



SOME OF BISHOP'S WALTHAM'S ANNIVERSARIES 2023-2048



A selection of forthcoming anniversaries for Bishop's Waltham

2023-2048

Prepared by
Bishop's Waltham Society

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Introduction

The fact that it was only by happy accident that July 2015 was found to be the 600th anniversary of King Henry V's stay at Bishop's Waltham Palace was a shock. The realisation that the town might very easily have missed the opportunity to celebrate Henry V's two-week stay, on the road to the Battle of Agincourt, has prompted the Society's chairman to investigate other forthcoming anniversaries.

We would like to stress that should anyone know of additional future anniversaries (including any involving their own organisation) we are happy to add them to this list and re-circulate in due course. So please let us know (Tony Kippenberger at Bishop's Waltham Society via info@bishopswalthamsociety.org).

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The anniversaries cover the next 25 years (2023-2048). This is well beyond the point at which many of us are likely to be involved, but it provides the basis of a document that can be continually updated over time. It is worth noting just how many anniversaries have been missed in recent years and therefore do not come up again until 2030-2048!

The anniversaries are broken down into three groups: important Palace anniversaries, a number of (inevitably rather random) town anniversaries (both at 25 year intervals) and some organisational anniversaries (at 5 and 10 year intervals). We would like to add more to all these groups.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM PALACE: Forthcoming anniversaries

- 2023 925th anniversary of the birth of Henry of Blois in 1098 (see 2046 below). As Bishop of Winchester he built the first Palace at Bishop's Waltham.
- 2024 700th anniversary of birth of William of Wykeham (in Wickham), who was the 'second founder' of the Palace in 1320-24. William was Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor of England. He founded New College Oxford in 1379, and founded Winchester College in 1382.
- 2024 525th anniversary of Henry VII's visit to Bishop's Waltham Palace on 2nd September 1499 - he had also visited the Palace on 5th July 1496 (see below).

- 2025 575th anniversary of visit to the Palace by King Henry VI, entertained by Bishop Waynflete in 1450. Henry was less than one year old when he succeeded his father Henry V in 1422.
- 2025 650th anniversary of birth of Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, in 1375. The half-brother of Henry IV, he made many changes and improvements to the Palace and entertained his nephew Henry V here in 1415.
- 2025 825th anniversary of King John visiting the Palace on 24th April 1200 (he also visited on 30th May and 10th June 1205 and for 3 days between 22-24th March 1213)
- 2026 550th anniversary of visit by Edward IV, entertained by Bishop Waynflete in 1476. Edward IV was the first Yorkist King during the Wars of the Roses - he had unseated the Lancastrian Henry VI (see above).
- 2026 700th anniversary of visit to the Palace by King Edward II on 7th August 1326
- 2027 475th anniversary of Edward VI's visit to the Palace in 1552. Henry VIII's Protestant son was only 15 year's old at the time and died the following year, leaving the throne to his older sister Mary (see below).
- 2029 475th anniversary of (Henry VIII's daughter) Queen Mary's stay at the Palace (12th - 21st July) to await arrival of the Catholic King Philip of Spain prior to their marriage in Winchester in 1554.
- 2029 625th anniversary of death of William of Wykeham at the Palace, where he spent the last four years of his life - see above 2024.
- 2030 825th anniversary of King John's visit to the Palace on 30th May and 10th June 1205 (he also visited on 24th April 1200 and for 3 days between 22-24th March 1213)
- 2032 850th anniversary of Henry II's visit to the Palace in February for a meeting of the Royal Council at the Palace to raise supplies for the 2nd Crusade (1182).
- 2035 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's stay in BW on his Royal Progress to the West Country and back¹
- 2036 550th anniversary of death of Bishop William Waynflete at the Palace. He had been Lord Chancellor and was founder of Magdalen College, Oxford and Head Master of Winchester College before becoming the first Head Master of Eton College (1486).
- 2036 925th anniversary of August (8th) 1111 visit of Henry I and his Queen Edith who left their court at Winchester and came to Waltham in order to be able to catch a ship from Portchester to Normandy as soon as the weather changed. But where did they stay?
- 2038 825th anniversary of King John's visit to the Palace for 3 days between 22-24th March 1213 (he also visited on 24th April 1200 and on 30th May and 10th June 1205)
- 2040 625th anniversary of Henry V's visit to Bishop's Waltham Palace on the Road to Agincourt (1415).
- 2041 450th anniversary of Elizabeth I's visit to the Palace in early September 1591. She was on her annual Royal Progress and her stay at Bishop's Waltham was near the end of the journey. She was entertained by Thomas Cooper, the then Bishop of Winchester.

