

Round and About

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
July/August 2016 No 110



Notes from the Chairman.....

Parish Council Vacancy

Unfortunately there hasn't been any applications for the vacancy, therefore at our 4th July PC Meeting we will look to co-opt a suitable person to join us, there is still time if you think you would like to help shape your village, please contact our clerk Viv Hartley or myself for more details.

Planning

Rail Central

Following the public presentations, which your Parish Council felt failed to give us any more information on the proposal than we already had, specifically on the capacity of British Rail to service the site, the size of buildings and the projected traffic flows, the general consensus was that Ashfield Land are going through the motions rather than giving us hard facts to work on!

Sun Moon and Stars development

You PC will be attending the development meeting to emphasize the potential parking problems if an extra house is built on the existing car parking area.

Connegar Leys development

We are in conversation with the planning officer over the South Northants Homes proposal to build on the old garage site in Connegar Leys and are trying to obtain the construction of some hard surfaced parking spaces on the grassed area opposite the site entrance.

Candle Cottage

The developer has again submitted an application to build up to five houses on the site, with just a slight amendment to the original application, as before your PC is objecting to the scheme stating the same reasons for refusal: outside the village envelope, site access to close to the canal bridge etc.

De-Fribulator

I am pleased to inform you that the de-fribulator with cabinet has now been purchased by your PC and we hope to have it installed at the school before the summer holidays. The ambulance service will be running a course on how to operate this machine and I would urge as many as possible to attend. Details and times of the course will be put in the shop, pub and on the village notice boards.

Vehicle speed warning activated sign

In an attempt to reduce speeding in our village we have agreed to purchase a portable VAS sign that it may be moved around the village, it will be battery operated and can be clamped to any suitable post or lamp standard.

Charlie Jeffery, Chairman Blisworth Parish Council.
07778-001780



An Extract from David Hewson's 2007 Novel "SAVED – How an English village fought for its survival and won".

"Where we saw beauty, they saw opportunity. Where we sought preservation and continuity they craved so-called modernity and change. They were masters of their universe, metropolitan men determined to shape it and profit from their labours as much as was humanly possible, paying lip service only to the environmental and human cost which was, in any case, invisible since they, almost to a man and woman, lived elsewhere. They wouldn't have cared about the pain they caused. We were, to them, throwbacks, people of no importance, obstacles in the way of a greater future of cheap housing and mass commercial development, and money, money, money, most of all.

For them this land was a place to possess, master and exploit. For us it was a precious legacy to cherish, nurture and hand on in turn. These superior men of London, distant lords of so much that seemed of little importance to us, knew better. All that mattered was their own brief span, nothing else, not for a moment".

Stop Rail Central Ltd is fully committed to defeating Ashfield Land's atrocious "Rail Central" proposal. If you would like to get involved in the action group please contact us via the web site www.stoprailcentral.co.uk or telephone Mark Redding on 859098

The Queen's Party at the Park

Remember the rain on Sunday 12th June? Well the people of Blisworth Park will, we may live on the hill BUT we are not over the Hill, we danced and sang in the rain. Lillian a professional singer, who lives on the Park was a trooper. She kept the party going and spirits up through it all by singing for us, all 50 residents enjoyed the whole event with good old British spirit, even the tornado from Towcester that destroyed one of our gazebos completely. We still enjoyed, we still laughed, we were all soaked to the skin but carried on; when you are wet you are wet. Happy birthday to the Queen, we will always remember the day the rain came to the party (see 'photo above).

Cheers Janet Steeper

Blisworth Parish Church

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it". Psalm 24 v1

A year ago we were happy to welcome Sue Cooper as Curate in the Grand Union Benefice. During the year she has become well known and much loved throughout our villages. Now again we celebrate with her as on June 25th she was ordained as Priest at Peterborough Cathedral. A coach took parishioners to join in the service. Becoming a Priest, whilst still serving as Curate, means that Sue is able to take more services such as Holy Communion.

We are again looking forward to the Canal Festival, when the Heritage Society and Family History group will have displays in church. As in previous years teas will be offered free of charge, though donations towards the upkeep of this historic building will be welcomed. Also any donations of cakes would help. At 4 p.m. on the Sunday there will be a "Songs of Praise" with the singing of favourites, in the churchyard if fine, otherwise in church.

