



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

September 2023

“Reversing the role” by Matthew Street, The Vicar, based on Ecclesiastes 5:1-2

“Tread carefully when you enter the house of God. Better to draw near and listen than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they cannot keep themselves from doing evil. Never be in a hurry to talk and do not let your heart speak hastily before God, for God is in heaven and you are upon earth. So, then, let your words be few.” (Ecclesiastes 5:1-2)

How many of us, if we went to hospital for a consultation with a specialist, would refuse to listen to the diagnosis, insisting that we know better? Which of us, if we had to call out the AA, would tell the mechanic how to do his or her job? Or, again, how many of us, if by some mischance we found ourselves on trial in the high court, would presume to advise our barrister as to the best way to conduct the case?

In all of these situations, to stick our oar in and refuse to bow to a greater authority would be the height of folly, yet the words of Ecclesiastes warn us that we can often be guilty of doing something very similar when it comes to God. We claim that he is sovereign over all, ruler of heaven and earth, and Lord of space and time, but so often, having done that, we calmly proceed to present him with a personal wish list, without the slightest sense of incongruity. ‘Grant me this’, we say; ‘do that’, ‘do the other’, as if we fully expect him to be at our beck and call.

The problem is that some passages in scripture concerning asking in faith appear, on a superficial reading, to encourage such an approach, but think about the implications were that true: it would be tantamount to putting ourselves in God’s place! Of course there will be times when something matters so much to us that we will beg him to listen, and of course there will be times when he readily does so, but if God is who we say he is, surely the right approach in prayer has to be to listen to what he wants before listing what we desire. Prayer is not finally something we do, but something he invites us to share in. Lose sight of that, and we’re in danger of losing sight of him.

Sunday Services in September

Hands

Sunday 3rd September: 10.00 a.m.

Talk: False hands. Genesis 27:1-40

Leader: Shaula Reilly

Speaker: Dick Beath

Sunday 10th September: 10.00 a.m. H.C.

Deanery Pulpit Swap Sunday

Talk: Hands Up. Exodus 17:8-16

Leader: Julian Davies

Speaker: Julian Davies

Sunday 17th September: 10.00 a.m.

All Age Worship

Talk: Washing his hands. Matthew 27:11-26

Leader: Shaula Reilly

Speaker: Shaula Reilly

Sunday 24th September: 10.00 a.m.

Harvest Festival

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Matthew Street

Contact the Vicar:

The Revd. Matthew Street

Tel: 01761 432293

Email: mgstreet@me.com
or through the church website.

Benefice Office

For anything church related contact the
Benefice Office:

Tel: 07973972018

Email: office@stjsgroup.church

Advertising in this Newsletter

FREE for voluntary organisations and charities based in Wellow. All other individuals and businesses, whether based in Wellow or elsewhere.

Full page: £10 per month: £100 per annum

Half page: £5 per month: £50 per annum

Cheques to be made payable to St. Julian's Church P.C.C. and sent to the Editor.

Church Community Groups

Wellow Prayer Group

Tuesdays at 3pm

Phone Pauline for details: 832625

Benefice Praise and Prayer

Every Monday, 7.45pm-9.30pm

@ The Vicarage, Peasedown St John

'God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth.' John 4:24.

Please join us as we praise God, hear from His Word, and come to Him in prayer.

St John's Peasedown

1st Sunday 10:30am HC 4:30pm SF

2nd Sunday 10:30am MP 4:30pm SF

3rd Sunday 10:30am HC 4:30pm SF HC

4th Sunday 10:30am MP 4:30pm SF

HC = Holy Communion

SF = Soul Food: A service with modern lively music followed by a family tea

MP = Morning Praise

Want to keep in touch?

St Julian's Church sends out a weekly e-newsletter with all the latest news and views from around the Benefice.

Email **administrator@stjsgroup.church** to subscribe to the mailing list.

Visit the Church website: www.stjsgroup.church

Church News

Since our August news, we have enjoyed a Deanery Service at St. John's Midsomer Norton and a joint Benefice Service at St. John's Peasedown, both of which saw a good number of people from the surrounding parishes join together in Worship.

Recently a Christening took place in St. Julian's; the Church was full with a large family gathering and lots of young children milling around.

The latest AAW Service was well attended despite clashing with the major football event. The children enjoyed taking part though it was also enjoyed by all ages.

Following on, into September, we will be having a Pulpit Swap Service on the 10th, with Julian Davies, the curate in Timsbury, taking our service. It is always refreshing to have someone from another Church come along to lead and preach.

