

LOCAL BEAUTY SCHOOL RECEIVES RECOGNITION

Beauty Academy South East (BASE) opened its doors on Sittingbourne High Street in October 2016 and hasn't looked back since.

BASE teaches complete novices, or those wishing to upskill, beauty and holistic treatments to the highest industry standards. All 20+ courses are taught by highly experienced tutors and are fully accredited by Professional Beauty Direct.

Over the last 5 years Tania Gough and her team have successfully taught over 600 students new skills and treatments. Many of these ladies have gone onto start their own beauty & holistic businesses.



In September 2020, Tania was runner up at the Kent Women in Business awards for the 'Women's Champion' category, for her role as host of the local 'Swale Ladies who Latte' group, who meet in The Woolpack every month, and also for her support to a local charity SATEDA, who help victims of domestic abuse get back on their feet after leaving an abusive relationship.

Then in November 2020 Tania walked away with the coveted 'Industry Trainer of the Year' accolade at the Kent Health & Beauty Awards which was held at the Ashford International hotel.

2 award ceremonies in 2 months crazy eh?

But so worth it...



BUSINESS FOCUS

Want to get your business featured in our monthly Business Focus Feature? Showcase your business, tell Iwadians who you are, what you do etc, and get into every home in Iwade - free of charge! We try to showcase one business per month. Email us: the.iwade.observer@gmail.com

CLAIRE LOUISE PHOTOGRAPHY

I am a small business in Iwade that was established during the first lockdown. It allowed me to venture out to quiet and deserted locations, just me and my camera. In recent months. It's now me, my camera, and my German Shepherd Puppy, who makes the perfect photography companion!! I like to visit quiet, secret, abandoned & derelict locations based around Kent. It's inspired me to bring out a calendar again of my adventures this year, after the success of last years! I also sell my work on print & canvas. But I just like

sharing my adventures with you!!

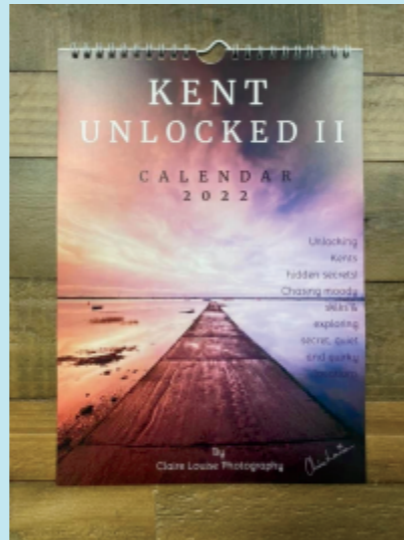
The calendar has over 12 photographs. It's A4 wall size and only £11.99 & a limited supply. Fill your walls with colour, magic and imagination! I hope you enjoy my photos! Thank you for reading.

Claire (Claire Louise Photography)

Online gallery:- clairewigham.wixsite.com/clairelouisephotos

Facebook Page:- facebook.com/clairelouisekentphotos

Instagram: [@clairelouisephotos](https://instagram.com/clairelouisephotos)



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The Iwade Observer

NEWS FROM IWADE SCHOOL

To Infinity and Beyond!

Timu were excited to welcome Starchasers and their rocket to school in October.

It was a well-kept surprise for the pupils. The STEAM curriculum Team had organised this for the summer of 2020 and then we were hit by lockdown... so the suspense of a real rocket coming to school had to be suppressed for a little while longer.

However, hearing the children's (and adults') delight as they arrived at school to discover the rocket was incredible and a highlight of the day.

A great day was had learning about space and rockets. Key Stage 2 were able to launch rockets after a visitor workshop and some reached the same height as the Ocean tower!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council of Iwade and Bobbing for their kind donation to the school in making this event possible for the children and how it allowed pupils to recall their Space Week learning from term 6. Thank you.



Visiting Author

E.R. Reilly, a children's author, visited the school in November. He ran three community assemblies, where he brought his books to life, sharing the humour and also the serious aspects of his texts. The pupils were in awe of his assembly and interacted with him. When Eamonn left, he wanted to let us know how fabulous the children were. He commented about their fabulous behaviour and how engaged and knowledgeable they were about the texts and authors past and present. Pupil were given an opportunity to purchase some of his books and even had the chance to get their book signed!



VILLAGE CLEAN-UP

Saturday 23rd October saw dozens of villagers out with their trusty litter pickers and high viz jackets tidying up our lovely village. Villagers of all ages collected a huge pile of litter from around the village and couldn't you just see the difference!! Well done everybody who took part. We hope you enjoyed your 'après-litter-picking' burgers and hot dogs laid on by the Parish Council from the kitchen at The Village Hall. A great effort by everybody concerned.

