

# Adult Volunteers Required,

21st Corby Priors Hall Park

### Share the adventure

Give a little time and build Skills for Life





# BEAVERS CUDS

**8-10**½

6-8

vears

**Scouts** 

10½ -14 years

There are lots of ways you can get more involved with Scouts as a parent, carer or family member. From helping out occasionally on a family rota or playing a vital role behind the scenes, to stepping up as a leader, our volunteering activities are as varied as you.

To find out more about helping out, e-mail Darren Storey: 21stcorbyscoutgroup@gmail.com • www.scouts.org.uk

Make a difference - Volunteer today



Colour certainly came to Weldon with spring and now summer flowers taking their place all beside the red, white and blue of the flags and bunting decorations for the Coronation. There were various events held on that historic weekend, some we have captured showing how our community celebrated together.

More planters have been ordered to adorn and brighten the High Street and two new notice boards will be distributed in the village. An Information board is also being erected in the Pocket Park detailing its wildlife and history. So keep a lookout for these items.

When the team puts this magazine together we realise how much is going on in our parish. Our meetings and walkabouts help us keep informed of our local situation, but we also need to be aware of how county and national decisions can affect us all. All our meeting minutes are available on our website, with some highlighted here in this July issue of Weldon Wide.

Wishing you all a very enjoyable summer

Weldon Parish Council, www.weldonparishcouncil.co.uk



We are happy to receive relevant articles from the public. Send in your photos (high quality originals please) and article of no more than 350 words to apweldonpc@gmail.com

#### Advertisers

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WW is produced by WPC and distributed to all the residents of Weldon (this includes the areas of Priors Hall Park, Weldon and Weldon Park)

Cover photography: Angela Page.

## Ways to connect with Weldon Parish Council

Scan the QR code or visit weldonparishcouncil.co.uk



Join our Facebook and Instagram @weldoncouncil



To register for WPC information please email "I consent" to scweldonpc@gmail.com



### WHAT'S HAPPENING

### **Regular Groups**

#### **Cosy Corner**

Every second Friday of the month, 8:45am–10:45am, during term time at PHP Community Centre. For parents who need that chance to unwind and recharge with others who understand living with children that need additional care, over a cuppa and cake.

Hope Cafe every first Wednesday of the month starting at 10am at the Cricket Club in Weldon Village. A supportive and friendly group.



Noah's Ark is a weekly session held on Tuesdays, term time, from 9:00am to 10:30am. Further details on stmarysweldon.org book events.



Not Just Knit and Natter takes place every Tuesday at 2pm in the Shoulder of Mutton. A good opportunity to

natter while making some lovely creations. Check out the facebook page.

Weldon Book Worms the third Wednesday of the month, from 7pm in the Shoulder of Mutton. The latest book choice and book reviews are posted on the facebook page of the same name.



Weldon Parish Council
every first Monday of the
month, 7pm at Weldon Village
Hall Annex. We welcome the
public's attendance. Please try
to email any questions for the
Parish Council at least one week before
the meeting to scweldonpc@gmail.com



Join us Mondays, term time, at Priors Hall Park Community Centre, 6.30pm–7.45pm.

#### **ACTIVITIES INCLUDE**

Night Walk, paddleboarding, football coaching, climbing, music, cricket, Cricut, theatre trips, dodgeball and more!

#### WHAT ELSE?

A weekly youth church, parenting courses, community events and fundraising.

#### **GET INVOLVED!**

Volunteer as an adult or young leader!

Follow St Mary's Church or Weldon Parish Council on Facebook for more information or contact kirstie@stmarysweldon.org

year olds

Book places at: www.stmarysweldon.org/ book-events-here/

Supported by St Mary's Church, Weldon and Weldon Parish Council.

#### **Councillor's Corner**

## Meet Graham

#### **Weldon Parish Councillor**

Hi, my name is Graham Stray. My wife and I are Luton born and bred. Amazingly, we celebrated our 56th Wedding Anniversary last month.

