



KETLEY COMMUNITY NEWS

December 2017

WELCOME TO WINTER!!!

The shops are bursting full of mince pies, frozen turkeys and bags of brussel sprouts. Brightly lit trees are peeking through the curtains of many homes and excited children chatter loudly about the gifts they hope to unwrap this year. Christmas is just around the corner of course and this brings with it shorter days with many rising in the dark and arriving home long after the sun has gone. The weather can play havoc with our environment at this time of year and on page three you'll find some useful information on who to contact if you come across a problem. And if you're already thinking about 2018, on page four there's everything you need to know about hiring rooms at Ketley Community Centre for

your own special occasions be it a birthday party, anniversary or maybe a wedding reception! On page two is a guide to Christmas in Ketley although I'm sure there are many other events planned and perhaps you'll share those with us next year so they can go into the newsletter. I hope you enjoy this issue of Ketley News and find it interesting. Please let us have your feedback and if you'd like to submit an article or want to see a particular issue featured in the next newsletter which comes out in March 2018, please email contact@ketleyparishcouncil.co.uk On behalf of Ketley Parish Council I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.
Chairman, Cllr Amrik Jhawa



MEET KETLEY'S PET...

Jason Hanley is Ketley's very own PET! Pictured above with Cllr Amrik Jhawa, Jason and his van can be seen going tirelessly about his work as the Parish Environmental Team officer. Jason delivers an enhanced service to the Parish which is over and above the core contract provided by Telford & Wrekin Council. This includes mowing, weeding, planting and cleaning, litter picking, leaf fall clearance, repairs to street furniture and conservation and improvements to landscaped areas. Jason has worked closely with the Friends of Ketley Paddock Mound and carries out regular inspections to keep the area in order for all to enjoy. With the constant changes of weather and environmental issues, Jason's work is never ending! He loves his job and the pride he has in the Parish is clear for all to see, but he is only one man so we all need to play our part to help keep Ketley clean and tidy!



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"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"

Pupils of Meadows School created their own tributes to honour the fallen this Remembrance Day. Giant sized poppies each bearing the name of a soldier lost in the wars, were fixed to the school's fence and wreaths displayed inside captured the children's thoughts about conflict.



Christmas comes to Ketley

It seems like only last month we were seeing in 2017, yet December is upon us already!!! Here's a look at what's going on in our area for Christmas...

Kick off the month long festivities with an Evening of Music on Saturday 2nd December starting at 7:30pm in St Mary's church. Tickets cost £6 and include mulled wine and mince pies. Contact Mary on 01952 613653.

Ketley Parish Council are delighted to confirm that the Councillors voted unanimously once again to offer Households in the Parish, where there is at least one resident aged 65 or over, a £10 Farmfoods Voucher. Senior Citizens Voucher Day this year will take place on Wednesday 6th December from 10am-2pm at Ketley Community Centre and pupils from Meadows School will perform Christmas songs from 10:30am. Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available, they'll be a chance to win in the raffle and the opportunity to meet with Parish Councillors. Please bring evidence of your eligibility with you eg. Winter Fuel Payment letter, but don't come down too early if you want to avoid the long queue!

Then at 1:30pm, why not join the Ketley Good Companions just down the road at Ketley Methodist Church for Carols!

It's Christmas prize bingo at St Mary's on Friday 8th December. Eye's down for Turkey & Tiramol at 7:30pm and tickets are just £5 each from Mary on 01952 613653.

Ketley History Group will this year be holding their 'Christmas Meal and Get Together' on Tuesday 12th December at Rose Manor, Ketley Park Road from 12:30pm. Contact Maggie on 01952 617029 for further information or to book a place which is limited.

The Ketley Christmas Lights will be 'Switched On' at Ketley Community Centre on Friday 15th December at around 4:30pm. They'll be entertainment on a Winter Wonderland theme, family tickets for the pantomime up for grabs in the raffle, light refreshments will be provided and even Father Christmas is scheduled to make an appearance! An invitation is extended to you all to join in this free event where a warm welcome will await you.

