# MURMURS





The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

#### A Word from the Editor

Welcome to the November edition of the Marston Murmurs! Nearly getting up to the busy time of the year. What local issue is bothering you at the moment? Flooding? Speeding? Crime? Neighbourhood planning? Remembrance?

If so then I think we've got you covered this month.

Lots of news but of course we need your input to make this all work, so if there's anything that you think is being ignored locally you know what to do, write to me about it! Seriously, if we don't know about it then nothing will change.

That's the shout out done.

Anyway, have a safe and exciting bonfire night and a thoughtful and introspective remembrance day.

#### **Parish Councillor Vacancy**

Are you passionate about your village of Marston and eager to make a meaningful difference in your community?

Here is a wonderful opportunity to do just that! We are looking for a dedicated and enthusiastic individual to join the Marston Parish Council as a Parish Councillor.

This role is your chance to be a driving force behind the positive development of our beloved village.

#### **Parish Council Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November**. Proceedings start promptly at 18:45. If you intend to attend please let the clerk know in advance. <u>Please be early</u>.

You will have the chance to directly influence the future of Marston. You will get a deep sense of fulfilment and pride in your contributions to the community.

There are opportunities to connect with other passionate individuals who share your love for the village.

You will also see personal growth and development through hands-on experience in local governance. If you are excited about this opportunity please contact any parish councillor or send an email to the Clerk (see page 14).

#### Flooding in the Village

One of the residents was present at the latest parish council meeting. She raised concerns over flooding in the village and wanted to know what the parish council can do about it.

She believes that there is insufficient drainage in the area. She also proposed that we could plant trees to absorb water.

Councillor Ian Stanley asked whether there was anywhere specific? She stated that Cross Street was particularly bad and that during the summer the flood waters were almost up to her front door. She had to use sandbags as she feared a breach into her home.

She is also concerned about flooding in the rest of the village and would like to know what the parish council can do about it, she feels that original Victorian drainage system can not handle the amount of water anymore.

Clerk advised that she would raise it with ward councillors. The parish council will keep this item on the agenda.

#### **Exercise Sessions**

These sessions are continuing at the Church Hall every Thursday at 11:00. All welcome.

The cost is £5 per session.

The feedback is very positive!

#### Dog Walkers Take Heed

A serious incident took place over the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. A dog was off the lead and wandered into a swampy area on the southern side of the track leading from Pickmere Lake to Dark Lane.

The dog sank to the bottom and would have died if someone had not retrieved it (unconscious) from the swamp floor and given it CPR.

#### **Speeding in Marston**

Speeding has been a recurrent issue for residents in our village.

The Parish Council would like to invite you to help monitor speeding vehicles in the village.

It would be useful to understand when most speeding takes place, what sort of vehicles are involved and where.

Please keep your eyes open and report any incidents to any parish councillor or the editor.

#### **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.

#### The Neighbourhood Plan

A "neighbourhood plan" is a community driven document that outlines the future development and land use in a specific area, like Marston in this case.

It is a tool that allows local residents, businesses, landowners and local organisations to have a say in how their neighbourhood evolves over time.



Here's why you as residents of Marston need to get involved in producing our neighbourhood plan:

#### **Local Control:**

A neighbourhood plan gives Marston residents more control over their community's development. Instead of leaving decisions solely to local authorities, it empowers the community to shape its own future. This means that you can have a direct say in what kind of housing, infrastructure, and amenities are built in your area.

#### **Protecting Local Character:**

Marston has its own unique character and identity. Through a neighbourhood plan, residents can ensure that any new development or changes align with the neighbourhood's character and heritage. This can help preserve the things that make Marston special.

#### **Addressing Local Needs:**

You know best what your community needs. A neighbourhood plan allows you to identify and prioritise local needs, whether it's more affordable housing, improved transportation, or better community facilities. By getting involved, you can ensure that your priorities are considered in the planning process.

### **Legal Standing:**

Once adopted, a neighbourhood plan has legal weight. It becomes a statutory document that authorities must consider when making planning decisions. This means that the vision and policies outlined in the plan can guide development in Marston for years to come.

#### **Community Engagement:**

Producing a neighbourhood plan involves engaging with your neighbours, local experts, and relevant stakeholders. This process can bring the community together, promote discussions, and foster a sense of ownership and unity in Marston.

#### **Resource Allocation:**

A neighbourhood plan can also help secure funding and resources for local projects. It gives you a stronger case when applying for grants and support from various levels of government.

