

ANDREA'S ART Art Classes
@ The Barn - Iwade!!
 Andrea's School of Art - Asartbuzz
 www.asartbuzz.co.uk asartbuzz@gmail.com

We are very excited to announce that on the 16th of December we open in Iwade!! You may recall an article about us some time back. Now that The Barn has been refurbished we are now able to officially open this December. Since you last heard about Andrea's School of Art, we have started up for the first time here in the U.K. at a beautiful venue tucked away in farmland near Faversham. We have had regular monthly classes there for adults since March this year. We've had quite a few enquiries from people locally about classes for children, but unfortunately have not been able to offer them at our Faversham studio. We can now finally offer at The Barn, Adult classes as well as classes for children, and we hope to do some combined parent/carer/grandparent with child(ren), a.k.a. 'Share the Artbuzz'. On the day of our 'Grand Opening/Promotional Day', we will have some of our adult

Grand Opening at The Iwade Barn!!
 11am until 2 pm
 Saturday 16th December

artists who you can come and meet and ask any questions you may have about art etc. They will be doing 'live painting' so you can see for yourself some of the expertise and skill they have acquired since joining our art classes. You are most welcome to ask them, or myself, what we offer and how you can benefit from joining us. To add to all the excitement of the day, we will have special mini projects for children to get creative, as well as some speciality Christmas creation packs for your little ones to add to your home décor, or give away as gifts this year. We look forward to seeing many of you from our local community of Iwade, as well as from the greater community of Swale and surrounding areas.

CHRISTMAS BINGO
 In aid of Swale Cats Protection
SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER
 Iwade Village Hall
 Ferry Road Iwade ME9 8RG

FREE ENTRY **RAFFLE**

TICKET SALES 7-7:20PM
EYES DOWN 7:30PM
 Children over 8 years old welcome

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINK **GREAT PRIZES** **CASH PRIZES**

To reserve your table, please email publicity@swale.cats.org.uk or call 01795 437372

Iwade Parent and Toddler Group
 Brooke Acott

Iwade Parent and Toddler We are holding our Group is on every Tuesday Christmas party on 5th morning in term-time from December with our last 9am to 11am in the Village session of the year on the Hall. £2 for the first child 12th December. and 50p for each additional Find us on Facebook child.Thank you to all that (Search:Iwade parent and came to our Halloween toddler Group) to keep up party! Everyone had a to date with special events! brilliant time.

BUSINESS FOCUS
Happy Hounds Dog Grooming



Working with animals, especially dogs, was something I had always dreamed of as a young girl –but it has taken me to the grand old age of 39 to finally achieve this. I attended Hadlow College, near Tonbridge, back in May 2016. After completing my level 2 City & Guilds in Dog Grooming I then went on to a level 3 course with a Diploma. I finally completed the course in July 2017.

I set up my very own Dog Grooming Salon, at home, part way through my level 3 course, and since then I have met so many beautiful Iwade doggies as well as their owners. I now work full time from home on a one-to-one basis with each dog- I feel this is a much more relaxing environment for them. Recently I purchased an 'Ozone Spa Bath' which is a great treatment for dogs with joint problems or skin conditions. I truly LOVE my new vocation and I'm really looking forward to building my business and meeting lots more of Iwade's pampered pooches, along with their humans!! Please feel free to call 07854 765511 to book an appointment or check out my Facebook page at:- happy hounds dog grooming. Thank you to everyone that has supported me so far.

Rachel Rook - Happy Hounds x



The Iwade Observer
 December 17 / January 18

Surprise naming ceremony!

As he turned into School Mews at about 3:45 on Thursday 16th November Fraiser Pearson (7) may have noticed the huge truck parked up, but probably took no special notice of it or why it might be there!! To all intents and purposes another lorry delivering supplies to The Nisa store in the Village Centre; but this truck was there to deliver a special surprise to Fraiser!

Fraiser (7) was chosen, as part of Nisa's 40th birthday celebrations, to have a truck named for him. He was chosen as an inspirational child, for everything he has been through, and continues to go through, and for his fundraising efforts.

