



# Marston Murmurs

The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

June 2019

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## **Royal Cheshire County Show**



June is the month the Cheshire Show arrives at the showground in Tabley; a two days showcasing of the best of the Cheshire farming and countryside community. But when and where did it all start?

The Cheshire Agricultural Society (CAS) was founded in 1838 by the landed gentry of the county. The inspiration came from the founder President, Field Marshall Viscount Combermere, one of The Duke of Wellington's generals at Waterloo and later to become Field Marshall after his Asian campaigns. He was born in Lleweni Hall in Denbighshire, as Stapleton Cotton, into a landowning family. During his wide travels in England he observed better farming practice in the drier region of England than in his native Cheshire.

At the age of 65, he persuaded his fellow Cheshire landowners to set into motion a whole series of competitions to encourage better farming methods. It was also transferred to competitions for rural people to 'improve the moral and industrious way of life'. This was the prelude to the Cheshire Show

For over 100 years the mission statement of The Royal Cheshire County Show has been, "To promote agriculture and encourage the industrious and moral habits of the labouring portion of the community". Many of these series of competitions for farms, crops and livestock are unchanged to this day.

However, the categories for prizes and awards have changed; in 1860 a farmer at Wheelock won with a 'new crop' of 'Swedish Turnips'. The judges counted 30,721 per acre. Do you think that we'd find someone today to do such a count! A new 'iron plough' was not allowed to compete against the traditional wooden ploughs in 1861 as 'it was too heavy to become popular'. A year later, it was allowed to compete 'as long as no one helped it'.

## Main Story (continued) and Parish News

Opinions have obviously changed over the years as wooden ploughs have disappeared.

The future of farm mechanisation was exhibited in 1869 when Mr Foden showed a 6HP steam tractor costing £170 and two years later with an 8HP steam tractor costing £200. Today's tractors are up to 620HP and can cost over £70,000.

In 1875, Burgess Bros., of Northwich were selling ploughs (metal!) costing £2, lawnmowers for £1, beds for £1 and if you wanted brass knobs on it, £1.50. The range of goods available at shows nowadays is vastly different and you wouldn't get away with advertising the brass knobs either.

The show has taken place in a variety of places within Cheshire, latterly at Tatton Park and today in Tabley. In 2005, the show had the largest light horse show in the UK and 30 qualifiers for Horse of the Year show, 3 miles of trade stands and a Cheshire Rural Village and Game fair. The show gained Royal Status in 2016 in recognition of its hard work in promoting Cheshire and its rural heritage. It is now one of the country's leading agricultural shows and going from strength to strength.

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### Lucky Numbers Game at The Salt Barge

The Salt Barge organises a Lucky Numbers game approximately every 3-4 weeks.

#### The game

- When in the pub, simply select one or more numbers on the sheet which contains 50 numbers. Enter your name (if you are not local include a telephone contact number). Each number selected costs £2.
- Once the sheet is filled a number from 1-50 will be drawn out of a hat and the single winner contacted.

#### Apportionment of winnings:

- A £50 bar tab goes to the winner to be used for drinks or meals in The Salt Barge.
- £25 goes to a charity nominated by the winner.
- £25 goes to the Marston Parish Community as a donation to the Church Hall refurbishment project and to the printing costs of the Parish Newsletter, Marston Murmurs. So far this has raised £50!
- Thanks to Nick, Sarah-Jayne and Anita for kicking this off.

# Live and Local May 2019 at The Lion Salt Works



Well the weather didn't dampen our enthusiasm. Live and Local May 2019 battled through the wind and rain and those who faced the elements had a truly enjoyable time. Big thanks to Iain Stead and his Mack's Music team for organising this Bank holiday weekend music festival, a free event and a pleasure to have in our village. Thanks also to those who braved the weather and to the parish councillors who gave their time to man the stall and raise funds for the Church Hall.



Our Marston Parish Council stall shows some battering and buffeting from the high winds and rain; we were nearly the first Parish Council in space! But more ropes and tent pegs saved the day. Plants and baskets were generously supplied by our horticulturalist Councillor Amanda Nixon. Thanks Amanda!

Throughout the 3 days we were entertained by a variety of local talented musicians. Saturday night Codswallop (Iain, Jayne, Adi, Mark and Terry ) played their wide repertoire of traditional songs to a good audience in the warmth and comfort of the upper room of the Lion Salt Works



## Live and Local (2)

Unfortunately, due to (very) inclement weather the car boot sale at The Salt Barge on Sunday was cancelled but the scavenger hunt on the Saturday was a success.

