



ROUND AND ABOUT

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER

www.BlisworthParishCouncil.gov.uk

August / September 2026 - Issue 170

Keep in touch:

Website: <https://blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk>
Email: clerk@blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
Tel: 0798 3233501
Facebook: facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil

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

Council Surgeries: Most Tuesdays, 10:30-12:00 at
Blisworth Baptist Church, Chapel Lane, NN7 3BU.

🌿 Keeping Blisworth Beautiful: A Little Help from Everyone 🌿

How we can help our contractors keep the village looking its very best.

Our new grass cutting contractor visits every other Monday morning. Refuse collections take place on Tuesday mornings, and unfortunately the team do not have the time to move bins in order to cut the verges. If you're able to put your bins out on Monday evening or early Tuesday morning, it makes a huge difference to keeping our green spaces neat and tidy.

Likewise, avoiding parking on the verges during cutting days helps ensure every area gets the attention it deserves. These small acts of cooperation go a long way in keeping Blisworth looking cared for.

🏠 Staying Connected Across the Ward

Our Unitary Councillor, Fiona Cole, has launched a new Facebook page to help keep residents informed, and it also provides more opportunities for you to share your views directly with Cllr Cole.

👉 <https://www.facebook.com/people/Councillor-Fiona-Cole/61574577842948/>

🚐 Exploring a Door to Door Minibus Service for Blisworth

We're currently in discussion with the Gayton & Tiffeld Community Minibus team about the possibility of extending their door to door service to include Blisworth. They would manage much of the

administration, and in time may be able to explore permissions that would allow residents to use their bus passes—something not currently permitted on door to door services. At present, a return trip to Tesco (Mereway) costs £8.00, so this could be a meaningful improvement for many residents. We already have a handful of volunteer drivers, but we would warmly welcome a few more to help share the load. Even one day a month makes a real difference. If you can help, please contact the Clerk.

🌿 Community Grants Available

Blisworth Parish Council can award grants of up to £500 to local community groups. We've recently updated the conditions so that applications can now be made at any point throughout the year, making the process simpler and more flexible for everyone.

If your group has a project that would benefit residents, please contact the Clerk - we'd be pleased to hear from you.

You can also find the application form BPC-s137-Policy-and-Form.pdf on our website at

<https://blisworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/general-policies-and-documents/>

🌸 Young Volunteers

A big thank you to the young people who have been helping with litter picking, planting and weeding around the village—their enthusiasm is appreciated.

🕒 Concerns at the Eastfield Play Area

We've recently seen damage at the Eastfield play area caused by groups of teenagers gathering there late at night. This has left equipment intended for younger children in an unsafe condition, and repairs ultimately fall to residents through council tax.

Please do take a moment to speak with your youngsters so they understand that this behaviour is not acceptable. Our play areas are shared community spaces, and when they are damaged, everyone pays the price. Keeping it safe and intact helps avoid unnecessary increases in repair costs for local people.

🐕 Dog Waste & New Bin Proposal

We've had reports of dog waste bags being left in residents' gardens in Church Lane. This is not only unpleasant—it is an offence. Blisworth Parish Council is exploring the installation of an additional dog waste bin near the grit bin on Church Lane to help improve disposal options in that area.

Please remember to pick up after your dog and use a designated dog waste bin whenever one is available. If you're not close to a bin, please take the waste home and place it in your own refuse bin. Keeping our village clean is a shared responsibility, and your cooperation makes a real difference.

👮 Community Policing Packs

Our fantastic volunteer newsletter distribution team has kindly agreed to deliver the 200 Community Policing / Neighbourhood packs we've received. We don't have enough for every household, so if you receive one and feel another resident—perhaps someone more vulnerable—would benefit more, please consider passing it on.

Blisworth Parish Church

"800 years these stones have stood through shadowed days and times of good. The walls are warm, the tower aged, a quiet witness to time engraved" from a poem by Lily Pickett from Blisworth Primary School.

Services for August and September

2nd, 9th and 23rd August

11am Parish Communion Service

16th August

11am Family Worship

30th August

10am Benefice Service Alderton

6th, 13th and 27th September

11am Parish Communion

20th September

11am Family Worship

Harvest Festival followed by a bring and share lunch 11am October 4th

All are welcome to any of our services. We are a welcoming, friendly congregation which welcomes those who are interested in worshipping in our historic church and finding out more about the Christian faith.

The 800 year celebration was a huge success and it was great to see so many visiting our church. We are now holding a Monthly Coffee morning on the second Saturday of the month from 10am - 12 noon. Do come along and explore this historic building, enjoy a social time, bring the family as each month there will be activities for children

Need a cool space in the heatwaves? Our church is cool in hot weather and is open every day for those who want a quiet place to "chill out" in the heat, enjoy a chance to pray, contemplate or just enjoy the oldest building in the village and at the heart of our community.

Historic Snippets

some of the rectors in the 19th Century were very different from rectors today. One John Amrose had to go abroad to escape his gambling debts - he returned having learnt his lesson and became more active as a rector. William Henry Barry was a keen huntsman and his son Henry Thomas Barry rushed his services in order to be home in time for Sunday lunch!

"800 years and still it stays holding the echoes of **vanishing days, not only stone, not only art but 800 years of human heart**"



Paid Advert

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Blisworth Heritage Society

The society has enjoyed a wide range of speakers this year, an outing to Wicksteed Park and was involved in the Church 800 celebrations.

Our next meeting is on the 11th September at 7.30 in the village hall and is a talk about Northamptonshire Country Houses in the Civil War (Northamptonshire was at the heart of the conflict and was split between allegiance to the Royalists and Roundheads). All are welcome.

On the 24th October the Heritage Society is pleased to host the county wide Heritage Open Day. This ticket only event is about the history of the village.

For more information contact Hilary Spurrier on 01604 859181.



Blisworth
BAPTIST CHURCH
TO KNOW HIM AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Contact us

blisworthbc.net | 01604 918405

You're Invited – Discover Community at Blisworth Baptist Church

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." – Matthew 18:20

We warmly invite you to join us to our growing church, each Sunday at 10.30am for worship, fellowship, and encouragement together.

August

2nd Sunday	Service (Tony Maycock)	10.30am-12pm
4th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
4th Tuesday	Prayer meeting	7.30pm-8.30pm
9th Sunday	Service (Ted Ashworth)	10.30am-12pm
11th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
14th Friday	Youth Club (Ages 11-17)	7pm-8.15pm
16th Sunday	Service (Pastor Lee)	10.30am-12pm
16th Sunday	Childrens work	10.30am-12pm
18th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
23rd Sunday	Service (GNfE)	10.30am-12pm
25th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
28th Friday	Youth Club (Ages 11-17)	7pm-8.15pm
30th Sunday	Service (Maggie Barker)	10.30am-12pm



September

1st Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
1st Tuesday	Prayer meeting	7.30pm-8.30pm
6th Sunday	Service (Keith Barker)	10.30am-12pm
8th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
11th Friday	Youth Club (Ages 11-17)	7pm-8.15pm
12th Saturday	Ride & Stride open church	10.00am-12pm
13th Sunday	Service (Ray Payne)	10.30am-12pm
15th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
20th Sunday	Service (Tony Maycock)	10.30am-12pm
22nd Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm
25th Friday	Youth Club (Ages 11-17)	7pm-8.15pm
26th Saturday	Community Breakfast	8.30am-9.30am
27th Sunday	Service (Pastor Lee)	10.30am-12pm
29th Tuesday	Community Café	10am-12pm



**Available
To Hire**

Parties - Dance - Craft - Meetings

Tea & Coffee making facilities included

Free Internet

A/V Facilities including screens and microphones

Just £11 per hour - No extra charges

Dear friends,

I wanted to reach out and share a bit about what's happening at Blisworth Baptist Church over the coming weeks, and to give you a warm, personal invitation to two events in particular.

I'd love to invite you especially to two things this September.

On Sunday 27th September, from 10.30am to 12pm, we're holding our Harvest Service. It's a lovely time when we

come together to give thanks for all we've been given, with some traditional harvest worship.

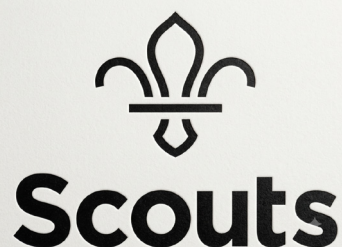
If you've never been to one of our services before, this would be a wonderful time to come along.

And on Saturday 26th September, from 8.30am to 9.30am, we're hosting a Community Breakfast. No agenda, just good food and good company, and a chance to get to know your neighbours a little better.

We'd also be glad to see you at our Ride & Stride Open Church on Saturday 12th September, 10am to 12pm, if you happen to be passing through.

Whatever your connection to Blisworth, you'd be very welcome to join us.

With every blessing,
Pastor Lee



Join the Adventure: 1st Blisworth Scout Group has weekly spaces available for youth members and adult volunteers!

Adventure Awaits in Blisworth!

1st Blisworth Scout Group has spaces available across all sections! We help young people build friendships, learn skills for life, and experience the great outdoors right here in our village. We are also looking for adult volunteers to join our Group Executive team to manage behind-the-scenes tasks like finance or building maintenance.

Our Youth Sections

• Beavers (Ages 5¾–8):

Wednesdays, 18:00 – 19:00.

Fun, friends, and outdoor discovery.

• Cubs (Ages 8–10½):

Tuesdays, 18:30 – 20:00.

New skills, local adventures, and camping.

• Scouts (Ages 10½–14):

Mondays, 19:00 – 20:30.

Leadership, survival skills, and big challenges.

Why Join 1st Blisworth?

• **Skills for Life:** We teach teamwork, resilience, and first aid.

• **Active Outdoors:** Regular hikes, camping trips, and water sports.

• **Community Spirit:** Make lifelong friends right in the village.

How to Get Involved

Whether you want to sign up your child or help behind the scenes on our Executive Committee, get in touch today!

• **Contact:** Debbie Adams

• **Phone:** 07908 644021

• **Email:** debbie.adams@1stblisworth.org.uk

Open Studios at St John's Church

The annual Northants & Rutland Open Studios is to be held in St John's Church Blisworth, W/C Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th of September Monday to Saturday 10.00am to 4.00pm, Sunday 12.30pm to 4.00pm. Come and meet our artists in this beautiful setting. Refreshments available as always. We look forward to seeing you then.

Maureen Smith 07967898687



Blisworth Arts Society

The Arts Society has enjoyed a good summer with several outdoor sessions. An afternoon of sketching in the parish church resulted in a great display for the 800th celebrations. Sketching in the Old Rectory gardens was popular as was sketching at 2 Towcester Road. Hopefully some of the work will feature at our annual art show on the weekend of the 21st 22nd November. Any artist from Blisworth is welcome to exhibit.

Our autumn meetings start on 3rd September in the village hall from 2pm -4pm. We are a friendly group which welcomes new members. A wide range of media are represented and help and advice and encouragement is always available.

For more information about the art group or the annual exhibition contact Hilary Spurrier on 01604 859181

10 Artists at Blisworth The Parish Church of St John's

**Saturday 19th to Sunday 27th September 26
Mon to Sat 10am to 4pm, Sun 12.30pm to 4pm**



Come along and meet our very friendly group of artists, entry is free and our home made cakes are legendary.

**NORTHANTS
& RUTLAND
OPEN STUDIOS**

1 Church Lane
Blisworth
NN7 3BX

Harvest Festival

On 4th October at 11.00am, St John's Church will be celebrating the Harvest Festival with a special family service.

The invitation is open to everyone to a "Bring & Share" lunch or just come along and celebrate with us. We would like to decorate the Church with flowers and produce. If you could spare a few minutes to help with this or just donate flowers etc., we would be most grateful. Any dried produce donated will be given to The Food Bank as usual.

If anyone would like help with transport, donations, or questions about the lunch please get in touch.

Maureen Smith - 07967898687

ST JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH –
NOT JUST FOR SUNDAY SERVICES
COME TO THE NEW

"SATURDAYS AT ST JOHN'S"

DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE HIDDEN DOORS IN
OUR VILLAGE CHURCH?

AND A SUNDIAL ON A WALL?

WHERE TO SEE REMAINS OF AN ANCIENT
MONUMENT?

COULD YOU FIND NAMES SCRATCHED ON SOME
WINDOWS?

Following the wonderful support and interest shown at the 800 th Anniversary celebrations we are planning to hold monthly sessions from 10 till 12 on the second Saturday of each month.

Take a quiet walk around this beautiful 800 year old building and learn its secrets. Enjoy a social chat with a cuppa and cake.

There will be activities for children – and adults if they would like to join in!

The first session was held on 11th July when several people enjoyed the cool as they chatted over a cup of coffee & cake. A few children enjoyed brass rubbing of the Wakes Tomb and colouring stained glass windows.

Donations are gratefully appreciated and suggestions for activities would be very welcome.

The next session will be on **Saturday 8 th August 10 till 12** where you can draw or paint with Maureen. No experience needed. All materials provided.

Further sessions September 12th , October 10th , November 14th

Blisworth Football Club



It has been a fantastic summer so far at the Blisworth FC Community Clubhouse, with a wide range of successful events bringing together members of the club and the wider community.

Our recent Bottomless Brunch was a tremendous success, and we would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make it such an enjoyable occasion.

As we look ahead, preparations are well underway for the new football season. Blisworth FC will be running 40 teams this year, including our newly formed Women's Team, who will play their home fixtures on Sunday afternoons. We look forward to welcoming supporters throughout the season.

Our Community Pop-Up Kitchen continues to prove popular and will remain open every two weeks. The next opening will be on Friday 31st July from 10:00am, serving a selection of freshly prepared food and refreshments.

To help keep our facilities clean and welcoming, we will be placing additional bins around the site during Saturday and Sunday morning match sessions to encourage the responsible disposal of litter, including plastic bottles and other waste.

We have also received comments regarding litter around the bike track and seating area over by the Scout hut, which has recently been cleared of brambles and overgrowth. As this area is used by other organisations, any concerns relating specifically to that location should be directed to the relevant organisation responsible for its use.

Finally, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone from the village who joined us to watch England's World Cup matches. The clubhouse was packed for each game, and the fantastic atmosphere created by our community made the occasion truly special. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for more live sport, events and community activities in the months ahead.

If you would like to contact Blisworth FC regarding football, events or clubhouse hire, please email:

secretary@blisworthfc.co.uk

Sam King
Chairman, Blisworth Football Club

St John the Baptist Church, 800th year celebration weekend.

What an amazing weekend of celebrations! A huge thank you to all involved, and especially to all who came and supported us.

From a wonderful greeting in the porch put together by the Allotment society, to beautiful local village craft exhibitions which filled the Church.

A thank you to the WI and the Church for supplying cakes etc and keeping the tea urn going.

And to the Bellringers ringing throughout the whole weekend, with the locals having a try at ringing. Not as easy as it seems.

It was especially good to see the children involved in the weekend, with 1st Blisworth Beavers & Cubs and their brass rubbings from the Wake tomb, and Blisworth County Primary School with their wonderful study of the Church. They were a credit to the group leaders and teachers.

On Saturday Evening we had a Musical evening with beautiful singing as always with Hunsbury & Blisworth choir, together with guests Alice, Mazzie, Andy, Jodie, Chris and Molly.

A special thank you to all who provided us with the raffle prizes.

The parade from 1st Blisworth Scout group, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts headed our special Sunday morning thanksgiving service, it was wonderful to see the Church full. Thank you to Mazzie and our Vicar Richard for the Order of Service.

Coming together as often as we do, the weekend showed us how much we care about not only the village but the people who live here and around us.

Thank you.

Maureen Smith

On behalf of the 800-year committee.



Free Men's Breakfast @ BBC

Come and join us for a relaxed morning of good food and great company at Blisworth Baptist Church's Free Men's Breakfast!



8:30am, the last Saturday of every month
(excluding August and December)



Blisworth Baptist Church



All men welcome — regulars, newcomers, or the simply curious!



Enjoy a hearty cooked breakfast, hot drinks, and friendly conversation in a relaxed, come-as-you-are atmosphere.



It's completely free, though donations towards food, heating and the upkeep of our beautiful 200-year-old building are gratefully received.



And three times a year, we open the doors to the ladies too for a **Community Breakfast** — same great food, even more friendly faces! Our next Community Breakfast, open to all, is on **Saturday 26th September**.

Good food
Great company
Stronger together



♥ Come hungry, leave full – of food, friendship, and a reminder that you belong. ♥



Book your free seat: blisworthbc.net/booking ➔

Time:
7-8.15PM

at Blisworth Baptist Church



YOUTH CLUB



Join Us Every
2nd & 4th Fridays
of the Month

11-17 yrs



01604 918405 | BYPC.BlisworthBC.net

StitcheryDo

Thursday 6th August

Sashiko Stitching workshop. This will be a continuation of the project introduced last month, following requests from our members. All materials are provided, so come along to try this easy, interesting technique. New members and guests always welcome, especially during school holidays.

Thursday 3rd September

Thinking about Christmas! Bring any items from previous years or any new thoughts so we can plan well in advance. It is always possible to revisit past projects that you may have missed, like sashiko, cushion making, felting, patchwork, tote bag making etc as all the resources are readily available in our storage cupboard.

We were delighted to receive recently a donation of beautiful fabrics, enabling us to continue to reuse, recycle and distribute to members. Still £4 per session, including refreshments and resources, Blisworth Village Hall, from 10.00 to 2.00 pm

More details from Margaret on 858590 and Angela on 858137

Dear Local Business Owner,

Blisworth Parish Council's quarterly Round and About newsletter reaches roughly 780 homes across the parish, plus additional visibility through our social media channels. As we look to expand the newsletter, we're inviting local businesses to advertise from £40 per edition, about 5p per household, a competitive way to reach the community while supporting a volunteer-run publication. If you're interested, please get in touch with a draft advert or to discuss space and formats. **Best wishes, Blisworth Parish Council**

BMC - Blisworth Ladies Social Club

Thursday 20th August

We are delighted to welcome Katie Costello, a good friend of Babs, to talk about her role as a 'Soul Midwife'. Katie has a podcast called 'Dying for a cuppa', and is highly recommended for her honest approach to a difficult subject. Guests are welcome to this interesting evening, £3 for members, £5 guests, with tea/ coffee and cake. 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Thursday September 17th 2026

Join us for a fun evening of truths, lies and laughter at BMC's version of 'Would I Lie to You' Raffle, drinks and nibbles. Members £3, guests welcome £5.

Further details regarding arrangements nearer the date by Facebook and email.

Margaret on 858590



Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir

Rehearsals for our winter programme will begin on Thursday, 10th September in the Acorn Barn at the Royal Oak, 7.30pm

There are no auditions, everyone is welcome. Come and stretch those vocal chords in our friendly, welcoming choir.

Jon Murray
07460 617817

250 Club

	June	July
£30	161	223
£20	143	152
£20	192	60
£10	185	244
£10	156	31

Thankyou to all our members for their continuing support to help keep our village hall and playing field in good repair.

If anyone would like a number, it's £10 per year, so just a one off payment and you get 5 chances out of 250 numbers of winning a small prize every month.

Please contact Estelle on 01604 858482

Blisworth Women's Institute

Fun and friendship

Be part of the largest women's membership.

We meet on the second Thursday of the month in the village hall where we have entertainment and fun. The evening begins with a guest speaker and ends with socialising over tea and cakes.

Want to be part of this?

In our July meeting we participated in 'A Scottish activity'. For one evening only the village hall was transformed into an indoor curling extravaganza. Our host for the evening was Val Core from Quinton WI whose kindly lent us the game for the evening. The evening began by selecting and deciding the teams; blue Vs red. Those members who chose not to play formed the very important role of cheerleading from the sidelines. Tensions started to build as the first two players stepped up to take their shots; with stones in place and brandishing the broom (stick) stones were soon whizzing their way across the floor. The reds took the lead for the first game, but the blues used a few tactics to take the second and final game. The evening was a success and thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you to Val.

The fun continued as we headed off to the Rose and Crown in Yardley Hastings for the second of our 'four seasons' meals. As a group we go out 4 times a year sampling the good food and drink from the pubs in our local area. Our next meal will be in October.

Finally, we end July on a sweet note with our annual cake donations for Cynthia Spencer. Thank you to our members for supporting this.

August 13th for this meeting we will be enjoying the summer sun at the Artea Room for a lovely afternoon tea.

Bored of Thursday evening TV then why not join us. We would love to see you. Just pop along to the village hall where you will be welcomed by one of our members.

Our evenings start at 1930 and finish around 2130. See you there!

WI secretary Clare Read



**Women's
Institute**



Blisworth Friendship Group

Are you a Blisworth resident, would you like to get out more and meet new or old friends.

We are a lovely friendly group of people who get together every other Wednesday 1-3pm. We meet in the lovely new football club. Enjoy delicious homemade refreshments and have a good chat. We sometimes have a guest speaker, but mostly we just have a table quiz for all to partake in and enjoy each others company. No worries if you can't get there under your own steam, we can pick you up. It's only £4 per week and a raffle.

Please contact

Estelle 01604 858482 or Anne 01604 858001
if you are interested.

Blisworth Short Mat Bowls

Are looking for new members

We meet at the Village Hall on
Monday and Wednesday
1.45 to 4.00 pm

£2 per session
including a cup of Tea or Coffee and biscuits

If your interested, call Richard on
07733 184416
or come along on either day,

1st three sessions are free
and we can supply bowls if required

Looking forward to seeing you

Submission Deadline – October/November Issue

The copy deadline for the next issue is **Thursday 24th September**. Please send items you'd like to include to our new email address: Newsletter@BlisworthParishCouncil.gov.uk Or post to the Editors, Chris Read and Lee Hillyard, c/o Blisworth Parish Council, 48 Pond Bank, Blisworth, by **Monday 20th September**.

We are now printing in colour, so photos and images are very welcome! Please note, however, that we cannot guarantee their inclusion as this will depend on available space.

The Parish Council accepts no responsibility for the contents of this newsletter.