#### **Environmental Considerations:**

In an age of increasing environmental concerns, a neighbourhood plan can include policies and strategies for sustainable development, helping Marston become a more eco-friendly and resilient community.

#### **Economic Benefits:**

A well-thought-out neighbourhood plan can attract businesses and investment to Marston, creating economic opportunities and improving the quality of life for residents.

#### **Better Future for All:**

Ultimately, getting involved in producing a neighbourhood plan is about creating a better future for everyone who lives in Marston. It ensures that the community's values and aspirations are at the forefront of decision-making processes.

To best way to get involved in producing a neighbourhood plan is for residents of Marston to attend community meetings, participate in discussions, and contribute their ideas. It's a collaborative effort that requires input from a wide range of community members to ensure the plan truly reflects the collective vision and needs of Marston.

Your involvement will play a crucial role in shaping the future of your neighbourhood and making it a better place to live. After all that's what we all want.

The next meeting will take place sometime in Dec / Jan, we'll be more precise in the next edition.

We would love to see you there.



## **Commissioner's Review**

July - September 2023



## **John Dwyer**

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

Welcome to the latest Commissioner's Review. My office (OPCC) and I have been busy over the last quarter as the work to make Cheshire even safer continues.

There has been progress in all priority areas of the Police and Crime Plan. I have been out across the county hearing from residents about what matters to them, and my Annual Report shows that the Constabulary is delivering the safer communities we expect.

Additional funding secured by the OPCC continues to deliver a real-world impact, seen in key results achieved by the Constabulary when using the additional resources and equipment available.

I hope you find this latest update informative and useful. As ever, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

#### Making a difference

Safer Streets

Funding secured by the OPCC is transforming policing and enhancing the service. Here is how it has made a difference recently:







#### **Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

Prevent and tackle crime

Make Cheshire's roads safer

Deliver justice for victims of crime

Protect vulnerable and at-risk people

Improve public confidence in policing

Modernise our police service

Scan or click the QR code below to read the Police & Crime Plan

#### Annual Report 22/23

In September I published my Annual Report, detailing progress against the Police and Crime Plan and other public priorities, as well as highlighting the performance of Cheshire Police. In short:

Crime down

Officer numbers up

Calls answered sooner

Quicker response times

That is what the public expect from their police service. It is happening and it is improving. With my office securing **£5 million in extra funding**, we really are working together to make Cheshire even safer.

The full report is available to view on my website.



Stay in touch

www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk

**©** 01606 364000

pcc@cheshire.police.uk

(Cheshire PCC)



#### **PCSO Report**

**Marbury**: Report of a dog out of control at Marbury Country Park.

**Whitley:** Report of five vehicles speeding along the A559 -speed camera van has been requested at the location. Also a report of

20 potted cannabis bags being dumped on the A559.

**Little Leigh:** Report of road traffic collision on Ash House Lane involving a van and push bike. Due to a medical episode the male unfortunately passed away.

Wincham: Report of sheep on Pickmere Lane.

**Marston :** Report of motorbike (scooter) being left on the pavement

near to Vale Road.

#### **PCSO Diana Wiggins says:**

Dark nights are approaching, please be mindful that at this time of year we need to make sure we keep all doors locked.

A motion sensor light serves as a deterrent to potential burglars approaching the property.

Front door, be aware when someone you don't know calls at your door, always use a chain. Never let anyone into your property no matter what excuse they come up with.

Driveways, gravel is a good deterrent due to the noise this makes.

Vehicles, always lock them removing any valuables. Always park vehicle front end facing the property if possible, this makes it harder for potential thieves.

Wheelie bins, never leave bins where they can be used as a step to climb over a wall or fence. never throw letters/documents in the bin -always shred them.

Gates, buy a good padlock to deter potential thieves.

Sheds, put all tools away so they can't be used to break into a property.

Remember to ring 999 if you see anything suspicious. Never approach any persons who you believe are acting suspiciously.

Stay safe and check on elderly neighbours during this time of year.

# \* STOP PRESS \* New Beginnings at the Salt Barge

Many of you will have noticed that the Salt Barge has been closed recently. We have some news for you. Jayne and Claire are due to re-open the doors on

#### Thurs. 2<sup>nd</sup> November!

At first it will be open for wet sales only, until the ladies recommission the kitchen.

Music will continue on Thursday and Sunday evenings like before.

As will the Darts and Dominoes team and hopefully a pool team will be established again.

