

The Nightingale Times Summer 2019 Edition

Parish Office, Village Hall, Buttons Lane West Wellow, SO51 6BR
<https://www.wellowparish.org.uk/>
clerk@wellowparish.org.uk
01794 323275



The Sounding Arch - Florence Nightingale's Haunted Bridge

The Arch was built on the site in Ryedown Lane in 1818 and was demolished in 1966. It was frequently used by Florence Nightingale as it connected two parts of the Embley Estate where she lived. It would have cost just £100 to make the bridge safe more than 40 years ago but at the time, road improvement plans were also being put forward which would see the arch demolished in the following twelve months. The death knell for the bridge finally sounded early on the morning of Saturday 12th March 1966 when a gang of workmen began to pull it down and completed the task the following day.

Motorists were, however, pleased to see the back of the bridge. The Sounding Arch had only 9ft 6in headroom which made a tight fit for passing single decker buses half-way down a steep hill and proceeded by a sharp bend banked high on either side. In the depths of a Hampshire winter, so legend says, a ghostly coach and horses, shining with an eerie white light, would trundle its way around the country lanes near West Wellow. It was claimed that the spectre made its appearance on New Year's Eve when thundering hoofs and rattling wheels could be heard as the driverless carriage passed under the bridge.

Recently a group of Parish Councillors undertook the task of clearing away all the dirt, leaves and debris from the Sounding Arch Bench (also known locally as Florence Nightingale's Bench) which originally formed part of the Arch. The area surrounding the bench has been planted with Spring bulbs and will be maintained as a feature.

A piece of Wellow history restored!



Welcome to the Parish Council

Message from the Chair – Councillor Gaye Chesterton-Kay

Firstly, and following the recent local Elections, I would like to welcome Christopher Craig and Charles Payne as new Parish Councillors, along with all of the other returning Councillors. It's a strong team and we are really looking forward to completing the projects that have already been started and taking on new ones.

I would also like to thank Trevor Grant and John Sampson for everything they contributed during their time on the Council. John, along with his other duties, also looked after Wellow Common and all of the footpaths and bridleways in the village. Having walked every one of them several times and done endless research, he put in a huge amount of work towards their maintenance and upkeep.

Trevor Grant will be sorely missed by all of us. Not only was he Chair of the Village Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, he was also Chair of the Finance Committee and Editor of the Nightingale Times. Three very important and time consuming roles which will be very difficult to fill.

A short update regarding the proposed speeding measures. These have now been agreed with Hampshire Highways and we've been advised that works will commence this coming Autumn. I wish it could be sooner but that's what we're currently being told.

The new roundabout design is progressing, albeit slowly. Highways England are currently looking at safety aspects etc along with other necessary checks. The Safety Team has apparently given it a 'strong green light' which is very encouraging. We will obviously keep you posted.

Hopefully we can now look forward to an enjoyable Summer with some really nice weather.

*Read on to hear all about the
new holding area for horses
at Wellow Common*



West Wellow Methodist Church provides "Tea at the Ritz"

On Wednesday 5th June, West Wellow Methodist Church hosted 'Tea at the Ritz', a charity event in aid of Wessex Heartbeat.

Four lovely ladies, Marian Trinder, Ann Friend, Debbie Felstead and Brenda Arney prepared a wonderful spread of sandwiches, scones and cakes, all served on vintage china, which easily rivalled anything that the Ritz in London could offer. Tea at the Ritz is now in its sixth year and was attended by around 50 local residents and other visitors who also enjoyed singing along with a vocalist to a variety of songs including well known ones dating back to D-Day. The event raised £550 towards Wessex Heartbeat at Southampton General Hospital.

Well done Ladies!



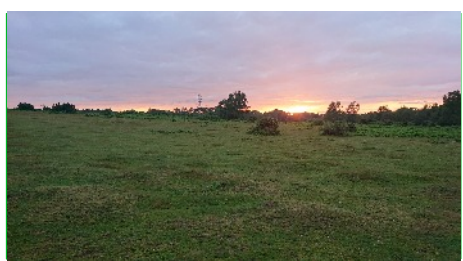


Wellow Lunch Club Parish Council grant event

Thanks to the generous grant of £500, awarded to the Lunch Club by Wellow Parish Council in 2018, the Lunch Club was able to arrange a Fish and Chips lunch outing to Milford on Sea in May 2018.

