



Marston Murmurs

The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

Mar22



20th March 2022 is the spring equinox and the official first day of spring, and it's true that this auspicious event traditionally marked the start of spring for many different cultures as well as the start of the new year on ancient Indian and Persian calendars.

Even today, the spring (or 'vernal') equinox, is often used to indicate the first day of spring. Equinox means equal, so should mean there are 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of night.

An equinox is a moment in time and space when the sun is positioned directly above the Earth's equator, which happens just twice a year on the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. In March (usually the 20th or 21st), the sun crosses the equator from south to north, bringing warmth and light back to the Northern Hemisphere and plunging the Southern Hemisphere into its fall and winter darkness. In September (around the 22nd or 23rd), the sun crosses back from south to north, heralding the start of autumn in the Northern Hemisphere, and the start of spring in the Southern one.

27th March is Mothers Day, a day we celebrate and give thanks to those people who have nurtured us or played a significant part in our lives either as a parent or in some other relationship.

During the 16th century, people in the UK used to return on the 4th Sunday in [Lent](#) for a service to their 'mother church' - the main church or cathedral of the area.

This was either the church where you were baptised, or the local parish

Happy Mother's Day

A mother is always with you...
She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street.
She's the smell of bleach in your freshly laundered socks.
She's the cool hand on your brow when you're not well.
Your mother lives inside your laughter.
She's crystallized in every tear drop.
She's the place you came from, your first home.
She's the map you follow with every step that you take.
And nothing on earth can separate you.
Not time, not space, not even death will ever separate you from your mother.
You carry her inside of you always.

church or more often the nearest cathedral: Anyone who did this was commonly said to have gone "a-mothering", although whether this term preceded the observance of Mothering Sunday is unclear.

In later times, 'Mothering Sunday' became a day when domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother church, usually with their own mothers and other family members. It was often the only time that whole families could gather together, since on other days they were prevented by conflicting working hours, and servants were not given free days on other occasions.

Children and young people who were given a day off on that date so they could visit their families would pick wild flowers along the way to place in the church or give to their mothers. Eventually, the religious tradition evolved into the Mothering Sunday secular tradition of giving gifts to mothers that we see today.

Parish News

Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 7pm in the Church Hall.

A full risk assessment will be conducted beforehand ensuring that current government guidelines are followed, and we ask that any member of the public wishing to attend contact our clerk at clerk@marstonparishcouncil.co.uk for information.

Heritage Fingerpost

By the time you read this the daffodils planted on the triangle at the junction of Ollershaw Road and Marston Lane should be in bud if not flowering and making the gateway to our village looking good once more.

Furthermore the restoration of the heritage fingerpost is nearing completion now too and is due to be reinstated in its original place around the end of the month. In spite of covid-19 and some ill health affecting our restoration expert we remain on schedule to have the area back as it was (and better) by the target date.

We will have some more information and pictures for you in due course.

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



Coffee morning on 15th

February was treated to an interesting and informative talk by Mark Relf. Mark is a local historian and volunteer with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

We heard the story of one of the Marston Lads; James Poole, who bravely volunteered to fight in WW1 and sadly lost his life. Mark has his medals and War Penny, which were awarded for his brave service. Mark also talked about his work with the CWGC.



We would like to thank Mark for giving us his time and treating us to such a great morning and our thanks to Tony Hayes for organising the talk and showing the film of Marston Remembrance 2021.

Summary Minutes of Marston Parish Council Meeting of 9th February 2022

The replacement carpet for the hall has been ordered and will be fitted soon.

The Consultation into the Hydrogen Pipeline that Cadent Gas is planning was discussed. Cllr Johnson will be attending a public meeting to find out more.

Clerk is still working on getting quotes for the work planned in the hall; boxing in of boiler, repairing suspended ceiling and fitting fire doors.

The timescale for the erection of the refurbished Fingerpost is still expected to be the end of February.

Chalc has issued a revised template Code of Conduct. Clerk is to ascertain any relevant changes and update parish council's document as necessary.

Parish Events

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

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Events to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee are still being discussed. We plan to hold an Afternoon Tea at the Church Hall one day over the bank holiday weekend June 2nd through to June 5th.

Further details will follow.

New Recycling Bin Rollout

If you take a look at

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/waste-and-recycling-collection.aspx> you will be able to enter your postcode and check for your date of delivery of the new bins. Most of Marston appears to be being rolled out between 28/2/22 and 13/3/22.

