

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
January/February 2018 No 119



Notes from the Chairman.....

Our village achieved a great deal in 2017. Blisworth was awarded Best Village in Northamptonshire! The Village sign has been restored, the area tidied and Spring bulbs planted, thank you to all of those who gave their services to this project.

Thank you Mike Wreford for your display of Christmas lights, in aid of Help the Heroes. A wonderful start to Christmas!

2018 will see the regeneration of the Football Club, giving facilities, for all ages to enjoy, as well as football. We wish you every success with this project.

The Baptist Chapel has tidied up the old cemetery so that the snowdrops can be seen in the Spring. Blisworth Community is helped by your programmes, helping carers etc, Coffee mornings, Art Classes, Pottery Classes, Stitchery do. To name a few. Thank you!

St John the Baptist Church, has done extensive repairs to the church, and cleared the Grave Yard, formed a Community Choir and hosted the SNC Art Trail. The Remembrance Day Service was very special, the Cubs and Scouts played their part with understanding. Thanks to all who made this Service so memorable!

Thank you to other Village organisations who give so much to the Community. The Heritage Society, WI, Short Bowls Club, Mothers Club, the Film Club, the Pre/School Group, the Community School. The Royal Oak, which had such an encouraging review in the Daily Telegraph, the Village shop and many more.

2018 will encounter the challenge of Planning applications for the proposed Rail Hub. We are fortunate to have such a strong, knowledgeable and active team in SRC **many thanks**, BLISWORTH NEEDS THEM! Please give help and support to this Group.

The Development in Chapel Lane. The Government's New Policy of clamping down on developers who leave land in abeyance should prove helpful.

Thank you to the retiring committee of the Canal Festival, for all that they achieved in pioneering this splendid event. Good Luck and Best Wishes to the New Committee.

The Canal is the Heart of Blisworth. Many thanks to The



BLISWORTH
LITTER CAMPAIGN



Are you fed up seeing litter in the village every day? Then why not support the Blisworth Litter Campaign. This is an initiative of the Parish Council's Progress Group, and our aim is to make Blisworth a litter free zone.

With the previous issue of Round and About there was a leaflet outlining the campaign. You can state your support by e-mail at lifeinblisworth@gmail.com or by signing the support register held at Blisworth Post Office. Signing up does **not** commit you to doing anything.

In the near future, we hope to enhance the good work of the village's volunteer litter pickers, and our Litter Heroes who won an award from CPRE Northamptonshire, by developing litter-picking in the village.

You will hear about our forthcoming Litter Citizen Scheme starting initially for primary school children and later, if successful, for grown-ups.

The litter campaign group has several other initiatives we are working on. Everything takes time, please watch this space.

Tony Hillier Blisworth Parish Councillor
Litter Campaign Group

Canal Partnership Team who have worked hard to develop and enhance its environment. Blisworth is fortunate to possess two Conservation areas, the Canal being one of them.

Parish Council AGM

This will take place in 2018. Everyone is welcome at the monthly meetings. Please consider standing for Election to the Parish Council.

Micron theatre will perform on Friday the 22nd June at 6 o'clock in the Old Rectory Garden. The apt title is Get Well Soon!

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

June Hawkins,
Chairman Blisworth Parish Council.

Blisworth Women's Institute

By the time you read this all the Christmas and New Year celebrations will be just a memory, I hope you all had a happy and peaceful time with family and friends.



Our Christmas party was shared with Milton Malsor WI and a good time was had by all, lovely food, entertainment and Secret Santa!

We are looking forward to a varied and interesting year at our WI meetings so if you are not a member why not make it your New Year resolution and join us!

We run every second Thursday of the month in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Tina Alexandrou

Blisworth Community Choir (Musical director Helen Thorman)

Christmas Concerts

We gave our first Christmas Concert at the Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury. This was a joint effort with Hunsbury Voices and what a jolly time we had, this was the first time the two choirs had sung together, maybe we'll do it again next year because it was such a great success. We collected an amazing £700 for the Cynthia Spencer Hospice, thank you all so much everyone.

