

Round and About

**Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
September/October 2015 No 105**



Photo:
Tony Marsh

Notes from the Chairman.....

Planning

With the exception of the proposed Solar Farm on Knock Lane, we only have minor house extension applications, nothing too contentious. If the Solar Farm goes ahead there could be some financial benefits to the village, your PC is looking to see what we can obtain on the village's behalf.

Conservation Area

SNC are to revise the boundary of the village's conservation area, the provisional plan was discussed at the PC meeting in August. The majority of changes were small such as the original boundary went through the middle of the school!. This is changed to include the whole school and playgrounds. The area around the Canal including, the Old Mill, Grafton House and the Sun Moon and Stars is to be listed under "The Grand Union Canal Conservation Area". The other change was the removal of the land owned by the Old Rectory, the owners, Mr & Mrs Hawkins wished it to remain in the conservation area, your PC supported them and Councillor Kennedy organized a petition to send to SNC. They have now revised the boundary to retain the Old Rectory's land.

Stoke Road

We are still trying to obtain some safety improvements for pedestrians between the Allotments and the Canal Tunnel entrance. To this end Councillors Gardiner and Rose had another meeting with Highways about either white lines to mark the edge of the road "this was turned down due to the road being too narrow!" or moving the 30mph sign to before the Tunnel entrance. This suggestion was turned down some time ago, however your PC have now decided to appeal against this decision, let's hope we have more luck this time.

Canal Festival

Another excellent weekend organized by the Blisworth Canal Partnership, I believe that the attendance was the best ever, well done and thank you to all those involved. More details elsewhere in the R&A.

On the subject of thank you's

I would like to pay special tribute this month to **Alan North** for producing and collating this magazine, I for one, tend to take it for granted, yet Alan is the person who chases us up for our articles, edits them and ensures that publication is on time and also **Pat Masterman and the parish plan progress team** for once again entering the village into the Northamptonshire Best Village competition, they produced an excellent resume of the village and it's activities, with the result that Blisworth was awarded a "highly commended certificate". On behalf of the village, I thank you all.

**Charlie Jeffery, Chairman Blisworth Parish Council
07778-001780**

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07778-001780**



**Blisworth Canal Partnership
CANAL FESTIVAL 2015**

FESTIVAL THANKS

WOW! 'Better than ever' has been a common comment and huge thanks go to simply everyone who took part in this year's Canal Festival.

Already people are asking about next year's event. It is a wonderful weekend for the village and for all the many charities and organisations that benefit, it couldn't happen without the support of so many Blisworth residents. People come to enjoy the festival from far and wide but it is to local folk that special thanks are given now.

Jan Andrews 07597 053062
blisworthcanalpartnership@hotmail.co.uk



Blisworth Heritage Society



25 Sept 2015 Richard Dunkley

The Blisworth builder of the Railway Arch on the Towcester to Far Cotton turnpike and much more besides.

**30 Oct 2015 Medieval Northampton
by Ruth Thomas**

Would you like to help steer the Society, keeping it vibrant and doing important work exploring Blisworth's rich Heritage? New enthusiasts are always welcome to join the committee, come along to any meeting or contact the Chairman.

See our webpage www.blisworthheritage.org.uk

Guides

BLISWORTH GUIDE UNIT

A lovely group of happy, enthusiastic girls are now looking for additional leaders to complete the units' leadership team to work with them and take the unit forward. It is a great way to give something back to the village, is very rewarding, keeps you young and boosts any CV. Full training and lots of fun guaranteed. If you would like to help or know more please contact me on **07515282112**

Jane Roberts District Commissioner for Showsley

BVHPFA 250 Club

The numbers drawn for July and August were

£30	143	178		
£20	9	221	65	205
£10	236	226	45	6

Please note that cheques are issued soon after the draw, and before numbers appear here; there is no need to watch for your number and claim. However, if you want to keep a note of your number but don't know what it is, let me know.

