



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

August 2026

“An easy yoke” by Matthew Street, The Vicar, based on Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” Matthew 11:28-30

Over the centuries, the fields around us have been walked by generations of farmers who understood exactly what it meant to “yoke” a team of oxen. A yoke was a heavy wooden collar crafted to link two animals so they could share the weight of a plough. Alone, a single beast would buckle under the strain. Together, the burden was halved.

In Matthew 11, Jesus uses this familiar farming image to offer one of the most comforting invitations in history: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

It sounds like a contradiction. How does taking on a “yoke” lead to rest?

The secret lies in who is pulling beside us. In ancient agriculture, a seasoned, stronger ox was often yoked alongside a younger, inexperienced one. The stronger animal did the heavy lifting, set the pace, and kept the team moving in a straight line.

Modern life often demands that we go it alone. We carry the invisible burdens of worry, family pressures, and work anxieties, pretending we have it all under control. But Jesus offers to step into the harness with us.

He doesn't promise a life free of work or responsibilities. Instead, He promises a shared load. When we align our pace with His gentleness and humility, the heavy pulling of life becomes manageable.

This month, if you are feeling weary, remember you weren't made to carry the plough alone. Lift your head, share the weight, and find rest for your soul.

Visit the Church website: www.stjsgroup.church

Sunday Services in August

Ask the Animals – Ox/Bull

Sunday 2 August 10.00 a.m.

Talk: The golden calf. Exodus 32:1-10

Leader: Derek Smith

Speaker: Derek Smith

Sunday 9 August 10.00 a.m. H.

C. Talk: The face of an Ox - Ezekiel 1:1-28, Revelation 4:6-8

Leader: Rachel Howlett

Speaker: Dick Beath

Sunday 16 August 10.00 a.m.

Talk: Bull fight - 1 Kings 18:16-39

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Matthew Street

Sunday 23 August 10.00 a.m.

Talk: Do not muzzle an ox - 1 Corinthians 9:1-27

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Rachel Howlett

Sunday 30 August

No service in Wellow. Joint service at Foxcote. 10.30 a.m.

Talk: An easy yoke. Matthew 11:28-30

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.

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 10:30am HC

2nd Sunday 9.00am BC 4:30pm SF

3rd Sunday 10:30am HC

4th Sunday 4:30pm SF

5th Sunday Joint service at Foxcote

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.

Church News

On Sunday July 26th, the annual Deanery Service was held at St John's Chilcompton; many people attended from all the 19 churches in the Deanery. During the Service four people who had attended the recent Alpha Course were confirmed by Bishop Fiona of Taunton.

St Julian's Church held a stall at the recent annual Flower Show. Plans for the kitchen and toilets were on display and a fun game involving pennies was enjoyed by lots of children and adults which generated lots of interest in the plans and ideas how we could fund raise the estimated £250,000 needed to build the small extension.

The Fund Raising Committee has met twice and lots of Fund Raising plans have been given serious thought.

Unfortunately, due to many of the team being unable to attend, the August AAW service on Sunday August 16th will not take place. There will, however, be a normal Morning Praise service at 10 a.m. All Age Worship will resume on Sunday September 20th at 9.30 a.m. for Coffee and Croissants prior to the service at 10 a.m. Do come along and join us at this all inclusive relaxed service which we are eager to keep going.

We are looking forward to two weddings in September, just three days apart and both very local. Do listen out for the bells rung by the Wellow band of ringers.

Pam Pike and Jane Rees, Church Warden

Lunch Club

There is no lunch club in August but it will resume as normal in September. 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.

25th Sept

20th Nov

23rd Oct

11th Dec

The Lunch Club Team

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

Wellow Parish Council

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday July 6th 2026 at 7.45pm in the village hall following the annual village meeting

Public Participation: The Parish Sweeper reported that the pot holes on Bulls Hill Have been marked & that nothing has been done about the tree roots but they have been reported to B&NES. The Canal Tunnel owners said that the potholes need to be mended in a specific way so it may take longer to do.

A resident requested that Wellow was not removed from the energy survey, and stated that in their opinion climate warnings need to be addressed.

