



What did 'Lockdown' mean to you?

Jackie Kemp has sent in these photos taken around the village during lockdown – rainbows, cyclists taking their daily exercise on quiet roads, a replanted orchard, chalked bunting, candles in windows.

What was it like for you? Let us know your thoughts and any photos you might have taken. Send to:- the.iwade.observer@gmail.com



Tinkerbells Early Years

By Donna Barker

We'd like to begin by welcoming back all of our existing children and their families as we begin the new academic year. We hope you all had fantastic summer holidays and had lots of fun; we have missed you all lots and cannot wait to hear all about what you have been up to this summer. September brings new children and families to the setting and we are all very excited to see the new children again and to get to know you all. We continue to have safety measures in place regarding COVID-19, however, we are extremely happy to be getting back to some normality and being able to welcome back more children.

Our theme for the term is 'All about me' where we will explore and learn all about ourselves, each other and families to which ties in with the new term. We look forward to sharing with you what we get up to during term 1 in the next edition :)

We said goodbye to over 30 children in July, all going off to big school this month, we wish all of them good luck in their move to school, we are sure they will all have lots of fun.

Sessions at our Iwade and Clocktower setting are very limited, with some sessions now full until September 2021, therefore if you are interested in a place please call in or you can email us at

enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk

The Iwade Observer

Sept 20



Iwade Health Walks - One-Off Walk

By James Apps



We did it - organised a 'one off walk' on the 6th August. The popular choice was after leaving the village and climbs the by-way to join the Saxon Shore Way. We follow that across the top of Raspberry Hill passing the lakes and taking in the view across the estuary along the way. We took the short way back to the village via the extension of Fan's Lane and apart from one minor delay we managed to return in reasonable time. It was a warm day and hats and water were of the essence.

The rules were: book your place - that was for walk leaders and walkers alike. Regular walkers only and masks for all gatherings plus keeping up reasonable social distancing. We split the walkers into small groups with walk leaders in charge and as I (James Apps) was just getting over an uncooperative knee, complete with knee support, led the way.

In general, with masks and distancing

everybody seemed to more or less follow the rules. The comment by one of our walkers that "we are all adults" summed up the sense of responsibility and as she said, we need to follow the rules. Most people did.

One of our walkers suffered a little from the heat stumbling from a dizzy spell and needed attention. Thanks to those people who made sure he was able to return safely to his car, make sure he got home safely and to the group for walking at his pace the last few hundred metres.

In general, the walk was successful and people enjoyed their first outing as a group.

We are planning another walk on 17th September - again you must book your place; you must be on our list of registered walkers; you must bring a mask. You will be expected to maintain social distancing, in particular at drink stops. We suggest also bringing hand gel with you.

However, the good news from Sarah and Sue at Mission Control is that normal walks might begin again hopefully next month for registered walkers. On this point, just to clarify the situation; this will mean that those people who have asked to join the group will have to register as walkers to be included on future official walks. Again, I thank you for your patience and look forward to seeing you all.

Look out for news on the Iwade Health Walks Facebook page and in the Observer where, hopefully, we can announce the start of regular walks.

But for now, thanks to all who turned up, thanks to the walk leaders for doing their bit and Steff for getting it started.



Iwade Village Barbers

Firstly, we would like to start off by saying a huge "THANK YOU" to the lovely people of Iwade for all of your support, well wishes and custom over the last few weeks. We have been truly touched and are so excited that our dream, of setting up our family business in Iwade, is actually happening.

Who are we? We are two families, Smith & Viotto, who live in Iwade. Steve (Smith) has been barbering for 27 years working in barbershops in Chatham, Maidstone and owning Smiffys in Sittingbourne. Matt (Viotto) has also been in the industry for 27 years and worked in salons around Rainham, owning Viottos, also in Rainham, for the last 12 years. The other two faces you will see are ours, Mrs Smith & Mrs Viotto (aka Tara and Emma, aka the brains of the business!). We also have Laura Webb working with us on a Thursday, Friday and Sunday. Laura has been in the industry for 26 years and is well known for her mobile cuts around the village.

How did we get here? We picked up the keys to 5 Alefe Way at the end of June, taking on somewhat of a risk during these uncertain times, but we are so happy to have hopefully turned a negative situation into a positive one for not only ourselves and our families, but also our clients.