We have two daughters and a beautiful granddaughter who I gladly admit has me wrapped around her little finger!

It was when our daughters started school, in what was then a socially deprived area of Luton, that I became interested in how I could help effect change for the benefit of the community. As a School Governor I helped found the School's parent/teacher association, of which I was Chair. We successfully campaigned to have a new school, after finding Beds County Council had dropped it from their funding plans. I was also Secretary of the annual High Town Festival held for the community in a local park. Great fun. After 18 years in Luton we moved to a village called Caddington, near Luton Airport, and 33 years later ventured to Priors Hall Park, Weldon.

The issues we face today across the Parish are no strangers to me – speeding vehicles, inconsiderate parking, occasional unruly and unneighbourly behaviour, encroachment of commercial buildings too close to housing, not enough volunteers and not enough funding to do



the things we'd all like. Most other Parishes have similar issues but I have to say the dedicated Parish Councillors of Weldon work hard and closely with each other and other organisations to help make the Parish a more safe, friendly and happy place to live and bring up families.

"It was in my blood to join the Priors Hall Park Neighbourhood Association, of which I'm now Secretary, and over a year ago to become a Parish Councillor."

I established the Weldon Speed Watch group, knowing residents' views on speeding traffic. If this concerns you and are over 18 please contact me, as volunteers help to spread the load. We operate under and are trained by Northants Police and use their official equipment.

Stay safe and with best regards

Graham Stray, gsweldonpc@gmail.com

#### Help make streets safer in Weldon!

The police recently carried out a traffic survey on Oundle Road, finding the average speed is 43mph and volume has increased to more than 2.3 million vehicles a year. More vehicles than ever are speeding on Oundle Road.

Community Speed Watch is voluntary, doesn't result in fines or points but reminds drivers of consequences of speeding. The drivers' details are held on police record to identify repeat offenders

and anyone caught exceeding limits more than twice can expect a visit from police.

Would you like to volunteer on Weldon's 2023 Community Speed Watch? Training is provided and equipment supplied by police who process results.

Get involved, by emailing: gsweldonpc @gmail.com



## CHAIR'S REPORT 2023

Weldon Parish
Council (WPC) has
had another very
busy year, starting with
organising the Queen's
Platinum Jubilee.

This continued with other community events - History Day and Time Capsule, Christmas tree planting and Carol Singing and finishing with the Coronation Celebrations of King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

These are important community events and we know they are appreciated by the parishioners. It is very much part of the Communication Strategy we have all signed up to. It is different to a policy as it requires us all to take action to know our village and its residents to support this part of the work of WPC.

We are reviewing our website, restarted Walkabouts, erecting more notice boards and continuing with Weldon Wide, Facebook and Instagram. Members attend training courses, various forums and updates, NNC strategy area plans, and read the weekly newsletters. This feeds into our committees and working groups for discussion, with proposals addressed at full council meetings.

Traffic working group is still working hard to understand the attitude and constantly charging regulations from NNC Highways. Planning members attend NNC meetings in the hope to get selected councillors to ask more of the planning officers, who work on

old regulations and have no knowledge of the continued development of Weldon. The issues with these two departments are experienced by other parish councils. We hope the new CEO of NNC will make a difference.

The Parish Maintenance group's work can be seen brightening our village. The next project we will be supporting is Weldon in Bloom.

