



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

May 2026

“Listening for Hope in the Valley” by Matthew Street, The Vicar, based on Judges 7:8b-13

Now the camp of Midian lay below him in the valley. During that night, the Lord said to Gideon, ‘Get up, go down against the camp, because I am going to give it into your hands. If you are afraid to attack, go down to the camp with your servant Purah and listen to what they are saying. Afterwards, you will be encouraged to attack the camp.’ So he and Purah, his servant, went down to the outposts of the camp. The Midianites, the Amalekites and all the other eastern peoples had settled in the valley, thick as locusts. Their camels could no more be counted than the sand on the seashore.

Gideon arrived just as a man was telling a friend his dream. ‘I had a dream,’ he was saying. ‘A round loaf of barley bread came tumbling into the Midianite camp. It struck the tent with such force that the tent overturned and collapsed.’

His friend responded, ‘This can be nothing other than the sword of Gideon, son of Joash, the Israelite. God has given the Midianites and the whole camp into his hands.’

When Gideon heard the dream and its interpretation, he bowed down and worshipped. He returned to the camp of Israel and called out, ‘Get up! The Lord has given the Midianite camp into your hands.’” Judges 7:8b-13

The valley we can see from the upper windows of the vicarage in Peasedown St John often looks like a picture of peace. But we all know that life’s “valleys” can feel much more crowded. Whether it’s the pressure of exams, the weight of a health diagnosis, or the quiet anxiety of the rising cost of living, challenges can sometimes appear as “thick as locusts.”

In the Book of Judges, we find Gideon standing on a ridge, looking down at a formidable army. He was human, and he was afraid. God’s response to his fear wasn’t a lecture on bravery; it was an invitation to listen. Gideon

Visit the Church website: www.stjsgroup.church

Sunday Services in May

Ask the Animals – Locusts

Sunday 3 May 10.00 a.m.

Talk: A plague of locusts. Exodus 10:1-20

Leader: Rachel Howlett

Speaker: Derek Smith

Sunday 10 May 10.00 a.m. H. C.

Talk: Thick as locusts. Judges 7:1-21

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Matthew Street

Sunday 17 May 10.00 a.m.

All Age Worship

Talk: An invasion of locust. Joel 1:1-20

Leader: AAW Team

Speaker: AAW Team

Sunday 24 May 10.30 a.m.

Talk: An army of locusts. Joel 2:25-32

Leader: Derek Smith

Speaker: Dick Beath

Sunday 31 May 10.30 a.m.

Joint service at Wellow

Talk: A diet of locusts. Matthew 3:1-12

Leader: Rachel Howlett

Speaker: Rachel Howlett

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 9.15am BC 10.30am HC

4.30pm SF

2nd Sunday 10:30am W4E

3rd Sunday 10.30am HC 4.30pm SF HC

4th Sunday 10.30am 4.30pm SF

5th Sunday Joint with Wellow

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

crept down to the enemy lines and overheard a simple conversation about a dream—a tumbling loaf of barley bread—that revealed his hidden strength and the victory ahead.

Sometimes, the encouragement we need doesn't come from a grand spectacle. It comes from being quiet enough to hear the “barley bread” moments in our own community: a neighbour's kindness, the laughter at the village coffee morning, or the unexpected peace found in a moment of prayer.

Church News

It's been a busy time at St Julian's right now; the light bulbs in the roof areas of the church have been replaced with LED bulbs; and the sound system has been replaced so those sitting at the back of the church can now hear the service more clearly. The quinquennial inspection, the five yearly service of the church building, etc. is due shortly.

On Saturday 9th May the annual church spring clean will take place. Many hands make light work, so please do come along to help if you can. See below for the times.

The excellent progress with the plans for the long awaited Kitchen/Loo project, which we hope will commence in the spring of next year, means that we can begin making plans for fundraising. All ideas would be most welcome.

We have already had a Christening and a Wedding this year with two more Weddings planned for September.

On Sunday May 31st St Julian's is hosting the Benefice Service which will start at 10.30am. It is always really nice to have church members from Peasedown, Foxcote and Shoscombe joining us for this.

Pam Pike & Jane Rees, Church Wardens

Annual Church Spring Clean

I am always amazed and delighted by the number of people who turn up to clean our beautiful church, which was consecrated in 1372. I think of the generations of villagers who over the centuries have polished and swept, weeded and pruned.

Please come and help again this year. Come for as long as you like, we have cleaning materials.

Even if you are not a regular churchgoer the time may come when you need

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

WELLOW & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

PLANT SALE

Sunday 10th May

2pm-3.30pm

Wellow Village Hall

Many seedlings - vegetables, herbs and
flowers, and perennials,
indoor plants and pond plants.

Green elephant stall

Teas and cakes

Cash and card accepted

Please bring your surplus seedlings and plants
between midday and 1:45pm

events@hortsoc.wellow.org

your church, weddings, baptisms, memorial services, or even for quiet moment of reflection.

Thanks to a group of “openers” the church is always open for you, and for the many people who visit the church from all over the world.

So please come and join us, there will be coffee and biscuits, of course.

Jill Tremellen 07950142126

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.

May 21st

October 22nd

June 18th

November 19th

September 24th

December 10th

The Lunch Club Team

Wellow & District Horticultural Society

Plant Sale in the Village Hall – Sunday 10th May 2pm to 3:30pm

Seedlings of herbs, vegetables and flowers. Annuals and perennials. Green elephant stall. Tea, coffee and cakes!

Garden Party – Sunday 28th June in the afternoon.

Flower Show in the Village Show – Sunday 12th July 12 to 4pm

It all happens in the Marquee! A traditional show of all things home-grown or home-made.

Lavender baking with Victoria Hally – Lavender Shortbread Cookies and Lavender and Lemon Cordial. Sunday 19th July

Apple picking and juicing – Sunday 4th October

Annual General Meeting – 15th November

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



**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 VILLAGE SHOW
2026**

SAVE THE DATE!

**12 - 4PM SUNDAY 12th JULY
WELLOW RECREATION FIELD**

FLOWERS AND PRODUCE IN THE MARQUEE

DOG SHOW

MARTIAL ARTS DISPLAY

FERRETS

FOOD & DRINK

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

AND LOTS MORE



BOOK IT INTO YOUR DIARIES!

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, 10.00-12.30. 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: 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; 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