



## Henry the Cat

*By Sally Anne Heathfield*

A young lady turned up on my door a while back in need of help taking in her kitten who is only just 1 year old. He was unfortunately not in a cat carrier and escaped in Springvale, is probably now somewhere hiding in Iwade, probably scared but hopefully someone is feeding him as a stray. Henry is not chipped, neutered or wearing a collar.

Please help locate Henry. He is very friendly but probably now very frightened as he is not in his home area. Henry is all black with a few white hairs under his chin.

If anybody knows of his whereabouts you can message me via [IwadeVillageDoesFacebook](#) or contact The Observer at [the.iwade.observer@gmail.com](mailto:the.iwade.observer@gmail.com) or on **01795439765** who will pass a message on. Thanks for your help.

## Spring to attention!

### NHS Health Walks Iwade

*By James Apps*

This is the most disgusting time of the year if you think about it. All that new, thrusting growth, birds and animals doing what comes naturally and bees and other insects doing things to flowers that should not be mentioned in polite circles!

Yet this is the fresh, joyful emergence from the winter gloom into either the gloom of a dowdy spring or the wonderful bright sunshine filled with the noise of birds and insects. Or the rattle of mowers cutting the first crops of grass. And yet by the time you read this spring will be well under way and we will have already enjoyed some invigorating walks in the warmer weather. Hopefully that is!

The walk across the top of Raspberry Hill and the Lakes is always a pleasant way of gazing over the estuary, or enjoying the new growth on the hedgerows before the Council hacks the daylight out of the blossom. Going over the hill to the slopes down to Chetney Marshes and Bedlam's Bottom is blessed with the Blackthorn and then Hawthorn, the restless birds on the water and the rabbits scuttling away at high speed as we walk past.

The paths across the paddocks are drying up and it is easier to walk them without staggering across the fields with wet, soggy boots. Those who wish to do so can sit outside, when we arrive back in Iwade, to imbibe at the pub and enjoy the company over a drink. Unless of course it rains.

Of course, there are shorter walks for those who prefer

them and these take in the equally delightful pleasures of Iwade gardens filled, at this time of the year, with bulbs. On both walks, long or short, it is a pleasure to go Daffodil spotting. Now, as long as the storms don't get us we can discard the penguin suits and strip off, within reason of course. It wouldn't do to emulate the activities of the birds and animals mentioned in the first paragraph, well, not in public anyway.

Note also that we welcome our new walkers who began coming with us in the cold weather and have stuck with us to enjoy the coming warmer seasons.



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# The Iwade Observer

April 2017

## EASTER EGG HUNT

On the morning of Easter Saturday 15th April from 10am – 12 noon an Easter Egg Hunt is being organised by All Saints Church Iwade. The Village Hall Committee have kindly offered the hall as a base, and the clues to the eggs will be hidden in and around Woodpecker Park. When the clues have been found each 'hunter' then returns to the hall to collect their Easter Egg prize. There will also be refreshments served back at the hall.

This event is for all children, who must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is £1.50 per child. Realistically we are able to host a maximum of 100 children to hunt for eggs, so to book a place please email [asiwade@btinternet.com](mailto:asiwade@btinternet.com) or ring me on 01795 470 418.

Stephen Plumb

## Iwade Barn

*By James Hunt*

We knew it wasn't going to be easy turning a Grade II Listed agricultural barn into a community hub but when trustees of Iwade@TheBarn started out none of us anticipated it would take so long to get where we are now, and still things aren't easy!

After finally getting planning consent last summer the next hurdle was Building Control, but finally we now have everything sorted out and work has begun on the interior works to create the WC, kitchen, lobby and main meeting-room.

The interior walls are almost done thanks to the hard work of Iwade residents Tony Trower and Shaun Heathfield who have been volunteering their time to get to where we are now. This has been a challenge as each step we take comes with problems such as trying to build straight walls in a wonky barn, Building Control having different plans to what have been agreed and not being able to get the right size internal doors that are needed.

The parish council are paying for the main entrance doors and Gavin Marsh of Window Tech Home Improvements is kindly going to be fitting them free of charge, and we will soon be having the electrics installed.