¹ Dr Glenn Richardson, St Mary's University College London: "Henry VIII and Travel"

- 2043 700th anniversary of visit by Edward III to Bishop's Waltham Palace on 12th-14th July 1343. He came from Arundel, stayed at East Dean in Wiltshire for two nights and then returned to Arundel via Bishop's Waltham. A specific visit, for a purpose as yet unknown.
- 2044 400th anniversary of the looting and burning of Bishop's Waltham Palace, by a Parliamentary force, between 9th and 11th April 1644. After their defeat at the Battle of Cheriton (29th March 1644) some 200 Royalist cavalry, under Colonel Sir Humphrey Bennett, occupied the Palace. Initially a Parliamentary force of about 200, led by Colonel Richard Whitehead, MP for Hampshire, besieged the Palace. But it was not until they were joined by a full Brigade of the London Trained Bands under Major-General Richard Browne, with their own artillery, that the Royalists knew they had no chance. They surrendered and after two days of looting the Palace was set on fire. The Bishop of Winchester is rumoured to have escaped, dressed as a peasant accompanying a dung cart via Chalky Lane to Dundridge and then to his estate at Soberton.
- 2044 850th anniversary of Richard I's (the Lionheart) stay at the Palace (probably in the spring - 23rd April) of 1194 for a Royal Council. This was on his return from the Third Crusade after being ransomed at huge cost - 65,000 lbs of silver - from the Henry VI, the Holy Roman Emperor, who had taken him hostage.
- 2044 700th anniversary of visits by Edward III to Bishop's Waltham Palace on 25th-27th August, 2nd-7th September, 26th September, 4th-11th October, for his daughter's birth! So also 675th the anniversary of the birth of 'Mary of Waltham', daughter of Edward III and Philippa of Hainault (born at the Palace on 10th October 1344). She was sister to Edward, the Black Prince, and John of Gaunt. She became Duchess of Brittany but died aged 17 before setting foot there. Edward III beat the French decisively at Crecy 1346 after starting the Hundred Years War. Mary's brother, the Black Prince, achieved another great victory over the French at Poitiers in 1356. Edward III is regarded as the epitome of medieval English kingship and was the role model for Henry V.
- 2044 750th anniversary of the only known visit of Edward I to Waltham Palace. Probably in late September and early October 1294. Philip IV of France had seized Gascony from the English in May of that year but because of concerns in Wales and Scotland an English army only finally left for France on 9th October. Edward stayed to supervise the army's departure from Portsmouth. It probably whilst staying at the Palace that he heard of Madog ap Llywelyn's well-planned revolt across Wales that started on 29th September.
- 2045 600th anniversary of visit by Margaret of Anjou who stayed at the Palace awaiting her marriage to Henry VI at Titchfield Abbey on 23rd April 1445. Henry VI was the son of Henry V and Catherine Valois - therefore the only ever crowned King of France and England. On his death, two years later, Bishop Henry Beaufort left Queen Margaret the bed she had slept on at the Palace and the Arras tapestries from the room in which she had stayed (1445).
- 2046 875th anniversary of death of Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester, grandson of William the Conqueror, brother of King Stephen and the founder of Bishop's Waltham Palace (1171).
- 2046 550th anniversary of Henry VII's visit to Bishop's Waltham Palace on 5th July 1496 - he also visited the Palace on 2nd September 1499 (see above).