Village coordinator **Fiona McKenzie 859 541**

South Northants Art Trail

Ten local Artists will be exhibiting their work again this year. Grateful thanks to the Rev. Andrea for allowing us to use the **Blisworth Parish Church**.

10th - 18th October 11am - 5pm each day
(except during Sunday morning services)

Work will include painting, glassmaking & sculpture - a vibrant and exciting mix. Free Brochures will be available in village outlets in order for you to plan a route to visit other venues throughout South Northants. Please do visit us. We love to chat about our work.

Maggie Turton

Blisworth Baptist Church

Family Service every Sunday at 10.45am

Creche available during Service

Communion every First and Third Sunday

Coffee and tea are served before the service from 10.00am and also afterwards in the Coffee House

HARVEST SUPPER CELEBRATION
Saturday 3rd October at 6:45 for 7:00pm

Coffee House Open

Tuesday's from 10.00am until 12.30pm

Support and Advice for Carers every 3rd Tuesday

Interactive Prayer and Bible Study
Tuesdays at 7.30pm

Men's Breakfast

Every fourth Saturday at 8.30am in the Coffee House
Next breakfast **September 26th** all men welcome

Pastor: Keith Barker – 01327 352972

Secretary: Diane Atkinson - 01604 859590

Room bookings: Jacques Haines - 01604 859705

Parish Plan Progress Team Report

As you may be aware Blisworth won a Highly Commended Certificate in the 2015 Best Village Competition. The Certificate is on display in the Cabinet in the Village Hall. Once we have the judges' comments we will look into what needs improvement before entering again.

We have a response from Peterborough Diocese about our plan to install a fence as a boundary in the Old Cemetery where the dry stone wall has collapsed. Unfortunately the Diocese do not in agree with our proposals and want the wall reinstated. We intend to investigate the cost of doing so and may need to apply for a grant if the cost is prohibitive.

We continue to receive favourable comments on the gates and the improved entrance to the Old Cemetery.'

Ann North

Blisworth Baptist Church

Invite you to join us in our

Harvest Supper Celebration

On

Saturday 3rd October at 6:45 for 7:00

A two course cooked meal and dancing to the 60's and 70's music of the band

"STEAMHEAD"

with a Cabaret during the meal

A full evening of fun filled entertainment

Tickets £10 per head

All profits to the Turkana Children's Project in Kenya

Run by the Young Harvest Trust

Tickets from Christine Pinfold, Jacques Haines,
Pastor Keith Barker, or the Chapel Coffee House

Look out for posters in September

Blisworth Women's Institute

At our June meeting the guest speaker was Adrian McGlynn from Weatherbys, ladies were asked to join in the 'theme' for the evening – Ascot Races - and come dressed for Ladies Day. Everyone joined in and came in all the finery with hats of all shapes and sizes! The tables were laid with pretty tablecloths and flowers and delicious pate and smoked salmon bites were served along with juice and sparkling wine. Adrian gave a really informative talk on horse racing which was enjoyed by everyone, even those not normally interested in horse racing!



Women's
Institute

July meeting saw a speaker from the world of tennis, 'Tales of a Wimbledon Umpire & Line Judge' – Alan Grey. Once again this was a lively and interesting talk on what was obviously a passion as well as a job for our speaker. Again the room was dressed for the topic with tablecloths and 'Wimbledon colour flowers on each table with tennis balls and racquets dotted around the room. Refreshments were (what else) strawberries and cream!

Both meetings finished with our raffle and happy members left for home, looking forward to our next meeting in August which is an evening trip to Philadelphus Jeyes in Earls Barton.

The weekend of the 8th & 9th of August was the annual 'Canal Festival' and we had a marquee stall in Blisworth House. All members supplied us with copious amount of 'home produce' as well as manning the stall over the entire weekend. Thank you to everyone who made the stall and the weekend a roaring success.