So pop in and listen to the music on their opening night.



Cheshire West and Chester Council

## Cost of Living Support





Scan the QR code using your mobile phone to receive the monthly Cost of Living Support e-newsletter. Get practical information and advice on how to save money, straight to your inbox.

#### International Stress Awareness Week

1st - 7th November

International Stress Awareness Week is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness about stress, its impact on mental and physical health, and the importance of stress management.

This week-long campaign seeks to educate individuals and organisations about stress-related issues and provide resources and strategies for coping with stress in healthy ways.

International Stress
Awareness Week also
encourages open
conversations about stress
and mental well-being to
reduce the stigma surrounding
these topics.

#### **Growing Together**

Community Growing and Gardening in Cheshire West

Are you involved in a community growing or gardening project?

Have you got ideas for a community growing or gardening project in your area?

Do you know of any land that could be used for a community growing or gardening project?

Cheshire Community Action is carrying out a feasibility study, on behalf of Cheshire West and Chester Council, to look at the current provision for community growing and gardening and how a more diverse range of community growing and gardening projects could be developed within the Borough to enable more people to get involved and to improve access to locally grown food.

If you would like us to keep in touch with you about events we will be holding, we'd love to hear from you.

Please get in touch at

growingtogether@cheshireaction.org.uk

#### **Lest We Forget**

Remembrance Sunday is on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and we will



be erecting the 'Evergreen Arch' on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

We would be grateful for donations of evergreen cuttings and foliage such as rosemary, ivy etc. please. These can be dropped off at the side of the hall or Churchyard or brought along in the afternoon when we are decorating the arch. We would also welcome knitted or crochet poppies to add to the decorations.

Please join us at the Cenotaph for our Service of Remembrance which will start at 10.55. Also in the Church Hall following the service for refreshments.

#### Here dead we lie

by A. E. Housman

Here dead we lie because
we did not choose

To live and shame the land
from which we sprung.

Life, to be sure, is nothing
much to lose,

But young men think it is,
and we were young.

#### Where am I?

You know Marston well, but do you know where I was when I took this image?



#### Homelessness

People can become homeless or be at risk of homelessness for various reasons. There is help available that could enable you stay in your home, help you find alternative accommodation or be able to provide emergency accommodation.

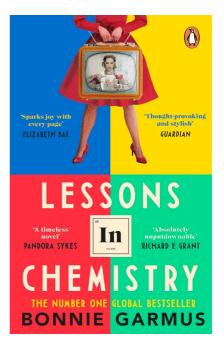
The Housing Options team can be contacted via the Freephone Advice Line: 0808 175 3595 Hours Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:00-16:30 and Weds 13:00-16:30

#### Miriam's Book of the Month

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

This is a thought-provoking and entertaining novel that celebrates the power of knowledge, the importance of breaking down gender stereotypes, and the determination to effect change. Elizabeth Zott is a remarkable and relatable protagonist whose journey will inspire readers to challenge the limitations placed upon them and embrace their passions and talents. Bonnie Garmus' debut novel is a delightful and empowering read that leaves a lasting impression.

This book had me laughing aloud at times, also made me realise how far women have come in what looked to be a man's world.



Publisher: Penguin; 1st edition (2 Mar. 2023)

Language : English Paperback : 400 pages ISBN-10 : 1804990922 ISBN-13 : 978-1804990926 Dimensions : 20.3 x 13.3 x 2.44 cm



#### Defibrillator Training

Connect Safety Services have offered free training on how to use the defibrillator.

All interested residents are invited to take advantage of this generous offer.

This will take place at 10:00 on 25<sup>th</sup> November at the Church Hall and it will be free-of-charge.

We would strongly urge you to reserve a place, it may save someone's life.

To reserve a place please contact a Parish Councillor or email the Parish Clerk.

#### Amanda's Sticky Pear & Ginger Cake

Prep: 1 hr and 10 mins Cook: 1 hr and 20 mins Easy Serves 8 - 10

#### **Ingredients**

- 25og stoned dates, finely chopped
- 300ml milk
- 100g butter, plus extra for the tin
- 140g ginger preserve (you'll find this with the jams)
- 140g dark muscovado sugar
- 3 large ripe pears (we used Conference)
- 175g self-raising flour
- 50g pecan nuts, reserve 10 and chop the rest
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp mixed spice
- 2 eggs, beaten

#### For the brandy syrup

- 85g light muscovado sugar
- 150ml brandy

#### **Method**

Step 1 Put the chopped dates in a pan with the milk, butter, ginger preserve and dark muscovado. Heat gently until the butter has melted and the mixture starts to bubble round the edges of the pan. Stir well and set aside for 1 hr to cool.

