



## **WELLS CARNIVAL AGM 2020**

As Wells Carnival Chairman, I welcome you to the Wells Carnival AGM. 2020.

In recent years we have had over 50 people attend the AGM, committee members, members of the public and leaders / members of the groups that will be receiving donations.

Normally, after the doors have been locked, I waffle on for a while reading my speech out, detailing the year, we then hear the the treasure's report, have an open question session followed by votes being taken and election of the posts within the committee. Once positions have been elected and agreed we then hand out funds to the successful local charities & groups.

Followed by refreshments and an informal chat.

This year is slightly different, due to Covid.19 restrictions, as we are unable to meet, so the reports, list of committee positions and the list of successful charities will all be available on line.

There will still be refreshments but only for me. Pork pie, plain Pringles and small piece lemon cheesecake.

The directors of the Wells Carnival Committee have held a Zoom meeting AGM. This is required by law. All details again on line.

## **Chairman's Report 2020**

Well, 2020 has been a very strange year so far and continues to be, we can only hope 2021 is a better year and some sort of normality returns to us all.

Some families in the town were affected a great deal and we are all so pleased to hear they are moving forward together, and will have great times ahead. Our very best wishes





to them and a speedy full recovery.

Up until March the committee had been very busy arranging a fun packed week in August. Then, overnight it all changed, in so many ways for all. The committee had a meeting, just before lockdown was announced, and decided to cancel the week as we know it, a year off we thought, we can now enjoy the summer, first time in 20 years for some.

First idea the committee had decided during the restrictions was to send out craft packs to children in the town and surrounding villages to help them through the difficult times. Different themed packs were sent out and delivered by the committee, as part of their daily exercise, the craft and garden packs were greatly welcomed and kept young minds busy. The committee continued to help with other deliveries in the town, delivering the Quay magazine and assisting the Covid Support Hub, again delivering leaflets around the town and local villages. The committee then thought they could put their feet up and try to enjoy the summer.

Then hang on, someone on the committee said, can we do a Virtual Carnival week, a few said oh, the rest said yes, that sounds fun. And before you know it the quiet week in August was now going to be busy again. Cancel the Pimms and deckchair.

A YouTube channel was formed, events that were usually held in the normal carnival week would now be held before, and shown throughout the week and after, for all to see and enjoy.

The committee arranged for pet shows, raft races, workshops, cooking demonstrations, desert island disc show, quizzes, cocktail workshops, children's painting competition, tennis demonstration, footballing gnome hunt, (only could Wells hold that), a sandcastle competition, science workshop with Steve, carnival parades and garden competitions.

All to be held before and during the week, with opportunities for people to send in their pictures and videos.

This went better than the committee could have hoped for, we had a great response from adults and children sending in their entries, we then had judges to pick the winners in each





category. Great fun taking part and good fun watching the YouTube channel and seeing the videos.

At this point I must say a massive thank you to Nigel and Fran for all the expertise in receiving the entries and editing the videos so they could be seen by all on the YouTube channel and the FaceBook page.

The videos can still be seen on the Wells Carnival YouTube Channel, please take time to watch. The Desert Island Disc show is very good! (Wells Carnival Ltd – Norfolk)

There are many reasons why the committee holds the Wells Carnival. To promote Wells, help to bring people to the town, put on a fun filled Carnival week, that is affordable to all, and hopefully to raise money to support local charities and groups in the town. The committee has always had fantastic financial support from towns' folk and visitors. With the restrictions this year we couldn't raise funds in the same way we have in recent years. Evening raffles, bucket collections, selling merchandise and business donations have been the norm in recent years.

The committee looked at many ways to raise funds. The first idea was to sell our now famous wristbands, these have become a collectors item over the years. The committee thought long and hard about this and which colour and theme, they all thought it would be a lovely idea to say a big thank you to the NHS. We are all so grateful for their amazing work and commitment. Thank you to all that bought them, all funds raised goes to NHS Charities. We still have wristbands available, please pop in to Ele & Me or Goldings in Staithe Street. A great way to say thank you!

During the week, the committee tried the next new idea to raised funds. A Crowdfunding page was set up and received amazing support. This raised over £3000, we can't thank you enough.

