

BLUNSDON

VILLAGE MAGAZINE

August 2020

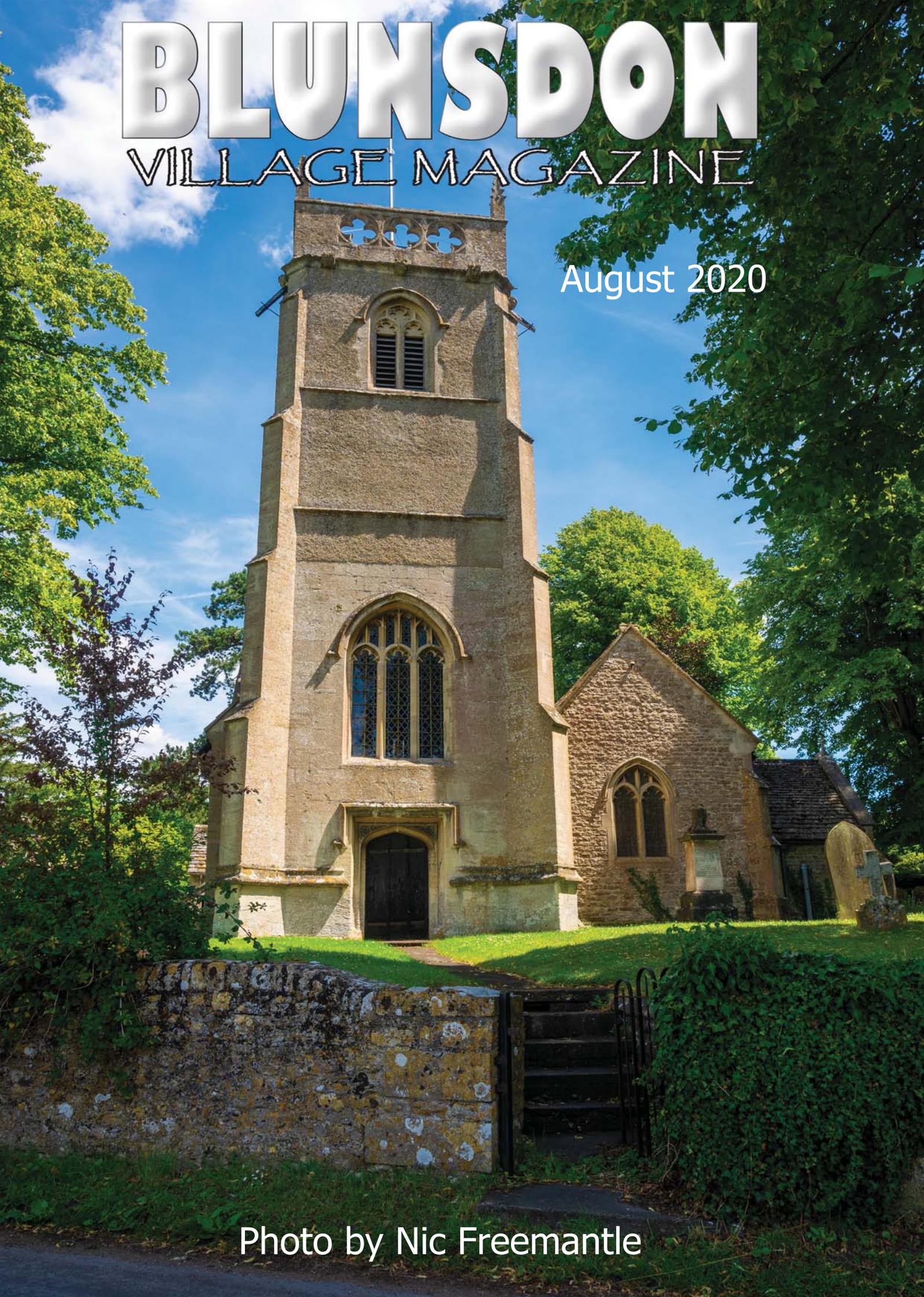


Photo by Nic Freemantle

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SEASONED FIREWOOD

Blunsdon Village Quiz 2020

November 7th 7:30pm

This year the Blunsdon Village Quiz will go online. For just £2 per head, join us for the Quiz of the Year! The Quiz will be held using Zoom Video Conferencing. Zoom is simple and free, and works on most laptops, tablets and smartphones.

