

HAPPY DAYS - ROOM ON THE BROOM AND JURASSIC ADVENTURES!

Caroline Wiles

Pancake Day brought the perfect start to March for Happy Days Nursery. Our little ones munched their way through



all sorts of scrummy fillings, exploring the texture and taste of various foods to encourage everyone to try something a little different – yum!

We never need an excuse to enjoy our favourite stories so you can imagine the fun we had on World Book Day. Many of us took the opportunity to dress up as our

favourite book character and there was much excitement as we participated in some wonderfully creative activities. Highlights of the day included a “Room on the Broom” tuff tray for our babies, “The Gruffalo” story prompts to reimagine the story for ourselves, “Harry and the Bucket Full of Dinosaurs” for some Jurassic themed adventures, creating our own “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt” maps and sorting Elmer’s colours to name just a few.



The hustle and bustle of hectic, happy days keeps us on our toes, with most of our rooms full to capacity for the foreseeable future. Bookings for Spring 2023 onwards are filling up fast too! To avoid disappointment and reserve your space now, please call our office (01795 424348) and we will be very happy to help you.



Alternatively, use the contact form on our website (<https://www.happydaysuk.co.uk/apply-for-a-place>) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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April 2022 THE IWADE OBSERVER

AIMEE HEADS FOR SOUTH KOREAN JAMBOREE

After a gruelling selection process, Aimee Stickells has been successful in gaining a place as part of the UK contingent on an incredible trip to Scout Jamboree the Summer of 2023. The will see 40,000 Scouts aged 14 to 17



and their leaders from all over the world unite in Korea for ten days of teamwork and personal development, along with the chance to visit Seoul and other cities of culture. The World Scout Jamboree (WSJ) is a World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM), which happens every four years, each time hosted by a different country.

Aimee has lived in the village all of her life and been a part of Scouting since the age of 6, when she started at 1st Iwade Beaver Scouts. She has worked her way through Cubs and Scouts, attaining



her Bronze, Silver and Gold Chief Scouts Awards and is now part of Dragon Explorer Scouts, as well as being a valued part of the Cub Scout leadership team. Aimee explains, “Scouting has provided me with so many valuable life skills, which I

am extremely grateful for. This will be a wonderful opportunity for me to continue my Scouting journey, as well as helping other Scouts across the world and future generations as I progress as a leader”.



Each attendee needs to raise £4,000 to participate, which they are required to raise themselves; part of that will support scouts from less economically developed countries in their quest to attend. As well as her own fundraising efforts, Aimee will be teaming up with other Scouts from the District to raise funds as a collective, which they will share equally and she explained that the group already has many exciting events planned in the coming months including cake and sweet sales, selling handmade and donated items at boot fairs and online, race nights, a curry night and many more, but they desperately need all the help they can get.

Aimee added that they would be extremely grateful for any assistance that can be offered, no matter how small, whether a monetary donation or sponsorship (if you or your company has branded items that they can take with them, they are more than happy to be photographed with them in Korea, that you can use in your advertising!), items that they can raffle, such as promises from local businesses (a great advertising opportunity!), attending your venue or event with their popcorn and candy-floss machine or simply the opportunity to shake a collection bucket.

If you would like to find out more or make a donation, please visit Aimee’s JustGiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Aimee-Stickells> or email aimee.wsj@sittingbournescouts.org.uk

NEWS FROM THE BREWHOUSE

Mandy Reeves

Hello again from us all at The BrewHouse



First, we would like to thank everyone for their generosity who donated money or bought our yellow & blue cupcakes for our fundraiser

weekend to help raise money for the Ukraine DEC Appeal (Disasters Emergency Committee) held on the 4th March

As we wanted to do a little something to help raise some money for this appeal, we thought the only thing we could do best is to make & sell cake. So, we managed to bake 48 cupcakes for weekend. We raised an amazing £200.04 for this very worthwhile cause, our thoughts are still with the people of Ukraine.

