

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
September/October 2019 No 129



Photo
Andrea Holton

Notes from the Council.....

As you may know, the Parish Council does not have a Chairman at present but is functioning with councillors taking it in turn to chair the monthly meetings allowing PC business to be transacted. I have volunteered to write the report "Notes from the Chair", this is the first offering.

Speedwatch

Feedback from Gary Wright, Safer Roads Enforcement Officer, Northants Police, reveals that 108 Police warning letters were generated and sent to the offending motorists, following the speed monitoring sessions in the early summer. Most offenders were in Stoke Road and Courteenhall Road, with top speeds of 47mph and 44mph respectively recorded. Thanks to Graham Juffs the co-ordinator, the volunteers who took part in the monitoring and to Gary Wright who provided equipment, support and advice. We hope that it will begin to modify driving behaviour. Repeat offenders are likely to be prosecuted. Further sessions planned in the autumn.

CPRE Village Awards

The Blisworth Litter Campaign entry gained the Runner Up prize of £300 in the Larger Community Litter Heroes category. Carolyn Young and I attended the presentation on 16th July at the Village Awards ceremony hosted by NACRE at Hunsbury Hill Centre and received the cheque on behalf of the Parish Council and Litter Campaign.

This time Blisworth was unsuccessful in the Best Village award which this year was limited to winner-only in the various categories. Thank you to all those who worked very hard in the preparation and submission of our entry.

Canal Festival

Despite the extremely windy weather this year's Festival went ahead, although there were restrictions on the Saturday at the Festival Field. The calmer areas along the canal and at Blisworth House seemed to benefit and were full of visitors on both days. The rain largely held off until later Sunday afternoon. Congratulations to Andrea & Mike Holton, the Blisworth Canal Partnership and all the volunteers who helped put together another very successful Festival.

Decorated Litter Bins

Using prize money from the Litter Heroes Award 2018 together with donations from many Blisworth organisations, the Litter Campaign purchased eight large litter bins to place round the village.

The Art Group decorated four of them and the more eagle-eyed of you will have noticed that they are now in place. They are magnificent works of art and are a credit to the artists' skills and imagination. Many thanks.

One has been placed in the canal tunnel car park with the permission of the Canal & River Trust. We thank them for

their support. Thanks also to Andy Jones at SNC for arranging emptying our bins as well as those of SNC.

Road Resurfacing Buttmead & Connegar Leys

At long last these roads are to be resurfaced in October and November (this year). There will be disruption with the roads closed 7th October to 2nd November between 0800-1700. Unfortunately, this inconvenience must be suffered to get some decent roads again. Our thanks to our District and County Councillors Steve Clarke and Adam Brown for pressuring council to finally get a result.

West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan West

Northamptonshire will be our new Unitary Authority. A new Strategic Plan for the area (Daventry, Northampton Borough, & South Northants) is being prepared and is open for consultation from 5th August to 11th October. Visit <https://westnorthantsplan.inconsult.uk/> for the plan details and response forms, or visit the council offices in Towcester. **South Northants Draft Sport and Leisure Strategy "Active Lives for Everybody"** This is open for public consultation with responses needed by 18th September 2019.

Rail Freight Terminals: Nothing to report on Rail Central. Awaiting final decision on Roxhill from Secretary of State for Transport. Anticipated October.

Chapel Lane development: no new developments to date. Waiting for Highways Dept at NCC to act on reconfiguration of the junction of Little Lane and High Street.

Parish Council vacancies exist for two councillors also Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator needed. Contact the clerk of the PC, Viv Hartley if you are interested. 01604 858360 or e-mail blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com

Tony Hillier - Parish Councillor

The Parks Medical Practice



Blisworth surgery would like to express grateful thanks, particularly to Mr Les Carter and all the others involved in organising the recent fundraising raffle through the *Blisworth Fishing Club* held in May. A grand total of £1,185 was raised and donated to the surgery to help buy an automated Blood Pressure Monitoring machine to be installed at the surgery for access and use by patients. This will allow patients to monitor their own blood pressure and be provided with a printout and guidance about the results. We hope this will allow us to identify more patients with high blood pressure and at the same time reduce the demand for routine BP checks thus freeing up valuable GP and nurse appointment time for our patients.