Things are moving on well though and subject to further delays



out of our control we hope to have the barn in a useable state by the summer. There is still a lot more to do though.

You can follow our progress on Facebook or Twitter by searching @IwadeBarn or if you feel you can help in any way please contact [iwadebarn@outlook.com](mailto:iwadebarn@outlook.com) or call 07835 280037.

## Iwade Allotments

*By Gareth Wiseman*

Dear gardeners and allotment holders.

Please be careful when gardening this time of year as only last weekend this hedgehog's nest was found on one of our allotments.

The allotment holder whilst clearing some leaves by hand felt a small sharp pain, when he looked closely the leaves moved slightly and he could then see the needles of a hedgehog! He quickly recovered the area with the leaves and the hedgehog settled.

So please take care when clearing your garden and look out for a ball of leaves as you may be lucky to have a slug munching Hedgehog ready to wake soon



especially if it is as warm and sunny as it has been recently. (Ed's note - looks like a good reason to wear gardening gloves too!!)

If you are new to the Village we have a very small waiting list for an allotment, so please contact Joan whose details are on the contact page.

Happy gardening!



## Bollywood comes to Iwade!

*By Kerry Holman*

The last few weeks have been busy at 1st Iwade Brownies! As well as working on badges at home, we have been working on badges in our meetings. One of those has been our Dancer badge - a few of us do Ballet already, so we thought we would try something different!

A dance teacher came and taught us some Bollywood inspired moves which we performed to our parents! (see photos). We also researched different types of dance so we could all get our badge together.

We have also been getting creative making things for Mother's Day and will be enjoying an Easter egg hunt before the end of the term!



## Tinkerbells Early Years

*By Jody Nicholls*

We've had a very busy and exciting term at Tinkerbells. The children took part in many activities related to our topic, 'mini beasts' and they have been busy making little bugs and hand-print spiders for our display. They have also enjoyed creating wonderful pictures at home with their families which were displayed in the hall for all to see. The children have learnt lots about bugs and mini

beasts and have been searching for them in our garden too. We have also been talking about Easter and the children have been quite inspired to create some egg-cellent pieces of work!

March ended the term nicely with Spring in the air. We have enjoyed the finer weather and we've been making the most of it by getting out and about. The children have enjoyed some walks around the village and some fun trips to the park too. We have also been planting some vegetables and wild flowers in our garden. It was lots of fun for the children to plant and care for them and we're very excited to watch them grow. We will be sure to share some pictures of the results with you in due course.

Our topic next term will be, 'Animals'. We are very excited about this topic and we are looking forward to the many activities we will do. We shall be exploring the many creatures around us, from pets to the more exotic creatures we share the world with.

All our sessions at Tinkerbells are currently full until September 2017 at Iwade, however there are a few spaces available at our clock tower setting. Therefore, if you are interested in a place or you would like your child to be put on our waiting list, please feel free to call in for a copy of our prospectus or email us at [enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk) for more information.

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



# YOUR LOCAL STEAM RAILWAY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

*Can you help with...*

- ...restoring a 1905-built locomotive to working order?
- ...ensuring the Permanent Way?
- ...sprucing up our stations and gardens?

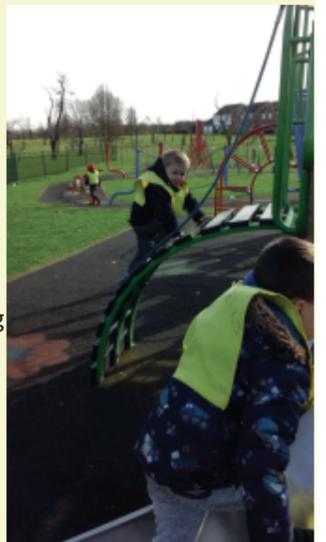
If you can help us to keep the railway running, please get in touch.  
EVERYBODY'S WELCOME.  
Please ring or email for further details

[info@sklr.net](mailto:info@sklr.net) 01795 424899

Follow [www.twitter.com/stopenm](https://www.twitter.com/stopenm)

