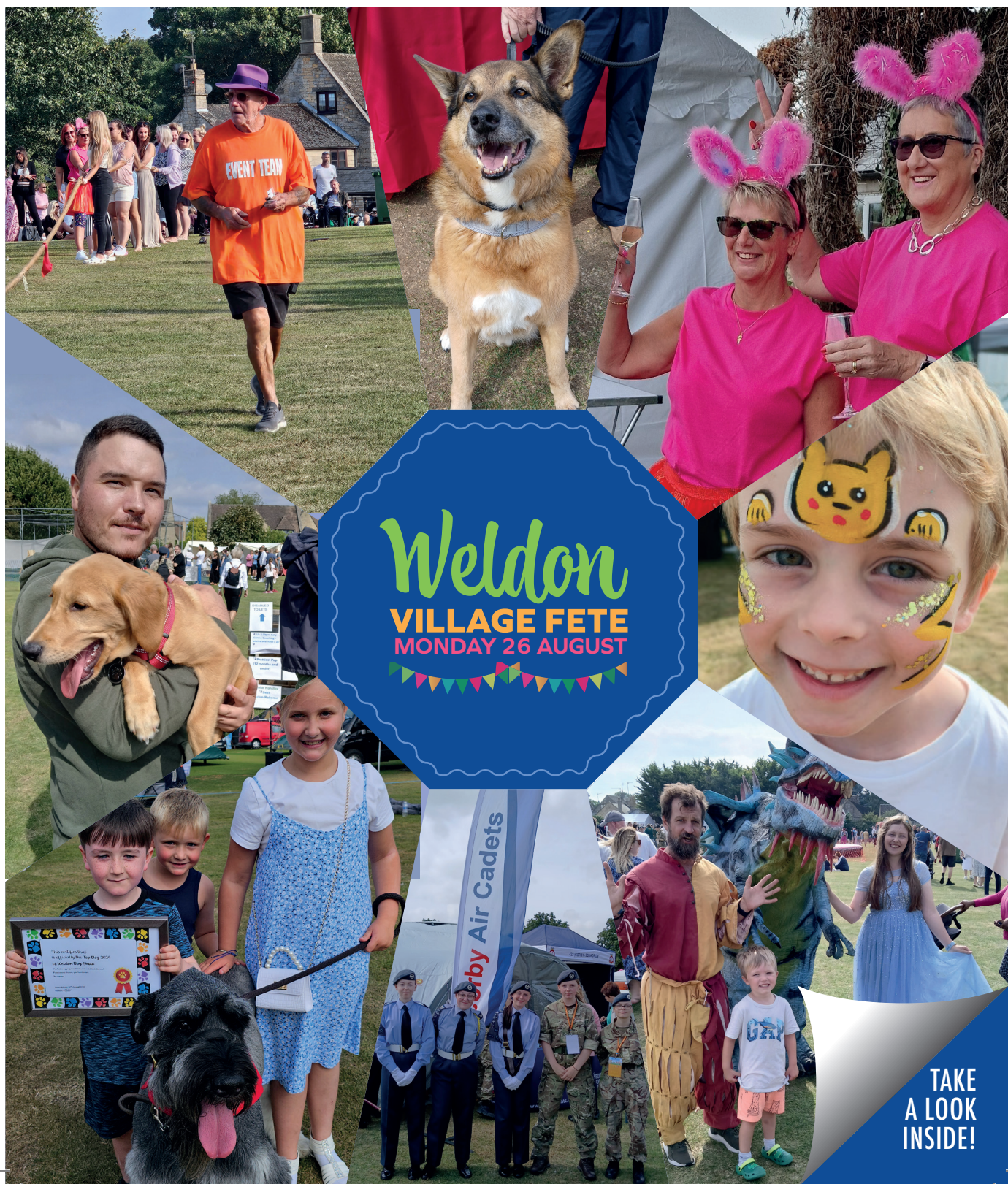


Weldon Parish Council connecting our community

# WELDON WIDE

Winter 2024 Magazine





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## REGULAR GROUPS



**Little Stars Baby and Toddler Group** Meets every Thursday, term time, from 10:00am–11:30am at Priors Hall Community Centre. For more information, contact Louise: 01536 626361 or [www.stmarysweldon.org/book-events-here/](http://www.stmarysweldon.org/book-events-here/)