Pics show some of the happy litter pickers and the pile of litter that was collected!





WE WILL REMEMBER

As part of our Remembrance commemoration, each pupil at Iwade made an individual and beautiful poppy. These were displayed at the front of the school. We were asked to line a path from the church to the barn as part of their Remembrance Service. Our Year 6 pupils led each community in a Remembrance Service and the whole school gathered round our flag pole on the 11th November at 11am for a 2-minute silence.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

On behalf of all the pupils and staff at Iwade School, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas



R emembrance day
E ngland has won
M en sacrificing themselves for us
E very country was in war
M others worried at home
B ut now lives had change
E ven poppies have grown
R emember what has happened for all of the people at war

R emembrance is important in the war
E nd of World War I was 1918
M any died protecting their families
E very soldier survived the big war a new generation
M emoring those who died
B lack is the soil of the soldiers who fought in the war
E nd of World War II was 1945
R ed is the symbol of blood in the poppy

R emembrance is important
E veryone shall remember it as a sign of hope
M any people fought in the war to keep us safe
E very year we have a moment of silence
M ake sure we don't forget
B e respectful to the people who died
E very single moment we will remember it
R emember, it was a war

ENTHUSIASM TRUMPS BEING IN TUNE!!

Caroline Wiles

Anticipation and excitement are building throughout Happy Days Nursery as we look forward to the big switch-on. We cannot wait to see the beautiful village Christmas tree and illuminations twinkling across Iwade. For us, it signals the arrival of Christmas and we love adding Happy Days Nursery's decorations in to the mix. We are throwing ourselves in to practising songs and carols to celebrate the festivities and, although we may not be quite in tune, we are certainly enthusiastic. Christmassy fun and games are the order of the day and we have it on good authority there may be a special visitor or two; we are on our best behaviour just in case.



It has been our pleasure to get to know lots of new families over the Autumn Term as we welcomed them to our nursery and we look forward to greeting many more as we move in to 2022. We have a few limited spaces for the new year but bookings are available for Summer and Autumn 2022. Please contact us early to avoid disappointment and for more information, please do not hesitate to telephone the office (01795 424348), or visit our website .

We look forward to hearing from you and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year!



NEWS FROM THE MEWS BREWHOUSE

Hello from us all at The Brewhouse

Firstly, we would like to say a Big Big Thank You to all our lovely customers for your custom & support during these trying few years, we really do appreciate it.

The Brewhouse has had to change enormously to meet all the COVID-19 safety regulations and to ensure the safety of all our staff and customers. Thank you all for your understanding and adhering to these new guidelines.

It's nearly Christmas & we will be offering Festive Afternoon Teas & Festive Specials for December. Why not pop in & see what is on offer? Keep an eye on our Facebook page to keep up to date with everything we are up to.

Santa Paws has advised us that he is taking a couple of days out of his very busy schedule and will be visiting us on 4th & 5th of December, so all your little fur babies can come and visit him and tell Santa Paws if they have been Naughty or Nice along with lots of photo opportunities (see separate poster)

To Book a slot, please Call us on 01795 426520 or pop into the shop

We are still holding our Knit and Natter Group on Monday mornings from 10am. Just bring along your latest project (doesn't have to be knitting or crochet) to join in with our friendly group

Our Baby Rhyme Time sessions start again on Wednesday 1st December, and every Wednesday during School term. The singing will start from 10.30am so please arrive from 10am to ensure you get a space!

These sessions are for all Babies and Pre School aged children to come and 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 all your vocal chords well lubricated.

Mandy & all the BrewHouse Crew would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and a Massive Thank you for all your custom during 2021- we do appreciate it xxx. Let's hope 2022 will be easier for us all.

You can be kept up to date on all our antics, Special Offers and Events on our Facebook page

We look forward to seeing you all very soon xxx

Santa Paws
IS COMING TO
THE MEW BREWHOUSE
IWADE

WHY NOT BRING YOUR FUR BABY TO MEET SANTA PAWS
SAT 4TH OR SUNDAY 5TH DEC
BETWEEN 12PM - 4PM
BOOKING ESSENTIAL
£7.50 PER DOG
CALL 01795 426520 TO BOOK

The Mews Brewhouse, 8 School Mews, Iwade, ME9 8UW

CRITERION THEATRE AND HERITAGE CENTRE, BLUE TOWN.

Kelvin Rivers-Simpson

On Monday 1st November at the Monday Friendship Club in the Barnour talk was given by Jenny Hurkett who owns and operates the Criterion Theatre in Sheerness. Jenny came to the UK as a child 68 years ago, this makes Jenny quite unique in the museum world as a woman and someone from another country to create a museum on English history.