The truck had been driven down especially from Harlow to allow

Fraiser to carry out an unveiling ceremony. Phil, the driver, and Chris representing Nisa invited Fraiser, still a bit unsure about what was going on, to remove a banner from across the front of the cab. To Fraiser's great surprise and joy this revealed that his name was emblazoned in huge lettering right across the front – FRAISER PEARSON. Fraiser was also presented with a replica of the truck as a memento of his VIP role that afternoon.

A brilliant occasion and something hugely special for Fraiser as he will be going into hospital for major surgery on the 28th November! Fraiser has lifelong complications, yet looking at him you'd never know! (We wish Fraiser well and a speedy recovery from his op). Back in July Fraiser completed The Medway Mile, raising funds for The Oliver Fisher Special Care Baby trust where Fraiser, and his twin brother Harley, spent many months when they were born. Fraiser's family continue to raise as much



money as they can for The Oliver Fisher Special Care Baby Unit at Medway Hospital, that saved his and his twin's life.

You can read Fraiser and Harley's story on their justgiving page: www.justgiving.com/teamcurly2017



**The Iwade Observer's
BEST DECORATED HOUSE COMPETITION**

Judging will take place on 13th and 14th December from 7pm, to enter just make sure your lights are on.

The lucky winner will receive a £100 voucher to spend at Electrical Lighting Supplies ELS shop.

Our local ELS is located opposite Asda in Sittingbourne. ELS have a fantastic selection of electrical goods to choose from as well as Christmas lights.

£100 TO SPEND HERE!!



SWALE LADIES WHO LATTE

Swale Ladies Who Latte, is a locally run group for women in business within the Swale area.

We meet at The Mews Brew House, in Iwade, on the third Tuesday of every month from 10am-12pm.

The meetings are FREE, but you can purchase an artisan coffee or tea with a huge slice of cake if you wish!

The group was re-launched back in May 2016 and we have had tremendous success with the group since then.

Often people are a bit nervous of networking, as they think everyone will be judging them and may not be interested in what they do, but this really is the complete opposite!!! All of our ladies are kind, caring and are really keen to help others, so what have you got to lose? If you have just started out working from home or if you have a large established company we want to meet you!!!

Check out our Facebook page at - Swale Ladies Who Latte GROUP

We truly are all 'Wonder Women'.....



The Addams Family comes to Iwade Iwade Village Hall

Firstly, I would like to thank all those who attended, supported and helped to organise the Halloween event at the hall. It was well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by all. A special thanks to Frankie, the Doc and crew for judging the fancy dress competition and special recognition to The Addams Family! Everyone really entered into the spirit of things and we were rather taken by surprise at the popularity. Apologies to those who didn't get to participate in some activities where we ran out of supplies, we will be better prepared for the Halloween event we hope to have next year. Along with the usual quiz and race nights we are also looking into hosting a murder mystery evening next year so watch this space...

All thoughts have now turned to Christmas. I am writing this prior to the Christmas market which I hope was a great success and we are busy organising the grotto for Christmas Eve which is always well attended and enjoyed by the children. Please note that there is no market in December or January.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for all of their hard work throughout the year and to everyone else who has supported the hall and helped out at events. We currently have space for two more committee members and a clerk. If you are interested and would like to know more please email chair@iwadevillagehall.co.uk



You can keep up to date with events and regular groups at www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk and on our Facebook page. You can book the hall by contacting bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk

A very Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year

"We will remember them" Iwade School's Act of Remembrance

Children from Iwade School have grown used to thoughtful ways of remembering the fallen of conflicts around the world. Who can forget their wonderful tribute in 2015 of masses of clay poppies outside the church, and their release of red balloons with messages attached in 2016.

This year again they have been innovative in ensuring "we will remember them". Children at the school each made a large clay poppy plaque, some of which were attached to large red balloons. After their two-minute silence in school on November 10th children, representing all of the school's classes, walked up to the church with their balloons and plaques to place them as a backdrop to the village's Act of Remembrance that took place on

Remembrance Sunday, November 12th. To each of the balloons was attached prayers and messages from the children who were quite clear that it is important that we keep this ceremony alive and continue to remember those who "gave their tomorrow for our today"

The balloons were a splendid tribute and figured prominently when over 170 people of all ages attended the churches annual Act of Remembrance.