Our meetings are the second Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the village hall so why not come along as a guest, you can be assured of a very warm welcome.

Tina Alexandrou

Jazz at the Walnut Tree

Jazz @ The Walnut kicks off on Wednesday Sept 23rd 8pm with Paul Harrison International All Stars [Denmark's top jazz band] and then regular Sunday lunchtime (12 noon) sessions recommence on Oct 4th with Amy Roberts/Richard Exall Quintet. For details phone **Tad Newton on 858549**.

Blisworth Parish Church

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua Ch. 1 v. 9 The NIV Bible.

Our new curate, Sue Cooper has now been ordained, and welcomed to the Grand Union Benefice. She will be with us for three years and it will be a steep learning curve: the pressures of spreading her time between so many churches and villages are new to her. It is a great pleasure to have her leading services and preaching, as she gets to grips with all that she has to take on board before eventually moving to a parish of her own. She is anxious to meet people and be involved in the community, so do give a warm welcome to Sue, wherever you may meet her.

On September 19th Peter Heffron from Milton Malsor will be licensed in Peterborough Cathedral as a lay reader. A party from Blisworth will join with others from the Benefice to support him at this service.

Our prayers are with both Sue and Peter as they follow their callings and take on their new roles in our community.

The canal festival was again a stunning success as thousands enjoyed the warm sunshine and all that was on offer. At St. John's the first thing people saw was the mini ring in the churchyard. I wonder how many (especially the youngsters) got their first taste of bell ringing. Inside was a cool refuge from the heat. Again, Sally Edwards was ready to answer questions about Blisworth families' background. The Heritage Society were busy with displays and DVDs. Meanwhile church members served refreshments all Saturday and on Sunday after the morning service. A stunning quantity of cakes just vanished, along with refreshing tea, coffee or soft drinks. As in previous years, there was no set charge, but donations towards the upkeep of this historic building were welcome. We are so grateful for the generous amount that was given. Many thanks to all who baked, provided and served.

It was good to see the church full of people relaxing and enjoying what was on offer, and also to see families sitting on the grass around the church, many enjoying a picnic. It is of note that there was not a single piece of rubbish left in or around the church. At the end of the afternoon on Sunday many people gathered outside for the now traditional singing of favourite hymns, with music provided by our music group. This was preceded by a number of items performed by the recently formed hand bell group. They have reached a very high standard, and the performance was much enjoyed.

Details of service times are posted on the church door.

Rector	The Revd. Andrea Watkins	857619
Wardens	Angela Cheesbrough	859839
	Fiona McKenzie	859541

The Art & Craft Group

Following the overwhelming success of the Picasso Pantry & the Gallery during the Canal Festival, Members would like to thank everyone who supported us. Special thanks to Val Barker, Maureen King and Beryl Payler for their hard work behind the counter. As a token of our success, donations have been made to various Village organisations.

Maggie Turton

Blisworth Film Club

Forthcoming films:

September 24th 'The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'

October 29th 'Far From the Madding Crowd' Carey Mulligan stars as the beautiful and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene in this sumptuous adaptation of Thomas Hardy's novel Matthias Schoenaerts, Michael Sheen and Tom Sturridge play her three very different suitors.

November 26th 'A Little Chaos'. In this period drama directed by Alan Rickman, Kate Winslet plays a talented landscape designer chosen to work at King Louis XIV's new palace at Versailles. The performances are said to be excellent.

As ever, all films are shown at the Village Hall, doors opening at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start, admission remains at £4.00. Bring your own drinks and cushion.

We will soon be celebrating five years of screening films in the village and attendances continue to increase. Thank you all for your support, particularly by donating prizes and buying raffle tickets, which has enabled us to make annual contributions to village organisations. Special thanks go to Beryl Payler and Margaret Murphy who have continued to help with the organisation of every film.

Margaret Holiday 858590

Courteenhall Road Allotment Site

Please contact **Jane Hill** on **858656**.



