham, who stated he had not attended Mr. Baker at all in his lifetime, said he was called to see him about 12.30 p.m., on Sunday, and found he was dead, death having taken place from three to six hours previously. Being unable to give a certificate as to the cause of death, by direction of the Coroner he made a post-mortem examination the previous day. There were no marks of violence on the body and in his opinion the cause of death was syncope, due to fatty degeneration of the heart.

Mr. Wm. Sewell Shuttlewood, painter, Langham, gave evidence of identification, having, he said, known deceased all his life. He was unmarried, and lived by himself. He last saw him alive on Friday evening, when he appeared to be in his usual health. It was within witness's knowledge that Mr. Baker suffered with his heart; he had told him of it on more than one occasion. On Sunday, witness learned that, deceased had an appointment to take someone to Saxby to dine, and this person being unable to make anyone hear at Mr. Baker's house, witness told him in all probability he had gone to Church. They waited until the congregation came out, and enquiry showing that he had not been there, witness went to his house and knocked twice, and also called, but got no response. He then got a ladder, and placed it against the bedroom window, which was ajar. On looking into the room he saw Mr. Baker lying length ways on the bed in his night attire. He called to him, but getting no reply, he opened the window and got into the room. He then found he was dead, his face being quite cold. Witness informed P.C. Clarke, and sent for a doctor.

Ernest Burdett, brewer's labourer, Langham, said he had known deceased for some years, and on Saturday night, between a quarter and twenty minutes past ten, he had a short conversation with him in the street. He seemed as usual, and on leaving witness went towards his house.

By Dr. Dalton: Deceased had not complained to him about his heart at all. The Coroner recorded a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

The Funeral - The remains of the late Mr. Baker were interred in Langham Churchyard, on Wednesday afternoon in the presence of very many of the inhabitants, and a considerable number of friends, and those who had been connected officially with the deceased. The Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Mandall, officiated, and the choir, of which Mr. Baker was a member, was present, the hymns, "Hark, hark, my soul" and "Sun of my soul," being sung, and the 90th Psalm was chanted. Miss Lee, the organist played, "O Rest in the Lord," prior to the service, and before the body left the church a feeling rendering of "The Dead March in Saul."

The mourners were:-

Mrs. Blundell (sister) and Mr. Blundell (brother-in-law). Amongst those present were Mr. D. N. Royce, J.P., Mrs. Ruddle, Mr. Jno, Healey, J.P. (chairman Oakham Board of Guardians and Rural District Council), Messrs. H. F. Hubbard, F. M. Bradshaw, W. Watchorn (Rural District Councillors), F. W. Nicholls (Surveyor), Jas. Alderwood, (Sanitary Inspector), H. Sargeant (Master Oakham Workhouse), J. Barnett, S. E. Laxton. C. Dalton (solicitor), Jno. Pretty, G. Underwood, G. Phillips, C. Matkin, F. C. Dale, A. B. Strickland, R. Steele, Jno. Hayes, Ed. Hayes, J. Skirth, Barnacle, E. Stimpson, J. W. Lidgett, R. Needham Turner Pollard, R. Corney. E. Stimpson, Seaton, J Lee, T. Munday, Jno. Sewell, W. Royce, R. Revell, G. E. Steele, H. C. Squires, M. A. Mantle, J. Austin, Wm. Edgson, D. Tidd, Wm. Moss, Ed. Clerk, The Rev. G. J. Pattison, Vicar of Belton, Mr. J. J. Jackson, Belton, and Mr. R. H Bartram, Melton Mowbray, represented the Midland Counties' Association of Change Ringers, the Belton St. Peter's Guild of Ringers, and the Framland Society of Change Ringers.