



# Marston Murmurs

The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

Apr22



*The Queen's Green Canopy* (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to **"Plant a Tree for the Jubilee."**

Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporations will be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees during the official planting season between October and March.

Tree planting will commence again in October 2022, through to the end of the Jubilee year.

With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

As well as inviting the planting of new trees, *The Queen's Green Canopy* will dedicate a network of 70 Ancient Woodlands across the United Kingdom and identify 70 Ancient Trees to celebrate Her Majesty's 70 years of service.

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March a 'Joseph Rock' ornamental Rowan tree was planted in the Churchyard. The tree will have lovely blossom and winter berries and will be a lovely addition to our Churchyard. It has been registered on the green canopy map and we plan to have a plaque made to identify that the tree was planted by Marston Parish Council for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.



Daffodils have been giving us a lovely display around the village in March, including one that had 8 flower heads!

As usual the Churchyard has been a sea of yellow blooms and the triangle has also burst into colour.

Spring is definitely here.



# APRIL

EMILY BRONTË



From our evening fireside now,  
merry laugh and cheerful tone,  
smiling eye and cloudless brow,  
mirth and music all are flown.

Yet the grass before the door  
grows as green in April rain;  
and as blithely as of yore  
tarks have poured their day-long strain.

Is it fear, or is it sorrow  
checks the stagnant stream of joy?  
Do we tremble that tomorrow  
may our present peace destroy?

# Parish News

## Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7pm in the Church Hall.

We ask that any member of the public wishing to attend contact our clerk at [clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk) for information.

## Heritage Fingerpost



Some of you may have noticed that the fingerpost is now back in place resplendent in all it's glory, standing proud of place on the 'triangle'. Sadly some of our spring daffodils got squashed during the install but they will be back hopefully bigger and brighter next year.

Our contractor has done a great job of renovating the post and we will have a full article about the work in next month's murmurs.

## Neighbourhood Plan

We are yet again asking for residents to step forward and help us develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

What is neighbourhood planning?

Neighbourhood planning **gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.**

Without a Neighbourhood Plan we may have no say over future developments within our village.

We don't need anyone with any formal training just a willingness to get involved and help formulate a vision for what and how you see our village developing in the future.

If you are interested then please get in touch via [info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Summary Minutes of Marston Parish Council Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Rev. Alec confirmed that The Community Payback Scheme will soon resume the maintenance of the church yard.

The hedgerows on Higher Marston estate have still not been cut back even though they have now been reported twice by the Clerk. Clerk to report again.

Ward Cllr Norman Wright advised that the timescale for the repair of the road at Soot Hill Anderton may be as long as 18 months. Ward Cllr's are working to get this timescale reduced.

It was decided to set up a committee for the development of the Queen's Jubilee celebration plans. Cllrs involved will report back to the full council next month. It was agreed to have a budget of £100 to help towards any costs.

COVID -19 and the Hall: It was agreed that all restrictions/risk assessments can be removed now that all government guidelines have also been removed.

# Parish Events

**Coffee Mornings** have resumed on Tuesdays from 10am until 12 noon at the Church Hall. All welcome.

## **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Plans from CW&C & Lion Salt Works Museum**

Platinum Party at LSW

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> June, 10am -4pm

Garden Party with music through the decades

Food, drink and craft activities

Small display of royal collection items in café

Salt Works Sessions carrying on into the evening.

## **Marston Church Hall**



Marston Church Hall has recently had new central heating, fresh decoration and new carpet and is available to hire for your events.

The hall has kitchen facilities, toilets, tables, chairs and space for parties or groups.

To hire the hall contact:

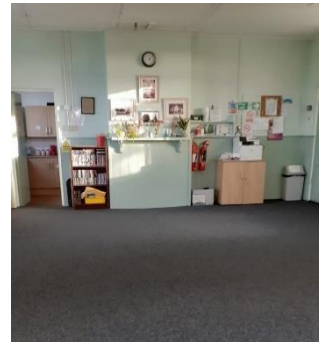
Angie 07716 565038

Or

Caroline

[clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Current hourly rate is £8.50 (this will shortly increase due to our utility costs increasing)





# Signs of Spring

Words are hidden in all directions in this puzzle. Search for these: horizontally, vertically, diagonally, and backwards.



ASPARAGUS  
BLOSSOMS  
BREEZY  
BUDS  
CHICKS  
CLOUDS  
CROCUSES

DAFFODILS  
EGGS  
FORSYTHIA  
GREEN  
HYACINTHS  
KITES  
LAMBS

NESTS  
RAIN  
ROBINS  
SUNSHINE  
TULIPS  
UMBRELLAS  
WARM



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# Grozone

# EASTER

## EGGSTRAVAGANZA

**Thursday 7th & Friday 8th APRIL**

**12.30 - 4.30pm**

*Camp fire & toasted marshmallows*

*Easter egg hunt & an Easter story*

*Hot food (pizza and hot dogs)*

*Crafts & games*

**Entry is FREE to local families**

Places must be booked in advance through Eventbrite.\*

*\*See Grozone and Cheshire Buddies Facebook pages for links.*

This event is being funded by Cheshire Buddies ([www.cheshirebuddies.co.uk](http://www.cheshirebuddies.co.uk))  
in association with Cheshire East and Cheshire West Councils.



