



Marston Murmurs

The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

May 2019

May Day, not just a bank holiday.



The celebration of May Day dates back to ancient times, when Romans celebrated the festival of Flora, the goddess of flowers and spring. In Britain, Celtic people celebrated the festival of Beltane on the first of May to mark the halfway point between spring and summer, in contrast to the festival of Samain that fell halfway between autumn and winter on November 1st.

Many of the old customs celebrating new life and fertility survive to this day, including Morris dancing and dancing around the maypole.

The earliest maypoles were probably young trees chopped down and erected on the village green with ribbons pinned to the top for local children to dance around. Today rehearsals often take place weeks in advance to ensure that the ribbons form artful plaits around the maypole instead of a tangled web of knots. Former pupils of Great Budworth Primary School will remember with great fondness the maypole dancing each year at the school fair.

Morris dancers are in high demand on May Day, performing at pubs and on village greens up and down the country. Morris dancing dates back at least 600 years although it is unclear where the dance style came from, or what it represents. The majority of groups that exist today were formed after the 1930s, basing their dancing style on information collected by folklorists, although some groups, including those at Abingdon and Chipping Campden, can trace their roots back to the 1800s. Marston has its own Morris dance still performed today by dance groups (YouTube has several examples).

Main Story (continued) and Parish News



Dressing up in strange costumes appears to be a running theme when it comes to celebrating May Day, and nothing beats the attire of Jack in the Green, who wears a foliage-covered frame work in May Day parades. Knutsford May Day parade always has a Jack in the Green in the leading group. It is

widely believed that the Jack represents the Green Man, a symbol of fertility, but Jacks have also adopted the cheeky character of Puck.

Nowadays, we now just think of May Day as a welcome Bank Holiday.

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The Great British Clean Up on Sunday 7th April.



With hi-vis jackets, gloves, litter pickers and rubbish bags five Marston Parish Councillors and three residents (Alan, Jayne and Yvonne) picked their way through the rubbish along Ollershaw Lane. Our task was made easier by Councillor Collier attending in his car with flashing lights as

a safety measure and transporting the numerous bags to the recycling centre off Leicester Street. Along such a major route litter picking has considerable risks and hence we carried out a thorough risk assessment prior to starting out.



Starting from the Parish Boundary near Chapel Street we collected 16 bags of rubbish in 2 hours. Due to this unexpected volume and the recycling centre being extremely busy with Sunday queues we stopped at the Church Hall before agreeing to finish for the day and take

on the upper end of Ollershaw Lane next month. Apart from a much needed clean-up our work was part of the "The Great British Clean Up" organised by the Keep Britain Tidy campaign.

Much rubbish is thrown from cars along our Lane by thoughtless motorists particularly at the traffic lights each side of the canal bridge, though some rubbish escapes from recycling bins on collection days. Litter is a growing problem, especially, the persistence of plastic which on partial decay

Parish News

breaks up into smaller even more persistent smaller pieces. The manner in which people carelessly throw away litter dents my faith in mankind but is bolstered by the enthusiasm and diligence of my fellow litter pickers who gave up their Sunday morning to help keep Marston clean! We thank those residents we observed later in the day cleaning outside their properties perhaps inspired by our deeds! Maybe we all can look to keep the pavements directly outside our properties clean also and keep Marston beautiful?

We would welcome suggestions or comments on limiting and managing waste in our village....and also are there any more volunteers out there to help us on our next litter pick scheduled for the end of May or early June.?

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The Salt Barge Walks



Marston Parish residents and friends regularly walk from The Salt Barge on alternative Wednesdays. All non-residents and pub visitors are welcomed to join our friendly group. We meet in the car park at 10.30am for varied walks of between 3.5 and 5 miles around Neumann's

and Ashton's Flashes, the Northwich Woodlands, Marbury Park and the Trent and Mersey canal towpath. We walk with lots of chat and laughter and afterwards meet in the pub for tea, sandwiches (or beer) and more chats.

Our Wednesday schedule for 2019 is:

May: 8th & 22nd

August :14th & 28th

November: 6th & 20th

June: 5th & 19th

September: 11th & 25th

December: 4th & 18th

July: 3rd, 17th & 31st

October: 9th & 23rd

See page 6 for our longer Wizard walks from the Salt Barge

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Dog Mess.....again!