To enter or request further details please email kasperczakalex@gmail.com with the following information:

Team Name

Number in Team (Maximum of 6)

Contact Name, Mobile Number & Email Address

Do you need tuition in Zoom?

This will be provided prior to the event, so please let us know before **October 1st** so there is enough time to get you familiar with Zoom.

Please help us make Blunsdon Village Quiz 2020 a success!

All proceeds to St. Leonard's Church

Scarecrow Trail Sat 29th-Mon 31st August: Update

Trail Maps are available to buy for £2 from the shop from Thursday 27th. Return your completed trail map to the box at the refreshments stand - you could win a small prize for the first correct answer sheet pulled out at the end of the weekend. You've got to be in it to win it!



Refreshments. Our amazing team in the village hall car park will be ready to serve you cream teas, hot and cold drinks, and a delicious selection of cake, for very reasonable prices. This will be on Saturday, Sunday

and Monday afternoons, 2-5pm. Please adhere to the social distancing guidelines in place there. The pub is also serving refreshments.

NB Toilets will not be available in the church or the village hall

Photography competition This is open to all ages. All you have to do is send or share a fabulous photo of the scarecrow trail to alisonportermusicteacher@gmail.com by the end of the weekend. The best photo will feature in the next available village magazine. Get involved!

Thank you and we hope you enjoy the weekend!

Alison 705775

The **Virtual Gardens display** will be in the church on the Sunday afternoon. Please adhere to the social distancing guidelines in place when you visit.

There is still time for your garden to feature in the display!

Send your photos to blunsdonvirtualopengardens@gmail.com

Having trouble? email this address and we'll arrange getting the photos from your devices to mine.

***WE STILL NEED
MORE
SCARECROWS!
PLEASE RETURN
YOUR FORM TO THE
SHOP BY
AUGUST 9TH***

Brilliant Blunsdon

During this extraordinary time of the Covid Pandemic so many people have said how lucky we are to live in Blunsdon, a lovely village surrounded by beautiful countryside.

Our village shop, the surgery, the Heart in Hand, Blunsdon House Hotel, St Leonards School and our Parish Council, as well as many other societies and organisations have pulled out all the stops to support the community, especially the most vulnerable.

People seem friendlier, just saying hello and smiling whilst out walking, enjoying the quiet and the sunshine while it lasted; having a bit of a chat in the queue for the shop or joining in the Thursday night clap!

Then there are the many acts of individual kindness which only those involved know about.

There is no denying the sickness, anxiety and loneliness which has also been the reality to a greater or lesser extent but our village has responded magnificently.

At some point in the future, whenever that might be, wouldn't it be wonderful to have a thanksgiving service, involving adults and children, ideally in the church, but maybe in the open air, to thank everyone who has contributed towards the amazing sense of community and to thank God for the blessings of living where we do?

Please phone, text or email thoughts and ideas so that a group of us could start optimistically planning in the hope of better times.

Penny Summers

mrpjsummers@hotmail.com

07805106499

Thanks to Mr H of Berton Close for the hedgehog photos below. Since the beginning of lockdown, we've been able to fully appreciate the wildlife all around us in the village. If you have photos of wildlife you have seen in your garden or in walks around the village that you would like to share please send them into the Magazine and I will do my best to include in future issues. (Ed)





Your Community Shop is looking for a Treasurer - Please see end of article for job description:

New Blunsdon Community Shop Block Paving Fundraiser - Q&As

1. Where will the blocks be laid? The blocks will be laid in the terrace area to the rear of the Shop/Café, overlooking the new children’s play area.
2. Will the gold letter wear off too easily? No the gold lettering once laid and sealed will be robust and withhold normal wear and tear expected for the terrace area
3. When will the blocks be laid? The blocks will be laid either as the building is erected or as the building is handed over to the community as our new Shop/Café
4. When do I need to order by? We need to receive all orders in the shop by **31st August 2020**.
5. How can I order my block(s)? There are forms available to download off our Shop website or in the Shop by the till. You must pay for the block(s) at the point of submitting your completed form.
6. How much are the blocks to order? The blocks are **£30** each and there is a sample block in the shop. Blocks can only be purchased via the Shop.

If you have any further questions please pass them to the staff in the shop, who will be happy to get a response from the Shop Committee on your behalf.

.....

We hope that you and your families are all well and are finding a small sense of normality coming back to your everyday life's as the lockdown continues to ease. We are really looking forward to seeing many of our regular customers and friends whom we have not seen since the start of the pandemic, we look forward to seeing you in store in the coming weeks. As lockdown continues to ease, our newspaper and grocery delivery service have now come to an end. We would like to take this opportunity to give a massive and extremely grateful thankyou to everyone who has volunteered during the height of the pandemic. We would also like to express our continued gratitude to those of you who are still continuing to support us, with a special mention to the incredibly generous villagers who have made additional donations to the shop upkeep. These donations are gratefully received and will contribute to the future of the community shop. We are looking into a way of recognising these fantastic donations.

We are still in need of additional volunteers. With additional support from the community we would be able to further review our shop opening hours. If you or your family happen to have any spare time and are willing to help in the community shop please get in touch via Facebook or pop in to the shop to enquire.

On a delightful note we would like to remind people of the upcoming Scarecrow Trail which will take place Friday 28th - Monday 31st August 2020. We have had a positive response from the community so far but, would love for as many people as possible to get involved. If you currently have a form, please could you return it at your earliest convenience. For those of you who don't yet have a form but would like to be involved, you can pick up a form in store.

Face coverings at the community shop

In England, you must by law wear a face covering in the following settings;

- *Public Transport*
- *Shops and Supermarkets as of the 24th of July 2020*

Shops and supermarkets will be expected to encourage compliance with the law (as they would do more generally) and can refuse entry. The police have powers to enforce these measures, including through issuing a fine of £100.

Please ensure you wear a face covering whilst inside the community shop, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Currently our opening hours are as follows:

Monday:	9am – 3pm
Tuesday:	9am – 3pm
Wednesday:	9am – 3pm
Thursday:	9am – 3pm
Friday:	9am – 3pm
Saturday:	8am – 4pm
Sunday:	8am – 1pm

Kind Regards from Blunsdon Community Shop

And finally!

Your Community Shop is looking for a Treasurer.

Would you like to do something useful and help your community at the same time?

Do you have a bit of a flair for numbers and a working knowledge of Excel? Then this could be for you!

The role includes: Managing Income and Expenditure, Recording of Daily Takings, Managing Bank Accounts, Liaising with Shop Manager on expenditure and accountant. Ensuring efficient payment to suppliers and staff, Monthly reporting to the Management Committee on all financial matters. Keeping up to date financial records for quarterly VAT & Year End Accounts, to be produced by external Accountant.

Our outgoing treasurer will be happy to chat through the role in more detail and is available for hand holding during the transition.

Please email her and she will contact you treasurer@blunsdoncommunityshop.uk



<http://www.blunstonparishcouncil.co.uk>

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Coronavirus and Support in the Parish

There are still those that are hard to reach and support in the Parish. Can I please ask everyone to keep a watchful eye out for those that might not read this or Broadcast Blunston or the Parish Facebook pages – or might not get to the Shop. **If you think there is someone who might need help please ring Tracey on 705617 and let us know. Thank you.** The PC will continue to monitor and support those that need it in the community.

Village Facilities – Village Hall, Methodist Hall and Pavilion.

The PC is working on the safest and most viable ways to get these facilities open again and available for hire/use as soon as we can. The PC has lost in the region of £5,000 in income as a result of the Covid 19 lockdown and is working to having all facilities open at the latest, by September 1st 2020. Where it is safely possible we will get them open before that date. All facilities need a Legionella test on the water systems and risk assessments in place. We need to give all the facilities a deep clean where they haven't been occupied and we have also invested in an anti-virus 'fogging' machine to ensure that the spaces are virus free. We have come up with an additional safety list of what we must do to comply with Coronavirus guidelines, as well as what the users must do to prevent any contamination or spread of this deadly virus.

Planning Applications

S/20/0548/9: Outline application for the erection of 2 and 14 self-build houses, west and east of Woodbine Cottage, Kingsdown Lane.

S/20/0587: Relocation of and changes to exterior of previously approved annexe at 1 The Copse, Blunston.

S/20/0635: Erection of 1no dwelling and associated works. Land Adjacent to Osmanton, Kingsdown Lane, Blunston.

Recent Planning Decisions

S/ADV/20/0214: An application to put illuminated signs on the new Gym that was the Co-op next to Dobbies. **Granted**

S/HOU/20/0542: An application for a dwelling that has been named 13A Turnpike – for the erection of a two storey side extension and dormer window to rear. **Refused**

S/HOU/20/0531: Erection of two/single storey side and rear extensions. 2 Holdcroft Close, Blunston. **Granted.**

Other Planning Matters

With regard to the outstanding developments that have been **consented**:

- Kingsdown NC5 – 1,650 dwellings. This application is coming forward at pace now with Persimmon and Primegate working together to ensure the new 'model' created by Highways England (HE) will work with the transport plan for the site. The proposed bridge link over the A419 will be built, however the government money to help fund it was withdrawn so the developers will have to help fund it.
- Hills Site Broadbush – 54 dwellings. The site is engaged now with groundworks planned over the next few months
- Green Square Site Broadbush – 43 dwellings. Detailed site plan is still being considered by SBC planning
- Hill Cottage Site – 90 dwellings. Detailed site plan is still being considered by SBC planning.

With regard to the outstanding developments that are still **not consented**: I recently met with Planning Policy Officers from the Borough Council and we had what I describe as an 'encouraging' discussion about the future of these unwanted developments. These sites are still under a 'delay' order by HE and will be considering how they might comply with HE's new traffic model. The Local Plan policies that protect our village are strengthened by the making of the Neighbourhood Plan and by the pace at which Kingsdown is coming forward. We can only hope that SBC will have enough evidence and policies in place to reject them soon.

Parking at the Recreation Ground: The PC have submitted a planning application to extend the parking by a further 6 spaces plus a disabled space. Hopefully this will help prevent the inconsiderate parking in Sutton Park on match days.

Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan (BENP).

The Plan was presented to the Full Borough Council meeting on 10th July and was unanimously approved with the modifications required by the Examiner. A provisional date for the Referendum of May 5th 2021 has now been proposed subject to any changes that would enable it earlier. It now carries 'significant weight' in any planning decisions that are considered henceforth. We take no responsibility for the inaccuracies in the recent Advertiser article about our NP.

Broadband Lower Village

The quality of broadband and its speed in the Village is generally poor. PCllr Selwood has put together a survey with the residents demonstrating this, which we have forwarded to our local MP, Justin Tomlinson, for action. He has got the ball rolling and we are waiting for the next stage in trying to improve it. Swindon Borough Councillor Vinay Manro has been tasked to work with BT to tackle the problem. His latest report to us says that ***'I can confirm all of Blunsdon will be getting FTTP. Timescales are yet to be seen, but Flora Close, Broad Blunsdon Heights, was upgraded from copper to fibre in the last 2 weeks. Rollout will continue to progress.'***

Spring Flowers

During the lockdown we had to furlough our grounds maintenance employees and subsequently the Cemetery and Graveyard became wild and overgrown. Yet the wild flowers blossomed and enjoyed the lack of maintenance. We were asked if this situation could become a regular one and although we had compliments about the flowers we had many complaints from those people whom found it difficult visiting loved and lost. However, in discussion with our grounds maintenance contractor he suggested that we leave the verges on the eastern side of Blunsdon Hill/Ermin Street to grow wild during the spring to allow the flowers to blossom there. Let me know your thoughts. We have also recently done some long-awaited major works to dangerous and untidy trees in the Cemetery and Graveyard and there are still some to address.

Speedwatch

The volunteers of Speedwatch have resumed their speed safety checks throughout the village roads and are noting those that break the limits. Those who excessively speed will get a visit from Wiltshire Police and the others get a letter of reprimand. The team do a great job in making drivers more aware of the speeds required on the local roads. They are looking for more volunteers so that their work can be extended to more areas where speeding is a problem. Please contact me below if you would like to join the team. They are provided with detailed training, equipment and support from the Police.

Latest Speedwatch results:

6/7/20: Broadbush 17:30 to 18:30, 244 vehicles counted, 17 over 35mph of which 8 over 40mph, highest speed **44mph**

7/7/20: Broadbush 08:00 to 09:00, 246 vehicles counted, 10 over 35mph of which 2 over 40mph, highest speed **50mph**

9/7/20: Lady Lane 08:10 to 09:10, 180 vehicles counted, 23 over 35mph of which 12 over 40mph, highest speed **45mph**

10/7/20: Ermin St. 16:00 to 17:00, 105 vehicles counted, 11 over 35mph of which 4 over 40mph, highest speed **45mph**

14/7/20: Broadbush 13:00 to 14:00, 134 vehicles counted, 5 over 35mph of which 1 over 40mph, highest speed **52mph** NB: road closed just before Freke Arms with sign-posted diversion along A419.

15/7/20: Ermin St. 18:00 to 19:00, 178 vehicles counted, 20 over 35mph of which 8 over 40mph, highest speed **45mph**

17/7/20: Lady Lane 17:00 to 18:00, 282 vehicles counted, 66 over 35mph of which 19 over 40mph, highest speed **52mph**

Parish Council Meeting

The next virtual meeting will be on 3rd August 2020 at 19:30.

Stay safe, stay well.

Ian Jankinson – ianjankinson@blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk – 07702 684281

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Ian Noble Cert CII (MP &ER), Mobile no. 07368201057, Blunsdon

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News from the Pews.....

Well here we are more than half way through the year and sneaking in to the school summer holidays. Although this won't make much difference to some of us. The school has done a brilliant job keeping our youngsters educated and focused, and no doubt instilling the good practices of keeping safe. Now we have the joy of meeting up with family that we've not seen for so long. There will be those of us that welcome the 'new look' of everyday life and those that have become used to lockdown existence and slightly fearful of the outside world.

Our first 'live' PCC in church helped to have a more normal feeling about it. I felt we probably covered more than a zoom type format!

Our regular Sunday online offering continues to build pace and expertise; if you've not tuned in it's worth a visit. Most recently the new arch deacon shared some personal issues during his 'sermon'. A candid view of the hope he has in Jesus.

The church will remain open, unusually, during the summer break, to give us more opportunities to use it for private prayer. We will never know how many persons go in to pray or contemplate - only that it has been used. Cleanliness is our priority and we will continue to work to that end together with the public taking that same care.

Our hopes and prayers are with all that live in our village or close proximity, that we will remain a welcoming and open place.

Watch this space as to how things will evolve in the coming months. Plans afoot for a celebration service as and when safe to do (see Brilliant Blunston article), we will need a good old get together when the virus has been contained.

So, enjoy your staycation or actual holiday, you probably deserve it!!

Jane Ockwell
Church warden

St. Leonard's Church Services

N.B. All services are suspended until further notice.

Notes from the Editor

If you have an article for the Magazine or some news that you would like to share then please send to blunsdonmagazine@gmail.com

The magazine is run by local volunteers from the village. All your ideas, comments and contributions will always be welcome.

EDITOR: Please email all items for the magazine to blunsdonmagazine@gmail.com
Arlene tel. 01793 727306
ADVERTS: To place an advert in the magazine, please contact Penny on 01793 722073

Blunsdon Village Magazine is available to read online at Blunsdon Parish Council website: blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk

Front cover photo: St Leonards Church by local resident Nic Freemantle

The September Magazine will be delivered from: 28th August

Please note deadline for items for inclusion:

Magazine issue	Deadline for inclusion
September	19 th August
October	23 rd September

NOTICE BOARD

My Grandson George and I had planned a stall at the Village Fete which sadly had to be postponed. We had jigsaws and books to sell. The jigsaws have been sold privately but now we would like to sell the books. (space needed). There are over 40 paperbacks, mostly chick lit. If anyone is interested in purchasing any of these books please contact me on Tel. 721340 and I can arrange for them to be picked up safely. We are asking for a donation as any money raised will go to charity as was planned originally. Thank you from Jean Emerson and George Curd.

We would like to thank, most sincerely, all the staff and volunteers at the village shop who have kept it open throughout the Covid pandemic. A special thankyou to Eve, who has gone above and beyond the call of duty, ably assisted by Sandra. With so many of the regular volunteers self isolating it left the shop very short on helpers, so any new faces would be welcome. Also, thanks to all the delivery "Boys and Girls" for paper and food deliveries throughout. So once again a big THANKYOU to all concerned.
J & L

TALES of VENICE, the Guide Dog puppy

Hi, we are still keeping safe and hope it is the same for you all too. So, did you guess how many Guide dogs are trained each year?

There are four Guide dog training schools in the UK and between them they train over 1,000 new guide dogs each year.

This year will be a little different and I will be much older than is usual before I go to training. Puppy's usually start their training at about 15 – 16 months old but due to Covid 19 no one knows when my age group will go for training. My puppy walkers do not mind as they get to keep me a little longer.

Throughout training a guide dog learns to:

- walk centrally along the pavement whilst avoiding obstacles on the route
- not turn corners unless told to do so
- stop at kerbs and steps
- find doors, crossings and places which are visited regularly
- judge height and width so their owners do not bump their head or shoulder
- help keep their owners straight when crossing a road

Have you ever thought about why I am called Venice?

Many large organisations are very generous and will donate the full £57,000 for a Guide dog and as a result have the honour of naming the puppy, so if you hear a Guide dog called George who do you think sponsored it? Yes, it would probably be Asda. Other names are Sparks (Marks & Spencer) and Jacks (Tesco). There are many more of course.

I am not a sponsored puppy and so Guide dogs chose the next alphabetical name on the Guide dog list. When I was born, they were up to the letter V and there are not many girls names beginning with this letter but Venice is one of them. People often think I am called Dennis, no I am a girl!



My brother Forest and I recently hired the Stanton Waters Woodland Walk area for a free run and we had a great time as shown in the photo. We had the whole area to ourselves and it is very secure so our puppy walkers could let us just have fun.

In the photo I am on the left, don't you think we look so alike?

Forest brought his pop-up tunnel with him and we ran in and out of it having lots of fun.

Question of the month – How old do you have to be to own a Guide dog?



BLUNSDON WI

Like other clubs and societies Blunsdon W.I. hasn't had a meeting since February 2020.

Although many aspects of the lockdown are slowing returning to normal, it is unclear, at present, when Blunsdon W.I. will be able to safely meet up again.

We are hoping to re-book some of the speakers, originally planned for this spring and summer, in the near future. They were on various subjects including Herbal Remedies from the Kitchen, Personality as seen in Handwriting, Cellars & Tunnels in Swindon, GWR Trip Week and the History of Blunsdon. We also had a couple of summer outings planned.

The Book Club will, hopefully, be restarting at some point soon.

Our members have spent the last few months with hobbies including tapestry, large jigsaws, cookery, line-dancing on YouTube, growing and consuming garden veg, walking in the Blunsdon area.

One of our members, Carole, who is a keen gardener, has been studying the various types of bumble bee found in her garden. Apparently, it has been a good year for bees!

Hopefully by next month there will be more definite news as to when Blunsdon WI will be up and running again.

For more information please contact Anna on tel: 706392 or check out our website: www.blunsdonwi.co.uk

BLUNSDON NOTES Malthouse Farm, High Street

Where numbers 26A to 28B High Street now stand there used to be a double fronted stone and brick Georgian House with two dormer windows known as Malthouse Farm with a stone wall connecting it to a long stone malthouse. I knew old Mr and Mrs Norris when it still functioned as a small farm, when they kept a few cows on their fields, where Malthouse Close and Berton Close now stand.

Fred Norris was a real old-fashioned stocky countryman in his heavy corduroy outdoor clothes, spotted neckerchief and battered pork pie hat. Bessie Norris was comely and dressed in long skirts, her hair pulled back in a small bun. Her sleeves were invariably rolled up and she always seemed to wear a long working apron.

She'd married Fred who had previously lived with his mother in Hunts Hill Cottage, late in life after she'd inherited the farm from her parents. Rumour had it that they had to wait until her parents had gone because as strict Baptists they had forbidden the match because they considered Fred Norris who had a reputation in his youth of being a bit of "Jack the Lad" and being totally unsuitable for their only child Bessie. They were subsequently proved wrong, the couple married soon after Bessie's mother died and were devoted to each other.

The long building next to the house close to the road was the former malthouse, which had once been thatched. This had an upper floor of stone slabs supported by rough hewn oak piles. The farm had brewed beer for the whole village in olden times.

The Norris' home was fascinating to me, full of inherited curiosities from previous generations and was a veritable treasure trove. Mrs Norris had a wonderful assortment of Victorian dresses, wax dolls and her Victorian perambulator.

Their home had never been modernised and even in the 1950s they drew their water from an old pump in the yard. Mrs Norris cooked on a paraffin range in her scullery, a single storey addition and you had to go outside to get to it. She had no refrigerator so kept her homemade butter pats and anything perishable in the large cellar beneath the house. This had a gulley in its stone flagged floor with a cooling stream that ran from the front of the house to the back, presumably coming from an underground spring which even in the driest of summers had never been known to run dry. Up in the roof of the house there was also a rare pigeon loft. This was in the days when pigeons were kept for fresh meat in the winter.

After Bessie died Fred lived on there for a number of years but the property was eventually sold on his death in 1969 and purchased by a local builder. I organised a local petition at the time to try and save the building in any future development of the site and raised over 300 signatures. The local doctors were also rumoured at one time to be interested in buying the house and turning it into a surgery but the builder allowed it to deteriorate and then a mysterious fire one night damaged the roof so in the end it was sold to another developer and demolished.

I managed to rescue the dressed stone slab from the front of the house with the original owner's initials G.M.M and the date 1732 on it and Frank Eggleton, Chairman of the Parish Council at the time had it set into the wall of the old school playground almost opposite. Unfortunately, our wonderful village shop now hides it but one day it may again be revealed for all to see!

Richard Radway

Brain Teaser of the Month

Can you work out the answers, they are all sweets or chocolates. Just to help you out here is an example: - Wobbly Infants - Jelly Babies (Answers on page 16)

1. Where refined people live
2. 9-10-11
3. Fallen Fruits
4. Carrier for Dairy Produce
5. All sorts of Girls
6. Royal Herb
7. Belly Dancers
8. Sport of princes
9. Alcoholic Teeth
10. Speak Quietly
11. Edible Fasteners
12. Inhabitants of Med Island
13. Feline Gear
14. Corks for Mouth
15. A Galaxy
16. Punishment for nuts
17. America's Half Time
18. London Has Big Red One's
19. 10 Pin Bowling
20. Pirates Loot
21. Clever Chocolates
22. Petal and Prickles
23. Little Richards Favourites

Blunsdon FC Juniors



After what must be the strangest year in footballing history, I am pleased to say that the FA have issued guidelines that enables grassroots football to resume training. This means we are able to start both the Bumblebees Saturday morning training and team training with friendlies and matches being able to commence from August.



Bumblebees. We held the first session of the Blunsdon Bumblebees on Saturday 14th March and welcomed 12 children to Sutton Park. Lockdown then meant that we were unable to hold anymore sessions until now. The next session will be held on Saturday 8th August 10.30 start and is open to Reception, year 1 and 2 children. Social distancing will need to be respected by all parents and children whilst not training. Blunsdon FC has a full COVID risk assessment and plan in place that can be viewed. Please email blunsdonfc-secretary@outlook.com if interested.

New U7 and U8 teams. One of the purposes of the Bumblebees session is to ensure that Blunsdon FC has a bright future and local children have a football club that they can represent with their friends. We have children attending who will form the basis of an U7 and U8 team in September, they would love more to join so if you are in Year 1 or 2 and want to join in please contact blunsdonfc-secretary@outlook.com

Training to resume. Pre season training will resume at Sutton Park under the new guidelines, Tuesday and Thursday evenings along with Saturday mornings. It will be great to see the teams back out and getting prepared for a new season.

PLEASE NOTE FOR BUMBLEBEES AND TEAM TRAINING THERE WILL BE NO PAVILLION FACILTITES AVAILABE, SO NO TOILETS. WE ARE ADVISED THAT THE PAVILLION WILL BE AVAILBLE FROM THE 1ST SEPTEMBER.

New website. I am pleased to announce we now have a fabulous new website to keep you all up to date with Blunsdon FC News. Please visit us at www.blunsdon-fc.co.uk

Local support. We couldn't run our club without financial support and I am very pleased to say a big thank you to The Blunsdon House Hotel who very kindly sponsored our Bumblebee set up and running costs for this important first year. In addition to this Blunsdon Fitness+ generously sponsored the running costs for our new website. Local support for a local club is invaluable especially in these difficult times.





BLUNSDON CRICKET CLUB

Saturday Fixtures – **Yes. Actual League Matches**

Play begins at 1:00 p.m.

1st August home to Buscot Park

8th August away to Swindon

15th August away to Swindon NALGO

22nd August home to Calne

29th August home to Wanborough

Following some net practice and a couple of inter club friendlies, hopefully Wiltshire League cricket began for Blunsdon Foxes at Wanborough on 25th July.

Blunsdon will compete in Division 61 (Sixty One – no, I don't know either). A shortened mini league against fairly local clubs.

Although there will be no saliva on the ball (the Good), no teas (the Bad) and players changing outside the pavilion (the Ugly), it will be great to see village cricket return.

To celebrate players will take to the field at Sutton Park with the late Ennio Morricone's Classic Spaghetti Western theme tune blaring out over the tannoy. "Wooo ooo Wooo ooo Wooo. Waah Waaaah."

Answers to this month's brainteaser: –

1. Quality Street
2. After Eight
3. Pear Drop or Fruit Drops
4. Milk Tray or Milk Bottles
5. Dolly Mixture
6. Mint Imperial
7. Turkish Delight
8. Polo
9. Wine Gums
10. Wispa bar
11. Chocolate Buttons
12. Maltesers
13. Kit Kat
14. Gobstopper
15. Milky Way
16. Walnut Whip
17. Time out
18. Double Deckers
19. Skittles
20. Bounty
21. Smarties
22. Roses
23. Tutti Frutti

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Keyless Car Thefts

We are alerting people to a keyless entry car theft in the North Swindon area on 17/07.

A high value vehicle was stolen from a driveway of an address in Blunsdon St Andrew in the early hours of the morning.

In cases like these, thieves manage to get in to and drive the vehicle off by using a transmitting device which mimics the keyless fob.

Please bear in mind some crime prevention points to consider which could prevent a vehicle, which uses the keyless system, from being taken:

- Put the key card/fob in a Faraday case/pouch to block any transmissions
- Park the vehicle in a locked garage
- Install a parking post/bollard on the driveway
- Use an additional steering lock
- If you have a second, non-keyless vehicle, park that behind the high value one
- Check if your keyless fobs can be switched off
- Check with your car dealership as they can offer advice and the manufacturer/dealer can often track the vehicle if it is stolen.
- If the vehicle is a company car, check with your fleet managers who can offer crime prevention and tracking advice.

PC Keith Macdonald said: "We had a series of keyless entry car thefts earlier this year and want to reiterate our crime prevention message to vehicle owners about being extra vigilant and aware of this type of crime. "These measures are all about preventing the opportunist thief from happening upon your vehicle and overriding the keyless system to steal it. "All are fairly cheap and simple measures to stop an offender taking one of the most expensive items people buy."

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