

# **Observer**

### September 2011

# **Great Turnout at Iwade Rock 2011!**

Thank you to all those that attended Iwade Rock 2011 on Saturday 23rd July. The event was a huge success with over 400 people attending and some coming from as far as Swanley and Tonbridge to join in the fun. Special thanks to all those volunteers who helped out on various stalls throughout the day and to the bands, Shameful Behaviour, Zorzilla, Push The Boundaries, The Butterfly Cartel, Miss Charlie Monroe and The Kulpritts for their time and fantastic efforts in making it a great day. The event went on into the early evening with live bands playing 45 minute sets and lwade's very own 'Deejay Touch' filling in between with chart music. The garden was filled with lots of people dancing, enjoying the music and chatting to friends. There were also a number of activities to keep the children entertained from a bouncy castle to various games. The Riverside Fire and Rescue service and St Johns Ambulance community responders were also on hand. The Village Hall Committee took over £1500 on the day.



Top: The Kulpritts Below: Shameful Behaviour

### Congratulations to Glenn and Keith Walters from Monins Road!



On Saturday 15th July Mayor Ben Stokes judged Iwade's first Prettiest Garden Competition, selecting a winner, runner up and third place from twelve nominations. The original idea for the competition came from Dave Manning, Chair of Iwade Parish Council who sadly passed away in January this year. The Parish Council honoured Dave's idea and

would now like to continue the tradition and run the competition every year as it was such a success. Glenn and Keith Walters of 15 Monins Road won the first prize of £50 of gardening vouchers so congratulations go to them (their garden pictured). Rebecca Klinck of Sanderling Way won the runner-up prize of £25 of gardening vouchers and Jean and Ronald Harknett won the third prize of £15 of gardening vouchers with their front garden in Sheerstone. Congratulations and well done to all those gardens who took part. The Parish Council commented

that the nominations were made by neighbours so really shows what a friendly community we are. Why not nominate your neighbour next year! Thank you to Parish Clerk Lynda Fisher and Councillor Amanda Hurrell for joining Mayor and Councillor Ben Stokes in the judging. They were really impressed at the effort people had put in to create a striking display some using annuals to create stunning hanging baskets, others combined lush green lawns with perennials and pots of colour and even rows of tomato plants!

### **Editor's Note**

A big thank you to Tara Kent who cracked the back of the September Observer before jetting off. We are still interested in talking to any of you who would like to learn desk-top publishing / join the Observer editorial team? Contact me on 439892 or at observer@iwadevillage.co.uk if you might be interested and I can tell you more. Hope you all enjoyed your Summer holidays home or away! Nicola McKenzie

### **Volunteers?**

Age Concern Sittingbourne has a number of volunteering vacancies such as Trustees, Drivers to transport clients in their own car to and from the centre (expenses reimbursed), Day Centre helpers to help with activities, chatting to clients, serving tea and coffee, Volunteers who could help with arts and crafts or musicians who could entertain at the centre. If you would like to find out more about volunteering for Age Concern Sittingbourne please contact Gill Ball on 07735 556811 or email agwecorecruiter@btinternet.com

### Disclaimer

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# **WI** by Hilary Foulds

August this year will see Iwade WI members enjoying a Summer Supper at the Fruiterers Arms, Rodmersham, instead of the usual meeting in the Village Hall. August is historically a quieter time in the Women's Institute. Many WIs don't hold a meeting in August because so many members are away on holiday. Iwade is pleased to buck the trend. We are nonetheless taking the opportunity to plan for a busy Autumn. We start with a Wine & Wisdom organised by the Sittingbourne Heritage Museum on 3rd September, followed by a Speaker Audition Day at Bobbing Village Hall on 5th September. Members get the chance to audition prospective speakers and to give their opinion before their details are published in the Speakers' list. On 21st September Iwade WI hosts their annual Harvest Supper, inviting members from other WIs in our group to share in a fabulous buffet supper. The week after on 28th is our Group Meeting this time at the Abbey Church Hall, Minster. The speaker is talking about Japanese festivals and customs. There is still room for you in Iwade WI. How



about coming along to one of our meetings to see how you like us. We'll do our best to make you feel welcome. We are all individuals with different interests but we do enjoy getting together to listen to an interesting talk or to enjoy a meal together. Talking of enjoying a meal together, check out our photo of our most recent meeting of the WI Luncheon Club at The Harty Ferry Inn. Meetings of Iwade WI are held at 7.30pm every third Wednesday of the month, mostly in Iwade Village Hall. For more information about Iwade WI please refer to the village noticeboards or contact Hilary, our Secretary on 01795 474686 or by email at

hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk

### Young Meets Old at the Speedway!

Sittingbourne Speedway Ltd are pleased to announce two notable dates in the club's calendar for September.