Reports of dog mess on our pavements and by-ways are increasing again .The side entrance to Neumann's Flash at the bend on Ollershaw Lane just after the kissing gate is particularly bad. More worrying is that dog owners are allowing their dogs to foul the children's play area in Higher Marston. Can we appeal to those dog owners to please have consideration for your fellow walkers and the health of our children and dispose of your dog poo responsibly?

Parish News and Issues

Here we summarise news and issues within our community. Please get in touch with feedback or comments and other issues to include.

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

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Update on Planning Application for the “Tour and Store” caravan storage site - 18/04713/FUL – Temporary change of use from scrap metal yard to caravan and general storage.

We are still waiting for this application to be called into the Planning Committee. We understand that this can take some considerable time, which has been added to by the purdah caused by the upcoming council elections. (Editor’s note: For those of you who like me didn’t know what this is, here is a definition from Wikipedia: **Purdah** is the pre-election period in the UK, often the time between the call of an election and the final election results which affects civil servants (but not candidates).The time period prevents central and local government from making announcements about any new or controversial government initiatives (such as modernisation initiatives or administrative and legislative changes) which could be seen to be advantageous to any candidates or parties in the forthcoming election).

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Appeal for our Church Hall Facilities

We are hoping to increase the functions held at our Church Hall on Ollershaw Lane. Our plans to install gas central heating before next winter will be greatly appreciated by all our users.

What we also need is extra kitchen equipment for our functions and in the true spirit of recycling can we ask those of you with unwanted kitchen equipment not throw them away but to donate them to the Church Hall please? What we need are dinner plates, bowls, saucepans, cutlery, serving dishes, serving spoons and tablecloths. If you have any unwanted articles above please contact any councillor or ring Dave Collier on 07901810558 who will come and collect from your home.

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May, more than any other month of the year, wants us to feel most alive.

Fennel Hudson

Summary Minutes of Marston Parish Council Meeting 19th April 2019

Developments over planning applications on land behind Ollershaw Lane & Cross Street

These applications are still being processed. No officers have yet been assigned due to staff shortages and the council have no further news.

Litter and fly tipping

As part of the Big Spring Clean initiative members of your parish council spent 2 hours picking litter along Ollershaw Lane. Due to the volume they only managed to get from the south boundary of our village to the Church Hall and in doing so collected 16 bags of litter! (See article on page 2)

Replies from Haulage firms using Ollershaw Lane:

We have received a few replies from the companies contacted who continually use Ollershaw Lane rather than the A559. Only Screwfix replied with a positive affirmation that they will remind drivers not to use Ollershaw Lane. We ask that residents continue to take note of companies using our village as a cut through and take particular note of date and times of any Screwfix lorries using Ollershaw Lane so that we can report back to them. Please help us and report any observations to Chris Anthwal (07775 573089) with names of the companies.

2018/2019 Accounts

The year-end accounts are being produced. Total receipts were approximately £13,049.38 (yet to add donations from recent Coffee Mornings) and payments £10,034.33, leaving an underspend of approximately £3,015.05. Bank accounts show a closing balance of £10,745.19 (31/3/19) of which £7,580.14 was carried forward from 2017/2018 funds of which £4,000 will go towards replacing the Church Hall heating.

Exercise of Public Rights to look at the accounts will be between 3/6/19 and 12/7/19. If you wish to view please contact the Parish Council clerk, Caroline Constable (clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk) to view between 3/6/19 and 3/7/19 and between 4/7/19 and 12/7/19 or contact your councillor Dave Collier 07901 810558 (davecollier87@hotmail.co.uk).

Date for Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place before the start of the next Parish Meeting at 6.30pm on 8th May 2019. All residents are invited to attend to celebrate and discuss achievements over the last 12 months.

New Planning Application

Planning Application – 19/00787/FUL – Murmansk 19 Marston Lane – Erection of one dwelling. To view any planning application go to:
<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/planning-and-building-control.aspx>

Date of the next meeting: The next parish council meeting will take place at the Church Hall on Wednesday 8th May 2019 at 7pm.

