



Window on Walton

**Oct - Nov
2025**



**St. PETER'S
CHURCH
WALTON ON THE HILL**



▪ **Parish News ▪ Community ▪ Local Events ▪ Clubs & Groups**

<https://www.stpeterswoth.org>



stpeterschurchwoth



st-peters-church-walton-on-the-hill

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Editor's Note

Olivia Rowntree



Well, summer is now a distant memory and in this edition of Window on Walton (WoW) our attention is already turning to the now well-established and hugely popular Light-Up Walton event, due to be held at the end of November. The Christmas planning seems to start earlier and earlier each year!

By the time we go to print there will be about 12 weeks left until Christmas, so still plenty of other activities and events to squeeze in before then.

Key notices and dates for the diary:

- **October 5th** - Harvest Festival Service at St Peter's
- **Saturday 11th October**, Village Kitchen
- **November 9th (10:50am)** - Remembrance Service at St Peter's
- **November 28th - Light Up Walton** - not to be missed!
- Unfortunately there will be no Open Group in October and November but an **Advent Tea** is planned on **4th December** so save the date.

We are very pleased to have Harry back after his illness and look forward to seeing him operating at his normal full-steam this term.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Karen whom we wish a speedy recovery. We look forward to welcoming you back as soon you are able.

Thank you to everyone who shared content for this edition of WoW - there was a lot of lovely news to share which makes my job as editor so much easier.

After I was contacted to ask if we could mention Evelyn Baker's 100th birthday in November, it gave me the idea that a regular 'anniversary column' in WoW would be a really nice addition. If you know of anyone celebrating a birthday or other special anniversary and want to mark the occasion with a notice in WoW, do drop me an email admin@stpeterswoth.org.

More broadly, if you live in the parish and have news you would like to share, even if your are not a regular contributor, I'd love to hear from you - get in touch.

Hope to see many of you at St Peter's this autumn. Best wishes, all.

If you enjoy reading Window on Walton, did you know you can sign up and have it hand delivered to your door, six times per year for just £10? You can also contribute to future editions or advertise with us. For more details contact our church administrator (admin@stpeterswoth.org)



Colour Ad Size

- Full Page
- Half Page
- Quarter Page

Price / Annum

- £180
- £100
- £80



All views expressed are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of St Peter's.

Rector's Letter

Rev'd Harry Latham



Luke 15. 1-10

It is probably the most famous hymn in history:

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me, I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see."

John Newton was looking back on his life and realising just how amazing and how sweet God's grace is – but how wretched, lost and blind he had been.

Today we hear Jesus teaching about the lost-ness of the human race, and God's desire to find us.

It is horrid being lost. I remember being 11 or 12 and going to the Brockham Bonfire with my parents and being separated from them and being lost – only for about 5 minutes – but it was horrible. I also remember being at Legoland with Samuel – when he was only 4 or 5 and losing him momentarily... just 2 or 3 minutes felt like an eternity, it was horrible.

We get lost sometimes in the car (even with Sat Navs) or on walks in new places, or in cities we do not know well... it can be unsettling.

But in Luke 15 Jesus is teaching about the lost-ness of the human race, and God's desire to find us.

Note first as the camera pans around the crowd who his audience is, who is there and is listening to him. We see that tax collectors and sinners are drawing near – and Pharisees and scribes are there. And as far as the Pharisees and scribes are

concerned the tax collectors and sinners should not be there. They grumble and mutter saying, *"This man receives sinners and eats with them."*

So Jesus tells the story or parable of the lost sheep saying: *"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing."*

The answer is of course that all the men would behave like that. And the joy of finding the sheep would be shared with friends and neighbours.

Well says Jesus: *"I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."*

Do you see what he is doing? He is giving the message to the tax collectors and sinners not only that they are welcome in his presence but that there will be rejoicing in heaven if they let themselves be found. Because God is not saying "I never want to see you again" no he is out looking for them because they matter to him very much and he wants them with him.

At the same time he is also giving the message to the Pharisees and scribes, who thought they were in God's good books, who thought they were doing God all kind of favours and who thought they were keeping an eye on his affairs. He is telling them that they have got God wrong and that God's view of these tax collectors and

Rector's Letter

Cont.



sinner is very different from theirs.

But to emphasise the point – and to speak to the women present – Jesus continues: *“what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’”*

Again for all the women who were listening to Jesus the internal maths is going on – yes of course I would look for it until I find it. This is especially so if as some suggest Jesus is referring to the coins that were part of her wedding head dress.

Listen to these words: *“These 10 silver coins were bound together as a dowry and head dress for a woman to wear on her forehead for her wedding day and thereafter. This dowry then became the bride's personal property. The silver ornaments on the head dress served as an indicator of the woman's status, showing her wealth and faithfulness.”*

In that society there would be all kinds of shame and loss of face involved with losing such a coin – the Pharisees and scribes would be quick to condemn such a woman, to suspect the worst of her, so no wonder she is overjoyed to find it.

And just look at Jesus' words in v10 *“Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*

If there is joy before the angels of God –

who is doing the rejoicing?? (Answer – GOD is!)

Yes God rejoices, he celebrates, he could not be happier than when even one sinner repents.

