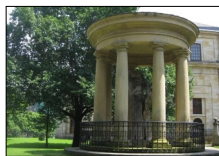


FROM THE OAK OF GERNIKA TO THE OAKS OF LANGHAM

Basque refugee children in Langham 1937-9

On Friday 26 July a commemorative plaque in the Basque colours of red, green and white will be unveiled at the Langham Community Centre during the monthly Community Café.

On 8 June 1937, following the mass bombing of Guernica (Gernika) in the Spanish Civil War, 53 Basque refugee children and their teachers arrived to live at *The Oaks* in School Road, Langham. The



massive oak trees by the roadside reminded them instantly of the *Oak Tree of Gernika*, the traditional symbol of Basque liberties. As the war passed beyond the Basque country, repatriations began and by September 1939 nearly all the children had returned to their families or been re-homed in the UK.

The plaque is being erected by the Langham Parish Council on the initiative of the Langham Heritage Group. It will commemorate the refugee children who found sanctuary in Langham and celebrate the friendship between them and the people of Langham.

Langham Community Café
Friday 26 July 10.30-12.00