



The Parish of Wellow

Wellow Church and Parish News

August 2016

'Sowing the seed' by Matthew Street, The Vicar, based on Mark 4:2-9

Jesus told the crowd many parables, including this one: 'A farmer went out to sow and, as he did so, some seed fell by the wayside, and the birds swooped down and devoured it. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where there was little soil and, though it sprang up quickly because the earth was so shallow, when the sun rose, it was baked and withered away, since it had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which, as they grew, choked the seedlings, so that they yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, shooting up, increasing and yielding thirty;- and sixty- and a hundred fold.' And he said, 'Let those with ears to hear listen!'" Mark 4:2-9

What's the most important lesson to be drawn from the parable of the sower? Is it that our lives need to be like fertile soil, receptive to the word of God, so that we bear a rich harvest to his glory? It could be, for there's no doubt God wants to see this in our lives. Is a more important message that we need to beware of temptations that may insidiously destroy our faith before we realise what is happening? It could be this, too, for there's no denying how real and dangerous temptation can be. Could it be that the underlying theme is to guard against shallow discipleship, a faith rooted in a superficial and emotional response rather than grounded in body, mind and soul? That's certainly an important point, for how many people commit themselves to Christ for a moment in a surge of enthusiasm, only swiftly to fall away? We can even argue that Jesus is telling us that some people will never respond to the gospel no matter how often they hear it. True perhaps, though it would be foolish to judge the state of another's soul. The truth, of course, is that all of these points are equally valid.

Yet there is a further lesson in his words which is, perhaps, more important than any, and that, quite simply, is the need to sow. The seed may be the object of the story, but the sower has first to sow it, and for 'sower' read 'us'. We are the ones called to spread God's word, the responsibility of proclaiming the good news of Christ entrusted to us. We cannot guarantee the results of our efforts, but one thing is certain; unless we sow the seed, whatever the ground, there will be no harvest.

Visit the Church Website: www.stjsgroup.church

Sunday Services in August

The Mission of Jesus Christ –
To teach his disciples

Sunday 7th August – 11:15

Talk: Four Soils

Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15;

Matthew 13:1-8, 16-23

Leader: Tom Benyon

Speaker: Dick Beath

Sunday 14th August – 11:15 HC

Talk: Eight talents

Matthew 25:14-30

Leader: Tom Benyon

Speaker: Tom Benyon

Sunday 21st August – 11:15

Talk: Wicked tenants

Luke 8:4-15; Mark 12:1-12;

Matthew 21:33-46

Leader: Matthew Street

Speaker: Andy Stockinger

Sunday 28th August – 11:15

Talk: Workers in the vineyard

Matthew 20:1-16

Leader: Jo Vening

Speaker: Matthew Street

Contact the Rector: The Revd. Matthew Street – 01761 432293

Email mgstreet@me.com or through the church website, see below

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.

Advertising in this Newsletter

FREE: Voluntary organisations based in Wellow. **Fees** apply to all other individuals and businesses who seek to gain financial benefit from advertising (irrespective of if they are based in Wellow or not): **Contact** Jenny Barr for more details and payments. Cheques made out to St. Julian's Church P.C.C

Church Community Groups

White Ox Mead Community Group

Phone Nigel & Jo for more details -
01761 437724

Wellow Prayer Group

Tuesdays at Three
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 worshipers 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 - 10:30am HC 4:30pm SF
2nd Sunday - 10:00am MP 4:30pm SF
3rd Sunday - 10:30am HC 4:30pm SF(HC)
4th Sunday - 10:30am MP 4:30pm SF

HC= Holy Communion
SF= *Soul Food* - A service with modern
lively music followed by a family tea
MP= Morning Praise

Benefice Office

For anything church related contact
the Benefice Office:

T: 01761 300410 **E:** office@stjsgroup.church

CHURCH NEWS

The weekend of celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday at St Julian's was a great success with many of us enjoying the excellent refreshments on the Saturday morning to the sound of the bells being rung, as well as the Flower Festival. The church looked beautiful with such lovely arrangements from our experts and displays from the school and Magic Box, including a flower corgi and many crowns. A big THANK YOU to all involved.

Our curate Tom Benyon has had a big month starting with his service of "priesting" at Wells Cathedral, which gives him authority to officiate at all services. We were delighted that he conducted his first wedding here on the 9th and took his first Holy Communion service in St J's the next day. Our congratulations to him.

We are into the wedding season for St Julian's and congratulate Oliver Lewis and Rachael Corry on their marriage on the 9th June. We look forward to the marriage of Ben Skinner and Melissa Smith on the 30th as well as Jonathan Silver and Madeleine Pitt on the same day. May they all feel much blessed and their day be very special.

Colin Tremellen

FLOWER FESTIVAL JUNE 2016

We would like to thank everyone that came to join us in our celebration of the Queen's birthday. It was never the main intention to make money however we did take £275. It was decided that we would give £250 to Age UK and £25 to the church to cover any costs. Thank you to all who participated in the flower arrangements and for all the wonderful cakes that just kept appearing.

Pam Pike

WELLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Eleven members of the public attended the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 18th July.

Ron Humphreys thanked all those who had helped make the open air performance of *Life is a Dream* such a success. In turn Parish Council Chair Billy Wright thanked Ron and Sheilagh Humphreys for organising and underwriting the event and led a warm round of applause.

Joe Karthaus gave an update on Truespeed Communications' roll-out of future-proofed ultra-fast fibre broadband to local communities. Priston now has 100Mb/s fibre to the home. Truespeed will have a stall at Wellow Flower

Show on 3 September, when you will be able to learn more of their plans to bring the service to Wellow.

Queen's commemorative bench

Thank you to those who have already made contributions towards a new bench to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday. The Parish Council, which will also contribute, welcomes further contributions so that a replacement bench can be bought as soon as possible for the site near the Church, which bears an inscription commemorating the Queen's Coronation in 1953. Please contact any councillor or send a cheque, payable to Wellow Parish Council, to the Clerk at 4 Monmouth Paddock, Norton St Philip, Bath BA2 7LA. Include your address for an acknowledgment.

Play park and playing field

Repairs to equipment and surfaces at the children's play park have recently been made by Mike Cleverley, assisted by volunteers led by Rachel Kotchie. Thanks to all. Report any future defects to the Clerk.

Planning

The Hayes, Bath Hill: it was agreed that Cllr Debbie Clarkson will speak at the B & NES Development Management Committee meeting on 24 August in support of the application for a small farmhouse (with agricultural tie) and six holiday units, on a site with existing approval for a larger farmhouse.

Manor Court Cottage, High Street: It was agreed to leave an application for alterations and refurbishment to the planning officer. Councillors noted that work had already started.

Box Bush Cottage: the application to fell a conifer was supported.

Playing Field

Lease to Wellow Recreation: Councillors approved the lease, which will now have to be agreed by the Lawn Tennis Association, as it replaces the current lease of the tennis courts to Wellow Valley Tennis.

Playing Field drainage

Hugh Prentice reported to the council on the drainage report by IMA Transport Planning. Clarification of how the different elements joined up was being sought, but about £20K, for which grants would need to be obtained, was needed to deal with water from the play park and the playing field. This excludes the pitch, for which a Sport England grant has been agreed. Mr Prentice said that the drainage project (and also replacement of children's play equipment) would have to be the joint responsibility of the Parish Council and Wellow Recreation once WR took over running of the Playing Field.

Village Hall drive

It was agreed to make a contribution of £100 towards the cost of installing new low-level lighting on the driveway.

Churchyard grass

As a closed churchyard, this is a parish council responsibility. Thanks to those who have cut the grass while Andy Elvin has been unable to do so. He hopes to be back this month.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Monday 19th September**, the first of the regular third Monday of the month meetings. All are welcome. Please send items for agenda consideration to the Clerk one week in advance. See also the council minutes on Parish Post or the noticeboard.

Robin Campbell (Parish Clerk)

‘POP IN’

The Next “POP”INN will be on **MONDAY 1st AUGUST** noon – 2.pm in the Fox & B. The chance to meet new villagers or old acquaintances over a coffee/a glass of something stronger – perhaps a light snack – A chance to put the world to rights in pleasant company

Please come along - **ALL WILL BE MADE WELCOME**

Libby/Shirley

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

WELLOW & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Garden Party

The garden party on the 1st July was a great success this year. It was a lovely sunny evening, though a little windy, and there was a good turn out of people who enjoyed wandering around the beautiful garden and sharing delicious food. A huge thank you to Heather Andrews for hosting the event.

Wellow Flower Show - Saturday 3rd September

Make sure you have the date in your diary and remember to start collecting what you'll need for building a super scarecrow. What a fun way for young families to spend the long summer holidays. We are expecting a grand display

of scarecrows on the show ground and there will be prizes for the best child's and the best adult's scarecrow.

As well as the produce and arts/crafts marquee (this warm spell should help all those flowers and vegetables to reach perfection) this years attractions include a working blacksmith, shire horse demo., vintage tools, cream teas, Wellow beach, beer tent, ferret racing stalls and much more.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the day. Members and children under 16 admission free, adults £2.50.

Gates open 1.00 pm

Wellow Horticultural Society Committee

FOOD BANK

Thank you to our contributors for their continuing kindness. In May, 94 people, including 54 children, were fed. In April, 78 people, including 24 children were fed: need increases.

The price of a donation is very modest, but the impact is great. Gifts may be made or bought at The Parlour Shop.

Current needs are:-

- Tinned fruit
- Long life fruit juice
- Instant mash
- UHT mil k
- Powdered milk

St. Julian's Church with Somer Valley Food Trust

ROMAN VILLA

I recently spoke to Susan Fox from the Roman Baths Museum whilst at a Roadshow in Beacon Hall, Peasedown St. John. We discussed the Wellow Roman Villa, records of which go back to the 17th and 18th Century. There appears to be no official records of the uncovering of the Mosaics which took place in October 1967.

I have been able to provide a few details from the Wellow Exhibition held in the Granary about 30 years ago, however, if anyone has information, pictures or finds from the excavation Susan would love to hear from you.

Please contact me :- Mary Messer 01761 568834 or
email. bm_messer@yahoo.com

ST. JULIAN'S SCHOOL

Dear Members of the Local Community

Academy Status

You may well be aware of the increase in the creation of Academies in our education system in recent years. Academies are state-funded independent schools, who receive their money directly from the Government, rather than through the local authority.

This letter is to inform you that our Governing Body has taken the decision actively to work towards conversion to academy status.

Our Governors see this as a great opportunity, in an uncertain educational landscape, to secure the future of the school for the benefit of your children and future generations.

They have decided that they wish to explore in more depth the possibility of joining the Dragonfly Education Trust at Writhlington. There are various advantages to such a move:

- We share a vision of a comprehensive, inclusive education for all children in our area
- The opportunity to play an active role in the development of the same children from 2 to 18
- Greater opportunities for improving our school premises
- The chance to break down some of the barriers between primary and secondary schools, so that we can make that transition better for your children – wherever they go to after Church Valley Schools Federation
- The ability to share a wide range of staff expertise and facilities
- A shared commitment to continued collaboration with the local authority and with other schools

Our current position is:

- We have registered our interest in converting to academy status with the Department for Education and started talks with Writhlington
- The next step, following consultation with staff and parents, is to apply for conversion

- We are aiming for an April conversion, if discussions proceed as planned.

We invite you to comment or raise any further questions you have with the Governors, via the Clerk, Mrs Miles, either in writing or via email to stjulians_pri@bathnes.gov.uk pri@bathnes.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Jane Gascoigne

SEPTEMBER PARISH NEWS

There will be **no** Parish news next month, as the majority of village organisations take a break during August.

PARISH NEWS

Can you let me have any articles for the October edition, by the 19th September. As usual, you can either email me at jennybarr44@yahoo.co.uk, leave at the Parlour shop or post it through the letterbox of Honeysuckle Cottage.

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