

## Peace & Poppies

St Bernadette's Primary School produced an amazing response to the 2018 centenary celebration of the closure of World War 1. The community and guests, including the Mayor of Wigan and representatives of the diocese, were invited to enjoy a feast of dance, drama and song which captivated and took them on an emotional journey that honoured the bravery and hardships endured by our predecessors during the World Wars of the 20th century.



Every classroom was decorated with artefacts or was totally transformed into scenes from the World Wars. Visitors were escorted by pupils, dressed in costume, to experience aspects such as trench warfare or the Blitz.

It was an outstanding tribute, not just to those who endured or lost their lives in these wars, but also to the exceptional work and creativity of the staff and pupils involved. A truly outstanding event. Some of the artefacts used are now in the display in Shevington Library.

## Shevington in Bloom

Shevington in Bloom won gold and were judged to be the best in their category in the 2018 North West in Bloom competition. They were subsequently invited to enter the Britain in Bloom competition in 2019, but have decided they will not be entering.

The group need more volunteers and in future will only enter North West in Bloom every 3 years when Wigan's North West in Bloom Judges come to Shevington. The next time will be in 2021.

However, for the Park's entry to NWinB next year, they have committed to having the Memorial Park up to the same standard as this year and will continue to maintain their other projects in Shevington with the same dedication as in the past.

## Drainage for Memorial Park

Consultants commissioned by Shevington Parish Council have recently provided the Council with a report on the condition of the ground in Memorial Park and have made recommendations with respect to how the poor drainage can be addressed. As a result the Parish Council have agreed to set aside £20,000 from reserves towards the cost of drainage improvements and have made a commitment to source grant funding for the balance, which is expected to be considerably more than we have in reserves.



## The FSMP Go Carol Singing

Thanks to all involved with the carol singing on Sunday, 2 December who helped to raise £102 for the park! The singers from the Methodist Church did an amazing job. They were accompanied by Tony Bostock, who played keyboard and put us all in a Christmassy mood! Thanks also to Golden Days Garden Centre – Wigan Branch, who provided refreshments and donated some raffle prizes, including this lovely hamper!

## Age UK – Soup & Sandwiches

11:30 am - 1:00 pm every Monday - homemade fresh sandwiches, soup and cake in a friendly environment - come along to Shevington Methodist Church - cost: £3.

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



Cllr Ira Whiteley (on the right) presenting Hospice Shop volunteers with the winner's shield while Pam Powell (in the green jacket) looks on.



## The Best Christmas Shop-Front - Who Won?

Last year's entries for the Christmas Shop-Front Competition were judged by local artist, Pam Powell. Many thanks go to Pam for taking the time to do this. Below, in her own words, is what she said:

### “First Prize – Wigan & Leigh Hospice Shop Window

This window display contained everything we all relate to, in some way or other, at Christmas. The stable scene reminded us all of the religious element that goes so far back in time. The Father Christmas on top of the chimney is every small child's fantasy. The stocking, which we all hope will be full of special gifts, given and received with love. The post box – how we love opening cards and putting them on display. The snowmen, the fir cones, the tinsel, the angel – all important elements. But, we mustn't forget the crowning glory – a CHRISTMAS TREE!!

### Second Prize – Muffin Man

This went to the Muffin Man with its two-window display. For many children and adults alike, this will have reminded them of the fabulous Christmas film – Santa Express – starring Tom Hanks. If you haven't seen it, you should watch it. The film reminds us that we should all be kind and caring and look out for each other. The train and carriage were well put together.

### Third Prize – Elizabeth Ann Hair Salon at Shevington Moor

A lovely display in a small window: Father Christmas and his reindeer had some movement and the whole scene was “snowy” and “wintery”. Penguins and polar bears were present too.

Further to this, I feel that other shops deserve a mention for originality:

- A life size Father Christmas in Imagine Kitchens.
- ‘The Grinch’ window at Barnet Fayre – a film loved by children.
- Head Management for the ethereal window – a ballerina dancing in snowflakes.
- And Bewleys for the brightest show of lights in the whole village.

Thank you to all the shops that took part for making our villages so lovely at this special time.”

The Parish Council would like to echo that last sentence and thank all businesses that made a contribution – long may they continue! The winners of 2018 all nominated Wigan & Leigh Hospice as their chosen Charity, which will receive a donation of £100 from the Parish Council.

## New Christmas Decorations

Did you spot the new lighting motifs attached to the lamp posts in the centre of Shevington this festive season? The result of a joint venture between the Parish Council and Wigan ward councillors, they brightened the commercial area from Shevington Library to Memorial Park and have been the subject of many appreciative comments.

The Parish Council's Christmas tree at Booth's in Appley Bridge also received a face lift. The white / gold waterfall star had been fading last year and was replaced by a new multi-coloured version.



## A Focus on Parish Footpaths



## Ring @ Ride

This is Greater Manchester's door-to-door accessible transport service for people who find it difficult to use public transport.

To be eligible to use the service you must:

- hold a TfGM Concessionary Plus Pass; or
- hold a TfGM Concessionary Disabled Person Pass; or
- be 70 years or over, have mobility issues and hold a TfGM Over 60 Concessionary Pass; or
- be a TfGM Travel Voucher user.

Ring & Ride's accessible minibuses and professionally trained drivers will assist you to get out and about with ease. The service operates seven days a week, except on public holidays and, if eligible, you can use it to make journeys of up to 6 miles. Before you book a trip, you must be registered as a member. You may do this by ringing either 0161 200 601 or 0845 688 4933 between 8 am and 10:30 pm seven days a week or online at [www.ringandride.info](http://www.ringandride.info). Trips can be booked seven days in advance and up to one hour before travel and all fares are set at a subsidised rate. Support dogs travel free of charge – other dogs and pets are not allowed.