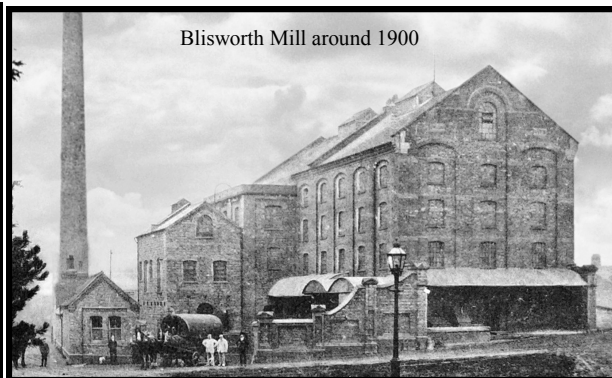


Round and About

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
January/February 2017 No 113



Blisworth Mill around 1900

Notes from the Chairman.....

Planning

The Northampton Gateway!

As you may be aware Roxhill Developments have submitted an application for a Rail Goods Terminal south off and adjacent to Junction 15 "Similar to the Rail Central scheme" This proposed scheme will incorporate a revised junction onto the M1 and a bypass for Roade. Your Council will be discussing this proposal at the January meeting.

The Chapel Hill Development

The developers have again applied to have the condition "That no Construction traffic should use Chapel Lane for access" removed, therefore on behalf of the residents affected, your PC along with our Councillor Steven Clarke opposed this removal and at the DCC meeting in November the planning committee decided that this condition must remain.

The Connegar Leys Development

Your PC are still trying to obtain extra hard surfaced parking on the large grassed area opposite the site, we have verified that the land belongs to the highway authority and that subject to a suitable construction method they have no objections. We are now trying to get the parking area included in the development scheme.

Highways and Footpaths

Although not our official roads and footpath warden Ann North has been taking photographs of the potholes and broken pavements around the village, sending them to the highways authority and badgering them to carry out some improvements. The result is that an inspector was sent out and they have agreed to resurface parts of Eastfield and a section of Buttmead is now on the schedule for resurfacing! With 'subject to funds' possibly some footpath repairs in the spring.

Well done and thank you Ann.

Vehicle Activated Speed Warning Sign

We finally have the device and, subject to obtaining the relevant permissions, hope to have it working within the next few weeks. We plan to use it on the following roads, Stoke Road, Courteenhall Road and Towcester Road moving it from site to site every few weeks.

Finally on behalf of your Parish Council, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy 2017.

Charlie Jeffery, Chairman Blisworth Parish Council.
07778-001780



A message from the Chairman of SRC Ltd

The 16th December 2016 was the first anniversary of Rail Central revealing itself to an unsuspecting community and almost a year to the day I had the most unwelcome opportunity of attending the Roxhill exhibition to learn more about the latest proposal to blight our collective lives.

It has been a challenging and very difficult year and one that has caused considerable stress and worry to very many people in the local community. We are now potentially faced with twice the misery and if anyone was in any doubt that one Rail Freight Interchange would destroy our rural community rest assured that the arrival of two removes any doubt.

We have at least another year before any decision is made on either of the proposed developments but believe me when I say; neither is just going to go away: we have to continue our fight. Whilst it appears quiet at the moment activity will ramp up again in the Spring and we cannot afford to let our opposition wane as this is what Ashfield Land are banking on. Please continue to write to our MP andrea.leadson.mp@parliament.uk to air your concerns over one, or both, Rail Freight Interchanges and continue to encourage friends and neighbours to sign our petition at www.stoprailcentral.co.uk.

Stop Rail Central would like to wish you all a happy and "developer-free" Christmas and look forward to your continued support in 2017.

ARE YOU A CARER?

Northants Carers care about you

*Jenny will be at the Coffee House on
Tuesday 17th January and Tuesday 21st February
10.00 until 11.30am*

*To help you with benefit queries
to arrange for someone to sit with your
loved one whilst you shop or have a break
we are here to help, so please come along.*

Blisworth Film Club

The following films have been reserved for the coming few months:

January 26th 'Swallows and Amazons' This film is suitable for accompanied children over 10, as it is based on the famous and well loved story by Arthur Ransome about the adventures of six children in 1930s Lake District.

February 23rd 'Love and Friendship', recommended by Phoenix. Starring Kate Beckinsale in a historical drama, but with mixed reviews!

March 30th 'Chicklit', amusing film about four domino playing friends who decide to write a fund raising 'mummy-porn' novel without really knowing anything about it. A low budget 'Britcom' with well known faces.

April 27th 'The Light between Oceans' moving story set in Australia with very good reviews.

Village Hall doors open 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Admission £5 adults, £2 for children over 10 for Swallows and Amazons. (Please phone to book a seat for your children for Swallows and Amazons to avoid disappointment as numbers are limited).

Bring your own cushions and drinks. All welcome.

Margaret Holiday on 858590 or Beryl Payler on 858476.

