



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

April 2024

“Prayer” by Matthew Street, the Vicar, based on Acts 12:5-9a, 12-16.

While Peter was kept in prison, the Church prayed earnestly to God for his safety. The very night that Herod intended to send for him, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, a watch also being kept at the front of the prison door. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared and a light filled the building. Touching Peter on the side, he woke him, saying, “Get up quickly!” The chains fell from his wrists, and the angel said to him, “Fasten your belt and put on your sandals!” He did so. Then he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” Peter went out and followed him. He went to the house of Mary, the mother of John Mark, where many had gathered in prayer. When he knocked at the porch door, a maid called Rhoda came to answer. On recognising Peter’s voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the door, she ran back inside and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, “You’ve taken leave of your senses!” She was so insistent that it was him that they said, “Perhaps it’s his angel!” Meanwhile Peter carried on knocking; and when finally they opened the door and saw him, they were amazed. (Acts 12:5-9a, 12-16)

Ask any Christian what they find hardest in the Christian life and they will probably say prayer. We find it hard to give prayer proper time and harder still to find the words for what we want to say, but perhaps most difficult of all is coming to terms with the many times when we do not seem to receive an answer or when the answer given is not quite what we hoped for. Faith tells us one thing, experience another, and eventually it is experience, often all too painful, that tends to win the day. There was a time, perhaps, when we would have asked for something, fully confident that God would grant it, but as the years pass and that fails to happen, we find it increasingly hard to keep on believing. As a result, our prayers become mechanical, offered more out of duty than expectation.

Yet God does hear and does respond, our failure to hear his answer often due to our failure to listen or to the straitjacket we subconsciously set upon him. It may be that his answer is ‘no’, or ‘not yet’, but it may also be that he has already answered ‘yes’, if only we can throw off the shackles of doubt and bring ourselves to believe it.

Sunday Services in

April

Prison Mission

Sunday 7th April: 10.00 a.m.

Talk: Prison ministry: Genesis 39:20-40:23

Leader: Derek Smith

Speaker: Derek Smith

Sunday 14th April: 10.00 a.m.

Talk: Released from Prison: Acts 5:17-32, Acts 12:1-18

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Matthew Street

Sunday 21st: 10.00 a.m.

All Age Worship

Talk: Paul and Silas in prison: Acts 16:16-40

Leader: AAW team

Speaker: AAW team

Sunday 28th: 10.00 a.m. H.C.

Talk: A prisoner's defence: Acts 26:1-32

Leader: Derek Smith

Speaker: Derek Smith

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 9..00am BC 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

BC = Bubble Church

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

Here we are in April with the start of longer and warmer days to look forward to.

The month of March at St Julian's was quite busy with the AAW Service held on Mothering Sunday. This service was a noisy and joyful occasion with posies made by the children and Simnel cake were distributed to the congregation. Our thoughts and prayers were with Mothers all over our troubled world.

At the annual APCM, Chris Corps was welcomed onto the PCC and the Church Wardens were elected to serve for another year.

The possibilities of installing CCTV cameras is still being looked into.

Despite the recent bad weather no new leaks in the roof have been noticed.

The damaged bench in the North field has been removed and the new one installed. We very much hope that damage to Church property will not be repeated.

The next AAW Service will be on Sunday 21st April, the numbers attending this service are growing and we would love to see more noisy children coming along. Every one of any age is welcome.

Pam Pike & Jane Rees, Church Wardens

Wellow Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 4th March in the Village Hall. Cllr. Matt McCabe and eleven residents attended this meeting to address the matters on the agenda.

Public Participation: Everyone noted a 35 years' service of the Parish Sweeper. A resident reported that water is being discharged from Manor House driveway into Mill Hill. The PC will investigate. It was mentioned however that this could be a matter for the owner of the house.

The car park hedges have been cut recently and cutting are left on the ground. The PC will investigate and contact B&NES.

The cuttings have also been left after the hedge cutting on the drive to the playing fields. The Wellow Rec. will contact the contractor.

Co-option: The Council approved the application for co-option from Sarah Sell and welcomed her to the team.

Planning Applications: It was noted that the Enforcement Notice 23/00307/UN-DEV issued to the owner of the land adjacent to Mill Hill expires on 29th March. The landowner has until then to reverse the changes made to the land and to re-seed the area.

No new requests for planning applications have been received since the last meeting.