Well done again Iwade school, staff and children.



Tinkerbells Early Years Jody Nichols

We have had a very busy and exciting term at Tinkerbells. The children have been getting creative and learning about our topic, 'Winter.' From making festive decorations to getting cosy in our own grotto, they have been very busy indeed! Well done to those who have brought in a Christmas picture made at home too. There are some great creations being displayed around the hall. Keep them coming!

At the beginning of term two, we learnt all about Harvest and the children and families collected many items for donations. Thank you to all who brought in items of food. We

manage to create some lovely hampers, which were gratefully received by the church.

November ended nicely with our annual Christmas Fair. This was a great success and lots of fun too! It was lovely to see so many of our families there, past and present and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the local businesses for donating their services or products and the families for their kind donations of prizes too. We are really grateful for your support and generosity. Without it this fund-raising event would not be possible. The money raised will be used to purchase home learning bags for the children.

Christmas Carol concert at All Saints Church on Monday 11th December and we would like to welcome all the families and children along for this traditional sing along.

And let's not forget of course our annual Nativity play for our school leavers and their families. We're very excited about this and we're sure it will be a heart-warming pleasure for all to enjoy.

Our topic next term will be 'People who help us.' We can't wait to explore this topic together and learn all about how the different people in the community help us and keep us safe.

All of our sessions at Tinkerbells Iwade are currently full until September 2018. However, there are a few spaces available at our Clock Tower setting. Therefore, if you are interested in a place for your child, please call in for a copy of our prospectus or to be put on our waiting list. Alternatively, you can email us at enquiries@tinkerbellspreeschool.co.uk for more information.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



With Christmas upon us, the staff and children are looking forward to taking part in many festive activities. We will be holding our



The Kingsferry Collaboration – behind the scenes at Tinkerbells and Ickle Pickles

Three years ago Kent County Council withdrew the support that they provided nurseries and pre-schools due to changes in budgets –“Setting Improvement Partners” (SIPs) had previously visited all Kent nurseries on a regular basis to help identify and implement changes and improvements to all of these settings.

The day that we were all notified of this quite disappointing change, Kent also launched an initiative whereby they asked nurseries to join together in groups to form collaborations. The main idea for these collaborations was to share good ideas and good practice and act as a support network to each other (as external support had now been withdrawn!).

Being the positive and driven nurseries that we are (after the initial sulking of losing our beloved SIPs, Tinkerbells (Iwade Village Hall) and Ickle Pickles began networking with other local nurseries from surrounding villages and the Isle of Sheppey and the Kingsferry Collaboration was born!

Since then we have gone from strength to strength – and we are now 2 years old! The members of the Collaboration now total 11 settings – all of whom are now rated ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted. We meet on a regular basis and communicate, often daily, to share ideas, solve problems and support each other through many scenarios that affect our nurseries. These can vary from recruitment initiatives to additional support ideas for children with additional needs.

Hannah Williams – The Kingsferry Collaboration

The greatest impact has been on the

amount of training that all members of staff and management working in the member nurseries benefit from. All members contribute to a central fund and we now access some fantastic training to bring back into our individual nurseries to promote the learning and development of the wonderful children that we all look after.

We have now been recognised by Kent County Council as such an effective collaboration that we have now not only been awarded money from KCC (yes, it can happen!) to help further the impact that we are having on our nurseries and children but have also been invited to be part of a Pilot Scheme to recognise successful collaborations such as ours through a KCC awarded Quality Award.

We are all so very proud of all that we have created and the successful outcome of some of the collaboration ideas and we felt that Iwade should be aware of some of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes at Tinkerbells and Ickle Pickles Nursery – despite challenging times we realise that working in partnership will help us to continue to improve in everything we do!

If you do have any questions about this (Donna Barker at Tinkerbells and I can talk about this subject for hours!) then please drop us a line at: donnaathome57@hotmail.com or icklepicklesnursery@live.co.uk – and watch this space for our soon to be launched Kingsferry Collaboration website!

