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Review of Ashley 2018

As usual we said goodbye to some residents and welcomed some new ones including a new baby called Scarlett.

The biggest news for Ashley was the leaving of the Rev. Keith Addenbrooke and his family and going to take up a living back on the Wirral. At the moment his replacement has not been chosen and the parish is still without a Vicar.

The Bollin Bridge repair was finally finished in April and thanks to Jeff and Ian Warburton who directed the traffic when the traffic light's kept failing.

At the Old Post Office the post box was closed and a new one was situated next to the seat opposite the Greyhound.

A ticket machine was installed on the Manchester side of the Station for people to purchase tickets. The time table was changed for trains going to Chester and at the end of the year there were no trains running on a Saturday due to industrial action (the dispute is still going on.)

Ashley's very own soprano Scarlett Quigley appeared on the Voice T.V programme, unfortunately she did not win.

In May our annual Rose Queen was well attended with lots of new stalls as well as the old favourites, the fete made a bumper amount of money. Thanks to all who ran stalls and for people who spent their hard earned cash.

Laura the Landlady at the Greyhound won the J.W.Lees Manager of the year, well done to Laura. The pub had various events throughout the year including "The Commerbach" Players.

continued over...

Review of Ashley 2018

The Harvest Festival Service was taken by the Bishop of Stockport Libby Lane, former Vicar of St. Elizabeth's and St. Peter's and soon to be Bishop of Derby. There was a Harvest loaf, farm implements and harvest contributions on display. John Erlam gave a talk about farm life.

Witches and Ghoules were in evidence On Halloween around the Village.

On November 11th St. Elizabeth's Church commemorated the Centenary of the end of the 1st World war and those who lost their lives in both World War's from Ashley. After the service an old oak tree was removed and a new one planted in it's place.

This year the St. Elizabeth's parish website has been updated and the parish magazine can now be read on www.St.Elizabeth's many thanks to John Sherratt for completing this task.

As the year closed the Parish Council held an open day at the centre regarding the projects for HS2 and the Smart Motorway for the M56, both of which will have a devastating impact on the village. There is also ongoing work regarding the Parish Plan.

The annual Christingle Service was well attended as usual.

Ashley centre held various concerts over the year, with an Antiques night with TV Auctioneer Adam Partridge and in December Christmas Wreath making weekends were held.

Throughout the year Ashley showground held various events, including the popular Steam Engine rally.

Ashley Cricket Club were in action over the Summer and held their Annual Beer Festival in July.

And a footnote in over 60 years of living on the Green this was the first year that Mushrooms have appeared on it.

+++ NOTICES +++

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library's next visit to Ashley will be on:

Friday, 8th February 2019

Friday, 1st March 2019

Friday, 22nd March 2019

The library will be in the

Greyhound car park

11:40am - 12:40pm.

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/libraries/nearest_library/mobile_library_week.aspx#February

If you do not have a library card, on your first visit you need to take proof of address, like a council tax bill etc.

The Librarian will set up a library card for you while you look for a book to read.

Ice Cream Van

The ice cream van comes to Hough Green on Sundays at 12noon. Remember to watch your vehicle speed when driving onto Hough Green.

ASHLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE'S BOOK SALE

The book shop is in the Ashley community centre which is inside St. Elizabeth's Church.

The next one is on: Saturday 2nd February* from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

When duties allow the local Police Officer will be on hand to answer questions.

* The book sales are usually on the first Saturday of the month, unless there is a wedding on.

Ashley Community Centre Events

On Friday 8th February we are delighted to have a return visit from those legendary buskers Loose Change.

On Friday 8th March, and following a lot of requests, we welcome back Sharon the storyteller. Sharon - those of you who heard her on her last Ashley visit will recall what a great evening we had. Both evenings will start at 7:30pm, with doors opening at 7:00pm. For those of you who are unsure where the Ashley community centre is, it is St. Elizabeth's Church.

+++ NOTICES +++

PLANNED ENGINEERING WORKS

There is planned engineering works on the Mid Cheshire line in February on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 22:41 Monday 18th February to 02:36 Friday 22nd February.

The following trains will not run:

22:40 Manchester Piccadilly to Chester

22:46 Chester to Manchester Piccadilly

23:41 Manchester Piccadilly to Chester

Buses will be provided.

For further details of these changes along with revised bus and train times for these days, please refer to the National Rail website:

<http://ojp.nationalrail.co.uk/service/planjourney/search>

RMT STRIKE ACTION

The RMT Union have announced their plan to continue their industrial action into February, this industrial action has been going on since September. The next planned ones are on: Saturdays 2nd, 9th and 16th February; there is a possibility that there might not be industrial action on 23rd February. This industrial action will affect services on the Mid Cheshire Line and beyond. Northern have provided these useful guidelines:
- For up to date travel information please check your journey at: www.northernrailway.co.uk. Alternatively real time travel information can be obtained from: <http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/>. Check before travelling via the above websites is the overriding message

BIRTHDAY'S FEBRUARY 2019

Oliver Farrar - 14th

Leon Berrisford - 16th

Alexander Erlam - 23rd

Taylor Turner - 27th

Alexander Jordan - 28th

Many Happy Returns to you all

BELATED BIRTHDAY WISHES

Belated 1st birthday wishes to Frances, who was born on Boxing day last year. Hope you had a lovely day.