The committee agreed to match this, from carnival funds, and with the donations we received from local businesses, a figure of nearly £7500 was reached. Wells Carnival Committee has received great support in recent years from Holkham Estates and with the recently formed Holkham Charitable Foundation the committee received additional funds





from the foundation of £6000. So in partnership with Holkham Charitable Foundation we are able to give £13500 to local charities and groups. This support will enable the groups to continue in this difficult testing time for us all and to plan for the future. A full list will be available shortly, on our web page and in next month's Quay Magazine. Over twenty different charities and groups shared the funds, covering all ages in the town.

We look forward to hearing how the grants were used, a catch up meeting in the new year would be nice, similar style to the AGM, to discuss next year's thoughts, maybe have refreshments.

So 2020 was a strange year but the Wells Carnival Committee helped to raise a smile and keep spirits up. I am very proud to part of this amazing team.

A big thank you to all the committee and their families and for all the support we received in donations and help. The committee made Wells well again.

The Wells Carnival is nearly 110 years old, it's been in different formats and in difficult times and this year has proved the committee can continue to hold an event whether in the town for you to attend or on line for you to watch. I am very proud of the committee and the great town of Wells. Let's hope 2021 allows us to hold the Carnival in the good old way and welcome you all back to Wells to join in.

Please keep following us on social media and in the Quay magazine. We hope to see you all next year.

Thank you for your time and continued support.

Best wishes

*Pat Weston.*

**Wells Carnival Chairman**





## Organisations in receipt of Wells Carnival Grants for 2020

	ORGANISATION	REASON FOR REQUEST
1	Wells Primary & Nursery School – (The Wensum Trust)	To encourage a digital detox and to re-engage (after being off school for so long) childrens passion for reading & sharing stories by providing reading books for all classes
2	Wells Town Bowls Club	1933 pavilion needs major repairs to roof and fascia boards & guttering
3	Little Fishes – (Wells Parochial Church Council)	Help with purchasing craft packs that are regularly distributed to Little Fishes children
4	St Nicholas Church - (Wells Parochial Church Council)	To purchase x 2 go-pak tables for use at concerts and community craft market plus craft tables at little fishes
5	Wells Primary & Nursery PFA	Fixed outdoor whiteboard for the woodland area
6	Heritage House	Covid.19 caused limited mobility in some of their elderly clients due to lockdown etc so they are keen to provide armchair exercise sessions now heritage house is reopen
7	Sea Cadets – Wells-next-the-Sea – (Wells Sea Cadets)	Clothing fund – want to purchase wetsuits/foul weather kit to allow cadets to borrow plus provide kit for cadets unable to afford their own – to also include additional costs of cleaning kit etc to be covid compliant
8	Wells CoastWatch	Help towards funding the replacement of the watch station
9	Wells Tennis Club	Replace tennis nets
10	Polka Day Care Ltd	Help towards improving outside play area incl gate & path plus craft & sensory materials
11	Alderman Peel High School	heat press for design & technology – will help to encourage students to recycle/reuse single use plastics
12	Alderman Peel High School – Awards ceremony sponsorship	'Wells Carnival Community Award'
13	Alderman Peel High School	X 2 new football kits to replace last lot purchased 10 years ago
14	Wells-next-the-Sea Men's Shed	Insurance – buildings, contents & Public liability
15	Homes for Wells	Currently crowdfunding for £100k to purchase ex social housing in Northfield
16	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wells Brownies	Covid protective equipment for the Brownies (hoping to reopen in October) plus PPE for leaders
17	Wells Town Football Club	Refurbish floodlight boxes
18	Gordon Barrett Hall	Purchase a steam cleaner & hand sanitiser dispensers to be covid compliant





19	Nelson Rural Scout Group	Insurance
20	Wells Community Hospital Trust - Hub	To help towards The Wells Community Hub - extending opening hours, leaflets etc etc
21	Wells United Charities	Financial assistance towards helping throughout the pandemic with rent payments etc
22	(Drop In Club) – Wells Friendship Group	Towards rent & speakers
23	Wells Fire Crew Social Club	To show appreciation for their hardwork throughout the year
24	The Nelson Club	To ensure able to cover rent, speakers etc when safe to reopen
25	Runners-next-the-Sea	To support and encourage outdoor physical activity for well being

NB: A full copy of the AGM Minutes and Treasurers report can be obtained by emailing: [wellscarnival@live.co.uk](mailto:wellscarnival@live.co.uk) or by contacting our registered office: Wells Carnival Ltd., c/o Angles, 7 Invaders Court, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, NR23 1JW

