



**Auntie
Ish
Crafts**

My name's Hilary and I've been an Iwade resident for 10 years. I've been running card making sessions both at the Barn and in my Iwade home for some time now with a regular clientele of 25 ladies (and Kelvin) who, in small groups, join me one afternoon a month to make 2 beautiful cards. A small charge of £7 covers materials used, a hot drink and home-made cake. All tools are provided.

There hasn't been a class since lockdown of course, and it's unlikely there will be one before January the way things are going, but we've managed to continue creating our little works of art with the help of technology, social media and good old paper and scissors. And Christmas isn't far off for card makers! It's a very busy time.

Iwade is a great community and there is plenty to do particularly if you are retired but would you like to squeeze a card class into your busy schedule? I'd love to welcome a few more members. People frequently tell me they couldn't possibly make cards because they're not artistic. You really honestly do not have to be artistic. Working as a demonstrator with Stampin'Up I have access to some stunning stamp sets, dies, coloured inks and patterned paper. It's really not difficult to create something you'll love and be proud of. You will bond with the cards you make yourself and it can be hard to give them away. For a few hours we take a break to concentrate on making something, and every-day worries disappear for that time. There's laughter too. It's not at all serious even when you make a beautiful card and realise you've stuck it on upside down. These are known in the trade as Australian cards.

I have a Facebook page Auntie Ish Crafts where you can see some of the cards we've made and if you're interested in the Stampin' Up products their website is www.stampinup.uk. If you'd like to join me or find out more about classes and tutorials please email me at hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01795 474656.

Dear Friends,

'The New Normal' – but what is 'normal' now, and what good things could come out of all this? So much is changing and pressing on us. What will ever be normal again?

We are facing many crises – the pandemic is only the background. We are at a turning point in race relations, brought on by the terrible killings in the USA. We see poverty and inequality starkly revealed, and the stresses on our health services and elder care. The clear air from reduced travel underlines our climate crisis. All of this demands attention or will be waiting for us once the pandemic has passed.

But the personal crises are more pressing – isolation, loneliness, job loss, debt, risk and danger. For some these can be a heavy burden, for others a constant pressure. Maybe the aftermath will bring new ways of working, travel, education, and personal contact. We shall see.

But in the midst of all this, what is 'normal'? Only one thing – what we are and hope to be, in our innermost selves. We are thrown back on our inner resources, facing each choice and challenge. We are guided by our hearts and minds, loving and supporting each other through it all. What we are inside helps us to find strength to face the daily unknowns.

Within ourselves, we can find faith in One who comes to us to renew us, who can help us to carry on in hope. Even in isolation and crisis, we are never alone. This faith can help to keep us strong, knowing who we really are in God's eyes. This can remain our own 'normal', whatever happens.

God bless and keep you all, and all those you love and treasure.

Rev'd Ron Partridge, Lower Halstow

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Urgently Needed!!

The Iwade Observer is delivered to every household in Iwade by a team of volunteers who venture out in all weathers right through the year to ensure your issue is delivered to you fresh off the printing press.

Over the last few months a number of our deliverers have had to retire from their role and we now have a number of new volunteers needed to complete our team again.

If you are interested in helping out, getting a bit of exercise, and doing something for the community of Iwade then email us at:-
the.iwade.observer@gmail.com
or call 07941656669
Thank you.

We're back! The Iwade Observer

August 2020



News from The Woolpack By Kelsey

To celebrate our 2 years at the Woolpack we are hosting a socially distanced 80's Disco outside in one of our new marquees, we will also be doing an inside/outside BBQ

We have also extended our opening hours and now cook all day 12-9pm

We are also signed up to the new government scheme Eat Out Help Out, which entitles up to £10 off per meal for adults. It's available Monday-Wednesday all day.

We would also like to thank everyone in the village for the support shown to us & each other during the lockdown.

Swale Foodbank – donations By Terry Wiles

The people of Iwade have been extraordinarily generous during the Covid lockdown, as the need for Foodbank has expanded during that time.

Donations are still urgently needed and the church porch will continue to be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 10am and 4pm for donations of non-perishable food and toiletry items for the Sittingbourne Foodbank. Huge thanks to all who have donated.

Burning issues!

The biggest issue in my postbag at the moment is the burning and other activity at Raspberry Hill Farm.