The DAC meeting to decide on the outcome of our plans for the Kitchen/toilets extension will take place on September 13th. Everyone is praying for a positive outcome especially as most of you will know that St. Julian's has been bequeathed a substantial amount of money from a family in Wellow, so along with the Mary Anderson legacy, St. Julian's will be in a good place to start fundraising and hopefully get the project off the ground.

September 24th is the date for our Harvest Service. We have much to be thankful for in 2023, a bountiful harvest, seven Weddings, two christenings, a card machine installed and running efficiently and last, but not least, a host of people who give their time to make sure St Julian's is seen to be a much used and loved Church.

Pam Pike & Jane Rees, Church Wardens

Book Swop in St. Julian's Church

Some of you will have noticed that there is now a bookcase at the back of the church with books you can borrow or swop. Do please make use of these books that have kindly been donated to the church for this.

Wellow Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 24 July in the Manor Close Community Room.

Nineteen residents attended this meeting to address the matters on the agenda. The following matters were raised by the residents at the Public Participation section:

A report was received from a resident about speeding on Bath Hill.

It was also reported that joy-riders entered private land on the Hayes causing damage to property.

A resident reported to the Council that he attended the public consultation drop-in session on the proposed Somer Valley Links project. It appears that there was a proposal to create a route via the derelict railway line through Wellow as well as other unsuitable locations without any proper investigation of the area. Later, correspondence was received from WECA to confirm that this proposal has been removed from the project plan.

The Parish Sweeper reported that a stone by the Church path has not been removed. The potholes on Double Hill have been repaired. He also mentioned that some residents park inconsiderately by the shop, obscuring the view of the road for pedestrians with small children. The Parish Council will investigate and address the problem if necessary.

Planning Applications: The following planning applications were considered:

23/02114/FUL: Weavers Farm, High Street: Change of use of land from agricultural to residential: The Parish Council support this planning application subject to the amendments to the plans, which are incorrect in the original planning submission.

23/02115/LBA: Weavers Farm, High Street: This application is withdrawn by the applicant.

23/02000/FUL: Norton Lane Barn, Norton Lane: Partial change of use of agricultural barn offices to create a live-work residential unit (Use Class C3) within the building. Provision of gates and fence (Retrospective): The Parish Council objected to this application.

23/01951/FUL: Knoll Farm, White Ox Mead: Change of use of a redundant farm building for use as a butchery- The Parish Council supported this application as a valued local business initiative. Highways issues have been addressed by the applicant.

23/02050/TCA: St Julian's Primary School: T1 and T2 (Beech) install 8 tonne cobra brace and thin crown by 25%. T3 (Field maple) fell. T4 (Hazel) coppice. T5 (Beech) thin crown by 25%: PC decided to leave the decision to B&NES tree officer.

23/01841/FUL: Manor Farm Livery Stables, Farm Lane: Use of building as Class E(d) relating to horse livery yard for 11no. loose boxes, hay and straw stores and associated parking (Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use): Support.

23/02594/TCA: Watersmeet, Mill Hill: -T1 (Red Chestnut) crown lift to 2.5 metres; T2 (Hawthorn) crown lift to 2 metres; T3. (Sycamore) crown lift to 2 metres; T4 (Hawthorn) fell, poor specimen; T5 (Ash) fell due to ash dieback; T6 (Ash) fell ash due to dieback;T7 (Sycamore) crown lift to 2 metres; T8 (Goat willow) fell due to tree dying: PC decided to leave the decision to B&NES tree officer.

Unauthorised landscaping works on the flood plain adjacent to the Wellow Brook have been reported to the PC. Several nearby residents expressed their concerns.

The case has already been reported by the PC to B&NES Planning Enforcement and registered as case number 23/00307/UNDEV. The Parish Council has also reported these unauthorised works to the Avon and Tributaries Angling Association, Wessex Water and to the Environment Agency as it is their statutory responsibility to prevent flooding.

The following decision made by B&NES Council was NOTED:

22/04871/FUL: Middle Twinhoe Cottage. Middle Twinhoe: Renovation of existing barn and carport: PERMIT

Highways & Transport: The following issues were discussed:

The Council discussed the reported speeding on Bath Hill and noted for inclusion in the speeding solutions to be implemented in the future by the PC.

The Parish Council have discussed the importance of determining a long term traffic management plan for the village in order to tackle speeding. A working group will be created to determine a plan of action and the approach.