At 2:00pm on Saturday 16th December it's more Carol Singing down at Rose Manor and on Sunday 17th December at 4:00pm it's the Carols by Candlelight event at St Mary's church.

On Christmas Eve which this year falls on a Sunday, there are two services at St Mary's church, the Crib Service starting at 5pm and Midnight Mass by Candlelight at 11:30pm.

Then on Christmas Day there will be a joint Service for all churches in Telford Central Parish at St John's, Lawley commencing 9:15am.

Further afield, don't miss the European Christmas Market at Southwater which is on until 23rd December from 10am on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday until 7pm with late night shopping until 9pm on Thursday and Saturday.

You'll find a big variety of stalls selling tasty foods, usual drinks and an array of Christmas ornaments and gifts.

Oh no it isn't, oh yes it is... the season of pantomime! This year at Oakengates Theatre @ The Place Peter Pan is playing from Wednesday 6th December. Get your tickets by contacting the Box Office on 01952 382882.

And why not put a smile on someone's face this Christmas by donating a gift so that a vulnerable person in our local community can also experience the joy of opening a surprise present on Christmas Day. There is a collection point at Rose Manor until Sunday 10th of December.



How to be a Ketley Superhero!!!



So what exactly is a 'superhero' anyway? Well it's a commitment to use your strengths to do good things and help other people. With just a little effort we can all be superheroes and on this page you'll find some helpful advice on how to go about it.



KNOW YOUR STREET LIGHTS...

Would you know what to do if you discovered there was a problem with a street light in your area? You may not be aware but every street light has a unique

number which identifies its location and the letter tells you who is responsible for maintaining it. If the number begins with 'K' then the light is maintained by Ketley Parish Council and you should email the Clerk on parishclerk@ketleyparishcouncil.co.uk giving the street light number eg. K001 and details of the problem for example light out, broken or dim.

If the street light number begins with any other letter eg. 'W', 'Z' or there is no letter at all, it is the responsibility of Telford & Wrekin Council and you will need to contact them directly on 01952 384000 or email them on highways@telford.gov.uk. Remember if you do not provide the street light number or you contact the wrong Council, it will take a lot longer to resolve the problem!

SCOOPER HEROES...

You might not know this, but unfortunately dogs can't pick

up after themselves and rely on their owners to bag and bin the mess they make!!!

Dog fouling is considered to be the most offensive form of littering and is not only very unpleasant to look at or step in, it is potentially dangerous with the threat of contracting Toxocarasis a very real risk to the public, especially to the young and vulnerable in our community.

Free bags are available from Ketley Community Centre and you can buy them cheaply in a wide variety of shops, supermarkets or online. So be a Scooper Hero and pick up after your dog because they can't.

ON THE BEAT...

Our local Policing team cover Ketley, Ketley Bank and Oakengates and are your first port of call with issues such as illegal parking or crime related incidents. Contact the team on 101 extension 66682 or by email to ketleyandoakengates.int@westmercia.pnn.police.uk to report any problems or for advice and information about dealing with crime.

SAFER COMMUNITIES...

Let's face it, we all want to live in a safe place and by working together with our neighbours we can help build strong communities, reduce crime and eradicate antisocial behaviour. So why not set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area? It's free and is supported by West Mercia Police.

Community Alerts will notify you when a crime or suspicious incident occurs to allow you to review your own security measures and better protect yourself, your property and your neighbours. The service also provides useful crime prevention advice, scam or cyber crime information, appeals for information or good news stories.

Contact Our Watch on 0126 4026111 or email enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk



CHAMPION YOUR STREET...

Problems with litter, overhanging trees and shrubs, pot holes or damaged bins? Don't just moan about it or keep it to yourself, help improve the environment you live in by becoming a Street Champion!

You will get a free Toolkit to report issues, and to deal with problems such as litter or graffiti you will receive equipment. With the promise that the concerns you raise will be actioned quickly and the offer of support to encourage local participation, there's every reason to sign up today. Contact the Pride Officer at Telford & Wrekin Council by email pride.officer@telford.gov.uk or telephone 01952 380455.



GET REPORTING...

