

Langham & Barleythorpe War Memorial

PCC Record Book¹ - PCC formed in April 1920

Friday 1st October 1920

A formal meeting to take place as soon as possible to discuss a War Memorial.

20th October 1920

A hastily called meeting was held on Friday evening at the Institute. Mr Owen H. Smith was in the chair when it was 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 and the Rev. W.A. Mandell.

Easter 29th April 1921

Parishioners to be asked to subscribe to a War Memorial in the near future.

1st July 1921

A plan of the base of the War Memorial, including inscriptions was presented to the committee and approved subject to the inclusion of the word Barleythorpe.

30th September 1921

The War Memorial site was discussed, notification having been received from Mr. H.S. Goodhart-Rendel² (Architect).

2nd December 1921

Messrs. Royce, Harris and Mrs. Lee were chosen as a committee to complete the list of names for the War Memorial as soon as possible.

6th January 1922

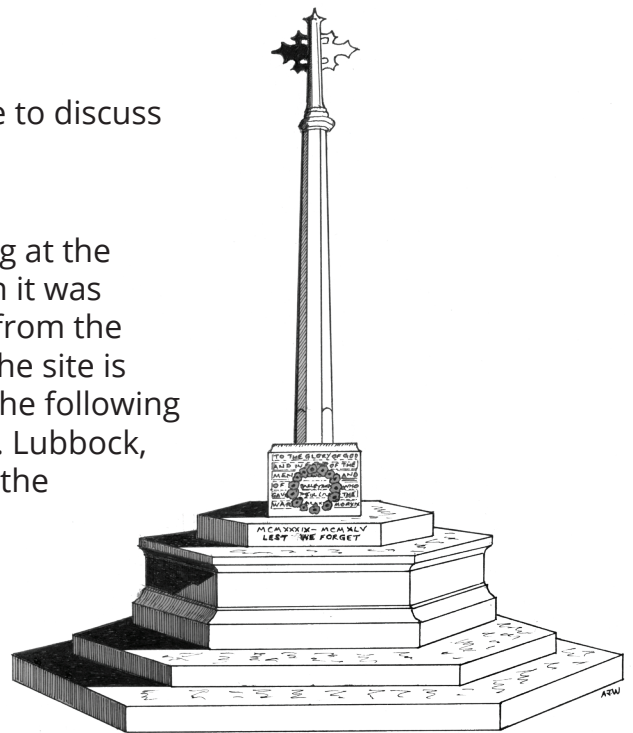
The War Memorial was expected to be finished in six weeks. The Bishop of Peterborough to be asked to dedicate the Cross.

9th February 1922

The War Memorial committee had finally decided where the Memorial was to be placed. (Alongside the new path).

[The War Memorial was paid for with public subscriptions, its surrounding paving of York stone was donated by Owen Hugh Smith.

Shortly after WWI, Langham brook was relocated from alongside the South door to Church St. path, to outside the western boundary of the church yard. This created new space in the church yard for burials.]³



¹ Record Office for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland reference DE2150/17

² Harry Stuart Goodhart-Rendel a celebrated architect, was a friend of Owen Hugh Smith of the Old Hall Langham

³ Mike Frisby - Langham Village History Group

Memorial to Twenty-Six War Heroes

From the Lincoln, Stamford and Rutland Mercury 10th March 1922

On Tuesday the Bishop of Leicester visited Langham to conduct a confirmation, and it was previously arranged that advantage should be taken of his presence in the village to have the new churchyard consecrated and the memorial cross (in which it stands) dedicated.

The spacious and beautiful old church was crowded. The choir was augmented by the choir of the Baptist chapel, Miss Lee presided at the organ.

The clergy present in addition to the Bishop, were the Rev. W.A. Mandall (Langham), the Rev. E.T. Glasspool (Whissendine), the Rev. S.R. Barnes O.B.E. (Ashwell), and the Rev. G.J. Pattison (Belton). The Rev. S. Paul Shipley F.R.A.S. (of the Baptist churches of Oakham and Langham), was also present, and read the lesson.

After a most impressive service a procession was formed to the churchyard, in which the relatives of the fallen and the ex-Service men took part. When the Bishop had consecrated the new churchyard, Major-General Sir Alfred Codrington unveiled the memorial and delivered an inspiring address on the meaning of the sacrifice which the brave men of Langham and Barleythorpe had made. The inscription on the cross reads:-

"To the Glory of God and in memory of the men of Langham and of Barleythorpe who gave their lives in the Great War. MCMXIV-MCMXIX"

The Bishop then dedicated the cross, the "Last Post" was sounded by buglers, and friends and relatives of the fallen placed flowers on the cross. The Bishop, from the steps, delivered an address which will long be remembered by all who heard it. The "Reveille" and the National Anthem brought to a conclusion a most touching and moving service. A muffled Peal was rung both before and after the service in honour of the fallen.

The handsome cross, of best Clipsham stone, was erected by Mr. G.W. Dracott, of Oakham, the architect being Mr. Goodheart-Rendel, of London.

