

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter

June/July 2025 No 163



Photo W Alexander

Keep in touch: Join our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil/> or view our website: <https://parish.blisworthvillage.org/> for updates.

Contact Us:

blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com 0798 3233501
Council Meetings: First Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Village Hall, Stoke Road

Notes from the Chairman - Blisworth Parish Council

First, thank you to all the Councillors who have generously volunteered their time and efforts for another year. Your dedication keeps our village thriving! You still have me, Steve Billing, as your Chair and we're excited to welcome Councillor Simon Dallyn to the team.

Blisworth Tunnel Portal Hut Update: Cllr Root recently met with the Canal and River Trust team to assess the condition of the Blisworth Tunnel Portal Hut, located just before the tunnel entrance. The Art Club's murals remain in great shape, but the gates and roof need repairs. The Canal and River Trust will be tackling the maintenance with help from their dedicated volunteer group. **New volunteers are always welcome!** The group meets at the hut every **third Thursday of the month from 11am to 3pm**. If you'd like to get involved, please contact the Clerk.










Great News for Road Safety! Brilliant work by Cllr Read, who successfully secured **£5,000** from the **Police Safer Communities Fund** towards a new traffic monitoring unit. We're also looking for volunteers to join the **Police's Community Watch Scheme** to help deter speeding in the village. Training is provided, and it's a great way to make our roads safer. We need a **coordinator, a deputy coordinator, and at least 10 volunteers**. We tried to get this up and running last year, but unfortunately, we didn't get enough volunteers. If you can help to make a difference, please **contact the Clerk**.

Road Closure: Part of Stoke Road from the Grand Union car park to Greenside will be closed 4-15th August (but will be open at weekends) to install traffic calming measures.

Annual Blisworth Parish Meeting: A **huge thank you** to everyone who attended the Annual Blisworth Parish Meeting in May. It was a wonderfully welcoming event, full of great conversations about the future of Blisworth. We will be picking up all your great suggestions and comments at future Council meetings and will report back!

Trees for Blisworth: We're getting closer to deciding about the new trees across the village! A map showing proposed locations will be posted on our website soon.

Below are the proposed sites:

-  **Buttmead/Stoke Rd junction green** – 1 tree
-  **Pond Bank/Chapel Lane junction green** – 2 trees
-  **Eastfield** – 3 trees
-  **Home Close/Buttmead junction green** – 1 tree
-  **Chapel Lane bank** – 4 hedges
-  **Connegar Leys junction greens** – 3 trees
-  **Connegar Leys/Buttmead junction green** – 2 trees
-  **Closed Cemetery** – 4 trees
-  **Pond Bank green (adjacent to Closed Cemetery)** – 1 tree

 **Blisworth Playing Field** – Multiple hedges/trees

Do you agree with these locations? Please let us know if any of the sites could cause issues. To help the trees thrive, we need volunteers to water them **once a week**. If you can lend a hand, please contact the Clerk—we'd greatly appreciate your support!



Many congratulations are due to **Angela Billing** who has received a very well-deserved **Rose of Northamptonshire Award** in recognition of her exceptional service to Blisworth.

As Clerk of the Parish Council, Angela has demonstrated outstanding drive and commitment. She has championed environmental projects with other residents and has consistently gone above and beyond for Blisworth Council by actively engaging with local organisations and dedicating countless hours to improving community life.

Angela's open-door policy has helped build trust between the Parish Council and residents, ensuring transparency and active community involvement. Her tireless efforts and passion for her community embody the true spirit of the Rose of Northamptonshire Award.

As a Council, we would also like to thank all the residents that always put themselves out to help the Council and the village and always say yes to help our community – We have a great team of people in our village!

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread

Thursday 5th June

Tapestry and Tent stitch. A continuing workshop but new stitchers are welcome. Canvas, thread and needles are provided. Lace workshop continuing.

Thursday 3rd July

An 'Open' session, own choice activities, continuing and utilising completed tapestry pieces. Bring your own projects or look through our extensive range of resources to find your next craft idea.

New stitchers always welcome to this friendly group. Refreshments provided. £4 per session, from 10.00 until 2.00pm in the Village Hall.

Margaret Holiday on 858590 or Angela Cadd on 858137



Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir

Musical Director Ian Riley

We are pleased to present their summer concert of wonderful and varied music in:

**The Acorn Barn at the Royal Oak
at 2.00pm, Saturday, 19th July**

There will be a barbecue and other entertainment so bring the family along for a fun afternoon.

Jon Murray 07460 617817

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	April	May
£30	190	227
£20	245	239
£20	149	28
£10	18	19
£10	114	237

Thank you all for your continuing support. I still haven't (shamefully) finished collecting mine in yet. But don't worry, you are still in and I will be round shortly. If you'd like to pay by bank transfer, please contact me for details.

Estelle 858482

Best Village

Did you enjoy the wonderful Scarecrow Festival, or enjoy going to any of the many clubs in Blisworth.

These have all been run by willing volunteers, who have worked tirelessly for many years to make Blisworth the wonderful social community it is.