**Rock Solid Youth Group** every Monday during term time at 6:30pm–7:45pm.

**Creative Club:** a 6-week course held on Tuesdays at 4:45pm–6:00pm. Open to 11–17 year olds at Priors Hall Park Community Centre. See adverts opposite and page 11. **Contact Siobhan** on [youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com](mailto:youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com)



**Weldon Not Just Knit and Natter** Every Tuesday at 2:00pm in the Shoulder of Mutton. Have a natter

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

**Weldon Book Worms** The third Wednesday of the month, from 7:00pm in the Shoulder of Mutton. Details posted on the facebook page of the same name.



**21st Corby Scout Group** Held on Friday evening at the Priors Hall Park Community Centre and has 3 sections:

Beaver (6–8 year olds)  
Cubs (8–10 year olds)  
Scouts (10–14 year olds)



To find out more, contact:  
**21stcorbyscoutgroup@gmail.com**  
or **07845 281230**

## Rock Solid Youth Group



A weekly youth group held on Monday evenings in term time.

6.30pm–7.45pm

Open to 11–17 year olds

£3 per young person or £4.50 per sibling group.

Priors Hall Community Centre

Email: [youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com](mailto:youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com) to book

FUNDED BY  
WELDON  
PARISH  
COUNCIL



## CREATIVE CLUB

A 6 weeks course offered to Young People\* 11–17 Years old to support with their Mental Health and a safe space to get creative with arts and crafts.



**GET IN TOUCH**  
[youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com](mailto:youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com)

Tuesday's  
4.45pm–6pm  
Priors Hall  
Community Centre



\*Living within the Weldon Parish Council  
(Priors Hall, Weldon and Weldon Park)



## How to stay informed...

1

### WELDON WIDE MAGAZINE

Delivered to your door!  
Read your copy of our  
Parish magazine.

2

### NOTICEBOARDS

Keep an eye out for  
upcoming events  
and news.



3

### WPC WEBSITE

Scan the QR  
code or visit  
[weldonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://weldonparishcouncil.co.uk)

4

### WPC SOCIAL

Join our  
Facebook and  
Instagram pages  
[@weldoncouncil](https://www.instagram.com/weldoncouncil)



## Connect with Weldon Parish Council

Claire Ducker, Clerk 07484 658147



To register for WPC information,  
please email "I consent" to  
[scweldonpc@gmail.com](mailto:scweldonpc@gmail.com)

## WELDON PARISH COUNCIL

Full Council meetings are every first Monday  
of the month at 7:00pm in the Weldon  
Village Hall Annex.

We welcome the public's attendance.  
The agenda is posted on our website.  
Traffic and Planning Working Groups are  
held via zoom. You can join in and find out  
first hand what is happening by emailing  
**Claire Ducker** [scweldonpc@gmail.com](mailto:scweldonpc@gmail.com)  
for the link. **Visit our website**  
[www.weldonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.weldonparishcouncil.co.uk)



# Welcome

## A summer of winners!

Achieved by the efforts of volunteers working  
with Weldon Parish Council for Weldon in  
Bloom, Garden and Wacky planter competition  
winners, a winning Village Fete to our own  
World Scooter Champion. That's just for starters.

Opposite are details on the many activities  
available for both young and old alike with more  
information on page 11 for The Creative Club  
and Social Club. There are a variety of clubs for  
you to join and even make a difference to your  
community.

Inserted is a Christmas Card, which details  
all the events happening in your parish in  
December. Keep it safe. Wishing you all a  
joyous and happy Christmas.

