



Marston Murmurs

The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

May 2018



The Saltscape Board at Neumann's Flash

Neumann's Flash is part of our Marston Parish; some of you may have seen the new noticeboard at the far end of the central path erected by the Saltscape Partnership. You can read more about this partnership on the next page, but the noticeboard has some interesting, if not amusing, facts.

- One photo shows a ship which sailed up the Weaver Navigation to empty lime rich waste into the Flash. Over the next decade embankments which you can see today were built up of lime waste, ash, clay and bricks.
- My favourite story on the board is of the Townsend Arms Inn known locally as "The Witch" or "The Witch and Devil", which stood on the edge of Ashton's Flash. Unlike some sudden collapses caused by subsidence this building sank slowly. Rebuilt with a timber frame in 1885 it still slowly sank. But determined locals continued to drink upstairs until "The Witch" disappeared altogether into the Flash in 1913!
- The original brine pipelines were made of elm trunks which carried the brine from the mines to the enormous boiling salt pans at our Lion Salt Works.

Bits n' Bobs – heard of Saltscape?



The Saltscape Landscape Partnership is funded by the National Lottery and brings together expert partners from the community, the public sector, voluntary organisations and the private sector. Together they deliver over 30 projects to celebrate the distinct salt landscape and unique industrial heritage of the Weaver Valley in Cheshire. Its aims are to protect, restore, enhance and manage this unparalleled environment, to reconnect people with their landscape and heritage and to make the area a better place to work, live and visit.

There is a lovely video which you can access on www.saltscape.co.uk along with other interesting facts about the projects and our local heritage.

The Saltscape is a landscape unique in Britain; a landscape formed by salt. Salt marsh vegetation, normally found on the coast, thrives around brine springs while flashes, created by salt subsidence, and lime-beds, created by industrial waste, are now valuable wildlife habitats. Only in the Weaver Valley will you find this mix of wildlife habitats, post-industrial landscapes, rivers and canals that result from Cheshire's industrial salt heritage. This area extends along the river Weaver from Frodsham to the salt towns of Northwich, Winsford and Middlewich. Its distinctive character formed from man's exploitation of salt, created a landscape rare both nationally and internationally.

Our Weaver Valley tells a tale of economic and environmental change revealing the human story of the people who shaped the land and worked, in harsh conditions, to exploit the rich mineral resource. The salt trade of the Weaver Valley was, and still is, important for the UK economy and was the foundation of much of Britain's chemical industry. The demand for salt was huge and extraction continued for many years. The mining of rock salt and in particular the extraction of brine from the Northwich area resulted in extensive subsidence. The town of Northwich was renowned for the collapse of buildings, often suddenly and without warning. There were numerous incidents where houses, pubs and salt works themselves disappeared into massive craters formed by the collapse of the underground mines. It was these dramatic incidents that created Ashton's and Neumann's flashes.

Lottery Bingo @ the Salt Barge (1 of 2)

Lottery Bingo will be starting at The Salt Barge at the end of this month. Here is an entry form and there is an explanation of the rules on the next page.



Lottery Bingo Entry Form

If you do not want to rip this out and spoil your precious copy of Marston Murmurs, fresh forms can be obtained from the bar staff.

Name: -----

Contact Number: -----

Email Address: -----

Please tick (✓) 10 numbers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	

Entry is £1 per week

Please remember, numbers drawn on the Saturday National Lottery will be used .

If your 10th number comes up and you are not paid up in our Lottery draw you may not be eligible to take the winnings!!

So keep paid up and in credit!

Lottery Bingo @ the Salt Barge (2 of 2)



Lottery Bingo @ the Salt Barge

What do you do?

Select 10 numbers 1 – 59. Pay into the pot (held behind the bar), £1 per week in advance if you want (AND ADVISABLE)!

Your numbers will be displayed on the board in the bar area of The Salt Barge and, as the National Lottery is drawn on Saturday evenings, the main six numbers are marked off your selection – if you're lucky.

