



Iwade Village Newsletter

March 2009

Across the fields they venture!

Did you know there is a HealthWalk in Iwade every Thursday meet 11am Lloyds Pharmacy? Weather permitting you could be walking across the fields or you can take a more accessible route as the group will be split.

Gas *from Scotia Gas Networks*

"On Friday 30th January we were made aware of pressure problems with gas supplies in the Iwade area. At this point an engineering team was dispatched to investigate the root cause of the problem. It was found that there was a small amount of water collecting at one of the two outlet supplies that feed Iwade. This was causing a reduction in the gas supply through the pipe network.

Upon further investigation, it would seem that Iwade was only being fed from this one outlet supply, so in peak demand this would result in poor pressures to end users.

We have two engineering teams that will remain on site to investigate this problem until resolved and the second feed is fully reinstated. In the meantime we have performed a temporary fix to ensure gas pressures are maintained to Iwade residents.

We would appreciate that any problems experienced by residents of Iwade be reported to the emergency gas number on 0800 111 999."

Please also report name and address to Parish Clerk 10 Woodpecker Drive 437053.

Farmers Market Big Hit *by Amanda Hurrell*

After all the planning, leaflet drops and advertising the first Farmers Market to hit Iwade on the 1st February was a huge success. Residents old and new, people from as far as Maidstone, Sheerness and surrounding villages came along to support this monthly event. Even the snow didn't seem to put people off. The emails of support, congratulations came flooding in just hours after the event. The range of produce was varied and is due

to expand and more stalls are already planned for the 1st March. A huge thank you goes to Sasha-Carrington Dawkins for having the vision to get this off the ground and for all the people behind the scenes who helped make this event happen and of course to all of you for coming along and buying some fresh local produce. So put a date in your diary and pop along to the Village Hall from 10am till 2pm on Sunday 1st March.

Pictured here - the Calm after the storm, Cornucopia, McCarthys and Pine Tree Farm



Photographs by ©Steven T. Beard 2009 All rights reserved

Did you know that you can use the internet at Sittingbourne library for free, that NVQ Kent at 5 Alefe Way Iwade offer free computer training for beginners (tel. 436471) or that you can have a free 1 hour introductory computer lesson with Iwade's Chris Mortlock (tel. 0845 429 4170). Go on give it a go! There's a whole world out there...

March in the Garden by Ann Menzies

Hopefully your garden is showing signs of life with spring flowers by now even though they may be a bit later after such a cold winter. With this in mind I've been thinking carefully about the vegetables I'd usually be sowing directly into the garden. Many seed packets say to sow in March, but the ground needs to be around 5°C for most seeds to germinate reliably. The ground can be warmed up by covering it in black polythene for a couple of weeks, but in my small plot it doesn't look so good, so I think I will just keep checking the temperature with the soil thermometer. When I do get seedling through I will cover them with fleece if hard frosts are forecast, and remove it during the day.

My chilli and tomato plants are doing well on my window sills. If you haven't planted any yet, now

is the time to do so if you have space to keep them warm until the last frost is past; probably around the beginning of May. Light can be more of a problem than heat, so cover a piece of cardboard with aluminium foil and put it behind the pot. The light is reflected back into the plant and turning the pot regularly as well helps stop the seedlings growing towards the light.

Before shrubs burst into leaf, check if any growing in your garden should be pruned. Buddleia davidii, late flowering clematis and roses spring to mind as plants that flower on new growth. As the days get longer and the temperatures rise plants will literally be springing into life, so enjoy preparing your garden to give it's best in the months to come.

Happy Gardening

Hérons by Debbie Hursell

Well not many games played since last month due to the appalling weather. If you wanted to play water polo you could have as there were so many puddles it was like a lake. Ducks were even seen swimming in the middle of the pitch!!

Then snowmen were seen playing unlike our footballers! Hopefully the weather will improve soon so all the games we are behind can be played.

We hope to have some match reports for next month.



More water than pitch...

