



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

June 2025

“A life of prayer” by Matthew Street, the Vicar, based on Ephesians 4:12

Epaphras, from among your number and a servant of Jesus Christ, sends greetings. He is always wrestling on your behalf in prayer, asking that you may stand firm, mature and fully assured of the will of God. (Colossians 4:12)

“I will pray for you.” Countless individuals must have made that promise innumerable times across the years, but what does it mean?

Sometimes it is a little more than a platitude; a suitably pious-sounding way of avoiding the need to offer any more concrete help. Usually, though, we offer it in all sincerity, but, despite our best intentions, fail to act upon it. We mean to pray, but there are so many needs to pray for and so little time in which to do it. Meaningful prayer tends to go out of the window, reduced to a few cursory and general words. Contrast that with the tribute paid by Paul to the man at the centre of this verse: Epaphras, a man who was “always wrestling in prayer” for the Colossians. Of all his gifts, this, in Paul’s opinion, was what made Epaphras stand out – his dedication to prayer.

So what can we learn here? First, for Epaphras, prayer wasn’t a casual take-it-or-leave-it activity; it was part of his life, a privilege and responsibility he wrestled with day by day. It wasn’t a vague activity, either. He knew whom he was praying for, what he was praying about and why he was praying. Equally, prayer wasn’t simply concerned with his own affairs or his immediate circle. It reached out to others, concerned with their needs and ultimate welfare. Finally, and most importantly, he acted upon his prayers. “I can personally testify,” Paul went on to say, “that he works tirelessly, both for you and for those in Laodicea and Hierapolis.” What exactly he did, we are not told, but it is clear that Epaphras didn’t leave it all to God; he played his part in ensuring his prayers were answered. “I’ll pray for you.” It’s a tremendous promise if we mean it. How many of us actually do?

Sunday Services in

June

Keep fit for life – Prayer

Sunday 1st June 10.00 a.m.

Talk: How to pray. Matthew 6:5-13

Leader: Jo Vening

Speaker: Jo Vening

Sunday 8th June 10.00 a.m. H.C.

Talk: Prayer answered. Kings 18:16-39

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Matthew Street

Sunday 15th June. 10.00 a.m.

All Age Worship

Talk: Pray with persistence. Luke 18:1-8

Leader: AAW team

Speaker: AAW team

Sunday 22nd June 10.00 a.m.

Talk: Prayer for deliverance. Jonah 2:1-10

Leader: Andrew Avramenko

Speaker: Andrew Avramenko

Sunday 29th June 10.00 a.m.

Talk: Pray with humility. Luke 18:9-14

Leader: Dick Beath

Speaker: Dick Beath

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 Joint service at Wellow.

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

The All Age Worship service on May 18th was a joyous occasion, and as is expected when led by Martin Palmer, a bit different from usual. It took place both outside and inside the church. We learnt about the names for different parts being derived from maritime sources and went on a voyage into what a new world might be like. Many thanks to Martin and to all who were involved in making this a very special service.

The plans for the new extension to provide toilets and kitchenette are progressing and the necessary archaeological investigation has now been carried out.

Saturday 24th May saw the church's Spring Clean. Thank you to all those who came to make the church spick and span with special thanks to Jill for organising the army of cleaners and to Pam for laying gravel on the remainder of the paths round the church. Also, many thanks to the Friends who provided the gravel.

The bellringers recommenced their weekly practice, which has been on hold while Richard was unwell, and are getting ready to ring for two weddings in June. We were also pleased to welcome a visiting band of ringers one evening who rang a quarter peal – no mean feat on our very heavy bells.

Last, but definitely not least, we were delighted to welcome visitors from Peasedown St Johns, Foxcote and Shoscombe for a joint Benefice service on Sunday 25th.

Jane Rees, Church Warden

St Julian's Books

Please remember that there is a bookcase at the back of St Julian's church, which is now full of a wide selection of books. They are all free and so do help yourselves to any that might be of interest to you.

Julia Wyld

St Julian's Spring Clean

Thank you so much to all those who came and spring cleaned the church on Saturday. We had a wonderful turnout and lots of children who really set to. The windows were cleaned the night before. Corners of the church were dusted and polished that hadn't seen a duster in years, the brass now sparkles, the gravel path is free of weeds and bare patches covered.

