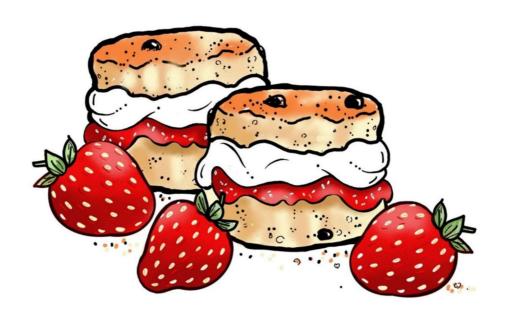
White Waltham Church's

Parish Magazine August - September 2025



COMING UP!

Harvest Festival All Age Service see pages 21 and 33 Church Teas see page 19

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The Vicar's Letter

The Vicarage, Waltham Road (corner of Foliejohn Way) Woodlands Park Tel. 07874 399411

Dear Friends of the Parish of White Waltham and Woodlands Park,

There is a saying that "when the cat's away the mice will play". As I write this, Rev Dave is into the ninth week of his Sabbatical and I can tell you that the mice are certainly not playing, because they're so busy keeping everything ticking over in the Top Cat's absence.

I'm delighted that there is much activity to report. It takes a team of church mice to keep a church in operation and there's one mighty mouse team here at St Mary's. There's a lot going on: the planning of services and the associated administration; the technology that's needed to project the service onto screens and into people's homes; the music that's played and guest preachers to look after. Our children's work continues and thrives and our work in schools carries on during term time. There are prayer groups, bible study groups, a weekly chat room, flower guild workshops, picnics and any other excuse to eat cake. In addition, there is always much to do in the churchyard and — most importantly — we keep the church buildings maintained, repaired and cleaned. There's much to be done by the mice while the Top Cat's away!

I'm a Churchwarden, so am occupied with some of the more practical issues of running a church, but I'm following Rev Dave's example by referring to a bible passage to illustrate a point. Recently, I came across a passage in a letter that the apostle Peter wrote to Christians who were being persecuted across the ancient lands of Asia Minor (1 Peter Ch 4 v 8–11). (continued over)

THIS MAGAZINE

Published bi-monthly, six times a year.

Delivered free to all homes in White Waltham & Woodlands Park and given to all families at White Waltham School. Freely available at church services. Also available on White Waltham Church's Facebook page and website.

Articles for the next edition should be sent to office@stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

by 10th September 2025

He wrote to encourage them not to lose heart during a challenging time of their lives. We're certainly not being persecuted, but we all could benefit from some words of encouragement now and then. Here are a few lines from that passage:

- Above all, love each other deeply
- Be hospitable to one another
- Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received
- Serve others with the strength that God provides

These words of encouragement, that Peter wrote so many years ago, (around AD 62) have some relevance for the life we lead today and to us all here at St Mary's during Dave's Sabbatical. Peter in his wisdom recognized that there were those who needed encouragement and we all need the same inspiration and motivation. How can we go wrong if we continue to love and encourage one another, serve God and our friends, and use our God-given talents in a way that benefits others?

For those of you who have never experienced church family life, I encourage you to try it. Come and see us during the summer and beyond after Rev Dave returns – join in and experience the joy and encouragement that being a part of a loving, caring, supportive community can bring. We'd be delighted to see you at one of our services on a Sunday at 10.30am – you'll be given a very warm welcome. Come and see the mice at work and play while the Top Cat's away!

There are several useful telephone numbers at the back of this magazine if you would like to get in touch.

In the meantime, a very happy summer to you all.

Líz Atlay

Churchwarden

NEW White Waltham Church mobile phone number & email address

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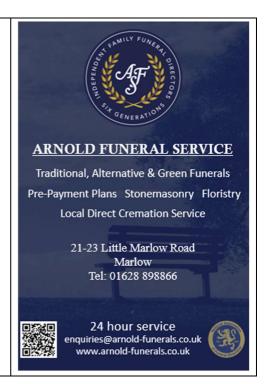
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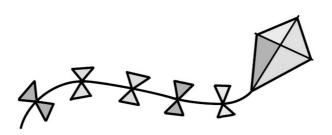


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As we come to the end of a wonderfully busy summer term, we're delighted to share just a few highlights from our vibrant school community.