Sittingbourne & Kemsley Light Railway

**The S&KLR is running trains from Easter Friday until the End of September**



# USEFUL CONTACTS

Ward Cllr (Ben Stokes)	01795 476979	Swale Borough Council	01795 417850
County Cllr (Roger Truelove)	01795 425445	KCC 24hr Helpline	08458 247247
County Cllr (Duncan Dewar-Whalley)	07889 808871	KCC General Enquiries	03000 41 41 41
Parish Chair (Matt Gale)		KCC Waste & Recycling	03000 41 73 73
Parish Clerk (Lynda Fisher)	01795 477015	KCC Highways	03000 41 81 81
MP Gordon Henderson	01795 423199	Iwade Kent Warden (Nick Mayatt)	07969 584184
Swale Wildlife Rescue (8am-8pm)	07877 280348	PCSO	101
Neighbourhood Watch	01795 419211	Anti-Social Behaviour	01795 417575
Mobile Library libraries@kent.gov.uk	07740 183758	Flytipping Line	01795 417193
Brownies (Fiona Whiskin)	07762 770818	Citizens Advice Swale	0344 499 4124
Rainbows (Lisa Andrews)	01795 422810	Swale Health Visitors	0300 123 4014
Beavers (Kelly Croucher)	07780 975444	Iwade Village Hall	07724 862744
Scouts (Colin Croucher) ccroucher73@hotmail.co.uk		Iwade Barn	07835 280 037
Cubs (Lisa Andrews)	07889 179154	Iwade School	01795 472578
Iwade Herons FC (Keith Reynolds)	07921 151974	Iwade Health Centre	01795 413100
Iwade Herons Academy (Gary)	07595 451726	Iwade Pharmacy	01795 439368
Health Walks (Steff Woodard) egret047@googlemail.com		The Woolpack	01795 472656
WI (Secretary Christine Freshwater) chrisfreshwater@btinternet.com		Mews Brewhouse	01795 426520
Milton Hundred Wargames miltonhundredwargamesclub@gmail.com		Bodycare	01795 474555
Model Flying Club	07973 938171	Heaven Hair and Beauty	01795 435958
Iwade Reading Group (Hilary)	01795 474656	Iwade Garage	01795 438988
Iwade Food and Craft Fayre	07588 401553	Church Curate (Rev Stephen Plumb)	01795 470418
Scrap Metal Collection (Shaun)	07936 775 777	Church Wardens (Pamela Horner) (Nigel Downes)	07980 018822 07817 250705
Iwade Allotment Assoc (Joan)	01795 473116	Sittingbourne Speedway	07474 057766
The Iwade Observer (Rynn Kemp) the.iwade.observer@gmail.com	01795 439765	Milton Regis Dental Clinic	01795 434910
Parent & Toddler Group (Brooke Acott) brookeacott@hotmail.co.uk		Tinkerbells Nursery	07592 544285
		Happy Days Nursery	01795 424348
		Ickle Pickles Nursery	01795 474551

## April Dates for your Diary

- Wednesday 5th** Café All Saints, All Saints Church from 1 - 3
- Thursday 6th** Iwade Health walk, meet outside Pharmacy at 10:30
- Thursday 6th** Mobile Library, Sheerstone 11:15 - 11:25
- Sunday 9th** Food and Craft Fayre , Village Hall
- Tuesday 11th** Reading Group, 10:30 - contact 01795 474656
- Wednesday 12th** Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall from 7:30
- Thursday 13th** Iwade Health walk, meet outside Pharmacy at 10:30
- Friday 14th** Good Friday
- Saturday 15th** Easter Egg Hunt, Village Hall 10 - 12
- Monday 17th** Easter Monday
- Tuesday 18th** Parent and Toddler Group, Village Hall from 9 - 11
- Wednesday 19th** Café All Saints, All Saints Church from 1 - 3
- Thursday 20th** Iwade Health walk, meet outside Pharmacy at 10:30
- Thursday 20th** Mobile Library, Sheerstone 11:15 - 11:25
- Sunday 23rd** St George's Day
- Tuesday 25th** Parent and Toddler Group, Village Hall from 9 - 11
- Thursday 27th** Iwade Health walk, meet outside Pharmacy at 10:30

## Iwade Parent and Toddler Group

*By Brooke Acott*

We meet every Tuesday morning in term-time from 9am to 11am in the Village Hall. We are run by volunteers and are an excellent playgroup. There's a baby area to protect the little ones from the toddlers, a range of toys to play with, and different tables for crafts, books and puzzles for more quiet activities. The children sit down for a drink and a biscuit at around 10 (that's the only quiet time!) and parents can help themselves to tea or coffee.