- 2047 525th anniversary of visit of Henry VIII and the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V to the Palace and the signing of the 'Treaty of Waltham' against France (1522). **[This was an important visit and should be considered as a potential celebratory event at the Palace as in 2022.]**

More research will identify additional dates. It is known, for instance, that Henry VIII (and Ann Boleyn) were regular visitors, as was Cardinal Wolsey and Thomas Cromwell.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM TOWN: Forthcoming anniversaries

- 2023 675th anniversary of the Black Death that killed 65% of town's population (1348-9)
- 2026 1025th anniversary of the Viking raid on Waltham in which the town was burnt to the ground, as recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles (1001)
- 2027 60th anniversary of construction of the road (B2177) over the Bishop's Great Pond (1967).
- 2027 25th anniversary of erection of Jubilee clock in St George's Square (2002).
- 2028 75th anniversary of sale of Gunner's Bank (the last County Bank in the country) to Barclays Bank (1953).
- 2029 1125th anniversary of King Alfred's son, King Edward the Elder's exchange of the royal estate of Waltham for the manor of Portchester with Bishop Denewulf of Winchester (904)
- 2030 225th anniversary of Admiral Villeneuve's start of his parole in Bishop's Waltham (1805).
- 2030 200th anniversary of the Swing Riots that spread from Kent across southern England including Hampshire - a prelude to the Tolpuddle Martyrs in 1834. Agricultural machinery was destroyed and farm buildings burnt (1830).
- 2032 100th anniversary of the arrival of electricity supply in Bishop's Waltham at Mr Locke's shop on the corner of Bank Street and Basingwell Street (1932).
- 2034 225th anniversary of Gunner's Bishop's Waltham Bank opening for business (1809)
- 2034 150th anniversary of the Bishop's Waltham 'Beer Riots' of 1884.
- 2035 125th anniversary of opening of Bishop's Waltham's first Telephone Exchange in St Peter's Street (1910)
- 2037 175th anniversary of opening of Arthur Helps Clay Works at Claylands (1862)
- 2037 175th anniversary of work starting on housing in Newtown (1862)
- 2038 175th anniversary of opening of Botley - Bishop's Waltham railway line (1863)
- 2039 175th anniversary of laying of foundation stone for Royal Albert Infirmary in Newtown by Prince Leopold, Queen Victoria's son in 1864.
- 2039 175th anniversary of Bishop's Waltham becoming the first small town in Hampshire to have gas lighting (1864).
- 2039 175th anniversary of the mounting of the Padbury clock on the west side of the High Street in 1864 by James Padbury to identify his workshop in Clock House.
- 2042 425th anniversary of what is believed to be the longest running wine shop in the country. Now called Josie's, the premises has sold wine continuously for more than 400 years under a small variety of owners. Two branches of the same family ran

the business for 272 years. The Prior's ran it from 1617 to 1806 and then the Clark's ran it from 1806 to 1889.

- 2044 150th anniversary of first elected Parish Council for Bishop's Waltham (1894).
- 2044 150th anniversary of formation of Bishop's Waltham Waterworks Company Ltd by London civil engineer Charles Liddell Simpson (1894).
- 2046 175th anniversary of the takeover of the Clay works by Henry Blanchard in 1871. Blanchard's Brick and Tile Works became the most successful brickworks in Hampshire and supplied bricks for Buckingham Palace, the Natural History Museum, St Pancras Station and even Cairo's Grand Hotel.
- 2046 1325th anniversary of St Willibald's departure from Waltham's Saxon Minster to journey to the Holy Land. On returning to Rome he was sent by the Pope to preach Christianity to the heathen Germans. He became Bishop of Eichstatt. (721AD)
- 2047 325th anniversary of the infamous Waltham Blacks Act (1722).

BISHOP'S WALTHAM SOCIETIES AND ORGANISATIONS: Forthcoming anniversaries

- 2026 70th anniversary Bishop's Waltham Chamber of Trade (1956)
- 2026 70th anniversary of Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club Open Annual Show (1956)
- 2026 40th anniversary of founding of Bishop's Waltham Society (1986)
- 2027 30th anniversary of Bishop's Waltham Festival (1997)
- 2027 40th anniversary of the founding of Bishop's Waltham Museum Trust (1987)
- 2027 30th anniversary of founding of Bishop's Waltham in Bloom (1997)
- 2027 50th anniversary of re-started Bishop's Waltham Carnival (1977)