

Warm Days and Cold Winds

Iwade Health Walks By James Apps

We note that February seems to be posing as March roaring like a lion with days that are more like early Spring. Yet, to suggest walking across the fields on some days elicits cries of "no mud please!" A cry from the heart for those who struggle across the fields hoping for easier going, but when the day comes warm and balmy (6th Feb) the group was able to walk the Chetney Marshes route and enjoy a fine day. Odd weather.



This time of the year we expect some seasonal growth yet to see Blackthorn blossom already out at the beginning of the month and crocuses popping up before even the snowdrops are finished is more, late February, or early March.

And then we get some vicious storms, floods, strong winds, rain and clear days with cold winds. There are the usual reports of flying wheelie-bins, but this time

trampolines and gazebos were on the move - it must be the migration urge that does it.

The difficulty is choosing where to walk in such unpredictable weather with choices limited to roads and hard surfaces when the weather is wet, but tempted to dive off into the pastures when the sun shines. However, with the current regime of walk leaders taking turns to lead we at least reach a consensus.

Anyhow, the contrast is good for the soul,

but let us hope we don't get another Beast from the East - I would settle for the present weather.

The contrast being a venture into the Orchard walk and a section resembling a paddy-field and the walk across the top of Raspberry Hill.

Fancy a weekly walk with a sociable group? We meet every Thursday at 10:30 for a 10:45 start outside the pharmacy in the square. We'd love to see you.



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Men's Breakfast Club By Ron Francis

The Men's Breakfast Club held its Latest meeting on February 4th and with Valentine's Day looming we had been offered the chance to make greetings cards specially for the occasion. So, with just a little trepidation we went about the task with gusto and enthusiasm. Hilary Foulds, an independent local expert, brought sack loads of both equipment and patience to help us. After just an hour or so we were all very pleased with our results and I have to say this was one of our quietest meetings, indicating the level of concentration required! On occasion, you could hear the proverbial pin drop! Our next meeting will be held at The Barn on 3rd March when one of our members will give a talk on his experiences as a glider pilot, and erstwhile "Spitfire pilot" (well he tried the simulator at Manston Spitfire and Hurricane Museum once, along with his wingman who prefers to remain anonymous!)



March 2020

The Iwade Observer

Iwade Toddler Group needs your support!

By Louise Wade

Despite our best efforts, numbers have been dwindling recently, which unfortunately doesn't make it financially viable with hall fees, craft supplies, refreshments etc. We'd hate to have to close as it's a great place to meet other parents as well as for the children to play together, so please support us if you can! The Toddler Group is run by volunteers so we always appreciate any help with getting the toys out and tidying away!

If you haven't been before, we meet every Tuesday in term time, 9 - 11am in the Village Hall (no need to get there for 9, feel free to drop in when you can!). It costs £2 plus 50p for additional siblings, which includes tea/coffee for the adults plus a biscuit and squash for the children.

We have lots of toys for the children to play with and explore, including a baby area for the younger ones, so they're never too young to join us! We also have a craft table where the children can make something each week if they want to, even the babies can take part too by doing hand and footprints.

We have a Facebook page, just search for Iwade Parent & Toddler group to find out more.



All Saints' Church, Iwade March Services

Sunday 1st March
Joint Benefice Service 10am
at Newington Church

Sunday 8th March
Communion Service 10.45
at All Saints Church.
Families welcome

Sunday 15th March
Family friendly Service
10.45 at All Saints Church

Sunday 22nd March
Mothering Sunday. 10.45
at All Saints Church. A
special service for all the
family

Sunday 29th March
Family friendly Service
10.45 at All Saints Church



**Newly qualified physicists have a think!
Iwade Brownies**

By Kerry Holman

We have finished our Physicist Badge! We have done a whole load of fun science – exploding rockets, making lava lamps and hovercraft to name a few, as well as lots of experimenting! By the time you read this we will have celebrated Thinking Day with many other Brownies in the local area too – always a noisy event but great fun. In the coming weeks, we will be doing a mixture of fun things – some are a surprise! Every term we give the leaders a list of things we would like to do and they then try their best to accommodate them. That said, the number one thing this term we wanted to try was sky-diving. Somehow I don't think we will be doing that anytime soon! We have given them lots of other exciting ideas though so watch this space...

