

# Round and About

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

**Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter**  
**December/January 2024 No 154**



## Notes from the Council.....

Many thanks to all the volunteers that helped to produce such a lovely poppy display. I was told that the Blisworth Scouts were really onboard to help put up the display. Since the following Round and About won't be until February, I'd take the opportunity to thank all the volunteers that organise the Christmas activities each year and there is a lot of work is being done by groups in Blisworth at the moment to bring Christmas Joy to the village! I am sure that you will find more details about the various events in the rest of this Round and About. Thank you also to the residents that take the time to attend these events.

Thank you also to the volunteers that have helped to organise works at the Closed Cemetery. There is still a lot of work to do, but I hope you agree, they are doing a great job and in the spring, they can start planting more butterfly and bee friendly plants to increase the bio-diversity of the area.

Blisworth Parish Council (BPC) continues with on-going discussions with Dame Andrea Leadsom, major representatives of West Northants Council and Kier (Highways) as well as the Police concerning the increasingly horrendous situation regarding the volume, weight and speed of the traffic in the village as well as discussing the condition of the footpaths and dropped kerbs. We are also continuing to watch and respond to the proposed development on the Northampton Road (currently the land is being leased to Network Rail to carry out works on the embankment).

We now have 12 volunteers that have stepped up to do the Community Speed Watch training, unfortunately they cannot start the training sessions until March 2024 but at least we can say to the task force making decisions about the traffic speeds etc, that we have that ready in place to go.

West Northants Council have stated that they will resurface Knock Lane to deal with the appalling pot holes but we also need to get them to change the signage at the new Road By -Pass roundabout clearly signally that Blisworth is not suitable for HGV traffic to safeguard the subsiding section of Stoke Road in Blisworth.

Please continue to contact the Police with information about vehicles exceeding the 3T weight limit and also any issues with aggressive behaviour or damage to cars, property or pavements in the village.

It is important to contact the Police, otherwise information sent via BPC may be perceived as simply anecdotal or at worse biased. It is important that the Police receive directly from residents so that they can build a clear picture of the traffic situation in the village and that means logging all incidents (though I am aware, that it isn't easy, but don't give up – make sure they log all incidents).

Traffic contact PC Kate Rideout  
[kate.rideout@northants.police.uk](mailto:kate.rideout@northants.police.uk)

Dame Andrea Leadsom MP:  
[andrea.leadsom.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andrea.leadsom.mp@parliament.uk)

Cllr Jonathon Nunn: Leader of West Northants Council:  
[jonathan.nunn@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.nunn@westnorthants.gov.uk)

Finally welcome to Cllr Nigel Chandler our new councillor and merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all.

Please join BPC Facebook page for updates:  
<https://www.facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil/>

## How to Keep in touch:

Blisworth Parish Council website: <https://parish.blisworthvillage.org/>

Email: [blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com) Tel: 07983233501 or 01604 857602.

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

## Steve Billing

Chair of BPC [blisworthparishbilling@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishbilling@gmail.com)



## The Blisworth Community Projects Group 2023 Christmas Market

**Village Hall Saturday 2nd December 10am to 5pm**

### Following last year's great success:

Lots of stalls, great donated raffle (supported by local businesses). Christmas café, lots of things for Christmas presents, Stonyfield wine, Christmas style homemade cake stall (be there early before they all go)

If Santa is not too busy we hope he will be there too.

We are also looking for volunteers to help the group with projects throughout the village. To join this friendly, fun group please ring **Janet** on **07732 987087**



## Blisworth Parish Church

*"She gave birth to her first born, a son. She wrapped him in swaddling cloths and placed him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn" Luke 2 v 7*

### Services for December and January

All are welcome to join in worship in our Church. The Church is open every day for anyone who wants a quiet place to pray, reflect or just enjoy this historic building.

3rd and 10th December 11am Communion Service

17th December 11am Family Carol Service

24th December 10am Communion Service at Grafton Regis Church

7pm Communion Service at Stoke Bruerne Church

4.30pm Christingle Service at Blisworth Church

11.30pm Christmas Communion Service at Blisworth Church

31st December 10am Benefice Service at Alderton Church

7th and 14th January 11am Communion Service

21st January 11am Family Worship

28th January 11am Communion Service

December marks the start of the Church year with the beginning of Advent, a time for reflection and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ. The message and meaning of Christmas is often lost in the materialism of today's world. Christ was a born a refugee staying in a humble stable. This Christmas is a good time to think of all those in our world today whose lives are disrupted by war or homelessness.

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



## Blisworth Football Club

Exciting times await the football club as 7 years of hard work chasing funding finally bears fruit in the very near future. The clubhouse will open for the final time on Sunday 3rd December before the site is demolished ready for the new build.

At the present time we are pleased to have increased our number of girls teams from last season to 4 this season as well as adding a ladies team. It's been one of our main goals to increase female participation at the club and offer a fun and safe environment for girls to play football.

We now have U9, U10, U11, U13 and an adult ladies teams. This means we can offer football to over 70 local girls, a number we will hope to expand in the coming years.

We are aware of problems entering and exiting the grounds on Saturday mornings when teams arrive at the same time as others are leaving. We are actively looking at another parking venue which will solve the problem and allow better access.

Many thanks for the village's support during the last 7 years and here's to a great future.

**Sam King** (Chairman)



## Blisworth BAPTIST CHURCH

TO KNOW HIM AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

### Sunday Service at 10.30am

Communion First Sunday of the month  
Children's breakout group 2nd Sunday of the month  
Coffee and tea are served before the service from 10.00am  
And afterwards in the Coffee House.

### Community Cafe Open

Tuesdays 10.00am until 12.00pm  
Every 2nd Tuesday is "Parish Council Surgery"  
Every 3rd Tuesday is "Carers Support Day"

### Toddlers & Tea

Fridays 10.00am until 12.00pm

### Welcome Warm Space

Tuesdays 12 pm – 2 pm  
Fridays 12 pm – 2 pm

**If you need transport to attend please call Estelle and she will try to arrange it for you 858482 or 0796 4060369**

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

[Minister@BlisworthBaptistChurch.org](mailto:Minister@BlisworthBaptistChurch.org)

### What's On

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Quiz & Singalong  
1.45 pm

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 6 pm Carols by candlelight

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Family Carol Service

Knit & Natter 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays until 19<sup>th</sup> March

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Men's Breakfast 8.30am

### 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. Call the office for more details on 01604 857654 (answer phone)

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

Social media Facebook @BlisworthBC

## Blisworth Film Club

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November** - "A Man Called Otto" starring Tom Hanks. A thought-provoking drama that delves into the depths of human emotions.

**25th January** - we will be showing either "Downton Abbey - A New Era" OR "A Haunting In Venice".....we will vote for which one on 30th November showing.

**15th February** (please note this is NOT the last Thursday of the month) - "The Great Escaper" starring Michael Caine & Glenda Jackson.

All films shown in the Village Hall. Doors at 7pm, film at 7.30. £6 on the door, no need to book, just turn up. Bring your own snacks and drinks.

We both wish everyone a very happy Christmas & New Year. **Tracey & Hugh**

You can contact us at [MontyDavenport@outlook.com](mailto:MontyDavenport@outlook.com)  
Mobile on 07968 889971.

## Blisworth Village Hall and Playing Field Association

This is my first post as the new Booking Clerk at the Village Hall. Since taking on the role in June 2023, I have been busy updating the website, creating a new Facebook Page and ensuring all paperwork and procedures are in place.

Already we are seeing an increase in the number of bookings throughout the week and weekend. If you are looking for a venue to host an event, party or meeting then look no further than Blisworth Village Hall.

To find out more, visit our website <https://blisworthvillagehall.com>, our Facebook Page: Blisworth Village Hall and Playing Field Association or email me at [blisworthvh@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthvh@gmail.com).

Jo Brooks

## BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	October	November
£30	162	62
£20	245	174
£20	216	80
£10	208	163
£10	32	173

Thank you to all our members for your support. Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2024

Estelle 858482



## St John's Parish Church Blisworth Christingle and Nativity Family Service 4.30pm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

This is a very relaxed informal service lasting around 45 minutes.

We will be providing simple costumes for nativity characters. Please arrive for 4pm if your children would like to dress up and take part in the service (no acting required)

Donations to the Children's Society will be gratefully received.

Everyone is very welcome



The  
Children's  
Society



## Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir Musical Director Helen Thorman

Don't miss our two Christmas concerts, **Friday, 15th December** in the Acorn Barn of the Royal Oak, 7.00pm and **Saturday, 16th December** at St. Benedict's Church, West Hunsbury, 7.00pm.

We're always on the look out for new members so if you're a budding alto, tenor or bass why not come along to our first rehearsal next term in the Abbey Centre Chapel, 8th January, 7.00.

Jon Murray 07460 617817

## Stitchery Do

*Creating with fabric and thread*

### December 7th 2023

The continuation of our Christmas themed projects started in November, with a chance to make another festive item.

### January 11th (not 4th) 2024

The first session of the year, time to show off items made during the previous year and 'Swap a Skill', offers to make something for someone else, or teach a skill or exchange any sewing related gifts.

Although we do not charge a joining fee, it would be useful to know who intends to continue in the group and avoid unwanted emails. New members are always welcomed to join this friendly, creative group, to learn or improve a range of skills with fabric and thread.

Meeting in Village Hall, 10.00 -2.00pm, Admission £4 includes refreshments and access to our wide range of resources.

More details contact **Margaret** on **858590**

## Blisworth Friendship Group

Well, another year has passed and our lovely group is as strong and as happy as ever.

We'd like to say a massive THANK YOU to Blisworth Football Club for hosting us and wish them every success in their new build.

We will be returning in the new year to our new home in our Village Hall for the next six months or so on **Tuesday January 9th**. Hope to see you all there.

For further details please ring Estelle on 858482.

## Blisworth Arts Society

Our Thursday afternoon meetings 2pm - 4pm are well supported by a talented group of artists. A highlight this term was a workshop led by Maggie Burgess-Wood on Pen and wash techniques. The work produced was excellent.

Our last meeting before Christmas is on the 14th December. We will start back on the 11th January. New members are always welcome.

We will hold our annual Art Show in April. Any artists resident in Blisworth or who belong to the Arts Society are welcome to exhibit.

For more information about the Society or the Art Show contact Hilary Spurrier on 859181.

### BMC - Blisworth Mothers Club

**December 12th (not 19th)** our Christmas Party. An evening of festive food and fun, final details to be circulated to all members by email and on the Village Facebook.

**January 16th 2024.** The AGM, a chance to hear what has been achieved during 2023, what has been planned for 2024, elect the committee, then enjoy a social evening whilst Beryl and Val collect the annual subscriptions.

Village Hall, 7.30pm. More details Margaret on 858590

### BLISWORTH BRIDGE GROUP

We are a small, friendly, self help group that meets on Tuesday evenings. If you know the basics and are interested in joining us, you'd be very welcome. Call **Trisha** for more information on **859990**



### Blisworth Heritage Society



**Friday Dec 18 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall**

**A Christmas Celebration (all welcome)**

**Entertainment and Music from Flumenty**

[www.facebook.com/Frumenty](http://www.facebook.com/Frumenty)

**£5 including Seasonal Refreshments**

**Friday Jan 10 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall  
AGM**

*followed by Some Aural Histories of the Village,  
recorded in the early days of BHS*

*One final reminder that we are producing a new Village Scrapbook to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the King's Coronation. The aim was to provide a snapshot of Village life (domestic and business) over the past 10 years; reflecting all that has happened to the village in that time. We already have over 80 entries, but if you have any final last-minute entries, they must be in by 31 Dec. Entries in A3 Landscape format to Hilary Spurrier or any committee member.*

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



### FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas Bazaar and helping to make the event a success. All monies raised will go towards supporting Blisworth Primary School. You can also continue to support us by:

- if you are having a clear out of clothes, the bins are still in the top car park
- if you shop online, we are registered with Easyfundraising—many retailers are on there

Contact [blisworthpta@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthpta@gmail.com) Find us on Facebook

### Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Monday 22nd January for the February/March Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

[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.**

### Blisworth Women's Institute



Christmas is fast approaching and we are looking forward to our Christmas party on the 14<sup>th</sup> December. The committee have been busy making final arrangements for what is always a happy and fun occasion.

We have enjoyed many good speakers this year, my personal highlight has to be the talk by Steve Pateman, the inspiration for the musical Kinky Boots. The sight of Steve walking into the hall in thigh length red leather kinky boots will last a lifetime!

Other memorable evenings have been speakers from R.N.L.I and A Taste of the Camino de Santiago. A musical evening with Three in Accord Entertain was also great fun and shows how varied our meetings are.

We have been busy working on our programme for 2024 and it is now at the printers, we hope it will be just as enjoyable as this year.

New members are always welcome to our meetings on the second Thursday of every month, 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

From everyone on the committee, we wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

**Tina Alexandrou Secretary**

### 1st Blisworth Scout Group

*Try new things. Make new Friends. Joining Scouting is just the beginning of your big adventure, we'll introduce you to lots of new activities, people and experiences.*

#### BEAVERS

Wednesdays 6-7pm - Boys & Girls 6-8 years old

#### CUBS

Thursdays 6.25 - 7.55pm - Boys and Girls 8-10½ years old

#### SCOUTS

Mondays 7-8.30pm - Boys and Girls 10½-14 year olds

Additional adult helpers are always welcome.

**Debbie 07908 644021.**

### Blisworth Book Swap

We have had a busy few months, with a lot of donations being left for us to sort through and rotate around. It is lovely seeing a wide variety of books being donated for others to enjoy, as well as people using it on a daily basis.

We do ask however for people to respect the use of the space and help to keep it tidy. If it appears the shelves and returns box is full, please hold onto the donations and try another day.