After the ceremony the ex-Servicemen and special constables were inspected by Sir Alfred Codrington.



Major-General Sir Alfred Codrington at the unveiling the Langham War Memorial



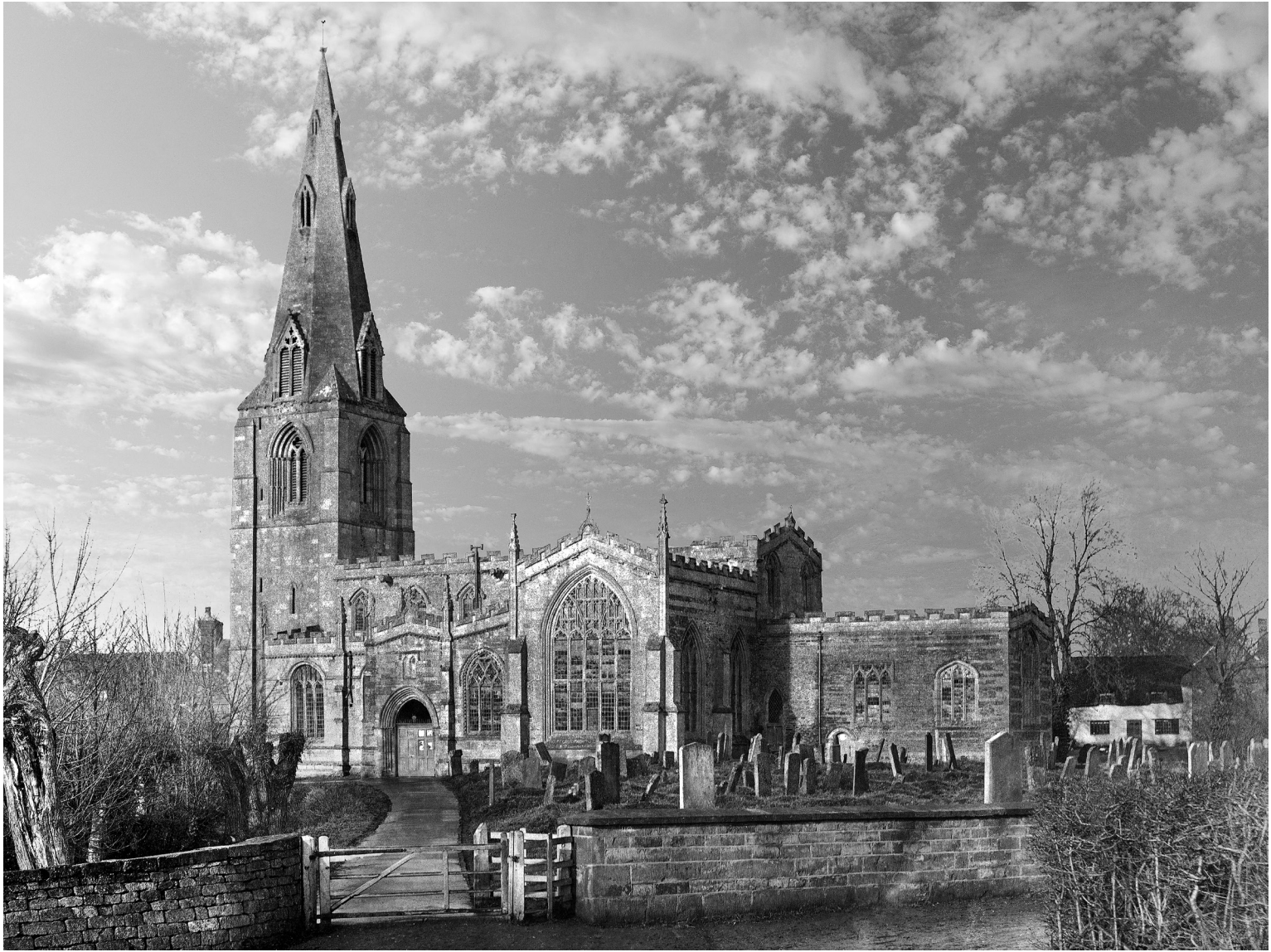
*Modern view of St Peter & St Paul Langham - War Memorial in the foreground
To the left of the path is the new area of church yard created after re-routing the brook*



War Memorial and paving newly completed



New Memorial after the unveiling - York stone paving not yet in place



Langham brook in its original position alongside the South door path

Langham Baptist Chapel

From the Grantham Journal , 3rd April 1920

A beautiful tablet to the memory of five former members of the Baptist Chapel 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 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."



IN
PROUD REMEMBRANCE OF
THE
OFFICERS AND MEN
OF THE
FIRST AIRBORNE
DIVISION
WHO JOINED IN WORSHIP
WITH THE PARISHIONERS
IN THIS CHURCH.
FROM HERE THEY WENT TO
ARNHEM
WHERE BETWEEN THE 17TH
AND 25TH SEPTEMBER
1944 MANY OF THEM
LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES
IN GOD
WAS THEIR STRENGTH