Did you know we also have a Rainbow unit in Iwade? This is for younger girls (aged 5-7) and they currently have a few spaces! They meet at the village hall on a Monday from 4.30-5.40pm. You can register your interest by visiting www.girguiding.org.uk and go to the Information for Parents page. Why not give it a go?



SWALE VOLUNTEER TRANSPORT SCHEME
TEL. 01795 426647
Open Monday - Friday
9.30am to 2.30pm

Registered Charity Number 1179734

Swale Volunteer Transport Scheme

Are you elderly, infirm or disabled? Do you have difficulty using public transport?

Maybe the Swale Volunteer Transport Scheme could help. They exist to provide transport that enables you to attend essential appointments such as doctors, dentists and hospitals.

The service is run by volunteers, both the drivers and the person who will take your booking.

The driver will wait for you at your appointment for a reasonable time (up to two hours), and there is usually room in the car for a friend or family member to accompany you. If you need to use a wheelchair or other equipment let them know when you book. The current charge is 45p per mile (minimum of £4.50) plus a £1 admin fee per trip. You would need to give 7 days' notice when booking a journey and at least 24 hours if you needed to cancel.

To find out more information call 01795 426647 – between 9:30am and 2:30pm

FASHION SHOW

Ticket Price £7.00 Must be bought in advance

An exciting evening of fashion & fun hosted by Travelling Trends

A ladies night out with a difference! As well as a live CATWALK SHOW, there is ample time to try on & buy this season's High Street & Branded fashions. All at bargain prices!!

Saturday 7th March
Doors open 7.00, for 7.30 start

Iwade Village Hall

For tickets - email us at vlm2020divas@gmail.com

Emma, Brini and Kelly are running the London Marathon, and need to raise £6k between them. All proceeds will be split between their charities.

Partners: Sparks, vicia, We Accept All Major Credit Cards

www.travellingtrends.com

Iwade @ The Barn

The Barn continues to be widely used and has become an indispensable community asset used by a large number of community groups each month, as well as for private functions.



**Monday Friendship Group
By Sylvia Francis**

On Monday 20th January. The friendship group resumed for the New Year. It started very well with our talented village crafter Hilary demonstrating pebble painting and creating pictures on pebbles. This was very well received by all., and even gents in our ranks knuckled down and produced some great work! Great fun.



At our next meeting on February 3rd we were delighted to welcome Ian Lancaster, our very own Iwadianbard who entertained us with a selection of his humorous and sometimes poignant poetry. Ian read 6 or 7 of his poems which showed great skill in human observation and often ended with a hilarious twist in the tail.

We meet every other Monday, in the Barn, from 10:15 until about midday, so if you'd like to come along and meet your fellow villagers why not give it a try. March meetings are 2nd, 16th, and 30th.

The Shepherd's Crook is going from strength to strength, providing villagers with Iwade's first Micro-Pub. The third Saturday of the month, monthly pop-up was buzzing on its last opening on 15th Feb and we were joined by Iwade caterers, Try-Taste-Love who laid on some fab food; we can confirm that we Tried – Tasted and

absolutely Loved their fare, a perfect accompaniment to the craft ales on offer. Don't forget: the next Shepherd's Crook Pop-Up micro-pub at the Barn will be on March 21st. The photo shows a busy scene at The Shepherd's Crook – February 15th.