The first person to get all 10 numbers will win the pot and the game is reset.

- The Rules of the Game will be displayed on the Notice board together with the progress of your numbers along with everyone else's.
- Once the game has started, new entries can be added up to week 3.
- Once there is a winner, the game is reset
- If you are not paid up to date and your numbers come up you are in default and will not take the pot
- The game then continues until the next lucky winner

So keep your funds topped up! The winner takes 80% of the pot.

And the fund raising?

20% of the total final prize fund goes towards the printing costs of your Parish Magazine, "Marston Murmurs".

Parish Events and News

Marston Parish Meetings in May 2018

Marston Parish Council have 2 meetings in May, the meeting to be held on **9th May is the annual meeting of the Council where the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are appointed.**

The meeting to be held on 23rd May is the Annual Parish Meeting. This is not a council meeting; it is a meeting of the Parish. Electors can contribute to the agenda and in practice these meetings often celebrate local activities and debate current issues in the community. Refreshments will be provided.

If any elector would like to put an item on the agenda, please email the clerk, Liz Massey – clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk or ring/contact any of the councillors listed on the back page of the newsletter.

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Other Diary dates

May 9th Parish Council Meeting (see above)

May 9th Marston Murmurs Walking Group Wednesday walk, 10.30 a.m. from The Salt Barge

May 19th and 20th Live and Local at The Lion Salt Works. Events from 12noon, free entry

May 23rd Annual Parish Meeting (refreshments provided – see above)

May 23rd Marston Murmurs Walking Group Wednesday walk, 10.30 from The Salt Barge

June 3rd The Big Lunch, from 12 noon till 2 pm on the back field at Higher Marston. Sandwiches, cakes, bar and music provided for all residents of Marston. More information to follow. Those wishing to help PLEASE get in touch!!

June 13th Parish Council Meeting

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Hot Pot Sunday 8th April

What better way to spend a spring Sunday afternoon than dining with friends, old and new, in a convivial atmosphere. Broad smiles on contented faces was the reward for everyone who contributed to the event. The labourers of love deserve heartfelt thanks for the delicious cottage pies and hotpots they brought to the table, savoured by omnivores and

News and Bits n' Bobs

vegetarians alike. A big thank you also to everyone who brought trifles, sponges and cakes. Equally enjoyed.

Adding to the culinary delights was the musical dish served up by those likely lads Iain and Terry; two guys guaranteed to bring smiles and laughter to any occasion with their brand of good time singalong music. Eat your hearts out Chas and Dave ! Sincere thanks to Iain and Terry!

Everyone seemed to be in fine voice and it was a gentle reminder to anyone who is interested that the Community Singing sessions will hopefully start again soon after a prolonged winter break.

Marston is a funny old village, being split into sections as it is, and a pat on the backs of the Parish Council is well deserved for their worthy attempt at uniting those sections.

Community Spirit is alive.

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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 densely, 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.

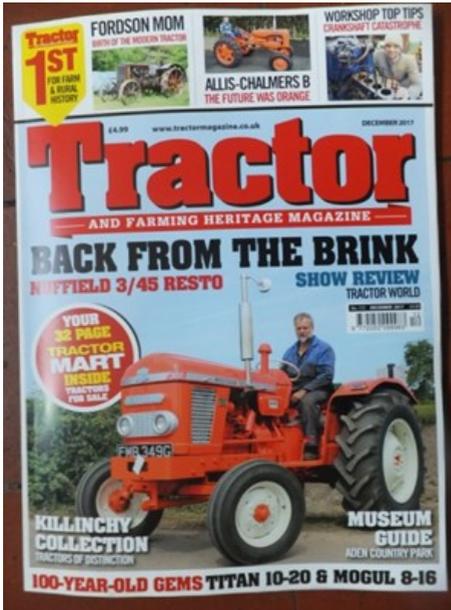
It is also when slugs are at their most voracious, and can wipe out a whole row of painstakingly nurtured new

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 fill with beer and then remove slugs every morning.