Our own concert was on Wednesday 20th Dec. at St John's Church, entry was free, retiring collection and raffle for the British Heart Foundation. It was extremely well attended and we received a lot praise.

We will meet again in the New Year 2018 on Thurs Jan 11th at 7 pm at Holy Cross Church Milton Malsor. If you would like to join the choir just come along, you are more than welcome.

Have a Swinging New Year. **Winnie Bateman**

Banking in the Village Shop

With some local Bank Branches closing, some already closed with others likely to follow; the good news is that you can still do your day to day banking at the Post Office at Blisworth Stores. Your current account can be accessed, cash withdrawals made; you can get the balance of your account and make both cash and cheque deposits into it.

If you are not sure if your bank is covered by this service see Mary at the post office. She is there Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm with lunch from 1 to 2pm and half day closing on Wednesday. Another postmistress is there on Saturday mornings. This is an extra very valuable service that our local shop provides.

The recent facelift to the shop front has enhanced the High Street and the refit and remerchandising has increased the number of products. If there is an item you would like to buy regularly mention it to Ajay and he will try to help.

1st Blisworth Scout Group

A New Year Wish

By the time you are reading this it will be 2018, firstly may I, on behalf of the Scout Group wish you all a very Happy, Healthy New Year.

Before Christmas our Leaders provided our wonderful excited youngsters with great section nights on the run up to the Festive Season and of course taking advantage of the SNOW.

The New Year brings new challenges and exciting opportunities for the young people to try different things whilst working together and taking responsibility for themselves and others. Learning to care for others and our environment as we take part in the many activities on offer.

None of this can happen without our volunteers, our Leaders, Committee and helpers and I wish them a Happy, Healthy New Year too. Most of the Leaders at Blisworth joined when their own children began their scouting adventure, luckily for Blisworth many have stayed on, even though they have full time jobs, family and other commitments just like you.

This is unusual as many Leaders give up after their own children have moved on from scouting. However, Blisworth and the Grafton District need more volunteers to carry on the excellent work currently being done. You could help and this is **my wish for the New Year**. Can you give us some time, whether it be once or twice a year, once a month, every other week, every week, many hands make light work, scouting needs you? If you have some time, but working directly with the youngsters is not your thing, Grafton District are urgently looking for a District Treasurer, closer to home our committee would welcome more members and of course our Leaders would welcome additional Leaders and, to be frank, they deserve the support, after giving their time for the many years they have, I think presently the Blisworth Leaders have given collectively around 150 years of service, wow that makes you think.

So as you look forward to the New Year think about doing something for our young people, our adults get just as much out of scouting as they do. I would love to hear from you or why not pop up to the Scout Hall on a section night and see for yourself.

Sandra, Group Contact 858764

Why not start the New Year by doing something new or picking up on an old hobby.

Joining the **Monday Evening Art Group** may be just the thing.

This very friendly group will start painting and crafting on **Monday 8th January** in the **Baptist Church Coffee House** – **7.30pm – 9.30pm** every week until Easter. Mainly a self-help group that offers encouragement and occasional art workshop/demonstrations from visiting Art Tutors. The cost is just £15 per term. Come, see and enjoy!

Maggie Turton 858594

Tony Maycock 858146

Blisworth Baptist Church

We wish all the readers of Round and About
A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR

Family Service every Sunday at 10.45 am
Communion every First and Third Sunday
Children are most welcome, Crèche and Breakout
Room for the Children.

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

Forth Coming Events

Saturday January 6th at 6:30pm.

An Evening of Fellowship and Film

*Come and see the film we planned to show at
harvest supper "THE SHACK"*

Refreshments and Nibbles available

Bring your own bottle of wine.

