

# Round and About

[www.blisworthvillage.org](http://www.blisworthvillage.org).

**Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter**  
**September/October 2020 No 135**

## Notes from the Council.....

**New Councillors** - Anne Goss and Tanya Wells have been co-opted to Blisworth Parish Council. We thank them for commitment to a very worthwhile duty for the benefit of our local community.

The Council has vacancies for 3 Councillors. The role of a Parish Councillor is explained on the PC website: <http://parish.blisworthvillage.org/about-us/general-information/>. Please let the Parish Council Clerk know if you have an interest.

### Lighting

As you know from our previous edition, The PC is proposing street lighting improvements across the village. It is now working with contractors on fact finding for replacing lamps with lower energy costs and better lighting efficiencies.

We welcome any comments / feedback from residents for views about what improvements should be made, for example, types of lamps or brightness. Please contact Simon Bunker on 07722 959061 or [brackleybunkers@btinternet.com](mailto:brackleybunkers@btinternet.com) before September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Football Club

The Council has been asked to support the football club with a planning application for a new clubhouse. We welcome any comments or views about the application, proposed clubhouse or football club. Please send them to [blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com) or telephone Simon Bunker on 07722 959061 by the end of September.

### Chapel Lane Development

The developers for this site, Eastco, have advised that they do not plan to continue with development until March next year.

### Play Area

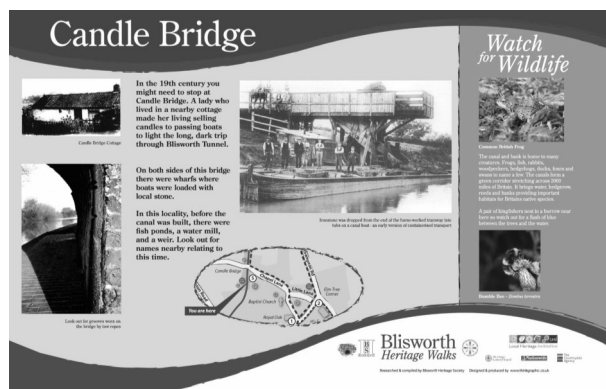
The Play Area was reopened at the beginning of August. There is signage showing how you can help keep yourselves safe in the area during COVID-19.

Works are now planned to replace some parts on a couple of the items, including replacing the rubber floor under the large swings and cleaning the wooden parts for the multi play unit.

Please report any misuse or problems to our Council Clerk, Viv Hartley, on [blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com) or 01604 858360. For emergencies you can also call 111 or 999.

### Traffic Through Village

The Council is working with SNC and the Police to find ways to reduce speeding through the village, and to enhance signage to discourage heavy vehicles from using the narrow village streets as a through route.



### Candle Bridge

We have had reports and evidence of heavy vehicles up to 5 axle articulated lorries regularly using Candle Bridge, which is subject to a 10-ton weight limit. Weak bridges are protected by structural weight limits to ensure no damage is caused to them. A structural weight limit (a round sign with a weight limit only) is a mandatory limit meaning vehicles whose plated weight is over the limit must not be driven over the bridge. These are based on plated vehicle weights and the vehicle is banned even if empty.

Please help us by reporting incidents like this to [blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com). We will need time / date, which direction, type of vehicle, registration number and any other identifiers such as company name and especially photos.

### Village Hall

The Village Hall is now reopened and available for certain meetings and gatherings. The Council is considering using the Hall to return to our familiar public monthly meetings, as we always have done for many years, to improve the whole meeting process, clarity of communication and even shorter meetings. We will take advice from the National Association of Local Councils before we return to the Hall. If you have any feedback / comments on this approach please send them to our Clerk at [blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com).

Stay safe, stay well.

**David Wilson Chair of the Parish Council**

## Coronavirus Issue Three

In accordance with Government instructions all village clubs, associations, groups etc remain closed or have their activities curtailed until further notice, these include:

Parish Church, Baptist Church, Primary School, Pre School, WI, Mothers Club, Film Club, Art & Craft Groups, Play with Clay, Stitchery Do, Heritage Society, Bookworms, FOBs, Community Choir, Play Reading Group, both Allotment Associations, Football Club, Friendship Group, Scouts and Cubs, Bowls Club, Fishing Club, VHPFA.

All these organisations have cancelled all activities and will let you know when they are going to re-start. They have all asked me to ask you to:

**Stay Alert, Protect the NHS and Save Lives**

## Blisworth Women's Institute

Although at the time of writing we are still unable to hold meetings, the committee continue to work behind the scenes to keep in touch with members.

We call members on a regular basis to see how they are and if there is anything we can help them with. Often when out walking we see a member and wave or stop for a 'social distance' chat.

Birthday cards are still sent out and Denise recently sent out a card to all members wishing them well in the strange times we all find ourselves in.

Members are still dropping off 'bags for life' tinned foods and toiletries at Denise's house and Alison takes them to Towcester food bank who need these things more than ever at the moment so carry on please.

Again at the time of writing, the September meeting has been cancelled, whenever we have news on when we can hold our meetings again we shall of course be in touch. In the meantime if we can help any member with anything you have our numbers on the programme.

**Tina Alexandrou - Secretary**



Women's  
Institute

## BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	July	August
£30	113	95
£20	164	7
£20	156	240
£10	122	73
£10	41	126

Thank you all for your support. Good luck next time.  
Please keep well **Estelle Rose** 858482

## REOPENING OF BLISWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Following the end of lockdown the Village Hall and Playing Fields Association have been in consultation with ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) about the Government Guidance for the reopening of Community spaces. We have written a risk assessment for the use of the Village Hall and have templates available for hirers to complete for any group who wishes to use the facilities.

Current guidance restricts the number of people who can attend to 28 and unless taking part in a sporting activity the wearing of face coverings is mandatory. The only other exception is when refreshments are being consumed.

If you are considering using the Village Hall please contact Ann North on 858579 for further information.

## Blisworth Friendship Group

BFG managed to organise and run its first series of events since lockdown began. 'Series' because they met in a number of consecutive, small, legal sized, socially distanced groups to enjoy getting together and eating fresh fruit on ice cream. What's not to love.

To join in the fun, or volunteer to help, please contact **Estelle Rose** on 858482.

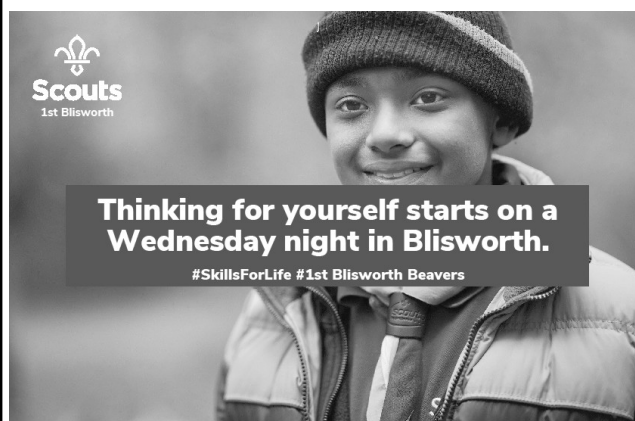
## 1st Blisworth Scout Group

We are now actively seeking new recruits,

**1st Blisworth scouting - Try new things. Make new friends.** Joining scouting is the start of an amazing adventure. We are currently recruiting for the following:

Beavers - aged 6-8 years. Contact Janet or Lynn  
([jmheeler58@gmail.com](mailto:jmheeler58@gmail.com) or [l.whitlock@talktalk.net](mailto:l.whitlock@talktalk.net))

Scouts - aged 10 1/2 - 14 years. Contact Debbie  
([scouts@1stblisworth.org.uk](mailto:scouts@1stblisworth.org.uk))



As another month rolls by in these unprecedented times, we are getting to grips with the challenges of no face-to-face meetings and embracing technology to host online meetings. The importance of social interaction of young people taking part in online meetings should not be underestimated. Our young people have been earning badges at home, taking part in online quizzes, participating in the latest challenges (including one put on by the British Fencing Association) and even taking part in virtual district camps! Thanks to everyone that has contributed to supporting scouting differently during these times.

**Katie Mynard, Group Contact**



## Blisworth Heritage Society



The Heritage Society had originally planned to commemorate VJ Day and the end of WWII with a September talk about a Blisworth lad who went to war to fight in the Far East and Burma. But, after much deliberation, we reluctantly decided that a "normal" meeting would not be either safe or feasible before the end of the year. We will review the situation in a month or two and hopefully commence meetings again early next year.

In the mean time, we continue to work on a number of Projects including replacing and updating some of the "Information Display Boards" (*work at Candle Bridge and the Tunnel Entrance has already been completed, see front page*) and in producing a new 'Village Walks' leaflet.

You would be most welcome if you would like to get involved, please contact any committee member. We look forward to seeing you again at our meetings early in the New Year, until then Stay Safe.

[www.blisworthheritage.org.uk](http://www.blisworthheritage.org.uk)

## Blisworth Parish Church

*God is with us*

*"May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you. May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May He bring you home rejoicing once more into our doors."*  
Northumbrian Community. Ccli306686

Just some words from Celtic worship that seem appropriate for our times. A reminder that Christ is with us in the strangeness of our lives, in the turmoil that often besets us, but also the wonders of His love, expressed in friendships maintained, in random acts of kindness, in sustaining faith.

Also, the church is gradually becoming able to welcome folk "once more into our doors". Constraints of cleaning, one way traffic, social distancing etc. make it impossible to leave the church open as we once did. However in a limited fashion we are beginning to meet. At the beginning of August, and starting with Blisworth, each church in the Benefice, in rotation, is holding a Sunday service. Once seating was arranged appropriately, it was clear that attendance would have to be limited, so each service is offered only to that particular parish. Those hoping to attend should advise the Rector or wardens in advance. Masks have to be worn, and there can be no singing, nor books.

Each service is also available simultaneously on Zoom. In addition, there is a short Zoom service each Wednesday at 9.30 am based on Celtic worship, from which the quote at the start was taken.

If anyone would like to join one of the Zoom meetings, please let one of the wardens know, and you will be sent an invitation and link.

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

### Community Larder for Blisworth?

SOFEA the food and education charity is hoping to fight food waste and boost the larders of Blisworth families looking to save money.

The charity provided more than 150 free food boxes, which were delivered by volunteers from Blisworth CRRG, to help feed families in Blisworth during lockdown.

The scheme came to an end at the last week of August, but the charity hopes to work with local organisations to provide a community larder in Blisworth. This would work on the model of the charity's existing larders – where individuals would receive a weekly box of food for £3.50.

Miranda Wixon of SOFEA, said: "Whilst lockdown may be over for the time being SOFEA is keen to understand the thoughts of the people of South Northants in preventing waste and providing affordable food on an ongoing basis." The charity now needs to gauge interest in such a scheme and is asking villagers who want to see a community larder established to complete a short survey at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R72WRGQ](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R72WRGQ)

## The Parks Medical Practice



On behalf of the staff at Blisworth Surgery we would like to thank all our patients for their patience and understanding during the current pandemic.

This is a testing time for everyone and we appreciate that the advice and guidance is constantly changing, however we endeavour to keep our patients as informed and up to date as possible as we feel the current situation is ongoing.

We are trying to reduce the footfall in the practice, so where possible please telephone to book appointments. You can also use **Econsult** to request an appointment, to ask for advice, request medical certificates and also be signposted to other services. You can find this on our website [www.theparksmedicalpractice.co.uk](http://www.theparksmedicalpractice.co.uk)

Due to the current pandemic the flu clinics are going to be run slightly differently this year. Our Saturday flu clinic will not be held at the Surgery due to the high footfall, instead we will be holding it at the Village Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> October, here we will be able to operate a one way system and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

All patients that are eligible for a flu vaccination will be notified by letter or text message in the coming weeks where you will then be able to book into an appointment. We ask that patients please refrain from calling reception until you have received your letter/text message.

Further details on our winter flu campaign will be announced later once we have all the final arrangements in place. We will keep our patients updated via our website, facebook page and village notice boards.

Many thanks Blisworth Surgery

### CRRG Volunteer Co-ordinator Needed!

Blisworth Community Resource and Resilience Group is seeking a new co-ordinator to take the group forward. The current co-ordinator Mel Lee-Patrick recently returned to work after a period of maternity leave and will be 'retiring' to her full-time job as well as caring for her four children (with two step children at weekends!) and studying.

Mel hopes to hand over the role to someone with a vision as to where the group might go next in preparing to support fellow villagers during whatever the future brings. "During lockdown I have been lucky enough to work alongside such an amazing team of volunteers who have been passionate about working together to help their neighbours," she said. "When Ian Tack and Blisworth Parish Council's Progress Group first formed the group in 2019, none of us could have foreseen this pandemic, but due to the quality of the women and men involved, we have been able to support those left in vulnerable positions by COVID-19.

"Now we need someone with the vision to prepare the group for the next challenge this community might face – could this be you?" To find out more please contact Mel via [admin@blisworthcrrg.co.uk](mailto:admin@blisworthcrrg.co.uk)

**Editor's Note.** Currently CRRG volunteers are shopping, collecting prescriptions, carrying food parcels, delivering leaflets and helping out those who are shielding, self isolating etc. If you are one of the few in need of help who they have not found please contact them on **07579 217464**.

I believe the village owes a huge vote of thanks to Mel and her intrepid team.



## Blisworth Baptist Church

*This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him. John 3 v 16 – 18 Message.*

In spite of the lessening restrictions of social distancing etc., it is felt by the leadership team, that we are still not at a place where it is safe to open our buildings again for use of the community. Whilst we realise this will be a disappointment to some, the legal restriction in place still, at the time of writing, make it virtually unworkable and the risk too high to open.

This decision will be reviewed in September. If the situation continues to improve it is hoped that we would consider opening in October. We will let the village know as soon as we know.

God Bless You all and Please Stay Safe.

**Worship Service every Sunday at 10.00am over Zoom  
Virtual Communion every First Sunday**

*Everyone is most welcome to join us.*

*Zoom Codes: Please ring the Pastor for them.*

Every Friday Morning for those looking after 1 – 5 year olds, from 11.00 "I want To Tell You a Story" Story time for toddlers for ½ an hour.

**Pastor:** Keith Barker 01327 352972

**Assistant Pastor:** Lee Hillyard 01604 857654

**Secretary:** Ray Payne 01604 877442

**Room Bookings:** Office closed during the Lockdown

**Website** [www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org.uk)

**Latest information is on the Website**

### **Urgently Wanted Blisworth Village Reporter for the Chronicle and Echo**

Urgently wanted, a resident to produce items for the weekly "Down Your Way" column in the Chronicle and Echo.

These simple items contain details of village events and news of interest to villagers. If you are interested please contact Janet on 879629.

**Blisworth thanks** all Key Workers; NHS and all support staff, carers, truck and bus drivers, refuse collectors, supermarket and small shop staff plus their network of suppliers and deliverers.

### **Next Round & About copy deadline is:**

Friday 23rd October for the November/December Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

**Email:** [blisworthranda@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

### **Local businesses offering continuing support**

**The Royal Oak** is offering takeaways of both drink and a limited hot food menu each day plus Sunday lunch. To find out more call them on **01604 858723**.

**Collins Fresh Produce** are offering home deliveries of fresh foods – visit their website [www.collinsfresh.com](http://www.collinsfresh.com) or 'phone **01604 673724**

**The Boat Inn** at Stoke Bruerne are offering groceries and fresh fruit and veg, alongside ales and ready meals. Call **01604 862428** to order.

**Jaspers Catering Milton Keynes - Basic Groceries** <http://www.jaspersonline.co.uk/catering-milton-keynes-contact> **01908 569996**

**Meat Factory Northampton (delivery)** <https://www.facebook.com/FCMeatFactoryShop> **01604 761746**

**CBC Meats Blisworth (delivery)** <https://www.facebook.com/cbcmeats/> **01604 858115**

**Raisa & Sons Road (collection)** <https://www.facebook.com/raisa.sons> **07835 034496**

**The Plough Shutlanger** collection of basic groceries, plus delivery of some hot meals <https://www.facebook.com/ploughshutlanger> **01604 864644** Closed Monday

**Perkins Northampton (2 days to door) Fruit & Veg** <https://www.facebook.com/perkinsfresh> **01604 218486**

### **The Rock Snake Grows!**

Initially organised by the Blisworth Rocks group to encourage children and families to hide painted pebbles around the village to provide children with a fun trail they can follow and add to.

Because of social distancing, it became a snake of stones set up on Courteenhall Road near Ladyfield. It continues to grow and grow, just look at our super-special serpent now!