Some dates for your diary

Get your Thinking Caps on, on Saturday 23rd April – Quiz Night at the BrewHouse

We will be holding a Fund-Raising Quiz Night for one of our customers to raise funds for their little French Bulldog puppy that requires to have a heart operation. The owners have been advised by vets that the operation will cost between £9,000 and £12,000, so we would like to raise as much as we can for Billie

This will cost £10.00 per person, max 6 people per team, Bring Your Own alcohol, but Hot & Soft drinks and food will be available on the night.

To book a table, please visit the BrewHouse

Here are some details from Billie's Gofundme page <https://gofund.me/732d7055>

Unfortunately, Billie was born with a congenital heart problem which, if left untreated, would mean she wouldn't be expected to survive past 2 years. This must have been known to the breeder but was not disclosed when we got her.

We have tried to claim for treatment through our insurers, but since she was diagnosed 4 days into the start of the policy it will not be covered.

Billie will need to undergo surgery to have a stent fitted. We have been told that if it's successful she could lead a normal life. The estimate for this surgery is around £9000-£12000.

Every Monday morning between 10am – 12pm we run **The BrewHouse Woolly Natters**, a knitting and crochet group where you can bring along your current project and get inspiration or learn something new and meet new people and have a chat over a slice of cake and cup of coffee

By the time you read this feature, we would have restarted our musical mayhem of **'Baby Rhyme Time'**, which is now held on every Thursday morning (excluding School Holidays) between 10.30am – 11am

Come and sing along to well-known nursery rhymes and songs & have some fun with our musical instruments and puppets

This is a very popular event, singing starts from 10.30am so please arrive from 10am to ensure you get a space

These sessions are for all Babies and Pre-School children to come meet up and sing all your favourite Nursery Rhymes and songs

There is no entry fee, but we do have delicious cakes and breakfasts and drinks to purchase on the day to keep your vocal chords well lubricated.

Then why not stay and catch up over lunch with all the other Mums, Dads, and Grandparents or family members

We not only offer amazing coffee and artisan teas, but also Breakfast and Brunch, Light Lunches and delicious ice creams and a varied choice of cakes and cream teas

If you want something special, why not book an Afternoon Tea, Baby Shower, Special Birthday Parties or even a 'Pawty' for your dog. We also offer Takeaway Sandwich Platters & buffets - Please call Mandy on 01795 426520 to discuss your requirements

If you run a group that is looking for a venue, give us a call on 01795 426520, or pop in & arrange a suitable date

Keep up to date on all our antics, Special Offers and Events on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/mewsbrewhouse

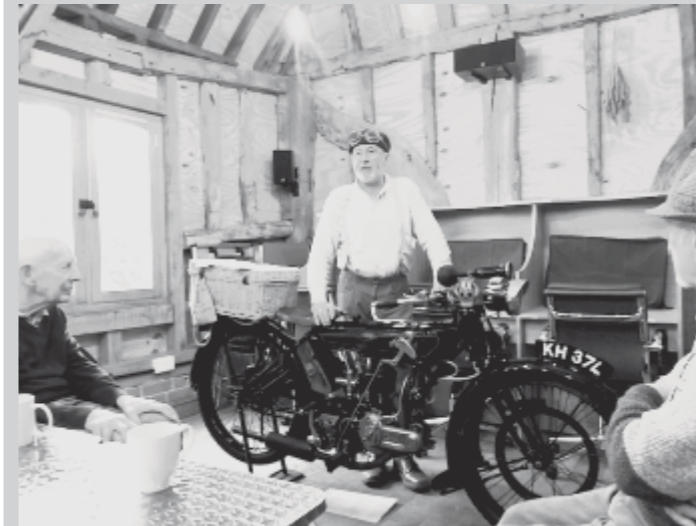
We look forward to seeing you all very soon

TAKING A STEP BACK IN TIME!!