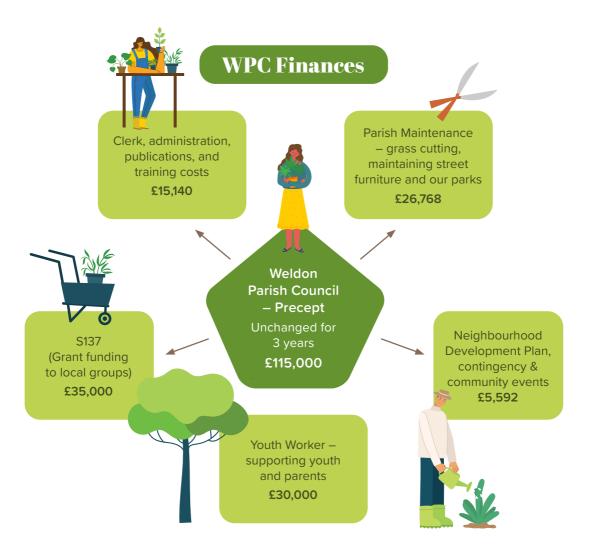
I thank Sue Cook, our clerk, for keeping us in check by carrying out her duty as our Responsible Officer for Finance and continued support with HR matters.

The work of our Youth Worker is growing for both the youth and parents alike. We receive updates and support from PC Brad Wilson, our Ward Councillors and Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (NCALC). I thank my fellow councillors for their work and also stepping up when needed to keep us informed, reporting back and organising events. It's not always easy when we have our own commitments and family life. Continually supported by our Clerk, Sue, to help councillors and our parish.

Cllr Angela Page Chair of Weldon Parish Council

The next project we will be supporting is **Weldon in Bloom** 





We have all received our Council Tax Bill and noted the increase charged for services. When reviewing the yearly budget of funding received from North Northamptonshire Council, called the precept, we were mindful to the cost of living.

For the third year running we have not increased the precept request. In fact, the amount showing on your Council tax bill granted to WPC has decreased.

Above, you can see how funds will be spent during 2023/24. We thank our clerk, Sue Cook, for her continually hard work as the Finance Responsible Officer in maintaining the accounts. We have ring fenced monies to continue our project to make our roads safer. All the finance

documents and minutes are available for you to review on **www.weldonparishcouncil.co.uk** 

In receiving your parish magazine, you can read about various activities and projects your council is involved in, and how groups in Weldon are supported with S137 funds. S137 funds are used for improving facilities and services for local people. Funds have been awarded to Congregational Church, War Memorial, Tots groups, Weldon Village Hall,

21st Scout Group and Weldon Pre School. From the grant awarded, the Pre School have purchased new equipment and a sign.





# YOUTH GAMES IN THE AMPHITHEATRE

THURSDAY 17 AUGUST 10.30AM - 12.30PM

Come along for dodgeball, swing-ball, archery, sumo suits and more games as well as a craft tent\* and information about local services for families and young people.

\*there may be a small charge for craft activities

















# EXPANDING HORIZONS

My name is Daniela Laslau and I have spent my entire life educating myself to the point where I can serve as a model and a source of motivation for other people.

With myself and the rest of our international team of volunteers, we are working to promote in children a sense of empathy and selfassurance from a young age.

Our mission is not just to preserve culture but also to share it with the rest of the world. There are so many different nations in Weldon, and they all have so many wonderful things to teach us through their music, dancing, and food as well as the time we spend together. When we work together, we succeed. Build your self-assurance by acting like royalty!

CorbyCan supported the Big Lunch by providing scrumptious cakes to enjoy with the picnic made by Tuckers. Mums supported the children's Coronation activities and our musicians provided entertainment.

Young violinist Max, aged 9 years old, said: "I felt nervous because we were performing in front of a lot of people, and when I started to play the violin, I felt relieved because I didn't concentrate on performing to the people I just played to myself and thought I was playing my violin at home with my parents and my brother. When we all gathered together to rehearse the songs I felt excited because I knew we were

going to go to perform in front of people that I didn't know and never met."

Our children's choir is making wonderful steps, which is helping all of us become more resilient, more confident, more reliable, and better individuals. By performing we are expanding our horizons and sharing our origins, and we have a strong sense that we belong here. Taking action to bring about the change you desire.

#### Daniela Laslau, Chair of CorbyCAN

For more info, please call 07912 577780 or find us on Facebook @CorbyCANcic CorbyCAN's mission is to serve as a source of inspiration and motivation for the next generation as well as their families.





