

The Old Tree on the Hill

I first noticed the tree one day on the drive to school. It was big and twisted, with ribbons and bits of cloth tied to its branches. “Why would anyone do that?” I wondered. I asked my family but nobody really knew.

When I got to school I asked our teacher and they explained that the tree was special to the people who lived here long ago, and even today, some people leave tokens to remember loved ones or make wishes. They said they were sometimes called rag trees, and were often found near to a well. Most of the time the rag trees were Hawthorns. That got me thinking: why is this tree so important?

I started asking lots of questions! I talked to neighbours and learned the tree had been here for hundreds of years. Some people even remembered stories from when they were kids.

I decided to ask my family to visit the tree someday, explaining its history and why it matters. We had a really nice day out walking to the tree and it felt good to know we were helping to keep the memory of something special for the future.