

Walsall St Matthews Eliminator – Saturday 28 March

A map of the area is at <https://dove.cccbr.org.uk/osm.php?lat=52.58232&lon=-1.97751>.

The postcode is WS1 3DG.

Based inside St Matthew's Church all day, there will be a dedicated Listening Room with a live feed from the Tower, as well as a childrens' playroom. Weather permitting, we may be able to provide outdoor seating.

We will operate a voucher system for all refreshments listed below and have a Contactless payment system if required to buy vouchers. The nearest cashpoint is at ASDA.

Any proceeds will be divided equally between the Tower and Church Restoration Funds.

Timetable for the Day

9:30 – 10:45 Bacon or vegetarian sausage baps, teas/coffees

Between 10:15 – 10:45 ringing will take place for the Judges' benefit and to test recording.

11:00 Welcome and Draw

11:15 First team meets

11:30 First team rings

11:30 Tea/coffee will resume serving. Baguettes/sandwiches and cakes will also be available all day, closing just before Results are announced.

11:30 Bar opens and serves until just before Results are announced, reopening afterwards until 17:30

14:00 Last team rings

Results will be announced later in the afternoon.

Facilities

The main toilets are in the Church Hall, a short walk across the close. The toilets inside the Church should be reserved for those less mobile, or emergencies only.

There are three good local pubs which can provide hot meals, The Black Country Arms is offering a special Black Country menu, and welcomes bookings in advance, The Linden House Hotel and The Wheatsheaf are also close by.

The nearest cafes are in ASDA, Debenhams, and at Six Ways Island, and a good Fish & Chip shop is nearby.

Full details and menus will be available at the Information Desk in the foyer.

Getting here

Public transport is recommended.

The railway station is about 10 - 15 minutes walk away. Exit the station, walk towards the main shopping street and turn right. You will see the spire in front of you up the hill.

The X51 bus from Birmingham is a very good service; alight at the Six Ways stop, which will be announced. It is a 5 minute walk, go behind the bus stop, turn right up the hill. At the top, turn right under the archway.

Parking is limited; we can accommodate a few cars for people with limited mobility by the church – please email Sandra.wilcox@mypostoffice.co.uk to book a space.

Parking in St Matthews Close is restricted to **3 hours only** and is usually full on a Saturday. We therefore recommend Freer Street Car Park, at £5 all day.

<https://www.ncp.co.uk/find-a-car-park/car-parks/walsall-freer-street/>

Things to do in Walsall

If you'd like a little time out for yourself or the family, you could try:

- the Gala Baths (which, unusually, also has a very warm brine pool)
- the Arboretum (which has a lake to feed the ducks and swans, a children's play area, pleasant walks, and a cafe)
- the first-class Art Gallery, notable for the Epstein bronze busts and the Garman-Ryan collection
- the Leather Museum

Sunday Ringing:

If you are staying over after the contest, we would be delighted to see you at 9:45 in the tower. Sunday ringing is also available at nearby towers – details will be available at the Information Desk.

Details of the bells:

There are 12 bells (tenor 25-2-18) cast by John Taylor & Co in 1928, with a sharp 2nd cast in 1981, also by Taylors. Full details can be seen in

<https://dove.cccbr.org.uk/detail.php?DoveID=WALSALL>. Practice night is Wednesday

Please email Sandra.wilcox@mypostoffice.co.uk with any further queries you may have.