ChurchWarden's Notes by Sylvia O'Shea

Hopefully by the time you are reading this, the frightful weather of the last couple of weeks will have passed and the bulbs will be popping out of the soil to welcome Spring.

It really has been a test of will power to venture out into the cold. Our prayers have been with the many homeless folk who do not have nice warm homes to retreat into.

On March 14th the church will be open from 10 to 2pm for the monthly Open Day with items to purchase on the Bring and Buy table. On this day too at 10.30am there is a meeting in the church of interested parties who wish to participate in the forthcoming Flower Festival in June.

The Theme is THE PARABLES OF CHRIST and invitations have been sent to the organisations within

the village to arrange a display. If you have a talent for flower arranging would you care to join us? If so, PLEASE let Sylvia know on 478103. She can then provide a list of Parables (and those already chosen). Join us for the meeting on 14th when spaces in church for displays will be decided.

The Festival will be over the weekend of 27th / 29th June with the church open on 26th for arranging displays. Do think about it. Mothering Sunday is on March 22nd when we hope to see all Mums / Grandmothers / children at the Family Service for this special day. Usual Family Service time of 10.30am. See you then. A small posy of daffodils will be given to every lady there.

Inca Trail

Alison Eldridge and her sister Linda are trekking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu in May and are hoping to raise £3000 for the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS). If you are able to spare a £1 or £2 they would be most grateful. They are paying all of their own expenses so every donation (plus gift aid if applicable!) goes directly to the NDCS.

Please visit www.justgiving.com/lindaandalison or make cheques payable to "NDCS" and send to Alison at 13 Church Mews, The Street, Iwade ME9 8TH. Thank you!



Body and Sole

by Chantelle Williams

Children from Reception through to Year 6 that attend Iwade's Musical Theatre club are dancing and singing their hearts out in preparation for their first public performance. The students will be performing at the Wyvern Hall, Swallows Leisure Centre, in Sittingbourne on Thursday 26th March at 7.00pm. The variety show will include popular numbers from shows such as High School Musical with a display of cheerleaders and basketball players with songs from Hairspray, Happy Feet, Annie and many more. The dancers are very excited about performing on a stage and are all working hard to perfect their parts. For further information and to book tickets for the performance please email Chantelle at cwteell@yahoo.com. The club is currently full with over fifty children attending but please contact me after the show if your child would like to join or email me to be put on the waiting list.

Visit IwadeVillage.co.uk for News updates, What's On Calendar, What's On A-Z (Clubs and Activities), Gallery, Herons latest results, match reports and fixtures, Parish Council Minutes, business Directory, Community information and much more...

Abolish U-Turns on the A249

Iwade's Rachel Rook has asked us to tell you about her campaign to abolish U-turns on the A249.

Rachel's father was killed 20 months ago on the A249 by two lorry drivers doing illegal u-turns. This caused the traffic to come to a stand still and her father went into the back of a lorry.

After the inquest last July Rachel decided that the U-turns were so dangerous and should not be on such a busy road. She started contacting various councillors which is when Cllr Roger Truelove started backing her campaign.

She then found out that KCC have had plans in place since 2006 to close the U-turns and put two roundabouts in but because this will apparently cost £3 million they won't commit to this project.

KCC know this road is dangerous and that it's an accident black spot but still will not do anything. This is why Rachel is trying to get as much support as possible and show the council people are not going to put up with more people dying on this road and want something done now.

Rachel has had a lot of media attention on this including Meridian News, East Kent Gazette, and Kent Messenger and has set up a **Facebook group** called **A249 Killer Road** which over 800 people have joined in favour of getting rid of the U-turns.

Rachel would like everyone in the village to get behind her on this and if you're online then please sign up to the Facebook group and support Rachel.



GUNG HAY FAT (HOY!) from Ickle Pickles Nursery

This is our first article of 2009 so we would like to wish everyone a belated 'Happy 2009'!

We have had a very, very busy January - the children had great fun for Chinese New Year - making dragons and lanterns and enjoying Chinese food and tasting lychees!