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First Wizard Walk from Salt Barge



To add to our regular Wednesday morning walks (usually less than 4.5 miles) which take place every other week (next one is Wednesday 8th May) we have started longer walks for those more nimble of our walkers.

Our first Wizard walk was Thursday morning 4th April. From the Salt Barge Inn car park. At

10 am we set off through the fields to Great Budworth, then off across to Comberbach, Anderton, Hopyards, through Marbury park and back to the pub via the canal. Just under 6 miles achieved followed by sandwiches, chips and drinks in the bar. Our Wizard walks will be held on the first Thursday of the month. Meeting at 10am on the car park; we will either set off from there or car share to another location. Next ones are 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 1st August, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November, 5th December. All are welcomed. See The Salt Barge Community Notice board for more details.



Parish News

Salt Barge Wizard Walk #2

Our next Wizard walk will be from Davenham led by Mark Zac. We will walk along the River Weaver down towards the Winsford Salt mines then back through Moulton and the tunnels. A non strenuous 6 miles. We will meet at The Salt Barge Car park at 10 am on Thursday 2nd May and travel in shared cars to Davenham. Some of you may wish to meet us at the car park of The Bull's Head. More info please contact Warren on 07879 458195 via text or call

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Mystery Picture



Mystery picture in MM's April edition is above. It's a view of the canal from the road bridge on Marbury Lane. Showing the facility for boarding off the canal in the event of a burst. This month's mystery photo is on the right. Where is it?



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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.

 21st May, 11th June. Times: 14.50 until 15.10pm

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May Day

A delicate fabric of bird song
Floats in the air,

The smell of wet wild earth
Is everywhere

Sarah Teasdale

Parish Quiz No.7

Here is Quiz no. 7 All the following questions are based on events or facts about May. Answers to March's quiz are at the bottom of the page.

No.	Question	Answer
1	In May 1707 the Act of Union joined which 2 kingdoms together?	
2	In May 1821, who died in exile on the island of St Helena?	
3	What are the 2 flowers of May?	
4	Who wrote the sonnet in which this line occurs? 'Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May'	
5	Who wrote the book, "The Darling Buds of May"	
6	Who started the use of the distress call, "May Day" and why?	
7	How long has Mayday been a bank holiday?	
8	What is the forename of the Irish musician whose surname is May who released her first album in 2003?	
9	Why is the ship Mayflower famous?	
10	Tom's mother has 3 children, one called April, one called May. What is the 3 rd one called?	

Answers to March's Quiz, no. 6:

1. Daisy or Sweet pea	5. Barabbas
2. Shrove Tuesday	6. Robert Browning
3. His resurrection	7. Chile
4. From the Latin Aprilis, the Latin verb aperire meaning "to open," April "opened" the buds of flowers. Also from Apru, an Etruscan form of the name of the Greek goddess Aphrodite.	8. 1976
	9. Gregory Peck
	10. Daffy Duck, (Warner Bros.) character created by Tex Avery and Bob Clampett.

Parish News and Local Events

Acoustic Music Events at The Salt Barge



Many of you will have enjoyed the **regular Friday evening live music** at The Salt Barge featuring good quality acoustic bands and artists. Come and enjoy it and support Nick and Sarah-Jayne's fine efforts to enliven our community. Music starts at 9pm which gives you time to sample one of his pies! (Food served until 8pm). See what's on each week

by going to their Facebook page, The Salt Barge or www.thesaltbarge.com

The Salt Works Sessions – Not to be missed!

- Rod Clements (Lindisfarne) & Ian Thomson Saturday 11th May
 - Merry Hell (acoustic) – Friday 20th September
- Tickets obtained from: lswsessions@gmail.com or ring 07796 175437.

The Lion Salt Works

- Live and Local 125th – 27th May (see back page)
Car Boot sale in The Salt Barge car park Sunday 26th – see below.
- Transport Festival.....8th – 9th June
- Live and Local 217th – 18th August

At The Salt Barge

- **Car Boot Sale on Sunday 26th May - Sellers** set up from 7 am. £5 per car.
Buyers from 9am
- Beer, Music & Pie Festival.....26th – 28th July
- Acoustic Music every Friday from 9pm

For your Quiz Addicts – The Salt Barge Quiz Night



Thursday 2nd May sees the start of a regular Quiz night at The Salt Barge. These will now take place every other Thursday. So next dates are: May: 16th & 30th, June: 13th & 27th
Entry is £1/ head. All entrance fees given out as prizes.
C'mon you budding eggheads!!