Blisworth Baptist Church

**A HAPPY, BLESSED AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL**

*Revelation Chapter 3 verse 20 The Voice
Now pay attention; I am standing at the door and knocking.
If any of you hear My voice and open the door, then I will
come in to visit with you and to share a meal at your table,
and you will be with Me.*

Family Service every Sunday at 10.45 am
Communion every First and Third Sunday
Crèche available

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

January 1st 2017

Welcome the New Year at a short service, at 11.00 am

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 last Saturday of the month at 8.30am in the Coffee House. Next Breakfasts: **January 30th and February 28th**
All men are most welcome

Pastor: Keith Barker – 01327 352972

Secretary: Diane Atkinson - 01604 859590

Room bookings: Jacques Haines - 01604 859705

Jazz at the Walnut Tree

Sundays at 12 noon. Phone **Tad Newton** on **858549** for details. Use it or lose it.



Blisworth Bookworms

It has been good to welcome new members to **'Bookworms'** who have enjoyed a variety of contemporary novels. It is said that the best part of 'Bookworms' is that we often enjoy reading books that we wouldn't necessarily choose ourselves. Next year's monthly meetings start **January 23rd and February 27th at 7 Westbrook at 1.30pm – 3.30pm. Happy reading!** Maggie Turton

Courteenhall Road Allotment Site

If you have never grown vegetables before, put a growing guide on your Santa list and take the plunge. The site is a friendly one and plot holders are always ready to give advice. Annual rent is only £5 per plot, which is a small price to pay for the enjoyment you will achieve from working in the fresh air and harvesting your produce.

There are vacant plots, so if you want to get fit and healthy in the New Year by cultivating a small plot and growing tasty, fresh vegetables, please contact Jane Hill on 858656.

Blisworth Barn Dance Bonanza

Woad Works Morris are running a Barn Dance to say thank you to the village and friends and in support of the **Laura Hillier Memorial Fund**. Woad Works are paying for the bands, caller etc. from their own funds so all monies raised will be for the L H Memorial Fund (connected to Cardiac Risk in the young).

Date is **Saturday 4th February** (so you can shake off the winter blues) and at Blisworth Village Hall 8pm-11pm. Dancing to Toothless Mary (a nationally acclaimed band) and Gallivants a new local band.

Tickets are by donation suggested £5+ available from Mike O'Connor 07801 494140 (in the village) and Chris Nikel 07801 862453, or any other Woad Worker.

Bring your own food and drink (carry outs available from the Royal Oak). Mega Raffle.

See you there!

Progress Group Report

A small group will be looking at the information available on Neighbourhood Planning on behalf of the Parish Council in order to consider the pros and cons of Blisworth doing a Neighbourhood Plan. If you feel you would like to join in the debate, some information can be found at <http://planninghelp.cpre.org.uk/planning-explained> or please contact me or any member of the Progress Group.

Ann North ann.north@homecall.co.uk

Blisworth Play Reading Group

The Group meets first Wednesday morning in each month. Our next meeting will be **Wed 4th Jan**, followed by another meeting on **Wed 1st Feb**. 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.

Blisworth Parish Church

*Yea Lord, we greet You, Born this happy morning,
Jesus to You be glory given! Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing. O come, let us adore Him.....*

The last verse of that best known of carols, which we refrain from singing throughout Advent, until triumphantly on Christmas day we can "let rip"!

If this edition is out early enough, there is still time for a reminder about the short informal family service, with Christingles, on Christmas Eve at 4.30, and the traditional Christmas Communion at 11.30 p.m. Whenever it comes out thanks are due to Alan (and the delivery team Ed) for the regular production of r&a, especially this edition at such a busy time.

Lots of people have visited the Tree of Love in church during the last four weeks. It was erected during an Advent Sunday carol service on November 27th, and in the intervening weeks it has been gradually covered with baubles or decorations of special significance to remember those we think of particularly at this time of year. The tree remains in church until January 6th, which is 12th Night, or epiphany. This is also the date when the Three Kings are traditionally believed to have visited the Baby Jesus, although they are, in our culture, incorporated into the Nativity scene and school plays. If you look at the nativity scene in church (it's on the far side on the Wake tomb) you will see the Kings a little separated - they were on the way but not there yet!

I wonder if that's how the frenetic activity of the last few weeks has left many people feeling: where did it all get them? The good news is that Advent was the expectation, and Christmas the fulfilment, of Christ's coming to Earth, and the promise He brought outlives all the glitter and excesses of a worldly Christmas.

On Sunday January 1st there is a benefice service in St. John's at 10.30 a.m. when we will be thinking about and celebrating the Grand Union Benefice, to which we belong. All are welcome, as of course to every service in our parish church.

Rector	The Revd. Andrea Watkins	857619
Warden	Fiona McKenzie	859541



Blisworth Heritage Society



Jan 13 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
The White Queen and Grafton Regis by Kathy Harry

Feb 10 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
AGM followed by "From the Archives"
by The Heritage Committee

Many of you will have seen our new display cabinet in the Parish Church and perhaps had a browse though some of the records. We intend to re-commence these afternoon sessions again in the spring when the weather is a bit warmer.