*Weldon Parish Council,*  
[www.weldonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://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](mailto:apweldonpc@gmail.com)



### Submissions

In case of inadvertent error  
or omission, the Weldon  
Wide Editing Team (WWET)  
will make the necessary  
correction in a future issue.  
The WWET reserves the  
right to edit any article  
as necessary. All material  
included in WW may be  
reproduced with or without  
permission, provided  
acknowledgement is made  
of the author. The WWET  
reserve the right to select or  
reject letters for publication  
and to edit for grammar,

length and style. We will only  
publish items appropriate for  
this magazine that supports  
and connects the community.  
Advertising specifications  
are available by contacting:  
[apweldonpc@gmail.com](mailto:apweldonpc@gmail.com)

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

**Cover photography:**  
**Weldon Fete Team and**  
**Angela Page**



PRIORS HALL SCHOOL

# ART PROJECT

## Colour Progression



Priors Hall  
a learning community

Priors Hall a learning community has been busy working with its partner academy schools within the Inspiring Futures through Learning Trust.

One of the larger initiatives was an art project, where every child completed a piece of artwork based on the theme 'colour progression'. The top four from each year group were selected, then taken to the Roof Top Art Gallery in Corby town centre and judged by the resident artists and gallery manager. Between three schools, eighty-four pieces of art were on public display.

Winning children enjoyed the opening exhibition day and proudly went back again to show their parents. We are lucky to have the Roof Top Art Gallery resource in Corby.

In May, the school joined the wider community for our recycling project. Geoffrey the Giraffe was loaned from The British Ironworks (famous for their Knife Angel). We sat Geoffrey outside the community hall entrance, so Priors Hall Park residents could help fill him with thousands of plastic bottle lids. Achieved with many spares! All these plastic lids have been recycled into playground equipment, like benches, as part of our Trust sustainability project. Big shout out to Stephen Sanderson Transport who collected Geoffrey from Shropshire for us.

Finally, we were thrilled to be invited to write some poems and be able to support the Weldon D-Day celebration. These were displayed, along with their pictures, to enhance the decorations.





## COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

# We welcome our new clerk

CLAIRE DUCKER

*"I am eager to continue  
my journey as a  
community advocate."*

I grew up in Geddington and married Colin in 1995. We lived in many locations around the country before finally settling in Weldon in 2003 to raise our two very young daughters.

My professional career has been diverse, having worked for Barclays Bank for 14 years before transitioning to roles in the education sector. Joining Oakley Vale Primary School as a school receptionist marked the beginning of my journey in the field of education. Through hard work and dedication, I advanced to the position of School Business Manager, a role that allowed me to make a meaningful impact on the school's administrative and financial functions. Subsequently, my passion for finance led me to the Brooke Weston Trust, as a Payroll Officer and Senior Finance Officer, extending my support to the financial operations of multiple schools within the trust.

My dedication to community involvement has been unwavering over the 21 years of living



Contact Claire,  
Mon to Fri,  
9am to 1pm

Details on  
page 3

in Weldon. Volunteering as the treasurer for Weldon Pre-School was a transformative experience. I played a pivotal role in steering the organisation from a challenging financial situation to a position of stability and prosperity. I also dedicated eight years as treasurer for the Weldon CE School PFTA, in supporting the school's fundraising events. I have volunteered as Weldon Cricket Club Treasurer for five years.

As the newly appointed Clerk of Weldon Parish Council and Responsible Financial Officer, I am eager to continue my journey as a community advocate. I am committed to leveraging my skills and experiences to facilitate the growth and prosperity of our parish.

I was once called a 'social butterfly' this is so true! Living in Weldon can be a very social place to live in and I have made lifelong friends. You may have seen me around the village either socialising or walking our Cavapoo, Charlie.





Wow! What an amazing event for the village. Each year the Weldon Village Fete, hosted at Weldon Cricket Ground grows bigger and better. Held on 26th August 2024 the Fete welcomed 3,500 visitors, 50 stalls and over 100 dogs to this much loved village event.