Local Events

Nearby

- Acoustic Music & Ale Weekend in Marbury Park ...23rd-26th August
Organised by Iain & Claire Stead's Mack's Music, this is the 2nd Year for this not to be missed weekend.
Camping available but pitches are going fast.

Green Fingers



Jobs in the Garden this month ...

Apply a liquid feed to any bulbs that have finished flowering, and remove spent flower heads, to encourage more flowers next year

Thin out direct sown seedlings in the vegetable garden, lifting and discarding seedlings that have been sown too dense, to give crops space to fill out. Do this in a couple of stages, some now and some in a couple of weeks, in case of slug attacks or calamities

Task for this month...

Deal with slugs ... May is the month for planting out seedlings. It is also when slugs are at their most voracious, and can wipe out a whole row of painstakingly nurtured new seedlings in a single night. There is almost no point in growing anything from seed if you are not going to take on the slug menace, so be ready.

Remember you don't necessarily have to use chemicals, why not try the old fashioned beer trap; put a container in the ground (buried with lip a cm or two above soil height, so that beetles and other innocents don't fall in) half filled with beer and then remove slugs every morning (disposing of them so that they don't come back).

The Old Dairy Farm Shop



Only just discovered! The Old Dairy Farm Shop half way down Green Lane selling locally sourced products. What a gem! It sells free range eggs, vegetables, fruit, yoghurt, logs, freshly baked cakes and much more. Find them at Bank Farm, Green Lane, Wincham CW9 6DQ .

Tel: 07789 972030 or Facebook.

Reflections #14

What on Earth . . . A discovery on Earth Day 22nd April. Earth Day is a time to reflect on the human impact on our planet

I think I'm pretty much into environmental issues. I am an avid recycler, grow much of my own veg and fruit, don't use pesticides and have wildlife friendly areas in both my garden and allotment. I avoid single use plastics wherever possible and keep up to date with current issues such as the growing levels of particles, nano particles and the level of plastic in our seas and in the food chain. So I was totally shocked to realise that CWAC, Northwich Town Council and the Department for Business and Enterprise were still considering the siting of the waste incinerator at Lostock.

Not only shocked, I might add, but really angry and a little confused. Northwich is a BID area (Business Improvement District), adopted by local businesses in 2014 and now looking to renew that through to 2024. What does this mean in real terms of improvements to local amenities? Well, so far £150,000 has been invested in making the town a better place to work, conduct business, live and draw in visitors. There have been 28 railing baskets, flower towers and over 60 hanging baskets put up around the town. And yes it really makes the centre a more attractive place. Over the past 5 years the town has been runner up in the Great British High Streets award and gained a Silver Gilt in the 2018 North West in Bloom Awards. Brilliant!

Add to that events, music venues and festivals in and around the town it's not surprising that Northwich saw nearly 30,000 extra people heading for the town. How does this aim, to improve and enliven our town, lie with the proposed waste incinerator project which will add a visual blot on the landscape and spew toxic smoke into the air, to fall over the surrounding area?

Well in my opinion it doesn't add up all and certainly doesn't suggest a comprehensive or intelligent "Vision for Northwich".

The black plastic bag waste of 1.6 million households, that's around 4.2 million people, will be hauled into Northwich on HGV's for at least the next 30 years.

Reflections #14 (continued)

A conservative estimate suggests that this adds up to 276 lorries daily adding to our already poor air quality.....and increasing traffic congestion problems.

Traffic on King Street could be as high as 30 vehicles per MINUTE!

When a local resident asked for a copy of the Traffic Management Assessment under the Freedom of Information Act, he was **refused** as evidence has “disappeared” and the officers responsible for the assessment had “left the authority”. **I reckon it was never done!**

Waste they propose to burn should be recycled – saving on resources – not burned to produce a toxicity of chemicals that would be discharged into the atmosphere; the atmosphere we all breathe in. Also the ash residue from the incinerators is so toxic that it has to be disposed of as hazardous waste. Will this be dumped under the town?