# A Right Royal Do **Ondeed!**

Weldon was once more putting out the Red, White and Blue in support of this Historic and momentous Royal occasion, the Coronation of our new King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

Saturday 6th May 2023 saw the Nation come together with millions watching live television. It was wonderful to watch The Royals as they headed towards Westminster Abbey with over 2,200 people attending the Coronation service. Many street parties and celebratory gatherings being enjoyed up and down the country.

Sunday 7th May 2023, Weldon Parish Council organised its own event to mark this very exciting and special occasion by holding a BIG LUNCH in Weldon Village Hall, and what a glorious Royal Do it was indeed!

Leading up to Weldon's BIG LUNCH, lots of planning, promoting and preparation was

this event was a huge success. Bookings came in at a steady pace and soon we were at full capacity.

carried out to make sure that



With Flags flying and the bunting blowing in the breeze, Weldon Village Hall was surrounded with red, white and blue. The post box toppers put an appearance in too, to which we thank those involved, they looked amazing, definitely bringing a smile to passers-by.



The big day had arrived, the Church service had taken place and it was time to set the tables to welcome our BIG LUNCH guests. The tables were set, the lunches were made and the beautiful cakes were all on display waiting for the doors to open.



Twelve noon came and the Hall was filling up quickly, lunch was served, teas, coffees and soft drinks to wash it all down and an Ice cream to finish off. What an amazing sight it was, our community coming together.



Corby Can kept everyone entertained, there was keyboard and violin playing and lots of singing, the children's choir and the solo singer filled the air with joy. The children got creative, making crowns, drawing pictures and making memories on what turned out to be a very warm and sunny day...the weather was perfect!

Rock Solid Youth Group held a successful book sale, raising money for their cause. All books





purchased were offered a commemorative bookmark which were supplied by Weldon Parish Council.

Sadly our lunch came to an end. We had some wonderful heart lifting comments. All our hard work had paid off. One lady was so thrilled, she asked when our next event would be.



The entertainment and celebrations carried on into the evening with live music from The Fallen Eyes at Weldon Cricket Club. Drinks, food, music and good company filled the grounds. Children with glow sticks and dancing into the evening.

A fantastic day was had by all, memories were made, with stories to tell in the years to come!





**Coronation Celebrations at the Cricket Club** 

6th May Celebrations kicked off at the Cricket Club with the King's Coronation Buffet. An amazing spread was put on and raised over £130 for the Cricket Club which will go towards supporting youth development cricket.

**7th May** Welcomed a day of youth Cricket and Rounders seeing the Under 11's team give a convincing win against Bowden Cricket Club.

Followed by the Weldon Coronation Cup, trophy provided by the Parish Council. Two strong teams of mixed ages, one captained by Ava Jenkins and the other captained by Phoebe Mathieson – it was a head to head but saw Phoebe's team lifting the trophy!

The afternoon of sports finished with a game of Rounders – led by the Weldon Women's

Rounders Captain Catherine Davy which brought together Parents, Carers, Cricketers and Children to enjoy a fun game. A wonderful way to bring the community together!

That evening the club hosted live music from The Fallen Eyes, thanks goes to the Parish Council for funding the costs of the band. There was a real festival vibe and as the sun set over the village hundreds of people came together to celebrate.

A fantastic end to a fabulous day bringing everyone together to play, support, dance, sing and listen.

#### **Bank Holiday Monday (8th May)**

The final event for the weekend hosted by the Cricket Club was the 'Clean Up for the King' Thanks to some amazing volunteers who came out on a drizzly chilly day to make our village sparkle!



Find out more about the Cricket Club at www.facebook.com/WeldonCricketClub or just pop over to the Club.



The club relies on fundraising and volunteers, if you are interested in getting involved, please contact us at info@weldoncricket.com



To become a member, visit weldoncricket.com. Membership starts from as little as £10 per season.





Six Parish Councillors, dressed in Hi Vis waistcoats gave two hours of their time to walk and observe matters about the village.