Ron Francis

The Men's Breakfast Club meeting for March turned out to be a true vintage affair. With an excellent talk by one of our members Julian whose hobby is the restoration and promotion of vintage motorcycles. Julian brought along his 1925 vintage Raleigh wearing suitably historic motorcyclist attire of the age. You certainly cut quite a dash Julian! Julian also brought along a facsimile of the original 1925 Owner's Handbook and we soon realised just how difficult it must have been to safely own and ride one of these magnificent machines. One interesting fact (among many) we learned was that the AA motorist organisation was formed in 1905 not only to champion motorists but to help members avoid speed traps ... how things have changed!!

Well done Julian, a thoroughly enjoyable morning.



Our next 'meeting', on April 5th, is an eagerly anticipated outing to The Imperial War Museum which had previously been postponed – another Covid casualty. Look out for news of that outing in next month's Observer

Our next actual meeting will be on May 3rd at the Brn from 09:30. Come along for a bacon buttie, a coffee and a chat – you'll be most welcome.

MONDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Monday Friendship Group continues to meet fortnightly giving Iwadians of a certain age the chance to get together for a couple of biscuits a cuppa and a chat. We have a 'guest' whenever we can and our last two meetings have seen us welcome Kirsty Linge, the new PCSO, in for a chat with members. Kirsty outlined some of the facets of her work which then stimulated a lot of discussion amongst members about all sorts of issues pertaining to life in Iwade. Thank you Kirsty for entertaining and informing us – everybody was dead impressed with your level of fitness having to struggle through each day with your Kevlar outfit!! (pic shows some of our members with PCSO Kirsty Linge)

We also welcomed parish councillor Ray Langham who told us about the roles and responsibilities of the Parish Council. Again this stimulated a lively discussion on all sorts of issues. We do like to talk a lot!! Thanks Ray.

Why not come along – we meet every second Monday in The Barn. Tea/coffee, biscuits and fine company for just £1.50. Meetings in April are 4th and 18th, then into May we will meet on the 2nd, the 16th and the 30th.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU THERE.



URGENT HELP REQUIRED!!

We urgently need a couple of volunteers to help out with delivery of The Iwade Observer. Are you able help and get a bit of exercise at the same time? We currently have two rounds to choose from:

1. Delivering 100 copies to Swallow Ave, Redwing Ave, Fulmar Ave, Bittern Rd.
 2. Delivering 75 copies to Holly Blue (odd numbers only), Red Admiral, Grayling, and Chalkhill Close
- Each round will take around 45 minutes to an hour to do. 10 times a year (no Observer in January or August).

If you'd like to help we'd love to hear from you, please get in touch at the.iwade.observer@gmail.com

BUSY TIMES AT SITTINGBOURNE SPEEDWAY

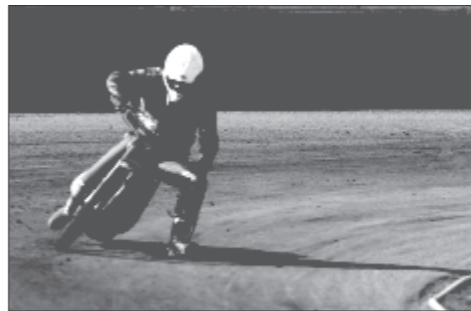
Paul Heller

Work continues with all haste at the track to get everything ready for the coming season. Fortunately, the recent spell of fine weather has allowed a great deal of work to be carried out and completed. The air fence is now up, and fitted around both bends, the previously flooded entrance to the car park has now been rectified and all the pits re-building has now been completed. In the midst of all this the Club has held a successful sidecar practice session which also included some riders from the GT140 class of machines having their first try out at the track and on the minitrack the final round of the Winter Speedway Pit Bike Series was completed, and prizes presented to the eventual winners. In all, the series has been well supported with plenty of good racing and plans are already taking shape to keep it going for next year.