The church is open most days, sometimes it is unavoidably shut if key holders are not available. If you know that you would like access at a particular time, call 859541 and every effort will be made to accommodate you.

On the last Friday of each month there is a coffee morning from 10a.m. to 12 p.m. at Candlebridge, Little Lane, a good opportunity for a chat and a drink, with produce and fancy goods. All proceeds to Church funds.

Details of each month's services are posted on our notice boards, and on the door.

Rector	The Revd. Andrea Watkins	857619
Warden	Fiona McKenzie	859541

1st Blisworth Scout Group

A **Big Thank You** to all those who joined us for tea and cakes at our AGM where we celebrated the Queen's 90th Birthday as well as the achievements of our young people.

Games were played outside, then, once all the parents had come inside and sat down with their tea and cake our Beavers Cubs and Scouts paraded into the hall and we started the proceedings with our young people leading the singing of the National Anthem.

Once the business had been taken care of and adult awards presented we handed over to the sections. 8 of our Beavers received the Chief Scout's Bronze badge, the highest award they can achieve in their section. Four of the cubs read out their thoughts on two recent events they had taken part in, the Peacekeeping Sleepover and District Cub Camp and then our Scouts entertained us with a couple of stunts.

To finish the evening, which fled by, we held an auction where we raised over £500 for the group and in addition the generous families donated over £42 for one of our cubs who is climbing Snowden in July to raise money for Rainbows Hospice for Children who cared for his brother.

The atmosphere was amazing, so thank you to all who helped, took part and joined in the fun.

Sandra 858764

Progress Group Report

The new name for the Parish Plan Progress Group. As the majority of the Actions from the Parish Plan have been completed, the group has become a sub-committee of the Parish Council where we will continue to progress any subjects as requested by the Parish Council.

The Group would like to thank the whole village for their support of the Best Village competition 2016 entry, including the residents and organisations who gave their time to meet the judges and tell them about our wonderful village. We particularly thank the Head of Blisworth School for hosting the judges and supplying wonderful savouries and cream scones made by the students for the visit. We are sure just entering has lifted everyone's morale. Fingers crossed for 12th July when we hear the results.

The judges from the Wildlife Trust, Northamptonshire Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme visited on Wednesday 1st June. What a shame about the weather that day. They inspected three locations, St. John's churchyard, both Baptist Chapel churchyards and the Old (closed) Cemetery. We hope to gain a good deal of information from them, and possibly even a Gold Award. Without doubt we will show that we fully deserved our Silver Award having fulfilled more of the required criteria. Thanks to all those who have prepared the churchyards beautifully for the visit.
Ann North

Blisworth Pre School

Pre-school is open Monday - Friday term time, 9.00 until 12.00. Lunch Club available until 1.00pm Tues/Wed/Thurs. A few spaces now available for September 2016 onwards. Please contact Pam on 07803662433 to arrange a visit.

Blisworth Play Reading Group

The Group meets first Wednesday morning in each month. Our next meeting will be Wed 6 July. We are undecided as yet whether we shall meet in Aug, but we will certainly be back again at the beginning of Sept.

Over the year we will be reading a bit of everything: classics, pantomime, farce, One Act Plays, 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 details, please phone **Dick Hennessy** on **858602**.

Blisworth Film Club

The films for July and August are: **July 28th 'Spectre'** the latest James Bond film starring Daniel Craig. The usual thrills and unlikely exploits! Always good fun.

August 25th 'Dads' Army' A touch of nostalgia, with a modern cast of familiar actors but the same humour and spirit as the original television series. Very good reviews

In the coming months we plan to screen 'Eddie the Eagle', 'Spy in the Sky' and 'Florence Foster Jenkins'. Dates depend on the films being released by Centre Screen, our provider.

Village Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30 pm start. Bring your own drinks and cushions. Admission £5. All welcome.

Margaret Holiday 858590

Blisworth Baptist Church

Mathew 11 v28 - 30

Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Put My yoke upon your shoulders—it might appear heavy at first, but it is perfectly fitted to your curves. Learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. When you are yoked to Me, your weary souls will find rest. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.