Bits n' Bobs

Marston resident John Potts was astonished to find himself on the front cover of a magazine last year. John has bought and restored a Nuffield 3/45 tractor, which had spent its working life on a farm in Mobberley. The tractor is shown at local steam and vintage tractor shows and last year it was spotted and John was asked to take part in an article. The Nuffield 3/45 tractor was in production for only 3 years from 1967 to 1969 and was bought new in 1968. Production ceased with the takeover of Nuffield by Leyland Tractors. The Nuffield had been fitted with a cab shortly after purchase which John felt was not in keeping with the tractors overall look and age; luckily for John the original round top mud guards had been taken off to accommodate the



cab and safely stored in the farm loft. After many years of hard work on the farm and the usual minimal amount of farm vehicle maintenance, the tractor engine, clutch and gear box was stripped and refurbished and it was given a respray in its original colour of Nuffield Poppy Orange, helping it to stand out amongst the other vintage tractors at shows. It is also taken on



road runs organised by the Cheshire Vintage Tractor and Engine Club of which John and his wife Marion are members.

John is currently working on a Ferguson TEF20 from 1954 preparing it to join the Nuffield on road runs and at shows.

Events

Celebrate the Royal Wedding and the FA Cup Final at the 2nd Live & Local Music Festival at Cheshire's Award Winning Lion Salt Works Museum.



Live and Local
Family fun
19th & 20th May

*Live Music, Licensed Bar,
Stalls, Childrens' Activities,
Hot Food and
Live Coverage of The Royal
Wedding and FA Cup Final*

*The Lion Salt Works
Marston Northwich
CW9 6ES
07737 185215*

Free Entry
'til late

PART OF
WEST CHESHIRE
MUSEUMS

LION
SALT
WORKS

The poster features a large green topiary number '2' on the right side. The background is a blue sky with white clouds and musical notes. At the bottom, there are logos for 'PART OF WEST CHESHIRE MUSEUMS' and 'LION SALT WORKS'.

Not been invited to the wedding of the year? Didn't get tickets to the FA Cup Final? That doesn't mean you can't celebrate in style. On **Saturday 19th** and **Sunday 20th May**, everyone is invited to enjoy these extraordinary events, free of charge at the second Live & Local Music Festival being held at Cheshire's Lion Salt Works Museum in Marston. Both days will start at midday, with musical acts catering for all tastes. This neighbourhood festival will feature live music throughout the day and the dynamic atmosphere will be

complemented by a range of stalls, children's activities and coverage of both the royal wedding and the FA Cup Final.

For more information contact the organiser, Iain Stead on 07737185215 or The Lion Salt Works Museum on 01606 275066.

Also see the **Live and Local** brochure delivered with your May edition of Marston Murmurs

Events

A Eureka Moment! Or why have we not thought of this before? Councillors' Surgeries

Many thanks to one of our residents who suggested the idea of "Parish Councillor's Surgeries". Well if it's good enough for MP's it has to be good enough for us. The original suggestion was quarterly, but other residents feel that when things need to be acted upon, it needs to be done quickly. It has therefore been suggested that surgeries be held monthly – a week before the Parish Council meetings so that issues raised can be discussed there. Ideas for venues so far are at The Salt Barge pub on the Thursday prior to the week of the Parish Council meeting from 7.00pm until 8.00pm and then at the Church Hall on Tuesdays – after the coffee morning so from 12.00 mid-day until 1.00pm.

The proposal will be discussed at the forthcoming PC meeting, so if you feel strongly, one way or another, let us know either by contacting one of us or coming to the open forum held before the PC meeting, starting at 6.45pm on the 8th May. Dates to follow in June's newsletter.

YOUR VOICE SHOULD BE HEARD. MAKE IT HEARD.