On the main track two speedway practices have been held, both well supported with over 20 riders taking part in each. In one of the sessions, we welcomed some new faces as a family came all the way down from Scotland to ride at the track and from the other end of the country some riders from Oxford paid their first visit to the track. They all had a good afternoon with us and promised to be back soon which means we must be doing something right!

We have a varied mix of pictures showing

- 1) The Winter Pit Bike Series winners with their prizes.
- 2) Some sideways sidecar action.
- 3) Action from the speedway practice showing the surrounding countryside and some of the rural charms of racing at Iwade.



A QUICK MUSICAL INTERLUDE!!

Guitars in Common.

Just a quick note to let you know guitar group is back up and running on Thursdays at the Barn 7.30 pm till 9 pm all ages and all abilities.

Contact is Paul via Facebook – look for: Guitars in Common Iwade Facebook, or pop into the Barn to see what goes on.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, IWADE - EASTER

Carole Wiles

Other than the services on Sunday at 10.30. All Saints Church are holding an Easter table decorations workshop at church 10-12 on Saturday 9th April. Also at 2pm on Good Friday 15th March there will be a reflective/ meditative time from 2pm, with prayer stations inside the church. Lastly, we will be holding an Easter egg hunt after the service on Easter Sunday 17th April. We look forward to welcoming you.

EASTER HOPE

Robin Selmes

We have been living in unprecedented times which none of us have ever experienced before. As I write, I am very conscious of the reality and depth of human suffering – both on an international scale with Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the coronavirus which has claimed thousands of lives around the world. This has raised the question as to where God is in it all. I mean if God is so closely involved in creation, how are viruses, earthquakes and wars possible? Why does God allow suffering?

For people who are involved in terrible suffering, there is really no answer and all one can do is to share their pain in the context of belief in a loving God who holds them in His arms. Ultimately the question of human suffering is a divine mystery which will become clear after death when we will no longer see it through humanities tinted glasses but see clearly face to face.

However, for those of us not so personally involved and who struggle to justify our faith with family and friends, there are several things to be said.

Firstly, I firmly believe that God does NOT make people sick; and God does NOT want people to suffer. We can see this by looking at the life of Jesus. He healed the sick. He Cured people. He did not make them sick! But why, then, are so many in pain?

There is no good or easy answer when tragedies occur. But to try and understand, we must step back and look at the big picture. In that God gave humans free will and unfortunately people will choose to do bad things. God is not into controlling people's lives. If God was merely to control everyone's actions, feelings and responses that would take away our rights as individuals. He had to allow us the freedom to sin. Yet, on the other hand God does not want us to conform to the patterns of this world instead he wants to renew our minds by the Holy Spirit. As our minds are transformed into the likeness of Christ, the more the ways of the world behaviour and thought are pushed out of us.

Whilst God may not interfere with free will he

does not leave us to suffer on our own, He is fully involved in His world and, I believe, fully suffers with each human person. That involvement is supremely seen in Jesus – God actually became a suffering human being with us and, although he was an innocent and righteous man, he suffered more than anyone else who ever lived, dying for humanities sin upon the cross. So in answer to the question, where is God in all the suffering? Well right at the heart of it, holding the hand of the person crushed by the falling rumble. Wiping away the tears of those who are grieving.

These thoughts I have shared with you I have believed for a long time and is the only way I can cope with devastating natural disasters, the death or suffering of Children and the pain of bereavement. However, as I have listened to people and read many articles in the last few years, I have come to a further insight. That as people turn to God in their suffering, He can work with them to transform the suffering and to bring new life and hope out of what seemed to be death and desolation. This is what Christian hope is rooted in, the death and resurrection of Jesus. Real hope is found in Easter because after every Good Friday there is always an Easter and Easter is about hope and restoration. The last two years has reminded us of how fragile and fleeting life is. But hope reminds us that we will one day be reunited with those we love. Death does not last forever. Jesus has conquered death and the grave! And through this it gives us HOPE for better things.