A date for your diary. The Barn is holding Iwade's first Community Day on May 3rd. Come along and see what is on offer in Iwade and what makes it such a great place to live. There are literally dozens of community groups and volunteer lead organisations in Iwade ranging from The Barn itself, to Run Iwade, Brownies, Reading Group, etc, etc. We have invited all of these groups to come along and show what they are about to the villagers of Iwade. Make sure you get along and find out what a coherent and vibrant community we all live in.

If you run one of the very many groups in Iwade make sure you are there, and if you haven't already been in touch send us an email to:- trustees@iwadebarn.org.uk

We have a number of other events in the early stages of investigation and planning – watch out for news of these over the coming months.

USEFUL CONTACTS

PCSO	lee.fennell@kent.pnn.police.uk (Lee Fennell)
Village Warden	07969 584184 adam.mckinley2@kent.gov.uk (Adam McKinley)
Borough Cllr Roger Clark	01795 430324 / 07818607421 rogerclark@swale.gov.uk
Borough Cllr Corrie Woodford	corriewoodford@swale.gov.uk
County Cllr Mike Whiting	mike.whiting@kent.gov.uk
Parish Clerk	01795 477015 Clerk@iwade-pc.gov.uk (Lynda Fisher)
MP Gordon Henderson	01795 423199 gordon.henderson.mp@parliament.uk
Iwade Village Hall	07724 862744 secretary@iwadevillagehall.co.uk
Iwade Barn	iwadebarn@outlook.com
Iwade School	01795 472578
Iwade Health Centre	01795 413100 iwade.hc@nhs.net
Iwade Patient Participation Group	iwadeppg@outlook.com
Iwade Pharmacy	01795 439368
The Woolpack	01795 472656
Mews Brewhouse	01795 426520
Church Wardens	07817 250705 (Nigel Downes) 01795 437206 (Pamela Homer)
Tinkerbells Nursery	07592 544285 enquiries@tinkerbellspre-school.co.uk
Happy Days Nursery	01795 424348
Ickle Pickles Nursery	01795 474551 info@icklepicklesnursery.co.uk
Iwade Garage	01795 438988

Iwade Youth Group	07917741040 (Phillip Harrison) abi@brogdalecic.co.uk (Abi Pearson)
Brownies	07762 770818 Whiskin@hotmail.com (Fiona Whiskin)
Rainbows	susanthomas2609@hotmail.co.uk (Susan Thomas)
Beavers	07780 975444 kcroucher76@hotmail.com (Kelly Croucher)
Scouts	ccroucher73@hotmail.co.uk (Colin Croucher)
Cubs	akela.iwadescoutgroup@outlook.com
Iwade Herons FC	07740 312073 secretary@iwadeheronsfc.com (Justin Hodge)
Iwade Herons Development Squad	07921 151974 development@iwadeheronsfc.com (Keith Reynolds)
Health Walks	catperson46@gmail.com (James Apps)
Iwade WI	chrisfreshwater@btinternet.com (Christine Freshwater)
Milton Hundred Wargames	miltonhundredwargamesclub@gmail.com
Model Flying Club	07973 938171 pfiwade@blueyonder.co.uk
Iwade Reading Group	01795 474656 (Hilary)
Tennis at Milton	01795 473422 (David) stc.dubsec@gmail.com
Meadowcroft Residents Association	01795 423199 jess.mcmahon@parliament.uk (Jess McMahon)
Scrap Metal Collection	07936 775 777 (Shaun)
Iwade Allotment Association	01795 421945 mquade@yaho.co.uk (Christine McQuade)
Swale Wildlife Rescue	07877 280348 (8am to 8pm)
Neighbourhood Watch	(Terry Wiles) Facebook search: "Neighbourhood Watch. Iwade Village"
The Observer	01795 436027 (Rynn) the.iwade.observer@gmail.com

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the works thy hand has made.
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.*

*Then sings my soul, my saviour God to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art;
Then sings my soul, my saviour God to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

As I write we are coming to the end of the Storm Ciara, which brought us significant wind and rain, and significant challenges in terms of storm damage and flooding in many parts of the country. Today is still and sunny, with more than a hint of spring in the air. And how much more can we appreciate the beauty of such a day when we contrast it with the buffeting we have received from the weather?

