

Melbourne Eliminator Information for 25 March 2023

Parking

There should be sufficient free on street parking near the church in Melbourne. There are usually spaces on Castle Street, Potter Street or Penn Lane. There may be some space immediately outside the church, but this does tend to fill up at weekends, especially if the weather is good. Some of the streets are narrow and it can get busy at times, but you should find somewhere within a five minute walk.

Public Transport

There nearest train stations are Derby (good for Cross Country routes and London) and East Midlands Parkway (from London). Derby is about 8 miles and East Midlands about 12 miles. There are hourly buses (Arriva No 2) from Derby Bus Station, or Osmaston Road (a bit closer to the station). Sadly, there is no regular bus from East Midlands.

We have the use of a small community bus and can provide transport to/from the station, but we are limited in the number of people we take and timing precludes more than 2 journeys (in the morning) so get in quick if you want to take advantage of this. A separate email has already been circulated. We will do return runs at the end of the day.

Failing that, a taxi fare from either will be about £20-£25. You can try the following Taxi firms.

- Albatross Cabs (01332) 345345 - located very close to Derby station (the website says they do a 16 seater)
- Chads Cars (01332) 666222; or
- Village Cabs (01332) 706020 – they may only do an 8 seater, but could be better for East Midlands Parkway

Toilets

There are toilets nearby. There is a public toilet in the hall courtyard next to the church. There is one toilet in Church House, and one in St Michael's House also next to the church (although the latter will be reserved for the judges whilst the ringing is taking place). There are further public toilets 5 minutes away near the market cross.

Catering

We will be serving tea/coffee, soft drinks, bacon sandwiches, sausage, and vegetarian sausage baps from 9.30am to 11am and tea, coffee & cake throughout the day in Church House. A bar will be available, selling beer from the Welbeck Abbey brewery, cider, wine, and soft drinks. This will be open from after the draw through to 6.30pm (or thereabouts). It would be great if you could drink up the beer provided first, but if we run short there are plenty of decent pubs in the village. The Spirit Vaults opposite the church is closest but is quite small. There will be a catering van for lunch selling fish and chips, sausages, cheese and onion 'fry its', vegan burgers and kids chicken nuggets. We will need to take orders in advance and will ask bands to provide details when they come for their practice. There are several other cafes close by if this doesn't suit you.

What else to do

There are some pleasant walks from the Church around Melbourne pool.

Slightly further afield is Calke Abbey (NT) Stately home – about 2 miles drive or an hour's walk away.

There is a children's play area nearby.

Accommodation

There is accommodation in Melbourne (you could try Harpurs, The Hardinge Arms, Spirit Vaults or the Melbourne View Hotel). There are the usual larger chain establishments in Derby.

Draw and Results

There are 6 teams taking part in the eliminator and the draw and the results will take place in the church

11.00am Draw, followed by competition ringing commencing at 11.30

4.00 pm approx. Results in the Church.