

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
January/February 2020 No 131



Notes from the Council.....

Chapel Lane Development-Eastco Homes

It looks as if this development will eventually start in January. Cliff Riley who is the head of the technical and construction department for Eastco Homes has informed the Parish Council that work will commence on the necessary roadworks in the New Year. You might have already noticed the traffic management works in Chapel Lane and Little Lane, notably the single yellow lines, which indicate the areas of no parking between 10am and 2pm Mon-Fri. This will come into force at the beginning of January 2020. Alternative parking sites have proved very problematical so tolerance and ingenuity will be required.

Blisworth Friendship Group

Three members of the Progress Group have started a friendship club for older residents who cannot get out and meet people as much as they would like. Its first venture was to organise a free Christmas meal on Wednesday 11th December at the Baptist Chapel. Financial donations in support were received from various quarters and the event was a resounding success enjoyed by all who attended. The next meeting will be on Wed 15th January at the Chapel between 2-4pm for tea and cakes. Congratulations to Estelle Rose, Janet Steeper and Anne Goss for their initiative and to all volunteers who helped.

Handy Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to pledge an hour or so to help tidy up the village streets by sweeping leaves off pavements, weeding gutter edges and pavements, trim overhanging branches etc. Nothing dangerous or too strenuous. If you are interested please contact Viv Hartley, Parish Clerk, on 858360 or at blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com

Highways

Hopefully by the time you read this, resurfacing of Buttmead and Connegar Leys will be complete. Necessary work that has been too long delayed. Thank you for your patience.

Members of the PC and Progress Group met with Helen Howard from NCC Highways Dept on 22nd November and conducted a site visit around some 10 key problem areas in the village, including the absence of dropped pavement kerbs in key locations. She noted the issues identified and will take them forward. Apparently dealing with weeds is a very low priority for funding, hence our request for volunteers. However, these issues should still be reported to "Fix My Street" along with pothole reporting.

Vacancies

There are still vacancies for the Parish Council and we still need a volunteer to be Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. If you are interested please contact Viv Hartley, details above.

Tony Hillier Parish Councillor



Ashfield Land and Gazeley have withdrawn their application for an SRFI but it is likely they will re-submit at some (unknown) time in the new year.

So in the meantime we will all continue to live our lives under the same dark cloud that has blighted our community for the last four years whilst at the same time awaiting the impacts that the construction of Northampton Gateway will have on our roads and local air quality.

Stop Rail Central Ltd have been using this time to analyse the outcomes and implications of the Northampton Gateway decision and to refocus their efforts in areas where it can be of most benefit in the fight against Rail Central. It is blatantly clear that our success will depend on the unequivocal support of our Politicians, Councils, Councillors and Parishes and that we must do all we can to secure their active involvement in our fight against this blight.

To do this we need the involvement of more willing members of the community so if you are able to spare a little of your time (this is not an onerous commitment) please contact Mark Redding on 859098 or email us at info@norailinterchange.co.uk

Blisworth Friendship Group

Blisworth Parish Council Progress Group has formed a new group. This was launched on Wednesday December 11th with a 3-course Christmas Lunch and party for 32 guests in the Baptist Church Leisure Room. The team and many fantastic volunteers worked so hard to make the day a great success. Transport was provided for those unable to get to the Chapel otherwise. Thanks to Keith Barker for the use of the room and all the local clubs and individuals whose generous donations made it possible.

It was a superb event and everyone enjoyed delicious food, wine and convivial company with beautifully decorated tables. There was a feeling of Christmas spirit with a guitarist playing Christmas songs for everyone to join in! It was such a really great start to Christmas as so many people left feeling happier than when they arrived.

Guests were asked to fill in a questionnaire about what activities they would like to enjoy in 2020. The Group are planning to meet every other Wednesday commencing 15th January. It will be just a get together with tea/coffee, cakes and activities to start with. If you would like to join in, you are most welcome and if you would like transport to get there, please ring me on 858482.

Estelle Rose

Blisworth Short Mat Bowls

Established 1989

The Bowls Club still meets on four occasions each week—52 weeks of the year and are pleased to be one of the largest users of the Village Hall, We meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 1.45-4.15. We also meet on Tuesday evenings from 7.15-9.30.

We pride ourselves on being a friendly club who enjoy a not too serious game of bowls with a cuppa and a biscuit at half time, and all for the sum of £1.50 each time you play plus a £6.00 annual membership fee. (Where else can you get 2 hours gentle exercise plus a cup of tea and a biscuit with a laugh thrown in for £1.50?)

We hold a Christmas dinner each year for members and friends. This year 39 of us went to Peggotty's at Fosters Booth for a three course meal, continued good support throughout the year meant the committee could discount each members' meal by £15 leaving them only £6 to pay, we even hired the Scout's minibus to transport those who didn't want to drive.

If you feel like having a go you will be very welcome—all you need is a pair of flat heel less shoes, we will provide the bowls. For further information call me on 07775 522012.

Stan Tyrrell (Chairman/Secretary)

The Art & Craft Groups

Both **Art & Craft Groups** will enjoy a Post Christmas party before the afternoon and evening sessions start properly on **20th January** when members will be preparing work for the annual 'open' Art Exhibition in May.

