



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

February 2026

“My sheep know my name” by Matthew Street, The Vicar, based on John 10:1-3, 10

“Very truly I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

Jesus paints a picture his hearers knew well — sheep, a shepherd, and a fold. But He draws their attention to something deeper than a familiar scene: relationship. The sheep are not managed; they are known.

“He calls his own sheep by name.” In a world where most people are reduced to numbers, titles, or statistics, the Good Shepherd names us personally. His voice is not a shout of command but a call of recognition. To follow Him is not blind obedience but trust built through intimacy.

There are other voices — thieves and strangers — that promise freedom but lead to loss. Some climb over the wall, offering shortcuts to peace or success. Yet Jesus warns that only His voice leads to life. *“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”*

Full life is not the absence of trouble but the presence of the Shepherd. He knows our stories, fears, and weaknesses, yet still calls us “mine.” We recognise His voice not because it is loud but because it carries love.

Perhaps you feel surrounded by noise — demands, opinions, pressures — all claiming to guide you. Stop and listen. Which voice calls you by name? Which one leads you toward peace, grace, and freedom?

The Shepherd still speaks. Our task is not to find a louder voice, but a quieter heart.

Visit the Church website: www.stjsgroup.church

Sunday Services in February

Ask the Animals – Sheep

Sunday 1st Feb. 10.00 a.m.

Talk: The lost sheep - Luke 15:1-7,
Matthew 18:12-14

Leader: Rachel Howlett

Speaker: Dick Beath

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

Talk: Sheep amongst wolves - Matthew 10:5-20

Leader: Derek Smith

Speaker: Andrew Avramenko

Sunday 15th Feb. 10.00 a.m.

All Age Worship

Leader: AAW team

Speaker: AAW team

Sunday 22nd Feb. 10.00 a.m.

Talk: The sheep and the goats - Matthew 25:31-46

Leader: Jo Vening

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.

Details from the editor

Church Community Groups

Wellow Prayer Group

Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

Phone Pauline for details: 832625

Benefice Praise and Prayer

Every Monday, 7.45pm-9.30pm
@ The Vicarage, Peasedown 'God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth.' John 4:24. Please join us as we praise God, hear 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 W4E

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

4th Sunday 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

W4E = Worship for Everyone

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

January is always a quiet month but we have started a new Sermon Series, "Ask the Animals" so each month we will be focusing on a different animal and exploring what we can learn from them. We had our usual All Age Worship service on 18th January and looked at lions and Daniel in the lion's den. This month we will be looking at sheep.

And on Sunday 25th it was the annual Review of Giving Sunday.

Looking ahead, later this month we are delighted that the Archdeacon's Benefice visit will be taking place. He will be preaching at Wellow on Sunday 1st March. And later in March, on 15th, there will be the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Jane Rees, Church Warden

Wellow Parish Council

Meeting held on Monday 5th January 2026.

Public Participation: Wellow 10k is being held again this year, and an organising member requested that the PC again covered the cost of the BANES application permit & insurance which is £198.80 for 2026. Last year £2,919 was raised for the Community Chest & £796 for St Julian's School. The PC is happy to underwrite the cost which will be returned if there is a surplus.

The Village Sweeper commented that there has been an increase in dog fouling in the village. The Parish Clerk will request that this is mentioned in the Parish Post, with a request to villagers to clean up after their dogs.

Present: Dave Workman (Chair), Mike Clarkson, Nick Chapman, Stuart Kotchie & The Parish Clerk along with 5 members of the public. **Apologies:** Chris Cook, Jonathan Luck, Sarah Sell. No interests were declared'

Planning Applications:

25/04488/FUL: Cranborne, Station Road. Internal alterations to the ground floor layout, modifications to existing window openings and formation of new openings, and installation of a new canopy to the south and south-west elevations. Supported

25/04298/LBA: Lower Twinhoe Farm, Lower Twinhoe. Change of use of existing outbuilding and surrounding land to residential to create ancillary annexe to the adjacent existing dwelling. Supported previously.