Easter is also a glimpse of eternity. Though this world is no longer perfect, as God intended it to be; He will create a perfect world for us in heaven where there will no longer be any tears, pain, or suffering; and "death will be swallowed up in victory." Why? Because God will ultimately get rid of everything that is not HIS. Suffering, sin, pain, tears and death are not HIS.

We may not know what our earthly future holds but we have HOPE that all suffering will be relieved when we go to spend eternity with God.

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2022

Present

Cllr. A. Dollimore – Chair
Cllr. P. Hyde
Cllr. S. Waters
PCSO Kirsty Linge
Cllr. S. Cheeseman
Cllr. S. Lancashire
Lynda Ives, Clerk
Cllr. B. Whiting - Vice-Chair
Cllr. R. Langham
Samantha Gray (new Clerk)

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair formally welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Parish Cllr. Smith.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Whiting and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on the 12 January 2022 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true transcript.

Visitors/Public Time

PCSO – CRIMES OF NOTE:

Reports of poaching in Raspberry Hill Lane, arrests made. Young people dealing drugs along Ferry Road. Meadow Rise, person taking photographs of properties. ASB issues in Holly Blue Drive, parents spoken to no further issues. ASB – children kicking balls in Swallow Avenue, causing a nuisance.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

20 MPH Zones and Highway

Improvement Plans/Yellow lines – Cllr. Dollimore circulated a set of proposals, which Members agreed. Clerk to forward a copy of the proposal to County Cllr. Baldock. Ongoing, keep on the agenda.

Action: Clerk

Planters, The Street/Mansfield Drive

Assessor has promised the updated Risk Assessment in the next two weeks. Keep on the agenda.

Action: Cllr. Dollimore/Clerk

Appointment of New Clerk

Samantha Gray was introduced to all present, she will take over as Clerk to the Parish Council as from the 1 March 2022. She commenced with the Council on the 7 February, this is to allow a three-week cross-over period so that she can train with the existing Clerk in readiness for her taking up the post. Members were advised that she has been appointed on Point 12, of the Salary Scale - Scale LC1/LC2. Lynda Fisher, the existing postholder will stand down as Clerk on the 28 February and on the 1 March take up the post of Responsible Financial Officer, working 20 hours per month on the same Point and salary scale as at present.

KALC Community Award – Clerk to submit the details of an agreed candidate to the Kent Association of Local Councils.

Action: Clerk

Finance

Trees and Plaque costs – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Waters, agreed the quote of £665 from KSM to excavate and plant the 8 Hornbeam Trees in Woodpecker Park. Clerk to ask KSM to liaise with Rumwood Nursery as regards delivery of the trees. KSM to liaise with Cllr. Dollimore as to the siting of the trees.

Action: Cllr. Dollimore/Clerk

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon – Clerk advised that she has applied for a Grant of £1000 from Swale Borough Council, which has been successful. Still no feedback on two proposed sites from KCC. Councillors suggested approaching Swale Borough Council to see if they will approve siting the Beacon in Woodpecker Park, which will alleviate the need for road closures. Cllr. Dollimore commented that fire precautions can be put in place as regards vegetation. Date agreed to light the Beacon 2 June. It was proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and

seconded by Cllr. Langham: agreed to accept the quote from Taylor and Son of £600.08, plus VAT, for the supply of a timber post to sit the brazier on. Cllr. Hyde to source a Piper for the event. Keep on the Agenda.

Action: Cllr. Hyde/Clerk

Internal Audit Report 2020-21

Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Langham agreed to accept the 2020-21 Internal Audit, and Members noted it raised no issues.

Christmas Tree Fencing – Clerk instructed to check with KCC to see if fencing can be erected around the bottom of Telly Tubby Hill (this is to stop children gaining access to the Christmas Tree when in situ); if agreeable then to go out for quotes for a 3-foot picket style fence and a gate.