Have you downloaded the Everyday Telford app yet? If you've got a smart phone, this is a must have! You can use it to take photographs of problems in your area and quickly and easily

report the issue directly to the relevant department at Telford & Wrekin Council. You will receive an email confirming that your report has been logged along with a reference to follow up if the problem is not resolved. Get the app on the Apple Store, Google Play or Windows Store. As well as environmental and highway issues, you can also report benefit fraud, tax complaints, counterfeit goods and other Trading Standards matters.



UNWELCOME VISITORS...

Our community is diverse and we live side by side with our neighbours in relative harmony. But, just occasionally some of the residents can cause a bit of nuisance! So, if you find one of the local rodents paying you an unwelcome visit, call the Pest Control team at Telford & Wrekin Council on 01952 384384 or email envmaint@telford.gov.uk

TOO BIG FOR THE CAR...

So you've finally decided to replace that old BULK WASTE sofa before your relatives come for Christmas, but how to get rid of it? It won't fit in the car to take it down to the Household Recycling Centre at Hortonwood and you can't just leave it outside inviting unwelcome visitors! Well the answer of course is to arrange a Bulk Collection through Telford & Wrekin Council. They will collect up to 3 large items for just £18 and if you're over 65 or registered disabled, you get a FREE collection every year and there are discounts for TLC card holders and those in receipt of some benefits. Ring 01952 384384 to book your collection and let someone else do the hard work!!!



OVERGROWN...

Who are you going to call? No, not Ghostbusters but if you ring

the Environmental Maintenance team at Telford & Wrekin Council on 01952 384384, they can help! The Team deal with a wide range of issues from overgrown trees and bushes, to fly-tipping, graffiti and abandoned trolleys. Visit the Council's website for more details on www.telford.gov.uk and search for your issue.

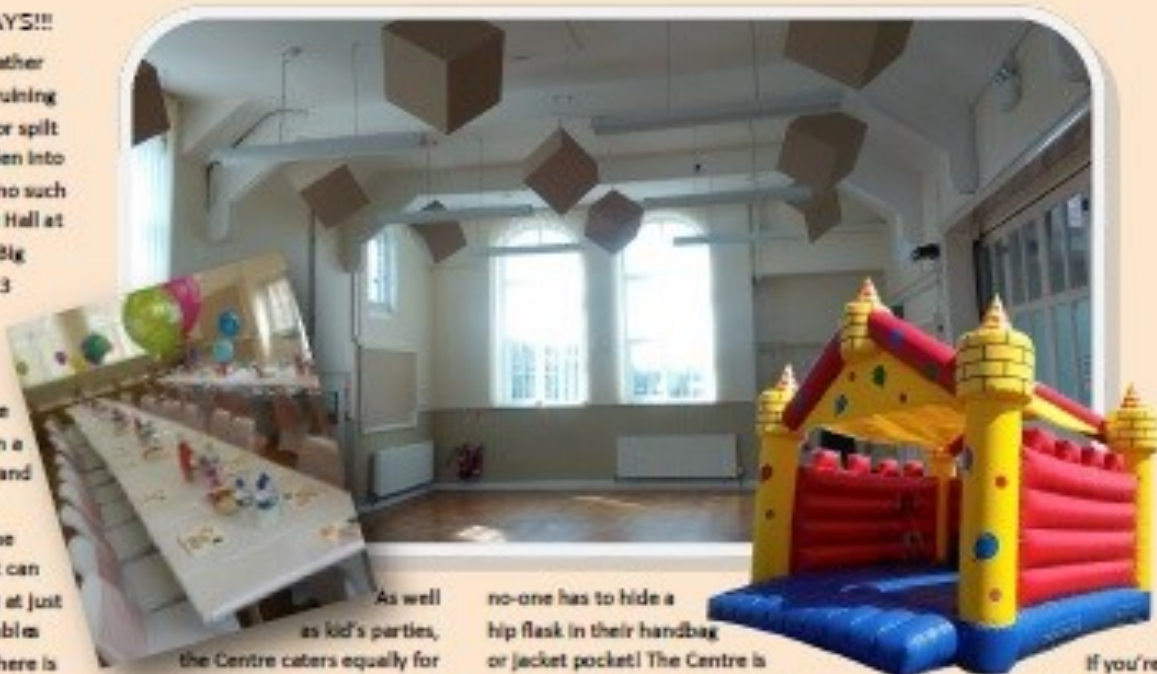
POTHOLED...