The building itself has a chequered history being first built in 1868 as a hotel and music hall. On its opening night the star act was a championship dancer with one leg! Its fortunes rose and waned over the years but it survived until 1917 when a German bomber aiming for Sheerness Docks hit the front of the building. Since then, it has been an RAF motor repair shop, a boat yard, and then in 2004 it was bought by Jenny and her husband Ian as a kitchen showroom. Due to health reasons the kitchen business was sold and Jenny thought about starting a small heritage centre about Blue Town and Sheppey, starting with a showing of a 30 min film about Sheppey as a favour. Now there are three floors of exhibition rooms showing life in Victorian times, World War One, World War Two and a Dockyard room on the top floor. Much of the conversion was done by volunteers who also help run the museum and theatre and of course its in-house and outreach school learning sessions. All these activities are supported financially by the theatre itself and the shows and events it holds. Recent shows featured Mungo Jerry, Mike d'Abo of Manfred Mann, Roy Hudd of TV fame, Dave Berry, sixties pop star, and many more. Coming soon are Bill Hurd of the Rubettes, Spencer James of the Searchers, a murder mystery night, and of course a Christmas variety show.

Why not visit the Criterion to see a show or learn about its history. See more at <https://www.thecriterionbluetown.co.uk>

TINKERBELLS EARLY YEARS - MINCE PIES AND YULE LOGS ON THE WAY!

Donna Barker

Term 2 at the setting has been busy, the children have been getting creative, experimenting with materials and created various firework pictures. Marbles and boxes were the most popular choice of resources used by the children to create their pictures. We had a visit from Click:Create who took the most amazing autumnal photos of the children over at the orchard, how lucky are we to have such a great space so close by.

Our Christmas Fair was held in November and was a huge success. It was so good being able to do the Fair this year and it was great to see so many people. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the local businesses who donated raffle prizes.

A fun and exciting term is well underway at Tinkerbells, the children have begun with the many Christmas activities that have been planned for December. The children have started their Christmas wish lists; mince pies and chocolate yule logs still to be made. We are looking forward to our Christmas production this year, we are mixing it up a little this year moving away from the traditional nativity...

Next term will be exploring 'People who help us', together we will learn all about the people in our local community who help us and keep us safe and we hope we will be lucky enough to have visits from some of the local services.

Our waiting list for September 2022 is growing rapidly at both settings, if you require sessions as from next year please call so we can add you to the waiting list to avoid any disappointment alternatively you can email us at

Finally we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Happy Christmas!

Our PCSO Lee, would like to wish everyone in the village a happy Christmas and a safe, peaceful New Year.'

Kind regards, Lee

MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB

"Gents – missing your bacon/sausage (veggie options available!) buttie?"

We can't wait for the Men's Breakfast Club to restart. Everything's in place to recommence at The Barn on Tuesday 7th December at 9:30. This will give us the chance to chat collectively for the first time since February 2020. (Remember the pre-Covid days?) Thereafter we will be meeting on the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30ish until 11:30ish

Thanks to Rynn and Philip who have volunteered to help with the organisation and key holding duties. We're hoping to have another card making session with Hilary which proved very popular for Valentine's Day 2020. Most importantly, "our girls" have agreed to continue with the bacon rolls cooking and serving ...what could be better??

Look forward to seeing you all on December 7th.

Ron Francis.

IWADE READING AND BOOK GROUP – THE THORN GIRL

Christine Freshwater

We met at the Barn on Tuesday, November 9th to discuss The Thorn Girl by Laura Elliot.

We found this book to be totally addictive, an intense and engrossing read that was enjoyed by us all. It was easy to read and hard to put down. The story was complete with no loose ends and the Irish aspects of the story were authentic too. Highly recommended as a good read.

The main character Adele stumbles across the secret diary of the mother she has never met having been brought up by her grandmother. The diary contains a shocking account of a horrible crime committed 25 years earlier. Adele decides to investigate this entails her visiting the place where her mother and grandmother used to live in Ireland thus putting her own life on hold. The story has many twists and turns during which the detail of the crime and the consequences of which unfold giving a clear picture of the events that had taken place.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 14 December 2021 12.30 pm when we will meet at The Woolpack for our festive lunch.

The book we will be reviewing at our January meeting is Somebody I Used to Know by Wendy Mitchell.

WHAT WILL CHRISTMAS MEAN FOR YOU?

So here we are in December already. I wonder how you are feeling this year about Christmas – and the lead up to Christmas. I wonder how you feel about Christmas anyway – what it means to you.