Stall holders weren't as busy as they would have hoped but they soldiered on; all fortified by the burgers, bacon barmes and hot dogs provided by Andy's Kitchen. And teas and coffees were available in the Lion Salt Works café....and not forgetting the refreshments alcoholic and non-alcoholic from Mack's Music's bar.



As well as Codswallop on the Saturday there were many acts; too many to mention them all but highlights included Frank Quilty, our local celebratory musician Chris Taverner, the amazing Danny George, The Pastry Shoes, Danny Woods, Lostock Yukes and for me the star act was the talented family band, The Avenue.....and of course there was dancing.



Thanks to Iain's Mack's Music for another community extravaganza.

# Summary Minutes of Marston Parish Council Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019

## Summary Minutes of Marston Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019

### 2018/2019 Accounts

Accounts have been finalised and audited with the following results:

Receipts & Payments Summary:

Balance b/f.....	£7,868.47
Receipts.....	£13,050.38
Payments.....	£10,034.33
Petty Cash (coffee mornings).....	£46.00
Balance in accounts.....	£10,930.52

Whilst this may seem like a large sum to be left with at the end of the financial year, it includes monies put aside for projects including church hall heating, tarmacking and general refurbishment of the hall.

### Forgebrook Bridge

We are joining forces with Great Budworth Parish Council in order to facilitate the reinstatement of Forgebrook Bridge. We have also contacted Wincham Parish Council and hope for their support too.

### Tarmacking the Church Hall Carpark

We have received a quote for tarmacking some of the carpark to provide disabled parking. It is costly and so has been put on hold until problems with the church hall roof can be investigated.

Date of next meeting, 12/06/19

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### Thanks for the Crockery!

We extend our sincere thanks to the Marston residents who answered our call in the May edition of MM and supplied us with plates and cutlery for the Church Hall. All we need now are some small bowls for soups or puddings....please! Contact Councillor Dave Collier (07901 810558) who will be pleased to come to your house and pick them up.

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*"There are two seasons in Scotland".....June and Winter! Billy Connolly*

## **Burglaries at Higher Marston**

We understand that there have been burglaries at Higher Martson in recent weeks. We therefore should be vigilant and report any suspicious circumstances to the local police. But some tips would include not leaving your downstairs windows ajar during warm weather and not leaving your keys on a hall way table or elsewhere where they can be viewed through the letterbox or window.

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## **Traffic Speeding**

Our local PCSO has in early May carried out a survey of traffic speeds in Ollershaw Lane in Lower Martson. Feel strongly about it? Then contact a councillor, the PCSO direct or write to CWAC Highways department. In order to raise the profile of our traffic issues with the Highways authority of CWAC we need to build up a catalogue of complaints from residents. Traffic calming measures or a 20 mph limit may be the option available.

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## **How are we doing?**

Below is the Mission Statement of your Marston Parish Council

### **Mission Statement of Marston Parish Council**

This Mission Statement will give Marston Parish Council focus, clarity and a clear vision for the community it serves.

**To engage**, wherever possible, in open dialogue with residents to understand their concerns and aspirations.

**To represent** and **uphold** the best interests of the village and its residents.

**To encourage** and **promote** social and community values.

**To provide** high-standard, cost-effective services for the betterment of the local community.

**To manage** the Parish Council's assets and finances to achieve best value.

**To budget** annually for the Council Tax Precept needed to deliver services.

**To review** and **comment** on Planning Applications.

**To preserve** the Heritage and rural environ of the parish and **enhance** wherever possible.

So please let us know how we are doing in meeting these objectives. All comments positive or negative will be received with great interest.

# Parish News

## Mystery Picture



Mystery picture in MM's May edition (on the left) is well known for those who walk from the top of Neumann's Flash towards The Trent and Mersey Canal Footbridge into Marbury Park via Dairy House meadows. It is part of a seat carving where weary walkers can rest.

This month's mystery photo is below. It is in our beautiful parish of Marston, what is it a picture of and from where is the photo taken?



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**Another reminder for bookworms regarding the Mobile Library service.**

**Did you know the the Mobile Library stops at Marston?**

At the main gates of the Tingdene Park /Ashwood Homes, in Chapel Street, Wincham. Every 3 weeks on Tuesdays.