+++ NOTICES +++

Special Moon Events in February

This month we will see two Moon events. The first one is a micro new Moon on 4th February. A micro Moon happens when a full moon or a new Moon coincides with apogee; the point in the Moon's orbit farthest away from Earth. The Moon orbits Earth in an elliptical path, which means one side of the path is closer to the Earth than the other.

The second one is on 19th February when we will have a super full Moon. When the full Moon occurs during the Moon's closest approach to Earth, its perigee, it appears larger and brighter in the sky. This phenomenon is often called a super Moon.

Incident on Hough Green

On Saturday night 19th of January a car was driven onto the Green and did a large circle on the bottom half of the grass.

This incident has been reported to the police.

Please can everyone be vigilant.

THE GREYHOUND PUB QUIZ

Next on: Tuesday, 5th February (and every 2 weeks*).

*Occasionally the quiz gets cancelled or rearranged to another Tuesday, so check it is on via the Greyhounds website <https://www.thegreyhoundashley.co.uk/> or their Facebook page.

If you are bored on a Tuesday evening why not come and join in the fun starting from 8.00pm.

We serve some light refreshments at half time so don't eat too much at teatime! Our new quiz master Phil will be waiting to take you through how we hold the quiz so just bring yourself and a pen and have a fab evening!

Candlemas Day

Most Churches celebrate this on February 2nd. Candlemas commemorates the ritual purification of Mary, 40 days after the birth of her son Jesus. This day also marks the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke says that Jesus was met by Anna and Simeon. Simeon held the baby Jesus and called him Light to the World.

Ritual purification stems back to Jewish tradition that women were considered unclean after the birth of a child. For 40 days for a boy, and 60 days for a girl, women weren't allowed to worship in the Temple. At the end of this time, women were brought to the Temple or Synagogue to be purified. After the ceremony women were allowed to take part in religious services again.

The festival is called Candlemas because this was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. On Candlemas night, many people place lighted candles in their windows at home. Like some Christian festivals, Candlemas draws some of its elements from Paganism. In pre-Christian times, it was the festival of light. This ancient festival marked the mid-point of winter, half way between winter solstice (shortest day) and the spring equinox. Some people lit candles to scare away evil spirits on the dark winter nights.

For some people different superstitions surround this festival. For instance, if a candle drips on one side when carried in Church on Candlemas, this denotes a death of a family member during the year. If someone brings snowdrops into the house on Candlemas Day it symbolises a parting or death. People believed that Candlemas predicted the weather for the rest of the winter.

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright

Winter will have another fight.

If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain,

Winter won't come again.

Thus if the sun cast a shadow on Candlemas Day, more winter was on the way; if there was no shadow, winter was thought to be ending soon. This practice led to the folklore behind "Groundhog's Day", which falls on Candlemas Day. This feast is still celebrated on February 14th in some Eastern Churches.

Any Christmas decorations not taken down by Twelfth Night (January 5th) should be left up until Candlemas Day and then taken down.

+++ NOTICES +++

Manchester Airport Community Outreach Surgeries

A weekly surgery is held every Tuesday* at Knutsford Library

From: 09:30-12:15 hrs; and 13:15-17:00 hrs. At Knutsford an extended evening session is held on the first Tuesday of every month 12:00-19:00 hrs.

* Please note if we are outreaching elsewhere (as listed below) we will not be at Knutsford Library.

Next Mobile Outreach events:

At the time of going to press there are no dates published for these events, but by the time you read this there maybe, if you want to find out look at their website:

<https://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community/living-near-the-airport/community-outreach-events/>

Nigel

LIVELY MUSICAL EVENT IN THE GREYHOUND PUB

On Tuesday 6th December I learnt that Dee Langley was singing in the choir "Magic Voices" at the Greyhound. The Choir was excellent.

A modern programme of popular songs and Christmas Music was delightful and the musical parts were very well presented.

Well done Magic Voices.

Approximately 10 people from Ashley were there.

The rest of you missed a lovely night.

Congratulations to the Greyhound staff who managed to continue serving all the meals around the Choir and our-selves jammed into the middle of the pub.

THANK YOU

"A big thank you once again to Giorgio & Jill Brugnoli for allowing us to use their electricity for the Village Christmas Tree"

St. Elizabeth's Church Services for February 2019

Sunday 3rd	11.00 am	The presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas. The Ashley Community Service.
Sunday 10th	11.00 am	Matins
Sunday 17th	11.00 am	Family Communion and Baptism
Sunday 24th	11.00 am	Holy Communion

The St. Elizabeth's P.C.C. Meeting
is at 12 noon following the morning service on Feb 17th.

On Friday March 1st at 1.30 pm there is at St. Elizabeth's a
"World Day of Prayer" service organised by the "Churches
Together in Hale" Association. Services throughout the
world will be held on the same day. Our service at St.
Elizabeth's is open for all to attend.

Arthur Gresty

FUNERAL HOMES

For all bereavement advice (without obligation)
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dedicated team on:

0161 973 1515

Or please visit our informative website:

www.arthurgresty.co.uk

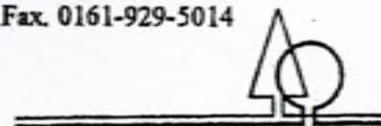
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