



# *The Blower* Newsletter of the Kingston Lisle and Fawler Parish Council – June 2014

## Summer Events

Please make a note on your calendars about the following activities and hopefully you will join in and help make them a great success.

**Swimathon and Barbeque Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July:** Fiona Browne is taking the lead on this following requests for a repeat of last year's event. The format is around a barbeque and games in the Village Hall garden and swims in various pools in the village. Meet at 11.30 at the Village Hall for the Swimathon. Barbeque at 1.00. Drinks will be served. A small entrance fee of £5 for adults and £2 for children (under 10) will cover the cost of food.

**Village Produce Show Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September:** Sue and Ron Elbow are once again organising this very popular occasion. There are opportunities for everyone to join in either with produce from the garden, with flowers, with crafts or with the very competitive bakers and preservers in the Parish. The end of show auction always brings in the crowds and together with tombola and raffles raises funds to support village events.

**Kingston Lisle Golf Open in October:** The format is an 18 hole stableford competition at Carswell Golf Club followed by a meal and prize giving at the Blowing Stone. The cost will be maintained at £35 thanks to support from Angus and Steph. We got close to having a winner from the Parish last year and have high hopes to improve on this. Watch out for more news on this event.

**Village Walks:** Johnnie Graham is continuing to encourage walkers and their dogs to join him and others on interesting rambles in our attractive countryside. You have missed the second one of the year on 15<sup>th</sup> June but there are more to follow. Keep an eye on the Village website or watch your e-mails (and if you haven't signed up, please do so by sending an e-mail to Jean Grant [jeangrant60@sky.com](mailto:jeangrant60@sky.com) )

**Village Playground:** At the meeting in March, it was agreed that the Playground Charity would be dissolved and the Parish Council would financially support of the Playground in recognition of its value as a Parish facility. A number of volunteers offered their help to maintain the site. Since the meeting some of the equipment has been repaired and the lawn mower is now repaired and ready for action. Would those people who volunteered please email Elizabeth Graham [elizagraham1@gmail.com](mailto:elizagraham1@gmail.com) so that a grass cutting and weeding rota can be set up.

**Damage to the Grass Verge:** Thames Water have approved the funds and have got OCC Highways approval for their plans. We are chasing them for a start date.

**Parking in the Village:** There have been complaints again about car parking and requests to highlight the problem in the Blower.

The plea is: please don't park on pavements or verges so that you either block the way or you restrict the line of sight for road users.

**Village Web Site:** This is up and running now thanks to Gill White who keeps it up to date. Thanks too to Ian Davin who started it off and still hosts it for us. If you want to know what has gone on in the village or what is proposed, log in to [www.kingstonlisle.net](http://www.kingstonlisle.net)

**Parish Council:** At the Parish Council AGM in May, Richard Atkins resigned as Chair due to work pressure and Fiona Browne was appointed in his place. Richard had been chair for 6 years and was the driving force behind a number of initiatives including generating funding for the Village Hall renovation. His efforts were recognised at the AGM and we express our grateful thanks to him. We are fortunate that he is willing to continue as a Councillor and will retain responsibility for planning and highways.

**Thanks:** Thank you to all of the people who came to the garage sale on the 14th of June at Fawler Copse. With your generosity a total of £505 was raised for the Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance charity.

Philip & Mary Channer kindly donated everything for this event.

**The Councillors, and their responsibilities, are as follows:**

**Fiona Browne**, Chair, responsible for events ---- Little Court, Tel **820136**

**Richard Atkins**, responsible for planning and highways ----Collins Cottage, Tel. **820129**

**Yvonne Constance**, assisting with planning and other matters---- Cross Bargain Farm, Tel. **01235 751475**

**Gill White**, responsible for website---Saxonsfield, Tel. **820747**

**Mike Alderson**, responsible for transport, allotments, The Blower ---- Kings Cottage, Tel **820174**

**Jean Grant**, responsible for Hall bookings and Parish Clerk, --- Drysdale, Tel. **820229** [jeangrant60@sky.com](mailto:jeangrant60@sky.com)

**Reminder:** If you want to comment on or supply entries for **The Blower** please contact the Editor – Mike Alderson

**RESTORING OUR CHURCH – a message from Angus Saer**



Last summer, we drew up a full restoration programme for our 12th Century church. Beginning with urgent repairs to the roof, timbers and external render, we plan to install new heating and lighting, conserve the 14th Century wall paintings and redecorate the interior. The restoration will safeguard the building's structure for generations to come, improve it as a place of worship for our growing congregation, enhance its importance in the village, increase its suitability for other events such as concerts and provide a newly inspirational place to visit from near and far.

The restoration is initially costed at £270,000 (excluding VAT which we can claim back). The Heritage Lottery Fund turned down our first grant application in October but we tried again and in March they awarded us £162,100. With existing church funds and generous donations in the village so far, we're left with £65,000 to raise. We're busy applying for other grants to cover part of this as the development stage of the project continues, and we aim to carry out the works in the spring and summer of 2015.

Considered for closure only a few years ago, our church is very much back on the map. Our congregation has recently grown to its highest levels for at least 30 years and we're seeing more and more weddings and baptisms. We've put together a choir which sings at Christmas and Easter when the church is packed. We hold a Family Communion service on the third Sunday of every month: please join us for the next one on Sunday 20th July at 10am.

There is huge competition for Lottery funding and it has come to Kingston Lisle: now everyone in the village needs to know about the restoration of our beautiful church. We had a great turnout at the Harvest Lunch in October when we presented our plans, and we're currently organising a programme of events to start in the autumn, to raise funds and get everyone involved. We'll be giving an update on everything at our "bring and share" Harvest Lunch on Sunday 21st September in the village hall after Family Communion at 10am. Please put both in your diary!

If you'd like to know more about the restoration in the meantime, please contact our churchwarden Angus Saer on 01235 751552 or [angus.saer@btinternet.com](mailto:angus.saer@btinternet.com).