Hannah Williams – The Kingsferry Collaboration

The greatest impact has been on the

Church Christmas Window

Gareth Wiseman

Happy Christmas Iwadians, I have a window at the church to decorate this Christmas (thank you Nigel). I thought it might be nice to have a picture gallery of loved ones we may have lost over the year, I would also like to make it positive with a small note added as well with a fond memory.

As yet I have to work out the logistics of it and would appreciate any suggestions. I am on Iwade Facebook if you need to contact me, where I will also post something to start the ball rolling, with hopefully some ideas.

Please do get in touch!!

Christmas at All Saints Church Iwade

The Christmas season is almost here, and at All Saints Church, your Parish Church, there are a number of opportunities to gather during December to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Christingle Service. Sunday 3rd Dec @ 10.45am. During this service each child will make a Christingle and the candle will be lit as we sing a familiar carol. This year we especially welcome the families of all those christened at the church during the past year to bring their christening candles.

Family Christmas Craft. afternoon Saturday 9th Dec @ 2-4pm. An opportunity to take a break from the shopping and spend some time being crafty. There will be a sandwich/cake tea. Tickets will be available in November as space is limited and interest in recent years has been high.

Nativity/Crib Service. Sunday 17th Dec @ 10.45, an opportunity to hear and take part in the telling of the Christmas story. Nativity dress encouraged.

Remembering Loved Ones at Christmas. Sunday 17th December @ 5pm. Last year, as part of this service, a Christmas tree was placed in church and residents of Iwade were invited to remember a loved one by writing their name on a tag and placing on the tree. We are doing the same this year, with a brief service of remembrance. Refreshments will be mulled wine and mince pies.

Christmas Eve. There will be no 10.45 service. The Carol Service is at 5pm (tickets not required), and at 11pm Carols & Communion Service.

Christmas Day. 9am Holy Communion.

Iwade @ the Barn now open!

On the web at iwadebarn.org.uk
On email at iwadebarn@outlook.com
On facebook at Iwade at the barn
On the phone at 07835 280037

By the time you read this Iwade @ the Barn at 20 All Saint’s Close Iwade (next to the church and opposite the Woolpack) should be ready for Iwade residents to enjoy. If you are an Iwade resident or business and are interested in running a community group at the barn, hiring it for a private function, running an event there or any other ideas you may have then get in touch with me Nicola McKenzie, the newly appointed booking clerk (not quite sure how that happened!) by email at iwadebarn@outlook.com or through our Iwade at the Barn facebook page. Fantastic venue with modern open-plan kitchen, underfloor heating and superfast wi-fi and rustic charm!

Another update from Mike Whiting, KCC member representing Swale West, on issue affecting Iwade and its residents

Meadowfield (Foundation Special) School Coastal Defences

I have written a letter supporting proposed expansion of the school from 209 pupils to 348 pupils from 1 September 2019 and alter the lower age range at the school to include nursery provision, also from 1 September 2019. I believe the planned expansion will help address an increasing demand for local places within my division and more generally across Swale for children with profound, severe and complex needs including autism.

Junction 5

I was pleased to get assurances at the last KCC meeting of Kent’s opposition to Option 12A proposed by Highways England. I have subsequently attended a meeting with Gordon Henderson MP and Highways England at which the agency acknowledged the opposition to Option 12A at all levels locally and said they would be reviewing their plans and all of the responses thoroughly before publishing their preferred option for further consultation in January or February next year.

The Environment Agency has produced its preferred “Medway Estuary and Swale Flood Risk and Coastal Risk Management Strategy” to manage our shoreline for the next 100 years. Details online – search “medway estuary flood risk”.

In general the strategy suggests “holding the line” by raising the sea defences in line with projected sea-level rises, however, they plan to allow flooding to take place along the Raspberry Hill Lane stretch near Funton where the road lies close to the coast.

The agency has a public exhibitions – at Riverside country Park, Gillingham, on 6 December, from 3pm to 7pm.

Motorbikes, Sheppey Way, north of Iwade

Following a complaint which I took up on behalf of a resident, the police will be carrying out regular monitoring and road checks in the area to identify culprits.