£2 for the first child and 50p for each additional child. Come along - we'd love to see you.

Find us on Facebook (Search Iwade parent and toddler Group) to keep up to date with special events!

## IWADE READING GROUP

*By Hilary Foulds*

At our meeting in March we discussed *The Miniaturist*, debut novel of young author Jessie Burton. It's about Nella who comes to Amsterdam from reduced circumstances in the country to the home of wealthy merchant Johannes Brandt whom she married a month earlier. She steps into a house of secrets held by Brandt's sister and servants. He treats her more like a friend than husband, giving her a dolls house, designed to look like their own, as a wedding gift. She engages the services of a local miniaturist to add realistic furnishings. She never meets the miniaturist but is sent lifelike dolls and furnishings that are eerily accurate and even appear to predict the future. A web of danger closes in on the characters and Nella wonders if the miniaturist holds everyone's fate in her hands!



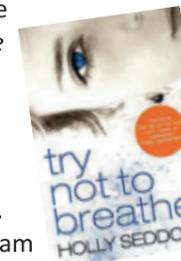
We have come up with a crude way to score our appreciation of the books we read as a group, focussing on to what extent the book absorbed us, the credibility of the plot and quality of writing. (*Ed's note - what score did The Miniaturist get? - it's sitting beside my bed and I want to know if its worth reading!!*)

There were a lot of historical references to 17th century Amsterdam and clearly the author had done her research. She was good at evoking the sights and smells of Amsterdam at that time. The group went on to compare other books set in Amsterdam like *The Girl with a Pearl Earring* and *Tulip Fever*.

We loved the quality of the writing: "a dog moves through the shadows like spilled liquid" and we learnt new word "fabulate" to add to our vocabulary, meaning to relate invented stories.

However, we all found it hard to get hold of the story line and mostly floundered for the first 100 pages by which point we were gripped. The ending was a disappointment with a lot left unexplained and many loose ends. It felt rushed. It was a strange tale and not everyone's cup of tea. We felt the storyline could warrant a sequel which most of us thought we would like to read. Jessie Burton has since published another novel, *The Muse*, unrelated to *The Miniaturist*.

Next month's meeting is on Tuesday 11th April at Jackie's. Her choice for then is *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman. "A boat washes up on the shore of a remote lighthouse keeper's island. It holds a dead man and a crying baby. The only 2 islanders, Tom and his wife Izzy, are about to make a devastating decision. They break the rules and follow their hearts. What happens next will break yours".



The following meeting on 9 May will be at Lynn's and she has chosen *Try Not to Breathe* by Holly Seddon, reviewed to be a razor-sharp, fast paced plot and wonderfully complex characters.

**If you would like to know more about the reading group you can phone Hilary on 01795 474656.**

## The Air Ambulance Needs You!!

Book a talk about our life-saving work. You may be aware of the Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Trust; we are an independent charity funded almost entirely by public donations. Our doctor and paramedic teams can deliver all the skills and equipment of an A&E department to critically ill and injured patients – wherever and whenever it is needed.

We love to get out into the community and talk to people about our work. We offer talks, free of charge, to groups of any size, age or demographic and are lucky to have valued volunteer speakers in Kent, Surrey and Sussex, who enjoy spreading the word. So we are inviting local groups, clubs, societies and other organisations to book a talk (free of charge) to find out more about the work of the charity.

By inviting one of our volunteer speakers to your group, you will be helping to raise awareness of our work and therefore ensuring we can be there for those who need us, now and in the future.