Past Times: The 70s Quiz

1. In which country did black activist Steve Biko die in 1977?
2. Which US President was brought down by the Watergate scandal?
3. What did a policeman use to hide a stalker's embarrassment in a famous incident at Twickenham in 1974?
4. Which London born comic Charlie was knighted?
5. Which tree population was decimated by a Dutch disease?
6. Did Skytrain provide cut price tickets by air or rail?
7. Who succeeded John Paul I as pope?
8. The New English version of which Book was published in 1970?
9. Which Czech tennis star Martina defected to the West?
10. In which country did Pol Pot conduct a reign of terror?
11. Which Sebastian was a record of breaking middle distance runner?
12. Which father of twins was the husband of the British PM?
13. Which princess was sportswoman of the year in 1971?
14. The Queen celebrated how many years on the throne in her Jubilee?
15. Which Lord disappeared after his nanny was murdered?
16. Who beat four male candidates to become Tory leader in 1975?
17. Which war ended with the fall of Saigon in 1975?
18. Which country's athletes were murdered at the 1972 Olympics?
19. John Curry won Olympic gold on what surface?
20. In which country did a Ripper carry out horrific murders?
21. Which Lord and Royal uncle was murdered off Ireland?
22. Which mother won a Nobel Peace Prize?
23. Charles de Gaulle died after being president of which country?
24. Were Sunderland in the first or second division when they won the FA Cup in 1973?
25. Where was the monarchy restored after the death of Franco?
26. In 1971 the first British soldier was killed in which British province?
27. Evonne Goolagong from which country won Wimbledon in 1971?
28. Which Chris was Jimmy Connors' fiancée when he first won Wimbledon?
29. Which James succeeded Harold Wilson as Prime Minister?
30. David Steel became leader of which political party in 1976?

Gardening Jobs:

Start sowing hardier vegetable seeds now into the garden; peas, broadbeans, spinach and parsnips can all be direct sown now. Make a nursery bed and sow thickly, thinning out when they are big enough to handle.

Plant out potatoes at the end of the month.

In the greenhouse sow cucumbers, aubergines, Brussel sprouts, sprouting broccoli and cabbage and then towards the end of the month start sowing tomatoes.

Big clumps of snow drops can be lifted, split and replanted once the flowers have faded.

Now is also a good time to either bring out your dahlia tubers or buy new, planting out into the greenhouse or onto a warm windowsill.

We have kindly been sent a photo and a newspaper cutting from Marston's past.



Please let us know if you recognise yourself or others in the photo opposite and we can then put names to faces in a future edition of Murmurs.



Friday the thirteenth turned out to be one of the luckiest days of the year for 11-year-old Rachel Pearce, of 2 Manor Avenue, Higher Marston, last week.

For on Friday, Rachel was chosen by the luck of the draw to be the new Marston Youth Club Rose Queen. Rachel is presently a pupil at Great Budworth Primary School but in September she will transfer to Northwich Girls Grammar School. She enjoys all kinds of outdoor activities especially swimming and camping.

It was also a lucky day for five-year-old Colette Rustage, of 8 Manor Avenue, Higher

Marston, who was also chosen by the luck of the draw, to be the fairy queen.

The new queen's attendants are: Alison Gatley, Jean Wood, Tracy Randles, Joan Goulbourne (maids of honour), Gail Prince (bouquet bearer), Ann Staley, Amanda Astbury, Kerry Hilman, Karen Platt (flower girls), Christopher Cooke (crown bearer) and Kenneth Comboy (sceptre bearer). The fairies are Jeanette Miller, Alison Hallwood, Cassandra Biddle, Fiona McEwan, Sharon Duncalf, Elizabeth Goulbourne, Debbie Kent, Joanne Cooke and Amanda Smith.

The Rose fete will be held this year on September 6.

What happened to Marston Rose Queen?

Have times just changed and such events now seen as none relevant?

Looking at the happy faces, it was a joy and privilege to take part and be chosen.

Answers to the quiz:

1. South Africa, 2. Nixon, 3. His helmet, 4. Chaplin, 5. Elm, 6. Air, 7. John Paul II, 8. Bible, 9. Navratilova, 10. Cambodia, 11. Coe, 12. Denis Thatcher, 13. Anne, 14. 25, 15. Lucan, 16. Margaret Thatcher, 17. Vietnam, 18. Isreal, 19. Ice, 20. Yorkshire, 21. Mountbatten, 22. Teresa, 23. France, 24. Second, 25. Spain, 26. Northern Ireland, 27. Australia, 28. Evert, 29. Callaghan. 30. Liberal

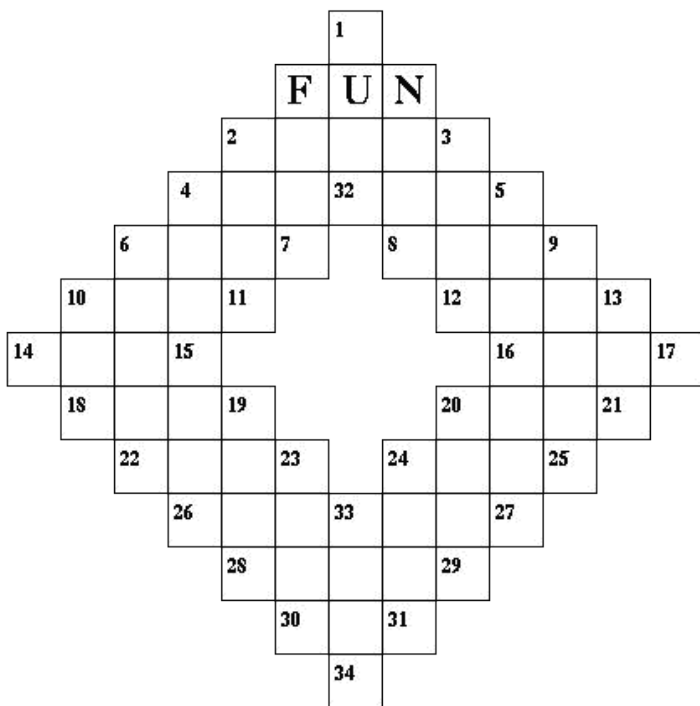
Brief History of Crossword Puzzles

Crossword puzzles are said to be the most popular and widespread word game in the world, yet have a short history.

The first crosswords appeared in England during the 19th century. They were of an elementary kind, apparently derived from the word square, a group of words arranged so the letters read alike vertically and horizontally, and printed in children's puzzle books and various periodicals.

The first known published crossword puzzle was created by a journalist named Arthur Wynne from Liverpool, and he is usually credited as the inventor of the popular word game. December 21, 1913 was the date and it appeared in a Sunday newspaper, the *New York World*. Wynne's puzzle (see below) differed from today's crosswords in that it was diamond shaped and contained no internal black squares.

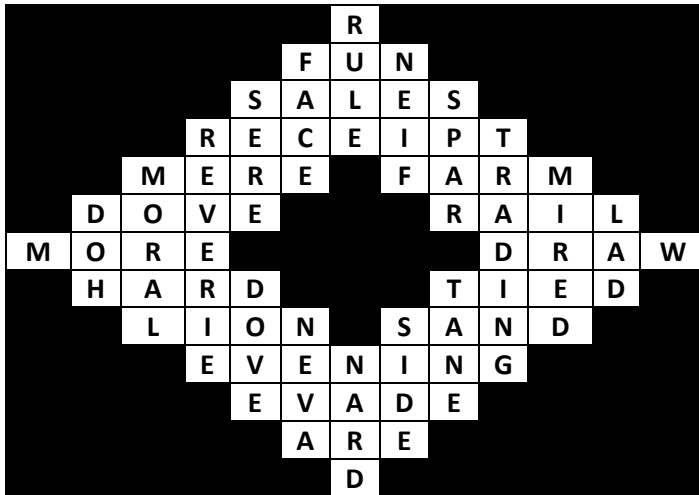
During the early 1920's other newspapers picked up the newly discovered pastime.



By Arthur Wynne, December 21, 1913 from The New York World

- 2-3. What bargain hunters enjoy.
- 4-5. A written acknowledgment.
- 6-7. Such and nothing more.
- 10-11. A bird.
- 14-15. Opposed to less.
- 18-19. What this puzzle is.
- 22-23. An animal of prey.
- 26-27. The close of a day.
- 28-29. To elude.
- 30-31. The plural of is.
- 8-9. To cultivate.
- 12-13. A bar of wood or iron.
- 16-17. What artists learn to do.
- 20-21. Fastened.
- 24-25. Found on the seashore.
- 10-18. The fibre of the gomuti palm.
- 6-22. What we all should be.
- 4-26. A day dream.
- 2-11. A talon.
- 19-28. A pigeon.
- F-7. Part of your head.
- 23-30. A river in Russia.
- 1-32. To govern.
- 33-34. An aromatic plant.
- N-8. A fist.
- 24-31. To agree with.
- 3-12. Part of a ship.
- 20-29. One.
- 5-27. Exchanging.
- 9-25. To sink in mud.
- 13-21. A boy.

Puzzle Solution



Quick and easy Malt Loaf

*No weighing scales required just a mug/large cup

Ingredients:

1 small mug of self raising flour

1 small mug of milk

1 small mug of mixed dried fruit or sultanas/raisins

½ - 1 small mug of caster sugar (depending on how sweet you like it)

1 small mug of All-Bran Original

Method

- Preheat the oven to 180°C or gas mark 4
- Put All-Bran, sugar and dried fruit into a basin and mix them well together
- Stir in milk and leave All-Bran mixture to stand for half an hour
- Sieve in the flour, mixing well, and pour mixture into a well greased 2lb (900g) loaf tin or use a loaf tin liner (available in any supermarket)
- Bake for about 1 hour and 30 minutes (put a double layer of greaseproof paper loosely on the top of the loaf tin after about 30 minutes to prevent burning)
- Leave in loaf tin to cool
- Cut into slices and enjoy

Useful Contacts

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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

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.

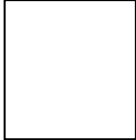
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