We do not know what the Pharisees and scribes made of that – but I bet it was good news to the tax collectors and sinners.

Jesus saw them – first and foremost as people who were lost. He also saw the Pharisees and scribes as people who were lost (even if differently lost) and he is very clear about God's response to lost people being found. It is JOY!

Prayer

by John Birch



"It is not by doing good works that we find our salvation, but having found our salvation in Christ we now have a desire to share the love we have found, through our words and actions, and that naturally leads to a life directed toward service and mission."

Help us, with simple words,
to explain the warmth
within our hearts
that we experienced
in that first encounter
with your love and grace -
the Spirit's flame,
still burning bright within -
that others, in their own
journeys of discovery
might reach out and touch
the hand that's always there,
and be embraced by love.

We are, all of us,
wonderfully made.

Young or old,
weak or strong,
we are able
to both receive
and give love,
to be blessed
and be a blessing,
to be singers
of the angels' song
and point to the one
who gives us life.

We are, all of us,
wonderfully made.

Thank you, Creator God,
who loves each one.



Coffee & Conversation with Art and Prayers We Love

10.30am - 12pm St Peter's Church,
last Wednesday of the month

Meet friends and make friends over a cuppa.

**Once a month - including a hymn and short talk, helping us
appreciate Art and Prayers We Love**

For further details, please contact Rev'd Karen Wheatley
at karen@hilltopbenfice.org



Celtic Morning Prayer

9.15am
Prayer &
Pastries at
St Andrew's
Box Hill



New
Pray-ers
Welcome

No
Prior
Experience
Needed



First
Friday
Coffee

St Mary's
Octagon
Headley
10.30am

Our Churchwarden on Remembrance

by Chris Grayson



The 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan has been commemorated in many parts of the world, and I was struck by how few survivors of WW2 there now are to give direct testimony of their experiences. It seems like only a few years ago that there were tens of hundreds.

To make our Remembrance Service more personal I am hoping to capture some of the stories of the service personnel that we commemorate each year. If you have anything to share about your fallen relative please jot it down for me.

My own family has had a mixed relationship with war through the twentieth century.

In the period before WW1, one of my great uncles fought in the Boer War and was part of the column that relieved Ladysmith. Another great uncle was killed in a skirmish in what is now Nigeria. Neither he, nor the hundreds like him that died for their country at that time had their individual sacrifices recorded, except possibly by their commanding officer if they had the inclination to write to the family. Of course these men had joined the army either as career soldiers or to get a roof over their heads and food in their stomachs.

After WW1 something changed, probably due to the sheer number of ordinary men, who had not had any plan of fighting anyone, being called up and



killed in their masses. And so we have the public memorials (later added to for the second and subsequent wars) that we see today.

Both my grandfathers and another great uncle fought on the Western Front. Two of them survived but, as far as I know, barely mentioned the war. Remembrance Sunday focuses on those that died but we should also never forget the damaged survivors of war.

My paternal grandfather volunteered for Kitchener's Army when the recruiting sergeants came to town. Given that his brothers-in-law were nearly all career soldiers he was probably under a lot of pressure to do so. His two weeks' basic training took place on the Downs, probably near Caterham. He had some home leave and then his troop was sent to Northern France to receive further training before going to the front. However, it seems that he and a dozen other men were immediately sent to the trenches to fill gaps in a front line brigade. A day later he was dead and his body never recovered.

Our Churchwarden on Remembrance cont.



My father was called up to fight in WW2. He survived driving a tank across northern Europe, otherwise I would not be writing this, but again he rarely spoke about his wartime experiences. Yet I, and I suspect many of you, grew up with the constant background presence of 'The War'. From army surplus kit being driven around to the films at the cinema, it felt to me, in the 1950's, that the war had only just ended, which for my parents it just had.

In the second half of the twentieth century my family avoided warfare. This is fortunately true for many other families but as our memorials show this is not true for everyone. War is still not over, despite the song.

Yet we seem, as a society, to be forgetting the experience of war and the need to avoid it, as did Europe in the early 1900's and again in the 1930's. As Churchill apparently said, 'jaw jaw is better than war war'. Let's hope that the world's leaders can remember that and that there are no new names added to our list of the fallen. Peace be with you all.

Harvest All Age Service

St Peter's Church, Walton-on-the-Hill

11am Sunday 5th October

All Welcome! Coffee from 10.30am



**With food collection
for Epsom & Ewell
Foodbank**

Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope & a Note from Norma

by Sue Adilz &
Norma Darter



Pilgrimage

Thank you to Rev'd Karen Wheatley and all at St Peter's who provided the marvellous welcome to the pilgrims walking the Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope on Sunday August 10th. Coffee and cake before the service were enjoyed by all. The 40 pilgrims together with the regular congregation, filled the church. Our leader, Aidan, was reunited with local resident Margorie, who had walked on the early pilgrimages in the 1970's. Suffice to say, pilgrims reached Eastbourne two weeks later, having walked in glorious sunshine and at times, too much heat along the way; it was a 50th anniversary pilgrimage to be remembered and extra special for me, bringing the pilgrims to my home church.