Our swimming pool has been a fantastic addition to the term, and it's been heart-warming to see the children thoroughly enjoying their sessions, growing in confidence and skill with every splash.

Building a strong sense of community has been at the heart of all we've done this term. We've been thrilled to welcome families into school for a range of events that brought joy to children and adults alike. From kitebuilding workshops and energetic sports days to friendly parent Rounders matches, picnics and a successful open morning, these moments have helped to deepen the relationships that are so essential to a thriving school.

As we look ahead to September, we're excited to welcome new families into our Nursery and Reception classes. It's also a time of new beginnings as we prepare to welcome our new headteacher, Jo Sergeant, who will be joining us at the start of the autumn term. We look forward to the journey ahead with optimism and a continued commitment to working together as a caring, connected school community.

As I come to the end of my time as Interim Headteacher at Woodlands Park Primary School, I want to say what a pleasure it has been to lead such a welcoming school community. I have been consistently impressed by the children's commitment to their learning and by the dedication and hard work of the staff in providing a rich and engaging experience for all our young people. During my time here, I've been proud to help introduce new initiatives aimed at supporting and strengthening the school's curriculum offer, and I am confident that the school will continue to thrive and grow under its new leadership. I wish everyone at Woodlands Park all the very best for the new academic year and beyond.

Wishing all our families and parish friends a restful and joyful summer.

Míss E Dawkins

Interim Headteacher

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St Mary's Flower Guild, White Waltham

You would be very welcome to join our friendly group. You don't have to be an experienced flower arranger to join us.

Some dates for your diary:

Sunday 3rd August – our annual Garden Party in Carolyn's Garden, 2.30 - 4.30pm. Donations of cakes would be welcome. Contributions to the plant stall and raffle would also be very welcome.

Saturday 27th September – Decorate the church for Harvest Festival from 10am

We always plan to meet once a month throughout the year and will be arranging a workshop or fundraising coffee morning in October. Please ring any of the numbers below or look out for the October/November issue of the Parish Magazine.

For further information, please contact: Carolyn Thompson 07834 545967, Liz Atlay 07881 785131 or Julia Hodgson 07904 999685

We look forward to seeing you!





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White Waltham Cricket Club

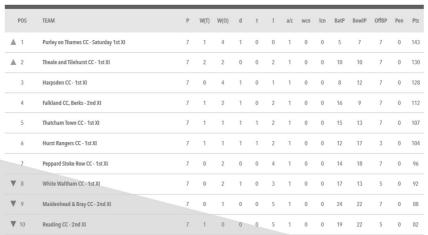


Est 1879 and still representing the village today!

We are now well into the 2025 cricket season, with each of the senior sides playing 7 games to date! It's been a great season so far; highlights include another good run in the National Village Knockout, gaining victory over Peppard Stoke Row, but falling to Cookham Dean this time.

The 1XI currently lie 8th in Division 3A. Having been promoted last season it was always going to be difficult, but a couple of good early-season wins have shown plenty of promise.





The 2XI currently lie 4th in Divison 6A, and are having a very promising season to date:



POS	TEAM	Р	w	t	1	a/c	wcn	lcn	BatP	BowlP	OffBP	Pen	Pt
▲ 1	Holyport CC - 1st XI	7	6	0	1	0	0	0	3	5	7	0	14
▲ 2	Burnham CC, Bucks - 3rd XI	7	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
▲ 3	Wokingham CC - 4th XI	7	5	0	1	1	0	0	5	8	1	0	13
4	White Waltham CC - 2nd XI	7	4	0	2	1	0	0	6	9	0	0	11
5	Royal Ascot CC - Saturday 2nd XI	7	4	0	2	1	0	0	4	7	2	0	10
6	Sandhurst CC, Berks - 1st XI	7	2	0	4	1	0	0	16	17	0	0	84
7	Crowthorne & Crown Wood CC - 2nd XI	7	1	0	5	1	0	0	17	26	0	0	72
8	Eversley CC - 3rd XI (Saturday)	7	1	0	5	1	0	0	27	16	0	0	72
▼ 9	Binfield CC - 3rd XI	7	1	0	5	1	0	0	19	18	0	0	66
▼ 10	Braywood CC - 2nd XI	7	1	0	6	0	0	0	12	17	0	0	5

As you can see, both teams have much to play for as we near the second half of the season. (continued over)

Meanwhile, the junior section has been playing regular games, particularly at U13 age groups. It's always great to see well- attended Junior sessions on Friday evenings and we really hope the weather stays good for the remainder of the season now!