Dr Jonathan Taylor

Play with Clay

Blisworth Community Group

Join us on Wednesday 11th September
for the New Term of our friendly Pottery Group!

We meet every Wednesday Evening 7.30 - 9 pm
at the Chapel Leisure Hall, Chapel Lane

Be inspired, learn new skills and make new friends.

Bring along your aprons and your creative ideas

We have a few spaces left so don't delay.

£35 per term

Contact: Anne Marie Newton Tel: 858549

Let's Get Moving

Be SAFE – Strong, Active, Flexible & Energised!

Classes in Blisworth aimed at the older age group, those who haven't exercised for a while, those recovering from illness or anyone who just wants to become more active.

All classes taken by a qualified teacher and can be done seated, standing with support or fully standing – all at your own pace – no competition – just a friendly, social group aiming to get moving while having fun!

Wednesday Mornings 10.00 – 11.00 am
at Blisworth Baptist Church, Chapel Lane

Come to a taster session at half price £2.25 and then classes are @ £4.50 per session after that.

Please register your interest or just come along to a session to try it out. Please contact Pam e-mail: jandp72@sky.com
Tel: 01327 350480

I look forward to seeing you!



Blisworth Bookworms

Bookworms will be held Sept 23rd & Oct 28th 1.30-3.30pm at 7 Westbrook. There will be all summer reads to discuss. For details contact Maggie Turton on 858594.



Despite the weather gods doing their best to dampen (or blow away) our spirits we had another enjoyable and I hope successful festival again this year. We had lots of new faces bringing their wares to sell and more entertainment than ever. On the Saturday, despite having to cancel all the gazebo owning

stall holders, for safety reasons, the visitors who came told us they still had a great day. The Sunday was more business as usual with a great crowd.

This year saw a record number of volunteers helping to keep everything going and our deep and sincere thanks go to each and everyone of them.

On behalf of the whole village we would like to thank The Wakelin Family, John and Cathie at Whitegates and all at Blisworth house for allowing the festival to use their land as well as giving an amazing amount of help along the way.

We will hold an open meeting in a few weeks to talk about next years festival and we hope as many people as possible will attend and in the meantime a heartfelt thank you for your continuing support. info@blisworthfestival.org

Mike & Andrea Holton - Blisworth Canal Partnership

Blisworth Parish Church

"Bidden or unbidden, God is present"

"He gives strength to those who are tired and more power to those who are weak" Isaiah 40:29

Another festival weekend, with the village thronged with visitors, despite the changeable weather. As in previous years, St. John's was open to provide refreshments, no set price, just donations to the upkeep of the church. One thing we have had to cover lately was the "criminal damage" to a leaded window and stonework. Many thanks to all who generously donated, and purchased gifts from the sales table. Thanks too to the suppliers of cakes – which ran out on Saturday, but were replenished on Sunday. Also, not forgetting the teams of helpers all weekend. Many people were interested to follow up family connections, guided by Sally Edwards, and to investigate village records, displayed by the Heritage Society. The weekend ended with "songs of praise", which had to be held inside, but was well attended.

An innovation this year was a visit by the Gideons Society. The Gideons are the wonderful people who put bibles into hotels and hospitals. They also produce pocket sized bibles, with special editions for schools, universities, Scouts, army and even The Saints supporters. Of course these bibles are free, and many folks went home with one. Please ask any of us if you would like one – they are always available.

Our morning service was changed to 9.30 a.m., and taken by Revd. Arthur Hughes from Towcester. Over the last few months we have welcomed many priests, mostly retired, it has been interesting to listen to a variety of preaching styles, but all have spoken God's word in their own way.