Coffee House Open

Tuesday's at 10.00am until 12.30pm

Every 3rd Tuesday is "Carers Support Day"

Men's Breakfast

Last Saturday of the Month at 8.30am in the Coffee House

Next Breakfasts: January 27th then February 24th

All men are very welcome

Pastor: Keith Barker – 01327 352972

Secretary: Diane Atkinson - 01604 859590

Room Bookings: Church Office - 01604 857654

Website www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org.uk

Latest information is on the Website

Members of Blisworth Art Groups would like to wish
you a very Happy New Year.

Thank you for supporting us throughout 2017 our
exhibitions wouldn't be worthwhile if it wasn't for you. We
look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Blisworth Play Reading Group

The Group normally meets first Wednesday morning in
each month. Our next meeting will be Wed 10th Jan (*a week
later than usual*), when we shall to begin a new play. We
will then meet again on Wed 7th 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 Pre School

Pre school is open Monday - Friday term time. A few
spaces remaining for this school year. **Book now** to ensure
a place for your child for **2018**. Contact Pam on
07803662433 for further information or to arrange a visit.

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	November	December
£30	54	108
£20	218	22
£20	11	96
£10	231	31
£10	233	120

Wishing you all every best wish for 2018. Thank you all for
your support

Estelle on 858482.

Blisworth Film Club

January 25th

'Dunkirk'

February 22nd

'Victoria and Abdul'

Two highly recommended British films with all star casts.

As usual, doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start, in the
Village Hall, admission £5. Drink your own drinks and
bring your own cushions.

Margaret Holiday 858590

TADD

TADD is a wonderful organisation who help people
get to their medical appointments.

They are desperate for drivers. If you have a few
hours to spare, they would be delighted to hear
from you.

You can do any hours you like, just tell them your
availability each week. You get paid mileage, so you
are not out of pocket and your efforts are so
appreciated. Please ring Tracy on 01327 810308.
Thank you

Thank You Blisworth

On behalf of this lovely village, I would like to say a very
big "Thank you" to all the many wonderful volunteers
who work so hard behind the scenes to make Blisworth the
great community it is. I think we take you all a bit for
granted. But believe me, you are so appreciated. What
would Blisworth be without you. I wish you all every best
wish for 2018.

Estelle on 858482

Northamptonshire's best village 2017, how about best Ho,
Ho, Ho village for all the great festive lights! Editor



Blisworth Heritage Society



Friday Jan 12 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
AGM followed by LIFE ON THE CUT, films from BWB
archives

If you would like to help run the society, now is your
chance: speak to any committee member, or just shout out
at the meeting.

Friday Feb 9 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
"TO THE MANOR BORN"- Northants Manor Houses
and their Owners by Derek Blunt (*Postponed from Oct*)

Spring will soon be here, so we will be arranging more
"Open Records" sessions, if there are records of particular
interest to you, please contact any committee member and
we will try to make them available for you to consult.
See our website <http://www.blisworthheritage.org.uk>



Blisworth Bookworms

The next two meetings: **Monday 29th Jan & 26th Feb 1.30pm – 3.30pm at 7 Westbrook.** We will be sharing the enjoyment (or not) of our Christmas reads. Maybe there will be a few surprises in store! **Maggie Turton**

Blisworth Village Library/Reading Room

Sarah and Donald Sykes have over a thousand good paperback novels which they would like to donate to the village. This could form the basis for a Blisworth Village Library/ Reading Room if enough people would like to use a community space like this, and if we can form a team to find a venue and set it up. If you would like to see this come to fruition in our village, and you would either use it, or help to run it, please contact Sarah on 859373 and we can start work on it in January 2018.

Blisworth Parish Church

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made: without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it".
John Ch. 1 vv 1-5

The first Sunday in December is the beginning of Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas, and this is also the beginning of the church year. As we make promises of lifestyle changes on January 1st, so during Advent we can long for the difference that the light of Christ coming into the World's dark places could make. In churches at this time there will almost always be an advent wreath. This is made of four candles in perhaps purple or blue and a central white candle. The tradition is that a candle is lit each week. These commemorate first the Patriarchs, including Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The second is for the Prophets, including Isaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah. The third is for the birth of John the Baptist, and the fourth for Mary. Finally on Christmas Day the Christ light candle is lit. And so throughout this season we remember and contemplate the foundation of our faith.

I have just had an idea! So much is puzzling about the church and its traditions, about faith and belief and so on. There is a prayer board just inside the church and if anyone would like a question answered however simple it may seem it can be written anonymously and pinned on the board. An answer by one of the team will be attached as soon as possible.

Rector	The Revd. Andrea Watkins	857619
Curate	The Revd. Sue Cooper	764243
Warden	Fiona McKenzie	859541

Great Jazz at the Walnut Tree

Every Sunday, 12 to 2.30. Jan 7th Dave Harmer's New Orleans Hot Shots, Jan 14th Barry Palser's Super Six with John Crocker [formerly with the Chris Barber Band] Jan 21st Alvin Roy's Reeds Unlimited!, Jan 28th Adrian Cox Band "Profoundly Blue". Tad Newton 858549

Watch Out

There have been a number of reports of two men in a white van persistently trying persuade villagers to sell them scrap metal and other items. Stand your ground against them and report any attempted pressurisation.

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread



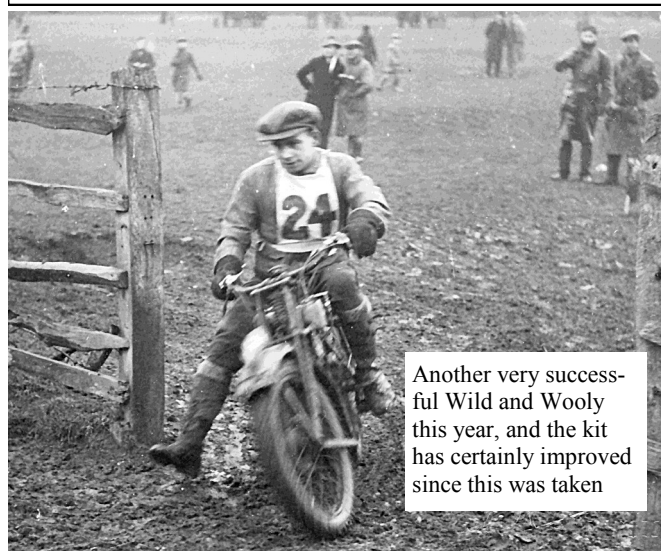
On **January 11th** we will be holding a session in the Chapel Coffee House, when you are invited to bring any unfinished projects that you would like to swap, or any unwanted sewing and craft type gifts that you have received, with a view to exchanging or completing. (Note the changed date for this session).

On **February 1st** there will be a session of "Inspirational Sewing" with ideas from our local experts. Watch the posters and emails for more details nearer the date.

It was pleasing to welcome so many visitors at our recent Showcase in the Chapel foyer. Lots of lovely work on show and good to encourage new stitchers to join our happy group of sewers. We welcome anyone with an interest in handcrafts. Sessions are held on the first Thursday of each month, from 10.00 until 3.00pm, cost £4 which includes refreshments and loads of helpful advice. More details from Carol on 858776 or Margaret on 858590

ARE YOU A CARER?

Any carers with problems will find help at the Baptist Chapel Coffee House Carers Week
On Nov 21st and Dec 19th. Jenny from Northants Carers will be there from 10.00am until 11.30am and will be happy to listen, and do anything she can to help you.



Another very successful Wild and Woolly this year, and the kit has certainly improved since this was taken

Next Round & About copy deadline is:
Wednesday 21st February for the March/April Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:
New email blisworthranda@gmail.com New email
or send to the Editor: Alan North
89 Buttmead, Blisworth, Northants

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