The flower vases were sorted and some ancient oasis thrown out and the children's corner is clean.

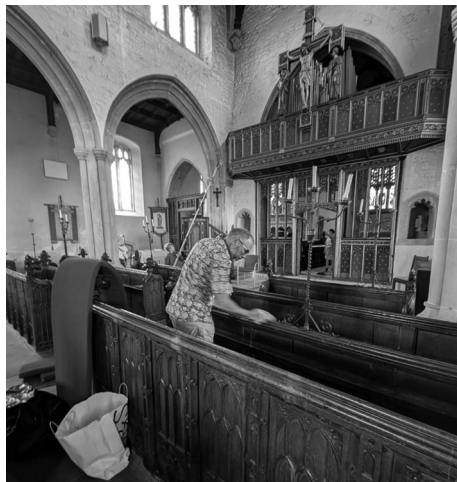
*Community Matters: Support your Village
The Parlour Shop, the Village Hall, the Church and the Societies*

I'm really grateful to everyone – a real community effort. The building is now all ready for weddings, baptisms, Sunday worship, choir practice and memorials, and, of course, the many people who pop in to have a look while visiting Wellow, or just come to sit quietly and reflect.

Our lovely Church, unlike so many, is open every day of the week, thanks to the church openers.

A big thank you to you all.

Jill Tremellen



Wellow Parish Council

Report of the meeting held on May 12th 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Public Participation: The Parish Sweeper mentioned a lime tree that has some dead branches – B&NES are expected to come & remove the dead wood. He mentioned that the school are concerned about the barrier outside has been bent by a vehicle & worried about vehicles mounting the pavement. It is hoped that the school will mention safety in their newsletter

Cars are blocking the whole road near the shop, leaving no room for a pull in for passing. This will be mentioned in the Parish Post

It was mentioned that there are now at least 14 rented properties in the village, causing concerns for younger generations.

The Parish Sweeper assured the meeting that he has no plans to retire.

A member of the public addressed the meeting about his project for a vineyard on the north side of the village next to Farm Lane. He expanded on his plans for the vineyard & future wine making, hoping that the village will be keen to interact with him in due course. He assured the meeting that sustainability is very important and outlined how any traffic would not impact the village.

Present: Dave Workman (Chair), Nick Chapman & Chris Cook; **Apologies:** Mike Clarkson, Jonathan Luck, & Sarah Sell

Interests: No interests declared

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 10th March & also the EPC on 16th April 2025 were approved

Planning Applications: The following planning application was discussed

25/01194/FUL: St Julian's Well Cottage, Bull's Hill: Erection of side extension following demolition of lean to and installation of a roof extension and associated works including rendering of the existing rear projection in lime render. Supported

Planning application decisions by B&NES:

24/02841/FUL: Storage Compound, Little Horse Croft Farm, Ford Road: Retention of contractors' compound as additional agricultural hard standing: Permitted

24/04172/FUL & 24/04173/LBA: Farm buildings at Weavers Farm, Weavers Orchard: Conversion of two barns to form a single dwelling including an independent flat with ancillary use to the main dwelling (Resubmission.) Permitted

25/00308/FUL: Windyridge, High Street: Erection of 3 bedroom dwelling on land to the front of Windyridge, associated landscape works, and modification to existing drive entrance. Permitted.

25/00577/TC: Teazel Cottage, High Street: T1 *Acer griseum* – Reduce by 1m. No objection.

25/00593/TCA: Land at rear of Manor Cottage, Farm Lane: T2 Ash – reduce by 2m. T3 Ash – crown reduce by 2m. T4 Indian bean tree – reduce by 1.5m. T5 Dragons claw willow – reduce by 2m. T6 Ash – remove. T7 Ash – reduce by 1m. No objection

25/00639/FUL: Hilltrough, High Street: Remodelling to rear elevation of property and addition of 2 recessed balconies at first floor. Permitted.

Wellow Community Bus: There are plans underway to help raise funding for the bus due to a shortfall from a cancelled regular booking

Wellow Recreation: Resurfacing of the Village Hall drive – quotes received are very expensive and other interested parties that may be liable for a contribution to the resurfacing are to be contacted, with the likelihood that the project will be pushed back to next year.

