

Blisworth Annual Parish Council Report 2018/2019

BLISWORTH ART & CRAFT GROUPS (Monday afternoon & evening)

AFTERNOON GROUP

Membership remains constant with maximum capacity of twenty that meet in the Baptist Church Coffee House on a weekly basis during term time. The accommodation has access for the disabled so it is with pleasure that the Group has been able to support a wheelchair user who remains a regular and valuable attendee.

The **Annual Blisworth Art Show** held on the first May Bank holiday weekend 2018 continued to be popular although there were less exhibits. Over thirty artists representing 11 local Art Groups along with groups and independents from Northampton exhibited over 130 pieces of exciting art work. Footfall reached approx. 200 and success was measured by the number of works sold and with a donation made to the VH & PFA.

Both Groups made a significant contribution to the **Blisworth Canal Festival** by repeating their successful '**Picasso Pantry & Art Gallery**' in the Village Hall held in August 2018. Members were congratulated for their continued support and enthusiasm.

Informative workshops: Three were held that covered landscape watercolour painting, portraiture using a 'live' model where approaches & techniques with acrylics were explored and digital painting Hockney style. All three were delivered by invited Art Tutors during the course of the year.

Members from both Groups enjoyed a return trip to the Patchings Art & Craft Festival, Nottingham subsidised by the Art Group.

Experiences gained from just belonging to the Groups and participating in the activities ensures Members will look forward with confidence to another creative year.

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BLISWORTH ART & CRAFT GROUPS

EVENING GROUP

2018 marked just the third year since this Group was established and during this year there have been 10 regular attendees so embracing the main aim:

- To give a regular time and place for younger people to pursue their art and hobbies.

During the course of 2018 this Group has participated with the Afternoon members in all the Art/Community activities and in doing so, have forged a bond. Some workshops have been repeated in the evening or held on Saturdays to accommodate Evening members. It is a positive for the Groups that the Coffee House can be booked at odd times. For this, the Baptist Church Organisers are gratefully thanked.

It is good to see too, that some Afternoon members continue to attend in the evening to offer help and support.

It remains a hope that Evening numbers will increase during 2019 as this will help to make the Group financially viable. It is worth noting that several members travel from as far afield as Kettering and Kingsthorpe to attend regularly. They are to be congratulated for their staying power.

Following on from the Monday afternoon Group in the Coffee House sessions are held 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

Evening vacancies are advertised regularly in 'Round & About' and social media as existing Members who create such original work and participate in all the Art based community activities deserve to be able to continue these sessions.

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