



Marston Murmurs

The Newsletter of Your Marston Parish Council

June 2025



Sunset over the flashes on VE DAY 80th Anniversary by Amanda Nixon

A word from the editor.

May brought us fabulous weather, celebration of VE Day 80th anniversary, new chairs in the hall, a resignation and we welcomed two new members to the Parish Council team.



In May we have our annual Parish Council meeting. This is to reflect on the last year and ensure we are ready to progress with the next year.

Nominations were made for Chair and Vice Chair and votes taken, with Marion and Amanda retaining their posts.

The annual audit results were read out and we received a very favourable report, thanks to Gary Hedges for his hard work and excellent record keeping.

We accepted the resignation of Dave Collier who has been a dedicated Councillor for many years. Dave has supported many events and is a regular fixture at the weekly coffee mornings, contributing his sporting knowledge to the quiz. We wish Dave well in the future and know he will continue to support us when possible.

We have welcomed David Wallace as our new Councillor, David joined at our May meeting and we are looking forward to working with him. David is married to Alexandra and they live in Marston Village with Dolly the dog. David has a wide work and business experience, which will help develop Council plans and initiatives.

We have also employed our new Clerk/responsible financial officer Jane Cooke. Jane lives in Stockton Heath and has a wide work experience in business and teaching. Jane is a motivated and dedicated professional with over 30 yrs of experience in the field of teaching/training.

Throughout her career, Jane has demonstrated a keen ability to adapt to change and adapt to different clientele and environments. Outside of work, Jane enjoys volunteering for local charities, traveling, and outdoor activities such as rowing and walking. Jane is married with a large extended family including 9 grandchildren and growing

She is looking forward to becoming involved in Marston Parish Council

Marston Parish Council

Chairpersons review of the year 24/25

Firstly, I would like to thank the Council for their continued dedication over the past year.

It has been a busy year with new Councillors Simon and Helen and Clerk Jane joining us and the sad departures of Angela, Gary and Dave. But, with every change comes new opportunities and fresh perspectives and we look forward to welcoming the two new Councillors soon to join us.

The Parish Council has this year commemorated D Day and VE Day 80th anniversaries and Remembrance Sunday Service. We offer our thanks to Great Budworth Church for their support at our services, The Misfits and to everyone who comes along to support us.

Charitable donations this year were made to MacMillan Coffee Morning Appeal and 'Let's Farm' in Winsford.

The weekly coffee mornings and chair exercise class run by the Council have been enjoyed by many residents and neighbours and have been saddened by the loss of several of our good friends from the village. Duncan's Quiz remains a legend in its own lifetime and is a source of information and banter to keep us all entertained. We were challenged by the impressive standard of front gardens in this years Garden Competition and the winners were difficult to short list due to the many lovely gardens.

We have been involved in various issues regarding the village, providing support and information where possible and taking matters to the relevant authorities as appropriate. We have looked into reducing the speed limit along A559 Marston Lane, weight limit restrictions along Ollershaw Lane, Pickmere visitor issues, access to the footpath 7 and Higher Marston Playground improvements.

The Church Hall has received improvements including WiFi, new chairs (hopefully arriving soon!), smart TV screen and Tommy Statues, which have been bought with grants from Manchester Airport, National Lottery and Marbury Councillors Funds. The toilet system installed last year has been trouble free and the toilets given a fresh coat of paint and new hand dryers installed. We were pleased to find Marston Church Hall included in the book 'Halls for all', even if we only made four lines!

We moved ahead with technology, thanks to Gary, who brought in new emails, on line banking and paper saving meetings.

It was good to receive notification of the Fingerpost at Four Lane crossroads grade II listing, giving it protection for the future and justifying its restoration.

Marston Murmurs has continued to be delivered to every household and business in the village for 10 months of the year and it helps in ensuring news, information and events around the village are available to all.

Marston Parish Council Facebook page continues to grow with new followers, not just from the village but from across the world.

The Parish Councillors and members of the public joined forces to litter pick the village and removed an impressive 37 bags of rubbish and other items. More litter picker grabs needed for future litter picking events as we were sadly short of them which made it difficult for some.

We now have three defibs in the village which we hope are never needed but are very reassuring to know they are available. We would like to thank 1 Fernlea Road and the Salt Barge pub for hosting two of the defibs, the third being on the Church Hall.

As we face this next year, we hope to build on the improvements and continue to support and protect the village for the benefit of the residents, and look forward to continuing good relationships with neighbouring villages, communities and local services.

Marion Potts, Chair, Marston Parish Council.

Councillor Simon is offering to arrange a defibrillator and 1st Aid training session at the Church Hall on Saturday 28th June at 2pm, but needs to know if enough people are interested in coming along to refresh or learn these important life skills that might just save a life. Please email Simon or let a Councillor know if you would like to attend a session.