With the sun shining the whole family (including our four-legged friends!) could enjoy an array of stalls and attractions. Such as handmade crafts, books, jewellery, wooden garden ornaments, food, games, attractions, the Cricket Club Bar and free activities including balloon modelling, circus skills, dragons and Vikings kept everyone entertained.

Our jovial DJ kept us to time as we celebrated local talent with amazing showcases from Weldon Amateur Theatre, Ignite Dance and Thistle & Toe Highland dances. Dog's strutted their stuff and put their best paws forward in the fun dog show, with Best in Show being awarded to Jake, the Giant Schnauzer! A huge thank you to all the owners who took part, all the amazingly well behaved dogs, our fantastic Judges: Katy, Charlene, Rebecca, Cllr Angela Page and Kay Batchelor for making and donating the winners dog bandanas.







The fete supports local businesses, celebrates our community and helps local charities and good causes to raise over £2000 – SO THANK YOU for supporting your community!

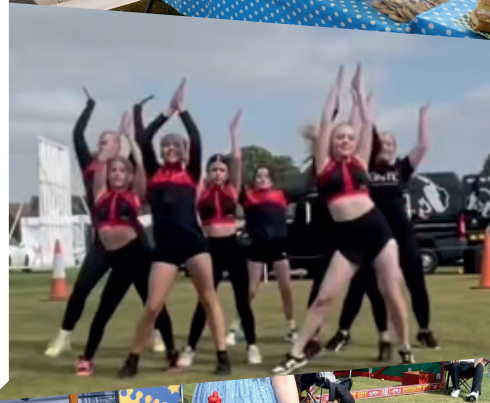
The fete committee is a group of local volunteers who work tirelessly to organise the event. We send A BIG THANK YOU to:

Financial support; Weldon Parish Council, Travis Perkins, Ross Wallace Landscapes.

In-kind support; Weldon Village Hall, our lovely Raffle Ladies (Jane Yates and Sarah Page) selling over 1000 raffle tickets, Weldon Cricket Club, Corby Fire Brigade, Vikings of Mercia and 422 Corby Squadron Air Cadets.

Raffle prizes donated by: Scentsy Hamper (Julia Northover), The George, The Shoulder of Mutton, GlamRUs, Tara's Beauty and Radical Clean and of course all our lovely stall holders who join us every year!

Follow us on Weldon Village Fete Facebook page for updates on next year's plans. If you would like to book a stall OR are interested in volunteering, please email [weldonvillagefete@gmail.com](mailto:weldonvillagefete@gmail.com)



**Weldon**  
**GE FETE**  
**26 AUGUST**





As another season draws to a close, we would like to thank everyone that helps to make it such a great local club.

A huge thanks to all our sponsors, volunteers, helpers and coaches. The club just wouldn't be the same without your help and support!

Towards the end of the season, you may have seen our 1st XI team donning their smart new coloured kit, kindly provided by UBInfrastructure. This is something we would like to roll out to some of our youth teams next season. Again, thanks to our sponsors for making this possible.

Our youth presentation in September escaped the worst

of the wet autumn weather. We celebrated a record number of junior players at the club with over 80 children training on one sunny Friday evening! Just one of the highlights this year was our U11 hardball team (pictured) coming second in the league.

We'll be running another programme of winter nets again, for all age-groups, at

Rutland Cricket Centre - watch out for more information on this soon.

We always welcome new players to our cricket and rounders teams. Please keep an eye out on our Facebook page next spring for more details as we'll be recruiting new players, whatever level of experience.

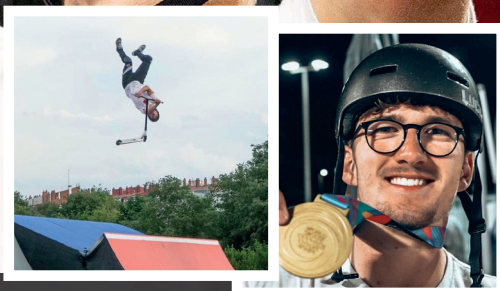




# WORLD CHAMPION

*Congratulations Jayden*

by Barry Sharman



A 20-year-old local has said he felt "on top of the world" after winning the World Scooter Championships in Italy in September.

Jayden Sharman, from Priors Hall, beat two other British riders to the title in September. "It was a moment I have been working on for 10 years," he said. "I was on edge throughout the whole process; it was very nerve-racking and I had this crazy adrenaline rush. Winning the competition is such a blessing."

Jayden trains at Adrenaline Alley in Corby and competes in places such as Italy, France, Spain and the USA. He won the UK title in 2022 and became European Champion in 2023.

His road to stardom began in Market Harborough where he lived before moving to Corby in 2021. His parents recall him just wanting to ride his scooter. Before and after school he would head to the local skate park to work on his tricks and it started from there. As Jayden says:

"The scooter is the easiest place to start the process because you have more balance than a skateboard. Once you get into it, you realise how dangerous it can be and that's what got me excited. The adrenaline, the speed, the height, the fear that something can go wrong. But if you land the trick well, it feels amazing."

Jayden first competed aged eight, turning professional at 13. "When I was 14 or 15, I didn't want to be at school," he admitted. "I just wanted to be at a skate park. This is a very short career; I want to make the most of it while I'm young."

Jayden wants to encourage more people to compete on a scooter, whatever their standard. "My focus is to show my tricks, and prove that scootering isn't just a kids' toy or a form of transport to school," he said. "Anything's possible with commitment and hard work."





# Learning through **ADVENTURE**

Weldon CE Primary School's Year 6 class recently enjoyed a five-day activity based residential trip to Whitemoor Lakes.



This action-packed experience gave children the chance to build new skills, grow in confidence and strengthen friendships, while having fun outdoors.

The trip, which took place in September, was filled with exciting activities designed to challenge and inspire the children. From kayaking on the lake to scaling the climbing wall, soaring through the air on a zip wire or taking a Leap of Faith, the children showed remarkable perseverance, encouraging each other and bravery all week. As well as an evening round the campfire, singing songs and toasting marshmallows, the children enjoyed a movie night and a disco, complete with tuckshop!

Staff members who accompanied the class were impressed by the resilience and positive attitude the children displayed, as well as their impeccable behaviour. "It was wonderful to see how much they grew in just five days," said Mr. Osler, the Year 6 teacher. "They bravely faced every challenge with boundless enthusiasm and they were incredibly

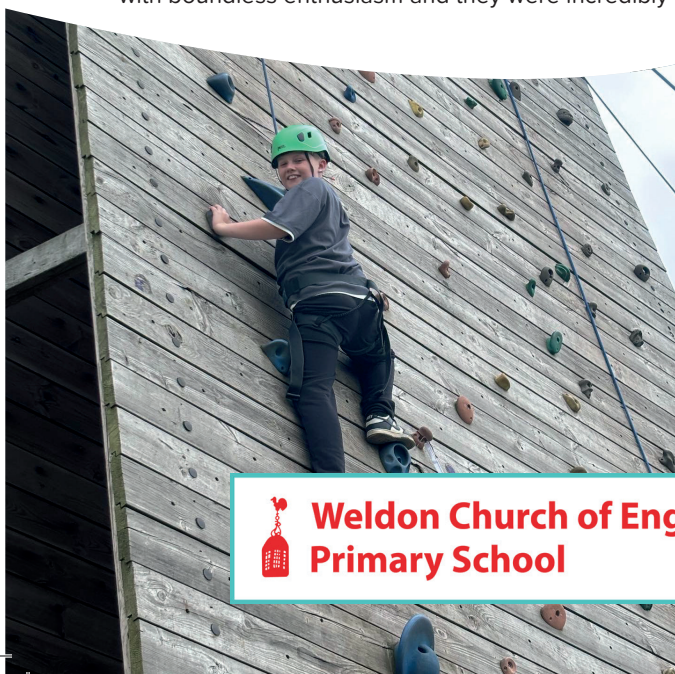
supportive of one another; we are so very proud of how they represented the school."

The residential is not only a fantastic adventure but also an important part of Year 6's journey as they prepare for the next stage in their academic lives, with the deadline looming for secondary school applications. It was a week to remember, filled with achievements, laughter and friendships, and caseloads of dirty clothes to bring home for washing!



## Reception Class Renovation

September is a happy time of year when Weldon CE Primary welcomes new children into school. Reception class children are settling into school life and making new friendships, and they're certainly enjoying the recently-renovated Early Years outdoor classroom. The rebuild was partly funded by school families through events organised by the fundraising committee, Weldon CE Primary's PFTA, and the school community is grateful for its continued support.



**Weldon Church of England  
Primary School**

**LEARNING AND  
FLOURISHING  
TOGETHER**

PROUD TO  
BE PART OF  
**CD  
PDET**





**Please get in touch by email**  
youthworkweldonpc@gmail.com

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## YOUNG WORK IN WELDON



Hi! I'm Siobhan Holmes, the new Youth Development Coordinator for Weldon Parish Council. I was appointed at the start of September and looking forward to providing services locally.

As some of you may already know, we run a weekly Youth Group 'Rock Solid' on Monday evenings in term time at Priors Hall Community Centre from 6:30pm-7:45pm.

We welcome all 11-17 years old. Each session we offer different activities. So far this term we have been joined by Corby Dodgeball Club for some Dodgeball fun and Ignite Impact Foundation who carried out a dance session. We also do a craft activity each session and fun team building games.

As well as the Youth Group I am currently developing services and planning some new projects. I am pleased to introduce 'The Creative Club'. This is a 6 week course offered to Young People 11-17 Years old to support with their Mental Health and a safe space to get creative with arts and crafts. Each session will include an interactive activity based on mental health plus an art and craft activity. I have also started a 'Young Persons Social Club', allowing young people to meet others in a safe space and take part in a fun activity.

**A big thank you to the volunteers who attend Rock Solid on a Monday evening, we couldn't do it without them! We always welcome volunteers to support the youth group and other projects. I am very keen to know what you would like to see locally for young people, please get in touch with your ideas.**



# WELDON IN BLOOM



On 25th September, Weldon in Bloom's working party attended the East Midlands Awards Ceremony for the RHS Britain in Bloom contest. Our first ever entry.

Weldon was placed in the Large Village category. Judges were impressed with our displays and efforts to sustain and improve the natural environment, Weldon's biodiversity and the habitat for wildlife. Delightedly, Weldon received a Silver Award. A great result.

The Parish Council in conjunction with RHS Britain in Bloom ran two competitions. The prize winners received £75 of National Garden Gift vouchers.

## BEST WACKY PLANTER

The winner was Anne Stewart of Larratt Road Weldon. Her magnificently adorned bicycle even had flower boxes on the pedals.



## BEST FRONT GARDEN

Won by William and Nicola Gerrard of Corby Road. A garden of flowers and plants that encourages wildlife with a pond, bird tables and feeders, bird boxes and bug hotels.



Two joint second prize awards each of £50 of National Garden Centre vouchers went to Caroline McCahill of Harrier Close, Priors Hall and Dean Melville of Spinney Road Weldon. Caroline had an immaculate garden with barely a blade of grass out of place, whilst Dean created a riot of colour in the twelve months since he and his wife moved in.

**Thank you to all who helped, entered and our sponsors: Corby Indoor Market. Your efforts have enhanced the Parish.**



Weldon Parish Councillors received a Judges' Award for leadership in the community and supporting the Weldon in Bloom group.

## GET INVOLVED

Our aim is Silver Gilt Award and higher. Join us and make a positive change to our environment by contacting our Clerk.



Colin Shepard, Fiona Ashby-Clarke and Andy Haynes

**SILVER  
WINNERS**