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Marston Walking Group



Our group continues to grow; we meet every other Wednesday morning and we are planning some evening walks starting in June. We also plan to organise walks in other areas of Cheshire; suggestions welcomed. This month of May we will be walking on Wednesday 9th and Wednesday 23rd. As usual we will meet at 10.30 a.m. in The Salt Barge car park and then convene

around 12.30pm for tea and sandwiches in the pub.

Walks will be split when necessary to a shorter 4 – 5 mile walk and a longer 6 + miles for those in the group that who wish to add on a longer loop.

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“What the caterpillar calls the end of the world the master calls a butterfly”
Richard Bach

Reflections 3 - Swallows and Amazons



Swallows! Our beautiful summer visitors, hold an absolute delight; promises of far reaching places, warm summer evenings and the end of England's dreary winter and equally cold spring. It is an affirmation of the things promised in the warmer months to follow.

I first had swallows sharing my outside space up to 2000: year after year I was delighted by their presence and the excitement every year when they returned. And then nothing came.

I bought a RSPB artificial nest and hung it in their old space and waited . . . Expectantly . . .

Nothing came.

Then in a late April morning in 2013 another real nest appeared seemingly overnight but in a totally unsuitable place – a new nesting pair with no idea what to do. Their nest site was hounded by magpies, cats and mankind but they persevered and raised a tiny brood of two who fledged and left Ollershaw Lane in early September.

The next year swallows returned with the offspring (I hope to imagine) and a second nest was built in a far more suitable place.

Year after year since then (ok, only 4 years) a pair of these beautiful birds have visited, stayed and reproduced – often two clutches per season.

2018 Tense times

12 April looking expectantly every day.

18 April- J and I driving back from our allotment. Brakes pulled on and JOY swallows diving and twisting and turning and here. No sign at my house, early days.

And then . . .

Returning after dark on 24 April the security light at my house blasted on and revealed . . . a beautiful swallow sat in the nest - repaired, used, repaired and used again.

Two clutches again? I will keep you posted.

That's swallows – what about Amazons?

The Rev'd Alec Brown's page

Dates for Your Diary – Church Events

Sun 6th May 10.30am Rogationtide All Age Service.

Thurs 10th 7.30pm Ascension Day Holy Communion Service

Sat 12th 9.30am – 12.30pm Annual Boyd Walk (in celebration of A.W. Boyd, local naturalist and writer), starting from St Mark's Church, Antrobus

Mon 14th 12noon – Thy Kingdom Come – midday prayers in Chester Cathedral, led by the Vicar

Tues 29th 7.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation Service, St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall

Sat 2nd June 5.00pm Ordination Service, Chester Cathedral

Every Sunday and Bank Holidays, 2pm Coffee and Tea

A relaxing and enjoyable Sunday afternoon outing, with delicious homemade cake and tea/coffee at Great Budworth Parish Hall every Sunday (and Bank Holiday) afternoon from 2pm, with second hand bookstall as well. All proceeds to Great Budworth Parish Church.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Thanks to all those who attending this meeting. I am very pleased to report that both Churchwardens (Margaret Cross and Pauline Ridgway) have been re-elected. My thanks go to them, and to all those people (sidespeople, cleaners, readers, musicians, choir et al) who help to make St Mary and All Saints such a friendly and welcoming church – it does not go unnoticed – just read the comments in the Visitors' Book! The PCC meets in May to discuss the proposed improvements to the church, and this will be reported back to parishioners and worshippers.

Church Teas - Great Budworth Parish Hall every Sunday (and Bank Holiday) afternoon from 2pm, with a second hand bookstall as well. All proceeds to Great Budworth Parish Church.

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COMMUNITY SPIRIT - A big thank you from Marston Parish Council to Miles Hughes, local electrician, who, while installing a new fire alarm system at the village hall, noticed the ceiling lights needed updating and kindly fitted them free of charge, a very kind community gesture. Thanks, Miles. If you want a local electrician with over 30+ years' experience in all types of electrical installation then Miles is your man. Call: 07944 771946.

The Salt Barge **Your Local, Community Pub**



The Salt Barge is a traditional country pub located in the rural village of Marston, 1 mile away from the town centre of Northwich. Located opposite the Lion Salt Works Museum, we specialise in local cask ales and traditional British food all prepared and cooked in our kitchen. We also feature traditional pub games and show live sports from Sky in our bar area. We are listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide.

**Our menu is a traditional menu with a twist of gourmet.
With large servings our meals will not leave you
hungry... although you will want more!**

Monday – Wednesday: 12 noon - 3pm; 5pm - 11pm
Thursday: 12noon - 11pm. Friday: 12noon – 12 midnight
Saturday: 12noon - 11.30pm; Sunday: 12 noon - 11pm

Enquiries & Reservations: 01606 43064

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The Lion Salt Works is a jewel in the crown of Cheshire and Marstoners are rightfully proud of it. Please support it and come along to one of many events that are being held through the year! These are the most imminent events.

Cancelled Thursday 10th & Friday 11th May, 2.30-4pm. - Oh! What a Lovely War. Unfortunately this event advertised in last month's Marston Murmurs had to be cancelled

Salt Sunday: A Celebration of Salt. 13 May @ 12.30pm - 4.00pm

In partnership with the Salt of the Earth network, the day includes a family-friendly mix of interactive art, salt-making, music, science experiments, a talk from the Bishop of Birkenhead, and a community drama event created by Mr and Mrs Theatre Company. Suggested donation for activities £1.50. The event also introduces our latest exhibition celebrating the terracotta reredos made by Jabez Thomson for Little Leigh Church.

www.saltoftheearthnetwork.net. www.facebook.com/mrandmrstheatre

Ensonglopedia of Science Friday 18th May @ 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Adult £9, under-17 £6.50, family tickets available: book at Lion Salt Works 01606 275066 or visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/cheshireruraltouringarts.

Fast-paced, hugely entertaining and enlightening evening for anyone aged 7 upwards. Ensonglopedia of Science is a new show by John Hinton, multi-award-winning creator of musical comedies. A song about science for each letter of the alphabet. Expect atoms, black holes, cells, DNA and essentially everything else. Expect the unexpected. And expect it to rhyme. Event supported by Cheshire Rural Touring Arts.

Salt Science 29 May and 30th May @ 10.30am - 4.00pm

Come and join us as we have a go at some experiments and be amazed by science!

And don't forget Live and Local Sat 7 Sun 19th & 20th May – see page 7 and attached programme.

Museum Opening Times:

Museum open Tuesday – Sunday 10.30am-5pm.

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

Open all Bank Holiday Mondays.

www.lionsaltworks.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk



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Your Marston Parish Councillors

	<p>Chair: Peter Arch</p> <p>peter_jonarch@yahoo.co.uk</p>		<p>Marion Potts</p> <p>marion.potts703@btinternet.com</p>
	<p>Lynn McGahern</p> <p>07549876222</p> <p>lynn.mcghern2@gmail.com</p>		<p>Caroline Constable</p> <p>carolineconstable@btinternet.com</p>
	<p>Chris Anthwal</p> <p>07775573089</p> <p>chris.anthwal@talk21.com</p>		<p>Warren Davies</p> <p>07879458195</p> <p>warrenjdavies59@gmail.com</p>
	<p>Clerk: Liz Massey</p> <p>clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk</p> <p>Website; www.marstonparishcouncil.co.uk</p> <p>Email us at: info@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk</p> <p>Facebook: www.facebook.com/marstonparish</p>		

Church Hall Bookings: Ange on 07716565038

Any enthusiastic and community-minded person who may be interested in joining the Parsh Council should speak to anyone of the above councillors, who, like you will, find the role rewarding.



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

Williams Printers band advert (to reduce our costs)