800 nursery and primary children are within ½ mile of the site; the residential housing begins just 500 metres away.

You cannot on one hand strive to enhance the local area and on the other pollute its residents. You cannot “pretty” up a town centre by 3,000 bedding plants whilst toxifying the air and the areas on which the deposits will fall.



A wake up call is needed for those elected members, locally and nationally, to do what is morally right for Northwich and its residents.

The photo to the left is an artist's impression of the incinerator chimney's shown from in front of St Helen's Church on Chester way.

Useful Contacts

CWAC Councillors

Lynn Gibbon 01606 784599

lyn.Gibbon@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Norman Wright 01606 74788

norman.wright@chesterwestandchester.gov.uk

Don Hammond 01606 891397

don.hammond@chesterwestndchester.gov.uk

Cheshire West and Chester Council

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

Online at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

General enquiries 0300 1238123

Highways 0300 1237036

Street Scene 0300 1237026

PCSO Diana Wiggins 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

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.

Information and Adverts

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The Crusty Cob Café in Chapel St., Wincham now offers additional services to supplement our food menu. You can now **pre-order your newspaper for collection** and also **buy essential household items** such as bread, milk, eggs, biscuits, beans, etc. We hope to widen this selection in the future.

Eat-in or take-away food on offer. We cater for functions or meetings with buffet food and sandwich platters also available.

Our menu includes: breakfast, hot & cold sandwiches, omelettes, burgers, salad boxes, jacket potatoes and hot & cold drinks.

Opening times: Mon-Fri: 8am – 2pm, Sat: 8.30am – 12noon

Chapel Street, Wincham, CW9 6DA

Telephone orders welcomed. Tel. 07555 517659

See us on FaceBook – Crusty Cob



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E: hoasisgarden@googlemail.com

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 26th-28th July at The Salt Barge

Enquiries & Reservations: 01606 212525

Ollershaw Lane, Marston, Northwich CW9 6ES

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: musemenquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

W: www.lionsaltworks.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk

- **Wartime Industry and Working Women in Cheshire, 1914-1950** - until 27 May
Curated by Joseph Roberts, this exhibition explores Cheshire's important contribution to the war effort, the stories of the valiant women who kept the county (and country) going during the conflicts, and their continued contribution to local industry in the aftermath of war and beyond.
- **The Salt Works Sessions: Rod Clements & Ian Thompson**
11 May @ 7.30pm - 10.30pm Tickets: £12.50
Founder member of folk-rock legend Lindisfarne. Rod has emerged as a solo artist and respected slide guitar player, and he'll be joined tonight by Ian Thomson on double bass to play the classic songs Rod has written over the decades for Lindisfarne and many others.
- **Salt Sunday: A Celebration of Salt** 19 May @ 12.30pm - 5.00pm
In partnership with the Salt of the Earth network, enjoy this family-friendly mix of interactive art, salt-making, music, science demos, talks and performances.
www.saltoftheearthnetwork.net. Donation £3.
- **Live and Local presents a Bank Holiday Bonanza** 25 May - 27 May
See the back page of this newsletter
- **Amaze by Science!** 28 May - 29 May
Embrace your inner Mad Scientist! Excitement, intrigue and lots of fascinating experiments guaranteed! £2.00

To book email lswsessions@gmail.com or ring 07796 175437.

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

Marston Parish Council Surgeries

Church Hall: 12noon -12.30pm
7 May, 11 June, 9 July, 10 Sept, 8 Oct, 12 Nov, 10 Dec
Salt Barge: 6.30pm – 7pm
6 May, 10 June, 8 July, 9 Sept, 7 Oct, 11 Nov, 9 Dec

Advertising Why not support your community newsletter by advertising your business or services. Half page advert per edition is £12 and full page advert per edition is £19. Business card size is £6 per edition



Church Hall Bookings: only £8.50 per hour

Please ring Ange on 0771 6565038

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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Marston, Northwich
CW9 6ES
07737 185215*



'til late

WEST CHESHIRE
MUSEUMS



On Sunday 26th, preceded by a Car Boot Sale on The Salt Barge
Car Park - from 7am Sellers (£5/head), from 9am Buyers