

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
December/January 2026 No 166



Keep in touch: We've launched a NEW website <https://blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/> and NEW email address clerk@blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.
Tel: 0798 3233501.

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.

Building a Better Blisworth Parish Together

Village Project Funding Update

Thank you to all residents and organisations who submitted ideas or funding requests. They have all been added to the list of projects under consideration. We will be reviewing the funding regulations alongside our five-year plan to ensure we have the statutory powers to pay for approved projects.

Proposals need to meet the eligibility criteria set by West Northants Council, include firm quotations for purchases or works, and provide evidence of demonstrable benefit to services or the village environment. They should also offer significant, long-term enhancement, improve assets, relate to areas where the Council has responsibility, and respond to identified resident priorities.

Blisworth Parish Council Planning Update

Blisworth Parish Council has lodged detailed objections to two proposed warehousing developments that would affect our parish and surrounding area. We remain actively engaged with the planning process and will continue to press our concerns with West Northamptonshire Council.

Land west of Northampton Road — Reference **WNS/2022/1134/MAO**. Full application details: <https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/WNS/2022/1134/MAO>.

Land south of Junction 15, M1 — Reference **WNS/2025/1883/MAO**. Full application details: <https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/2025/1883/MAO>.

We are monitoring all updates closely and pursuing every available avenue to oppose these additional warehousing proposals.

In parallel, we are pursuing funding to help mitigate the negative impacts on our community should West Northamptonshire Council approve either development.

We will keep residents informed as the situation develops and welcome input from the community.

To submit any comments for consideration, for either of these developments, use the <https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/> website and insert the planning application reference in the Reference Number box.

Transport Links and Traffic

We have written in support of Bugbrooke's campaign for urgent repair of Gayton Road Bridge, stressing the wider impact on neighbouring villages and pressing for a sustainable reinstatement.

We still need a few more volunteers to launch the Speed Watch initiative. If you'd like to join the fantastic group already signed up, please contact the Clerk.

Community News

Congratulations to all involved in the recent craft fair at the Village Hall. A fantastic event and turnout.

Best wishes to groups planning activities in December and the New Year.

Blisworth Parish Council wishes everyone a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year** – Enjoy your celebrations and take care over the holidays!

Steve Billing Chair to Blisworth Parish Council



St John's Church



Come and join in with our "Christingle and Nativity family and friends service" at St John's Church on **December 24th at 4.30pm**.

This year the service will be led by Ordinand Tracy Smith. As always costumes are available for anyone who would like to take part in the Nativity. If you have your own costumes you would rather wear, then you are more than welcome to wear them.

If anyone has musical instruments they can donate for our service, we would be very grateful.

If you wish to make a donation, we will have a collection plate at the door. All proceeds will go to The Children's Society,

For more information about the service please contact **Maureen Smith on 07967 898687**.



Blisworth Parish Church

"For Unto Us a Son is Born" This is the time of year when we celebrate Christ's birth and enjoy the hope and joy that we have through Him.

Services for December and January

December 7th & 14th 11am Family Communion

December 21st Candlelit Carol Service 3pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies

December 24th Christingle Service at 4pm - a real family occasion with a chance to dress up and learn more about the Christmas Story. All the children are given a Christingle

11pm Christmas Communion

December 28th 10am Benefice Service at Alderton

January 4th, 11th & 25 11am Family Communion

January 18th Family Worship

Advent Windows

Each day from the 1st December until the 24th December a different house in Blisworth will reveal a decorated window at 6.30 pm. At each house a carol will be sung and there will be a chance to enjoy the festivity. See adjacent list.

The Church is open every day for those who want a quiet place to pray or reflect. If there is anyone you would especially like us to pray for please put their name on the prayer board. Do come and visit the church and admire this beautiful historic building.

In the noise and rush of the build up to Christmas remember why we celebrate this season and find time to thank God for all our blessings. Spare a thought for those areas of the world which are at war or suffering hardship. May everyone enjoy a peaceful and joyous Christmas.

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

BMC - Blisworth Mothers Club

Thursday 18th December

Our annual Christmas Party, this year another 'Boxing Day Supper' catered by the committee, featuring meats, vegetarian options, salads, mince pies, wine and soft drinks. Entertainment by Abi, with Christmas carols and songs. There will be a festive raffle and a Secret Santa. Friends and partners are welcome, just £5 pp (complimentary for paid up members) so please book in to assist with the catering. Further details are sent direct to members. From 7.30pm

Thursday 15th January 2026

The AGM. All members are invited to attend on this evening, with election of committee and the annual report. Annual Subscriptions remain at £5 and can be paid on the night. The Programme for 2026 will be available. Come along for a glass of wine, tea or coffee, welcome old and new members and have your say about future events and activities.

Margaret Holiday on 858590

Linda Yuill on 858356

Linda Gunnett on 859319

Advent Windows

6.00 pm every night except the 21st and 24th December

1 st	7 Pondbank	16 th	19 Courteenhall Road
2 nd	35 Buttmead		
3 rd	89 Buttmead	17 th	16 Windmill Avenue
4 th	5 Windmill Avenue	18 th	101 Hillcrest
5 th	36 Pondbank		Blisworth Park
6 th	23 Windmill Avenue	19 th	55 Stoke Road
7 th	Lodge Farm	20 th	14 Buttmead
	Courteenhall Road	21 st	2 Towcester Road
8 th	28 Windmill Avenue		5pm after the Church
9 th	Chantry Cottage		Carol Service
	Church Lane	22 nd	Crieff House Stoke Road
10 th	24 Eastfield		
11 th	12 Eastfield	23 rd	31 Buttmead
12 th	27 Pondbank	24 th	The Parish Church
13 th	96 Connegar Leys		Christingle service
14 th	19 Home Close		at 4.30pm
15 th	Stoneleigh 6 High Street (Hovis House)		

Blisworth Arts Society

After a great term of creating the Arts society closes for Christmas on 18th December, it will start again on the 8th January. New members are always welcome to join us on a Thursday afternoon from 2pm—4pm.

If you want to know more please contact Hilary Spurrier on 859181,



Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir

Musical Director Ian Riley

We are proud to present our Christmas concert on the **11th December** in the **Acorn Barn** at the **Royal Oak** at **7.00**. Please join us for an evening of joyful, festive music. Entrance is free but there will be a raffle and a leaving collection in aid of a local charity

Jon Murray 07460 617817

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread

Thursday December 4th

Completion of our Sledge project and a felt Christmas decoration before we go up to the Football Club at 1.00 pm for a light festive lunch.

Thursday January 8th (not 1st)

By request, there will be a demonstration of different ways of cushion making. Bring any unfinished projects or ideas for new ones.

10.00 - 2.00pm, Village Hall, £4 includes resources and refreshments. All welcome to join this relaxed and friendly group, no membership fees, just drop in and see if it's 'for you'!

Margaret Holiday on 858590

Angela Cadd on 858137



The wonderful Wreford lights will already be on when R&A is printed. This year the money collected will go to Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

Contributions by 'phone are now possible, see the collection box for details.



Blisworth Football Club

We are delighted to say we now have Sky & TNT Sports installed in the clubhouse making us the only establishment locally showing live sports.

The clubhouse is flourishing with the BFC regular hirers along with yoga classes and in January, fun dance classes for the over 55's on Tuesdays, details to be announced.

Although it seems like we only opened two minutes ago in July, Xmas is now fast approaching. The clubhouse will be open on the following days during the holiday period:

Christmas Eve	2pm to 10pm
Boxing Day	11am to 9pm
Saturday 27th	12pm to 9pm
Sunday 28th	12pm to 8pm
New Years Eve	2pm to 1am
New Years Day	2pm to 10pm

Thanks to everyone for your continued support.

The clubhouse is available to book for parties, events or during the daytime, please visit our bookings website for more details. <https://www.blisworthfcevents.co.uk/>

If anyone needs to contact the club for any reason, please email: Secretary@blisworthfc.co.uk

Sam King - Chairman Secretary@Blisworthfc.co.uk

Memorial Bench for Dr Derek Bull

Villagers walking in the vicinity of Little Lane and Chapel Lane will have noticed a new bench located on the grassy bank at the top of the hill. It is a memorial bench installed as a tribute to Dr Derek Bull who died on 29th April 2024 aged 96. It was installed on 31st August 2025 which would have been his 97th birthday.

Derek was a family doctor in Blisworth and the surrounding villages from 1956 until his retirement in 1992. He remained, together with his wife Shirley, active in village life after retirement. Derek was an exceptional doctor. He was kind, compassionate, empathic, highly skilled, and above all, immensely dedicated at a time when GPs were responsible for care at all times throughout the year.

The bench is made from sustainable teak from Indonesia and is situated across the road from Candlebridge, which was his home and surgery. It is inscribed with the words: *"In memory of Dr Derek Bull died April 2024 aged 96y. Much respected and loved Family Doctor"*.

The project was funded by donations from many villagers, Drs Tony Hillier & Jonathan Taylor (former medical partners) and Blisworth Community Projects Group.

Tony Hillier



Women's
Institute

Blisworth Women's Institute

As 2025 draws to an end, we can reflect on another great year for our WI. We enjoyed a variety of speakers, an artist who produced a painting of our canal in just an hour, even with help from some members! A talk about Wallis Simpson which gave us all food for thought and 'Film and TV work in retirement' were my particular favourites.

On 9th October we celebrated our Centenary in fine style at The Briary Barn, where we enjoyed champagne, good food and entertainment. It was a great way to celebrate this milestone.

As well as enjoying ourselves we also planted 100 bulbs in the closed cemetery, to mark the 100 years, a tree with a plaque is also planned.

During the year members continued to support Towcester foodbank, bringing food and other items to the meetings every month. Items are weighed each time and we have supplied the highest total of goods of other WI's.

This year we have also acted on the chosen resolution - 'Dental Health Matters' by making and filling more than 40 bags with toothpaste and toothbrushes. These were also taken to the foodbank where they were received very well.

Next year's programme is at the printers and will I'm sure be as varied and interesting as this year.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

New members always welcome, just come along to the Village Hall, we are there every second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.

Tina Alexandrou Secretary



Blisworth Heritage Society



Our Christmas meeting is on the 11th December and will be an evening of historical/hysterical festive fun. Do join us at 7.30 in the Village Hall and find out more about the origins of Christmas songs and music.

Our January meeting is on the 9th January at 7.30 in the Village Hall and is the AGM followed by a talk by Richard Blacklee about the rebuilding of Northampton after the Great Fire of 1675 and the buildings which survive from that time

New members are always welcome! Contact Hilary Spurrier on -1904859181 for more information

See our website www.blisworthheritage.org.uk

Secretary for the Village Hall Required

After nearly thirty years of tireless service we are forced to look for someone to replace Ann North as the secretary of the Blisworth Village Hall and Playing Fields Association. Following medical advice Ann has reluctantly decided to retire. The trustees wish to thank Ann for her considerable exertions over such a long time.

The successful applicant will have a good knowledge of electronic communications and social media. They will be required to attend the bi-monthly meeting of the committee and take notes.

Please contact Alan Lewis (treasurer) at mary@pandloss.com or phone 878959.



FOBS



Friends of Blisworth School

Raise Funds While You Shop This Christmas!

Please remember to use #easyfundraising when you do your Christmas shopping. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to 'Blisworth FOBS' at no extra cost to you - so you can raise donations when you buy decorations, gifts, your festive food shopping or anything else! Please sign up to www.easyfundraising.co.uk and help us raise more.

Having a Winter refresh?

Got unwanted clothes, shoes, or textiles? Drop them into our textile recycling banks in the top car park at the 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).

What's Happening Next Year?

To stay up to date with our events and ways to get involved, make sure you're following our Friends of Blisworth School Facebook page. Give us a follow, stay in the loop, and join us for another fantastic year of FOBS fun!

How you can get more involved

Is your company looking for a local charity to support or an event to sponsor? Does your employer give you Volunteer Days to help out at local charity events? We're always on the lookout for opportunities to raise much needed funds! If you can help please email us at blisworthpta@gmail.com.

Friends of Blisworth School

c/o Blisworth CP School, Courteenhall Road, Blisworth, Northampton
Registered charity number: 1102144

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	October	November
£30	78	158
£20	186	14
£20	122	244
£10	163	110
£10	167	185

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and successful 2026 **Estelle 858482**

Blisworth Film Club

Thursday 29th January - Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale

The Summer of 1930, the Crawleys grapple with the threat of social disgrace when Mary finds herself at the centre of a public scandal and the family faces financial trouble.

A must-see final instalment.

Thursday 26th February - Goodbye June starring Helen Mirren, Timothy Spall, Toni Collette, Johnny Flynn, Kate Winslet and Andrea Riseborough.

A group of fractured siblings who must come together under sudden and trying circumstances.

Doors 7pm, film at 7.30 in the Village Hall
£7 on the door. No need to book, just come along.
There's a raffle most months."

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

Blisworth Community Projects Group

Thank you very much to the new Poppy display team; Babs and Richard Hughes, Karen and Ian George, together with Andy Brown, who has helped us for some time. They will be looking after our lovely displays for Remembrance in the village and have put them all out and taken them all in. If you would like to help next year and have ideas for more displays, do let us know. Of course we cannot manage without our knitters!

Our Autumn Fayre was very successful. Lovely to see so many of the residents of our lovely village, meeting old friends and neighbours and enjoying the wonderful cakes. A big thank you to the cake makers and the helpers who served refreshments, set up, washed up and cleared everything away. We already have interest for next year from some of the stall holders who also enjoyed themselves.

If you have any ideas of projects to benefit the village, please let us know and we will try to take them forward.

There are quite a few houses changing hands in the village, so if you have a new neighbour please contact me and I will supply a Welcome Pack.

Ann North, Secretary, 07831 538382
Blisworthcommunityprojectsgp@gmail.com

Christmas Jazz Party at the Walnut Tree

Sunday 21st December 12.30.

Tad Newton/s Jazz Friends with very special guests the **Lincoln Noel Trio** plus additional surprises

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Saturday 24th January for the February/March 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.**