In only 5 weeks, with a lot of hard work, we managed to turn an empty shell of a shop into Iwade's first traditional barbershop. We cannot believe that in our first 2 weeks of trading we managed to get over 500 likes and receive some fabulous reviews on Facebook which really blew us all away!

If you haven't been in yet feel free to pop by for a haircut or even just a sneaky peak. If you'd like to make an appointment please give us a call on 01795 439088. Walk-ins are also available

See you in the chair...



Wild Outdoors Week Success

By Louise Funnell

There has been some wild behaviour in Iwade! Young people have been putting down their phones and have taken to building dens, training in 'survival skills' and firing arrows through the air!

That's right! Brogdale CIC & Swale Youth were back with a mixture of army boot camp, Robin Hood, a lot of laughter and friendship making! With the last few months being in lockdown, we were excited to give young people the opportunity to get outside, grow in skills, and in friendship. The young people attending absolutely loved taking part, here are some of their reviews!

"Three things sum it up: fun, exciting, survival skills"

"It was super-duper lemon trooper, I had an awesome, amazing time. I enjoyed archery the most."

"It was awesome, I am so happy I went even though I was nervous at first. I had so much fun ...we made s'mores and I made a new friend, he is really nice."

"When's the next one?"

"As a parent, I was glad to find a club that got my daughter off technology and enjoying some time outside. She thoroughly enjoyed her time at wild outdoors, especially making dens!"

"She had an amazing time and loved melting marshmallows and making fire!"

We love the story of a new friendship being formed. Connecting with others is so good for our wellbeing and it is one of the reasons that we are so passionate about providing youth activities.

As well as holiday activities (we have an arts & crafts week running in Faversham too) we also provide a Youth Club in Iwade & Newington, run Year 6 Transition workshops (still available) create wellbeing workshops for schools and can deliver 1:1 mentoring sessions for 13-18 year olds. To find out more email tanya@brogdalecic.co.uk visit our website swaleyouth.org.uk & find us on social media @swaleyouth @brogdalecic



NOTICE RE: IWADE HEALTH CENTRE

PHONE: (01795) 413100

EMAIL: iwade.hc@nhs.net

As many of you are aware, Iwade Health Centre was being used by NHS England during the pandemic and patients were being seen at Sheppey Hospital. We are pleased to say that from Monday 10th August we will be seeing patients at the surgery again. All face to face appointments will now be held at the surgery NOT at Sheppey Hospital.

HOWEVER, we still need to ensure that all of our patients and staff are protected and therefore the following changes will be in place:

- The surgery will NOT be open for patients to walk in.
- If you need an appointment please contact the surgery by phone. You will then receive a telephone call initially and if the clinician feels you need to be seen they will arrange an appointment for you.
- If you need a repeat prescription, a medical certificate or have a query, please contact us via email or telephone.
- Please note that we are being very careful about not having too many people in the surgery at any one time. Therefore please adhere to the following when attending for an appointment:
 - Patient ONLY to attend unless a parent or carer is needed in which case ONE additional person is allowed to come.
 - Please attend at the time of your appointment and ring the doorbell outside. If there is a delay you may be asked to wait in your car until the waiting room is free. Please DO NOT come late to your appointment as you may have to rebook.
 - As much as possible please do not bring bags or coats with you as this creates more contact and therefore more risk of passing on an infection.

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND YOUR SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT IF YOU HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS, TRAVELLED ABROAD TO A HIGH-RISK AREA WITHIN THE LAST 14 DAYS OR BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE WITH A CONFIRMED CASE OF CORONAVIRUS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GO TO [HTTPS://111.NHS.UK/COVID-19](https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19)

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE A MASK OR FACE COVERING WHEN YOU ATTEND THE SURGERY

We thank you all for your continued support and cooperation during this time.

Kind Regards
All at Iwade Health Centre

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.

Printed by

'The Print Section'
Swale Borough Council

01795 417416
printroom@swale.gov.uk

Ed's Note

Thank you to all those who continue, to support the Observer with articles, news, views information, etc. and, of course, some great photographs. We know that Facebook gives instant communication of information and instant feedback, but just try finding something you read a couple of weeks ago and want to read again!! The Observer goes out to all households in Iwade and the information in it doesn't hide away after multitudes of posts as it might on Facebook!! We know very many people don't use Facebook for various reasons, or don't have an online capability so the Observer is especially welcomed by them.

We are always happy to publish your articles (no matter what you think of their literary merit!), and our readers are delighted to read about what goes on in the village, so it's a win, win!! You get to tell us about your group, your event, etc and villagers enjoy reading about it!