Iwade Medical Centre

I attended an Open Day at the centre, held by the surgery in partnership with the Iwade Patient Participation Group on

Tuesday, November 14, from noon to 2pm. I am a patient at the centre myself, and it seems to me to be moving in the right direction, with more on-the-day appointments and more full time staff, including two doctors. There are still things to do and improvements to be made, but there certainly is some progress. Many residents, including myself, received texts advertising the event many hours after it had finished, and I will be taking this up with the surgery. Also, the surgery website has been taken down and is being rebuilt. I am told it will likely be a few weeks before service is resumed.

Member Community Grant

I was pleased to be able to grant £1,000 to the Cairn Project which aims to commemorate those from the village who were killed in action in WW1. I wish the project every success. If other groups need help with funding for their projects then please let me know.

I hope this report is helpful, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance in these or any other matters atmike.whiting@kent.gov.uk

Swale Cats Protection – December

Are you stuck for what to buy that person who has absolutely everything? Worry no longer then as we have the perfect answer! Becoming a member of Swale Cats Protection doesn’t mean you have to do anything other than sit back and enjoy the satisfying feeling that helping others gives you. Well, that and £5 I guess! For the £5 membership fee, we’ll send you our bi-annual newsletters which are jam packed with what the branch is up to and what we have in our plans. It’s a great way of helping the cats if you have no time to spare.

If you’d prefer to have some fun whilst helping the cats, then the 9th December is the date for your diary. We’ll be holding our first ever bingo evening at Iwade Village Hall and with books costing just £2 each, or all 6 for £10, it doesn’t need to break the bank. Children over the age of 8 are welcome to join in too so it’s going to be a real family evening out.

All of the prizes will be cash and the more tickets we sell, the bigger the cash pot we have to share out. If we have time at the end, we’ll also run a flyer that could win you a larger pot of money.

As normal for events down the hall, it’s bring your own food and drink, so get that picnic packed and the bottle of wine chilled in readiness for a great event. Book sales will be from 7 – 7:20pm with eyes down at 7:30pm.

Looking forward into 2018, we have lots planned and we’d love to have your support for the cats of Swale. Easy ways you can help for no effort are by joining our membership for £5 a year, by playing our weekly lottery for just £1 a week (you could win £10k!) or by doing your online shopping via an EasyFundraising portal. But if you want a more hands-on role, please get in touch, we’d love to hear from you! You can see all of these details and more by visiting our website at www.cats.org.uk/swale and going to Supporting/Volunteering. If you have any questions on memberships gifts or anything else mentioned here, please email publicity@swale.cats.org.uk or call 01795 437372.

On behalf of everyone at Swale CP, I’d like to thank the Observer team for their continued hard work producing this fabulous magazine for us all and also to wish everyone a purrfect holiday season.

See you all in 2018!

Iwade Reading Group

Sylvia Francis

It was lovely to see all the friendly faces this morning as, over coffee and cake, we reviewed our monthly read No time for Goodbye by Linwood Barclay. Cynthia Bigg 14years old woke one morning to find the house empty, her father, mother and brother disappeared. 25years later Cynthia contacts a TV crime stopper programme in the hope she can get some answers. But what unfolds is a roller coaster ride of twists and turns. We all enjoyed this book and found it a compelling read until the very last page. Next month 12th December 1.00pm is our Christmas Literary Fest- so no book choice just bring with you a favourite poem or sonnet for all to enjoy.

And of course our secret Santa will be calling. This event will be at Sue’s so please let her know for numbers nearer to the date.

See you all next month xxx

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IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 11 October 2017

Visitors/Public Time

1. Visitors – No comments.
2. County and Borough Councillors – County Cllr. Whiting reported: Iwade Health Centre - met with a representative of Swale CCG who said things were, in his opinion, improving at Iwade Health Centre, with a reduction in complaints. This seems to tie in with Graham Pungenti's report to me that the IPPG had had a positive meeting with DMC. However, we must not get complacent, and work to ensure the long-term success of the centre and continued improvement.
Grants - I have agreed in principle to offer KCC Community Grants to help provide disabled access to The Iwade Barn, and for funds for the Iwade Cairn Project, a memorial to men from the village who dies in WW1. I look forward to receiving the formal applications.
Grovehurst Road – Confirmed that repairs to the drains and ditches to prevent further flooding in Grovehurst Road have been completed.