Sue Adilz

Note from Norma

Autumn is certainly here, turning quite chilly after a very hot few months. As I've said many times, Bill and I struggle with the heat but have managed to enjoy lots of local events.

Just before the children broke up for their summer holiday Edward Tame and I went to Walton Primary School to talk to the children about *our own* time at the school MANY years ago! Edward and I both felt a bit nervous (just like our first day), but we were made to feel quite special. The children were lovely and very well-behaved. Thank you, Laura for inviting us.

The outdoor teas in August ('on The Green' and 'in the churchyard') were blessed with warm sunny days for the most part, except for a little drizzle initially at Teas on The Green in Brockham. Walton Open Group have hosted this event for the last few years and it's so well supported that there is always a steady flow of customers (lots of local regulars).

On 5th September, 30 members of my family/ friends gathered in St Peter's for a short memorial service and internment of my Aunt Freda's ashes in a family grave. We then went on to The Riddell Hall for lunch and some reminiscing over old photos. I do love family/friends gatherings.

Food Bank

Now for a quick plug. Your kind donations are still very much needed due to the high cost of living. Please leave food items in the bins in the porch at St Peter's and Bill and I will take them to Merland Rise.

Curzon Country Cinema

We are lucky that Barrie Gilbert runs this service for us in the village so please support him. Posters in WoW.

Christmas Cards

I will be selling these again this year in aid of Royal Marsden. I'll bring them along to St Peter's and other events. please contact Do come to see me if you would like to buy some.

Little Cherubs

by Karen, Rand and Anne Edwards



Thumbs up
from Asher as
Aron enjoys an
iced party ring
biscuit!

Little Cherubs

for under 5s and their carers

Play, Learn and Grow Together

Tuesdays in term time
10.30am - 12pm

St Peter's Church, Walton on the Hill

More info: admin@stpeterswoth.org
01737 668 254

New Term
starts
7th Jan

Mothers' Union

by Karen Rand, Lucasta Grayson and Anne Edwards



Mothers and Uthers meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 pm in St Peter's Church. Please do join us!



October 2025 Meeting

In October Mothers' Union (MU) focuses on the prison ministry. Prison week is the 12-18 October 2025.

Talk: The Madagascar School Project

Speakers: Bob and Jill Gunn

BYO Lunch at 12.30 followed by the talk at 1.30 pm - please come as this is a project St Peter's helps to support.

Quiet Days in October 2025

Thursday 16th October 10-2.30pm £15

Speaker: Revd Camilla White former vicar of Grafham

Venue: St. Columba's House, Maybury Hill, Woking GU 228AB

Saturday 18th October 10.30 am - 4 pm (£40)

Speaker: Brian Draper, author, speaker Radio 4 'thought for the day' presenter and walking retreat guide

Venue: Worth Abbey

November 2025 Meeting

In November MU supports the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and the RISE UP Campaign.

Bring & Share lunch 12.30 at Anne's home (details to follow next month).

Pilgrimage of Prayer

by Lucasta Grayson

This years Pilgrimage of Prayer service was delivered by the Epsom and Dorking Deanery and we were invited to help with the planning. The service took place on Tuesday 2nd September at Guildford Cathedral, in the Lady Chapel and was focussed on the Holman Hunt painting, 'The light of the world.' And I prepared and read the intercessions element of the service.

The chapel was full of Mothers Union members from across the diocese including a small group from St Peters. We nearly didn't make it though, as I was the driver and I managed to mislay my car keys. We hid them in a safe place during our holiday which we had just returned from. We couldn't remember where they were but fortunately they came to light after tipping out a few drawers and cupboards and we got to the Cathedral safely. It was my first time in the Cathedral and I was taken aback by the simple majesty of the building and the feeling of peace and tranquility that it provided. Following the service we had plenty of time to chat over lunch in the Cathedral cafe before making our way back to Walton.

MU cont. & Safeguarding Sunday

by Lucasta Grayson and Anne Edwards



Autumn Walk

On a bright and sunny day in September a small group of us headed off across the heath for our autumn walk with a stop for lunch at the Sportsman.



Prison Week

12th-18th October is Prison Week when we are encouraged to pray for and remember all those serving sentences in prison and all those who work with them to help their rehabilitation.



The Mothers Union supports many charitable projects working in prisons, and I continue to go into Downview Womens Prison once a week to work as a mentor.

I work with women in the last 6 months of their sentences to help them prepare for life outside. Many of these women struggle with addictions and mental health problems and they want desperately to break the cycle of re-offending.

The chaplaincy is place of refuge for the women and the home of a number of charitable groups offering support.

Please keep these women and all those who work with them in your thoughts and prayers during prison week.

Safeguarding Sunday

During the services on Sunday November 16th we will be thinking about how we all contribute to making the church and its activities safe places to be, and are alert to when someone might need help in or out of church. The Diocese has launched a new campaign asking us to 'take safeguarding seriously' and has provided helpful posters and cards to remind us what to do when we have concerns.

Your first port of call, if you notice anything worrying, is the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Anne Edwards. Anne can be contacted on 07920484869 or at SafeguardingWalton@hilltopbenefice.org

But if you believe that someone is at immediate risk please call 999. The Diocesan Safeguarding team is also available Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 5.00 on 01483 790379.



