

Marston

MURMURS



October 2023



The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

A Word from the Editor

As the summer sun begins to mellow and the days grow a bit shorter, there's a palpable sense of change in the air. Autumn is upon us, bringing with it the promise of cooler weather, vibrant foliage, and exciting events on the horizon.



I hope that you had a pleasant summer and the opportunity to take a nice holiday? My summer holidays were later than most this year. I have only just returned from a lovely extended trip away on the south coast. Unfortunately this has meant that the Marston Murmurs is a few days late this month, sorry about that but better late than never.

If the inclement weather is getting you down then curl up on your favourite chair and dive into our monthly reading selection (page 10) and send us your feedback.

They Shall Not Grow Old

This year Remembrance Sunday will be on 12th November.

The Evergreen Arch will be erected once again, on **Saturday 4th November at 13:30.**

Help with assembly and decorating the Arch would be much appreciated as would donations of Evergreen.

We do hope that you will get involved in this tradition which has become an annual event for the village and is always well attended on Remembrance Day.

Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday 11th October.** Proceedings start promptly at 18:45. If you intend to attend please let the clerk know in advance. Please be early.

Woodworking Weekend

Spend the weekend making an item of furniture out of materials from Marbury park. This workshop will give you the skills to make a small milking or bar stool. No previous woodworking experience required as volunteers will help you each step of the way. There is a charge of £40 for this event: all monies will go to the Friends' Group, FoAM, and will go towards the workshop. Email:



david.james@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



Where in Marston am I standing to take this photograph?

The Neighbourhood Plan

The latest meeting took place recently to discuss the neighbourhood plan again.

This plan will develop over the coming months and is very important in the development of our village.

Meetings to discuss the village's neighbourhood plan are to continue bi-monthly. The next meeting will take place at the Salt Barge on Thursday 5th October at 18:30.

Everyone interested in how the village needs to develop over the coming years should come along.

Even if you don't take part we will ensure that you know what's going on and of course you will be invited to vote on the final document.

A neighbourhood plan is a community-driven document that outlines our vision for the future. It empowers us, the residents of Marston, to influence local development, housing and amenities. Ensuring that they all align with our needs and values.

By working together, we can create a thriving and vibrant village we all cherish.

Pothole in the Avenue

A local resident has brought the attention of the Parish Council to a large pothole at the end of her drive which is causing problems when she is leaving home.

She has made repeated requests to the landowner to repair it and nothing has been done.

As it is a private road it is unlikely that the parish council will be able to do anything but we can document the issue in Marston Murmurs.

Mobile Library

Don't forget the mobile library.

It will be visiting Ashwood Park on 16th October between 14:55 and 15:10.

Autumn is a great time for reading.



Church Hall

Coffee Mornings continue at the Church Hall, Tuesdays, 10:00 – 12 noon.



Please join us for tea, coffee and a selection of hot toasted snacks. We have lively chats and a quiz.

All welcome



To hire the church hall for your event contact details are near the back of this newsletter.

On Request Rural Bus Service

Cheshire West and Chester Council's new on-demand rural bus service, which aims to improve connectivity in some of the more remote parts of the borough, has proved a big success.

The 'itravel' pilot scheme covers a wide area including **Helsby, Frodsham, Delamere and Acton Bridge**, as well as some other villages, where no commercial services are available.

In its first few weeks of operation the service has clocked up an impressive 347 journeys with 569 passengers.

The bus service can be booked online, using a mobile phone app, or phone call, which allows a resident, or group of residents, to request a bus for a specific journey.

Passengers select their pick-up and drop off stops when they book and app users receive a confirmation email. Payment can be made by card or cash on the bus.

The service is not tied to a fixed route, allowing for quick and efficient shared trips without lengthy detours or fixed schedules, in addition the service will operate to and from train stations to further enhance connectivity for these areas.

Two branded 16-seat minibuses are available between 7:00 and 19:00, Monday to Friday, with low-floor access.