The children enjoyed coming back to our newly redecorated Nursery after Christmas - and have had great fun making new pictures to adorn the walls and corridors.

We all really enjoyed the snow and made a lovely snowman in the back garden which has sadly melted away now.

Our French lessons have re-started for the New Year and we have been learning all about food. The babies have also been enjoying the new topic of 'under the sea' and have been playing with the 'sea themed' sensory items.

We are now making fun things for Valentines Day!

We have limited under 2's spaces only from September this year, the rest of the nursery is full until 2010. If you are interested please do not hesitate to speak to us on 01795 474551.

by Hannah Williams

Chinese New Year Display picture d right



Iwade W.I.

By the time you read this Iwade WI members will have enjoyed their trip to see "Snow White and the Dwarf" at the Brick Lane Music Hall, as shown in the picture. This is the only permanent Music Hall venue in the UK, housed in a Grade 2 listed building, a former Victorian church in East London.

We are at Iwade Village Hall for our next meeting 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th March. On this occasion we have a speaker, Julia Page, whose talk is "Ladies Through the Eyes of a Painter". This is about how artists have portrayed people in past centuries. Julia tells us she has fascinating slides to demonstrate how clothes and attitudes have changed, as well as providing amusement by the manner and background in which the sitters have been posed. Non WI members interested in this talk would be welcome to join us to hear Julia speak at 8.00pm for the small charge of £1.50 including coffee or tea with biscuits.

As well as our normal monthly meeting in April we are looking forward to the Group Meeting on Friday 24th April which Iwade WI is hosting. Iwade is one of 8 WI's which form the Newington Group and twice a year all members in the Group get together, taking it in turns to host the evening. We are expecting about 100 WI members at the April Group meeting which takes some organising. Thankfully we have a very capable Committee and most of the arrangements have now been made. It looks like it will be a fun evening. There will be a red and white theme to reflect St George's Day the previous day.



Classifieds

Washing & Ironing Person Required: Ideally Self Employed however would consider Casual Labour Contract. Make money & work at home with an iron & washing machine by doing ironing & laundry for an event catering company. If you have what it takes & are reliable, please email info@chefscottanderson.co.uk or call Caroline on 01795 539 566 or 07826 047 487

Wanted Cleaner for Village Hall

Call Lynda MacGowan on 01795 476274 or Gordon Kilby on 01795 471932 for more info.

Phoenix Cards: Contact Julia on 553903

Cricket Players Wanted: Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow Cricket Club Under 9s to Mens Senior. Contact Terry Jones on 01795 842948 or tjones@home-call.co.uk

Garden Angel: Bookings now being taken for spring pruning, roses and shrubs. Contact Ann on 427262 / 07951 396477 or at gardenangel@blueyonder.co.uk

PCSO Lindsay Woods

I'd like to thank all those that attended the PACT meeting on Wednesday 28th January at Iwade village hall.

We had a great turnout and the new priorities have been set as the following:

- 1 - Vehicle Crime (Iwade)
- 2 - Environmental Issues - ie graffiti, damage to grass verges, pot holes etc (Iwade and Lower Halstow)
- 3 - Lack of police attendance when PCSO not on duty. (Lower Halstow)

It is important that if you witness incidents relating to these priorities or wish to report anything regarding these that you contact myself or phone the crime reporting line on 01795 477055.

We are now looking at a new way of delivery the PACT meetings for the area using proxy voting. Please make use of this so that your vote in your community issues is counted too.

If there is anyone that could not attend the meeting but would like a copy of the newsletter please contact me PCSO LINDSAY WOODS by phone or email leaving your full name and address so that I can get a copy sent to you (contact details on back of newsletter).

The next PACT meeting is Tuesday 21st April @ 7.30pm to be held at Lower Halstow Primary School.

Pictured here is our very own PC Jamie Spencer who can be contacted at

jamie.spencer@kent.pnn.police.uk or on 07772 221 232.