Many thanks

Jonny Mahoney

WWCC Chair

For more information, or if you are interested to join or train with the club, visit:

Website: www.whitewaltham.play-cricket.com

Twitter: @WWCC 1879

Facebook: @WhiteWalthamCC Instagram: whitewalthamcricketclub



Would you like to escape from the hustle and bustle of life and spend some quiet time this summer?

The church will be open for anyone who would like some quiet time, to contemplate, pray or just to sit and appreciate the history of the building.

You are welcome on any Friday morning between 10.30am and 1pm until the 29th of August.

Refreshments will be available.

Please contact Liz Atlay 07881 785131 if you would like more information or would be willing to help man the church on an occasional Friday.









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Windy Weather

I expect you follow the weather forecasts on TV or on your phone. Sometimes, when looking ahead to find the projected weather for a holiday, everything appears to be rather gloomy or wet, with no chance of a day out walking or family time on the beach. However, looking again a week later, the forecast can have changed to bright and sunny, perhaps with a breeze.



There are, of course, days on holiday or at home when strong winds are forecast and it's probably worthwhile staying indoors! There are times when we're reminded of the incredible wind strength which can cause enormous damage to homes or the natural world. You may have visited our churchyard and seen the power required to snap off half of our ancient yew tree. It had grown there for a thousand years and suddenly it was



broken into two. Or when in 1984, living in Canada, we drove to where there had been a tornado and saw how its pathway of bouncing along and over areas left some dwellings wrecked, but others completely intact. We also saw that the same enormous power had whisked tractors up onto the top of agricultural barns thirty feet high. Today, we try to harness that power by installing wind turbines in the gustiest of places to generate electricity for us.

There can then be some very good ways to harness the wind power in our modern world, just like there were in the first century! In the Bible, strong winds often come with special events. At this time, Jesus had died and proved his power over sin and death by rising again from the dead. The apostles had met with him, and he had explained that he was leaving them,

but he promised to give them power to continue his work on earth. So, six weeks later, it was the day of Pentecost when many of the disciples were gathered in the upstairs room, praying together. "Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what



seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each one of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit" (see Acts chapter 2 verses 2-4a). But this was not just a strong wind, it was God giving the disciples his breath and his fire-power to live for him and be bold witnesses for him. That same breath and fire-power has enabled the Christian Church to continue for 2000 years!

Why not come to White Waltham Church and find out more!

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Burbidge

My Story (part 2)

Let's continue from when I was working in Horsham in the computer industry and we now had a lovely girl growing up. We left London and bought a wee house just outside Littlehampton, so I was able to use the train to get to work. Things started to move faster. I learned to drive and bought an elderly Austin which served me very well. In Wick, where we now lived, (close to where Dr. Roger Bannister, who ran the world's first sub-four-minute mile, lived) we attended a fairly young church, which accepted us and helped us to grow as Christians. My wife became pregnant again and soon we had a second baby girl, born in what was then a Maternity Hospital in Rustington. When Janice was 11, she started at Worthing High School, while Rebecca started at the local primary school.

My job continued well; I progressed from programming to Systems Analysis and I loved it! Some good friends and neighbours of ours announced that they were emigrating to New Zealand and this started us thinking and praying about our future. But God had His own amazing plan for our next move. I had made some vague enquiries at work about suitable jobs in New Zealand, but that was as far as things had got. Then a senior manager in the IT Department had someone visiting from a company in Australia, and suggested I talk to him.

Turns out that he was a Director of a Sydney-based company which had an associated company in Auckland, New Zealand. So, the conversation that took place turned out to be an integral part of God's plan for our lives. He offered me a job there and then, and I realised how amazing God's love, care and plan is for His children. The job was in New Zealand, and as He did not know what salary I would get, I trusted my Lord for his goodness in that department!

Now we had to make travel plans, and the Lord continued to bring all of these together in His plans for us. We booked a joint passage, flying from Gatwick to Singapore and then onboard a ship for Auckland. God was still in charge, as friends in Littlehampton offered us a place to stay for our last week in the UK and also to take us to Gatwick for our flight. Do you begin to see just how amazingly God was overseeing everything?