Stitchery Do



Creating with fabric and threads.

Workshops 2015

Come along and meet us at our monthly sewing workshop every first Thursday of the month from 10 am until 3 pm. Only £4 per workshop including Tea/Coffee and biscuits.

3rd September - Easy Sewing Workshop - at the Blisworth Scout Hall. Bring along your sewing projects.

1st October - The Prestonpans Tapestry - at the Chapel Coffee House. Talk by Gordon Prestongrange.

5th November - The Northampton Charter Panel

3rd December - Christmas Decorations

Contact: Carol Arnall on 858776

Blisworth Play Reading Group

The Group meets first Wednesday morning in each month. Our next meeting will be **Wed 2nd Sept** when we will finish reading Boeing Boeing. This will be followed by another meeting **Wed 7th Oct** when we will begin a new play. Over the year we will be reading a bit of everything: classics, pantomime, farce, Agatha Christie and even 60's Radio Comedy Scripts. If you would like to come along and join us, you would be most welcome.

For further details, please phone **Dick Hennessy** on **858602**.



ARE YOU A CARER?

Northants Carers

Will be at the
Blisworth Baptist Chapel Coffee House
On the 15th Sept and the 20th Oct

Also on the 15th September

The Northants Association for the Blind
will attend to help anyone who has sight problems

On the 20th October
Towcester Area Door to Door
will also be visiting

They are looking for volunteer drivers,
and will help anyone who has problems
with travelling.



Wanted Urgently
Newspaper deliverers in Blisworth
Monday to Friday or
Saturday and Sunday or
Seven days a week
Apply in the Shop



Blisworth Bookworms

Meeting Dates for your diary **28th Sept and 26th Oct, 7 Westbrook 1.30 - 3.30pm** Who has read Paula Hawkins' 'The Girl on the Train'? It is well worth talking about!

Maggie Turton

Nordic Walking Taster Sessions & Beginner Courses

Nordic Walking uses all the major muscles in the body, giving you a full body workout, whilst burning up twice as many calories as ordinary walking.

Nordic Walking.....

- Uses 90% of your major muscles so your upper body gets toned as well as your legs and bum!
- Burns 20-40% extra calories
- It takes the pressure off your knees and joints and is great for back and neck problems
- You can get the most out of even a fairly short walk!

Schedule of FREE Taster Sessions

Tuesday 1st September, 17:30 – 18:30 at The Racecourse, Northampton.

Tuesday 8th September, 16:00 – 17:00 at The Buttery, Castle Ashby

Saturday 26th September, 12:00 – 13:00 at The Racecourse, Northampton

Schedule of Beginners Courses

Tuesday 8th, Thursday 10th, Tuesday 22nd & Thursday 24th September, 17:30-18:30 at The Racecourse, Northampton.

Tuesday 8th & 15th September, 16:00 – 18:00 at The Buttery, Castle Ashby

Saturday 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st October, 12:00-13:00 at The Racecourse, Northampton

For more information and to book visit: <http://www.northamptonshiresport.org/learn-to-nordic-walk-courses> or contact Sarah Harvey: SaHarvey@northamptonshire.gov.uk 01604 366752



Is sight loss making life difficult, then get in touch with us today as we are your local sight loss charity providing a range of services to help adults and children experiencing sight loss.

Why not use our countywide Enable Service which can help with friendly advice, information, practical assistance and equipment to reduce the impact of visual impairment for you, and your family or carers. **Arrange your free home visit today.**

Drop-in to our Sight Centres in Kettering or Northampton for advice and support plus a wide range of aids and equipment. Alternatively visit our Mobile Sight Centre when it is in a town near you! For details 01604 719193, email helpline@nab.org.uk website www.nab.org.uk

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Friday 16th October for the November/December issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

ra@blisworthparishcouncil.org.uk

or send to the Editor: Alan North
89 Buttmead, Blisworth, Northants

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