



Photo by Emma Ansley

# Iwade Observer

**We've a bit of a change in this month's Observer.**

**Thankyou to Antony Hayes who is continuing to print for us but now at [www.optical-illusions.co.uk](http://www.optical-illusions.co.uk)**

**June 2011**

## Prettiest Garden Competition

It has been decided to change the 'Prettiest Street Competition' to 'Prettiest Garden Competition' to make judging easier. If you would like your front garden to be included in the competition or if you would like to nominate a friend or neighbour's garden then contact Lynda Fisher, the Iwade Parish Clerk, on 477015 or [iwadepc@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:iwadepc@blueyonder.co.uk) by Friday the 24th June. Judging will

be in July when Swale Borough Councillor for Iwade, Ben Stokes, will be coming around to look at the residents' gardens who have registered their interest. First prize will be £50 in gardening vouchers, second prize £25 and third £15.

**Good Luck!**

## An Invitation

The year 6 pupils of Iwade Community Primary School would like to invite the senior members of the community to join them for afternoon tea on the 29th June 2011 at 1.45pm. The afternoon will consist of delicious food and exciting entertainment – all supplied by the children! So friends, grandparents and villagers, put the date in your diary; we look forward to seeing you there!

## Iwade Village Cleanup

Following five very successful Village Clean Up Days the sixth year is now booked and the date set for Saturday 11th June 2011.

Iwade is unique in organising a yearly event to keep the village tidy. Although some of these jobs are the responsibility of SBC, Iwade Parish Council take pride in keeping Iwade clean and tidy and every year encourage residents to pop along for an hour or so to help out. Your Parish Councillors also get involved painting bollards, litter picking in play areas and cutting hedges! Please meet at the Village Hall on Saturday 11th June 2011 from 9am till midday, refreshments and biscuits will be available supplied by Iwade Parish Council. Litter pickers, gloves, black sacks will also be provided.

So why not come along, meet your neighbours and make a huge difference to where you live.

Hog roast Games Bouncy Castle Refreshments Family fun

Admission Adults £2.50 Children Free

**Iwade Summer Fayre**  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July  
Iwade Village Hall  
12 - 6pm

With live music featuring  
The Kulpitts, Near Miss, Miss Charlie Monroe And many more...

Live music - Face painting - Raffle - and much more...



**Tinkerbells are now on Facebook!**  
Check them out:

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)  
and search 'Tinkerbells Nursery'

**Iwadeinflatables.com**

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## Editor's Note

**You may have noticed a bit of a change this month as our internal pages are all black and white.**

**Antony who does our printing has moved companies but is kindly continuing to print for us - Thank you Antony.**

**After asking for more photos the last time I edited the Iwade Observer I have been inundated with them this month.**

**With lots of content to fit in I've not been able to publish them all. Thank you to all those that have sent them and we will keep them in the Iwade Observer photo bank for use in the future.**

*James Hunt*

## iwadevillage.co.uk Gets A Facelift

*By Nicola McKenzie*

As I write I am frantically redesigning and rewriting the well-thumbed Iwade website ready for its sixth birthday on 1st June 2011. It was something I created in 2005 to get me back into work after having children and I've really enjoyed running it and still do. I try to keep it up-to-date as much as possible and provide useful information but a redesign is well overdue because as I suspected it's a big project! Hopefully as you read this if it's 1st June 2011 or thereafter, you'll find iwadevillage.co.uk looks fresh and contemporary which is only fitting for a modern community like ourselves! Not only will it look better it should hopefully provide more comprehensive information including an extensive contacts database. If you're online and are not one of iwadevillage.co.uk's regular visitors why not take a look and see what you're missing.

Until the end of June you can subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter and be entered in a £50 cash prize draw which will be drawn at a launch party in July in the Woolpack, date to be confirmed but open to everyone. Email [enewsletter@iwadevillage.co.uk](mailto:enewsletter@iwadevillage.co.uk) to subscribe to the newsletter or enter your details at [iwadevillage.co.uk](http://iwadevillage.co.uk) if you haven't already (look out for the green £ sign). Only one entry per email address will be entered into the prize draw!

I'd just like to thank the six residents that came to the iwadevillage.co.uk focus group here at Mansfield Drive in March. Their input was more useful than I could have hoped for and it was a very worthwhile exercise. If you do nothing else today visit

[www.iwadevillage.co.uk](http://www.iwadevillage.co.uk)

## Allotment Update

If you've been over to the allotments lately you'd have seen that things are really getting under way now. Swale Borough Council have passed the planning permission for the sheds and car park and Southern Water will soon be connecting the much needed water thanks to a grant from Iwade Parish Council. The Iwade Allotment Association are trying to raise the money to get the car park surfaced but this will take a little bit of time due to the cost that will be incurred. They would like to point out that until the car park is finished plot holders SHOULD NOT park in the access road to the allotments or the surrounding roads except for dropping off heavy items. Please be considerate to the neighbouring houses.