Wellow Valley Tennis: It was reported that a recently installed energy efficient lights on the tennis courts have significantly improved the light spill. This is beneficial for the player and the nearby residents. WVT have donated £525 to the Parish Council to be spend on general maintenance.

Wellow Community Bus: No updates were received. The bus is running at its normal schedule.

Village Shop: The Parish Council considered the request from the Village Shop Committee to potentially relocate the shop to a temporary portacabin-style shop on the Playing Fields grounds and to make pre-application to B&NES.

The PC took to a view that a business case needed to be developed prior to a final decision and recommended it to appoint a project manager in order to build a case for this project. A public consultation needs to be carried out to include the interests of the wider community.

It was noted that the Village shop is currently making losses. These losses are being covered by private donations. Partially these losses are due to paying rent. It was also noted that it will be advantageous for the shop to own its own premises.

The Parish Council is minded to support this initiative once the feasibility information is gathered and presented for consideration.

Highways & Transport: The following updates were received:

The drainage works in High Street/ Littleton commenced to increase the capacity to store excess water and to prevent storm overflows.

Verge outside Cornish Motors: a request was sent to B&NES with regards to misuse of the verge by the repair shop. No reply has yet been received.

Application to install Speed Indication Device: a meeting is arranged with B&NES Highways to agree locations of Speed Indicating Devices and to discuss other traffic regulation requirements. It was noted that 4 sets of training will be required for the management of SID.

Speed Watch: more people have volunteered.

Village traffic survey 2024 results: the survey showed that over 80% of residents consider traffic in the village as a serious issue. There is no universal support to install SID in the village, however, safety and the appearance will need to be balanced.

Environment: The Environmental Policy has been updated and approved.

Wellow Recreation: The following updated were received:

The Chairman of Wellow Rec. reported that Wellow 10K Run, held on 3rd March 2024, was a huge success with an impressive turn out. Everyone involved in organising the event was congratulated. The Committee noted that some organisational improvements will be considered for future events.

Keep the date! The Miracle Theatre event is planned for 27th June 2024. More information will be published in due course.

Taster cricket coaching sessions will be offered at end of June/beginning of July. Football coaching is going well. The Committee is looking to organise rugby tots classes. Wellow Rec is currently in good financial position. It was requested that grating at the top of the field are kept clear to prevent damage to the running track from flooding. The Committee is unsure whether it is worth investing in the new cricket nets as the potential demand is unknown. A survey will be carried out to see if there is an interest.

The Parish Council approved a request to purchase new sleeves for the goalposts. The remaining CIL money will be used.

Community Infrastructure Levy: The remaining balance of the CIL is £9.00. The total of £3,471 has been allocated as follows: £1,500 for composting facilities, £850 repair of the Church clock, £371 for a new bench for the playpark, £750 for a new set of sleeves for the goalposts.

Mike Cleverly quoted £790 to install a concrete pad for fixing the new play park bench was approved. A donation from WVT of £525 will be used.

A donation of £200 to Wellow Art Group was approved. The payment is to be made directly to the group who will provide bank details to the Clerk in order to arrange the payment.

B&NES Local Plan Options Consultation run until 8th April. This plan outlines the planning policy for the next 20 years. Parishioners are invited to make their comments on B&NES website. <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/local-plan>.

Dates of next meetings: Monday 13th May 2024: The Annual Meeting of Electors and the Annual Parish Council Meeting

Future PC meeting: 8th July 24; 9th September 24; 4th November 24; 6th January 2025; 3rd March 2025

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

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

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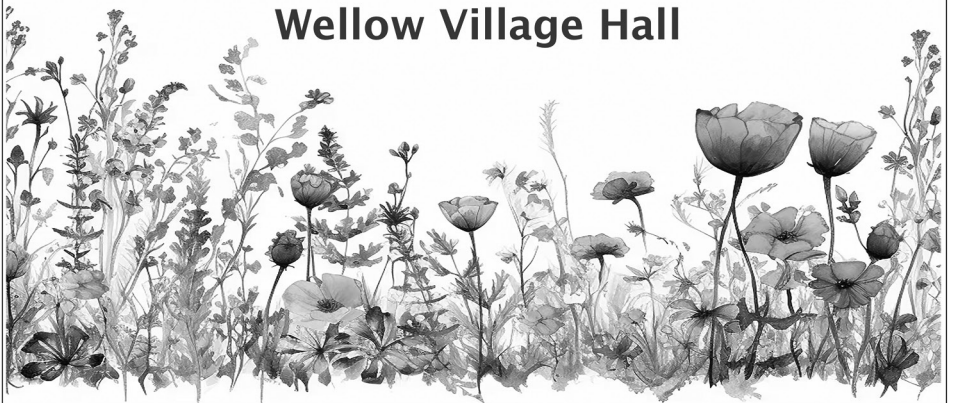
events@hortsoc.wellow.org

