

18. February 2026

City history

Plate of honour of the Westphalian Carnival Association is object of the month

Westphalian horse with jester's cap as a special exhibit in February

In February, the Bocholt City Museum is presenting a plate of honour from the Westphalian Carnival Association as "Object of the Month".

As February approaches, the big "Helau" is not far away in Bokelt either! Awards, carnival speeches and foolish rituals are also part of our carnival. Without carnival societies, clubs and volunteers, this special time of year would not be as colourful and jolly as we know it. Our object of the month brings all of this together: Volunteering, clubs and carnival enthusiasm! It clearly shows how deeply rooted the enthusiasm for carnival is in Westphalia.

The plate is characterised by its clear design: its surface is cool and smooth. The design follows the logic of a classic seal. A broad red ring surrounds the white centre and bears the lettering "BUND WESTFÄLISCHER KARNEVAL e.V." in clear capitals. At the bottom is the word "Ehrengabe", making it clear that this plate is a tribute and award for the members of the association. In the centre of the plate, the Westphalian horse can be seen in front of a red coat of arms, heraldically erect and sharply contoured. But there is no austere appearance on this plate! The horse breaks with the design norm with its joyful body language, its jester's cap and a red bow.

The Bund Westfälischer Karneval e.V. was founded on 11 February 1949 at 11.11 a.m. in the Kaiserhof in Münster. With 225 member clubs, the association claims to be one of the largest regional organisations in the Bund Deutscher Karneval e.V. As always, the object of the month can be viewed in the foyer on the first floor of the LernWerk.