## Disclaimer

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## J's Sales and Lettings

J's Lettings are now J's Sales and Lettings and, since our opening last October, we have had great success. We have a friendly, down to earth approach together with being the only independent agent in the village. Our portfolio is growing reflecting our experience of over 30 years in the property industry. Jane, Debbie and Sam invite you to be part of our success. Call us now for a no obligation market appraisal on 01795 883212. *Ed's note: Apologies to J's sales and lettings for which we got last month's advert wrong.*



# **IWADE NEEDS YOU!!**

## **SAY NO TO MORE HOUSING**

*By Joan Exley*

Fellow residents, now is the time to protect our village from the large building companies who want to inundate our village with a continuous building programme changing our village into an urban sprawl. Both Wards and Barratts have identified Iwade as a target for more housing for many years to come.

A short while ago interested parties in Swale were able to respond to "Pick your own" options for the future development of the area and I hope you responded. If you did not, you can still make your voice heard. You can also read the comments made at [http://swale-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/pick your own](http://swale-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/pick%20your%20own)

I would like to draw your attention to the response from Barratts who, given their way, want to build and build in Iwade. Some of the reasons they give are:

Iwade's improved infrastructure. Have they tried using the A249 or even getting in and out of Sittingbourne? The only new roads in Iwade are residential roads. Look at the problems on School Lane! What will it be like when the new (400) houses that are just being started are actually completed!

The many new facilities. Sorry, but I must have missed those. Do they mean the local supermarket, the chemist and the hairdressers? Ideal for a village, albeit an increasingly large one, but not an urban sprawl.

The need for workers for the new industrial companies at Ridham Docks. According to our MP, Gordon Henderson, we already have 3,000 unemployed in the area. Look at the speech Gordon Henderson gave to the House on the 5th May. It makes for interesting reading and deals with the traffic problem. The one that did not exist when planning permission was given for the increase in waste to Countrystyle and the new incinerator for Regis paper mill.

Barratts are not interested in our village as a community, or our lifestyle, but are only concerned with making more money.

If you want to protect the future of your village, now is the time to act BEFORE decisions are made at Swale. What to do.

Contact your Ward Councillor, Ben Stokes: 476979

Ring or write to: Mr Alan Best at Swale Borough Council. East Street, ME10 3HT. Tel: 417344. Email Mr Best: [alanbest@swale.gov.uk](mailto:alanbest@swale.gov.uk)

Lobby your MP Gordon Henderson: [gordon.henderson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:gordon.henderson.mp@parliament.uk)

Contact your County Councillors, Mike Whiting and Alan Willicombe: [mike.whiting@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mike.whiting@kent.gov.uk) / [alan.willicombe@kent.gov.uk](mailto:alan.willicombe@kent.gov.uk)

Your Parish Councillors are fighting against further building but they do need the support of residents. We must not be complacent and leave it to others, each one of us must find a few minutes to make our voice heard loud and clear. Perhaps we need even more action, placards, a march on Swale, and follow in the footsteps of our neighbours, Bapchild. I'm willing! They are certainly being listened to because they have rallied together. Let us show them that the residents of Iwade do care and that enough is enough. This threat will not go away unless we make it, so act NOW.

## **Swale Council election for Iwade and Lower Halstow**

*By Janet Gregory*

I would like to say a big thank you to those who helped me during the run up to the election, and also to everyone who voted for me.

Although I was not elected to be your representative on Swale Borough Council, I will of course continue working for the benefit of our village on Iwade parish council and in the various Iwade village groups.

# Dates for the Diary

All new [IwadeVillage.co.uk](http://IwadeVillage.co.uk) go-live Wednesday 1st June 10am at a computer near you!