Refreshments available, the first drink is free

Friday 26th April 7.30pm start

Members free, £2.50 for guests

Wellow Village Hall



It's only a few weeks until the

SPRING PLANT SALE



Please bring your surplus shrubs, perennials and sow a few annuals for the annual plant sale. Vegetables are especially welcome.

Refreshments and a wide selection of plants at very reasonable prices.
Proceeds go to the Red Cross

Put the date in your diary, and hope to see you there!

Saturday 11th May 2pm-3.30pm

Wellow Village Hall

Update from Dan Norris, Mayor of the West of England

Knife Crime: At the annual Mayor's West of England Schools Summit, 100 local West of England youngsters were trained in life saving skills so they know what emergency steps to take if someone has been stabbed.

WildscreenARK: I was delighted to launch WildscreenARK alongside Chris Packham last month. WildscreenARK is a new online nature resource, aimed primarily at children aged 13 – 18. It has amazing high quality photos and videos of the natural world and is ideal to support the new Natural History GCSE. Take a look at: <https://www.wildscreenark.org>

Help for Communities for Green Energy Projects: The West of England Local Energy Scheme is open for community groups who would like to set up energy projects- think solar panels or a wind turbine! Find out more here: <https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/local-energy-scheme/>

Avoid the April Showers and hop on the bus: Residents with a birthday in April can now sign up for free bus travel throughout their birthday month. Evade the April showers whilst travelling around the West by signing up for a birthday bus pass at: www.birthdaybus.co.uk

Help Save The Planet! (and Wellow)



Ever felt a bit guilty as you book your holiday or business flight about its impact on climate change and your personal carbon footprint? Ideally, we should all try to cut back on air travel. If you choose to fly however, the Wellow Carbon Offset Fund is a wholly voluntary idea that can help turn your guilty feeling into positive local action.

You will have seen international ‘carbon offset’ schemes that, through a small payment, help offset the impact of your flight by funding rainforest protection, tree planting or similar. However, knowing how your money is actually being used is difficult to assess and some of those schemes have been exposed as having limited impact.

The Wellow Carbon Offset Fund (WeCOF) will mean you can offset your flight’s CO2 emissions secure in the knowledge that your money is going directly towards reducing the carbon footprint of Wellow. It will be doing things that help promote sustainability and building our community resources. (Though doing so should not encourage you to fly more – the big aim must be less flying).

How it will work is simple:

1. You calculate your or your family’s flight carbon footprint and related offset payment using any recognised website e.g. <https://www.clevel.co.uk/flight-carbon-calculator/>
2. You pay that amount (or any other sum you see fit) into the Fund¹.
3. The amount in the Fund will be publicised from time to time and ideas/proposals invited for how it should be used.
4. The money will be allocated in the best way to benefit carbon reduction and the community. Everyone who has contributed can have a say in how it is used.

¹ The Fund is being looked after by the Parish Council to ensure the money is safe, but the Parish Council have no other role in its management or operation, which will be done by a group of volunteers from the Parish.

Examples of a possible carbon offset payment (single person, return flight):

- £9.84 economy class to Ibiza
- £17.66 economy class to Athens
- £51.78 economy class to Mumbai
- £109.88 business class to New York.

- Land/plant management initiatives that help reduce CO2
- Traffic reduction initiatives

How the money is used will depend on the ideas submitted, but MIGHT include (note, these are not proposals or intentions, just some examples of possible ideas):

- Solar panels on community owned/run buildings
- An electric car charger so people without off street access could swap petrol/diesel for electric
- Helping to replace oil or similar boilers with heat pumps

So, please join in and commit today to make future contributions as you book or take your flights. Remember this is totally voluntary, and if you cannot make the full offset payment, any contribution is better than none. For more details and to 'sign up', contact us at WeCOF@future.wellow.org

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Wellow Parish Diary

Regular activities:

Parish Council meetings: Village Hall; Contact: Parish Clerk: Olga Shepherd: Tel: 07988 192619. Email: clerk@wellowpc.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: 07950 605239; 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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