We had a fantastic response to our call for volunteers to help deliver the Observer and consequently we now have six new volunteers on our team. Many thanks to them for coming forward and also to our outgoing volunteers for their sterling work, in some cases over many years. THANK YOU ALL

Another BIG ASK!! Each month the 1700 or so copies that we have printed have to be collected from the printers in town (easy car access!) and sorted into the right number, and distributed to our deliverers, around the village, to take out to each household. We desperately need somebody to take on this Distribution Manager role which takes up to about a day a month to fulfil. The role could be shared which would considerably reduce the workload. If you are interested please let us know at:-

the.iwade.observer@gmail.com

Many, many thanks

Iwade Writing Group

By Rynn Kemp

I bet you didn't even know there was one!!

The group has been meeting once a month in the barn for the past nearly two years or so and have deliberately kept our numbers very small (current membership is just six members). We feel that we are in position where we could expand our membership in a very small way – numbers of more than ten would be very difficult to work with.

Each month we have a "theme" which we write about in a variety of genre (usually 500 – 800) words and then share our writing with the other members at the monthly meeting (at the moment by Zoom unfortunately). We then give each member a verbal critique of their writing and sometimes do a short piece of writing "off the cuff" and then discuss that.

If this is something that you might be interested in then please drop us a line c/o The Observer to:-
the.iwade.observer@gmail.com



Iwade Neighbourhood Watch

By Terry Wiles

Hi. Neighbourhood Watch Iwade village now has over 600 members. Find us on Facebook at Neighbour Watch. Iwade Village. We are here to

forward any news regarding thefts, scams, and anything unusual happening in the village. Get updates from the area Neighbourhood Watch regarding anything we should or need to know about.

Join today, you must live in the village and answer the two questions. Stay safe.

Terry Wiles - Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator.

Report it, don't just moan about it on Facebook!!

MESSAGE FROM OUR PCSO/KENT POLICE

Please could villagers be reminded that any form of anti-social behaviour or criminal damage should be reported to Kent Police via 999 if it is happening at the time, or via the non-emergency form on the Kent Police website (or by calling 101) if it is discovered later. Unfortunately, some villagers are still only resorting to reporting incidents via social media!

Home Truths for the Iwade Reading Group!

By Hilary Foulds

Firstly, thanks to The Woolpack for kindly hosting our August meeting.



We reviewed Home Truths by Susan Lewis. Amazon describes this book as gripping and suspenseful. We all agreed it was a page turner, a fast-moving easy read. We commented on how easily we could remember the characters too. No need to take notes or go back through the book looking for an explanation.

In the story, Angie's happy married life is shattered when her son Liam falls in with the wrong crowd and gets involved with the drugs scene which leads, ultimately, to her husband's murder. This book has it all: drug dealing, gangland violence, murder, suicide, severe debt, homelessness, sex trafficking, child grooming and more.

It was all too clear how easily a person could fall into spiralling debt and how quickly family circumstances can change. We liked particularly the realism of this book that made it so absorbing. It was an eye opener and we felt too that parents could benefit from reading about the teenager in the book and how she was targeted for grooming.

What didn't sit so well with us was the fairy story ending. Just when things couldn't get any worse for Angie she meets Martin, a wealthy and, of course, attractive man who has the money and influence to put everything right for her. In a very short space of time she has the fantasy ending to her problems. It was a very unlikely Richard Gere type resolution with too many convenient coincidences. Awful things can happen to ordinary people. Real life isn't often blessed with quite the same level of good-fortuned romance. Despite this it was worth reading for the poignant reminder of the struggles many people have to endure on a daily basis.

Our next meeting is 10am Tuesday 8 September again at The Woolpack. This month we are reading The Holiday by T.M. Logan

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held, via 'Zoom', on Wednesday 8 July 2020

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 11 March 2020 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Visitors/Public Time

Due to the restrictions on Zoom time, residents, County and Borough Councillors, PCSOs and Community Wardens were advised that they could attend as normal but, on this occasion, would not be able to speak; they were also invited to forward reports/questions to the Clerk beforehand.

1. County and Borough Councillors – County Cllr. Whiting written report - County Cllr. Whiting's report advised - I start by offering my sincere thanks to everyone who is volunteering or helping in whatever way they can to look after their communities. While lockdown might be easing, it is vital we maintain vigilance and many people are still in need of help.