October - Keys of the Kingdom



Reflection

Sometimes it seems that our troubled world is immersed in the pain and suffering of conflict and broken relationships. Yet Jesus reminds us that even though we are all less than perfect, every one of us is worthy of being redeemed, loved and forgiven. As members of Mothers' Union, we are building a future of reconciliation, justice and peace in partnership with The Community of the Cross of Nails.

Monthly Prayer

Jesus told his followers: 'If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.' Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV) Father, as we seek to follow your son, help us to be always aware of how our actions and words affect others and the world around us. Give us grace to be peacemakers among people, and good stewards of your creation. Amen.

November - Spreading our Wings



Reflection

During a World Day of Prayer service, we were asked to look at our house key, and ask, 'What does it say to you?' The most frequent response was 'security and safety' as well as a scattering of 'home, love and peace.' One person wrote, 'Keys of the Kingdom.' How do we hold the 'Keys of the Kingdom' for ourselves and for others, especially people who have no place of safety and for the imprisoned in body, mind or spirit?

Monthly Prayer

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' Luke 4:18-19 (NIV) As we focus on prison ministry, we pray that we too would respond to Jesus' call. We give thanks for the Mothers' Union members who support prisoners, their families and later when the sentence ends, help them establish new beginnings.

Banstead Art Group Annual Exhibition 2025

by Jo Hughes
Exhibition Secretary



The Banstead Art Group has been going for over 70 years, and welcomes the support of local media, local organisations, art lovers and, indeed, anyone interested in being part of a local, friendly and well-established art group.

A friendly group of around 50 members, the Banstead Art Group meets on a monthly basis to share current work, exchange knowledge, develop skills and take part in workshops and demonstrations.

Their **2025 Annual Art Exhibition will run from Thursday 30th October to Saturday 1st November at the Banstead Community Hall, Park Road, SM7 3AJ.** The Exhibition will be open from 10.00 am each day and the venue offers ample free parking. Visitors will have the opportunity to view over 200 pieces of original artwork by local artists in a variety of styles and media and will also be able to vote for their favourite piece. They can meet the artists at the opening Reception on Thursday 30th October from 6.00 pm.

Walton in Bloom

by Jean Bye

A big thank you to a couple of residents who have made a generous contribution to our hanging basket fund for 2026. We have a few small businesses in the village who have shown an interest in having their own small baskets too.

However, we are still short of funds for our beautiful hanging baskets next year. Any contribution, however small, would be gratefully received and can be paid by direct payment to:

Walton Village Forum
Sort code:30-98-43
Account No:00310472



Finally we have applied to Squires Garden Centres 'Love where you live' Spring Bulb giveaway. They are giving 20,000 bulbs to local community projects so fingers crossed we may be a winner .

Do look out for our Walton in Bloom volunteers planting out this Autumn and please stop and say hello !

CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT with **THE TIM BONIFACE QUARTET**

"Boniface has a fine melodic sense
both as a composer and as
improvisor, and makes a wonderful
focussed sound on his vintage horns."
UK Jazz News

"A joyous bouyancy in his playing."
Jazzwise

"A quartet that play throughout with
invention and commitment."
The Jazz Journal

TIM BONIFACE

sax

PHIL MERRIMAN

piano

ED BABAR

bass

SOPHIE ALLOWAY

drums

**A concert of Christmas favourites,
jazz classics & original material**

FRI 5TH DEC 7:30pm

St Mary's Church

Church Lane, Headley, KT18 6LE

Tickets £18 (£5 under 18)

**Scan QR code
to book:**



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 ChinthurstSchool E: lhughes@chinthurstschool.co.uk

Friends of St Peter's

by Mo Atkins



In July, the trustees of the Friends of St Peter's held a farewell dinner at The Chequers in honour of their long-serving member, Philip Truett.



Philip ready to attack a tasty sea bream!



Please become a friend of St Peter's by completing a Friends form from the church porch or the PDF and returning it to: Walton Cottage, Deans Lane, Walton on the Hill, Surrey, KT20 7TS or tori@truett.co.uk

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Coming soon at
**Curzon Country
 Cinema**, Deans
 Lane, Walton on
 the Hill.

Check website for
 details:
<https://www.curzoncountrycinema.com/>



Sunday Services Format at St Peter's



8:00am - 8:45am 1662 Prayer Book Communion

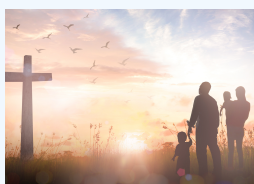
This is a quiet, traditional and spoken service of communion with a short talk.