If the pilot service is successful, feedback will be used in revisions of the Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan to roll the scheme out to other parts of the borough, dependent on securing the necessary funding.

Not available in Marston at the moment, but is this something that you would find useful?

HS2 - Affecting our Roads

You will know this already, but HS2 is a planned new high-speed rail link in the UK, comprising a first phase between London and the West Midlands, and a second phase between the West Midlands and Manchester.

The proposed route of the second phase of HS2 is planned to pass to the east of Winsford, Rudheath, and Lostock Gralam. A depot will be constructed close to Wimboldsley to accommodate up to 54 high speed trains.

The High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill was introduced to Parliament on 24th January 2022, seeking powers to build the section of the HS2 network between Crewe and Manchester. On 3rd July 2023, the Government introduced its second Additional Provision (AP2) to make changes to the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill 2022.

Changes within AP2 for the inclusive area between Wimboldsley and Lostock Gralam include changes to the highway and junctions, along with utility works including those to the junction of:

- A559 Manchester Road, A559 Hall Lane and Station Road where the carriage way will be permanently widened to provide a left-turn lane on the south-west side of the A559 Manchester Road
- Temporary modification of the junction of A530 King Street, A530 Croxton Lane and B5309 King Street to add new signals and provide a left turn on A530 Croxton Lane.

However in late September the Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak ,has refused to guarantee that HS2 will ever connect Manchester and central London, saying he would not "speculate" on the future of the route.

The prime minister reportedly has been in talks with Chancellor Jeremy Hunt over concerns about the soaring costs of the major rail project.

It has been suggested, according to a leaked photograph published by The Independent, that the UK government is considering scrapping the Birmingham to Manchester leg in a bid to save GBP35 billion, despite GBP2.3 billion having already been ploughed into stage two of the high-speed line. This is a fast moving story and so may be out-of-date before you read this.

People who hoard

There has been an increase in concerns in recent years about people who fill their homes with a wide variety of items and struggle to maintain a safe home environment. These items can include newspapers, food and pets. Sometimes this comes with challenges to being able to prepare food for themselves and maintain their personal care.

Early intervention to connect people to help in their communities is likely to be the best approach, but where matters have progressed beyond that help is still available. In many examples the person can see that there is a problem and just needs help to recognise it and to work on a sustainable plan to manage their home more safely and effectively. Interventions such as deep cleaning and clearance of homes can be very traumatic for the person and are only used when there is a significant risk to life and limb and would only be imposed with the oversight of a court as a last resort.

Where there are significant concerns about someone you think may need more help than community groups can offer, especially where you think there may be a risk to life and limb-then please refer to the Community Access team on: [0300 123 7034](tel:03001237034).

Little Lions Go Wild

Planned and developed by trained EYFS staff, our nature-inspired sessions for pre-schoolers mix craft activities, imaginative play, fun stories and song.

Lion Salt Works, Marston
6th 13th 20th October, 10:30-11:00
Drop in, £2 per child



Salt and Sweet

The Lion Salt Works in Northwich now offers a range of cakes, sweet treats and savouries baked on site by Vivo Care Choices.

The popular café at the Heritage attraction has been working with Vivo staff and people accessing their services since April using the Lion Salt Works kitchen to bake tasty treats for the café. The project has helped people with learning disabilities and autism gain skills and become more independent.

The additional offer in the cafe is now attracting visitors coming specifically for the cakes. The menu includes sausage rolls and other savoury pastries, and a range of cakes with gluten-free and dairy-free options. Children enjoy cakes baked specifically with them in mind including ice-cream-cone cakes, brownies and fairy cakes. As the colder months arrive soup and sandwiches will be added.

MacMillan's Coffee Morning

A record amount was donated at the recent MacMillan's Coffee Morning, thanks to all who contributed towards this good cause.

Also a thank you to Millie who did the cards.



Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Annual Report for 2022/23 has now been published. The Commissioner, John Dwyer, says



"I hope you will be reassured by the progress made on key public priorities over the past year in Cheshire. Crime is down, we have a record number of police officers, the phones are being answered faster and incidents are being responded to quicker. These are the basics that the public expect, and they are happening.

In 2022/23 my office secured £5.3 million in extra funding for projects to support the Constabulary's Safer Streets campaign, as well as programmes to support victims of domestic abuse and change the behaviour of perpetrators. These initiatives have helped to locate high-risk missing people, improve people's safety at night, and support victims throughout the criminal justice process. The value of this additional funding is equivalent to £5.71 for every £1 spent on my office budget."

LEVEL 1 CHILD DEVELOPMENT

16TH - 20TH OCT
9.15 - 2.45



This 5 day course looks at

- Understanding play and the links between play, learning and development
- Understanding children's social and emotional development
- Introduction to SEN

TO BOOK ON CALL - 07833 236 675

Please note to be eligible you must be 19+, in receipt of benefits OR earn under £20,319 per year

Miriam's Book of the Month

Nine perfect strangers by Liane Moriarty

One house. Nine strangers. Ten days that will change everything...

The eagerly-anticipated new novel from the worldwide Number One bestselling author behind Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning HBO series *Big Little Lies* and smash-hit novel *The Husband's Secret*.

The retreat at health-and-wellness resort, Tranquillum House, promises total transformation. Nine stressed city dwellers are keen to drop their literal and mental baggage, and absorb the meditative ambience while enjoying their hot stone massages.

Miles from anywhere, without cars or phones, they have no way to reach the outside world. Just time to think about themselves and get to know each other.

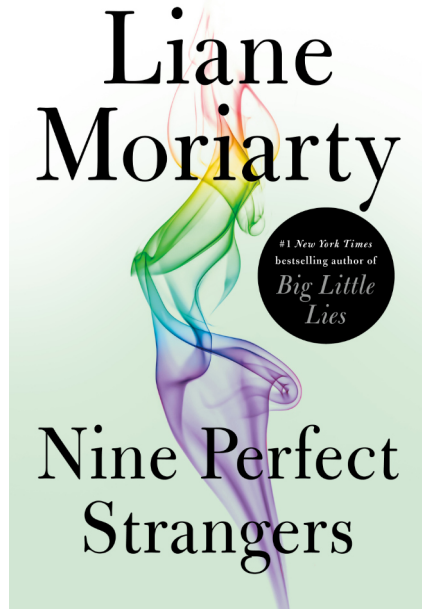
Watching over them is the resort's director, a woman on a mission. But quite a different one from any the guests might have imagined. For behind the retreat's glamorous facade lies a dark agenda.

These nine perfect strangers have no idea what's about to hit them...

I enjoyed reading this as it was a little different. It was a page turner, which I find really good in a book, but not one I had to go back on myself to follow the plot. Enjoy!



Miriam



Publisher: Penguin Books Ltd

ISBN: 9781405919463

Number of pages: 464

Footpath Number Seven

This footpath links the parking for the fishing club on Ollershaw Lane to Chapel Street in Wincham.

The CWaC contractors have made a start at clearing the path but there is still quite a bit of work to do. There is still a lot of undergrowth and brambles crossing the path and bricks and stones to clear.

The new Footpath officer has noted all that needs doing and intends to work with the contractor to get the work done as soon as possible.

Please be patient! It takes a lot of time and effort to get such a neglected path properly reopened.

Dorset Apple Cake

We've just had a few days away on the south coast in Dorset.

One item that we kept encountering at the local cake shops was Dorset Apple Cake. We tried it warm with clotted cream, delicious!

Ingredients

- 225g plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 110g unsalted cold butter, diced
- 110g golden caster sugar
- 100g sultanas (optional)
- 2 eating apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced
- 1 small cooking apple, peeled cored and thinly sliced
- 2 large eggs
- 60ml milk
- 2 tbsp demerara sugar

Method

Preheat your oven to 180c/160cfan/gas4.