Of course last year, in the middle of making our preparations, our plans were stopped in their tracks by the second lockdown. Much of what we had hoped for in our Christmas celebrating had to be changed. I wonder if this is affecting how people are feeling this year. I have heard many people talking about the need to be together with family and friends – and that the being together with those they love is the special gift – they don't require anything else.

This may not be your reality. For many this is a season that is approached with dread - or with sadness. You may yourself be living through a difficult time right now. You may be aware that others are struggling. As we peer out at our world – as we try to make sense of what is going on around us - near and far – we are aware of so much need.

So what do we do? How do we live through December - the month of bare trees and cold days, the winter solstice and the longest night - of homelessness and poverty - of Christmas carols and nativity plays and the celebration of the birth of Jesus?

For Christians, the days leading up to Christmas - known as the season of Advent - are a time of waiting and preparing, of longing and hoping.

So I wonder for all of us if December could be a time for slowing down and reflecting, for looking and listening, for considering the needs of others and the needs of creation. Maybe it can be a month of giving and sharing, of being loved and cared for, of being surprised and amazed and of offering thanks and praise.

I wish you every blessing and pray that you may know God's peace and joy,
Lis Willmet
Lay Reader

BUSY END TO SPEEDWAY SEASON

Paul Heller

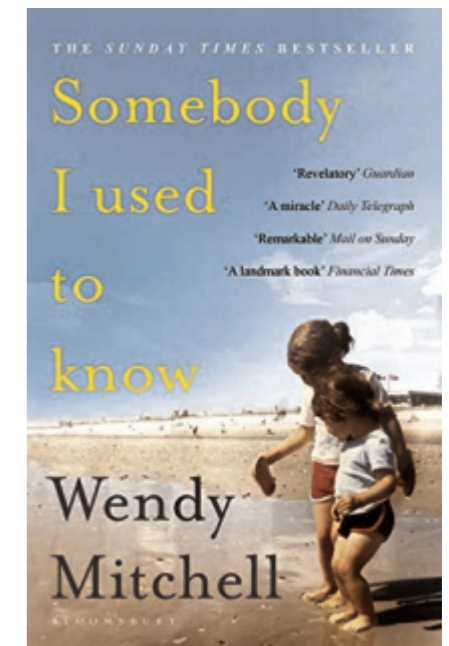
After a somewhat disjointed season, due to Covid, Sittingbourne Speedway brought the curtain down on their 2021 campaign with a flourish.

On Sunday 7th November the Club held their annual Ladies Day meeting where the main track was held over purely for ladies to use and ride. The day saw some 20 ladies take part on various machines plus the chance to have a go as a passenger on a speedway sidecar outfit which always proves very popular. The mini-track was bustling with youngsters and speedway pit bikes, and the trials event was very successful. The meeting was a busy and crowded one held in excellent weather with over 75 riders on site taking part. The poor hard-working Sittingbourne Speedway staff were tearing their hair out trying to park all the cars and vans that came to the track but they managed to squeeze everyone in and played their part in ensuring everything was done safely on a hugely successful day for the Club.

On Sunday 14th November the Club held their upright machines only meeting. The term upright in this sense refers to the position of the engine in the frame. The older speedway machines had their engines in an upright position while the more modern and current bikes have their engines laid down in a more horizontal position. Some 18 riders took part on an assortment of older machines, and it was pleasing to experience the sounds and smells of these bikes from a bygone era as they raced round the track. Interestingly, a former rider from the late 1970s came all the way down from Scotland to visit the track, see old friends and had a marvellous day reminiscing over old times. The mini-track had a group of 8 youngsters going through their paces in a busy training day.

This was the final meeting of the year on the main track as it will now close for a substantial amount of essential repairs and maintenance so that it can be up and ready for next season. The mini-track will remain open over the winter for the youngsters training and the speedway pit bike series.

Finally, the Club would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and support over the last year and to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.



IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2021

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Waters, the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on the 8 September 2021 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true transcript.

Visitors/Public Time

Visitors – No comments.

County and Borough Councillors – Borough Cllr. Woodford mentioned the appeal against the Dunlin Walk Application refusal decision; she will keep the Parish Council updated.

Community Warden/PCSO – Community Warden – Still settling in and getting to know Iwade.