It's that time of year when the cracks start showing as the rain freezes and thaws again. Potholes can appear in roads, and footpaths can suffer as the worst of the Winter weather arrives. Please don't just drive round it or walk passed issues, contact the Highways Maintenance team at Telford & Wrekin Council on 01952 384000. They are also responsible for traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, rights of way, signage and other highway matters. For a complete list visit their website www.telford.gov.uk and use the search function for more information.



BIG BOUNCY BIRTHDAYS!!!

With our unpredictable weather who wants to risk the rain ruining your child's birthday party or spilt pop and cake crumbs trodden into your best carpets? There's no such worries when you book the Hall at Ketley Community Centre! Big enough to accommodate a 3 metre high bouncy castle, there's a fully equipped kitchen just off the main Hall and for additional space to set out your buffet, get in a disco or just to run around and play, you can also hire the adjacent room which has the original partition doors that can be fully opened. Rates start at just £15 per hour and include tables and chairs for your party. There is parking for over 50 cars and free wi-fi throughout the building. And if you're bringing the little ones, there's now a portable baby change facility onsite.



As well as kid's parties, the Centre caters equally for all age groups and boasts an alcohol and entertainment licence until Midnight on both Friday's and Saturday's and as there's no bar, you can bring your own so

no-one has to hide a hip flask in their handbag or jacket pocket! The Centre is easily accessible from all areas of Telford and with a second kitchen and three further rooms for hire, there's space enough for the smallest, or biggest of parties.

If you're thinking about where to hold your party next year, look no further than Ketley Community Centre. Make an appointment to view today and get booked up!



CHRISTMAS BIN COLLECTIONS
Don't get caught out by the change in collection dates over Christmas!
Visit www.telford.gov.uk/recycling to check or ring 01952 384384 if you've lost your calendar.

KETLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk is available by arrangement only. Please email parishclerk@ketleyparishcouncil.co.uk to make an appointment. Alternatively, contact your local Parish Councillor. All the details can be found on the website www.ketleyparishcouncil.co.uk

KETLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE
Holyhead Road, Ketley
Telford TF1 5AN
01952 612035
enquiries@ketleyparishcouncil.co.uk

Please check the Centre is open before visiting

The Centre will be closed for Christmas and New Year from Sunday 24th December 2017 to Monday 1st January 2018 inclusive re-opening for business on Tuesday 2nd January.



GARDEN OF REST

For those wanting to visit their loved ones at the Garden of Rest cemetery, Red Lake over Christmas and New Year, you will find the gates open throughout the festive period so there are no restrictions on when you'd like to share some special time with those important people in your life that you have since lost. For headstones, plaques and general enquiries contact the Parish Clerk.



HELP IS AT HAND...

Do you have a mountain of odd jobs to get done before Christmas? Telford & Wrekin Property Service could be the answer! They can carry out a range of small jobs including making flat pack furniture, decorating, carpentry and plumbing as well as replacing light bulbs, fuses and plugs. Email tbpropertyservices@telford.gov.uk



or call 01952 381855 to book an appointment and discuss prices.

THE NITTY GRITTY!!!



As the temperature begins to fall the gritters come out in force to help keep you on the move in bad weather - be it on foot or travelling by car and public transport. To get up to date information and more details about Telford & Wrekin Council's Winter Service, contact the Environmental Maintenance team on 01952 384384 or visit the website www.telford.gov.uk and search for 'winter gritting'.

MyLife

Designed to help you find the right help at the right time and promote independence, MyLife is an online directory of services. With a wide range of information and advice on topics such as care and support, health, money matters, transport, housing, access to carers, work, learning, volunteering and staying independent, MyLife is your first port of call. Visit the website www.telford.mylifeportal.co.uk for news, all the latest on services and details of community events.