Grease and line the base and sides of a 20cm deep cake tin.

In a large bowl mix the flour with the baking powder and cinnamon. Rub in the cold butter using your fingertips until the mixture looks like breadcrumbs.

Add the caster sugar and sultanas and stir then fold through the prepared apple slices.

Beat the eggs with the milk, pour onto the dry mixture and stir until thoroughly combined.

Transfer the mixture to the prepared tin and smooth the surface to level.

Sprinkle over the demerara sugar and bake for 40-50 minutes until the cake is risen, golden and a skewer comes out clean when inserted.

Cool in the tin slightly before serving. Delicious eaten warm or cold.

October Quiz

This month sees the Rugby World Cup final take place in Paris. Consequently this month's quiz is all about Rugby Union. Let's see if you can handle this one ...



1. What was the score between Australia and England in the 2003 World Cup final?
2. Who is credited with inventing Rugby Union?
3. Which international team are known as the Pumas?
4. Who coached the Lions to their infamous series victory over South Africa in 1997?
5. Which three players hold the record for the most tries scored in a single Rugby World Cup campaign (1 point for each player).
6. What name links a fictional comic character with the 118th captain of England?
7. Who is the most capped test player of all time, and how many caps does he have (1 point each).
8. Who is England's top try scorer?
9. Who were the first ever test opponents of the British and Irish Lions?
10. In which city did Ireland inflict their first ever test defeat over New Zealand?
11. Who is the youngest player to reach 50 tests for his country, aged 23 years and 110 days?
12. Who has won the 6 Nations the most number of times?

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In the Garden

October is a beautiful month of autumnal colours and first frosts. Crisp, blue-sky days are the perfect time to tidy up and cut back in the garden. If you grow fruit and veg, there's still plenty to harvest and store for the cold winter months ahead.

If your greenhouse is fairly empty, now's a good time to clean and disinfect it. This lets in more light, and prevents pests and diseases from over-wintering.

Protect half-hardy plants with fleece or bring them into a frost-free greenhouse.

Sweep up any fallen leaves that harbour fungal spores and provide ideal hiding places for slugs and snails. Use them to make leaf mould for the garden.

Lift and divide any overcrowded herbaceous perennials whilst the soil is still warm.

Lift dahlia tubers, begonia tubers and gladioli corms to store over the winter months. Remove any dead foliage before storing them.

You can take hardwood cuttings from deciduous shrubs now.

Prune rambling and climbing roses once they've finished flowering, and tie in the stems before autumn winds cause damage.

Clear up fallen rose leaves to prevent diseases such as black spot from over-wintering. To avoid the spread of damaging fungi, don't compost the leaves.



Clear overhanging plants from pathways to maintain access around the garden.

Cut back perennial plants that have died down. Alternatively leave the dead foliage in place to shelter friendly wildlife.

After tidying borders, mulch with bark chips, well rotted manure, leaf mould or spent mushroom compost to insulate plant roots for the winter and keep weed growth in check.

This month is the ideal time to plant hedges, edible hedging, and move trees and shrubs.

Finish harvesting peas and beans. When they've finished cropping simply cut the plant away at ground level, leaving the roots in the soil. These crops fix nitrogen which is slowly released into the soil as the roots break down.

If you plan to grow peas and beans next year, start preparing the site by digging trenches and filling with manure or kitchen waste.

Useful Contacts

Parish Councillors	Marion Potts	CHAIR 07842894733	marion.potts703@gmail.com
	Caroline Constable	CLERK	clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk
	Phil Carter	07879843900	philandshe@hotmail.co.uk
	Dave Collier	07901810558	davecollier87@hotmail.co.uk
	Angela Johnson	07729910045	angelazjohnson48@gmail.com
	Amanda Nixon	07786135375	hoasisgarden@gmail.com
	Margaret Peake	01606645180	peakemargaret22@gmail.com
	Ian Stanley	EDITOR	ian@ianstanley.org.uk
CWAC Councillors	Lynn Gibbon	07581226814 lynn.gibbon@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	
	Norman Wright	01606 74788 norman.wright@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	
	Phil Marshall	07917171438	
		phil.marshall@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	
Cheshire West and Chester Council	Mon-Fri 08:00 - 19:00 and Sat 09:00 - 12:00		
	Online at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk		
	General Enquiries	0300 1238123	
	Highways	0300 1237036	
	Street Scene	0300 1237026	
Local Police	PCSO Diana Wiggins PCSO20322	diana.wiggins@cheshire.police.uk	
	Officer Terry Boyle PC4555	terry.boyle@cheshire.police.uk	
Local MP	Esther McVey MP	01625 529922	
Church Hall Hire	1. Angie Kemmett	07716565038	
	2. Dave Collier	07901810558	
	3. Angela Johnson	07729910045	

Partial Lunar Eclipse

A partial lunar eclipse will occur in Marston on Thursday 28th October. This occurs when the Moon passes through the Earth's partial shadow or penumbra, and only a portion of it passes through the darkest shadow, or umbra.

During this type of eclipse a part of the Moon will darken as it moves through the Earth's shadow. The eclipse will be visible throughout Marston, all of Europe, Asia, and Africa, and western Australia.

The greatest eclipse is around 21:15 on that evening.

Thanks!

Many thanks to Ron & Cindy Dunn who have kindly donated a vacuum cleaner to the parish council.

Where am I?

In the blacksmith's shop at the Lion Salt Works. Looking out.



Mushroom Walks

Arley Hall, Sat. 14th & Sat. 28th Oct. Walks at 11:00 and again at 14:00.

With over 196 types of mushrooms at Arley the 90 minute walks are at a leisurely pace and are not intended as a food foray, concentration will be on identification and building up a knowledge of the fungal world.

Entry to the Hall & Gardens is an additional fee. Free Parking, dogs welcome on a lead.

Adult: £10 Child (4-16) £4 (booking essential)

Answers to the Quiz

1. Australia 17-20 England
2. William Webb-Ellis
3. Argentina
4. Sir Ian McGeechan
5. Jonah Lomu (1995), Brian Habana (2007), Julian Sevea (2015)
6. Billy Whizz (a.k.a. Jason Robinson)
7. Alun Wyn Jones (170)
8. Rory Underwood (49 tries)
9. 1888 tour to Australia & New Zealand (both countries needed)
10. Chicago (2018)
11. Vasil Lobzhanidze (Georgia) but I will give half a point for George North (Wales) who was 23 days and 138 days.
12. Brian O'Driscoll (26 tries).

Marston Murmurs

A special request for you. We don't always have sufficient copies of the Murmurs to supply the Garage, Salt Barge & Salt Museum.

If you read your copy quickly please consider dropping it off at one of those places so that someone else can read it. Many thanks.

Ian's Joke of the Month

The Nationwide Building Society must have looked pretty silly when they opened their first branch!

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 or articles from any readers. Just send them through to the clerk or any one of the councillors.

Further information on parish matters can be found on www.marstonparishcouncil.co.uk

Back copies of Marston Murmurs are also on this website. For Facebook see www.facebook.com/marstonparish

Those preferring an electronic copy please email info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk

ENTRY LEVEL 3 HEALTH & WELLBEING

3RD - 6TH OCT
9.15 - 2.45

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

HELPING YOU UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF A HEALTHY DIET AND LIFESTYLE AND HOW IT CAN AFFECT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE & SELF ESTEEM

UNDERSTAND HOW CONFIDENCE AND SELF ESTEEM MAY AFFECT YOUR OWN LIFE, AND GAIN NEW SKILLS TO IMPROVE BOTH.

WORKING TOWARDS GOALS

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