And He was far from finished! Our flight had a single stop in the Middle East (Bahrain I think) then on to Singapore, where a coach awaited to take us to the dock, where our ship lay in readiness. Here she is below the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

I am happy to continue "My Story" in the next issue of the next Parish Magazine.

Please feel free to let me know – my email address follows.



Eríc Green eric.green@xtra.co.nz

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Tales from the Bells



Mhite Waltham Bell Ringing

Summer is the time of year when some of us head off on holidays. This means that sometimes bell ringing may not take place at White Waltham, as there are not enough of us to ring.

While on holiday, some bell ringers visit a tower practice near where they are staying; this helps out with Sunday morning ringing, especially where members of the tower being visited are also on holiday. This is the great thing with bell ringing; it is a skill you can take away with you and it doesn't take up any room in your luggage! Visiting another tower can also give bellringers the chance to ring something that is either just different or more challenging (in which case some revision from the 'Diagrams Book' can be helpful!)

In September, it is the Heritage Open Days Weekend. It is hoped that the Bell Tower will be open for this, on the afternoon of Saturday 13th September.

White Waltham are hoping to regain The Tower and Belfries Tower Maintenance Gold Certificate. This is where the Guild visit the tower and do an inspection of the bells, ringing chamber and stairway. We were meant to have an inspection in 2020, but this was postponed due to the pandemic.

Now that our learner has been trained up, I am now able to take on a new recruit or two. Please contact us to arrange a mutual time and day to have a Bell Ringing Taster session or if you are visiting the tower during the Heritage Open Day Weekend, do discuss this with us during your visit.

The White Waltham Bell Ringers hope that you are all having or have had a relaxing holiday.

Lesley Graves,

Tower Captain

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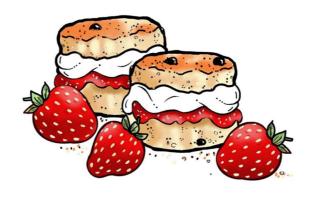


Church Tea

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We invite you to join us for our

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Everyone is welcome to join us



Read this short story from the Bible...



A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew chapter 20 verses 1-15 Jesus told a story to describe God's kingdom. A vineyard owner went to the marketplace at dawn to hire workers to pick his grapes.

























...and complete this Wordsearch about it!

Z	С	n	d	e	Р	S	a	m	e	×	W
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m	a	r	×	e	†	р	_	a	С	e	S
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Silence

In Luke's gospel we read of how Jesus, whilst praying, was asked by his disciples to teach them how to pray as John taught his disciples. In reply he gives them those words which are now so well known to us – so well known, in fact, that many know that prayer off by heart, The Lord's Prayer.

That same prayer is recorded in Matthew's gospel with further instruction 'Go to your room, and pray to your Father who is unseen'. The point would seem to be that prayer does not consist of a particular sequence of words – resembling an incantation – but of an attitude. The gulf between the individual and God becomes narrowed.

In silence we spend time with God – we are not alone in this apparent solitude. We are offered the privilege of being able to turn to Him in prayer.

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Thames Hospice is inviting everyone – local businesses, artists, schools, community groups, and individuals – to join in and get behind this inspiring project. To learn more about how to get involved, including sponsorship opportunities, becoming a sculpture artist, or bringing the trails mission to a school or community group, please visit the website at www.trunksacrossthethames.co.uk and follow the journey on the new social media channels:

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Restrictions: The trustees cannot help pay for rates, taxes or other public funds. However, it may use its funds to add to help that is already being provided out of public funds.

Each application for funding will be considered separately. Applications that are successful on one occasion may not be successful in future.

If you believe you would qualify for funding, please get in contact with the clerk by email (carolynt52@icloud.com) or telephone (07834 545967) and you will be contacted by your local Trustee.

A letter of support will be required from a Social Worker, a Vicar/Priest, a Head Teacher, or another official body.

Want some financial help with your education?

Have you left school? Are you thinking of full-time training or education? (apprenticeship/College, university etc.) or are you already there?