On **September 11th 2011** the Club has been chosen to hold a round of the British Youth Championship where the top British youngsters in Speedway will take part in a championship meeting. Following the youngsters will be some vintage races with riders in old style black leathers riding vintage speedway machines. It will be a good opportunity to see Speedway's young and old all in one afternoon.

On **September 18th 2011** the Club will run the second leg of their Credit Crunch meeting. The first leg was held at the beginning of August and was a thrilling days racing with over 40 riders taking part and some 50 plus races. The second leg should be just as good as the first with the same format of six teams taking part. Any Iwade residents are most welcome to attend either meeting, the track is just off Raspberry Hill Lane and the start time will be 12 noon. All we ask is that you kindly make a donation to the charities we will be supporting on the day. *by Paul Heller* 

### **OM Property Management** by Rebecca, Karen & Gary

As residents of Sanderling Way we have been asking questions with regard to the management fee that we are annually paying OM Property Management for "services" around the development. We've been asking the same questions since July of last year, and have had half hearted and sometimes, conflicting responses. We have finally ascertained that our contributions to Schedule 1 are used to maintain both the soak away pond situated behind the houses on Sanderling Way, and a patch of grass in Mallard Crescent approx 2 metres by 4 metres. According to OM, and their supply of the map to ourselves of the development (in which we asked them to highlight areas under their remit), this is all that is covered by Schedule 1 contributions.

We were quite surprised that this was the entirety of their responsibility to Schedule 1 properties. The coming years payment June 2011 - May 2012 equates to £120.81 per house

# **Quiz Night!**



Roy and Margaret Jones are organising a Quiz Night at

Iwade Village Hall on Saturday 15th October. The Quiz Night is in support of Rotary charities which include Demelza Hospice so very worthwhile causes. It's £5 per person which includes a Ploughman's Supper with a 7 for 7.30pm start and tables of 8. To join in the fun contact Roy or Margaret on 01795 477466.

(showing around a £20 increase from previous years)— that adds up to £17034.21 for the 141 houses in Schedule 1. According to the projected accounts recently published, £14995 is to be spent on Insurance, Accountancy/Audit Fees and Management Fees leaving just £2039.21 to be spent on maintaining the said areas. That's just £14.46 per household! The coming year's accounts also fail to list the soak away pond as a unique area. We would appreciate your views on the management company, and if enough interest is measured, then we would be seeking to start a residents' committee to ensure we receive value and service for money. Please email us on

sanderling\_way@yahoo.com with your comments and any suggestions so that we can gauge the general feelings about this subject and whether there is cause to organise a Village Hall meeting to further advance this issue. Many thanks for reading this.

**Band Concert** *Amanda Hurrell* I always look forward to the open air band concert especially if the weather is warm. Saturday 2nd July weather didn't disappoint and was just perfect for the band and audience.

The UK Paper Band played melodies including the 80s hit Baggy Trousers followed by For Your Eyes only from the Bond Movie; Broadways Classics; She's out of My Life by Michael Jackson and Can't Take My Eyes off of You from Bridget Jones Diary then onto Marching Through the Movies. A buffet was laid on by the church and included lots of home-made cakes and savouries. The second half included Ticket to Ride. followed by When the Saints Come Marching In. Another memorable evening, look forward to December!