*St. Mary And All Saints – Flower Festival
'The Joys of a Rural Parish'*



Friday 11th July – Sunday 13th July

In and around church

Friday & Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Sunday 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Tea & cake served in the Parish Hall

Flower Festival lunch available at the George & Dragon

Trips up the church tower £5/person

'Music @ St. Marys' – concert on Saturday 12th 7.00pm

Local performers

Parish, church and local groups will be staging the flower displays

Art exhibition in the Old School – local artists

Fundraising for St. Mary & All Saints church, Great Budworth

Entrance is free, but donations very welcome. Thank you.

Info: Maggie 07970 927161

Great Budworth School Bulletin – May/June 2025



We hope you all enjoyed the Easter celebrations. We rounded off the Spring term with our Easter Service and a fun week of egg rolling, Easter bingo, bonnets & dioramas.

After a sunny & relaxing Easter holidays, the children (and staff) came back to school full of beans and looking forward to the Summer term many activities.

At the end of April, our older children had a fantastic two night residential in Shropshire where they experienced high wire trapeze, an incredible zip wire, archery, making cars out of barrels & lots of other activities. The day after they returned, they joined other primary schools from around the area & took part in the Northwich Sings events at Brio Leisure Centre. What a busy week!

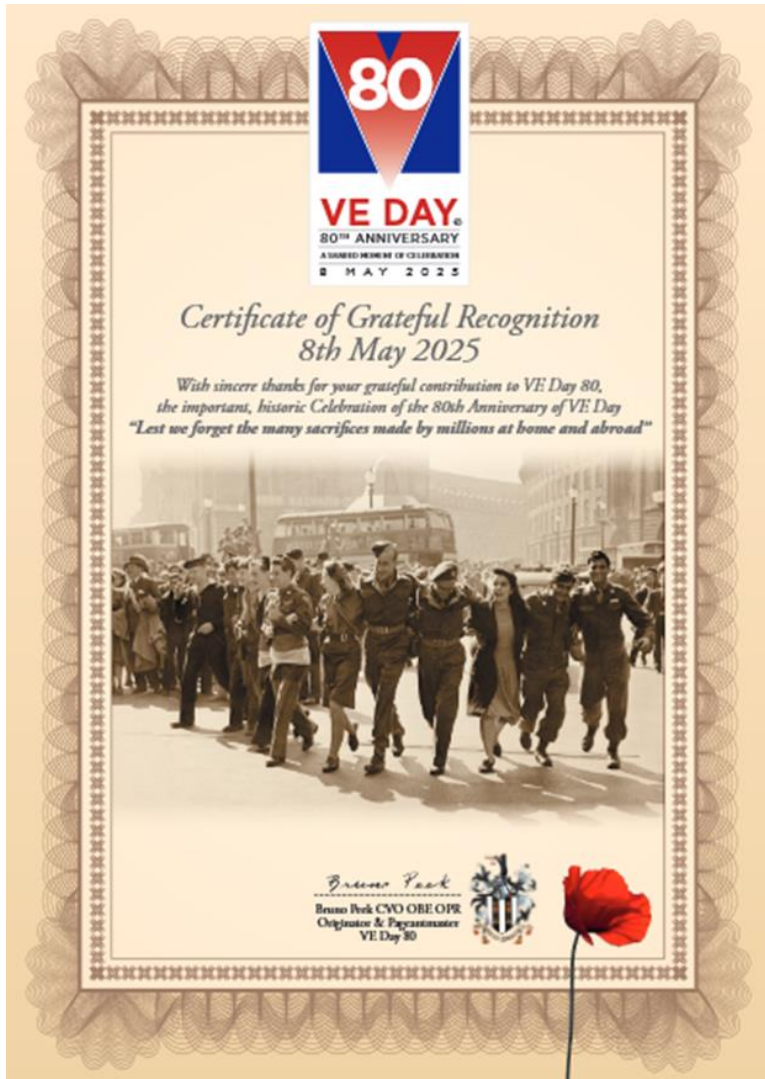
Our April open afternoon was a big success with visitors and pupils taking part in a Huladaze circus skills workshop & meeting Victor the hedgehog from Northwich Hedgehog Rescue.

Applications for places in our Reception class this September have been so good that we have increased our planned admission numbers to meet demand.

We break up for our Summer half term on 23rd May and school reopens two weeks later. This longer half term is very popular with our families as holiday companies charge far less for the second week as most schools have returned by then. It also means a shorter 5 week break in The Summer which really helps with childcare arrangements.