For more information or to book a talk, please contact us on: **01622 833 833** or at: [talks@kssairambulance.org.uk](mailto:talks@kssairambulance.org.uk)

Best Wishes,  
Jamie Cheshire  
Press, Media & Marketing Office



## IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held on Wednesday 11 January 2017

**Community Warden/PCSO** – Warden’s report noted – issues included dog fouling, fly tipping, burglary and bogus callers.

### Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 1. Linkway and outside School Parking Issues** – Still no action on the lines in Linkway. However, notices, advising of the zig zag lines and changes to parking times, have been posted in School Lane.
- 2. School Lane Recreation Ground and Pavilion** – The Chair and Clerk attended a meeting at Swale House; present were Officers from the Borough Council and representatives from Iwade Herons. The Parish Council advised Officers that it does not wish to take on the field due to legal implications but that the Herons wished to take on both the Pavilion and the field. The Borough Council is happy for this to happen and will investigate the way forward; Borough Councillor Dewar-Whaley is also keen to support this. Officers are hoping the Pavilion snagging will be finished shortly; followed by the whole area being handed over initially to the Borough Council. The Officers asked if the Parish Council was willing to take on the running of the play area within the recreation ground. Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Mitchell; agreed Clerk to write stating that subject to the necessary remedial work being done (e.g. ramp for disabled access, etc.) then we will look to taking this on. *Action: Clerk*
- 3. KCC Volunteer Support Warden Scheme** – Clerk has been advised that the scheme is for Parishes that do not have a permanent Warden.

### Planning

- 1. 16/507971/FULL:** Part Retrospective application for siting of 1no. Twin unit (mobile home), (and continued siting of 2no. static caravans), with 2no. Associated Utility Blocks, parking and 2no. transient pitches for touring caravans for Family with Gypsy status: Summer Cottages School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8QH: agreed to respond as follows:  
-Concern that this is yet another retrospective application.  
-If approved, the Council requests that a condition needs to be included in the consent that the site will not grow further.  
-Members felt that there are enough sites in Iwade and the village has more than contributed to the need within Swale; we understand that the Borough Council has now met its 5 year allocation.
- 2. SW/11/291/R3, 5&11:** Details of vehicle parking, Wheelwork facilities and dust control measures pursuant to planning permission SW/11/1291: Land to the north of the DS Smith Paper Mill, Kemsley, Kent – noted.

### Correspondence

- 1. Kent Minerals and Waste Sites Plans** - Call for Sites – Noted.
- 2. Public Services Ombudsman Bill** – Changes noted.
- 3. BT Telephone Box Consultation** – The telephone box outside the village hall is to be removed by BT as it is not being used; residents present at the meeting agreed with BT’s findings.

### Finance

- 1. Iwade Observer** – Proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Hunt; agreed to fund the Observer for 2017/18 and during that time a survey be undertaken to ascertain how many residents are interested in an electronic version. Clerk to bring this back to the October meeting. *Action: Clerk*
- 2. Extra Planter** – Agreed Clerk to obtain a quote for one large and one small planter. Cllr. Hunt to forward contact details of existing sponsors to the Clerk so that she can ascertain if they wish to continue their sponsorship. *Action: Cllr. Hunt/Clerk*
- 3. 2017/18 Precept and Budget** – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Langham; all agreed to freeze the Precept, resulting in 0% increase to residents for 2017/18.

### Projects/Project Updates

The Barn – now have a Carpenter. Need the Conservation Officer to agree to a couple of minor changes. Clerk to obtain prices for a new picnic table for Woodpecker Park and Cllr. Gale to obtain the cost of a concrete base for this. *Action: Cllr. Gale/Clerk*

### Reports from Representatives

Hall – The single fire door is no longer necessary. The Christmas grotto was successful and tickets sold out quickly. Hall bookings and finances are doing well; future events planned include an indoor boot fair.