PCSO – Crimes of note: There was a robbery in the village, where an electric scooter was stolen. A person was arrested, investigation is ongoing. Reports of poaching on farmland outside the village. Patrols attended each report, took details of one group; no game animals or birds were found. Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note: Four reports of nuisance youths over the past month, mainly for causing noise. A motor scooter was seen riding repeatedly around the butterfly estate, being a nuisance. The rider stopped, details were taken, and a report sent to the DVLA. Further reports of nuisance vehicles along the private road at Ridham Dock. Patrols attended when possible.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

20 MPH Zones – County Cllr. Baldock,

the Chair and Clerk walked around the village looking at various issues, including junctions, The Street and possibilities regarding creating zones. Cllr. Dollimore to draw up a plan for consideration by the Council.

Action: Cllr. Dollimore

Planters, The Street/Mansfield Drive – A risk assessment has now been carried out by an independent professional. A site meeting was held with a KCC Highways Officer, who is happy with the siting of the planters but put forward suggestions for either County or Swale Borough Council Contractors fixing them to the ground. Promised information has not been received, Clerk to chase the Officer.

Action: Clerk

Correspondence

Kent Gardens Trust Parks and Gardens Research – Agreed to pass details to the Church for their input relating to the Cemetery.

Action: Clerk

Local Plan Review – Noted consultation period 29 October to 29 November 2021.

New Swale West Parishes Meeting – Cllr. Baldock – Cllr. Smith agreed to attend the first meeting of the revived Swale West Parishes Group, the meeting will be at Hartlip Village Hall at 8pm on Monday 15th November.

Action: Cllr. Smith

Finance

Completion of 2020/21 Audit – Clerk advised that she has received notification from PKF Littlejohn, the External Auditors that the Audit has

been completed and no queries raised. She posted the Notice of Completion of Audit and supporting paperwork on the Council's website and noticeboards on the 7 September 2021.

Trees and Plaque costs – still awaiting information from Swale Borough Council, Clerk has chased, will do so again.

Action: Clerk

Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting – Proposed by Cllr. Whiting and seconded by Cllr. Dollimore, Members noted the budget figures, agreed the accounts to the 30 September 2021 and the following payments were agreed. Cllrs Whiting and Lancashire to log in and authorize payments.

Action: Cllrs. Whiting/Lancashire

Projects – Updates on Current and New

Village Clean-up – Good response, agreed event now going ahead.

Action: Cllr. Dollimore/Clerk

Xmas Lights Event 2021 – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore, seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, agreed £100 donation to South-East 4x4 for acting as Stewards/First Aiders; £100 for sweets for Father Christmas and Chair to investigate the possibility of a Snow Machines.

Action: Cllr. Dollimore/Clerk

Village Hall - Clerk advised the signed Conditional Contract and Option Agreement have now been received from the Solicitors. She will place on file for safekeeping.

Action: Clerk



Iwade Village Food & Craft Fayre



Sunday 12th December 2021

10am – 1pm

Iwade Village Hall
Ferry Road
Iwade, Sittingbourne
ME9 8RG



MONDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Rynn Kemp

Slowly dragging ourselves back to some sort of normality!

The Monday Friendship Group continue to meet on alternate Monday mornings in the Barn. December dates are the 13th and 20th from 10:30 until midday. Tea/ Coffee, biscuits and plenty of chat just £1.50 each.

On Monday 1st November we had a great talk from Jenny Hurkett, the inspirational lady behind the Criterion Theatre and Bluetown Heritage Centre on Sheppey (see separate report from Kelvin). What an asset the Criterion is – please try and support it!! Picture shows Jenny sharing some of the publications from the Criterion

Monday 15th saw us revert to chatting and drinking as illness took a bit of a toll on our planned activity! We can't guarantee an activity for every meeting but we can guarantee a warm welcome!

During this time of increasing COVID infection rates we are operating a 'first-come, first-served' booking system via our Facebook page (search Iwade Friendship Club) to keep everybody safe and to avoid too many people coming along. Hope to see you soon.



CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH IWADE

Merry Christmas from all at All Saints' Church. Below are some dates for your diary:

- **1st December** Crossroads Café, 10.00 – 12.00 and every first Wednesday of each month
- **4th December** 10.00 -12.00 Christmas Wreath making.
- **5th December** 4pm Christingle and toy dedication service.
- **11th December** 7pm-8pm Carols in the Village Square. Mince pies and mulled wine back at the Church afterwards.
- **12th December** 10.30 am Family Communion.
- **19th December** 10.30am Family Worship.
- **19th December** 4pm Crib Service. Big children and small children welcome
- **24th December** 5pm Carol Service.
- **24th December** 11.30pm Midnight Service

The Church will be open every day 10am-3pm from Monday 20th until 26th December.

Please note: There will be no service on the 25th December, but the church will be open from 10am- 3pm.

All services will be held in the Church, except the Carols in the Village Square, which will be held by the shops in SchoolMews.

We would love to see you all there.