We look forward with keen anticipation to the installation of our Rector, Revd. Canon Richard Stainer, which takes place in Stoke Bruerne on September 9th. Richard and his wife Monique moved into the Rectory last week, we hold them in our prayers as they settle in, and prepare for ministry in the Grand Union Benefice. Richard's first service here will be the 8 a.m. BCP Communion on September 15th. On that same Sunday at 11 a.m. we hold our Harvest Festival. This will include a bring and share lunch, and will be led by Peter Heffron from Milton Malsor.

The Northampton Art Trail runs from October 5th to 13th, and many artists will be displaying in church.

It seems to me that although our church is used in many ways throughout the year, it carries these events lightly, and instantly reverts to a place of peace and solace. The doors are open for a good portion of almost every day. Please visit and step aside from the rush of daily life.

Rector	Revd. Canon Richard Stainer	857619
	<u>from September 10th</u>	
Wardens	Fiona McKenzie	859541
	Angela Cheesbrough	858059

Blisworth Pre School

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8am - 1pm

Tuesday and Thursday 9am - 3pm

Children accepted from 2 years

Ofsted Registered and approved

Experienced, nurturing, longstanding staff

Warm friendly village location

For more details please contact Pam on 07803 662433

The Art & Craft Groups

The Groups finished the summer term on a high having completed three Community projects:

Thanks to the Litter Campaign Group for placing the **decorated bins** round the Village in time for the Festival. They brought a smile, we hope they will be well used.

The mural at Northampton Arm that the Groups helped Rothersthorpe Primary School children paint & design is finished and was unveiled ready for everyone to enjoy.

At the Festival **Picasso Pantry & Gallery** were great successes due to the sheer hard work by various teams of the Art & Craft Groups. A big 'thank you' to all, you have certainly made your mark.

Maggie Turton on 858594



Blisworth Heritage Society



Friday Sept 13 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
Sheep that Eat Men

The Washingtons and the Wool Trade
by **Martin Sirot-Smith**

Friday Oct 11 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
From the Archives

a series of short talks by Society Members
Current topics include:

**Blisworth Mill, The Grafton Sale, Ironstone Mining,
War-time Evacuees**

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 at a convenient time.

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

Time Flies

It seems too soon to be thinking of autumn; but already the **Stoke Road Allotment Association's** October meeting is looming. On Monday 21st at 7.30 in the village hall the rents and seed orders are taken at this social evening. Members, families and friends are all welcome, as is anyone who might like to have a look at us. The waiting list for plots is short, the costs are very low and the rewards are great. Come along or call 07956 111074.

Jane Percival

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread



Workshops

5th September

VENUE: Blisworth Community Scout Hall

Door Stops & Cuddly Toys

3rd October

Venue: Chapel Coffee House Chapel Lane

Embroidery - Gold Threads & Couching

Complimentary Teas and Coffees, bring your own packed lunch. We welcome new members to our friendly craft and sewing group. More details from

Blisworth Baptist Church

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life

Worship Service every Sunday at 10.45 am

Communion every First and Third Sunday

Children are most welcome, Crèche and Children's activities provided.

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

Family Service 1st and 3rd Sundays at 4 pm until 5 pm

Especially geared for Families

Refreshments available as part of the service

Services are held in the Coffee House

Harvest Service on 8th September at 10.45

Followed by Harvest Lunch

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
Breakfasts: September 28th @ 8.15 and October 25th @ 8.30

All men are very welcome

Pastor: Keith Barker 01327 352972

Assistant Pastor: Lee Hillyard 01604 857654

Secretary: Ray Payne 01604 877442

Room Bookings: Call the office on 01604 857654

Website www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL PROGRESS GROUP REPORT

Dropped kerbs

A member of the group is checking that all the places that do not have a dropped kerb are earmarked. We will then send it direct to Highways for possible action.

Extension of 30 mph limit to the far side of the Railway Arch and the Walnut Tree

We are urging the Parish Council to write to Highways asking for consideration of the extension so that it can be implemented once the gas installation works are complete.

Litter Group

Four bins decorated by the Art and Craft Group have been installed and they have been thanked by the Parish Council.

The Group received a cheque for £300 as runners up in the CPRE Litter Heroes Awards. This will be ring fenced for the Litter Group.