3. Community Warden/PCSO – The Community Warden reported that he checked fly tipping areas and advised Swale Borough Council of two incidents in Old Ferry Road and one in Sheppey Way. Spoke to Kent Police and Swale Borough Council's traffic team about works vans parking inappropriately in Sandgate Drive. Between 8:50 and 9:10 pm on 21 September, there was an attempted burglary in Bittern Road Iwade Sittingbourne. Gave advice to resident who found a large bunch of keys in his property. The PCSO advised of a fraud whereby a person is pretending to be the Police and targeting elderly residents. Nuisance motorbikes; he is monitoring the situation. Nuisance youths and cycles; this issue has been affecting Iwade recently, but the good news is that the Police now have an extra power to seize bikes but are awaiting clarification on using this.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. Iwade Medical Centre – PPG had a meeting with DMC; many questions asked but not had answers yet. There seems to have been an improvement. The Lead Doctor is leaving due to illness and awaiting to hear who is taking this post over. Planning a public meeting probably mid-November.
2. KFRS/KALC Fire Hydrant Initiative –

Clerk is still awaiting a response from Kent Fire Brigade; agreed to take off the Agenda and to see if Cllr. Dollimore can do anything. Action: Clerk
3. Cycling Clubs – Clerk to ask clubs for dates after the 14th November for a meeting. Action: Clerk
4. Mansfield Drive/Waterway Stream – Clerk to chase Swale Borough Council for a response to who owns what. Action: Clerk

Correspondence

1. DCLG Consultation - Planning for the right homes in the right places – Clerk to obtain a copy of the KALC draft response to see if it falls in line with the Parish Council's views, and then respond accordingly. Action: Clerk
2. Proposed diversion of part footpath ZU52 & extinguishment of part of footpath ZR92 at Iwade - no comments regarding the proposals.

Finance

1. Cairn for WW1 Memorial – Quote received for £10990. Proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Cheeseman, agreed £5000 towards this (possibly stretch to £6000), £1000 grant promised by County Cllr. Whiting and then to seek funding for the remainder from other sources. Action: Clerk

2. Grass cutting contract – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Plumb, all agreed to go with the quote of £700 to lower to 6 foot and trim each sides of an overgrown Blackthorn Shrub in Sheppey Way/Colson Drive. Clerk to arrange a meeting with KCC Officer, Robin Hadley, to look at two other areas of concern within the village. Action: Clerk

3. Completion of External Audit, year ending 31 March 2017 - Clerk advised that the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2017 has now been received and duly signed off by the External Auditors. She has posted the necessary.

4. Iwade Observer – Clerk to contact the Observer team to see if they are keen to carry on as at present or if they might now wish to consider an electronic version of the magazine. Action: Clerk

5. The Barn – Cllr. Hunt advised the Barn is running low on funds and has only £30 left out of the last donation from the Parish Council. They have managed to obtain a promise from Kemsley businesses of £500 but need funds for the flooring, getting the

doors finished and skirting. Proposed by Cllr. Cheeseman and seconded by Cllr. Hyde; all agreed that the Parish Council was minded to donate £3500.

Projects/Project Updates

Village Park – now installing footpaths and bridge; hoping for completion by the end of the month.

Pavilion and Field – Swale Borough Council taking over the field at the end of the week. New trees planted and weeds removed. Lease paperwork is still in the early stages.

Planters – going to infill the two new planters with some of the unwanted soil from Woodpecker Park. Window Tech have taken up the two small planters on Grovehurst Road and Ickles Pickles are still utilizing the large planter near the pumping station in School Lane.

Reports from Representatives

Hall – New front and side doors fitted and a new noticeboard. Events – Halloween Community Event (not party), Christmas Grotto. Had a couple of hirers mistreating the hall. Finances looking good.
KALC – Nothing to report.

Kemsley Fields Business Park Forum – Knauf have a planning application coming up to take Lorries off the road. The plasterboard unit at Countrystyle starts up this week; composting now completely gone from the site.

Any Other Matters Arising

The Chair advised of an article on a social media site stating that Neighbourhood Watch covers the entire village; this is not true. Residents can see the few roads covered by looking at www.ourwatch.org.uk

Christmas Lighting up Ceremony – Sunday 26 November 2017, 4.00 to 6.00 p.m.

DISCLAIMER

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy of the information in this newsletter, neither the printer, editor or distribution team can accept responsibility for any subsequent alterations, errors or mistakes in any material published herein. The views expressed in any articles are not necessarily the views of anyone involved in the production of this newsletter.

A short message from Duncan Dewar-Whalley, Swale Borough councillor for Iwade, Lower Halstow & Bobbing Ward.

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year and I recall as a child the wonderful atmosphere both at home and meeting friends whilst gazing at the shops and seeing the lights and displays. It is a time when we celebrate faith, family, and the tradition of giving gifts and sending greeting cards. Christmas greetings is an easy way to reach friends, family, and even old acquaintances who you may have lost touch with and thereby enhance the warmth and love of Christmas spirit. Mailing or emailing Christmas cards to your friends is a great way to show them you care and are thinking of them during this important time of year. Not of course forgetting to wish everyone a very healthy and wonderful New Year.

I take this opportunity to thank Iwade Parish Council and all those residents who given me advice and assistance in my work as a Borough Councillor over the past twelve months.

My very best wishes,
Duncan

Iwade Health walks

Now that GuyFawkes day is over...

It is time of course to wish is going a bit too far – and it is everybody Christmas nice to see less on our Greetings; to the walkers of perambulations. our group and to the good people of Iwade. We will be Sadly the roads around Iwade having a Christmas get are still targets for fly tippers, together on the 14th a blot on the landscape that December thanks to Molly, distracts from the often who has got the thing pleasant and pretty gardens organised. presented by residents. The Autumn is definitely a pretty

We have nothing one this year and so far we extraordinary planned but as have not had to resort to usual we will be walking in the staggering around the village rain and the snow and all that trying to stay dry. healthy! Right?

As the guy who leads the pathways and space in and the walks I am also the first one to around Woodpecker and the tread in the worst of the mud fourth regular walk that is and whatsit flopping around based around the park.

water and mud, or the cowpat Also a welcome to some new Tam 'o Shanter's on the walkers during the last few pastures but usually I can months and to the group avoid the dog droppings with a itself, thanks to those who hop and skip and a vocal help out and to Steff who runs warning to those behind me. the administration and tells us what to do (She's the boss).

Of late we have not had to negotiate much of said Whatever the weather walking deposits which is a good thing. is fun. Maybe more people are collecting the stuff – tanners used to want it but maybe that

James Apps

The Future of The Iwade Observer

The Iwade Observer is delivered free to households throughout Iwade, and is paid for by Iwade Parish Council. The editorial and production team (2 people) and the distribution team (more than 25 people) are all volunteers.

Each year the Parish Council has to look at and agree a budget for the forthcoming year, and as part of that process they have asked The Iwade Observer to conduct a survey to ascertain residents' views on The Iwade Observer and how it should be published. The survey is also available online:- <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DGH5CVP>

We would love as many residents as possible please to complete the short survey below, by December 31st, and hand it in to the Mews Brewhouse or The Pharmacy who have kindly offered to receive them on our behalf.

-
- 1) Do you receive a paper copy of The Iwade Observer?
Yes / No (please circle as appropriate)
- 2) If not, would you mind stating the road name in which you live?

- 3) Do you feel The Iwade Observer still has a role to play in communicating news and information within the village?
Yes / No
- 4) Are you happy with the range of contributions in The Observer?
Yes / No
- 5) Which type of contributions do you most value?
Please specify

- 6) What sort of contributions would you like to see?
Please specify

- 7) Would you prefer a paper copy or an online only version of The Iwade Observer?
Paper copy / Online only
- 8) Would you support the idea of a very limited print run that would be available for you to collect from a number of collection points within the village?
Yes / No
- Please add below any other comments you would like to contribute.