Next one.....11<sup>th</sup> June. Times: 14.50 until 15.10pm

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Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June..... *Al Bernstein*

# Parish Quiz No.8

Here is Quiz no. 8. All the following questions are based on events or facts about June. Answers to May's quiz are at the bottom of the page.

No.	Question	Answer
1	Trooping the Colour is held in London annually on a Saturday in June, on which parade ground?	
2	June has two zodiac signs, name both?	
3	Which historical novel begins in 1815 and culminates with the 1832 June Rebellion in Paris?	
4	In its own country it is commonly known as the June Fourth Incident; where did this incident happen?	
5	In 1968, June Whitfield began her long television partnership with which actor and comedian?	
6	Which 1956 film adaptation of a Rodgers and Hammerstein stage musical features the song 'June Is Bustin' Out All Over'?	
7	It happened on Tuesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June 1944?	
8	June was named after the Roman goddess Juno. She was the goddess of what?	
9	The first day of June in Iceland is Fisherman's Day. Who is the saint patron of fishermen?	
10	Many countries around the world celebrate the 1st of June as...	

Answers to March's Quiz, no. 6:

1. England and Scotland	7. In Scotland, the Early May Bank holiday has been observed on the first Monday in May since 1871, but was only introduced in the rest of the United Kingdom in 1978.
2. Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte	8. Imelda
3. Hawthorn and the Lily of the Valley	9. It transported the first English Puritans, known today as the Pilgrims, from Plymouth to the New World in 1620
4. William Shakespeare (in sonnet 18).	10. Tom
5. H.E.Bates. The book became a TV series. Catherine Zeta Jones played a part in it.	
6. Frederick Mockford, a senior radio officer at Croydon Airport in 1923 and made official in 1948. He used it as it sounded like the French word, "m'aider" which means "help me".	

# Local Events

## The Salt Works Sessions – Not to be missed!

- Merry Hell (acoustic) – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September  
Tickets obtained from: lswsessions@gmail.com or ring 07796 175437.

## The Lion Salt Works

- Transport Festival.....8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June  
Acoustic music and bar supplied by Mack's Music. See advert on page 16

## At The Salt Barge

- Beer, Music & Pie Festival.....26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July (**see back page**)
- Acoustic Music every Friday from 9pm.  
Those of you who haven't tried this please try and get along.  
Nick and Sarah-Jayne's efforts to enliven our village deserve your support!

## And.....for you Quiz Addicts – The Salt Barge Quiz Night



Quiz nights at The Salt Barge are now well established but we still need more participating teams!

A session of "Get your cards right" a la Bruce Forsyth is also done. Every two weeks, Next dates are: June: 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>; July: 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Entry is £1/ head. All entrance fees given out as prizes. ....C'mon you budding eggheads!!

## Nearby

- Acoustic Music & Ale Weekend in Marbury Park ...23<sup>rd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> August



Organised by Iain & Claire Stead's Mack's Music, this is the 2nd Year for this not to be missed August Bank Holiday weekend. There are food stalls and a bar including cask ales. Camping available but pitches are going fast.

Spend your August Bank Holiday weekend relaxing in beautiful countryside enjoying music, food and beer.

And don't forget the Cheshire Show at Tabley on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June!

# Local Events and Bits 'n' Bobs

## **The Salt Barge Walks – every other Wednesday.**

Meet 10.30am in The Salt Barge carpark and afterwards for refreshments in the bar! Our Wednesday schedule for 2019 is:

June: 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

July: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

September: 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

November: 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

August :14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

October: 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

December: 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Wizard Walk from Salt Barge Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Our next Wizard walk will be from Little Leigh along the Weaver Navigation and the Trent & Mersey canal. Led by Mark Zac, it will be just less than 5 miles.

Meeting Instructions: We will meet at The Salt Barge carpark at 10am prompt and travel in shared cars to park up near the Leigh Arms pub.

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**The Marbury Park /Forge Brook Bridge. This is still ongoing.** We are now joining forces with Great Budworth and Wincham Parish Council to move forward in trying to get the bridge reinstated

## **Update on Planning Application for the “Tour and Store” caravan storage site**

Still waiting for this application to be called into the Planning Committee.