KCC has created more slots at the Sittingbourne recycling centre and is offering more slots to each household. This is to be welcomed. Also, it is going to start unlocking libraries soon, again in a phased way, more details when I get them.

The county council put £100,000 into supporting the Coronavirus helpline for businesses. In the past couple of months, it has taken nearly 9,000 calls from businesses seeking advice and help. The service offers one to one support. As a result of this success and ongoing demand, KCC is investing another £100,000 to keep this much-valued service going for a further three months. Businesses wanting help can call 03333 602300. Also, KCC will reopen the Kent and Medway Business Fund, with £6m to help Kent businesses at the present time. This is a recyclable fund which is using money repaid from previous business loans. The fund was closed to new applications at the start of the 30 June 2020 pandemic, but will now offer some 6-year interest free loans to help Kent business recover and grow.

The government wrote recently to local authorities asking them for "shovel ready" infrastructure plans that required

funding to help kickstart the economy. KCC has provided a list over £150m worth of projects, plus a £90m ask for more rolling stock on the heavily congested hi-speed trains that run through Sittingbourne. It is vital we put infrastructure first and I await the government's response with interest. Locally, the Key Street works start next week, and details have been widely circulated.

Several developers have proposed sites for development in response to Swale Council's call for sites. Clearly, some will fail, but others might succeed and make their way into Swale's new local plan. Meanwhile, other developers are not waiting for a new Local Plan and putting in speculative proposals. If approved and built, then I return to my previous point, and something that is a mantra of mine at KCC, it must be infrastructure first. Resurfacing of pavements and roads in the Division will commence soon, if it has not already started, and this represents part of a massive investment by KCC in road repairs.

Regarding burning of rubbish and other activities at Raspberry Hill Farm; I have raised this with Swale and am pleased the Environment Agency has now engaged. I understand a meeting took place last Monday between agencies to find a way forward and that plans are underway to stop any illegal activity on the site. I will be requesting an update this week and will share when I get it.

2. Community Warden/PCSO – the Community Warden written report - During Covid-19 and lockdown our team has been helping with delivering food parcels and visiting vulnerable people highlighted by social services and community safety unit in Swale Borough Council. I understand in Swale anti-social behaviour has been high. I will be able to start working out of hours again of as of next week and will be arranging late shifts with the PCSO to try and tackle this. I know crime reports have gone in and Kent Police are dealing with this. As businesses start opening again, together with the PCSO I will start up some outside surgeries to talk to residents and councillors about concerns in the area. I will still be looking into youth programs for next year, but it will be difficult.

The PCSO written report – Verbal threats made to a member of the public – crime

report taken. Verbal comments made to a disabled person – crime report taken. Males reported near vehicles in Sanderling Way, suspected of trying to break in – patrols attended and spoke to two males who matched the description. No offences discovered. There has been a rise in anti-social behaviour in the village since lockdown measures have eased. Kent Police received numerous calls about youths shouting, swearing and challenging members of the public during June. There have also been a few reports of criminal damage. As much as we have been able, we have been attending these reports, talking to victims and suspects alike. Home visits are being conducted with the aim to educate and advise, and crime reports have been taken where possible. I know the Parish Council are aware, but please could villagers be reminded again that any form of ASB or criminal damage should be reported to Kent Police via 999 if it is happening at the time, or via the non-emergency form on the Kent Police website (or by calling 101) if it is discovered later. Unfortunately, some villagers are still only resorting to reporting incidents via social media.

Management at the fishing lake/reservoir at the top of School Lane has reported a number of incidents of youths swimming in the lake during the recent hot weather. Patrols have attended as much as possible, and have moved people on, but the danger is that the lake is very deep, and the water is very cold. CCTV has been installed by the lake and new signage has been put up, and patrols will continue to conduct random foot patrols when they can.

Planning

1. 20/501870/FULL: Erection of a storage building to side of main barn: Iwade Barn 20 All Saints Close Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8FP – no comments.

2. 20/502497/EIASCO: Scoping Opinion for Proposed development of approximately 2,500 dwellings, a new primary school, c.9ha of commercial floor space, c.4ha of community uses and c.1ha of local retail provision on land at Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent: Land At Bobbing Kent ME9 8QL – agreed to respond - Iwade Parish Council reserves the right to comment when a detailed application is received.

3.20/502385/FULL: For the erection of 8 dwellings, together with access from

Ferry Road, parking and landscaping, following the demolition of the existing building: Iwade Village Hall The Street Iwade Kent ME9 8RG - Cannot comment on this as this is a Parish Council application.

4. 20/502568/FULL: 2 Bittern Road Iwade Kent ME9 8FR: Erection of a single storey rear extension – no objections.

5. 20/502761/FULL: Conversion of integral garage into a habitable space: 52 Cormorant Road Iwade Kent ME9 8WP – agreed to respond - The Parish Council asks that assurance be given that there will be no reduction in parking spaces and no static caravans be permitted to park on the driveway, which in turn will reduce the parking area.

Correspondence

1. Consultation of Draft Street Trading Policy – Noted.

Projects – Updates on Current and New

1. Festive Lights – Proposed by Cllr Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, agreed the quote of £16725 from Gala Lights, for the purchase of 15 new festive lights and infrastructure; a 3D Cone Tree and 3D Star; re-arranging brackets to mix up new and old designs; installation, take down and storage of all lighting fixtures.

Village Hall Site

The Covid-19 Lockdown resulted in several Members with health issues having to go into isolation, no Council meetings and the Iwade Observer not being published; it was impossible to advise residents of the possible proposals for a new village hall. Swale Council validated the Planning Application for the old hall site much quicker than normal; which caused some confusion in the village and as a result of this a joint statement, from the Parish Council and Hall Committee, was issued and placed on the Village Facebook Page. Members agreed that this joint statement, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes, should be placed in the next edition of the Iwade Observer so that all villagers are aware of the history, the hoped-for new hall and proposals for the old hall site. Within the statement residents will be made aware that if this goes ahead, hirers of the old hall will carry on using it up until the time the new hall opens, when they will switch to the new building.

Reports from Representatives

Hall – during the Lockdown, the hall has only been used by Tinkerbells for Key Worker children; other users have had their hire fees refunded for this period. In the Summer holidays the internal doors will be fitted, and the hall Committee await the Government advice as regards re-opening to all.

The Iwade Observer apologises – This following item was sent to us for inclusion in last month's issue, unfortunately our fool-proof system didn't quite work as it should and somehow it got missed! Our sincere apologies to Iwade Parish Council and Iwade Village Hall.

JOINT STATEMENT BY IWADE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE AND IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

Back in 2013, the results of a Village wide survey carried out by a consultancy agency on behalf of Swale Borough Council, under the 'Localism Live Pilot' run in Iwade, 22 suggestions were put forward by residents being things they would like to see in the Village - a new village hall appeared second on the list.

As a result of this the Village Hall Committee (who owns and runs the hall as a registered Charity) and Iwade Parish Council (who holds the land in perpetuity for the Village) started investigating how to achieve building a new hall.

The old hall needed a substantial amount of money to carry out repairs. It was built with a metal internal frame and an Asbestos roof. Because of the design it was not possible to replace the existing roof with a normal tiled one as the walls would not take the weight. The roof has already had two sealant coats applied to it and will not take the weight of a third. When the hall was in use it could not be utilised by others; it needed additional meeting rooms. Add in the issue that any major building work would necessitate the closure of the hall for possibly some considerable time, which would be extremely detrimental to regular users.

The Hall Committee and Parish Council started to go down the route of talking to Hillreed Homes, who were keen to see a new a multi-use hall/Pavilion on School Lane Playing Fields. Plans were drawn up for the new hall, which would cost in the region of £1.2 million, outline planning permission was sought for the existing hall site to fund the project. Persimmon then bought Hillreed Homes and this project came to a halt as they would not entertain it.

The land adjacent to the Medical Centre was then looked at, but this was identified as Amenity Land and could not be used for a new hall.

Following the emergence of Swale Borough Council's latest Local Plan and the inclusion of the development on Grovehurst Road therein, the developer has come forward and agreed to give land and build a new hall, which will have better facilities and be able to cope with the increased demand of our village – when the old hall was built back in 1957 there were under 300 homes in the village. The new hall will be funded by the housing development on the old site, i.e. a land swap, which has been approved by the Charity Commission.

The Doubledays donated land and assisted with the building of the old hall; they are heavily involved in the gifting of the new site and building of the new hall, which will continue their legacy within the village.

Those hiring the existing hall, both long and short term, can rest assured that they will be able to continue to do so right up to when the new hall has been built and is ready to use; then everyone will transfer to the new site.

If the Grovehurst development does not go ahead, then the existing hall will remain and the site will not be developed.