Snowdrops have been in bloom for a couple of weeks, and narcissi and other early spring flowers brighten up our gardens and roadsides. Catkins are dancing in the breeze – I remember learning as a child that they were called lambs' tails, and comparing them with the tails of the lambs in the fields in the spring. And a close look at bushes and trees shows how much is just waiting to burst out as the weather gets warmer and the days longer. How amazing is creation!

From the massive scale of skies and oceans, to the delicate beauty of a violet nestling in the grass, the awe and wonder that can be inspired in us is life-giving. But how often do we stop and just allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by it all? It's too easy to fill our days with busyness and activity; our culture pretty much requires us to be always on the move, filling every moment.

God's way is different. He requires us to take time out, to rest. Sabbath. After all, even God took a break after creating all this magnificence and beauty! And science is catching up, with research showing the very real benefits to health and well-being of taking time out to enjoy the natural world.

When did you last stop and just look? I know it's something I try to make myself do at least once a day.

The glory of a sunset, with the colours shifting and changing. Clouds scudding across the sky. Daffodils dancing in the breeze; that beautiful splash of gold, even on a gloomy day. Fresh new leaves unfurling from tight little buds on trees and bushes, every one unique. How many shades of green can there be? And the song of the birds at this time of year, as they compete for partners and build nests.

God has given us a beautiful creation, and perhaps if we spend a little more time enjoying it, we will be more inclined to be the good stewards we need to be.

Wishing you blessings and joy in God's creation
Amanda Lane

ICE By Kelvin River-Simpson

Dear All,
Iwade Community Entertainers, ICE, has arranged a Craft Bonanza for children aged 6 to 12 years old where they can make up to four different projects. These projects will include Stone Decoration, Card Making (Easter or Mother's Day), Box Making and one other.

It will be held in All Saints' Church at £3 per child including refreshments on the 21st March 2020 from 10:30 am until 1:30 pm.

There will be DBS accredited holders present throughout the day. Please could you contact Brenda at brendanash1@icloud.com to secure a place.

You will be contacted 2 weeks before the event for the collection of the money.

As places are limited please email as soon as you can.

ICE is planning another Pantomime for January 2021 and would like to meet both adults and children who would like to take part or help with the production, ICE is a local community group aiming to bring some fun to both adults and children in and around Iwade, we have already donated monies to the village church and Barn and have agreed a further donation to the Barn for tables.

Please watch out for future events.

LEGO CLUB

Come and meet other families whilst building with Lego and Duplo

Iwade Barn
16.00 - 17:30
£3 per family
Ages 5-12 years

Thursday

12th & 26th Mar
23rd Apr

Booking is essential -
abi@brogdalecic.co.uk



Ed's Note

Shocking to read of the amount of time lost to missed appointments at Iwade Health Centre. In just one month, February, over 15 hours of appointments to see health care professionals was simply lost because nobody turned up! I know you've already read that information elsewhere in this month's Observer but it seems such a massive waste!!

On a brighter note, it never ceases to amaze at how much goes on in Iwade. This month we have reports, information and opportunities highlighted by over 15 organisations in the village. The Barn are holding a Community Day on May 3rd to give every organisation (non-commercial) a chance to put themselves in front of the people of Iwade to show what a great place this is to live and what an amazing range of things there are to get involved in.

Once again huge thanks to our distributors who continue to battle the likes of Ciara and Dennis, and whatever Storm E... will be called, to get your Observer to you.

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IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Wednesday 8 January 2020

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Langham and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 11 December 2019 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Proposed by Cllr. Cheeseman and seconded by Cllr. Langham, the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 11 December 2019 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Visitors/Public Time

Community Warden/PCSO

The Community Warden reported - have met with PCSO Lee Fennel and had updates from youth engagement officer. Am going to meet with New House youth centre in next couple of weeks to look at their program and to discuss travel for young people from Iwade on Monday evenings.