25/04725/LBA: The Granary, Baggridge Hill. External and internal works for refurbishment and reconfiguration of modern fabric elements within the south wing of the Granary Barn. Adjustment of southern gable window at first floor. New timber casement windows on the ground floor east elevation, to replace fixed glazing. Inspection pending

25/04751/LBA: St Julian's School, High Street. Internal and external alterations for proposed maintenance, refurbishment and replacement of various windows on all elevations. Robustly supported

25/04862/FUL: Hayes Lodge, High Street. Erection of single storey side extension, roof extension, internal remodelling and landscaping work. Report pending

Wellow Community Bus: Problems with the permit for the bus were explained, these are now sorted and a Section 19 & 22 have been granted although not arrived yet. Bath Audi have approved a £2,000 sponsorship of the bus

Problems with shortfall in running cost continues to be an issue and a discussion about ways to improve efficiency and income followed. Streamlining the schedule, promoting the service to a wider audience for group hire were topics brought up

The Committee would benefit from some new members to help with funding and promotion of the service and it was agreed that a note will be sent to the Parish Post asking for interested parties to get involved.

Parking on the kerb in the village square, has been an issue but has been less of a problem of late. A letter to be sent to regular offenders.

The village hall drive continues to deteriorate & a quote of circa £10k has been obtained to completely resurface it. It was agreed that all parties that regularly use the drive be contacted & will be requested to contribute to the project. The PC will contribute but does not have the funds to fund the whole project.

Once funding is agreed the contractors will be asked to come for a site visit.

Burial Board: Ongoing maintenance continues . No new burials have taken place for the last 9 months & reserves will only fund for the next 12 months

Finance and Administration: A request for payment for costs connected with carols on the batch has been received and was approved

There has been a slight underspend in the last 12 months

Maintenance to the clock was discussed and should be covered by the maintenance reserve

There may be some uplift to the cost of field maintenance this year

Wellow Rec. makes a contribution quarterly

There will be no grant to the shop this year, but the bus grant will continue

A request that the 2025 budget grant surplus could be granted to the bus was considered and it was agreed that if a sustainability plan is put forward to address the monthly shortfall of £500/ month that this can be reviewed at the next PC meeting. Note that this would mean that the annual grant for the bus group would be £1950 pounds in total as £1000 has already been granted.

It was agreed that the Precept should not be increased this year,

Audit Requirements: Update on the close out of the last years audit. It was agreed that this will be dealt with at the next meeting

ALCA membership: To continue or not? This subject needs input from all councillors for their opinions & will be raised again at the next PC meeting

Any Other Business: Cllr McCabe was questioned about grit bins on Norton Lane – he will investigate as the incline was being measured

A discussion about ongoing surface water on the road to Hinton Charterhouse will be followed up by Cllr McCabe

Dates of the next meetings: March 2nd 2026; May 4th 2026; July 6th 2026; September 7th 2026. All held at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

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

Lunch Club

Lunch Club dates for 2026: 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.

February 26th

May 21st

October 22nd

March 19th

June 18th

November 19th

April 23rd

September 24th

December 10th

The Lunch Club Team

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

Wellow & District Horticultural Society

Some of the events planned for this year:

Saturday 28th February: Quiz in the Village Hall

April, (tbc): Talk “The Power of Plants” by Dr Audrey Timm

17th May: 2pm to 3:30pm: Plant Sale in the Village Hall:

Sunday 12th June, 12 to 4pm: Flower Show in the Village Show.

Sunday 4th October: Apple picking and juicing.

15th November: Annual General Meeting.

There is also an Annual Garden Party.

For more information, how to join and notice of events please visit the website at <https://hortsoc.wellow.org>.

Magic Box

Very sadly as you may have heard Magic Box Pre-school will be closing from July 2026.

The staff are retiring or moving to pastures new. The 4 staff have worked for a combined 81 years at the Pre-school!

We will be hosting a farewell party in the Summer - we will let you know details nearer the time.

We would like to thank you and the Village of Wellow for its wonderful support over the years.

If anybody would like to start up a new Pre-school in the hall please do let us know.