They took the route along Stamford Rd to East Crescent, went around Deene End/Crickets Green and on up Oundle Road.

The members noted areas that need maintenance, accessibility for safe walking and cyclist ways and clearance of pathways. They appreciated the chance to chat with residents and learn more about our community.

A list of actions has been drawn up to be reviewed at council meetings and worked on to improve our community. Residents are always welcome to attend our working groups (Parish Maintenance, Planning, Weldon in Bloom), held via zoom. Email the clerk, scweldonpc@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.

At the next Walkabout in the Autumn the councillors will be better identified, as their waistcoats will finally have our logo on the back.



On a blustery day in March, Cllr Angela Page joined Sean Barrett, Technical Director for Persimmons Homes North Midlands, and residents to celebrate the completion of the development's play area.

The on-site play area will allow local children to make the most of the outdoors as well as develop their interpersonal skills, physical activity and enhance their playtime.

Cllr Angela Page, Chair of Weldon Parish Council, said: "Weldon Parish Council are extremely pleased to welcome this play area within Weldon Park. It will encourage fresh air play in a safe environment. It's very important to have play areas like this for children to stay active, make new friends and feel part of a bigger community. We hope all the local children have a great time playing in this well equipped play area."

Sean Barratt said: "We're delighted to welcome Weldon Parish Council to our community at Weldon Park. Our work at Persimmon is about so much more than building quality homes. It's also about fostering communities and creating environments where that can happen — our play areas at Weldon Park are just one of the many ways we've committed to doing this in Corby. We are currently in the process of handing over the play areas to the local authority, and we hope they bring many years of enjoyment to local residents and their families."



#### **Weldon C of E School**

# Oance, sing & celebrate

All the children enjoyed a red, white and blue day to celebrate the Coronation. They came to school in red, white and blue mufti and joined in a Coronation picnic. We had lots of lovely entries in the 'design a crown' competition too.



The children were thrilled with their Coronation bookmarks from Weldon Parish Council - a big thank you for such a lovely keepsake.

Congratulations to year 2 and year 6 children on their

hard work to prepare and complete their SATs (Standard Assessment Tests).

The whole school prepared for June Rose Day, otherwise known as May Pole Day, but moved due to SATs. The sun shone on the parade, lead by the King and Queen (Thomas and Harriet).





The entertainment started with all the children singing Your Love Lifts Me Up. Year 4 performed a very skilful May Pole dance. Followed by year-group dances, all having a swinging time, including the Weldon Wiggle dance and the Year 6 sword dance. The Choir rounded the festivities up with Fleetwood Mac. Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow.





## Lost path is found

Weldon Parish Council met Glebe Farm developers and discussed the lost path, agreeing that it didn't need to follow the exact historical route, provided it allows pedestrian access from Church Street to the existing lost path at the boundary to the site and out to the fields. Drawings that now reflect this agreement are available on the North Northants Council planning portal.

If you have walked this lost footpath or nearby paths, please email Sue Cook at scweldonpc@gmail.com



Have you noticed a large wild plant with attractive purple flowers and slightly hairy, oval, sage-coloured leaves growing throughout the parish?

Russian comfrey is highly invasive, unlike comfrey plants that are sold in garden centres, which are usually sterile. A single plant can set several hundred seeds. Common Comfrey, native to the UK, usually has white or cream flowers. The long tap root of comfrey is very difficult to remove, as it will regrow if only the top is removed.

Recently, the Parish Maintenance Committee and a group of volunteers have dug up as many plants as possible before they set seed. In the past, leaves were used in tea and pills. Research of the past 20 years has linked the intake of comfrey to serious liver damage and development of cancer in humans, dogs, birds and some other animals. Both the leaves and root contain toxic chemicals. Comfrey leaves do, however, make a useful but rather smelly fertiliser when left to rot in water.

We have already started replanting some of the village flower beds with perennials for Weldon in Bloom and our entry into Britain in Bloom 2024.