## **Green Fingers - June Jobs in the Garden**

- Sweet peas are flowering now, pick them frequently as plants will quickly switch into seed producing mode if left unpicked. Always have a jar of sweet peas on your table, such a chore!
- Plant plumbago, asters, Japanese anemones, heleniums, rudbeckias and helianthus now for autumn flowers to keep your garden's bees and butterflies happier for longer
- On the vegetable patch direct sow; carrots, beetroot, peas, mangetout, kale, Florence fennel, French beans, swede and turnip. Plant out; winter squashes and pumpkins, tomatoes, aubergines, courgettes, sweet potatoes, peppers and chillies.

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And while writing about gardening, join us in welcoming our new councillor, Amanda Nixon. Our local horticulturist has bravely stepped forward to complete our team. She will be a valuable asset and we look forward to working with her. Good luck, Amanda.

# Reflections #15

## Marston Reminiscences

We are grateful to June Robinson (nee Barlow) for some notes of reminiscences of her life in Marston.



June now resides in Great Budworth but her mother, Florence Ross, lived in the family home (pictured left) at the old house which had to be demolished after the Adelaide Salt mine collapsed (now the site of Harris Gas). She remembers.....“Being hit by Mrs Simpson, the Head teacher, using a chair spindle for getting her sums wrong”!

“On many days after school, I used to go into the Salt Works to see my grandma who used to stitch the bags of salt up”



On the left is a photo of June and a friend decorating a lorry in Cross Street for the Village Fete celebrating the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth. Her auntie, Lucy Birtles, lived at No. 10 Cross Street. June continues..... “After sliding on the ice .on the pits near the Salt Works we would very often get our socks wet. We (me and other children) would go into the boiler house of the Lion Salt Works, take our socks off and dry them on the pipes in there before we went home so that our mothers didn’t know that we had been sliding on the pits in winter”

“A brick path from Mr Thompson’s office leading into the works was laid one day. We, kids, were told not to walk on it as it was only for the “Master” (Mr Thompson) to walk on so that his feet would not get wet from stepping into muddy puddles when it was raining”

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### All in June

A week ago I had a fire  
To warm my feet, my hands and face;  
Cold winds, that never make a friend,  
Crept in and out of every place.

Today the fields are rich in grass,  
And buttercups in thousands grow;  
I'll show the world where I have been-

With gold-dust seen on either shoe.

‘til to my garden back I come,  
Where bumble-bees for hours and  
hours  
Sit on their soft, fat, velvet bums,  
To wriggle out of hollow flowers.

*William Henry Davies*

*No relation to the Editor!*

# THE BIG LUNCH

Sunday 14<sup>TH</sup> July 2019

From noon until 5pm

The Playing Field at Higher Marston



**Come and join us for The Big Lunch on the play area field  
at Higher Marston.**

**Sandwiches, cakes, bar and music provided for all  
residents of Marston.**

**Bring along sandwiches, pastries, cakes or desserts to share.**

**Chairs tables and gazebos. Live acoustic music.**

**Join your neighbours for a grand time.**

# Useful Contacts

## CWAC Councillors

**Lynn Gibbon** 01606 784599

lyn.Gibbon@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

**Norman Wright** 01606 74788

norman.wright@chesterwestandchester.gov.uk

**Phil Marshall** 07917 171438

phil.marshall@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

## Cheshire West and Chester Council

Mon-Fri 81m-7pm and Sat 91m-12.30pm

Online at [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

General enquiries 0300 1238123

Highways 0300 1237036

Street Scene 0300 1237026

**PCSO Diana Wiggine 20322** Diana Wiggins@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Dial 101 in a non-emergency and 999 in an emergency

**Ester McVey – your local MP** Telephone: 01625 529922

**Marston Parish Council** cannot be held responsible for any errors, misprints or opinions stated in this publication. The views expressed by the contributors are their own and not necessarily the views of the editor .

### **Your Contributions and ideas are welcomed!**

We are always grateful for ideas and articles from any of our readers . Just send them through to the editor or any one of the councillors or even give us a ring.

Further information on Parish matters can be found on [marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://marstonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Back copies of the **Marston Murmurs newsletters** are also on this website.

For Facebook users see: **Facebook/Marstonparishcouncil. Also Facebook/All about Marston and surrounding areas**

Copies of this newsletter can be obtained from The Salt Barge, The Lion Salt Works or the Church Hall. Those who wish an electronic copy email or ring the editor.