I am in discussions with Swale Council, KCC, the Environment Agency and the police about this, and have also now included the director of public health in Kent as I see this as much a health issue as one rated to planning or other illegal activity.

If anyone has any views on this, particularly if they have photos/video or any other evidence, then I'd be happy to receive it (Mike.Whiting@kent.gov.uk) and pass it to the relevant authorities.

Regards
MIKE WHITING
Member serving Swale West

A BIG THANK YOU

Many people have stepped up to the plate during the COVID-19 lockdown. Doing business in a new way has become the norm, and we have seen The Woolpack (also see their news elsewhere) and The Mews Brewhouse much appreciated by many villagers for their takeaway options that have helped keep many people sane, by giving them a treat during the long weeks of not being able to go anywhere. Featherbed Farm Shop has also been invaluable and they have extended their range to help us out when shopping was not easy. Their cherries have been fabulous! The worn grass verge leading to the farm shop evidences the number of people who have gone shopping there! We'd like to thank, Mandy at The Mews Brewhouse, Paul and Ali at The Woolpack and the staff at Featherbed Farm shop for making lockdown just that little bit easier. Hopefully we'll all go on supporting our local businesses during this continuing difficult time for all. Thank you all so much.



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**IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE
MONTHLY MEETING
Held on Wednesday 11 March 2020**

Visitors/Public Time

County and Borough Councillors – County Cllr. Whiting written report - Parking restrictions in Cormorant Drive were discussed at Swale's Joint Transportation Board. It was decided to press ahead with restrictions and corner protection to prevent parking which blocks residents' drives.

Community Warden/PCSO – the Community Warden written report - Bike marking arranged. Had reports from school about fighting and bad behaviour after school, is working with PCSOs on this. Still working on youth projects, has made contact with a street dance project and met with youth engagement officer about this.

issue. Clerk contacted the gentleman who was hit by a vehicle, relayed KCC's comments and the reasons behind them and suggested he also report the incident on the portal.

Correspondence

Swale Borough Council corporate plan 2020-2023 – Noted.

Foxchurch Development, Bobbing – Noted public meetings will be held on 21, 23 and 24 March 2020: invitations to attend will be going out to all residents/Councillors.

Speed Watch Equipment – Waiting for Police to do risk assessments and training. Need more volunteers, possibly put in newsletter. Bring back to next meeting.

The PCSO written report – Crimes of note: Number plates stolen from vehicle in Evergreen Close. A vehicle was set alight on Raspberry Hill Lane. Vehicle stolen from Mallards Crescent. Windows on a vehicle that had been in an accident smashed overnight. Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note: Report of youths riding bikes in and out of traffic on Old Ferry Road – patrol attended but could not find anyone. Report of trials bikes being ridden around the Holly Blue Drive area – patrol attended, but no bikes seen. Fight between youths in the play park, Woodpecker Drive. Police investigating.

Finance

Snow Machine – Cllr. Dollimore to obtain firm costs for a machine. Agreed to bring back to the next meeting.

Village Hall Car Park Repair Quote – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr Whiting, agreed to accept the quote for £590.

Sittingbourne Community First Responders – request for donation – Proposed by Cllr Whiting and seconded by Cllr. Langham; agreed the S.137 donation of £80.

Request for Donation Air Ambulance – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Smith, agreed the S.137 donation of £200. As this is such an important facility Clerk to write suggesting they approach the Council again next year.

CPRE Subscription Renewal 2020/21 – Proposed by Cllr. Langham and seconded by Cllr. Smith agreed to renew and pay the £36 subscription fee.

Projects – Updates on Current and New

Hornbeam Trees – Clerk advised that Swale Borough Council couldn't see a problem with additional planting of trees in the Church Mews side of the nature park, subject to agreeing location and quantities, but the Officer will need to check this with his head of department.

Village Entrance Sign – KCC to undertake a safety audit and advise if a sign can be installed.

School Entrance – Clerk contacted KCC and was advised by a Highways Officer to ask those residents who had had near misses, as a result of vehicles entering/exiting the school gates to report this via the KCC online reporting tool; County would then have an audit trail relating to this

Ever thought of giving Karate a go ?

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SPEEDING IN THE VILLAGE

Are you interested in combating speeding in Iwade, and willing to work with a group of Village volunteers?

If the answer is "yes", then please read on to find out how to join the Iwade Speedwatch Team:

Your first step is to register online as below.