It was decided to apply to the Avon and Somerset Police Community Trust for funding for a Speed Indicator Device (subject to B&NES approval).

Speed watch: more volunteers are needed. An invitation to residents will be sent via the Parish Post and the Parish Newsletter. It was noted that simple roadside training is required for new volunteers.

Communication was received from Sustrans – a charity promoting cycling routes in the country, offering help in reducing traffic in the village. Their representative will be invited to the next Parish Council meeting in September order to discuss possible solutions.

Wellow Recreation:

The Chairman of Wellow Recreation announced the newly appointed team of trustees. He reported that Wellow Rec. is working closely with St. Julian's Primary School to provide facilities on the Playing Field and Tennis Courts for netball, football and the school Sports Day. A series of cricket training sessions are being offered to children during the summer months. Boules for older residents is going well too. However, income has fallen since the pandemic. New ideas to raise funds are being considered such as an open air cinema screening on the playing field. It was mentioned that the Pavilion has availability for additional parties, meetings and other functions . The space is being advertised to local businesses and social clubs. Wellow Rec. has some challenges, but currently has a good cash position.

*Community Matters: Support your Village
The Parlour Shop, the Village Hall, the Church and the Societies*

Wellow Brook:

A meeting has been arranged for Wellow residents with Wessex Water and Wellow fishing syndicate on the 4th September at 6pm in the Village Hall. Wessex Water will talk about water quality in the Brook and will be able to answer any questions.

Community Infrastructure Levy:

Following neighbouring residents' complaints about the planned location of a bench by the ford, the PC has decided not to proceed with the installation.

The CIL funds are still available. The estimated budgets for the following ideas will be collated and presented at the next PC meeting:

To renovate the path from Henley View to the car park.

To purchase a compost bin.

To repair the gates on the railway crossing.

Wellow and Shoscombe Cemetery:

The damaged stone gates, pillars and the metal gates have been repaired. A claim has been submitted to the insurance company.

Communication and engagement with external bodies:

Parish Council's website: The Council will explore options to create a separate website and present at the next meeting.

A questionnaire will be sent to residents to identify issues which concern them most and how the Parish Council can help. The questionnaire will be published via the Parish Post and the Parish Newsletter.

Discussion took place with a resident about possible implementation of a Carbon Offset Scheme. The PC offered the use of the PC bank account for collection of the funds, but a separate resident's subcommittee will need to be arranged for the management of the scheme and distribution of grants.

A meeting of the Bathavon Forum was attended by the council's representative. It was decided that the council members will take turns to attend future Bathavon Forum and Parish Liaison Meetings.

Somer Valley Links Consultation (A367 corridor) run until 6th August 2023

The consultation has been advertised in the village Parish Post. A residents' comment at the Public Participation section was taken into consideration. The Parish Council will write to B&NES in response.

Finance and Administration:

It was noted that no requests to exercise the Public Rights were received under Freedom of Information for the financial year 2022-23.

It was noted that the payment of £245.00 was received from the Horton Starkie fund for the financial year 2022-23.

It was noted that £1,000 donation is received from Wellow Valley Tennis. This fund is to be reserved for investment in the Sports Field and Equipment. The parish council thanked WVT for the donation.

The Noticeboard is currently still being renovated.

Dates of future Parish Council meetings in the Village Hall: Monday 4th September; Monday 6th November; Monday 8th January; Monday 4th March.

Olga Shepherd, Parish Clerk. Tel: 07988 192619. Email: clerk@wellowpc.org.uk

Lunch Club

September lunch club will be on 28th September. Please let me know if you are not able to come. Many thanks

Vicky 01225 835840

Wildwood Tree Surgeons

After 22 years of living and being based in Wellow, we are now moving on. It's a bittersweet moment, as we have so many fond memories of the village, but we're also excited to be starting a new chapter. We are relocating just a couple of miles away and our email and mobile will remain the same we will also continue as normal covering Wellow and the surrounding area.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the villagers past and present, who were very welcoming to us when we first arrived in the village and to say a special thanks for everyone's continued support to Wildwood throughout the years.

Scott & Leah.

Water Quality in Wellow Brook

A meeting with representatives from Wessex Water and Wellow Brook fishing group is arranged for Monday 4th September at 6 p.m. in the Village Hall, just before the PC meeting at 7.30pm. There will be discussions about water quality in the brook and questions will be asked by the Brook fishing Syndicate. Residents are invited and can also ask questions.