NEXT MEETING - 7:30pm, 12th APRIL IN THE VILLAGE HALL

## Iwade Village Hall

Spring has sprung which is lovely as the days get longer and, more importantly warmer! The warmer weather is especially welcome to the stallholders who are outside at our Food and Craft Fayres (every second Sunday of each month). They freeze their toes off to bring you a range of goods each month and I for one, don’t envy them at all! Our next Fayre is on Sunday 9th April and I believe that the first bunch of children through the door will receive a little chocolate egg each – no stealing their chocolates parents!

The charity stall for this month is Cats Protection who do such great work in the village and all over Swale. Sally-Anne and Joa will be manning the stall and have a bumper Easter basket on offer in the raffle, along with some CP goodies like badges, pens and notebooks. 100% of the money raised goes to help the cats of Swale with neutering, welfare and rehoming. As you know though, it’s not just about the charity stall, the fayre has fresh fruit and veg, gifts and cards for all occasions, pies, pastries and cakes plus you can grab brunch too at great prices. If you can’t be bothered to cook breakfast on the Sunday, come down and have a bacon and egg buttie washed down with a cup of tea. (veggie options available too)!

If you volunteer for a charity and would like to have a stall to raise money for them, please contact Geri at [fayre@iwadevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:fayre@iwadevillagehall.co.uk) for more details.

By the time you read this, we would have had our first quiz night of the year and I’m pretty sure a good time was had

by all. The event sold out really quickly so apologies to anyone who wanted to join in but couldn’t get a table. Our thanks to Rynn for being question master again and thanks to our teams who make the events such fun.

Our next event is on Sunday 23rd April and it’s another indoor boot fair, a great chance to earn some money from your unwanted treasures! Tables are just £5 each and it’s from 10am-2pm. The last one in February sold out within a couple of weeks, so please don’t delay, email Sho at [bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk) to secure your place. We provide the table so all you need to do is bring your stuff to sell. If you don’t have anything to sell, why not pop down and find yourself a bargain instead?

Looking forward to June, we have another Race Night. The first one we held was so much fun, it would be wrong not to do it all over again (and this time we promise to play the right race at the end)! If you want to book your table early, please email Joa at [secretary@iwadevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:secretary@iwadevillagehall.co.uk). Tickets are £2 per person and it’s bring your own food and drink like last time. If you fancy sponsoring a race and getting some free advertising, please email Joa for more details.

That’s all from us then, don’t forget that you can keep up to date with events at the hall by following us on Twitter and Facebook, just search Iwade Village Hall, plus we have a website at [www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk) where you can get more info on hiring the hall for parties etc.

Hope to see you on the 9th at the Food and Craft Fayre!

## Milton Hundred War Games Club recruiting now!

Ex-Iwade residents The Milton Hundreds are currently seeking new members for our twice monthly gaming club. We are currently based in Phoenix House in Sittingbourne (so not far!), and meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, from 6.30 til 10.00 pm, to play various tabletop games, from historical battles to post-apocalypse skirmishes, World War One dogfights to epic fantasy combat, miniatures-based games, board games and card games! The first meeting is free, with our (very reasonable) membership fees applying for subsequent club nights.

Membership can also involve helping out at our games convention, Broadside. This is our annual gaming event, held in June at Swallows Leisure Centre, which is gaining a reputation as being one of the top events on the gaming calendar. We are currently in the latter stages of organising this years show, and it looks like being a good one, with over 30 stalls, plus display stands from wargames clubs from across Kent and Essex, and participation tables where the public can try a variety of games.

So if you would like to join our "amicable bunch of squabblers", and join in with a big local event, whether you are a gamer, history buff or a complete novice looking for a new, interesting and engaging hobby, drop us an e-mail at [miltonhundredwargamesclub@gmail.com](mailto:miltonhundredwargamesclub@gmail.com), or find us and the Broadside Gaming Show on Facebook.

### Editor's Note

Having thanked the great work of Dale who ensures a colourful issue each month and our Distribution team and their "leader" Stephen Plumb recently, it made me think that the people we really should be thanking are the contributors without whom you would get a complimentary set of blank pages each month!! And finally of course, YOU, our readers. Please all of you keep writing and reading. We try to make the Observer interesting for you, but ultimately it's in your hands!!

### Disclaimer

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