Armistice 2019

The poppy displays on the street signs were very well received last year so we are looking for ways to use the poppies this year. If you have any suggestions please let me know ann.north@homecall.co.uk.

Volunteers

Can you spare some time to help with jobs around the village. We particularly need younger volunteers!

Ann North Secretary Progress Group

CCTV Aware

Please be aware that CCTV has been installed outside the Village Hall.

Art Trail

The **2019 Art Trail** will take place in our Parish Church from **5th to 13th October**. **Paintings, photography, glassware, lino cut demos, watercolour and photography workshops + children's weekend painting activities** will be there for your delight.

Much of the art work will be for sale, there will be tea/cake too. Please look out for brochures of South Northants venues and routes that will be circulated round the Village closer to the time.

We look forward to seeing you again this year.

Maggie Turton



FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School

Happy's Circus



Friday 27th September 6 pm - 8 pm (Gates open from 5)

Happy's Circus is coming back to Blisworth! Tickets are on sale now at £9.50 each (Under twos are free but must be seated on an adult's lap).

Anyone can attend the circus so tell your friends & family. Refreshments will be available to purchase on the night.

www.pta-events.co.uk/blisworth to book tickets or email blisworthpta@gmail.com for further information.

Blisworth Community Choir (Musical Director Helen Thorman)

On Friday 26th July, on a very hot summer evening, we gave our Proms Concert at Milton Malsor Church. What a brilliant Proms it was, everyone joining in all the good old patriotic songs, waving Union Jacks and raising the roof!

Thanks to all taking part and those who organized the catering. We raised a magnificent £1,200 for the Northamptonshire British Legion. Thank you all so much.

The choir meets Thursday 5th September at 7 for 7.30pm, at Blisworth Church. If you would like to join us new members are always welcome. Till then keep on singing!

Winnie Bateman winnie@greenside1940.plus.com

Blisworth Film Club

Thursday September 26th 'Red Joan'

Starring Judi Dench in this intriguing British spy drama, with very good reviews.

Thursday October 24th 'Tolkien'

An entertaining biographical drama about the early life of the author of Lord of The Rings. Recommended

Doors open at 7.00 pm for 7.30pm start in the Village Hall. Admission £5. Bring your own drinks and cushions.

Margaret Holiday 858590 or Beryl Payler 858476

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Monday 21st October for the November/December Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

Email: blisworthranda@gmail.com

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.



Rail Central have responded to the latest deadline that was set by the Planning Inspectorate when granting a

deferment of the examination.

In short, they have once again failed to complete the work required or submit the relevant information. Even worse they have now suggested their own revised timetable which would put the start of the examination back from December 2019 to December 2020.

I have no idea if the Planning Inspectorate has the powers to prevent them setting their own agenda but I am sure we will soon find out. Rest assured that SRC will not be taking this lying down and will continue to fight for the rights of a community that continues to be abused by an uncaring profit motivated private developer. Follow us on Facebook for further updates.

Blisworth Play Reading Group

The Play Reading Group will meet on Wednesday 4th Sept at 10am when we will commence a new Play, so come along and join in the fun, no dramatic skills required! We will then continue this on Wed Oct 2nd. Further details from **Dick** on **858602**.

Blisworth Women's Institute



Despite the best efforts of the weather we had another successful Canal Festival weekend. Our stall was very busy and a big thank you to all our members who contributed produce or crafts and who helped on our stall.

As part of the varied topics at our monthly meetings, in September we have a speaker from 'Animals in Need' followed by 'Passionate about Pasta' in November!

In October it is our AGM where any changes to our committee is announced, if anyone feels they would like to join our committee then this is the chance to do so. We are a friendly bunch and new ideas are always welcome, if you did not want to come on the full committee then you could maybe just help set up something that is your forte, such as knitting, crafts or cooking? Please think about it and give me a call on 859744.

Tina Alexandrou - Secretary

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	July	August
£30	181	223
£20	102	25
£20	226	112
£10	87	121
£10	228	119

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all our members for your support. **Estelle Rose 858482**