Village Agent Update: August 2023

I thought it was time for another update from me about the work myself and other VA colleagues have been doing in the area over the past few busy weeks.

We started a project in March in the RUH with our partner AGE UK bringing the services of B&NES Wellbeing Hub to patients, visitors and staff so they have direct access to services, information and advice that supports people to live independently at home. Following on from this work, we have become partners in a brilliant new project there that can help to streamline the discharge process for patients by improving access to a range of support B&NES residents can receive when they are discharged and go home, minimizing the risk of re admission. And, we also now have a presence in St Martins and Paulton hospitals too.

My employer, The West of England Rural Network have for several years been successfully running a Community Oil Buying Scheme in the B&NES area. Its free to join for anyone who is 70 years or older and for anyone else there is a £20 membership fee. Typically members pay 6 or 7 pence per litre LESS than average high street prices saving a minimum of £120 per year. For more information call Karen on: 07825 202043 or email karen@wern.org.uk.

We work in partnership with the Centre for Sustainable Energy and last month I asked them to visit a resident I have been supporting in a local village to do a mini audit of how much they were paying monthly for their energy bill and do checks on other “utility” usage and expenses. They got their energy payments reduced by £45 a month, with a £131 rebate and their mobile phone cost down by £10 a month. That added up to an annual saving of £664 + £131 = £795! This resident lives in a one bedroom bungalow. That was a result! (What could the potential savings be in a larger home?) And with the help of Age UK we are supporting the resident in applying for Attendance Allowance which is likely to bring in another £272 per month, £3264 per annum....tax free and it's not Means tested....and we are supporting them to apply for a Blue Badge.

Question.....Would you ever NOT claim your old age pension?..... Of course not, you are entitled to it and have paid your NI contributions for years! So why is it, other payments people could be entitled to aren't claimed?

As a Village Agent I often come across residents who could but aren't claiming Attendance Allowance, or Carers Allowance, or Disability Living Allowance and Council Tax benefit. I am now finding more residents I come across in my villages are “asset rich but cash poor” and they aren't claiming the benefits they are entitled to, indeed some people don't feel its right that they do. But some are struggling to make ends meet. It's currently estimated £15bn goes unclaimed, up to 3.4 million

pensioners are not claiming Attendance Allowance, 400,000 are not claiming Carers Allowance and many hundreds of thousands more aren't claiming other allowances and grants they are entitled to.

If you want to find out more for yourself or someone you know, please get in touch. If you, or someone you know needs information or support to remain living independently at home, please get in touch. Everything I do is confidential and free and often it's just a phone call that's needed, tel: 01275 333700 or email chantal@wern.org.uk.

Chantal Young, Village Agent, Tel: 07391 068705

Forthcoming bus service changes in the B&NES area.

These changes will commence on 3rd September.

- No. 1: Southdown – Kingsway – Oldfield Park – Kingsmead – Bath Bus Station: Timetable revised and frequency increased Mon-Fri afternoon peak time. No change to route.
- No. 3. Bath City Centre – Snow Hill – Bathford – Batheaston – Snow Hill – Bath City Centre – Oldfield Park: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 4. Odd Down Park & Ride – Odd Down – Bloomfield – Bear Flat – Bath Bus Station – Upper Bristol Road – Combe Park – Weston – Upper Weston: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 4a. Fox Hill – Combe Down – Bear Flat – Bath Bus Station – Upper Bristol Road – Combe Park – Weston – Upper Weston: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 4b. Fox Hill – Combe Down – Odd Down – Bloomfield – Bear Flat – Bath Bus Station – Upper Bristol Road – Combe Park – Weston – Upper Weston: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 8. Bath Centre – Oldfield Park – Moorlands – Kingsway: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 13. Elmhurst – Batheaston – Lambridge – Walcot – Centre: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 20. Ralph Allen School – Bathwick Hill – Bath City Centre: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 173. Bath - Peasedown St John - Radstock - Midsomer Norton – Wells: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 228. Colerne – Bannerdown – Batheaston – Lambridge – Grosvenor – Walcot – Bath Bus Station: Timetable revised, no change to route.