**Holy Communion** Sunday 4th June 10.30am All Saint's Church Iwade

**Iwade Village Market** Sunday 5th June 10am to 1pm Iwade Village Hall

**Family Service** Sunday 6th June 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade

**Parish Council Meeting** Wednesday 8th June 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall

**Mobile Library** Thursday 9th June 11.15am to 11.25am Sheerstone (Springvale end)

**Church Open Day** Saturday 11th June 10am - 2pm

**Annual Village Cleanup** Saturday 11th June 9am - Meet at the Village Hall

**Family Communion** 12th June 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade

**W.I Meeting** Wednesday 15th June 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall

**Allotment and Gardening Club** Thursday 16th June contact Ann Menzies on 599755 for venue

**Holy Communion** Sunday 19th June 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade

**Mobile Library** Thursday 23rd June 11.15am to 11.25am Sheerstone (Springvale end)

**Prettiest Garden Competition** (Closing Date) Friday 24th June

**Flower Festival** Saturday 25th June 10am - 5pm All Saints Church Iwade

**Family Service** Sunday 26th June 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade

**Flower Festival** 26th and 27th June 12pm - 5pm All Saints Church Iwade

**Afternoon Tea** for the Senior members of the Community Wednesday 29th June 1.45pm Iwade School

**Open Air Band Concert** Saturday 2nd July 7pm All Saints Church Iwade

## Strawberry Tea

Saturday 9th July at 2pm

To be held in the garden of 21 Sheerstone

Run by Connie Kilby and friends in aid of All Saints Church

Table tops available for £5 to raise funds for your charity / club

Ring 471932 to book

## Your County Councillor Update By Mike Whiting

### YOUTH CLUB

I was delighted to have been invited to visit the Iwade Youth Club recently. Carol and Colin, with their little army of volunteers, are doing a great job. The young people I spoke to really value the club, which meets fortnightly at the Village Hall. I am making a grant from my Kent County Council Community Funds to assist the club with running costs and equipment, and I hope that the whole community can support this very valuable service. I can only congratulate Carol and the team on their hard work and dedication.

### ALLOTMENTS

Talking of grants, I have agreed to a request for funding from the Allotments group. I know they have a few things still to sort out in respect of the work they are doing, but I really hope that these can be ironed out to everyone's satisfaction and that the allotments project gets underway as soon as possible. Projects like this are really worthwhile in that they help bring the community in Iwade together.

### WELL DONE!

Finally, well done to everyone who stood for election on 5 May, and congratulations to those



who won; Janet Gregory, James Hunt, Amanda Hurrell, Anne Menzies, Stephen Plumb, John White and Robert Phillips on Iwade Parish Council, and Ben Stokes for Swale Borough Council. I understand that there may still be a place vacant on Iwade Parish Council. If you are interested in being considered for co-option then contact the Parish Clerk.

# Iwade W.I

7.30pm every third Wednesday of the month - Contact Hilary, 01795 474686 or [hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk)

Our meeting on 18 May was for the opportunity to discuss and vote on the following 2 Resolutions to be taken forward to the Annual General Meeting in Liverpool: *This meeting urges HM Government to maintain support for local libraries as an essential local educational and information resource. This meeting abhors the practice of factory farming particularly large animals such as pigs and cows and urges HM Government to ensure that planning permission is not guaranteed for such projects.*

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 15 June in the village hall. We have local historian Alan Abbey coming to give us a talk entitled "The Great Plague in Sittingbourne". We start the evening with half an hour to discuss any outstanding business, consider trips and outings etc, followed by our speaker for approx 45 minutes and ending with tea and biscuits during our social time. There is a Flower of the Month competition that evening as well as a raffle. It's a very pleasant way to spend a couple of hours in the evening.

We're hoping for a good turn out of members as well as good weather at the fund raising coffee morning on Saturday 18 June. Our Luncheon Club enjoyed their meal at The Three Tuns in May and is looking forward to 22 June when Harty Ferry is the destination.

A few members from Iwade WI are participating in a trip on 20 June organised by the East Kent Federation Office in Canterbury to view the Olympic Stadium. The trip has oversubscribed and another is now being organised in October for those of our members who were unlucky with the ballot for tickets.

We are all also looking forward to and planning for the Top Team Quiz which Iwade is hosting in the village hall on Wednesday 29 June. This is unfortunately not open to the general public but is a competition between the Womens' Institutes in the Newington Group, comprising WIs Abbey, Bobbing, Minster in Sheppey, Holm & Danley, Newington, Iwade, Upchurch and Warden with Leysdown. Each of the 8 WIs will be represented by a table of 4 of their members. Similar quizzes are being held in other

Groups and the winning teams meet later in the summer to thrash it out to come up with a winning team.

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



**Iwade W.I at the Iwade Easter Fayre**



## Celebration Time!!

Above: At the Iwade Easter Fayre  
Right: Royal Wedding Celebrations

## Well Done!!

Right and Below  
Right: Claire Bird,  
Nicola McKenzie and  
Tara Kent at the East  
Grinstead Triathlon



# Churchwarden's Notes By Sylvia O'Shea



I'm so thankful that God made the seasons. He decided that the long summer days were to be warm. There always seems to be so much to do outdoors, and it is a real pleasure to do them in the warmth of a sunny day.

Aren't the gardens looking lovely? Thanks to everyone that makes the village such a lovely place to be.

