

MARRIAGE BANNS

Calling Banns of Marriage is a legal requirement. It provides an opportunity for the proposed marriage to be publicly announced and thereby gives an opportunity for anyone concerned to protest. Marriage in the Church of England cannot normally take place if Banns have not been called.

The law states that:

At least one of the applicants **MUST** live in the parish of Waterloooville
(the address of a parental home is acceptable)
the proposed marriage **MUST** take place in a Church of England
the Banns **MUST** be called within three months of the proposed marriage

Banns cannot be called if:

Neither party lives in the parish of Waterloooville
(the address of a parental home is acceptable)
the proposed marriage is not taking place in a Church of England
the application is more than three months before the planned date
the marriage is taking place in the next three weeks

Special arrangements apply to:

Members of the armed forces
Students at university or on a "gap" year abroad
Applicants living at the same address outside the parish of Waterloooville
Banns can be called for such applicants as long as at least one parental address is in the parish of Waterloooville.

Arranging Banns of Marriage

Please complete a Marriage application form. The sections needed are:

Full names of both applicants

Age at the proposed marriage dates

Addresses including postcodes

Length of time living at the addresses

Name of applicant's parish church - one **MUST** be St. George's Church

Name of church where marriage is taking place

Date of proposed marriage

Please make sure you include the applicant's phone number.

Fees

There is a statutory fee for calling Banns of Marriage, which must be paid before the banns are called. The fee is £44 - cheques made payable to "St George's PCC".

Dates

You can agree dates for the Banns to be called and write these on the bottom of the application form. Usually Banns begin on the first Sunday of a month and are called at the 10.00am Eucharist on Sundays. They are called for three consecutive Sundays. The applicants do not have to attend the service but must return to the Parish Office to collect the certificate. The Office is "open" on Sundays (11.15am - 11.45am)

Completed Forms

Completed application forms and fees should only be done through Sunday morning Parish Office. One of the persons listed on the form must come to sign the form.

Collecting Banns Certificates

Certificates ready for collection are clipped onto the Sacristy notice board. Please check that the names on the certificate are correct and that the fee has been paid, and then issue the certificate.