Action: Clerk

AVG Security Renewal – agreed £29.16 for the renewal subscription, which is 50% of the annual cost, Bobbing Parish Council paying the other half.

Iwade Ladies Group – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Cheeseman, agreed a donation of £500; Clerk to request bank details so that this can be paid by BACs.

Action: Clerk

RFO Mailbox – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, agreed the monthly payment of £3.80p for the supply of a mailbox for the Responsible Financial Officer.

Action: Clerk

Reports from Representatives

Swale Western Area Committee – Next meeting 1 March. Agreed to ask Cllr. Smith if he is agreeable to being a Representative on this Committee, together with Cllr. Cheeseman.

Action: Clerk

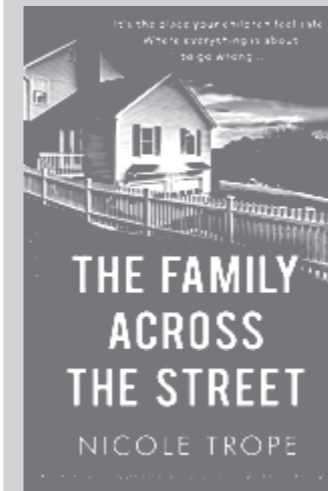
IWADE READING AND BOOK GROUP

Lynn Lowthion

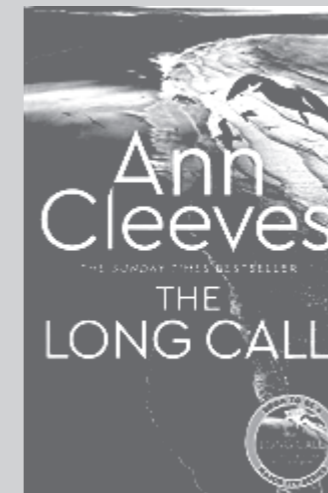
At our March meeting at the Barn we reviewed A Single Thread by Tracy Chevalier and were pleased to meet a new member who has recently moved to the area.

The book starts when following the First World War when many young men have been killed or injured. Violet, a single woman, decides to move to a new town following the death of her father and the inability to live with her domineering mother. Violet joins an embroidery group to make new friends, meets Arthur and although he is much older and married, Violet becomes attracted to him.

Several of the club members have read other books by this author and agreed that those books were better than this one. It was easy to read and as the chapters were short it could be read quickly. Large sections of the book explained embroidery and bell-ringing in detail and some members felt that there were too many details. However, it was interesting to find out about relationships and the fate of women in the 1930's.



The next book we will discuss is The Family Across the Street by Nicole Trope and this will be on Tuesday 12th April and the following month we will discuss The Long Call by Ann Cleeves on Tuesday 10th May.



VEGETABLES AND CATERPILLARS TINKERBELLS EARLY YEARS

Donna Barker

The children have been busy this term, they have planted the vegetables slightly earlier this year and we are hoping we will get a good pick of potatoes, carrots and leeks this year. The children have created a new bug hotel in the garden using lots of recyclable and natural materials, they are looking forward to see what bugs come to stay! We set a family challenge this term to create a picture at home of minibeasts or spring themed, it is good to say they accepted the challenge, the walls look brighter in the hall with them on display.

Our story for the term has been The Hungry Caterpillar, the classic edition of a best-selling story written for the very young. A newly hatched caterpillar eats his way through a variety of foods until he gets bigger and bigger until eventually he turns into a beautiful butterfly. The story is one of our all-time favourites, the children went on to create our own very long caterpillar.

We celebrated world book day by dressing up and talking about our favourite books, characters and rhymes. It was a great day and everyone's costumes were amazing.

All our sessions are full until September 2022, our registers are filling fast for September and some sessions we are at full capacity already. If you are interested in a place please email us for further information at

enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody an Eggcellent Easter. We hope you all enjoy the holidays with your families and look forward to seeing you all in term 5.