

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
August/September 2025 No 164



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

Keep in touch: We've launched a New website <https://blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk> and New email address clerk@blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Join our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil/>

Council Meetings: First Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Village Hall, Stoke Road. **Tel:** 0798 3233501

Grants: Blisworth Parish Council can support local organisations with small grants of up to £500; application forms can be obtained from the Parish Clerk. We are always looking for ideas from residents for opportunities to improve the village and its facilities for the benefit of the community.

Canal Tunnel Hut: We are working in unison with the Canal & River Trust (CRT) to establish a policy through which parish residents can seek permission from the CRT to use the canal hut (situated near the entrance of the tunnel). Once we receive confirmation from the CRT, we will advertise the process to residents.

SEGRO development village funds: The Parish Council continues to pursue West Northants Council (WNC) for this funding.

Blisworth Youth Art Exhibition 2025

Celebrating the **200th Anniversary of Blisworth Baptist Church**. In partnership with Blisworth Youth Parish Council, we're proud to host a Youth Art Exhibition.

Entry forms: £2.00 — pay in cash when collecting your entry form from the Church (see their website for opening times <https://blisworthbc.net/>).

Themes: *Blisworth: local scenes and inspiration from around the village.*

200th Anniversary of Blisworth Baptist Church

Artworks may depict the church (inside or out)

Media Accepted: Pencil • Crayons • Paint • Charcoal • Digital Art • Mixed Media

Submission Deadline: 30 August 2025

Exhibition Date: Saturday 20 September 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Refreshments available

Trees for the Parish

We've reviewed all requests and feedback regarding tree planting in the village. In consultation with a qualified arborist, revised details will be published on our website.

Where visibility concerns were raised near junctions, plans have been adjusted by either repositioning trees further back or recommending low-growing flowering hedges as alternatives. Final planting decisions will be confirmed by West Northamptonshire Council (WNC).

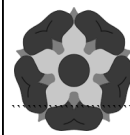
Help Us Nurture Blisworth's Future Trees

Pond Bank volunteers have kindly pledged to help water our new trees once planted — Thank you!

We still need **more helping hands** from across the village to ensure these young trees establish roots for the future and keep our village green and vibrant. If you're able to help, please contact the Clerk with your details.

□ Blisworth Football Club

A huge well done to the Blisworth FC team! Their continued efforts to enhance local facilities will benefit the young people in the village - Thank you for your commitment and community spirit.



Michael and Daphne Wreford

Many congratulations are due to **Michael and Daphne Wreford** who have been awarded a very well earned **Rose of Northamptonshire Award**.

This is in recognition of their tireless fundraising for a number of local charities and Help for Heroes, including the massive and famous Christmas lights display they put on each year in the heart of the village. In addition they have helped Village organisations bring Santa to the village for over 50 years.

Northants Open Studios

Do come and support the 11 artists exhibiting in Blisworth Parish Church from Saturday 20th September until Sunday 28th September.

The exhibition is open from 10am—4pm daily, 12.30—4pm on the 2 Sundays. Plenty of original art to admire and buy at very competitive prices! the range of art includes painting, photography, sculpture, glass art and ceramics. Tea, coffee and delicious cakes available daily.



Blisworth Parish Church

"while the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease" Genesis 3 v 22

Services for August and September

All are very welcome to join us for worship

3rd, 10th, 24th and 31st August 11am Communion service

17th August 11am Family worship

7th September Benefice Service 10am Alderton Church

14th and 28th September 11am Communion Service

21st September 11am Family Worship

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

Advent Windows

We are hoping to light up Advent with decorated windows around the village. Traditionally we have "opened" a window each day of advent. If you would like to decorate a window please let Hilary Spurrier know on 859181 and suggest which date you would prefer (1st -24th December).

Church Heating

We are keen to improve the church heating and make the building much pleasanter to use during the winter months. This will be expensive as a new electricity cable needs to be laid. We are looking for donations to enable this to happen.

We have secured some matched funding to help us achieve our goal. The church is the oldest building in our village and an amenity for the whole village. If you can donate please use the card machine in the church or fill in a gift aid envelope (available in the church) and return it to Fiona McKenzie or Jon Murray.

Enjoy the summer and enjoy the beauty of our environment God's creation.

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



Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir

Musical Director Ian Riley

After a wonderful concert to a packed audience at the Royal Oak which raised £650 for MNDA Northampton the choir is taking a well earned summer break. The next term will start Thursday, 11th September at 7.30pm in the Acorn Barn at the Royal Oak. Why not come along and stretch those vocal chords in the company of a very friendly and welcoming group, no auditions, just a desire to share in the joy of singing.

Jon Murray 07460 617817

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	June	July
£30	116	199
£20	137	240
£20	83	131
£10	230	30
£10	67	49

Thank you for your support xx **Estelle 858482**



Blisworth Women's Institute

We have enjoyed a variety of subjects this year, some making you think and some making you laugh out loud, which is always a tonic.

On **Thursday 14th August** we will be meeting at Blisworth Vineyard for a talk and tour, followed by a glass of their award-winning wine and a platter of cheese and biscuits.

Thursday 17th September sees us back in the village hall, where the talk is called 'Votes for Women'. As a WI and group of ladies, we should always be thankful for what the suffragettes did for us and the life and freedom we enjoy today.

Also in **September**, we hope to enjoy an evening game of croquet at Roade Croquet Club, it's always a fun evening and the helpers always remind us of the rules and how to play, which we have usually forgotten from the previous year!

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



Garden Party

A huge thank you to all who came and supported the garden party in aid of those affected by the wars in Ukraine and Gaza.

The rain held off for most of the afternoon and there was a wide variety of Ukrainian and English food as well as a BBQ. Over £1000 was raised.

You're Invited

Discover Community at Blisworth Baptist Church

A message from Pastor Lee Hillyard

Hello friends, if you're looking for a place to belong, to explore faith, or simply connect with others, **you are warmly invited to Blisworth Baptist Church.**

We're more than a building. We're a group of ordinary people learning to love God and one another in everyday life. Whether you've been walking with faith for years or are just curious, you'll find a space here that's welcoming, inclusive, and full of life.

Each week we gather for Sunday worship at 10:30am, followed by a good cup of tea and conversation. But our church family extends far beyond Sundays—with community cafe, youth gatherings, creative events, and Café Church, there's something for all ages.

Come as you are. Bring your questions, your joys, your struggles—and find warmth, friendship, and purpose in the journey.

I'd love the chance to meet you and hear your story. With every blessing,

Pastor Lee Blisworth Baptist Church – Chapel Lane



Sunday Service at 10.30am

Communion First Sunday of the month

Children's breakout group 3rd Sunday of the month

Coffee and tea are served before the service from 10.00am

And afterwards in the Chapel Coffee House.

Graham Kendrick Concert 13th September – Sold Out

Please visit our new website! www.BlisworthBC.net

Community Cafe Open

Tuesdays 10.00am until 12.00pm

Every 2nd Tuesday is "Parish Council Surgery"

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday "Community Connect"

If you would like to volunteer to support the running of these sessions, please get in touch via:

Minister@BlisworthBC.net

Room Hire

Leisure Hall, Coffee House, Fellowship room, The Lounge, Kitchen facilities are all available for parties and meetings.

Disabled toilets, AV equipment & Free Wifi.

www.BlisworthBC.net

Social media Facebook @BlisworthBC

Celebrating our bicentennial Year!



FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



As we get ready for the start of the new school year we wanted to share how we spent some of the money raised thanks to last year's fundraising efforts.

New School Books

Thanks to the Blisworth Scarecrow Festival earlier this year an amazing total of £2,030 was raised. In consultation with the school we have agreed that this money will be used to buy new reading scheme books to support the children's reading both in and outside of school.

New Water Fountain

And thanks to a very warm Summer term we were able to put money raised from our refreshments stalls towards helping to fund a new water fountain. This has been installed in the school playground and includes an attachment that children can use to fill their water bottles - perfect for more sunny days to come!

Annual Expenses

In addition we were able to continue to fund the role of the School Crossing Patrol and retain traditions of new starter gifts, school leaver hoodies, Christmas and Easter surprises and ice lollies in the heat!

And now we're ready to start all over again, there's always so much more needed every year! If you are interested in working with us to help fundraise for Blisworth Community Primary School, whether it's through a donation or sponsoring an event, we have a year of events to plan for and would love to chat about working together! Drop us an email at blisworthpta@gmail.com.

Friends of Blisworth School

c/o Blisworth CP School, Courteenhall Road, Blisworth, Northamptonshire, NN7 3DD
Registered charity number: 1102144



Blisworth Heritage Society



Friday Aug 8th at 6:30 PM In Irchester

Guided Walk around Irchester

with Jon-Paul Carr

Meet outside Carpenters Arms (opposite the Parish Church) in the High Street

Please let Hilary know if you are coming and whether you need a lift or whether you can offer others a lift.

Friday Sept 12th at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Opening of the new Heritage Archives in the Village Hall

Committee Members will give a brief Introduction to the Archives, you will then have an opportunity to explore the Archives yourself.

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. Now see for yourself.

BMC - Blisworth Mothers Club

Thursday 21st August

Blisworth Tunnel boat trip from Stoke Bruerne and back on Indian Chief. Departing from The Boat Inn at 7.00pm. An ideal opportunity to explore this unique tunnel. There are a few places available, at £9 return. Contact Linda Yuill or Ann North to check availability.

Thursday 18th September

A fascinating talk by Adrian Perkins 'The Ghost Detective', with local interest. All welcome, admission £3 or £5 for guests. Light refreshments. Doors open 7.15 for 7.30 start.

More information via Facebook or by email to members.

Margaret Holiday 858590



Blisworth Friendship Group

Are you a Blisworth resident? Do you feel a little lonely or isolated because you can't get out as easily as you used to? Would you like to meet new friends or renew old friendships?

Then why not join us at Blisworth Friendship Group.

Our next meeting is **Wednesday 6th August** 2pm at Blisworth Football Club, then every alternate Wednesday after that.

We have delicious refreshments plus lovely company for just £4 a time. And if you can't get there under your own steam we will pick you up from your home.

Please contact: Estelle on 858482/07964060369 or Anne on 858001/ 07843505004

Blisworth Arts Society

We resume our meetings on the **4th September** and look forward to a good range of workshops and creative opportunities. We meet in the village hall and are always keen to welcome new members. Our current group includes a wide range of arts and crafts.

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

We Have a World Champion

In June **Caitlin Wreford** became the USAIGC gymnastics World Champion at the Diamond floor competition in Las Vegas. She also came eight in the Diamond vault final. This is an incredible achievement as it is at a level above her previous rating and also the first time she had performed her new floor routine in competition.

We should all be extremely proud of her fantastic achievements. **Well done Caitlin**



Blisworth Football Club

Exciting Update from Blisworth Football Club

I'm thrilled to announce that after overcoming several delays, our new clubhouse is finally complete and was ready to host our Junior Teams' Presentation Days.

A Huge Thank You:

This milestone was achieved thanks to the unbelievable efforts of our committee and volunteers. They worked tirelessly through weekends and weekdays, dedicating countless hours to complete the exterior works. The result? A truly fantastic opening weekend.

Special thanks to all the girls who prepared and served food for nearly 200 guests across Saturday and Sunday especially in such sweltering conditions. Your hard work made the event a success!

What's Next?

While minor work remains on the clubhouse and changing rooms, we're very near to full completion. Mark your calendars for our Official Opening Weekend:

📅 22nd, 23rd & 24th August (Bank Holiday Weekend)

🏠 Sunday, 24th: Bouncy castle for kids, drinks, and community celebrations!

(Weather permitting, let's make the most of our new patio).

Football Growth

We're proud to say our girls' section has doubled in size. New teams include:

- Two Under 8 sides
- An Under 10 team
- A brand-new Under 11 team

Next season, we'll provide football for 400-450 players. With our upgraded facilities, the future of Blisworth FC is brighter than ever!

Addressing Concerns

We are aware of negative social media comments toward our volunteers. To clarify a recurring issue:

The conifers at the club were planted by us in 1984. We sought landowner permission to remove them for essential parking space and to resolve pitch shadow/thaw issues. Permission was formally granted, and we're collaborating with the Parish Council on future tree-planting initiatives.

We hope this clears any misunderstandings and reinforces our commitment to transparency.

Blisworth FC is and always will be a community asset. We invite the entire village to celebrate with us this August as we embark on an exciting new chapter!

Sam King - Chairman Secretary@Blisworthfc.co.uk

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread

Thursday, August 7th

By popular request, we are continuing our tutorials on tapestry stitching. All materials supplied. Opportunities for own projects. Visitors and children welcome to join this friendly group, especially during school holidays.

Thursday 4th September

Another 'Open Session', sorting through our extensive stash to find new ideas, or continue with tapestry work. Workshop on using our various machines.

Usual details, 10.00 to 2.00pm, £4 to cover refreshments and all resources, including canvas, needles and threads for any tapestry stitching. In Blisworth Village Hall.

Margaret Holiday on 858590 or Angela Cadd on 858137

Blisworth Film Club

Thursday 25th September - "The Thursday Murder Club" starring Pierce Brosnan, Helen Mirren, Ben Kingsley and Celia Imrie. Four retirees spend their time solving cold case murders for fun, but their casual sleuthing takes a thrilling turn when they find themselves with a real whodunit on their hands.

Thursday 30th October - "The Ballad of Wallis Island" starring Tim Key, Carey Mulligan and Tom Basden. An eccentric lottery winner who lives alone on a remote island tries to make his fantasies come true by getting his favorite musicians to perform at home.

Doors at 7pm, for a 7.30 start. £7 on the door. Just turn up at the village hall, no need to book. Looking forward to seeing you there - supporting this village/community asset.

Hugh & Tracey E.mail - montydavenport@outlook.com

Frank Bedford

A heartfelt thank you from the Bedford family.

We would like to sincerely thank all the kind people of Blisworth for the cards, messages, and thoughtful wishes sent following the passing of Frank. Your support has brought great comfort to us at this difficult time.

Frank would have been deeply touched to know how many friends were thinking of him — and how fondly he was remembered within the village he loved so much.

With gratitude,

Ros Bedford and family

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Monday 22nd September for the October/November 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.**