A resident spoke supporting the motion to remove Wellow from the survey which has been supported by 107 residents. He supported development in appropriate areas but questioned how accurate information was from a survey. They stated that the development was not aligned with the interests of Wellow residents, when two other parishes are voting on matters concern-ing Wellow.

Another resident voiced concerns of inaccurate reporting & stated that a report from Friends of the Earth states that there is no real need to develop sensitive areas such as Wellow.

It was stated that the process undertaken lacks objectivity and that the way data is used is flawed. Participants were not pre-screened & there is no acknowledgement of possible bias.

It was stated that it is important that as many as possible fill in the survey.

Present: Dave Workman (Chair), Nick Chapman, Mike Clarkson, Jonathan Luck, Sarah Sell, Chris Cook, The Parish Clerk & 15 members of the public

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Monday 4th May 2026 were confirmed.

Planning applications:

26/02148/FUL: Cranborne, Station Road: Installation of new canopy to south and south-west elevations, modifications to existing window openings and formation of new openings. Supported.

Energy in the Community project: Parishioners were urged to complete the B&NES survey before 15 July.

Possible Parish Council decision to reject wind turbines within Wellow Parish.

In response to an email from a Parishioner it was noted that the PC is not undemocratic but are free to express a view on the Energy debate. They agreed that Wellow is a highly inappropriate area to site wind turbines & solar panels. A desire to see real data was noted.

The proposed motion was discussed at length & an amended motion proposed that was unanimously supported:

Motion as adopted: That Wellow Parish Council supports the principle of renewable energy projects in appropriate locations however having regard to its duty to protect the natural landscape surrounding the Wellow Conservation Area and the Cotswold National Landscape it wishes to register its objection to the installation of large scale wind turbines and massive solar arrays in prominent positions within the Parish as evidenced by the 9 potential sites in the Parish that have been shortlisted to be taken forward for detailed technical assessment. We request that these sites are removed from the project.

Wellow Parish Council looks forward to receiving the detailed feedback received from Wellow parishioners from the current Community Energy survey in order to confirm its stance on the B&NES Energy in Your Community project.

This decision has been transmitted to Cllr. Sarah Warren, Cabinet Leas for Sustainable B&NES

Wellow Community Bus is running smoothly.

Highways & Transport: Decision to proceed with resurfacing of the Village Hall and requests for funding to relevant parties to be sent out.

Bulls Hill road surface has been reported via 'Fix My Street'. It is particularly dangerous for cyclists. Concerns over resurfacing above the tunnel were noted. Chris Cookson agreed to chase B&NES again over the matter.

SUSTRANS report needs to be circulated around the whole village, Request to put on their website will be sent.

Village Hall: Magic Box is to continue in the village hall, but *ad hoc* bookings must also be accommodated, with some flexibility for hire.

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

Tree Maintenance: Tree in Farm Lane which needs attention, is being denied ownership by any parties at present. BANES will be responsible if it falls.

Burial Board: There have been a couple of ceremonies & ground maintenance is going well.

Church Matters: The Church Grass cutting is to be handed back to the church, with the funds from the Horton Starkie Fund transferred to the church.

Request from St. Julian's Parochial Church Council (PCC) seeking contributions towards the cost of producing the monthly Wellow Church and Par-ish News. A request for an amount is to be requested

A.O.B: Possibility of a Wellow Facebook page or similar to cover times when Parish Post cannot be circulated is to be investigated

Overgrowth in the car park will be looked at by a member of the PC

Next Meetings: September 7th 2026; November 2nd 2026; January 4th 2027

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

Wellow & District Horticultural Society

Lavender baking with Victoria Hally – Lavender Shortbread Cookies and Lavender and Lemon Cordial. 1:45pm 21st August, at Kampong Kitchen.

Apple picking and juicing – Picking on Saturday 3rd October, and Juicing & hog roast Sunday 4th October.

Annual General Meeting Saturday 14th November.



St Julian's Church Wellow



Spend a Penny Appeal

help us raise

£250,000

for our 2 new toilets and
kitchen

Find out more at www.stjsgroup.church/help-fund-our-extension or
scan the QR code to find out more
and donate



so we can say "goodbye" to our Portaloo!



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

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: mattmc-cabe.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