



Once Upon a Ball Newsletter

Friday 3rd December

Issue 1

Ball is back!

Hello and welcome to the first Once Upon a Ball Newsletter! We're so excited to be bringing the formal SSAGO Ball back after a three year long break. We decided to write a few newsletters in the lead up to the event to let you guys know how the planning is going and what you can expect.

The committee has been busy behind the scenes working on everything Ball related. We're going to ensure that everyone can attend Ball regardless of if you've been to one before. We're aiming to publish a full version of our website early on in the new year and all our information will be easy to digest and straight forward.

The evening will be inspired by Grimm Tales and will be set in it's own enchanted forest; think fairies, toadstools, happily ever afters and other fabulous fables. There'll be lots of magical decorations and we hope to provide some complimentary treats. We are trying to organise a professional photographer to improve the standard of the event photography.

We hope you enjoyed Viking Rally last month if you were able to make it. It was a great first rally back after a long break from SSAGO and we hope to see even more members at Rali Cymru next year.

Georgina, Reuben, Larah and Maria

Keele Hall

This Grade II listed historic mansion, one of Staffordshire's finest stately homes, was previously owned by the Sneyd family and stands in hundreds of acres of lush parkland and immaculate gardens. Many of the rooms retain their original features, making the setting quite unique.



Local Attractions

There's lots to see and do in the local area. If you're looking for something to do during the day, or you'd like to make a weekend out of ball, here's a few suggestions:

Alton Towers, Trentham Monkey Forest, Water World, Emma Bridgewater factory and pottery painting studio





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Ball preview: Accommodation

Ball is the one national SSAGO event where people don't usually end up sleeping in tents. Yes, it's time to show the world SSAGO has a bit of class and actually likes a warm bed and a hot shower. "But that can be quite expensive" I hear you cry well that is true but there are a few things you can do to keep the cost



Aber SSAGO staying at 'Ye Olde Scout Hut Inn' at Bath Ball 2017.

down. Firstly **book early**, yes, booking hasn't opened yet, no, COVID hasn't gone away, but as soon as you feel comfortable to book a hotel room, book it...it won't get any cheaper! (Having said that some people do have success with last minute hotel websites but we wouldn't risk it). Secondly **find a friend (or two) to share with**. This is guaranteed to reduce your per person room fees by as much as 50% *not a SSAGO guarantee. It doesn't matter who they are (preferably somebody within SSAGO), you can share for a night and nobody will mind, remember, what happens on Ball stays on Ball ;). Thirdly **try an alternative** to a hotel. For the ultimate discount experience we hope to provide you with the option of floor space at a Scout Hut , or if you're really fancy you could try an Airbnb. If you're really desperate to keep on camping, why not take a look at local campsites -although that does kinda lessen the point of all this.

There's our advice when looking for accommodation. Remember, it is ultimately **your responsibility to find somewhere for the night**, but we're here to help if needed.

We're on Facebook!

No we're not on Twitter or Instagram, and no we haven't got a TikTok. Discord channels coming soon.





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Ball Throwback Bath Masked Ball 1st April 2017



[Click here to view all the photos](#)

**Website launch happening in
January!**

**What you can expect to find
out:**

Where can I sleep?

What can I do?

What should I wear?

How do I get there?

All this at ball.ssago.org

Did you know?

Several special things happen at ball such as National Exec Handover, the SSAGO Awards being awarded, the mascot table, and a speech by the outgoing SSAGO Chair.

Contact the Committee

Just email

ball@ssago.org

*My girlfriend wanted a marriage just like a fairy tale.
Fair enough. I gave her a loaf of bread and left her in the forest.*