**Need a bigger font??Just ring, text or email Warren (email address or contact number on page 19).**

**We will then pop one round to your home or send it electronically.**

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## Advertising

Why not support your community newsletter by advertising your business or services in Marston Murmurs.

Rates per edition: Full page £19, Half page; £12, part page: £6

We print 350 copies every month which go out to all of our residents including Chapel Street. Copies are also made available in The Lion Salt Works and The Salt Barge. So your message will reach a wide audience.

### **Remember the Church Hall is available for private hire**

for your parties or group meetings

**Church Hall Bookings:** only £8.50 per hour

Please ring Angie on 0771 6565038

## Nick and Sarah –Jayne Welcome you to The Salt Barge



### A local, community pub

The Salt Barge is a traditional country pub located in rural Marston, opposite The Lion Salt Works Museum and the Trent and Mersey Canal. We have a new menu featuring a wide range of

home-made pies along with traditional dishes like sausages and mash and fish and chips; all freshly prepared in our kitchen.

A range of excellent local cask ales are available.

Watch Sky or BT TV across 5 screens or have a quiet meal in our dining areas.

Have a warming meal after enjoying a walk along the local Trent & Mersey Canal or the beautiful Ashton & Neumann's Flashes or after your visit to the splendid Lion Salt Works Museum.

Our new opening hours are:

Monday – Thursday: 12noon until 11pm

Friday & Saturday: 12 noon until 12 midnight

Sunday: 12 noon until 10.30pm

Food served until 8pm



**Advanced notice: Watch out for the Beer, Music and Pie  
Festival on 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> July at The Salt Barge**

Enquiries & Reservations: 01606 212525

Ollershaw Lane, Marston, Northwich CW9 6ES

**[www.thesaltbarge.com](http://www.thesaltbarge.com)**

# What's on at The Lion Salt Works



## Museum Opening Times:

Museum opens Tuesday – Sunday 10.30am-5pm.

Play area & butterfly garden open daily 9am-5.20pm.

Open all Bank Holiday Mondays.

**Ollershaw Lane Marston CW9 6ES**

**T: 01606 275040**

**E: [museumenquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:museumenquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)**

**W: [www.lionsaltworks.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk](http://www.lionsaltworks.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk)**

- **Salt of the Earth 3 June - 14 July**

Industries of the past have had a big impact on the people, economy and landscape of mid-Cheshire. Salt of the Earth showcases seven new artworks by fine and applied art students from Warrington & Vale Royal College, which highlight and respond to different elements of the local area's industrial heritage.

- **Heritage Transport Festival 8 June - 9 June**

10.30am-5pm. Suggested donation £2.

This evocative festival of a bygone era gives visitors an opportunity to imagine what vintage transport would have been like in its heyday. You can enjoy a range of vehicles from the 19th and 20th centuries, including traction engines, miniature steam engines, working narrow boats, vintage cars and commercial vehicles. There is also a series of themed children's activities over the weekend.

- **'Twits, Wits & Bawdy Baskets' by Steve Cooper 14 June @ 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

Tickets £12.00 A Northwich Lit Fest event. Book at [www.northwichlitfest.co.uk](http://www.northwichlitfest.co.uk).

A spanking new Tudor comedy about gender, identity and the north/south divide. With a cast of seven actors and the same budget as travelling vagabonds, Twits is a hilarious romp through a re-imagined history, using people and places which actually existed to produce a frantic farce that will provoke thought and much merriment.

- **Carving Rock Salt 6 July @ 10.00am - 4.00pm**

Free, but limited places, book at [www.pamgordonartist.co.uk/book-online/carving-rock-salt-lion-saltworks](http://www.pamgordonartist.co.uk/book-online/carving-rock-salt-lion-saltworks).

Led by local artist Pam Gordon, this workshop explores techniques of carving an unusual stone, halite.

**More Information on The Lion Salt Works website**

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# Your Marston Parish Councillors



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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/marstonparish](http://www.facebook.com/marstonparish)

## Marston Parish Council Surgeries

Church Hall: 12noon -12.30pm 11 June, 9 July, 10 Sept, 8 Oct, 12 Nov, 10 Dec

Salt Barge: 6.30pm – 7pm 10 June, 8 July, 9 Sept, 7 Oct, 11 Nov, 9 Dec



Please contact the editor, Warren Davies, or any of our councillors if you have suggestions, contributions, comments or enquiries for advertising in this newsletter.

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