1. Typing <http://www.communityspeedwatch.org> into a web browser.

2. Click on the [Register] tab

3. Click on [Join Existing Group].

4. Choose [Kent] from the pull down and click [Continue].

5. Choose [Swale] from the pull down and click [Continue].

6. Now choose [Iwade Speedwatch Group] from the pull down and click [Continue].

7. Finally complete your details in the registration form and follow the emailed instructions.

Complete your details, Click the link on the email once received to verify your email address and then undertake the training. When you have completed your training etc. your coordinator will be updated and will then be in touch. (Please check your Spam folder as sometimes emails drop in here)

Barn update

– we know you miss us as much we miss you, but ...

... we're not quite ready to open yet but we're nearly there.

We've missed everyone and whilst we want to get The Barn open as soon as possible we want to ensure that it is safe to do so and everything is done within Government guidelines.

Due to the small size of the barn, trustees feel that it won't be possible to open until at least September, however we are following the guidance being given and will open up sooner if we are able to.

We will soon be in touch with anyone that has bookings during July and August to discuss these.

Regular bookings, whether businesses or community groups, are important to us and we know how valuable they are to residents. With this in mind we will soon be sending regular users a questionnaire so that we can understand what your intentions are with regards to coming back, and we welcome any comments and suggestions that will help us work together to ensure that services can resume in a safe manner.

On a more positive note, some progress over lockdown. Whilst the barn may be closed trustees have continued to work on improvements.

We're really pleased that we have just gained planning approval for our storage building to give us a bit more room.

Thanks to Dave at Deva Design in Minster for his help.



**Iwade Health Walks
By James Apps**

Greetings people of Earth - I feel like an alien visiting a new planet now that the lockdown is partially easing. A few walkers have tromped the pathways during that time - alone of course and have posted some of their pictures on our Facebook page.

Steff has posted a general email to existing members outlining the rules she is willing to apply for our safety and mutual confidence. These will include social distancing and booking up. We will see how it works and adjust it to suit our needs bearing in mind that the system may not be practical or workable at the start but may work out eventually.

It is desirable we get back to walking as a group again but let us be aware that it may not be possible yet to return to our previous format until after there is a vaccine found for Covid19.

In the meantime, we have had some people wishing to join with us as walkers. For those of you who have requested to be accepted on the Facebook page and have not yet been so, please have patience. The requirement is to actually take part in the walks and until



you are on our list we will not pop you on, but as soon as you are then, you are most welcome. However, please look at our Facebook page for any announcements (search Iwade Health Walks)

The general plan proposed is to have walk leaders taking groups of five, perhaps on staggered starts - (to stagger around the walk having been away for so long!) - but I am sure that whatever plan we come up with will need tweaking.

Hopefully this alien can look forward to wandering around Iwade aimlessly as per usual.

As a trial, we will be conducting a One-Off walk for existing registered members only on 6th August. Start at the usual time of 10:30 but you will need to book. See the Iwade Health Walks Facebook page for information."

**Bird houses, cars and rainbows!
Tinkerbells**

By Donna Barker

It seems a long time since we have written an update for the nursery, we would normally be telling you what a busy term we have had and all about the exciting activities and events we have planned or done. COVID – 19 changed all that this year, it has been a very different kind of few months. With only a quarter of our children back at the nursery through June and July, the days definitely felt very different. However the children have been very busy and carried on like normal, we have had the most fun creating enormous rainbows to display, creating various items in the woodwork shed including a bird house, cars and so much more. The children's imagination and creativity amaze us every day.

We have made the most of the nice weather spending lots of our time in the garden. Although our vegetables were slightly neglected through April we still managed to have a good amount of potatoes and carrots, all picked and bagged up by the children to share with their families. July brought us to the end of another academic year, but we missed the celebrations that we would normally have. Saying goodbye to all our school leavers was very different this year, however we managed to say goodbye with social distancing in place with families who were not back at the nursery. We wish all the children starting school lots of luck, we are sure they will all continue to excel at school.

Whilst that brings us to a close this academic year, we are very excited to welcome back all of our children and meet the new children and their families who will be joining us in September. We hope you all have a lovely summer holidays and look forward to catching up with you all in September.

Finally, we have limited availability at both of our settings for September, sessions are filling fast therefore if you require a place for your child please call in alternatively you can email enquiries@tinkerbellspschool.co.uk