Cheshire West  
and Chester

## Quiz

1. What star sign are you if your birthday falls between March 21 and April 19? And what about April 20 - May 20?
2. 'It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.', is a quote from which book?
3. On what date in April is St George's Day?
4. 'April is the cruellest month', is the first line of which T.S. Eliot poem?
5. Which major UK sporting event will be held on April 14th, 2018?
6. What is April's birthstone?
7. April's birth flower is often listed as *Bellis perennis* - this is the Latin name of which flower?
8. On which holiday in the United States, on the last Friday in April, are individuals and groups encouraged to plant trees?
9. Which event made British news headlines on the 2nd of April, 1982?
10. April Windsor, played by Amelia Flanagan, is a character in which soap?
11. Which birds arrival in mid April, is said to signal the start of Spring?
12. What was first introduced into Britain on the 1 April, 1973?
13. On what date in April is the Queen's birthday?
14. The April Lyrids last from April 16 to April 26 each year; what are they?
15. In a famous TV prank from 1957, the BBC broadcast a film showing Swiss farmers picking freshly-grown what?
16. Which famous Englishman's birth remains unknown, but is traditionally observed on the same days as Saint George's Day?

## Reader's Letters

A new section to Murmurs; Reader's Letters. Thank you to Kate for our first contribution:

Corner of Ollershaw Lane

I am sure we, especially walkers, have noticed the beautiful garden which was previously 'scrub land' looked a disgrace.

Please thank the people who have worked so hard to make this incredible improvement to the village.

On a more mundane subject - can dogwalkers please be reminded to clear up poo, bag it and either take it home or place in the bin provided near the lay-by. Hanging black bags on trees is disgusting!

Thank you for a great magazine - keep the recipes and quizzes going.





## Gardening Jobs

- Plant out your potatoes into trenches or plant a few earlies into big pots for a quicker crop
- Start growing tomatoes, aubergines, courgettes and winter squashes in pots on the windowsill or in a greenhouse
- Start cutting your lawn and re-seed bare patches. You will soon have it looking bright and green again

There are few greater harvests than cut flowers, few more luxurious returns for a bit of digging, weeding and sowing, than vases of flowers all summer long. Hardy annuals are particularly dependable and abundant and should be the core of your patch. They are the simplest to grow by sowing directly into the ground. A word of warning though; April's weather is wildly unpredictable so hold off if the weather or soil is too cold. Pre-warm the soil by covering with black or clear plastic, or cover your newly sown rows with cloches.

Some of the best hardy annuals to try are; calendula, cornflower, larkspur and nigella. These will give you a variety of colour and shape with a mix of showy performers and background fillers. Work your soil until it is fine and crumbly, make a drill and crumble some fresh compost along it, then finely sow the seeds along the drill; cover, water and label.

## CW&C Report IT app

Report any issues with pot holes, street lamps, bus stops, over grown hedgerow, grass verges etc... directly with CW&C using either their online form via the website at: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/home.aspx> or download the app from: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it-app.aspx> where there is a link to google play or the app store (or just go directly to google play or the app store and enter 'Cheshire West and Chester'). The app allows you to exactly pin-point the problem with a 'pin drop', so make sure you take your mobile out with you when out and about and report any issues that you find.

## Oat Biscuit Recipe

100g/4oz butter

100g/4oz sugar

1 tablespoon golden syrup

100g/4oz self-raising flour

250g/9oz rolled oats

1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda dissolved in 4 tablespoons boiling water

- Cream butter and sugar until fluffy
- Add golden syrup and beat in flour, oats and soda until a stiff dough
- Roll into a long sausage shape and cut into 40 pieces
- In the palm of your hand, roll each piece into a ball, then squash flat and put on a baking tray
- Bake in a moderate oven (180c, 350f, gas 4) for 15 minutes or until brown

These make a biscuit similar to a Hobnob and are nice with some melted chocolate brushed across the top.

Thank you to Higher Marston residents John and Janice Whittaker for the generous donation of a table for the hall kitchen.

Answers to the quiz:

1. Aries. Taurus, 2. Nineteen Eighty-Four (by George Orwell),
3. 23rd of April, 4. The Waste Land, 5. The Grand National (at Aintree),
6. Diamond, 7. Daisy, 8. Arbour Day, 9. Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands, 10. Emmerdale, 11. The cuckoo, 12. VAT (Value Added Tax),
13. 21 April, 14. A meteor shower, 15. Spaghetti, 16. William Shakespeare

# Useful Contacts

## CWAC Councillors

**Lynn Gibbon** 07581 226814

lynn.gibbon@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

**Norman Wright** 01606 74788

norman.wright@cheshirewestandchester.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 Wiggins PCSO20322** [diana.wiggins@cheshire.police.uk](mailto:diana.wiggins@cheshire.police.uk)

**Officer Terry Boyle PC4555** [terry.boyle@cheshire.police.uk](mailto:terry.boyle@cheshire.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 parish council.

### **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 clerk or any one of the councillors

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 see: [Facebook/marstonparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/marstonparishcouncil)

Those who wish an electronic copy email [info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk).

# Your Marston Parish Councillors



**Chair: Marion Potts**  
07842 894733  
marion.potts703@gmail.com



**Ian Stanley**  
ian@ianstanley.org.uk



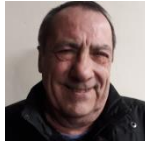
**Julie Ledger**



**Phil Carter**  
07879 843900  
philandshe@hotmail.co.uk



**Angela Johnson**  
angelajohnson48@gmail.com



**Dave Collier**  
07901 810558  
davecollier87@hotmail.co.uk



**Clerk: Caroline Constable**  
clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk



**Amanda Nixon**  
07786 135375  
hoasisgarden@gmail.com,

Website: [www.marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.marstonparishcouncil.co.uk)  
Email us at: [info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk)  
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Space for Williams advert