See our webpage www.blisworthheritage.org.uk

Art and Craft Group

If you are looking for an adventure in 2017 why not join **Blisworth Evening Art & Craft Group** on **Monday evenings 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Chapel Coffee House starting 9th January**. Since this Group formed in April, members have joined the Afternoon Group for a Saturday workshop, participated in social events and have been able to while away some enjoyable 'self' time each week just creating. Two of the youngest people are working through their GCSE Art syllabus whilst others are drawing, painting and stitching. They would like more company, though, so how about joining them? The cost is just £15.00 for a 12/14 week term.

It has been a happy and successful year for the Afternoon members too especially as we have been celebrating our 10th Anniversary.A year to remember.

Both Groups wish you all a **Happy and Healthy New Year** and look forward to your unwavering support at the Blisworth Art Show on 29th and 30th April. A date for your new diary!

Further details about joining the Evening Group from Beryl Payler 858476 or Maggie Turton 858594



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

Local Volunteering Opportunity Befriender/Home Visitor

Could you spare a couple of hours once a fortnight to become a home visitor/befriender for a local visually impaired person? A small time commitment can make a huge difference to a visually impaired person's life as they can become isolated or lose confidence. You could help them regain and retain their independence and well-being.

Volunteers can help with; home visits offering a chat and companionship, assistance with reading newspapers and correspondence, shopping trips, etc.

* Note this is not a domestic or personal care role *
Contact: Rachel Cave Volunteering Co-ordinator, email rachel@nab.org.uk Mobile: 07889 411274 or 01604 719193



Blisworth Canal Partnership

Lots going on behind the scenes in preparation for next year's festival to be held over the weekend of **August 12th & 13th**. There is a constant queue of traders and attractions enquiring about a pitch, many of these are new to the festival. This is always good news as we rely on this pre-event

revenue to fund all of the things we need to put in place for the weekend.

We'll be holding an **Open Festival Meeting** on **Saturday January 14th in the Village Hall at 2pm**. All are welcome. We'll share what we've planned so far and some changes that have been made. As the festival grows in popularity, so does our need for the village to share new ideas and help us out both with jobs before, at and after the festival. Please come along and join in. We want Festival 2017 to be one of the best yet.

Do you work for a company that would like to sponsor the festival posters? We are seeking £100 to cover the printing costs, the company can then have their name as sponsors at the bottom of each poster. The festival is now a prestigious county and waterways event, we are hoping that a local company might be willing to offer this support. Contact Jan (details below) if you work for or can suggest a company for us to approach.

Donations of **cuddly toys** have been coming in, please remember us if you are having a sort out as we need them for one of our fundraising stalls. Contact Jan (details below) if you have any that you can donate.

You will have noticed that the old rickety fence between the Tunnel Car Park and Stoke Road has now been removed. Paul Norman from our core team worked alongside a Duke of Edinburgh student to complete this task. It is part of the ongoing improvements planned for that area.

Jan Andrews 07919 003704
blisworthcanalpartnership@hotmail.co.uk



Blisworth Community School

Diary Date 'Bingo is back!'

Eyes down at the Primary School at 6pm on Friday 3 March.

Jacket potatoes with a filling can be ordered in advance - come along and have a great night of entertainment.

Celia Irwin - Head Teacher

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	Nov	Dec
£30	184	152
£20	63	151
£20	149	146
£10	165	23
£10	208	184

Thank you to all our members, wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy 2017

Estelle Rose 858482

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread



January 5th Japanese Fabric Brooches with Diana Turner. Bring your own fabric, buttons, trimmings, etc but kits will also be available.

February 2nd Creative Workshop with Madeline from Northampton Embroiderers Guild. More details later.

In the Chapel Coffee House, from 10am until 2.30pm. £4 per session, includes tea/coffee, biscuits. Bring your own packed lunch.

At each session you are also invited to bring in your own projects for help and advice.

Any enquiries phone Carol Arnall on 858776 or Margret Holiday on 858590

Blisworth Women's Institute

We wish everyone a very Happy New Year and would love to see new members (all ages welcome). Join us in 2017. Meetings are at 7.30pm every second Thursday of the month at the Village Hall why not come along as a visitor and meet us all, the WI slogan is 'INSPIRING WOMEN' and you will find that is exactly what it does.

Thursday 12th January 2017 is our first meeting of the year and it is an **open meeting** where visitors are even more welcome. Why not come along and bring a partner or friend to this musical evening with Lillian Carter, it is sure to brighten up a winter's evening. We will have nibbles and drinks as well as a celebration cake for all to enjoy.

Tina Alexandrou



BLISWORTH SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

We meet three times a week, Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Tuesday evenings. We are a friendly group who enjoy a game of bowls, a laugh and a chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit at half time.

If you are interested in having a 'go' we can provide the bowls, so all you need is a pair of heel-less slippers!!! You can be guaranteed a pleasant couple of hours, no-one needs to feel embarrassed as we all had to start sometime.

We (the Club) was formed in 1989, so we are a well established part of village life. If anyone is interested in joining us we offer the first three sessions free and should you decide to join, we ask a yearly subscription of £6.00 and a fee of £1.50 each time you play. For more information give me a call on 07775522012. You will be sure of a warm welcome. **Stan Tyrell (Sec/Chair)**

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Friday 17th February for the March/April 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.