The PCSO reported – nuisance vehicles in Ridham Dock area, specials helping with an operation. Shed broken into in Sheerstone. Nuisance youths, names mentioned to the Youth Engagement Officer. Vehicle Damaged in Chalkhill Close. Tools stolen from Peach Blossom Drive. Youths entered a building site, no damage caused.

Arising from the Minutes

- 1. Drains, School Lane** – Clerk to chase KCC again. Action: Clerk
- 2. New Councillor** – Has been advertised, no-one came forward. Can now invite candidates onto the Council. Councillors to make recommendations. Action All Councillors
- 3. School Entrance** – School will be putting a sign inside gates. Community Warden speaking to KCC regarding one outside the gate.
- 4. 20 mph Zone** – Agreed to go ahead and take up County Cllr. Whiting's offer to pay

for two speed surveys. Clerk to ask where the 'tubes' will be placed. Action: Clerk

Planning

- 1. 19/505921/FULL:** 3 Shelduck Close Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8WH: Erection of a single storey side extension - dealt with at previous meeting.
- 2. 19/506000/FULL:** 11 Colson Drive Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8TT: Demolition of existing Conservatory. Erection of single storey rear extension – no comments.

Correspondence

- 1. Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30** – Agreed Councillors to go through document and send comments to Clerk, who will collate a response. Action: All Councillors/Clerk
- 2. Draft Swale Heritage Strategy 2020-2032 and initial 3-year Action Plan:** Public Consultation – Agreed Councillors to go through document and send comments to Clerk, who will collate a response. Action: All Councillors/Clerk

8. Finance

- 1. Budget and Precept 2020/21** – Proposed by Cllr Lancashire and seconded by Cllr Whiting; agreed a budget of £68,595 and agreed no increase in the 2020/2021 Precept. Action: Clerk
- 2. Websites** – Clerk has written to Schools, awaiting responses. Noted submission of one quote but as per Financial Regulations needs to obtain two further quotes. Action: Clerk
- 3. Financial Regulations** – Proposed by Cllr Langham and seconded by Cllr. Trower, agreed to accept the updated Financial Regulations, 2019.
- 4. AVG Renewal** – Proposed by Cllr. Trower and seconded by Cllr. Whiting, agreed a maximum of £100 on the renewal, 50% to be paid by Bobbing Parish Council. Action: Clerk
- 5. Web Accessibility Regulations Workshop, 20 January 2020** – Proposed by

Cllr. Whiting and seconded by Cllr. Trower, agreed Cllr. Langham and Clerk (50% of Clerk's to be paid by Bobbing Parish Council) attend at a cost of £72 each.

Action: Cllr. Langham/Clerk
6. Snow Machine – Bring back to February meeting. Action: Clerk

9. Projects/Project Updates

- 1. Festive Lights** – Clerk to request a quote from the firm used for 2019. Lights to go from the Flagpole up to the Medical Centre, those beyond have not yet been adopted by KCC. Action: Clerk
- 2. New Projects 2020/21** – Agreed to look at replanting lost/planting new trees. Councillors to let Clerk have details of possible locations. Action: All Councillors/Clerk

To look at installing a Village Sign on the Gateway entrance, Sheppey Way (Sanderling Road end).

To consider taking part in Kent's Plan Bee – An Introduction to the County Council's Pollinator Action Plan.

10. Reports from Representatives

Hall – The Christmas Grotto was a success; there is a charity quiz night on the 29 February. Finances are good.

The next meeting will be in The Village Hall on Wednesday 11th March.

This is an abridged version of the minutes – the full version can be found at iwadevillage.co.uk, see tab "Council and Government")

Iwade Patient Participation Group

Fifteen and a half hours wasted!!!

At the February PPG management meeting for Iwade Health Centre the Practice Manager Kirsty Baker gave the following figures for missed pre-booked appointments in January.