The rain stayed off until they were back on the minibus, and an enjoyable day was had by all. They arranged for a singer to come and entertain members at a lunch in October 2018.

They enjoyed it so much that they asked to book him again for the Christmas lunch in December. He added a real festive feel to the lunch and all left well fed and happy.



Wellow Common

Wellow Common is owned and managed by the Parish Council in accordance with the Forestry Commission Byelaws 1982. We would like to remind visitors that it is an offence to take any type of vehicle (including Quad bikes) onto the common.

Cycling is also not allowed.

During the Summer months the likelihood of fire increases therefore we need to reiterate that fires and barbeques are also not permitted.

Overnight camping is also prohibited.



Wellow Common/Maurys Lane Crossing

Some of you may be aware that one of our Councillors has been working on a project to make crossing the A36 from Maurys Lane to Wellow Common on horseback, and with dogs, a lot safer.

The original gate placement on the Common meant that there was very little space between the gate and the A36 itself whilst waiting to cross, particularly when several horses and riders are waiting for a gap in the traffic before attempting to cross.

The original gates and adjoining fencing have now been moved back some 8 metres into the Common which opens up a far safer waiting area for both horse riders, dog walkers and people who use the Common for recreational purposes. The Council has received very positive feedback regarding this initiative.

Church Fete

St Margaret's Church held their annual Summer Fete on Saturday, 15th June and despite the weather doing its best to spoil the day, Wellow Village Hall was packed with enthusiastic stall holders and visitors. From raffles to cake stands, bric-a-brac to the Romsey Ukulele Band who had everyone's feet tapping, there was a great atmosphere which contributed to it being a very successful day. The fantastic sum of £2,600 was raised. Congratulations and thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the day happen and thank you to all the residents who turned out despite the weather.



Neighbourhood Plan Stand at the Fete



The WPC Neighbourhood Planning Team organised a Stand at the Church Fete in order to further engage with the local residents and wider community. The Stand was well attended and gave residents the opportunity to speak to members of the neighbourhood planning team and to give their views on what, if any, development should take place in the village over the coming years, where it should be sited and where they believe no development and green spaces should be preserved. All in all, a very useful exercise which will contribute to the final Plan. Thanks to all those team members who gave up their time to be there.



Are You Tick Aware?

It is that time of year again with the lengthening evenings and warmer weather when we are tempted to don our shorts and go for a good walk on Half Moon or Canada Common. Although ticks can be active all year round in long grass, bracken, heather, woodland and hedgerows especially where deer and livestock are present they are more prevalent during the summer months.

Ticks can carry organisms which may cause physical and neurological illness in humans and animals. It is sensible to take precautions and be aware of what action to take in the event of being bitten.

Prevention

Wear long trousers or gaiters tucked into socks, use insect repellent and check yourself for ticks regularly.

Removal

Wear surgical gloves, use a tick-removal tool or fine nosed tweezers, disinfect the tick bite, wash your hands afterwards, make a note of the date and place of the bite and contact your GP if you notice a rash or flu-like symptoms.

What NOT to use when removing ticks

Creams/ petroleum jelly/ oils/ spirits/ freezing agent/ powders/ or other substances, Cigarettes/ matches/ lighter or anything that squeezes the body of the tick (all these methods may cause regurgitation/ back-flow of infective fluids)

Contact your Councillors

Gaye Chesterton-Kay (Chair to the Council), 01794 323737, clrgchesterton@wellowparish.org.uk

Ed Chesterton-Kay, 01794 323737, clrechesterton@wellowparish.org.uk

Alan Clark, 01794 323024, cllraclark@wellowparish.org.uk

Christopher Craig, 07788 113 544, cllrcraig@wellowparish.org.uk

Mike Jones (Vice Chair), 01794 322079, cllrmjones@wellowparish.org.uk

Sue Jones, 01794 322079, cllrsjones@wellowparish.org.uk

Richard Light, 07968 623 040, cllrlight@wellowparish.org.uk

Rich Millard, 01794 323635, cllrmillard@wellowparish.org.uk

Charles Payne, 07504 573 803, cllrcpayne@wellowparish.org.uk

Philip Stehr, 01794 323275, cllrpstehr@wellowparish.org.uk



Viridor Site A27

The site has now finished all activity and is about to be restored to the original site condition.

Viridor are working with the Environment Agency (EA) and Hampshire County Council (HCC) for the exact implementation of the restoration work. This is currently going through planning with the EA and HCC, which is expected to be concluded this year.