The first Weldon in Bloom meeting was held on 6th June and was attended by councillors and volunteers interested in making this project happen. Meeting minutes are available at weldonparishcouncil.co.uk/reports

It's not too late to volunteer to help!

The more people who get involved, the more magnificent the display is likely to be.





Summer has finally arrived and, whilst we've almost done with planting, there are simple chores to ensure we see our gardens thrive and survive the heat.

✓ Keep plants hydrated by watering in late evening to allow absorption and limit evaporation. Your plants will thank you for it!

✓ Mulch plants to provide a protective layer, like a sunshade, keeping them cool.

➤ Don't cut your lawn so short! Raise the blade to avoid sun scorch and stop grass dehydrating.

✓ See a weed, pull it out! Weeds steal moisture from your other plants. ✓ Deadhead flowers to promote healthy growth.

overheat in summer.

Get a thermometer to monitor temperature.

Install shading where possible. Sprinkle water on your greenhouse floor to cool it down. Ventilate well for better airflow.

✓ Lastly, remember wildlife. Leave shallow dishes filled with pebbles and water for thirsty winged creatures. They need a pit stop to survive too!

Weldon Wildlife

The Robert's Family hedgehog is back.
Their grandmother was waiting for its return as she absolutely loves them.

Sadly her funeral was held on Tuesday 9th May and, wouldn't you know it, Mr Prickles shuffled into the garden on Wednesday 10th May. The family feel their grandmother is still with them by the return of their little prickly friend.

A delightful picture but you cannot hear how noisily Mr Prickles eats!

Our vocal Robin, almost demands the bird feeder to be refilled. Take care when cutting back climbing plants, hedges and trees as Robins like to build their nests in such nooks and crannies.

For those of you with cats and dogs, keep the hair after grooming and peg it on your line. The birds can use this to line their nests.

The bird feeders, natural vegetation and bird boxes in our Gardens all provides a good opportunity to watch the birds. I have tried to capture the blue tits in our garden, as you can see.



I'm sure there are many others of you enjoying Weldon Wildlife, we loved to share your experiences and photos for all to enjoy.

Do send unedited photos to apweldonpc@gmail.com



The other day I was listening to a podcast on leadership. The person delivering the talk was looking at various components of successful leadership. They listed several excellent points but, I was pleased to hear that they considered humility a big part of a successful leader's tool kit.

They defined that humility is not to think that we are better than anyone else and we are equally deserving of the resources this world has to offer.

As we see the devastating effects of leadership that is based on pride rather than humility, a leadership that seeks to promote it own needs over anyone else's no matter the cost. To counter that each one of us need to model humility, realising that perhaps the way we see things need to change, we need to take care of others better, we need to see their needs are just as important as ours – to walk a mile in someone else's shoes.

The bible tells us that we should:

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant."

I think Jesus is the best leader in history – he did not need an army to force his point of view, nor did he need a title or position of power to change our world. Jesus changed our world with the power of His word and actions. Despite his status as God's son, he chose to take on the form of a servant looking out for others – even the needs of those who persecuted him.

Maybe we need to apply this to our own lives, looking out for others, considering their needs as much as our own. We could shape our community to be positive towards one another, face to face and on social media. To start this the only change we need to make is whose perspective we start to look from.

Blessings



Kane, Rector
St Mary's and Priors Hall Community Church





### 12-4pm Weldon Cricket Club, NN17 3JP

Viking Village - Afternoon Teas - Food Stands -Live Music - Circus Workshop - Dog Show -Vegetable Show -Various Stalls - Children's Activities - Licensed Bars — Tug of War



To book a stall scan the QR code or contact weldonvillagefete@gmail.com or 07538 966038

#### **Road Closure Notice:**

From Weldon Park roundabout to just past Weldon Village Academy. Starts **22nd July until 3rd September**. The road works will be 24/7 to complete the roundabout in time for the school's opening in September. Updates posted on **www.weldonparishcouncil.co.uk** and WPC Facebook and Instagram pages.