There are still places available on Monday evenings if anyone would like to join us in the Baptist Church Coffee House. We meet 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

It is a self help, very sociable group who just enjoy creating. Why not give it ago as one of your New Year's Resolutions. Cost £15 per term. We would love to see you.

Maggie Turton on 858594

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

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	Nov	Dec
£30	218	234
£20	16	225
£20	15	139
£10	83	110
£10	59	71

Wishing all our members a Very Happy Christmas, and a happy healthy 2020. Thank you all for your support without which we wouldn't have such a lovely well maintained Village Hall.

Estelle Rose 858482

Blisworth Film Club

Thursday January 23rd 2020 Rocket Man An epic musical fantasy about Sir Elton John's early breakthrough years. Great cast and music. Contains adult material!

Thursday February 27th Downton Abbey The arrival of King George V and Queen Mary stirs up trouble below stairs in this eagerly awaited full length film version, which will thrill long time fans and amuse new audiences, with the usual star cast and settings.

Advance notice: Thursday March 26th Judy Led by a great performance by Renee Zeilweger, the film captures the waning days of Judy Garland's career as she tours Britain in 1968. Recommended for its great songs.

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

Blisworth Women's Institute

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year 2020.

We have many interesting speakers booked for this year, National Trust Gardens and 'Dancing with Diana' for example.

Blisworth village is such a great place to live, with so many different groups and clubs to join. Each of them offers something different so hopefully there is a group for everyone to join and meet new people and of course old friends.

Come and join us one evening as a guest and see if it is something that you would enjoy, every second Thursday of the month at the village hall at 7.30pm. We would love some younger ladies to come along and inject some new ideas maybe, the days of just Jam and Jerusalem are not applicable now! Last year I saw 'Calendar Girls' at The Derngate which was such good fun and showed that the WI is moving with the times and is something ladies of all ages can enjoy.

Tina Alexandrou - Secretary



Blisworth Bookworms

We're wondering what you have been reading over Christmas, perhaps you would like to share your 'novel experiences'. No doubt Bookworms will have much to discuss about their books during the meetings to be held at 7 Westbrook on **January 27th & February 24th**. For further details: **Maggie Turton** 858594

PARISH COUNCIL PROGRESS GROUP REPORT

The Group intend to carry out a Housing Needs Survey in February. Look out for details in the next R&A on how to fill in online or for hard copy on the notice boards, Facebook or pick up a copy around the village.

Ann North Secretary Progress Group

1st Blisworth Scout Group

At 1st Blisworth, we have not let the darker nights and colder weather hold us back; as ever, the leaders have worked exceptionally hard and given their sections some amazing experiences.

The Scouts went to London to take part in an event with the Explorer section. They came home proud owners of a trophy for coming 1st for the Scout troops in the District. Great day out for all, well done.

The Cubs have embraced the dark for night hikes, and even braved the cold when they took part in a 'homeless' sleepover; to understand what it must be like for those less fortunate than they are.

The Beavers have also been busy, using their imaginations to make junkyard models, keeping diaries of their personal tasks and learning new Scouting songs.

All sections came together to mark Remembrance Sunday at the village church. They paraded, laid handmade poppies and read in church - we were all proud to be part of the service again this year.

Katie Mynard, Group Contact

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread



Workshops

VENUE: Baptist Chapel Coffee House. 10am until 2pm

Thursday 9th January Bring along your "Unfinished Projects"

Thursday 5th February "Creative Knitted Headwear" with Ann North. Bring along knitting needles and wool.

Complimentary Teas and Coffees, bring your own packed lunch. We welcome new members to our friendly craft and sewing group. More details from **Carol on 858776, Angela on 858137 or Margaret on 858590**

Northamptonshire Carers

We are a registered charity that supports unpaid family carers in the county.

We attend the Blisworth Coffee Morning at the Baptist Church on the third Tuesday of the month between 10am and 12 noon. The aim is for unpaid/family carers to drop in for information, support and any guidance they may need to help with their everyday situations.

If you are a Carer and unable to attend, you can still make contact by calling the Carers Support Line: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm on 01933 677907.

Email: carers@northamptonshire-carers.org

Website: www.northamptonshire-carers.org

Hedges and Trees

Will all residents of Blisworth please have a look around their properties boundaries, to make quite sure that no foliage, hedges or trees are protruding onto public footpaths. Thank you, Colin Gardiner

A BIG THANK YOU

A long overdue "Thank you" to all the people who have helped with the twice yearly installation and renewal of the village **Planters**, this village runs on Volunteers and we are all the better for that. Particular thanks to Anne Goss, Bernice Hennessy, Valerie Hayward, Christine Pinfold and special thanks to Andy Newbery for the mowing of the many paths through the Old Cemetery in the High Street. These volunteers and their efforts save a great deal of money which means our council tax is protected.

The Old Cemetery is now a nature reserve with two benches and a bug hotel. Although it is close to the road, the minute you enter it is a quiet, relaxing spot to spend some time.