### **Scottish Dancing**

by Helen Knell The Sheerness Scottish Heather Club was started just after the war by Scots who came down to work at Sheerness docks and stayed here. It was originally a social club but over the years it developed into a Scottish country dancing club. We moved from Halfway to Iwade about 2 years ago. We meet every Friday evening, except in August, from 7.30pm until 10.30 pm and we all have a really good evening dancing. Scottish dancing is similar to barn dancing, that is very sociable, quite energetic and lots of fun. We are always looking for new members and we welcome complete beginners. We have a teacher most weeks and everyone is very helpful to new dancers. You do not need a partner as we all dance together. We charge £2.50 for the evening which includes tea or coffee and biscuits. Where else could you have an evening's entertainment for so little. If you would like to try come along on a Friday evening. You will need comfortable flat shoes eg. trainers. Hope we see some of you soon.

#### What a pong!

Call the Environment Agency Customer Service Line if you have an issue with any odours in Iwade on 08708 506 506





Full drawings, planning and building regulations All building works and trades covered Inc Extensions, loft conversions kitchen/bathrooms Saull - 07920 114759 - 01795 876326 Email - saull@live.co.uk

# Dates for the Diary

#### Open Garden & Cream Teas, in aid of All Saints Church, Iwade

Bank Holiday Monday, 29th August, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm Crouch Hill House, Vicarage Lane, Lower Halstow Live Music by Geoff Pedley Produce and homemade cake stalls, raffle and tombola Admission - Adults 50p, children free

Mobile Library Thursday 1st September 11.15am to 11.25am end of Sheerstone Scottish Country Dancing Friday 2nd September 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall Iwade Village Market Sunday 4th September 10am to 1pm Iwade Village Hall Communion Service Sunday 4th September 10.30am All Saint's Church Iwade Iwade School re-opens for Years 1-6 Monday 5th September Iwade School opens for new Reception class Wednesday 7th September Church Open Day Saturday 10th September 10am to 2pm Church Cycle Saturday 10th September meet 10am at All Saint's Church, all welcome telephone Nicola on 439892 Family Communion Sunday 11th September 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade Iwade Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 14th September 7.30pm Mobile Library Thursday 15th September 11.15am to 11.25am end of Sheerstone Communion Service Sunday 18th September 10.30am All Saint's Church Iwade WI meeting Wednesday 21st September 7.30pm Karaoke Saturday 24th September 8pm Woolpack Family Service Sunday 25th September 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade ⊱\_

If you are online then remember for the most up-to-date local information keep an eye on IwadeVillage.co.uk which is packed with news and events alongside Parish Council information and much much more. Why not take a look!

#### Message from Kent County Councillor for Iwade and Swale Central Mike Whiting

Signs and Bus Stops ...

I have been happy to provide funds from my Kent County Council Members' Highway Funds to assist the Parish Council in replacing the three finger-posts in the village and getting a new bus shelter. These things take time, but I am hopeful they will be in place before the end of the year for the benefit of residents and visitors to the village.

New Developments - New Jobs ...

Various planning applications have been passed recently for developments in the Ridham dock area. This shows a confidence on the part of business to want to invest here, which is a good thing for the local economy. We have 2,400 unemployed people in Swale, and I welcome the new jobs that these developments will bring. However, residents and the Parish Council have expressed concerns about any additional noise, pollution and traffic they believe may come from increased industrial activities. I understand those concerns and have been clear with my colleagues at Kent County Council that the County's planners and enforcement team, Swale Borough Council, the Environment Agency and others must ensure that all the various planning conditions around traffic movements, waste and emissions that are attached to these planning applications are rigorously enforced, so that local people can have confidence that their quality of life is being protected. A New Look Web Site ...

Finally, well done to IwadeVillage.co.uk. I am sorry that I could not be at the launch party in the Woolpack on July 12, though understand that everyone had a great time. I hope that the whole village will support what Nicola and the team are doing with this fantastic new website, sharing information and keeping us all informed about what is going on locally.