Dr. Tanner	21 missed	3hrs.30mins lost
Advance Nurse Practitioner	10 missed	1hr.40mins lost
Practice Nurse	19 missed	3hrs.10mins lost
Pharmacist	1 missed	15mins lost
Mental Health Nurse	11 missed	5hrs. 5mins lost
Health Care Assistant	11 missed	1hr.50mins lost

This is not a good start to 2020! Again, we have patients who are booking appointments and just not turning up, some are even on the same day! Let us stop this stupidity and give our Doctors and Clinical staff respect by attending appointments. They are there to help you.

REMEMBER - THOSE PEOPLE WHO JUST DID NOT BOTHER TO TURN UP STOPPED SOMEONE ELSE GETTING AN APPOINTMENT!

Kind Regards

Graham Pungenti – Chair Iwade PPG

Note: You can contact the PPG via email at iwadeppg@outlook.com or you can contact then on facebook via the Iwade Patient Participation Group page.

The PPG meeting minutes can be found via the Iwade Health Centre website, www.iwadehealthcentre.nhs.uk/patient-opinion/patient-participation-group

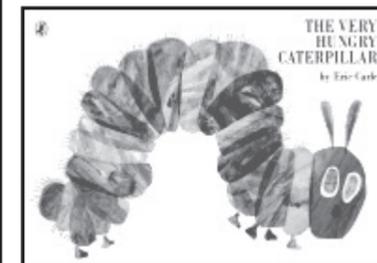
Tinkerbells Early Years

By Donna Barker



Term 3 was an exciting term at Tinkerbells. The children celebrated Chinese New Year, this year being the year of the Rat, the children were involved in various activities and we had a Chinese themed snack time where the children tried various Chinese dishes.

They also took part in lots activities relating to 'People who help us', the children created 'mini me' versions of people which were displayed for all to see and we were fortunate to have a visit from the Fire Brigade. The children learnt about the role of a Fire-fighter and were able to get hands on with some of the equipment and clothing that is used. They were shown around the fire engine allowing them to ask questions and investigate the equipment close up and they had the opportunity to get inside.



Term 4 we will be exploring 'mini beasts' and in keeping with this theme the book of the term will be the 'Hungry Caterpillar'.

We are currently full at both of our settings and sessions are filling quickly for September 2020. If you are interested in a place for your child please call in for a parent information pack alternatively you can contact us via email: enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk

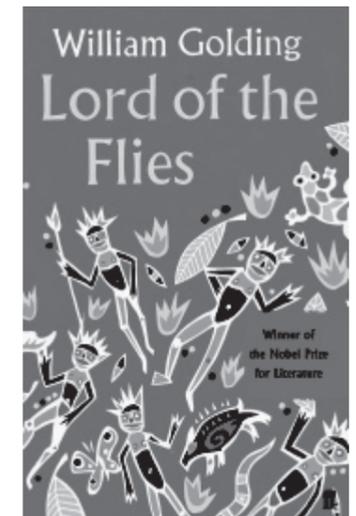
Iwade Reading and Book Group

By Sylvia Francis

At our February meeting we got together to chat about the books we had read from our Christmas Secret Santa. This proved interesting as there were many books and many opinions, only confirming that a Book is a very personal choice. However, much was discussed, and the morning was enjoyed.

Our next meeting is 10th March where we are delighted to welcome Roger Stevens to talk to us. Roger is a well-respected writer of Children's Poetry. He is A National Poetry Day Ambassador, He also runs an award-winning website for children's poetry www.poetryzone.co.uk

Our book for March is "Lord of the Flies" by William Golding.



Anyone that has an interest in reading is very welcome to join our group, we meet at The Barn on the second Tuesday of each month at about 10:15. Why not give it a try?

*Iwade Village
Craft Fayre*

Sunday 8th March

10am - 1pm

**Iwade Village Hall
Ferry Road**