If you are under 25 and live in the civil parishes of Shottesbrooke or White Waltham, or the south ward of Hurley ... then the Duell and Hawes Educational Trust may be able to help you with a grant *(this includes areas within Knowl Hill, Warren Row, Littlewick Green, Woodlands Park and Paley Street).*

For further information on the areas covered and eligibility, please write to: Clerk to the Trustees, Carolyn Thompson, Spire View, Waltham Road, White Waltham, SL6 3SG or email: carolynt52@icloud.com for an application form

News from your Borough Councillors



Maureen Hunt cllr.hunt@rbwm.gov.uk



George Blundell cllr.blundell@rbwm.gov.uk

We've had a couple of heatwaves, and we hope you and the children enjoyed the hot weather. Let's hope the sunshine and warm weather continues for the school summer holidays.

Of interest to those living in the village of White Waltham, a petition, which has now closed, has been submitted to the council. There were 126 signatures on the petition and the officer will be discussing a way forward with the petitioner. The petition:

'Consider the issue of over-taking and speeding at pick-up and dropoff times, and the near misses which occur on an almost weekly basis outside this Primary School. Mindful of this, it would be prudent for the council to look into installing speed bumps and/or cameras and also 'Children Crossing' signage both outside, and in the immediate vicinity, of the school.'

Your councillors are also working with officers to ensure planning compliance on a couple of issues including pillars on the Grove, plus many other issues in the Ward that come forward.

If you have any time available, you may be interested in volunteering. Please use the link: https://rbwmtogether.rbwm.gov.uk/volunteering. Here are just a few:

- Activecommunities@leisurefocus.org.uk
- Helping Children Discover the Joy of Reading at ABC to read by offering support to primary school children across Berkshire, including those in Windsor and Maidenhead, who are struggling with reading. Our trained volunteers provide one-to-one mentoring, helping children build confidence and improve their literacy skills. We are looking for more volunteers to join our team and make a difference in children's lives. If you have a passion for reading and a few hours to spare each week, we would love to hear from you. Or if you are a school that needs help in raising literacy standards, please

- contact us. For more information, please visit www.abctoread.org.uk or contact us at info@abctoread.org.uk.
- Volunteer eBay assistants for Thames Hospice: we have several opportunities to work in the eBay team in Maidenhead for Thames Hospice. You will be listing collectable and interesting items. It's fun and interesting. Open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturday morning 9am to 1pm. Please get in touch with Julie-Ann Chapman 01753 847303 or visit the Thames Hospice website for more information and an application form.

George and Maureen,

George Blundell and Maureen Hunt



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EASY SU DOKU

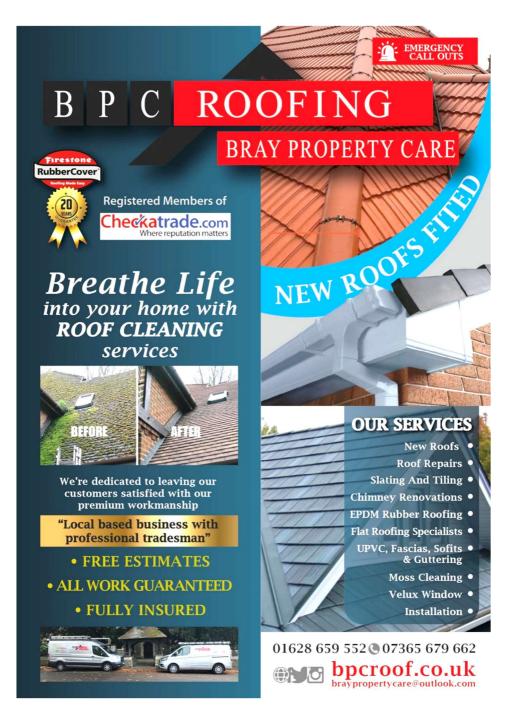
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MEDIUM SU DOKU

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Harvest All Age Service

Collection for Maidenhead FoodShare

At our Harvest Festival All Age Service on Sunday 28th September (see pages 21 and 38 for more details) we will be collecting food and other non-perishable essentials for Maidenhead FoodShare. These are the items that they particularly need:

Any tinned meat and fish (except tuna)

Cooking sauces (to use with pasta, rice)

Tinned ravioli and macaroni cheese

Fruit juice and squash

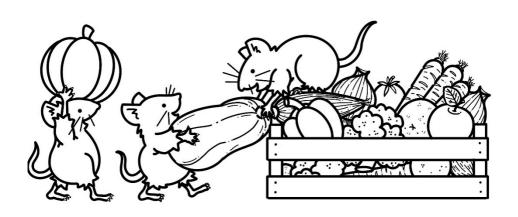
Microwave rice sachets

Coffee

Biscuits and crackers

Cereals (except cornflakes & porridge)

Toilet rolls





An exceptional day nursery where children flourish with our exciting outdoor curriculum in the picturesque countryside of Shurlock Row.