Burial Board: A review of records had identified two graves which were unregistered – this is now rectified. Grass cutting is still in progress, and a compost heap has been created which will hopefully help to alleviate the rubbish problems. There are paths that need to be cleared and the possibility of gathering a voluntary group to help was raised. Grave numbering has been resolved

Other Matters: The Litter Pick on 29 March 2025 was successful. Sustrans meeting was attended by about 35 people. A design is being put together for future consultation, and funding for any projects will come from B&NES

Finance and Administration: There is a small surplus, but costs increasing. Insurance has increased by 44% & it was agreed to reduce some aspects of cover to help reduce the premium. Ongoing issue with EDF for supply to the phone box is now resolved

Any Other Business: Date for AGM & Annual Meeting was set for 7th July. A query on development in Norton Lane, was discussed and resolved. A planning meeting with BANES was confirmed for May 17th in Camerton. Wellow PC will be represented. It was mentioned that the Church path maintenance was good this year with wildflowers left to grow.

Date of the next meetings: 7th July (AGM): 8th September: 3rd November.

Claire Dicken, Parish Clerk. Email: clerk@wellowpc.org.uk

Lunch Club

Lunch Club dates for 2025: If you are unable to make it please call Vicky on 0797 7900 387. If you would like to join us you would be made very welcome. Thank you.

26th June: 25th Sep: 23rd Oct: 20th Nov: 11th Dec

The Lunch Club Team

Wellow & District Horticultural Society

A big **thank you** to everyone who made the Plant Sale a great success.

To all those who helped on the day setting up stalls, making and serving great cakes and drinks and making beautiful posters.

A lot of green finger's work and goodwill was put in by all the growers of a huge variety of excellent plants.

The Green Elephant stall, compost advice and even a tool sharpening service were excellent too.

Well done, one and all.

Pam, Lynne, Hugh and Mari: Hort Soc committee

Wellow Community Bus: Bus services for school year 2025/26

We are taking reservations for secondary school children who wish to take the Wellow Community Bus to Hayesfield, Beechen Cliff, St. Gregory's or Bath College in the next school year beginning in September.

We urgently need school passengers with season tickets in order to keep our services running.

Please email Christina at rockett@mac.com or call her on 07479 285443 to reserve a place on the bus.

Wellow Community Bus Group

Endangered Amphibians

We would like to thank Wellow volunteers for their help with this years amphibian migration.

Overall, it was a successful year. The lane closure helped considerably with toad patroller safety while working on the road and greatly helped reduce the number of amphibian deaths.

We are delighted to report a significant increase in the number of volunteers from neighbouring villages including Monkton Combe and South Stoke.

Despite February being too cold for amphibian activity, patrollers saved 1045 toads, 27 frogs and 36 newts which is very encouraging. This data has been fed into the national figures maintained by Froglife and ARAG.

Even with the lane closure, some drivers moved the road barriers and a few vehicles made it through the lane which sadly resulted in 49 dead amphibians (4% death rate). These deaths could have been avoided. But, on a positive note this number is considerably less than a “normal” year. Deaths in 2024 were 192 which was a 16% death rate.

If any more residents from Wellow would like to show interest in joining this worthwhile cause for February/March 2026 then please send an email to Lyndi and Sue at tuckingmilltoads@gmail.com

For sale:

As many of you know, Richard Holland is unwell and unable at present to produce the Parish Post. We all wish him well and a speedy recovery. In the meantime, although normally advertisements in the Parish Magazine have to be paid for, I am happy to include the occasional short advertisement for free.

APPLE/WINE STORE: 24 inches wide; 5 feet tall. £75 o.n.o.

Valerie Pike. Tel: 07973 164413

Wellow Parish Diary

Regular activities:

Parish Council meetings: Village Hall; Contact: Parish Clerk: 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.

Wellow Knitting Group: Manor Close Community Hall: Monday's 1.30–4 p.m. Contact Pam Pike. Tel: 07428 846473 Email: pamela.pike8@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; 3rd Thursday in the month, September to June. Contact: Vicky Hammerton: Tel: 0797 7900 387

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: 0797 7900 387. 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.

Printed by St Phillip and St James' Church, Odd Down.

Published and Promoted by St Julian's Parish Church at the St J's Group Office,
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