Many thanks

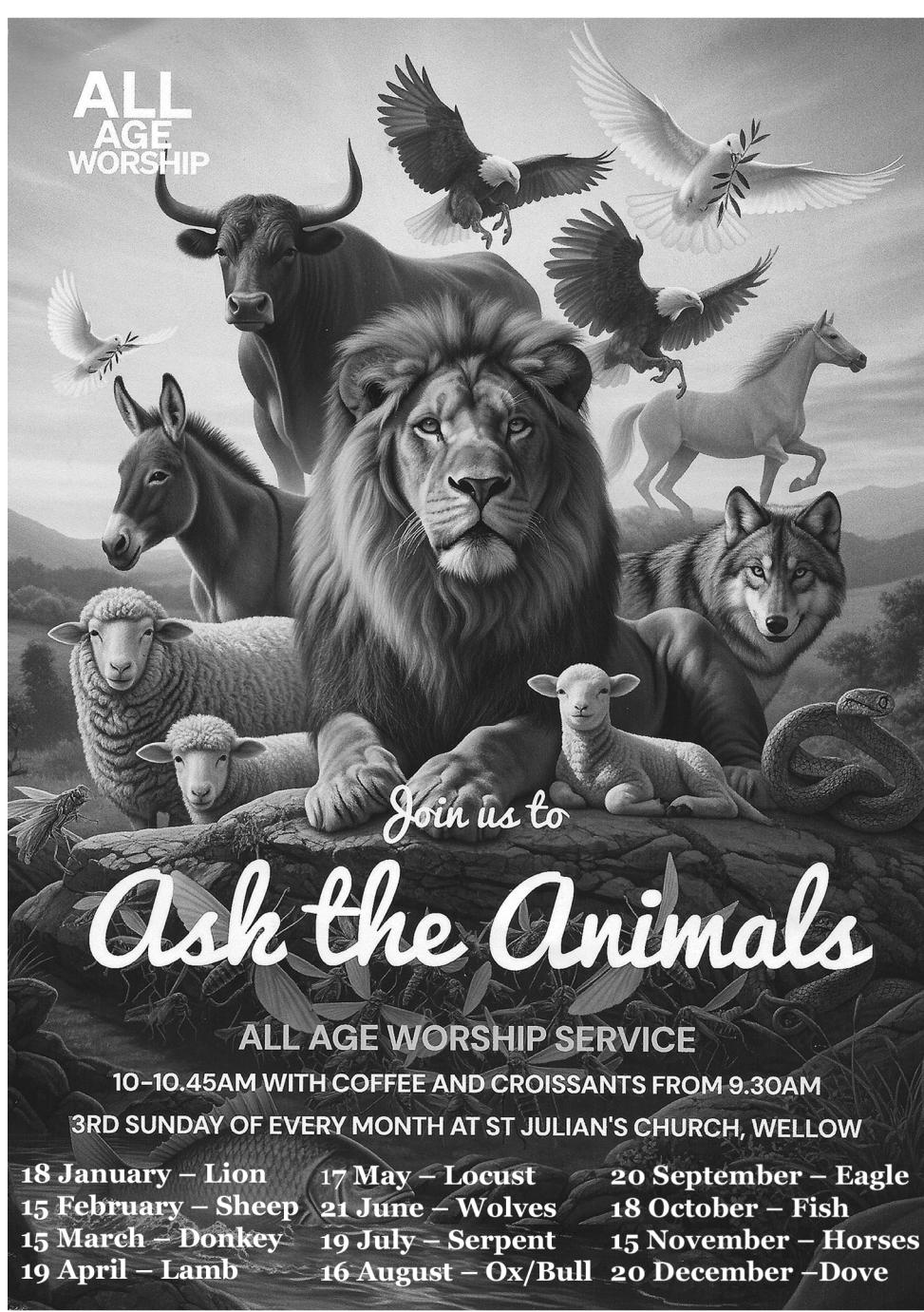
Amanda, Carol, Vicky and Karen

Distributor for the Parish Magazine - help needed.

The Parish Magazine is distributed to individual houses by a dozen volunteers living at various places around the village. At the beginning of every month each of them receives the batch of copies needed for their round. For the last few years I have delivered these batches but the time has come to retire. I found it a sociable and enjoyable job. Would anyone be willing to take it on? We do need someone urgently.

Contact me, Marian Osborne (marian.osborne@zen.co.uk) or the Editor.

ALL
AGE
WORSHIP



Join us to
Ask the Animals

ALL AGE WORSHIP SERVICE

10-10.45AM WITH COFFEE AND CROISSANTS FROM 9.30AM

3RD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT ST JULIAN'S CHURCH, WELLOW

18 January – Lion

17 May – Locust

20 September – Eagle

15 February – Sheep

21 June – Wolves

18 October – Fish

15 March – Donkey

19 July – Serpent

15 November – Horses

19 April – Lamb

16 August – Ox/Bull

20 December – Dove

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: MagicBoxPre-School@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: michaelj-clarkson@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, The Vicarage, Church Road, Peasedown St John, BA2 8AA, administrator@stjsgroup.church