Wise Owls at Foxley Day Nursery Shurlock Row, RG10 0PX 2 months - 5 years 7:45am-6:15pm

SNAP AND BOOK A TOUR

wiseowlschildcare.co.uk
01628 620013
enquiries@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk

oo wise owls childcare

'Colour In' for Harvest Festival

see pages 21 & 33 for details of our All Age Service



A BIG

THANK YOU

to everyone who helps to distribute the Parish Magazines to every home, and many of the businesses, in the Parish.

Your help and hard work are very much appreciated!

Smile lines

Grave warning

On a road sign outside the gates of a cemetery: 'Drive carefully. We don't mind waiting for you.'

True Story

My father had a medical condition that meant regular visits to hospital. The local funeral director was a good family friend and had been very helpful giving dad lifts to and from the hospital.

On one occasion, a few hours before he was due to come home, the ward sister approached my father with a grin. "Your wife is on the phone," she said. "She wants to know what time you would like the undertaker to collect you."

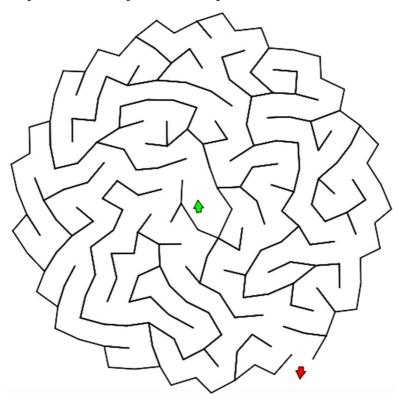
Yum yum

A notice outside Chichester Cathedral advertised lunchtime concerts with the encouragement that: "Sandwiches may be eaten." Someone had scribbled underneath: "So if you are a sandwich, don't come!"

Weight loss goal

To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.

Can you find your way out of the maze?



From the Registers



Funeral at White Waltham Church

23rd May Richard Arthur Allen aged 72

Burial of Ashes

17th May Barry Ian Stone

Service at Easthampstead Crematorium

18th June Kathleen Ann Forsdick aged 80

Services at White Waltham Church

Sunday Services at White Waltham Church

are at 10.30am with activities for children every Sunday

Services are in person and live via Zoom from the church building: http://www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk/zoom

N.B. you can join us in one click on our website's main page

Harvest Festival Service for All Ages

Sunday 28th September 10.30am at White Waltham Church



With fun activities for everyone, of all ages; we invite you to join us for this service.

Some content is available on our Facebook page

White Waltham Church

Do come and join us – everyone is welcome at White Waltham Church



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Follow White Waltham Church on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/whitewalthamchurch

And/or visit our website

www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

You can also catch up with this magazine online. Visit our website and you'll find the Parish Magazine under the 'Resources' tab. You can get the current issues as well as being able to download earlier versions from the past year.



Milaanj at The Beehive – Where Heritage Meets Innovation











Upcoming Events

28th May- Samosa masterclass +3 course lunch (Starts @11:30am)
7th June - Paws & Pints (12-4Pm)
15th June - Father's Day (12-4Pm)
25th June- Cricket match & BBQ Evening (Match-12pm, BBQ-6pm onwards)
11 July- Summer Tasting Menu (5:30pm)
18th July- open air cinema with 3 course Romantic dinner (7pm)
25th July- South Asian Heritage month (SAHM) Celebration with Live Tabla Music

15th August- Indian street food Mela

Nestled in the heart of **White Waltham**, Milaanj is a **modern Indian** Pub and Restaurant that brings together timeless Indian flavours with a fresh, contemporary twist.

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Come for the food, stay for the community. Walk-ins welcome!

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