Step 2 Heat oven to 18oC/16oC fan/gas 4. Line the base of a buttered 23cm spring form tin with baking parchment. Peel and chop the pears into large chunks. Mix the flour, chopped pecans and bicarb with the spices, then stir into the cooled date mixture with the eggs. Pour into the tin and scatter over the pears. Roughly break the reserved pecans and drop on top. Bake for 40 minutes, then cover the top loosely with foil and return to the oven for 25-30 minutes more until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out with just sticky crumbs – the cake may still look a little wet around the pears.

Step 3 While the cake is baking, make the brandy syrup. Tip the light muscovado sugar into a pan with 50ml water and dissolve over a low heat until syrupy. Stir in the brandy and set aside. When the cake is ready, spoon over half the syrup, then leave the cake to cool before serving with extra syrup on the side.

Step 4 To freeze, cool the cake in its tin, then wrap well and freeze for up to 3 months. Defrost and warm through in a low oven. The syrup can be frozen separately, warmed, then drizzled over.

#### November Quiz - The Gunpowder Plot

1. An easy one to start you off - what date do we have to "remember, remember" with regards to the Gunpowder Plot?



4th Nov? 5th Nov? 6th Nov? - 3rd Nov?

2. Another easy one! Who was found red-handed with barrels of gunpowder in the cellars beneath Westminster on the night of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> November 1605?

Anthony Babbington? Thomas Percy? Thomas Wintour? Guy Fawkes?

- 3. How many barrels of Gunpowder was Guy Fawkes caught with? 36? 54? 62? 28?
- 4. Guy Fawkes is the main plotter we remember, but who is thought to have been the real 'brains' behind the plot? Ambrose Rookwood? Thomas Percy? Thomas Wintour? Robert Catesby?
- 5. The plan had originally been to blow up Parliament in 1604, but what led to the delay?
  - -The plotters had trouble leasing lodgings near Westminster
  - -The opening of Parliament was delayed due to plague
  - -Parliament got wind of a plot in 1604
  - -The cellars flooded and the gunpowder got wet
- 6. Who is believed to have leaked news of the plot to Lord Monteagle? Father Henry Garnet? Thomas Wintour? John Grant? Francis Tresham



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- 7. What happened to conspirator Thomas Wintour after the plotters fled to Holbeche House, Staffordshire?
  - -His eyes were burnt out
  - -He was shot dead
  - -He was burned alive
  - -He was shot in the shoulder
- 8. Guy Fawkes had been sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered but what happened at his execution?
  - -His sentence was commuted at the last minute to beheading
  - -He escaped
  - -He jumped from the gallows to break his neck and died
  - -He was burned at the stake instead
- 9. Where was Guy Fawkes originally from? Spain? York? Warwickshire? London?
- 10. Robert Catesby's mother was a member of which prominent family? The Howards? The Dudleys? The Devereux? The Throckmortons?
- 11. What were Londoners instructed to do on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1605 to celebrate King James I's narrow escape?
  - -To pray
  - -To light bonfires
  - -To process around London
  - -To wear red
- 12. A special "State Service" of Thanksgiving was added to the Book of Common Prayer and an Act of Parliament ordered it to be read on an annual basis.
  - In which year was it finally removed by Royal Proclamation? 1666? 1785? 1859? 1901?

## **Useful Contacts**

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	Norman Wright	o1606 74788 norman.wright@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	
	Phil Marshall	07917171438	
	i illi iviai siiaii	phil.marshall@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	
	Mon-Fri 08:00 - 19:00 and Sat 09:00 - 12:00		
Cheshire West and Chester Council	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	

#### **Thanks**

Please join us in thanking Councillor Margaret Peake for her time on the parish council.

#### World Jellyfish Day

The 3<sup>rd</sup> November is a day to appreciate and celebrate jellyfish.

Did you know that a group of jellyfish can be called a bloom, a swarm, or a smack? Despite the word "fish" in their names, jellyfish are not actually fish.

No bones about it, they are invertebrates! Besides their lack of bones, jellyfish also lack a brain. Instead, they have a network of nerves, but no central nervous system.

When feeding, jellyfish use their tentacles to sting their prey – they eat plankton, but what eats a jellyfish? Many animals do, including tunas, sharks, turtles, and humans!