# **Churchwarden's Notes**

Call Nicola on 439892 to sponsor the cycle team or keep an eye on IwadeVillage.co.uk for a fundraising page

Greetings. We hope you are all well and feeling better after your holidays? We've certainly had a mixed selection of weather this year. No wonder the weather is always a topic of conversation. On September 10th it is the annual sponsored Bike/Hike Day, when the Friends of Kent Churches arrange this fun event. It gives you the opportunity to visit a number of churches that are usually shut except for services and you can do so either by cycling or walking and being sponsored to do so. Half the money raised goes to your nominated church half to the Friends who generously fund repairs and restoration work to these lovely old buildings. They have been very generous to Iwade

over the years. Can you please help? Over the last few years a group led by Nicola McKenzie has raised approximately £1000. Sylvia O'Shea does her little bit to help by keeping the church open all day for visitors and being sponsored to do so. If you aren't able to ride, would you please consider sponsoring her? Whatever you decide, come along on September 10th and have a cup of coffee and spend a few moments in this lovely church. It will be open from 10am to 6pm.

On Bank Holiday Monday August 29th from 2pm ot 4pm Tricia Carr has generously offered to host a Garden Party with Cream Teas in aid of the fund to provide toilet facilities at Iwade Church. Do PLEASE support this event. Tricia's home is CROUCH HILL HOUSE, in VICARAGE LANE, LOWER HALSTOW ME9 7EH. There will be a selection of stalls too including home-baked cakes, raffle etc. We look forward to seeing you.

Family Service on September 25th will be the Harvest Thanksgiving Service when we thank our Lord for all the good things he provides for us. If you wish to contribute could you please do so with tinned or packaged food well in date? Iwade Church gives the proceeds donated to THE QUAYS, Sittingbourne, and they in turn provide small boxes of food to former homeless who are moving into their new home. They are always very grateful for our help. Service is at 10.30am.

# **IWADE KINGSQUAD**

The last ever Lamplighters, was held on 19th July. The Parish Church's work with children in the village has a 'new look'. As from September, Kingsquad will be held every Tuesday evening from 5.00pm to 6.15pm in the Village Hall, for children of school years 2-6. Kingsquad is a Christian club resourced by The Family Trust and run in association with All Saint's Parish Church Iwade. The programme will consist of a variety of activities, which include games, Bible stories, quizzes, a crazy challenge, songs and activity sheets, all of which relate to a theme each week.

If your child would like to attend Iwade Kingsquad, starting on Tuesday 20th September, please complete the tear off slip and bring to the first Kingsquad session. If you would like any further information about Iwade Kingsquad please contact Stephen Plumb on 07905040119.

Yes, I would like my child to attend Iwade Kingsquad.

Child's full name..... Address

Tele/mob .....

Please delete as applicable: My child will be collected.

My child will walk home alone/with

Friends

Does your child have any medical condition or food allergy that we should be aware of? Yes/No.....

Parent/Guardian signature.....

Date.....



# **No More Houses PLEASE!** Janet Gregory

Swale Council's plan for the next 15 years or so includes around 15,000 extra homes. Iwade, along with other villages, is in the frame for these. I kid you not, the momentum is building; land owners are ready to sell, builders are ready to build, developers have drawn up plans and contractors along with suppliers are preparing their vans and trucks. Far from being a deterrent, the massive building programme in our Village over the past 10 years is actually an attraction to the abovementioned parties, because their working systems are already nicely in place. It surely would be hugely inconvenient for them all to be forced to operate in an undeveloped part of the country. Your parish council has taken the initiative of inviting other parish councils to join forces and present a united front against wholesale housing developments in selected rural areas. The first group meeting

was ably chaired by Cllr Stephen Plumb on 25th July and not only were we encouraged by many councillors from affected villages, but have enlisted the full support and representation of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England. It is not just our village school or narrow roads that are threatened by massive expansion, but Swale Council's focus on excessive building around Sittingbourne and on Sheppey means that our railway, buses and all main roads will be swamped as there are no plans for improving the A249 / M2 Junction 5. Please don't ignore this Swale Council Plan by assuming your parish, borough or county councillors will act in your best interests, but play your part by taking the time to read about it, attend meetings, ask questions and get involved. If we do not do this, the only winners are those in my first paragraph above whose bank managers are rubbing their hands in glee.