Site restoration should commence next year starting with 60,000 tonnes of top soil on the land. This is approximately 3000 wagon movements. The areas that will be restored are woodland, heathland and grassland, benefiting wildlife in this very eco sensitive area near to the River Test and the important Test Way.

The site has in the past attracted substantial criticism for methane gas leakage especially from around the Frenches /A27 area but with site activity having stopped this should have been eliminated. There are however still some resulting issues with drainage below the site in proximity to the Test Way, but this is an active issue being handled by HCC and Viridor.

Money has been allocated for such by HCC (£10,000) as part of the work towards helping to alleviate flooding issues in Romsey. However, the area below the site towards the River Test will always be wet as it is a flood plain. The Broadlands Estate remain the owners of the land.

Upcoming Meetings

All at Wellow Village Hall

5th August - Planning & General Purposes 6.45pm (if needed)

2nd September - Planning & General Purposes 6.45pm

2nd September - Parish Council 7.15pm

7th October - Planning & General Purposes 6.45pm

7th October - Parish Council 7.15pm

4th November - Planning & General Purposes 6.45pm

4th November - Parish Council 7.15pm

Local Sports News



Wellow Tennis Club

Wellow Tennis club continued its rich vein of form in picking up another title at the annual Sarum Tournament normally held at Salisbury (Riverside) Tennis Club on Sunday 14th April 2019.

Wellow has enjoyed tremendous success over the years in this event having won back to back titles for the past two years achieving the double in both events and this year proved to be no exception to the trend with yet another title to the club's name.

On a chilly April day, Wellow entered 3 pairs including 1 in the 'A' competition Ben Wallis & Laura Dodington and two in the B competition, Steve Pugh & Simone Arnott & Andy Hart & Rita Hampson. Having played all their group matches it was an all wellow semi-final in the 'B' event with Andy & Rita winning against Steve & Simone and going on to defeat their opponents Geoff & Judith 6:2 in the final to triumph once again.

For Andy including the first wellow club tournament of the year, this was his second title of 2019 and so far, hasn't looked troubled all year. Ben Wallis & Laura Dodington finishing runners up in the 'A' event in what was almost an incredible come back. They lost the first set 3:6 but then came roaring back to take the second set 6:2 and force a champions tie break. Despite having championship point unfortunately they went down 10:12 in the decider but it was a fantastic effort and superb tennis.

Well played to everyone who took part and fingers crossed for a 4th year of success next year.

Interested in becoming a member? Or looking to play?

Wellow Tennis Club is always happy to accept new members whatever their standard.

Well attended social sessions are held throughout the year on Thursday mornings, Saturday mornings and Friday evenings. Club Social Tournaments are held where all levels are welcome. Once a month (in the summer) the Friday night session includes a BBQ.

The club has an active and popular singles ladder and they have Inter Club Teams so there is a great opportunity to play competitive tennis.

If you are interested in "Pay and Play", the Tennis Courts can be booked by clicking on the 'Booking' tab on the Tennis Club's website homepage <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WellowTennisClub>

Contact: Simone Arnott (01794 524140) or Andy Hart (hart_aj@yahoo.co.uk).



Ladies Cricket now available at Wellow & Plaitford Cricket

Wellow & Plaitford Cricket Club have begun their first season of Ladies Cricket this summer.

The establishment of a ladies side is part of the cricket club's five-year development plan created in 2017 and has been well received and well supported in both Wellow and the surrounding villages.

The squad currently consists of more than 20 ladies and teenage girls who have regularly participated in the Sunday evening training sessions at the Wellow recreation ground. For most of the ladies, this is their first ever experience of playing cricket.

These sessions have a great community vibe with members of the men's team, plus some of the junior team members, helping to run the training sessions. The ladies team had their first match - a friendly game against the Paultons ladies team - on Sunday 23rd June at the recreation ground in Wellow. A Wellow squad has also been entered in to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) ladies' cricket festivals at Totton & Eling Cricket Club in July and at Paultons Club in August.

The ladies have received cricket equipment and kit from the Hampshire Cricket Board to help with their training and to enable their participation at the festivals.

Ladies cricket training is open to all ladies and teenage girls, regardless of ability or whether you wish to participate in matches or not. If you are interested in ladies cricket please email welfare@wellow-plaitfordcc.com