BUT most of these lovely people are getting older (most are 75 plus) so Blisworth needs more of you to step up. Please don't think you're stepping on someone's toes by organising a new club or volunteering to be on the committee of an existing one.

If you have a bright idea for a new activity in Blisworth and you're not sure how to proceed, just ask around, you are sure to get loads of advice and support.

**LET'S KEEP BLISWORTH THE BEST VILLAGE
EVER, AS IT IS NOW**



Women's
Institute

Blisworth Women's Institute

Recently we have welcomed several new members, it's always good to have new ladies join us as they bring fresh ideas and keep us on our toes! If you are new to the village or have been here a long while but never thought to join us, please do, we have lots of fun and there is always something new happening.

As well as our monthly meetings, we have our 'Four Seasons Meal' where we visit a new village pub/ restaurant each season, a mini-bus is used to save members using their own car.

We also put on extra outings, this month sixteen members enjoyed a trip to The Savoy Theatre in Northampton to see 'The Pirates of Penzance', it was a very good production.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 12th June** where the subject is 'That Woman' and is a talk about Wallis Simpson. She is a woman who garners mixed opinions all the time, was she a 'gold digger' or was she just caught up in a situation from which she couldn't extricate herself?

Thursday 10th July sees us welcome Robert Brewer who will be talking on 'The life of a film and TV extra'. Another different subject which is bound to be interesting.

Join us for good company and of course tea, coffee and cake, every second Thursday of the month, 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Tina Alexandrou Secretary



Open Garden at Navigation Cottage Blisworth Arm NN7 3EF

We are holding our annual Open Garden event on Saturday **June 7th** and Sunday **June 8th** from 10.30am until 5.00pm to support our local Air Ambulance Service.

As usual there will be lots of plants for sale, delicious home made cakes, tea and coffee

Entry is £5 which includes refreshments.

Gilly, Peter and Alison look forward to seeing you there.

Blisworth Arts Society

The group meets every Thursday from 2-4pm in the Village Hall. New members are always welcome. Recent activities have included sketching in the garden of the Old Rectory. In early August a boat trip is planned along the canal for sketching and photography.

If you would like more information contact **Hilary Spurrier 859181**

BMC - Blisworth Mothers Club

Thursday 19th June

Team Treasure Hunt in Milton Malsor

Come with a team of four, or make up a team when you arrive, for this gentle, level walking 'hunt' around Milton Malsor. Staggered Start from 7.00pm. Parking at Milton Village Hall or The Greyhound Pub, where refreshments from their menu can be purchased after the walk. You can buy drinks, food or just come for a chat, room will be provided for us in The Greyhound. Entry £3 pp to cover costs.

Thursday 17th July

Our annual Summer Garden Party.

This year we are using the Village Hall and the grassy area outside rather than risking the weather! The theme is 'Pretty in Pink'. Starting at 7.30pm, please bring a plate of savoury food to share, the committee will provide the desserts, there will be the usual selection of drinks and a bumper raffle.

More details nearer the date.

Members are invited to bring guests to all of our events and we welcome younger ladies to join us. Details are always on Facebook and members are reminded by email.

A date for your diary

We have organised a **boat trip** on the Indian Chief through the tunnel from Stoke Bruerne and back on **Thursday 21st August**. Numbers are limited to 24. The cost is £9 pp. Beryl is collecting the money for the trip so contact her asap if you wish to secure your place.

Margaret Holiday 858590

Blisworth Community Projects Group

80th Anniversary of VE Day.

We would like to thank all those who helped make the event something to remember for our invited guests and all those who attended the event. It is amazing what such a small group of volunteers can achieve. Special thanks to the performers, Marianne Bartley, Andy Newbery, Estelle Rose and Anne Goss. We would also have been lost without the help of the Scouts and Beavers with their leaders, Debbie Adams and Janet Greene. The event was funded by the Projects Group.

Again, Anne Goss and her helpers did the village proud with the ever-improved poppy displays. Thanks too to Mick Wreford for his display. Some are remaining ready for VJ Day in August.

Welcome Pack If you are new to the village or know someone who is, please don't forget to let us know so that we can give you a Welcome Pack.

Bench in memory of Dr Bull. It has been ordered including the carved inscription. If you still wish to contribute to the cost please contact either myself or our Treasurer Anne Goss on 07843 505004.

The Scarecrow Festival. What a wonderful success. Well done to the organisers. The Group were responsible for the refreshments in the Village Hall and thanks to our many visitors the money raised can be used to fund further projects. Thanks also to Anne and Rose for creating our scarecrow 'Nana'.

Ann North Secretary 07831538382



Blisworth Football Club

Another season has come to an end and we are finally nearing completion of the new clubhouse.

Several of our sides ended up with trophies with our First team, U15 Blues, U12 Spartans and U13 Yellows all winning their respective leagues.

We have provided football for close to 400 players over the season and we will look to continue to grow especially our girls section.

The clubhouse will be available to hire for parties when completed and we will be able to provide a huge seating area on our patio as well for when the sun shines.

I would like to thank all our coaches, players, supporters, sponsors and our volunteers who are helping to get the outside areas of the club finished.

Sam King - Chairman Secretary@Blisworthfc.co.uk

Blisworth Film Club

Blisworth Film Club is taking a rest for June, July & August. We will be back in action on Thursday 25th September. Tracey & I wish you all a great Summer."

Contact MontyDavenport@outlook.com or 07968 889971.



Blisworth Parish Church

"Repent and be baptised everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2v 38

Services for June and July

All are very welcome to join us for worship

1st June 10am Farewell and Thank you communion service for Helen Halson who is due to become a curate in Northampton following her ordination in July. All are welcome as we wish her well in her new career.

8th & 22nd June 11am Communion service

15th June 11am Family worship

29th June 10am Benefice service at Alderton Church

6th, 13th & 27th July - 11am Communion Service

20th July 11am Family worship followed at 12.30 by the charity Garden Party at 2, Towcester Road Blisworth

The church is open every day for those who would like to pray, enjoy a time of peace and tranquillity or just to admire this historic building.

The summer is traditionally a time for holidays - a chance to rest, recuperate and enjoy a break from normal routines. The word holiday comes from the words Holy Days - time traditionally set aside by the church to remember a specific saint or church festival. For centuries these were the only days off work which people enjoyed. We are much more fortunate today. Enjoy the summer and find time to reflect in this troubled world, what are your priorities, hopes and dreams for the future.

Rector	Rev'd. Canon Richard Stainer	857619
Warden	Fiona Mckenzie	859541



FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



As we approach the end of another school year, we wanted to thank everyone for their incredible support, time, and generosity. This year has been packed with fun, fundraising, and unforgettable memories for the Blisworth school community!

With themed discos, a magical Christmas wreath evening, Santa visits, gift shops, golden-ticket Blisworth Bars for World Book Day, bingo nights, cake sales, and a school-wide Easter egg hunt. We even hosted a school sleepover and created beautiful keepsake tea towels!

Whether you baked, donated, attended, organised or cheered us on — thank you. We can't wait to do it all again next year!

If you are interested in helping us fundraise for Blisworth Community Primary School for the next school year whether it's through a donation, sponsoring an event or if we've inspired you enough to want to join our committee team we'd love to chat about working together! Drop us an email at blisworthpta@gmail.com.

Raise Funds With Your Weekly Food Shop

Do you do your grocery shopping at Tesco, Sainsbury's, Morrisons, ASDA, Waitrose, Iceland, or Ocado? If so, you can easily raise regular free donations for us! Just sign up to www.easyfundraising.co.uk and choose 'Blisworth FOBS' as your chosen cause, then shop online at your fave supermarket. Your shopping will cost the same, but we'll receive a free weekly donation. How great is that?

Textile Recycling

Got unwanted clothes, shoes, or textiles? Drop them into our textile recycling banks in the top car park at Blisworth School. What can you put in? Adult & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags & belts, sheets, curtains & towels. Please place clean, dry items in small, tied bags (large bags can block the chute).

Random Notes Choir

Musical Director Helen Thorman

Present their

Summer Concert

Saturday 5th July at 7pm

St John the Baptist Church

Free Entry

Closing collection for Cynthia Spencer



Scarecrow Festival

Wow —. What a day

We've not seen the village so packed since the days of the Canal Festivals. All our many visitors seemed to be having a good time, I've never heard our village paid so many wonderful complements.

Thank you to the organisers and the people who created so many imaginative Scarecrows and tableaux, terrific.

Ed

Garden Party



All are welcome to come to a garden party on **Sunday July 20th** from **12.30pm** at 2, Towcester Road Blisworth. Enjoy food (both English and Ukrainian) wine and a chance to socialise.

Donations in aid of those who continue to be affected by the wars in Ukraine and Gaza.

Blisworth Friendship Group



We had a lovely party to celebrate the VE Day 80th anniversary. The Village Hall was decorated in red, white and blue. Yvonne cooked us a delicious Cottage Pie followed by strawberries and cream. And we had a lovely lady singer with her guitar who led us through a sing-a-long. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

We still meet at 1pm in the Village Hall alternate Tuesdays. The next one being 10th June. But when the New Football Clubhouse is ready we will be back up there on alternate Wednesdays at 2pm.

For more details please ring Estelle on 858482 or 07946 060369 or Anne Goss on 858001 or 07843 505004



Blisworth Heritage Society



**Friday Jun 13 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
Northampton Victorian Philanthropists
by Isabella Robinson**

Friday July 11 at 7:30pm in St John the Baptist Church

**An Evening of Folk Music
with a Glass of Sparkling Wine**

FRUMENTY

*You may remember their wonderful performance at
our Christmas meeting 18 months ago*

Members £5 visitors £8

The process of transferring our archives. (pictures, films, cassettes and other records) to the upstairs room in the Village Hall has gone well, as has cataloguing the collection. We plan an Open Afternoon in September.

We are also still trying to arrange our Annual outing, hopefully, a Steam Train ride on Richard Dunkley's railway. See future Round and Abouts or speak to any committee member for more details

See our website www.blisworthheritage.org.uk

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Tuesday 22nd July for the August/September Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

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.**