# Puddle Ducks

Puddle Ducks East Kent is being launched in Sittingbourne and Faversham by an Iwade resident in September 2011. Puddle Ducks' fun programme offers unique baby swimming and toddler swimming classes. Babies and children can join our swimming classes at any age from birth to five; developing from water babies to confident swimmers without even realising they are learning to swim. Iwade residents will receive a special village launch offer of 10% off their first term of classes with Puddle Ducks. For more information see www.puddleducks.com, email eastkent@puddleducks.com or call Angela on 01622 236111.



by Angela Higginbottom

# Parish Council Notes taken from the meeting of Wednesday 11th May 2011

ANNUAL MEETING

Declaration of Acceptance of Office - Duly elected Councillors to Iwade Parish Council signed the Acceptance of Office.

Election of Chairman, and upon election signing of Acceptance of Office - Nominated by Cllr. Gregory and seconded by Cllr. White, Cllr. Stephen Plumb was elected as Chairman and duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

Election of the Vice-Chairman and upon election signing of Acceptance of Office - Nominated by Cllr. Plumb and seconded by Cllr. Hunt, Cllr. Gregory was elected as Vice-chair and duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

Co-option of Members following Elections (2 vacancies)

Clerk advised that a further vacancy, making 3 in total, had arisen as a newly elected Member had declined to take up the post. Mr. Phillip Hyde and Mr. Robert Phillips were co-opted onto the Parish Council and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Clerk requested to advertise the remaining vacancy. Action:Clerk

Election of Members of Committees - The Finance and Planning Committees, Kent Association of Local Councils, Parks and Greens and Village Hall Committee need representatives. Members requested to decide which they would like to sit on and report back at the next meeting. Action: All Councillors/Clerk

# **Parish Council Notes**

**MONTHLY MEETING** 

# Matters Arising from the Minutes

Bus Shelter/Yellow 'No Parking' Lines – Still awaiting response from utilities. Cllr. Hyde is following up details of a possible contractor to install a new shelter. Transportation Committee have yet to meet to discuss the yellow lines.

Insurance - Clerk had a meeting with the Claims Handler, who has approved the claim to recover the cost of the extra audit fees relating to the fraud by the previous Clerk.

#### Visitors/Public Time -Parishioners

Landowners came forward with a proposal to place two caravans on an area of land near Plantation Lodge. Councillors recommended that they obtain guidance from Swale Borough Council's Planning officers.

A Parishioner asked if it was possible to extend the zigzag lines outside the school, to stop at the traffic calming adjacent to Meadow Close, to stop cars parking in this area. This causes an obstruction and blocks sightlines. Cllr. Whiting to investigate.

#### County Councillor and Borough Councillors

County Cllr. Mike Whiting mentioned that he had paid a visit to the Youth Club and was very impressed with it. The skate park had been mentioned and he is trying to get some grant money for the Youth Club. The allotments are still going ahead. He will check with K.C.C. to see if Roland Duke is one of their approved contractors; to possibly be used for installing the new bus shelter. He will also look at the 'missing' zigzag line near Evergreen Close. He also reported that Transportation Committee will next meet in June, when it is hoped the request for parking restriction in School Lane will be discussed. *Action: County Cllr M. Whiting* 

Temp. Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO – Warden's report was circulated and noted by Members. During the past month he has dealt with problems with the stream; footballers in Stangate; increase in parking in School Lane; speeding along Ferry Road and the increase in fly-tipping.

PCSO did not attend. It has been reported that the Police no longer expect her to attend Parish Council meetings.

Village Hall Updates - Cllr. Hunt confirmed that outline planning permission is being sought for ten houses on the existing Village Hall site. A valuation will be carried out on the site; if outline permission is granted this will increase that valuation and the money raised will then be put back into building the new hall. At the present time Villagers' views are being sought on the possibility of a building new hall on the School Lane Playing Field site. It is hoped that this land will be passed 'freehold' to the Parish Council, in order that the Council can hold it as 'Custodian Trustees' for the Village Hall Committee. Parishioners asked if details of the number of houses could be mentioned in the next Iwade Observer and Cllr. Gregory suggested publishing the plan of the proposed housing at the same time. Action: Cllr. Hunt

#### Finance

Insurance – agreed to renew the existing policy at a cost of £1382.54p

Iwade Parent and Toddlers Group -

#### taken from the meeting of Wednesday 11th May 2011

representatives from the Group requested a grant of £315 to assist with the hall hire charges. Proposed by Cllr. Gregory and seconded by Cllr. Hunt; expenditure of £315 agreed under S19 1976LG(MP)A: the Parish Council's power to support recreational activity.