11:00am - 12:00pm Main Service

This service is our main service of the day. Tea and coffee served from 10:30am weeks 1-4 of the month



1st Sunday - ALL-AGE Service (with craft activity)



2nd Sunday - FAMILY COMMUNION Service (less traditional)



3rd Sunday - FAMILY Service (quite lively)



4th Sunday - PARISH COMMUNION Service (more traditional)



5th Sunday - UNITED BENEFICE Service (at either St Peter's, St Mary's or St Andrew's)

United Benefice Services

October - November



October

- 5th:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
11am **HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE**
- 12th:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
11am Family Communion
- 15th:** 10am Healing Communion, Headley Octagon
- 19th:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
11am Family Service
- 26th:** 8am St Holy Communion 1662)
11am Parish Communion

November

- 2nd:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
11am All-Age Service
- 9th:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
10:50am REMEMBRANCE SERVICE
- 16th:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
11am Family Service
- 19th:** 10am Healing Communion, Headley Octagon
- 23rd:** 8am holy Communion (1662)
11am Parish Communion Service
- 30th:** 8am Holy Communion (1662)
10:30am United Benefice Service at St Andrew's Box Hill

Join us for tea and coffee, served from 10.30am every Sunday - All Welcome

<https://www.stpeterswoth.org/services>

Tadworth & Walton Residents' Association

by
Mike Fox



TWRA achieved a very good turnout at the two public events to hear about a proposal to form a “Parish Council” covering the Northern part of the borough of Reigate & Banstead (R&B).

The proposal addresses the democratic deficit that will arise once our borough is merged with three or possibly four other boroughs to be part of new “unitary” authorities replacing both the old Surrey CC and the borough level authorities. In this context the term “Parish” has nothing to do with church parishes. It is the legal entity that includes parish, village, town or community councils. In practice the proposed new council is likely to be called Banstead District Community Council (BDCC). TWRA’s interest in organising these events was to facilitate both individual and collective feedback in response to a “Community Governance Review” initiated by R&B, which closed on 18th September.

The evening session was chaired by TWRA’s Jeff Temple with speeches by Richard Biggs, the current leader of R&B, Nick Harrison, Cllr for Tattenham and Preston, and Cllr Ben Green from our own area. Nick described the local government changes being proposed. Richard talked positively about his own direct experience of Parish Councils operating in both Horley and Sidlow whilst Ben described how R&B were identifying what assets belonging to the council would need to be passed to some successor custodians which might

eventually include Parish Councils. Parish Councils typically administer local resources such as allotments, car parks, public spaces, parks, toilets, celebrations and festivals but what they actually take on is determined by both their elected councillors and the authority above them that delegates their responsibilities. They also give the local community a vital democratic voice to influence the authorities above them in areas such as planning, local policing and health services.

In the Q&A session it was suggested that the proposed BDCC might have 22 elected Councillors. These would be unpaid but there would be a small number of paid employees to implement the council’s policies and execute their responsibilities. Their activities could be funded by some revenue earning activities such as car parks, a small precept from the Council Tax and a share of the Council Infrastructure Levy (CIL) paid by developers building in their geographic area.

The evening concluded with attendees voicing their opinions on the matters at hand. All those present were in favour of having Parish Councils and supported the need for a bigger voice that a Council covering the whole of the North of the current borough would provide.

Details of the TWRA submission can be found on the TWRA website www.twra.org.uk



For more details of TWOAT projects and activities and to see how to donate if you are able to help us, please visit our web site at www.TWOAT.org or contact Chair Mike Fox on 01737 350452.

We were very sorry to hear of the recent death of Derek Parsons of Meon Close, Tadworth. Derek has been mentioned in many of our newsletters over the years. He regularly opened his garden to raise funds for TWOAT. He always seemed particularly pleased to welcome visitors, raising money for our cause and very much enjoying the occasion himself. We were grateful to him and his family who raised over £200 selling teas for TWOAT during the Gardener's Delight Event in June.

We would also like to thank Sarah and Robin Wilson who raised nearly £400 when opening their garden for us at Shieling in Kingswood during August.

I am currently gathering news from our projects to bring to our supporters ahead of the annual meeting and dinner in St. John's Hall on November 8th. There are currently over 20 active projects benefiting from funding each year. We recently made a small donation of £500 to provide fans and shady awnings to refugees in hot camps in the Mediterranean. We made a larger gift of £7,000 to the school where we fund lunches in Myanmar. The school would also like to provide breakfasts some days so we will look to make further donations to support this initiative. You can visit our web site www.TWOAT.org to see details of all the projects we support.

We have a new project working with the Dr Keith Waddell Foundation in Uganda,

the objective being to help provide skills for women and girls in self-sustainability. We are funding this activity with an extra contribution from one of our supporters. The project funded five disadvantaged women and girls who were able to choose from a number of different vocational courses. All five women and girls chose tailoring on this occasion and commenced their courses in July.

School Project in Nepal

We're pleased to confirm that the Tibetan earthquakes in January did not damage the school (although it did shake some nearby houses!). We stay in touch via WhatsApp and the messages we've received during the year indicate a well-run, happy learning environment. Pupils later leave for secondary education and college and onward to employment as local Sherpas or farmers, but also to Malaysia or Qatar to pursue other opportunities. Namaste 'greetings' to all TWOAT supporters from teachers and students.

Date for the diary

We will be having a Quiz Evening at St John's Church on Saturday October 11th. Doors will be open at 7.15pm, admission is £15 to include a light buffet supper but please bring your own bottles. Teams can be four to eight, but you can also come on your own or as a couple and we will team you up with some like-minded companions. Please contact Mike Fox on 01737 350452 to book places.

Walton Parochial Charities.

✂ If you live within the parish of Walton on the Hill then the Walton Parochial Charities could help you.

✂ A centuries old fund is in place to help the elderly, sick, disabled, distressed and 'in need'.

✂ If you or anyone you know is struggling financially then please ask them to leave a message in confidence at the St Peter's Church office.

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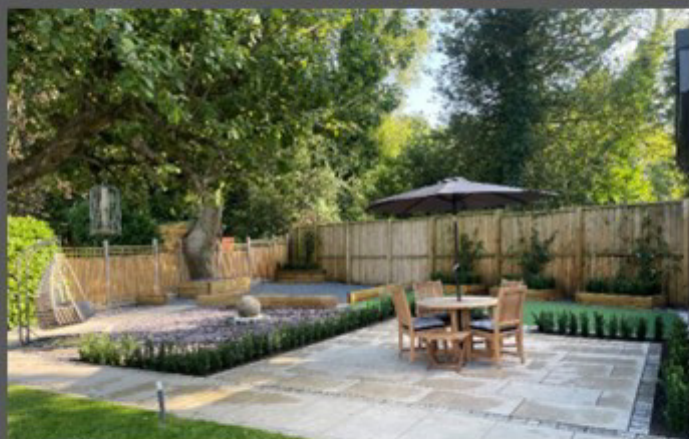
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Walton Village Forum

by Emmeline Moore



The rain in recent weeks has made up for our very dry summer. And our gardens and Mere Pond are looking a whole lot better for it. During those hot summer months we had quite a few messages of concern for our village pond. For more information including water levels and quality, tree surgery, fish sightings and silt removal, please visit our website. <https://www.waltonvillageforum.org/mere-pond/> where you will be able to read our pond's history as well as extensive reports, such as RBBC's new five year plan.

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our committee; Wendy and Nicki. Wendy is a new resident in the village and Nicki a returning one. Both are very interested in making a contribution to our community and will be at our next public meeting in October.

The much talked about Chequers Lane public inquiry for the proposed travellers' site will now be on 30th September at Reigate Town Hall. We very much encourage you to attend and show your support.

We have had permission for a defibrillator to be housed on the wall of the Spaghetti Tree, near the post box. We're just waiting for confirmation as to its precise location and then we'll press ahead and get it installed. A massive thanks must go to the Spaghetti Tree who will cover the cost of the electricity to run it. Thank you Spaghetti Tree!

You may have noticed that our lovely oak tree on The Green has had a full trim around its skirt. Thank you to Michael Hill from the council for initiating this on our behalf. We all agree this is now at a much safer height.



Our hanging baskets this year are looking amazing and Gun Corner as spectacular as ever. Thank you to Jean Bye and her team from Walton in Bloom, the florals in our village are looking stunning.

Our next project is to try to replace our notice boards around our village (including those situated by The Chequers, Blue Ball and No 53 Hairdresser). Even after lots of maintenance, the weather has penetrated them and they're perishing in places.

We look forward to seeing you all at our next public meeting on 28th October 8pm at the newly named pub, The Dog House. (formerly The Fox).



Walton Village Forum Meeting

All Residents Welcome

October 28th 8.00-9.30pm

*** At The Dog House pub, function room.**

(Formerly known as The Fox and Hounds)

Update on the public enquiry for the Chequers Lane planning application.

Mere Pond update.

Walton in Bloom fundraising update.

Councillors available for any general questioning.



info@waltonvillageforum.com



www.waltonvillageforum.org

Open Group

by Mo Atkins



There was much 'afternoon tea' activity one way and another, during August, for Open Group members and friends!

Teas on the Green

For many years, the group has taken a turn at hosting 'Teas on the Green', in the lovely setting at Christ Church, Brockham. The Teas run at weekend and Bank Holiday afternoons, from April to October, each session hosted by a different group raising funds for charity. This year was no exception and Open Group was pleased to serve tea and cakes, in fine weather (despite earlier forecasts) on the first Sunday in August. It being the holiday season, helpers were thinner on the ground than usual but, as Norma said, '... those who were there made up for lack of numbers by working very hard indeed'. A huge THANK YOU to all those who baked and / or helped in so many ways. It's not easy getting tables out and in of the crypt storage space! Every contribution was greatly appreciated. The afternoon raised £528 after expenses, with £65 being donated to Christ Church, as a 20% levy on takings over £200, to cover ongoing hall costs.

Teas in the Churchyard

The following week was a 'home game' with Teas in the Churchyard at St. Peter's. It was another glorious, quintessentially English occasion, not only blessed by perfect weather and an abundance of delicious cakes, but also by the willingness of so many to lend a hand with a plethora of jobs. Once again, a very big THANK YOU to all those who baked cakes or helped in

any way on the day.



The churchyard, adorned with bunting, looked at its best. The yellow pennants around the west door toned with the tubs of cheerful yellow begonias, planted and looked after by Liz Bishop. The event was extremely well supported. It was a glorious afternoon, and folk lingered, enjoying the sunshine and the ambience.