There is always much needed to be done. **I must have some help on a permanent basis – is there anyone in the village with a strong back and a desire to see this lovely addition to the village thrive. Please ring me Paulette Kennedy 858717 PLEASE!**

Blisworth Parish Church

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1 v 14

So it's all over for another year! The presents are fading from memory – the chocolates eaten, the books read, the toiletries used up, the batteries flat, and the ties and socks forgotten in a drawer. How absolutely amazing therefore that a gift given over 2000 years ago is still relevant today. God gave all humanity the gift of His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus left His home in Heaven to live awhile in a certain time and place, to proclaim good news to the spiritually hurting, to set free those bound by sin, to rescue those crushed by life, to point the way to redemption and everlasting life. Dare to seek, dare to ask, dare to believe, and the New Year will bring new life, new hope, new joy, new peace.

Our regular service pattern is 1st Sundays 11am Communion. 2nd Sundays 11 am Communion. 3rd Sundays 8 am Communion from the Book of Common Prayer and 11 am Morning Worship, Lay led. 4th Sundays 11 am Communion. 5th Sundays 10.30 am a Communion service at one of the Benefice churches. Fuller details will be found on the church notices. After every service (except the 8 am) there is time to socialise and enjoy refreshments. Everyone is welcome to our services, and it is a pleasure to meet visitors to the village, including boaters. However, I think it may be a bit daunting for someone to come into church alone for the first time. If this is the case, please do contact one of the wardens, and it can be arranged for someone to accompany you, and make introductions. Most likely you will find that you know a number of people anyway, and you will certainly be most warmly greeted.

Rector	Revd. Canon Richard Stainer	857619
Wardens	Fiona McKenzie	859541
	Angela Cheesbrough	858059

Top Class Jazz Every Sunday at the Walnut Tree
12 Noon to 2.30, Admission £10
Contact Tad Newton on 858549

Play with Clay

A Blisworth Community Charity

Your Village "Throw In"

Our next 10 weeks term starts back on 15th January
Wednesday evenings between 7.30-9.00 at the
Chapel Leisure Hall, Chapel Lane

Enjoy learning inspiring pottery skills and meeting new
friends. Please contact Anne Marie Newton on
858549 or 07833 150126 for availability of spaces.

Blisworth Community Choir (Musical Director Helen Thorman)

We would like to thank all who turned out on a
horrendously wet December night to hear us sing in the
Church.

Despite the weather we managed to raise £580 for the
Talbot and Butler Special Unit at NGH. Your generosity is
overwhelming. Thank you, you lovely people.

The previous week we had preformed with Hunsbury
Voices, Hunsbury Harmonettes and Rechoired, eighty of us
in total!!! at the Abbey Centre East Hunsbury, where we
raised £858 for the Cynthia Spencer Hospice. Making a
total £1319 for our two Christmas Concerts.

Special thanks to Helen who works extremely hard teaching
us all we know. Also all helpers that helped out in the
background.

Choir members are reminded that we start summer
rehearsals 9th January, at King Richards Court East
Hunsbury.

The choir wish everyone a Peaceful New Year, and thank
you again for your continued support. 'Keep on Singing'

Winnie Bateman winnie@greenside1940.plus.com

BLISWORTH FISHING CLUB

Another good year for the club. We raised a magnificent
£1,185 for the surgery which the doctors used to buy a
blood pressure machine which anyone can use, free.

If you would like to join the club ask any member or just
turn up, our first match is on 19th April at Flecnoe.

All matches are on Sunday mornings with a 7.30 am draw
(5 hours fishing), cost is £11. Last year's winner was Steve
Billing of Pond Bank.

Les Carter (Ringo) 859584

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Friday 21st February for the March/April 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.**



Blisworth Heritage Society



Friday Jan 10 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
Local Archaeology- Latest Finds and Excavations
by Stephen Young

Friday 14 Feb at 7:30pm in the Village Hall AGM
now is your chance to join the committee and shape the
Society *followed by From the Archives* a series of short
talks by Society Members (*postponed from November*)

Current topics include:

**Blisworth Mill, The Grafton Sale, Ironstone Mining,
Wartime 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/>

Blisworth Baptist Church

*A Happy and Blessed New Year to ALL
Round and About Readers*

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 2nd Sunday at 4 pm until 5 pm

Especially geared for Families

Refreshments available as part of the service

Services are held in the Coffee House

**Film and Fellowship Evening Friday 7th February
at 7.30 with Refreshments and Nibbles**

New Coffee House Opening

Fridays from January 10th at 10.00 until 12.00

Especially geared for Mums and tots but all welcome

Coffee House Open Tuesdays

10.00 to 12.30 every 3rd Tuesday is 'Carers Support Day'

Men's Breakfast

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

Breakfasts: January 25th then February 29th

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

Latest information is on the Website

Blisworth Play Reading Group

The Group now meets on the second Wednesday in each
month, so we shall meet at 10am on **Wed Jan 8th** and then
again on **Feb 12**. A New Year a New Hobby? Come along
and find out what we do.

More details from **Dick** on **858602**.