Don't forget to visit the Wellow website @ www.wellowparish.info

- No. 271. Bowerhill - Melksham - Bathford – Bath: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 272 Devizes - Melksham - Box – Bath: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 273. Devizes - Melksham - Box – Bath: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. 404. Haydon – Kilmersdon – Writhington: Service withdrawn.
- No. 522. Bath Bus Station – Peasedown St. John – Radstock – Midsomer Norton – Paulton – Hallatrow – High Littleton – Farnborough - Timsbury – Marksbury – Burnet – Keynsham – Brislington – Bristol Bus Station: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. D1. Warminster – Westbury – Trowbridge – Bradford-on-Avon – Winsley – Monkton Combe – Claverton – Bathampton - Bathwick – Bath: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. D2. Frome – Oldford – Beckington – Rode – Wolverton – Norton St. Phillip – Hinton Charterhouse – Midford – Odd Down – Bear Flat – Bath: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. D2x. Frome (Sainsburys) – Frome Market Place – Oldford – Beckington – Wolverton – Limpley Stoke – Claverton – Bathampton - Bathwick – Bath: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. OS1. Hanham – Longwell Green – Bitton – Oldfield School: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. U1. Ralph Allen School- University of Bath - Bathwick Hill – Bath City Centre – Lower Bristol Road - Oldfield Park – Bath City Centre: Route variation some journeys start from Bath, Grand Parade.
- No. U2. Oldfield Park – Widcombe – Bathwick – University of Bath: Route variation, serving all stops on Bathwick Hill.
- No. U5. Bath Spa University – Lower Bristol Road – East Twerton – Kingsmead – Centre: Timetable revised, no change to route.
- No. X79. Bath - Marshfield - Yatton Keynell - Sherston - Malmesbury – Hullavington: Service withdrawn.
- No. X84. Bath - Winsley - Bradford-on-Avon - Staverton – Semington: Service withdrawn.
- No. X85. Bath - Monkton Farleigh - Hilperton – Semington: Service withdrawn.
- No. X88. Bath – Holt – Steeple Ashton – Bratton – Great Cheverell – Worton: Service withdrawn.

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Wellow Parish Diary

Regular activities:

Parish Council meetings: Village Hall; Contact: Parish Clerk: Olga Shepherd: Tel: 07988 192619. Email: clerk@wellowparishcouncil.org.uk

Magic Box Pre-School: Village Hall; Mondays, Wednesday and Friday in term-time. 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Contact: Tel: 0771 2369130 or Email: MagicBoxPreSchool@outlook.com

Boules: Wellow Recreation Ground; Summer months: Wednesday, 6.00pm and Sunday, 2:30pm. October: Sunday afternoon only. Contact: Email: wellow.boules@gmail.com: Tel: 01225 830188

Wellow Wellbeing Art & Craft Group: Village Hall; Tuesdays, 10.30-13.00. Contact Averil Swift: Tel: 01373 834384 or Vicky Hamerton: Tel: 01225 835840

Wellow Knitting Group: Manor Close Community Hall: Monday's 1.30-4 p.m. Contact Pam Pike. Tel: 07428 846473 Email: pamelapike8@gmail.com

Bellringing: Wednesday evening, 7.30 p.m. at St Julian's Church. Contact Clover Holland; Tel: 01225 833348; Email: cloverholland@outlook.com

Lunch Club: Village Hall; 4th Thursday in the month, September to June. Contact: Vicky Hammerton: Tel: 01225 835840

Mobile Library: Alternate Tuesdays. Village hall: 10.45-11.45 a.m.

Wellow Parish Directory:

Wellow Horticultural Society: Secretary: Tel: 07966 080005; Email: info@hortsoc.wellow.org

Parlour Shop: Tel: 835438; Email: wellowparlourshop@gmail.com

Wellow Village Hall bookings: Tel: 835840. Email: canndu@live.com

Wellow Community Bus: Contact: Mike Tel: 07854 414084, Email: michaeljclarkson@gmail.com

Friends of St. Julians: Contact: Email: friends@stjulianswellow.co.uk

Wellow Valley Tennis: Contact: Email: wvtennisclub@gmail.com

BANES Local Councillors: Matt McCabe: Tel: 07711 047267; Email: mattmccabe.1@outlook.com. Fiona Gourley: Tel: 07803 015886; Email: Fiona_Gourley@bathnes.gov.uk

Westlink, flexible bus service: Website: westlink.app.ridewithvia.com]westlink.app.ridewithvia.com Tel: 0117 4578561 Email: westlink@wedrt.com

Parish Magazine Editor: Jane Rees, 3 Weavers Orchard, Wellow; Tel: 01225 837031; Email: jane@reestools.co.uk. Please let me have material for the following month's magazine **by 18th of each month.**

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