There are many things to look forward to in June & July. Our next Open Morning will be on Thursday 19th June 2025 from 10am until 12noon as we still have a few places available in Nursery & the school as a whole. The Year 6 children will have completed their SATS exams and will be preparing for High School with transition events, a summer play to organise & lots of other activities. We'll also be holding a Teddy Bears picnic for our new Reception children, as part of their settling in process before September.

Our gardening club will be busy with preparations for the Church Flower Festival & looking after all the seedlings and plants we have already planted this term. Class 2 children will be learning the clarinet, participating in a 10-week music programme which began in May & will culminate with a performance for parents in July. There will be more details of Summer events in the next edition.





VE Day
80th.
8th May
2025



Marston Parish Council have been made aware of work going on around Budworth Mere by the sailing club. Whilst you may not approve of the work, it has been checked by the relevant authorities and we respectfully ask that no threats are made to people whilst they are engaged in this work. This is part of the response from the sailing club to enquires made by Councillor Lynn Gibbon.

‘The reason for undertaking the works in the anglers’ field is for a combination of reasons. The ground in the area is very soft and wet, with trees regularly falling over. The upended root plates are eyesores, damaging the ground. The fallen trunks become obstacles to the anglers’ use of their land. The fallen willow re-sprouts as though coppiced making accessing the area very difficult for fishing. We were planning on removing the fallen trees on Thursday 24th April until our works were halted due to threats of violence to our persons.’

BLUE-GREEN ALGAE - We are sorry to say that blue-green algae is present in Budworth Mere again.

Please do NOT enter the Mere or permit your pets to enter or drink the water. The Algae is TOXIC and will cause skin conditions, stomach upsets or more serious health problems.

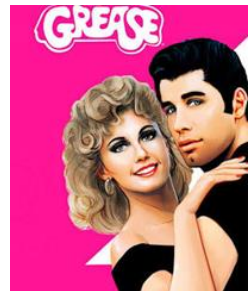
The most important thing is to make sure people and pets stay out of the Mere. When we are informed the Mere is safe again, we will let people know. Thank you for your understanding.



Summer Quiz



1. Which British seaside attraction is 158 metres tall?
2. At 1.34 miles, where is the longest pleasure pier in the UK?
3. Which group had a Top 10 hit with Summer Sunshine in 2004?
4. What was the name of the ITV holiday show fronted by Judith Chalmers which ran from 1994 to 2003?
5. Thunderstorms are most likely to hit the South East of England. True Or False
6. When does summer official start?
7. The month of July is named after which famous historical person?
8. What British show starts every year in August and ends just before Christmas?
9. Which month are most babies born in in Britain in Summer?
10. 'The First Day of Summer' is an annual public holiday celebrated in which European country in April?
11. Can you give the first line of Grease's 'Summer Nights' lyrics?
12. Which feast day falls on July 15 every year?
13. Who was credited with saving 77 lives during seven summers working as a lifeguard at Lowell Park, Illinois, starting in 1926?
14. Which singer was known as the 'Queen of Disco'?
15. Who met and fell in love with Marge Bouvier in a 1974 summer camp?





News From Comberbach Fete Committee

**Drum roll please...and
the theme for
Comberbach Fete 2025
is: Sun, Sea and Sand.**

Following a positive response to our request for people to step forward and help make the fete happen this year, the newly formed fete committee is hard at work planning an event

that we are hoping will transform Comberbach school field into a holiday-themed paradise.

We are invitIng you to don your flip flops, grab your bucket and spade, and pour yourself a pina colada or whatever gets you into the holiday spirit, with our theme of 'Sun, Sea and Sand'. The vibe will encompass the tropical island getaway, the classic British seaside break and everything else in between. Think donkey rides, brass bands playing tiddly om pom pom, Bollywood dancers, and traditional holiday camp games.

As ever, our village fete will be held on the last Saturday in June (28th), and we are busy booking acts and planning competitions, street decorations, stalls and catering, with the focus on our commitment to provide entertainment for all ages.

New committee members have brought new energy and new ideas too, so look out for what might be different at this year's fete.

This year there will be no on foot parade, due to rising road closure costs. Instead, we are planning an alternative procession in which the retinue tours the village in a classic car convoy.

We look forward to providing further updates on our planning in our annual fete newsletter, which will be delivered to homes in Marston at the beginning of June.

Sundowner 2025 raises record funds

This year, the sun shone for the Sundowner, which took place on the evening of Friday 9th May at Marbury Country Park. The event was a sell-out - attracting 250 runners across both the 5k race and the 1k fun run - and raising £1200 for Lower Moss Wood Wildlife Hospital. This is a fantastic sum and demonstrates how Comberbach's village fun run has gone from strength to strength since it was rebranded in 2019.



You are invited to Lion Salt Works' 10th Birthday Celebration on Saturday 7th June 11am-4pm

Join us in celebrating 10 years since the completion of Lion Salt Works' restoration. There will be family activities on throughout the day, including salt making demonstrations with The Lion Salt Works Trust, outdoor games, salty science experiments, crafts and plenty of Birthday cake!

An evening talk with Simon Malam - Lion Salt Works' Restoration Architect Friday

6th June at 7pm

Simon is an architect and Director at Donald Insall Associates, one of the country's leading conservation practices. He is passionate about old buildings, and new design in the historic context. Since he joined Insall in 2000, he has worked on some of the country's most important historic buildings, helping to bring sites back to life through restoration and

adaptation and finding the most sustainable, viable solutions. He is Chair of the register of Architects Accredited in Building Conservation, and led the team for the restoration of the Lion Salt Works.

Simon will explain the challenges faced with the restoration of the Lion Salt Works, from a state of dereliction to award winning museum and visitor attraction. Dating from Victorian times, the site is the last remaining open pan salt works in the UK, and its significance is recognised in the listing of its buildings and its status as a Scheduled Monument. Closed in 1986 and left to decay, it was 2000 before a plan for its future was hatched, by which time the buildings were in a dangerous state of collapse. Innovative solutions and teamwork helped overcome the numerous challenges, which included safety, funding, underground archaeology, subsidence and making a museum from a collection of ephemeral buildings only ever intended to house a salt making process.

The talk is free of charge, booking is necessary by calling 01606 275066 or emailing hannah.ryder@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

PCSO Diana Wiggins 20322 Marbury Police Beat

EmailDiana.wiggins@cheshire.police.uk

Mobile: 07989671047



**Cheshire
Constabulary**

Road Safety Report of two vehicle RTC – damage only.

Theft Report of nonpayment @ Northwich metals – incident ongoing.

Burglary Report of unknown persons trying rear door to property on Ollershaw Lane – there is no CCTV at location. No further lines of enquiry

Anti-Social Behaviour No reports received

March/April report.

Don't forget it'll be front garden competition time! next month!

Top Gardening Tips for June

Continue to monitor evergreens, trees, shrubs and perennials planted during last winter and this spring. Water as necessary to continue proper establishment. Mulch the surface to reduce evaporation and control weeds.



Prune and dead-head spring flowering shrubs, bulbs and trim ground cover that has finished flowering.

Continue mowing lawns, but not too short. Water on a regular basis newly turfed or reseeded areas to maintain establishment.

Hoe borders to keep on top of weeds, as well as keeping an eye on garden paving and walkways.

Plant up bedding materials, hanging baskets and containers. Ensure that the plant material is hardened off and protected during the first few weeks. Add water retaining gel and slow release fertiliser to the potting compost which will assist or reduce the need for watering during the season.

Remove spent flowers from Euphorbias by cutting the flowered stem back to ground level.

Plant up pots and grow bags with tomatoes, aubergines, outdoor cucumbers and sweet peppers, keep them in a sheltered location and remember to pinch out side shoots in tomatoes.

Prune plums, cherries and fan-trained fruit. Tie in new branches to continue framework, pruning side shoots to encourage fruit bud formation. Expect fruit trees in June to naturally drop some of their fruit. If still overloaded, reduce by thinning excess fruits.

Continue to sow quick growing salad items like mixed leaves, beetroot, radish and carrots. Plant every couple of weeks to ensure a regular supply over the summer months.

Sow rows of spring cabbage.

Plant out French and runner beans, courgettes, marrow, sweet corn and pumpkins.

Continue to tackle pests and disease early. Protect young seedlings against slugs and snails with grit barriers, copper tape or pellets. Wipe aphids off rose leaves to stop infestations developing, and spray roses with fungicide against blacks



The Chair Exercise Class is at 10am on Wednesdays at Marston Church Hall

Please join us for fun exercise which can be done by all ages and abilities. £5 per class. **Please note there will be no classes on 11th and 18th June as Josh is getting married.**

Summer Quiz Answers

1. Blackpool tower
2. Southend
3. The Corrs
4. Wish you were here
5. True
6. 21st June
7. Julius Ceaser
8. X Factor
9. September
10. Iceland
11. Summer loving had me a blast
12. Saint Swithins
13. Ronald Reagan
14. Donna Summer
15. Homer Simpson
16. Bleak House

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 editor .

Your Contributions and ideas are welcomed! Please send to the editor or any one of the councillors or even give us a ring.

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Norman Wright	01606 74788	norman.wright@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Phil Marshall	07917171438	phil.marshall@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

The Church Hall on Ollershaw Lane is a great place for parties, band practice or events and activities. To hire contact Angie.
Hall costs just £10 per hour to hire.

Angie Kemmett	07977920445
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