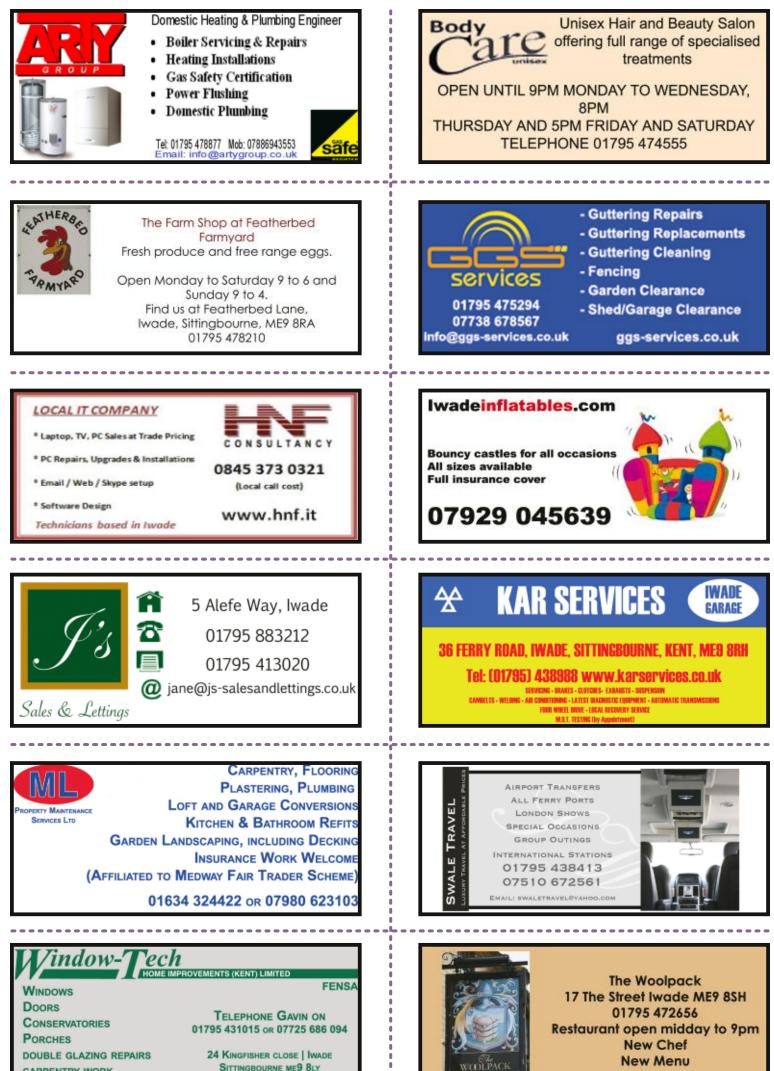
Allotment Funding – request for assistance with connection of water main – Representatives from the Allotment Committee requested assistance with a 'one off' payment for the connection of the water main to the site. Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Phillips – agreed payment of the sum of £2013.56p.

Fingerposts – Cllr. Hurrell has obtained two quotes for new fingerposts; of preference is the Oak posts which costs £294 each. County Cllr. Whiting agreed to investigate possible funding for this street furniture. *Action: County Cllr. Mike Whiting* 

Prettiest Garden in the Village Competition – Cllrs. Stokes has volunteered to act as judge; closing date for entries end of June; further article to appear in Iwade Observer in June. Item to be placed back on next Agenda Action: *Cllrs. Hunt, Stokes and Clerk* 

Village Handyman – agreed no increase in pay rate at the present time; to be reviewed again in six months. *Action: Clerk* 

Precept 2011/12 – Clerk reported that the first instalment of £16,060 (this amount includes part of the Lighting grant) has been received from Swale Borough Council. 4 2010/2011 Audit – Accounts and Audit forms to be discussed at an Extra Ordinary meeting to be held on the 25th May, 2011.



CARPENTRY WORK GENERAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS