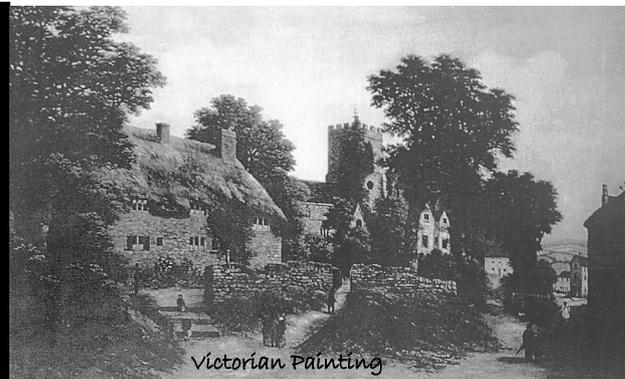


Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
March/April 2018 No 120



Notes from the Chairman.....

Very Good News

A new funding scheme called Blisworth Community Grant Scheme containing £25,000, has been set up by SNC. The fund contains remittance from the Solar Farm in Knock Lane. The fund is open to non profit making organisations within the Blisworth Area. For further information please contact Sarah Burns Grants Officer on 01327 322131.

Stop Rail Central

Our combined input is vital to help the Campaign against the proposed Rail Hubs and all that goes with them! Roxhill. Northampton Gateway (1) will present a formal Application in March 2018. I hope you will attend the Stop Rail meeting at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 12th March in the Village Hall.

Litter Picking

The Litter Picking Campaign is now being trialled in Station Road and Towcester Road. Thanks to a Villager who gave a generous donation for purchasing Litter picking equipment. This is an excellent cause, so please support it (details can be found on the Village website).

Community Facility

The Football Club's New Community facility, has been awarded £2,000 to help with the renovation of the Club House. Good Luck with the project.

The Vaz Machine

The machine has been re/located to Stoke Road and Data monitoring continued. Thank you to the people who organise this, a very useful exercise in the fight against speeding.

Pot Holes

A site meeting was held at Buttmead by Cllr Adam Brown and members of the PC. Cllr Brown is collating information re/the condition of the roads in the area, he will report and suggest actions to the departments who deal with the issues.

Planning

The Appeal Ref App APP/72830/W/16/3165559 for land and building at Candle Cottage, Chapel Lane, Blisworth has been dismissed by the Secretary of State.

Chapel Lane Orbit Homes (27 Houses) have applied to SNC Re/change of conditions of use of Chapel Lane. The PC Planning committee are looking into this.

Ashfield Land Rail Central (2) will be holding a presentation - exhibitions, before they submit their Formal Planning Application. Please remember to register as interested Parties with the Planning Inspectorate. All information is obtainable on SRC Website.

Blisworth is a Rural Community, awarded The Best Village in Northants 2017. Let us all endeavour to keep it and its beautiful surrounding countryside for future generations.

June Hawkins, Chairman—Blisworth Parish Council



Blisworth Canal Festival 18/19 August 2018

This year's Canal Festival runs over the weekend of 18/19th August - a week later than in previous years.

The Blisworth Canal Partnership, organisers of the Festival, is being run by an entirely new group of seven Directors following last year's resignations of Alan & Jan Andrews and their fellow Directors after their valiant work over the past years. However, the message from the new team is that it's business as usual and we have no plans for major changes - 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it'.

Without a doubt, villagers have embraced what has, for many, become the highlight on our annual calendar. Local support for the Festival was evident from the large turnout in the Village Hall last September when the future of the Festival was put to the test.

Many traders have either signed up already or have expressed an interest in attending this year's Festival and 2018 promises to be another great year. The BCP Directors are working on one or two exciting new attractions for this year which we hope to announce fairly soon.

We will, of course, be heavily reliant on local volunteers to help us over the festival weekend and will be putting a 'shout out' a little nearer the time.

In the meanwhile, we have a new website (www.blisworthfestival.org) and Facebook page (@blisworthfestival). Anyone interested in either exhibiting or in advertising in the Festival Guide, please contact us at info@blisworthfestival.org.

The Directors—Blisworth Canal Partnership

Blisworth Play Reading Group

We usually meet in somebody's house for about two and half hours on the first Wednesday morning of the month. Our next meeting will be at 10am on Wed 7 March, when we will read an intriguing play by Peter Horsler called "In a class of their own". This will be followed by another meeting on April 11th, when we may finish the Play or we might start on something totally different, you are very welcome to come along and find out.

Dick Hennessy on 858602.

Well Done the Wrefords

Congratulations once more to Mick Wreford and his family for raising over £3,000 in aid of Help for Heroes with their wonderful Christmas lights.

Blisworth Parish Church
Bidden or unbidden, God is present

“Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptised by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descended on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love: with you I am well pleased.” At once the Spirit sent him into the desert, and he was in the desert for forty days being tempted by Satan.” Mark ch 1 vv 9-12.

An early Easter this year, so already we are well into Lent, forty days which mirror Jesus’ time of self denial and temptation in the desert before He started His ministry. We are invited to do something with Lent. Maybe instead of giving something up we will spend time in deeper bible study, read some of the books written to expand our understanding of Lent, or join a series of talk and discussion evenings. These things need commitment: maybe we will have to give up other activities, and we will be tempted to cut corners, or give up. If Lent is a six week diet plan you will most certainly be tempted by cake or chocolate! At this point just read the full version of the temptation of Jesus to be found in Matthew Chapter 4 verses 1 – 11. If you don’t have a bible to hand, have a look in church, where there is a bible on almost every pew.

In church you will notice that it all looks somewhat plain and unadorned – no flowers or colourful banner above the screen. So perhaps your eyes will be drawn to the East window depicting the Resurrection, below which there stands a cross. This is where we are heading: the shock and grief of Jesus’ crucifixion on the cross, and finally the celebration of His resurrection on Easter morning.

The week before Easter is called Holy Week, and a number of services will be held throughout our Benefice. On March 25th, Palm Sunday, services are 9.30 a.m. at both Alderton and Milton Malsor, and 11 a.m. Blisworth. Short Evening Prayers will be held at 7.30 p.m. on the 26th at Stoke Bruerne, the 27th at Blisworth and the 28th at Grafton Regis. On the 29th, Maundy Thursday, there is Communion service at 7.30 p.m. at Milton Malsor, and on Good Friday there is a service of Communion and reflection from 12 midday to 3.00 p.m. also at Milton Malsor. Easter Day will be celebrated throughout the Benefice – 9.30 a.m. at Milton Malsor and Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a.m. at Alderton and 11.00 a.m. at Grafton Regis and Blisworth.

Men’s group

The Grand Union Benefice is setting up a men’s group: the first meeting will be on March 21st at 7.30 p.m. in the Royal Oak. This is not just a church group, for everyone is welcome to come along and eat, drink and be merry in good company. Just turn up, or for any information, contact James Halson on 07909044717.

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

The Old Cemetery in the High Street Needs You!

Adopt a Memorial

this entails the clearing of a grave and then maintaining it.

The Cemetery is a lovely place, the spring flowers are coming out, take a walk round then ring **Paulette** on **858717** PLEASE.



RINGERS REMEMBER IN THE BENEFICE

Did your family lose a loved one in the Great War?

Would you like to do something to remember them as part of the commemorations that will mark the 100 years since the end of the war? If so we invite you to learn to ring for the Armistice on November 11th.

Further information can be obtained from **Di Rogers 01604 701799**, or come along to **Blisworth Church at 7.30pm on Monday nights**.

Dates for Future Parish Council Meetings

April 9th will be the date of the Annual Parish Assembly to be held at 6.00 p.m. followed by the normal Parish Council meeting at 7.30 p.m.

15th May will be the AGM of the Parish Council at 7.30 p.m. followed by the May meeting.

There may be vacancies on the Parish Council in the near future so if you are interested, please come along to a meeting and find out more about it.

Blisworth Women's Institute



We have had two good meetings to start our year, January was a ‘Beautiful Evening’ where our speaker spoke about the many beauty courses she runs and gave us some handy tips! February was a fun evening of ‘Teenage Memories’ with quizzes and memories of our teenage years.

In March our topic is ‘Style & Image’ and in April we have a speaker from Associated Country Women Worldwide who help disadvantaged women all over the world. Also on Saturday 14th April we are having a ‘Pearl Day’ in the village hall where everyone is welcome. The speaker talks about the history of pearls and brings lots of pearls to see and gifts to buy. Tickets cost £3.00 and can be brought from any committee member, call President Janet Steeper on 879629 for more information.

Come along and join us as a guest and enjoy good company and interesting speakers on the second Thursday of every month in the village hall at 7.30pm.

Tina Alexandrou

Blisworth Art & Craft Groups

There is not long to go before Blisworth and other local Art Groups exhibit their work at the very community spirited **Blisworth Art Show at the Village Hall on 5th & 6th May**. Everyone is working hard, exploring new media/techniques to create Art that will grace the display boards. Sculpture, pottery, photography and greeting cards will also be on display and most of the works will be for sale.

We open at **11am** and close at **5pm** each day so there is plenty of time to enjoy browsing over a cuppa and cake. We look forward to seeing you.....we just love chatting about our work!

If there are Artists out there who don’t belong to groups who wish to exhibit then please get in touch as this is an ‘Open’ Exhibition. **Maggie Turton 858594**

Blisworth Film Club

March 22nd 'Goodbye Christopher Robin' the true story of the author A.A.Milne (creator of Winnie the Pooh) and his son, whose toys inspired the stories. A film with mixed reviews that shed light on this slightly strange family.

April 26th 2018 'Breathe' (by popular request). The inspiring story of Robin and Diana Cavendish who refuse to give up in the face of a devastating disease. A heart-warming celebration of bravery and human possibility, with a great British cast.

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

Stoke Road Allotments

As the clocks spring forward on Saturday night March 24th the gardening year springs into action with the first of the Allotment meetings of 2018 on **Monday March 26th**. All are welcome to come to the village hall at 7.30pm when **Christine Littlewood** from **Bliss Nursery** at **Flore** will be speaking about **Companion Planting** and how growing various vegetables and flowers close to other varieties benefits each, and helps to combat bugs and diseases.

Allotment Association members welcome all leisure gardeners, so do go along; take some seeds to swap, grow something different this year, catch up with gardening friends and enjoy complimentary refreshments. It is free to attend; there is an excellent raffle that supports the hall hire and refreshments. Do put it on your calendar.

Jane Percival



Blisworth Heritage Society



Friday Mar 9 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
"My 23 Years as Head of Blisworth School"
by **JOHN BASHAM**

Friday Apr 13 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
"100 Years of Gardening" by **NICK WARLIKER**

Our first "Open Records" session of the season will be in the church at 2:30pm on 12 April, if there is something in the records of particular interest, please contact any committee member and we will try to make it available for you to consult.

We will also try to show the films planned for the AGM night when we had technical problems.

Did you know that? The village of Blisworth is over 900 years old, it appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Blidesworde* when there were 18 households (12 villagers and 6 smallholders) plus one mill.

See our website <http://www.blisworthheritage.org.uk>



Blisworth Bookworms

The next two sessions are planned for: **March 26th & April 23rd, 1.30pm – 3.30pm** at 7 Westbrook. We have been reading a number of crime novels that have wonderful twists....plenty to talk about, then! **Maggie Turton**

1st Blisworth Scout Group

Well my New Year wish fell on deaf ears, never mind, let's hope the good work scouting does, attracts new people who will carry the group forward. The Group, thanks to the dedicated leaders, is certainly pushing ahead. All sections are thriving, our census count at the end of January showed we have 58 young people and 19 adults in the group. Not all come from the village and we have a high number of youngsters from surrounding areas. Some have come to us because waiting lists have prevented them joining scouting where they live and once here they stay, which again shows we are providing interesting programmes. Our cub section recently won the District Quiz, there's been a District Beaver party and other opportunities for the youngsters to mix, meet and join in with activities.

Big News: We are having a Scout Talent Show On 28th April at the Scout Hall. Two performances: Afternoon 2.45 – 5p.m. Evening 5.45 – 8.00p.m. Tickets are £5, children free and available from any of the section leaders or Kevin Jeffrey Tel. 07966 477117. ALL WELCOME, come along and support the group.

As a Group we are presently fund raising to buy a minibus to enable us to transport our youngsters to events such as summer camp, day hikes or competitions. A minibus would be an asset and like the scout hall we envisage that other organisations within the community would be able to use it. Profits from the show will help our endeavour so please put the date in your diary and join us for some fun.

Sandra, Group Contact 858764

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	Jan	Feb
£30	187	178
£20	149	212
£20	26	52
£10	232	219
£10	31	21

Thank you to all our members. If you would like to support your Village Hall and Playing Field, the proceeds of the 250 club go towards their upkeep. We are so lucky to have them, but they don't pay for themselves. If you would like a number, it is £10 for the year, and we have monthly draws of 5 prizes. So you have 5 in 250 chances of winning a small prize. Please contact Estelle on 858482.

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread



1st March at the Chapel Coffee House

Pin Prick Greeting Cards

Demonstrated by Angela Cadd

Bring along your embroidery threads and sewing kits!

5th April at the Chapel Coffee House

Sewing Piping Onto Cushions

Demonstrated by Margaret Holiday

£4.00 per session, Complimentary Teas and Coffees, Bring your own packed lunch

We welcome all new members to our friendly social craft and sewing group. Sessions are held on the first Thursday of each month, from 10.00 until 3.00pm. More



BLISWORTH LITTER CAMPAIGN



The campaign group has met monthly and is poised to implement a number of measures:

- Designs for the Litter Citizen scheme badges and certificate have been produced by Trisha White, with input from group members
- Quotes for certificate printing have been obtained
- The badge making machine has been purchased
- This used the prize money from last year's CPRE Litter Heroes, topped up from Progress Group funds
- The Station Road litter pick has attracted several volunteers who have been supplied with equipment
- A meeting was held in the village hall on Tuesday 6th Feb to discuss litter picking pilot schemes for Stoke Road (including Greenside and Church Lane) & Towcester Road. On a cold night with football on TV, three brave souls attended, all of whom signed up. An additional seven volunteers have been in touch and all are being supplied with equipment

A Station Rd resident donated £250 for equipment, this has been spent on 30 picker-grabbers, 30 Hi Vis vests (in medium, large & XL sizes), and equipment to make the plastic hoops to keep the rubbish bags open

Sam King and The Canal & River Trust have given their support to the campaign with offers of help in the future. Further letters to organisations are in hand

Can all existing volunteer pickers in Buttmead, Connegar Leys, Windmill Avenue and Courteenhall Road please contact Tony via tony.hillier@aol.co.uk to resister. Likewise any new volunteers from anywhere in the village who would like some equipment please also get in touch.

Tony Hillier Blisworth Parish Councillor
Litter Campaign Group

Blisworth Fishing Club 2017

After 12 matches the cup winner was Russ Husbands, 2nd Phil Humphrey, 3rd Mick McEneaney. The Pairs competition was won by Ian Burton and Pete Ashby.

2018 starts on April 22nd at Flecknoe. We have 13 matches plus the pairs on November 4th. All matches are held on Sunday mornings, draw at 7.30, finish at 1.15. New members are welcome, preferably regular fishermen.

Contact Les on 859584.



This is a short but very busy term for the children at school. We have two big Cross Country Races to take part in, World Book Day, a visit from a Shakespeare Theatre group and our most popular assembly of the year to celebrate Mother's Day.

The Mother's Day assembly is Friday 9th March 9am. The choir will be singing at the Coffee House on Thursday 27 March, and Easter Assemblies are at 9am and 2.30pm on Wednesday 28 March. The village community are very welcome to join us for these events.

Celia Irwin, Head Teacher — 858414

Blisworth Pre School

We are now offering "Early Start" opening from 8.00am every morning. Lunch Club 3 days a week until 1.00pm, Thursday opening 8.00 until 3.00pm
For further information on these exciting changes contact Pam on 07803662433.

Blisworth Baptist Church

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

Thursday March 29th at 7:00pm.
Maundy Thursday Communion Service
A Thoughtful Meditation on The Last Supper

Easter Sunday Service

1st April at 10:45
Come and Celebrate The Risen Christ

Coffee House Open

Tuesdays 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: March 24th then April 28th
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

ARE YOU A CARER?

Northants Carers care for you.
carers needing help and support will find Jules at The Coffee House Blisworth Baptist Church on March 20th and April 17th from 10.00am–12.00.

Blisworth Community Choir

(Musical director Helen Thorman)
Trisha

We celebrate the life of Trisha Walpole one of our finest soprano's who died 11th Feb at the age of 83.

God bless her and her family. May she go on singing in Heaven as she did on Earth. God go with her.

Winnie Bateman

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Friday 20th April for the May/June 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

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