Over the weekend of June 25th – 27th, your church is holding its bi-annual Flower Festival and all organisations have been asked to have a display showing just what Iwade means to them. Promises to be quite colourful.

Do come along over the three days to see the displays and share a cup of tea with a friend. Church will be open 10am – 5pm Saturday 25th June and 12 – 5pm Sunday and Monday, 26th / 27th. We are expecting a party from Age Concern, Sittingbourne, to join us on the Monday at 2pm too.

The following week on July 2nd at 7pm, will see the return of the U.K. PAPER BAND for the OPEN AIR

**BAND CONCERT.** This is a popular event when we bring our own chairs (or rugs) and gather in the churchyard to hear the band play superb music. Tickets are £5 (concessions £3.50) and includes light refreshments at interval.

You can obtain tickets from Sylvia O'Shea on 01795 478103 or just come along on the evening and join us for a fun time. We will be in the church if weather unkind.

Family Services are now led by Stephen Plumb, the Church Army Missioner and are quite lively, with music on their guitars from Steven, Mark and Colin.

Something for all ages and tastes. Come and try us. 4th Sunday of each month at 10.30am.

## A THOUGHT TO SHARE.....

You cannot tell what this day will bring, of happiness or sorrow - But live it and anticipate, a beautiful tomorrow.....

Let no fears your heart dismay - something good will come your way.



## Photos

Left: Ethan and Georgia Kent walking along The Street on the Good Friday walk of witness

Below: Ethan carrying the cross into church (Georgia had probably given up)



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# Parish Council Notes

*Taken from the meeting held on the 9th March 2011*

## Parishioner/ Public Time

**Andy Sibley and Dan Beeson** – Countrystyle Group – The Chairman introduced the two gentlemen, who gave a brief outline of the recycling processes at the Ridham Dock site. They referred to the odour problems, due to the food waste process, and advised that they wanted the local community to contact them and report incidents. Clerk advised that the Group's contact number is now on the village website.

**Parishioners** – A representative from the Youth Club introduced two members who had put together a proposal for a skateboard park in the village. They outlined the details and the need for youths to have facilities within the village. They have been approached by Wards Homes, who are willing to provide funding towards it. Members queried on-going costs for maintenance and suggested the initial funding could possibly be raised through K.C.C. schemes.

A parishioner queried why a buffer zone (normally provided in advance of the development) is not shown on the plans for the Coleshall/School Lane development. Clerk to raise this with Swale Borough Council's Planning Section.

## **Swale Borough Council Election Results**

Thankyou to those of you that voted on May 5th. Iwade had a 44.9% turnout.

The results are as follows:

Conservative	712
Labour	509
UKIP	77
Lib Dem	56

**Temp. Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO** – Warden's report was circulated and noted by Members. PCSO did not attend.

## Finance

**Bus Shelter** – Clerk reported Haymac do not have the necessary highway licence to install the bus shelter. She has now contacted Mike Knowles, at Swale Borough Council, to see if he can assist.

**Training Day** – David Bucket's fee for financial training for Members will be £150 – agreed.

**Skateboard Park** – The Parish Council supports the idea and will make inquiries as to how the project can proceed, e.g. through Swale Borough Council.

**Prettiest Street in the Village** – Cllrs. Hyde and Hurrell be asked to put forward ideas for this; with judging taking place in June.

**Village Clean up Day** – to take place on 11th June, 2011

**CPRE Subscription 2011** - Agreed to renew the subscription, at a cost of £29.

## Risk Assessments

Clerk to highlight areas already accomplished and issue further copies to Members. Clerk is also in the process of discussing risk assessment forms with Cllr. Hurrell.

## Village Hall Update

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee advised that the matter was progressing and a meeting has been arranged with the developers on the 17th March.

## Correspondence

**Appointment of Auditor** – noted appointment of new Audit Commission Auditor, Jackie Bellard.

**Rural Housing Strategy** – noted.

## Cheques raised at this meeting

09.03.11 Hilary Foulds (Iwade WI) £177.00p

09.03.11 Iwade Village Hall £157.50p

09.03.11 Iwade Village Hall £630.00p

09.03.11 K.A.L.C. £216.00p

09.03.11 Swale Mediation Service £50.00p

09.03.11 L. Fisher £335.92p

09.03.11 Inland Revenue £84.00p

09.03.11 J. Gregory £25.00p

09.03.11 H.M. Revenue & Customs £1791.42p

09.03.11 Steve Wakeling £235.05p

09.03.11 Stiddard £12.00p

Eleven cheques in total

## Planning

SW/11/0114 – Single Storey rear extension, 2 Greenshanks, Iwade – no objection

**The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday 8th June 2011, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.**



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