Maintenance of the churchyard is funded by Friends of St. Peter's. Neil Williams and Dawn Jones also do a great job when extra tidying or gardening is needed. Appropriately, after extra cake sales at church the following morning, a donation of £550 was made to Friends of St. Peter's. This was received with very grateful thanks.

Open Group Meetings

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to organise meetings during October and November. However, we have pencilled in an Advent Tea, in St. Peter's Church, on Thursday, 4th December 2.30 - 4.30pm.

Teas in the Churchyard

by Mo Atkins



Philip Truett dropped by for an cuppa, after a round of golf!



Betty says 'Goodbye'!



Helpers at the end of a happy and busy afternoon!



Village Kitchen

by Mo Atkins



It was good to see so many folk reconnecting when service resumed at The Village Kitchen in September, after the August break. Lovely to see new faces too. The Kitchen helpers were kept on their toes as the tables filled to capacity and the Riddell Hall was abuzz with the sound of happy chatter and interaction. Fortunately, we had some new, young (well supervised) recruits!



All are welcome to the next Village Kitchen, in The RIDDELL HALL, on SATURDAY, 11th OCTOBER, 12 midday to 1.30pm, and then on SATURDAY, 8th NOVEMBER at the same time.



Indigo and Asher helping Grandma Kay in the washing up department

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DEANS LANE

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waltonopengroup@gmail.com

Or phone Norma 01737 812639 or Mo 07799 136 894

EVERYONE WELCOME

Walton Christmas Lights

by David Larner



It all started at a 2017 Walton Village Forum (WVF) meeting when Val and I were asked if we would host a Christmas tree in our garden on the bank of Mere, and of course we said "yes". Lin Ferg and Ethel Armstrong provided the lighting for the display which was well received by villagers.

That tree, planted with roots, died, so future trees were of the cut variety, donated by the WVF 'lighting-up' events began in 2018, with the public invited into our garden, an announcement by a vicar, the Church choir, a band, carols, mulled wine, mince pies and a charity collection, all organised by Mo Atkins and the wonderful ladies of the Open Group.

The pandemic put paid to the public entering our garden, and post-pandemic difficulties arose with insurance, so the event morphed into one in which the public viewed the lighting-up event from Walton Street, then walked to another event with all the usual trimmings in St Peter's Churchyard.

As more lights were obtained over the years, illuminations expanded to both flanks of our house and balcony, and to the pond bank, producing great displays with reflections in the water, and huge compliments from Waltonites.

For the technically minded, the original 110 volt (low voltage) is safer than mains 240 volts near the Pond Canadian filament bulbs became un-reliable despite much scraping of tarnished contacts by Martin

and Jean Saul every year. So bulbs were replaced last year, thanks to help from Lin in Canada, with new LED's. An elderly 1.5Kw transformer broke down some years ago only an hour before an event, so I had to rush, with a baby grandson in arms, to Screwfix to get a replacement. Nowadays, two new transformers are ready in case of a breakdown.

Incidentally, traditional lighting with large bulbs spaced at one-foot intervals look more Waltonish, compared to thousands of closely spaced tiny modern LED's, hence the need to replicate the original display. And an idea of introducing flashing lights or a giant illuminated Father Christmas found no favour.

Last year the new lights on the house and bank outshone old ones on the tree so an even better display is planned this year - don't miss lighting up in early December, date to be announced soon.



Light-up Walton 2025

by Mo Atkins



Save the date! Open Group will be masterminding the 'LIGHT UP WALTON' event on again this year, on **FRIDAY, 28th NOVEMBER**.

Meet for **switch on at 5pm at Mere Pond**. Proceed to St. Peter's Churchyard for switch on at approximately 5.15pm, followed by **carols with choir and band in the church**. Mulled wine, specied apple juice and mice pies will be served. Donations invited for TWOAT (Tadworth and Walton Overseas Aid Trust).



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Well-being - Decluttering and re-organising

by Tracy Latham



This summer I was forced into some decluttering and reorganising that I had been avoiding for a while. With our son away at university I had been able to use his room as a space to put all the things that I found it too hard to give away. They were mainly things from their childhoods which had enough of a significant emotional hold on me for them to escape any previous clear out. But at the end of July he moved back home and needed the space in his room back. I needed to find a way to let go of some of the stuff from the past in order to make space for the future.

Sometimes I love a good old clear out - but this time I felt very heavy at the thought of getting started. What makes it feel so heavy I thought? Was it grief I wondered? The loss of that stage of life when they were young and we had had so much fun. I did need to grieve for that because it was so very precious; so I let myself take some time with the things as I cleared them off the shelves and cry and smile and laugh as I remembered some of those precious times. That helped. But there was something else there I felt. Questions. Was it worth it? Was it valuable? Did it count? All those things represented the investment I had made - not in the things, but in my children and in being a Mother. Those questions felt very painful to acknowledge and ask.

'No regrets' is a phrase that gets used as a motto for living sometimes. I think it is a way of saying 'go for it!' Take some risks -

do pursue your dreams because life is for living. However, we can't go for everything. We are human beings with limited time and resources so we do have to choose what to invest in. So what do we do with our feelings about all the things we didn't have the resources or perhaps opportunity to go for? Missed or sacrificed, broken, interrupted or unavailable opportunities or adventures? Perhaps I needed to grieve for those things. We all have different dreams and priorities because we are all unique - but I think it is true for everyone that the love and commitment and faithfulness required to pursue those dreams is costly and often requires us to sacrifice other things.

Finding the questions was uncomfortable but it also helped me find comfort that helped. I found comfort in normalising my feelings and questions about the past and the things I missed out on or couldn't do. I was able to reorganise my thoughts about them and see them as a consequence of living with limits rather than a sign of waste or wrong doing. I also found comfort in knowing that my heavenly Father says love and faithfulness matter. He also acknowledges the pain of sacrifice.

Grief and loss are part of our human experience. Joy and sorrow can be so delicately entwined. I find comfort and wisdom in the 'continuing bonds' theory of grief which says that grief is not

Well-being cont.



something that we go 'through' in order to 'let go' or 'move on from' what has been lost. Instead, grieving is the process that helps us to form a different relationship with them so that we can make space for the things we want or need to invest in in the present and future. The grief process can be very painful and resistance to it can be strong because it can bring up difficult feelings and questions. However unexpressed grief can also turn into grievances, which can be damaging and block joy. Research suggests that we do have some choice over when we do our grief work and that we can do it in bite-sized chunks. I find that reassuring because just like when we have a clear out it can get very messy before it gets better. However it also allows us to form a new relationship with and metaphorically 'find a new home' for things, people and experiences that we have lost that will always matter to us and we will never let go of completely.

Decluttering, grieving and reorganising can be a very painful, heavy and messy experience. But it can also bring hope and space and light.

Lost or let go?

*Or formed a continuing bond?
Perhaps I don't have to let go or move
on from the all that has been?
Perhaps this very disorientating and
disaorganising process
Is also re-orientating and reorganising?
Perhaps it is helping me reorganise my
relationship with what has passed
Because it is now past?
Not so I can let it go but so that I can
remain connected with it;
Form a continuing bond with all that is
precious about it
And all the valuable experiences and
investments it contains
As I move into and make space for
today's
And tomorrow's potential.*

Christian Revival?

by Olivia Rowntree



Big Church Festival 2025

I'm not normally one for outdoor festivals. My first and only prior experience of one being Glastonbury in my late twenties. I gave it a go, but it confirmed what I already knew; I don't hugely enjoy mud, camping and smelly portaloos! So when a good friend asked if I wanted to tag along to the Big Church Festival, I did have a brief Glastonbury throw-back moment. But I was really curious and interested to experience an immersive Christian event on this scale. When I heard my favourite Christian music artist, Brandon Lake, was headlining, that sealed it for me, and I signed-up. The venue, set on the beautiful Wiston Estate in Sussex, was only an hour's drive away too, so there was no need to camp - bonus!

It was an amazing weekend, Brandon performed 'Praise', 'Gratitude' and 'Graves into Gardens' which I love, and we were blessed with warm sunshine, so no mud either!

In common with Glastonbury, there were different zones and themed tents. My favourites were the Worship Tent and Garden Stage. The latter was set in the garden of the Wiston Estate manor house, lined with tents selling little gifts, tea and coffee, scones, strawberries and cakes. Tables and chairs were set out in the middle, in front of the stage - it felt very 'English-country-garden'.

The Worship Tent featured an under-cover stage in the centre, with worshippers able to file in and encircle



the stage. Here the music was powerful, and the atmosphere, as you would expect, very moving and spiritual. For the teenagers and night owls there was even a 'Rave Jesus' event after 10:30pm!

There were plenty of hot food options from burgers and pizza to Greek, Indian Spanish cuisine, but many festival-goers brought hampers and picnic baskets and set up gazebos in front of the main stage.

I was awestruck by the reach and appeal of this event. There were around 35,000 worshippers, including many families with young children and a strong contingent of teenagers. We're often led to believe by the media that Christianity is dying out in the UK, but from what I have seen, that is absolutely not the case. Throughout the event, many artists spoke powerfully about a undeniable Christian revival they were witnessing.

Beyond Big Church, if you followed the news coverage of Charlie Kirk's murder and the very moving tribute event (whether you liked his views and politics or not), it again reveals that an extraordinary Christian resurgence is afoot. In a society where so many seek instant gratification yet find only disappointment in its fleeting, unfulfilling nature, I really believe Christianity and Jesus offer real hope, the truth, the way and the life. I'll leave that thought with you.....

Happy Birthday, Evelyn Baker!



When Sue Bates got in touch to ask us if we could give her Auntie a special mention in the next edition of Window of Walton, we didn't have to think twice.

Evelyn was born in Walton on the Hill and has lived on Breech Lane all her life - or **100 years** in November to be precise. Imagine the transformation Evelyn has witnessed here in our parish in that time!

In her former years, Evelyn would regularly attend St Peter's and still receives the parish magazine.



It is therefore with enormous pleasure that, **Evelyn, we wish you a very happy 100th birthday!**

From all of us at St Peter's Church and on behalf of everyone who knows you from around the village - congratulations and may your 100th year here in the parish be blessed.

If you know someone celebrating their birthday and would like to give a shout-out in the next edition of WoW, get in touch: admin@stpeterswoth.org



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