Family Service every Sunday at 10.45 am

Communion every First and Third Sunday

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

Coffee House 10th Birthday Celebration

A BIG thank you to all who supported us in our 10th Birthday celebration you made it a beautiful successful time. Here's to the next 10 years of service.

Canal Festival

August 13th and 14th

We are serving refreshments and food both days. A Boaters style breakfast will be available to ALL (not just boaters)

Coffee House Open

Tuesday's from 10.00am until 12.30pm

Support and Advice for Carers every 3rd Tuesday

Men's Breakfast

Every last Saturday of the month at 8.30am in the Coffee House. Next Breakfast: **July 30th at 08:30am**

Next after that **Saturday August 27th at 8:30am**

All men are welcome

Pastor: Keith Barker – 01327 352972

Secretary: Diane Atkinson - 01604 859590

Room bookings: Jacques Haines - 01604 859705



Blisworth Canal Partnership

BLISWORTH CANALFESTIVAL

August 13th & 14th 2016

www.blisworthcanalfestival.co.uk

Make sure you have the festival dates in your diary as it promises to be as great an event as ever. This year we have a dedicated '**Dog Zone**' with a scurry, gun dog training demonstrations, have a go-agility and dog related stalls. All this alongside the always popular dog show. Find the go-kart arena, farmyard, chainsaw carving, ferret racing, willow sculptor, trade boats and trip boats and everything else the festival has to offer.

Please support the Canal Partnership's fundraising stalls at Blisworth House and in the Festival Field. We rely on revenue from these to fund the spiralling set up costs of the event. **We are still collecting tombola prizes, bric-a-brac and cuddly toys.** Contact Jan if you have any to donate.

We still have some tickets for the Saturday evening (August 13th) boat trip. This leaves Candle Bridge at 7pm for a two hour round trip. Licensed bar aboard and we add free nibbles. A great way to spend an evening at £8 per adult, £4 per child (U14) and £20 for a family ticket (2 adults/2 children). Contact Jan below for tickets or info.

This year's performance by **Mikron Theatre** was as brilliant as ever. Rain meant that we had to resort to Plan B, using the Village Hall instead of the usual wonderful setting of the Old Rectory gardens. However the newly decorated hall didn't disappoint, its walls have witnessed so much through the generations and this time they wrapped themselves around an enthralled audience. People crammed in, still enjoyed their picnics and laughed and applauded the amazing talent of the young actors. We've already booked their return for June 2017.

Towpath benches – still work in progress! The Spinney path is on the agenda for putting right.

Jan Andrews 07597 053062

blisworthcanalpartnership@hotmail.co.uk



Neighbourhood Watch

I recently attended the Coffee House's 10th birthday celebrations and the annual parish meeting, it was great to meet people who live in the village and start to establish my distribution list to share information about crime in Blisworth. There have been a few burglaries in nearby villages recently so this is something to be aware of, but as always, please make sure doors are locked, even if you are in the house and windows are shut when you go out.

If you would like to be put on the distribution list please email BlisworthNW@hotmail.com, Facebook: "Blisworth Notice Board", Twitter: @blisworthnw Sarah Sharp NW Coordinator

Courteenhall Road Allotment Site

Summer has at last arrived. This is a busy time on the allotment plots but hard work is beginning to be rewarded with maturing crops. Early potatoes can be dug, even if these are small, nothing tastes nicer than the first helping, with mint from the herb bed and lashings of butter! Stump rooted carrots sown under cloches or in a polytunnel make a delicious accompaniment while broad beans just need a little more time to grow before they can be harvested.

If your mouth is watering at the thought of fresh, young vegetables, they can be yours with a bit of hard work when you take on a plot. Phone Jane Hill on 858656 if your appetite has been whetted.

Blisworth Women's Institute

Our May meeting was the annual Resolutions, where we enjoyed a jacket potato supper before our federation representative talked us through this year's resolutions. We were asked to vote on (1) appropriate care in hospitals for people with dementia and (2) food poverty and food waste.

In June we had a trip on The Indian Chief, most enjoyable. July's meeting will be 'A Taste of India'.

Our meetings are always varied and enjoyable why not come along and join us, you will be most welcome. There are many other trips and outings to be enjoyed with other WI groups, already this year members have been to the Houses of Parliament, World of Wedgwood and the annual County lunch with local Bake Off contestant Ben Fraser as speaker, to name but a few. Coming up are visits to Crich Tramway Museum, a felt scarf making workshop, Hughenden High Wycombe, even a four day stay in Caernarvon.

Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
Tina Alexandrou





Stitchery Do



Sewing Made Easy Workshops Summer and Autumn 2016

At Blisworth Scout Community Hall from 10am until 3pm

7th July - Free Motion Embroidery with tutors Madeline and Mary

11th August - Visit to NEC Birmingham - Festival of Quilts

1st September - Patchwork Session with Margaret - bring along your remnants!

Only £4 per workshop includes advice on your sewing projects plus Tea/Coffee, biscuits. Bring along a packed lunch in July and September.

Any enquiries phone Carol Arnall on 858776



Blisworth Bookworms

Bookworms will gather to discuss and exchange their recent reads on **Monday 25th July** 1.30pm – 3.30pm at 7 Westbrook. There will be no meeting during August.

Maggie Turton

ARE YOU A CARER?

Northants Carers care about you

*Do you care for a neighbour and going on holiday?
Northants Carers can cover for you whilst you are away.
Jenny will be at the Coffee House on Tuesday 19th June
and Tuesday 19th Aug. 10.00 until 12.00am*

The Queen's Birthday Party

A big Thank You to everyone who came and celebrated Our Queen's Birthday Party. What a lovely day we had, and weren't we lucky with the weather. Can't wait for the next excuse to have one, if not we will have one anyway.

A few items were left behind, an umbrella, plastic plates, a white dish and a silver tray. Also from last year, a tea towel, a plastic dish, a knife and a lovely blue plate. If any of these are yours please ring me on 858482 or just pop round.

Thank you again, particularly the helpers. **Estelle and Bud**

Art & Craft Group

As usual the **Art & Craft Group** is running the Gallery & Picasso Pantry in the Village Hall as part of the Canal Festival week-end. Opening times: 11am – 5pm both days.

Come along and with your friends and family, browse the **original art work** that's for sale, relax and enjoy **English or French Ploughman's lunch** (veggie option available) £5.00 - cream teas £2.50 – cake & a cuppa £2.00.

The **Evening Art Group** are enjoying working in the Coffee House on Mondays 7.30pm – 9.30pm. They will be exhibiting their work in the Gallery too. So, lots to look forward to, hope to see you there.

For further details about joining the Evening Group in September please contact Beryl Payler on 858476 or Maggie Turton on 858594)



Blisworth Heritage Society



July 8 at 7:30pm in St John the Baptist Church, Blisworth

Medieval Music on a Summer's Evening
accompanied by Strawberries and a Glass of Sparkling Wine.

This meeting is open to everyone
£3 members, £5 visitors including refreshments.
Please take note of the venue.

As usual, there will be no meeting in August, but we will be mounting a **Display in the Parish Church during the Canal Festival**. Please come and visit us and see the displays.

See our webpage www.blisworthheritage.org.uk

Blisworth Community Choir

(Musical director Helen Thorman)

The choir started in September 2015, our first concert that Christmas when St. Johns was bursting at the seams!

On Friday 17th June we gave our first Summer Concert which was a mixture of pop and classics in medley style, this was a great success, raising £270.73 for the Northampton Hope Centre. Thank you all who came to make it such a wonderful evening.

If you missed us at Blisworth you can catch up with us at St Mary's Stoke Bruerne July 1st 7.30pm. We'd love to see you there, and promise you a night to remember! This time we'll be supporting the British Heart Foundation.

Winnie Bateman

BVHPFA 250 Club

	May	June
£30	168	214
£20	240 & 236	158 & 237
£10	89 & 223	107 & 2

Thank you to all our members, this helps to keep our village hall and playing fields equipment up to scratch. There are a few numbers available, anyone interested please ring **Estelle on 85848**

Thank You

On behalf of the Chapel, I would like to thank everybody who played a part in the Coffee House 10th birthday celebration. Everybody worked together to make it a wonderful day, one to be remembered.

I would like to thank the volunteers, and also our customers without whom it would not have been a success. We raised £130 for Cynthia Spencer a great result. **Christine Pinfold**

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Friday 19th August for the September/October Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

ra@blisworthparishcouncil.org.uk

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

THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER.