

Christmas Shop Front Competition 2017

Thank you to all those shop owners who so imaginatively decorated their windows for the festive season. Shevington Parish Council's Christmas Shop Front Competition for 2017 was judged by our local community safety officers PCSO Leanne Winnard and Debbie Alty. The winners were:

- 1st - Cheeky Monkeys
- 2nd - Barnet Fayre
- 3rd - Spar (Appley Bridge)

The photograph shows Cllr Ira Whiteley (Chairman of Shevington Parish Council) and PCSO Leanne Winnard presenting the shield and to Margaret and Robert Soerby and Julie Oakes of Cheeky Monkeys. Donations of £50, £30 and £20 have been sent on behalf of the prizewinners to Hope Kidney Patients Association, The Brick and Wigan & Leigh Hospice respectively.



A New Star for Shevington Christmas Tree

Great news! Due to popular demand Shevington Parish Council agreed early last year to provide a new star for the Christmas tree it provides at the cross-roads outside Shevington Memorial Park. Didn't it look well?

Shevington Parish Council provides the large Christmas trees for the Communities it serves (and the lighting for them) in the centre of Shevington, at Crooke Village green, at Booths in Appley Bridge and at Whiteacre Park in Shevington Moor. After receiving several comments from residents that the lights on the Christmas tree at Shevington were not bright enough and hearing people say 'We want what Appley Bridge have!', the parish councillors commissioned the creation of a bespoke star with cascade to mirror the one the Parish Council provide for residents at Appley Bridge.

During the Autumn of 2017 the Parish Council also looked into the provision of Christmas lighting motifs for the lamp standards in the centre of Shevington. As it was too late for Christmas 2017, the parish councillors have ring-fenced funding with a view to providing motifs for the lamp standards next Christmas and will be looking into this in the near future.



Seeking Your Views School Site Consultation

The Parish Council are involved in discussions about the future of the former Shevington Community Primary School site. A leaflet inviting you to 'Have Your Say' accompanied the November edition of this newsletter. If you haven't yet done so, there is still time to reply. Further information is on the Parish Council website.



Farewell to Rounds

The tea room and shop were packed with people giving the team thanks and good wishes in what proved to be an emotional send off on 17 November 2017.

Marlaine Whitham explains: "For the last seven years Round's Country Fayre has provided the community with much needed services, from fresh veg and Christmas food orders to ice-creams and a tea shop. The tea shop in particular has been a highly regarded meeting point for local people and community groups."

Marlaine continues: "It has been fantastic to have a genuinely family run business in the village. We are going to miss Andy and his team terribly, but we respect Andy's decision to pursue other opportunities and we welcome the new proprietors of "Cheeky Monkeys."

Cheeky Monkeys opened the next day. The café has recently been refurbished and a new Breakfast menu is being served daily from 7am.



A goodbye with gratitude: Marlaine Whitham, Chair of Shevington Community Association presents Andrew (Andy) Round of Round's Country Fayre with a token of appreciation from the community on their last day of trading.

Left to right: Andrew (Andy) Round (Owner of Rounds Country Fayre), Marlaine Whitham (Shevington Community Association), Alan Sharratt (RCF Staff) and Joyce Livesey (RCF Staff).

Vicarage Lane Fields Update

Shevington Sharks and Shevington FC are seriously fundraising so that they can go ahead with their plans of providing a building at Vicarage Lane Fields for use by team members. The building has to be multi-purpose and be available for community use. Their vision is that it can be used by groups to develop a healthy and more active community. They also want to include unique access and facilities for use by carers and their patients who need to shower or bath. As you will be aware, Shevington has an ageing demographic and they believe that there are some people who do not have access to showers or baths. This facility could be of significant assistance as the age of our population increases.

They have had meetings with the Football Association, who have intimidated that this is a project they would invest in - they do, however, have to raise some partnership funding to meet their requirements.

The clubs have submitted two bids for funding - one to The Deal and one to Aviva - and are waiting to hear about progress. The first stage for bids for funding from Aviva involved individuals voting for the project of

their choice. The sports clubs' project had received an amazing total of 13,625 votes by the time voting had closed in late November.

New Bus Route 312

A new bus timetable was introduced in West Lancashire at the end of July. This involved the withdrawal of service 3A - at that time running between Appley Bridge and Burscough - and replacing it by a service 312 operating between Skelmersdale and Wrightington Hospital. This restores the link lost about two years ago between Appley Bridge and Wrightington Hospital.

The service operates hourly, with the first bus at 09.37 from Appley Bridge, then 10.48 and then hourly until 15.48, then at 16.51, 18.01 and 19.03 on Monday to Fridays. On Saturdays there is an earlier journey at 08.48, then hourly until 18.48. Buses return from the hospital at 09.55 and are then hourly until 14.55, then at 16.00, 17.05 and 18.10 on Mondays to Fridays. On Saturdays buses return from the hospital at 08.55, then hourly until 17.55. There is no service 312 on Sundays.

Route 312 operates via Appley Lane South, Mill Lane, Miles Lane, Skull House Lane and Appley Lane North to Wrightington Hospital. The bus serves only the stops at Mill Lane/opposite The Dell and Miles Lane /near Back Lane. It does not stop at the Randall's Corner stop in Miles Lane. Despite what is said on the timetable, this route was not altered on 12 December. It is operated by Preston Bus - part of the Diamond North West group, who operate Service 635.

We understand that service 635 no longer goes as far as Wrightington Hospital. So, if you wish to travel there by bus from the centre of Shevington, you will have to change at the appropriate stop in Miles Lane.

Shevington Parish Council has small grants available for local community groups. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk for an application form.