Due to climate change, overall jellyfish numbers are increasing, however some species are on the endangered list.

#### **Beaver Moon**

November's full Moon is traditionally called the Beaver Moon. It occurs this year at 09:16 on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

#### Ian's Joke of the Month

I've got a new job collecting all the jumpers left in the park at the weekends, but it's not that easy. They keep moving the goalposts.

#### Where am I?

On the triangle looking towards the direction of Dark Lane

#### Answers to the Quiz

- 1. 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 1605
- 2. Guy Fawkes
- in the early hours of 5 November Fawkes was discovered in the cellars, with a fuse, a small lamp, a box of matches and 36 poorlyhidden barrels of gunpowder.
- 4. Robert Catesby
- The opening of Parliament was delayed because of the Black Plague of summer 1604
- 6. It was his brother-in-law Sir Francis Tresham who had recently become involved in the plot
- He was shot in the shoulder and captured
- 8. He jumped from the gallows to break his neck. His body was still quartered but he was already dead.
- He was from York. He was baptised there at the Church of St Michael le Belfrey in 1570
- 10. She was Anne Throckmorton of the Throckmortons of Coughton Court, Warwickshire
- 11. They were instructed to light bonfires
- 12. 1859.

#### **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.

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 <a href="https://www.marstonparishcouncil.co.uk">www.marstonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>

Back copies of Marston Murmurs are also on this website. For Facebook see <a href="https://www.facebook/marstonparish">www.facebook/marstonparish</a>

Those preferring an electronic copy please email <a href="mailto:info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk">info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>

#### What □s Onat West Cheshire Museums

Visit our website: www.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk for full details of all exhibitions and events









Tuesday/Wednesday, 11.00am- 2.00pm at Lion

ednesdau/Thursdau 10.30am-12.30pm at Weaver Hall Museum

Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday, 10.30am-12.30pm at Grosvenor Museum Halloween Trail all week at Weaver Hall Museum

Museum After Dark event on 31 October, 6.00pm-7.00pm at Grosvenor Museum

Halloween Children's Ghost Walk on 26 October

at 5.30pm. Children FREE adult £10

October, 11.00am-4.00pm at Lion Salt Works

#### Salt Works Sessions

29 October, 9 December at Lion Salt Works

live music in an iconic heritage

#### Objectof the The SALT WORKS Month

5 October, 9 Novembe 7 December, 11 January 1.00pm-1.30pm at Grosvenor Museum

Find out more about the hidden stories in our collections with an in-depth talk from one of



Festive Fun

Salt Works, 10 December, 10.30am-4.00pm Twilight in the Winter Forest Grosvenor Museum, from 18 December to 21 January



Next sessions – 26 October, 16 November, 12 December, 25 January at Grosvenor Museum

Create art in your museum! Join local artist and heritage worker India Hackett for a fun, informal evening of creativity and try your hand at some relaxed illustrative art



@cwacmuseums

dementia-inclusive

Thursday 26 October Who Dunnit? A Halloween Mystery 2.00pm-4.00pm at Grosvenor Museum



Join our new Adopt an Object scheme



details email: Richard.hall2@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Brunner Mond 150 celebrations

20 to 22 October at Weaver Hall Museum and Lion Salt Works

A series of fun and engaging events to mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of Brunner Mond & Company





CaféCrafts Every other Thursday, 2.00pm-4.00pm at Grosvenor

Join us in the history hub for an afternoon of craft and chat. Bring along your own project or feel free to join in with one of ours. Everyone welcome, whether you're a master or a beginner.

(A) SYKES

inovyn



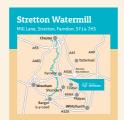




**Grosvenor Museum** 



Weaver Hall Museum and Workhouse **∢CHESTER** MANCHESTER > NORTHWICH

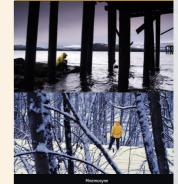


**Lion Salt Works** Kindlu sponsored bu

West Cheshire Museums

#### Exhibitions & Events Guide

October 2023 - January 2024



WEST CHESHIRE MUSEUMS



#### Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille and Large Print formats. If you would like a copy in any of these formats or in another language, please email us at equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk We are also able to provide a British Sign Language (BSL interpreter to support customers with accessing Council services)

Tel: 0300 123 8 123 Textphone: 01606 867 670 email: equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk web: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Marston Parish Council