Thank you to those who came to the Parking meeting. Cllr Roger Truelove is currently researching options and will convene a parking group shortly to report back to PACT. Watch this space

January Parish Council Meeting

Additional Letter Boxes in the Village: No further progress to report. Clerk has written to Royal Mail for update but no reply as yet.

Traffic Gate Entrance by Medical Centre: No further development to report. Clerk to continue to chase KCC

Iwade Village Hall: Election of new officers and Chairperson have been appointed. Meetings are now held on the first Wednesday of every month starting at 8pm.

Car parking in School Lane Recreation Ground: Iwade Herons have not updated IPC on current situation in regard to car parking in recreation ground.

Subsidiary Grant: Clerk advised paperwork has been sent to Laurence Young SBC for Church Project and village stream investigation.

Burial Ground: The SBC Executive considered the report of the Regeneration Director, which set out proposals for a new cemetery site to replace those in Sittingbourne and Sheppey, both close to capacity. Cllr Lewin advised that a decision would be made in principle with the caveat that any financial implications would be considered as part of the 2009-10 budget proposals, to be considered at the Executive meeting on 11th February 2009.

Incinerator at Ridham Dock: Clerk advised Parish Council that she had written to Morrisons who confirmed they were aware of the applications for the incinerators and intend to monitor them.

Community Warden Update: Open morning arranged for 21st Jan for Shortlisted Recruits. Interviews will take place during first week of Feb and successful candidates will start training on 23rd March.

PLANNING: SW/08/1140 RDM Case 22058 Two posts and gate on driveway at 2 Woodpecker Drive: This planning application has gone to Swale Borough Council planning committee and refused Notice of Appeal, E H Nicholls Holding Ltd App/v2233/x/08/2076431 and Appl/V2255/x/08/2077462. **Lawful Development Certificate for road contractor's depot and storage:** Bobbing PC is objecting. IPC also agreed to object to this lawful development certificate as if the haulage depot was established it could be detrimental to the village. Cllr Brian Groves advised that Hillreed needed to be made aware as the new development would be affected.

Planning Application SW/08/1127JRW, **Hillreed Homes 327**

Dwellings at ColesHall Farm, Iwade: Hillreed has written to the IPC asking them to sign a formal letter saying they do not own the recreation ground at the end of School Lane and it is leased from the owner. The Lease detailed that village had use of land for a peppercorn rent and that; the field was to be used only as a cricket and football field, and recreation ground, and for athletic sports or playing other games, and general village use. Members hoped the field would continue to have a mixed use. Members instructed the Clerk to write to Hillreed and confirm that IPC has leased the field from the Landlord since 1st Oct 1980. Also confirm that representatives of Council have discussed with Hillreed the proposed layout.

Completion of the Annual Audit for 2007/08: Clerk advised that the Audit Commission had agreed the accounts for 2007/8 and sent the certified annual return for year ending 31st March 2008

KALC: Next KALC meeting 2nd March 2009



Happy Days Nursery enjoy the snow on Monday 12th February

Broadband

Whilst BT have been unable to offer any solution to the Iwade broadband problem there will be a public meeting on Tuesday 14th April from 7pm to 8pm in Iwade Village Hall where KCC will explain what they can do for us and gauge community support.

The more people that attend the more likely we are to get funding from KCC for a faster and more reliable service (for those who are limited to a service down a BT line anyway or those who currently have no service at all) so put Tuesday 14th April in your diary 7pm Iwade Village Hall and show KCC we merit a grant.

Photograph by ©Steven T. Beard 2009



MP Derek Wyatt raised the profile of the Iwade Broadband problem & organised the January 2009 BT House meeting.

Tinkerbells by Sue Nolan

This term has seen Tinkerbells learning about the Chinese New Year and the story of the animals in the Chinese calendar. The children learnt which animal sign they were born under and also cooked and tasted some Chinese foods. We made a large red dragon that hung in all its glory in the trees of the garden. He looked pretty spectacular, although I don't know who wore more paint. The dragon, the children or the staff!

Then we had the snow, for some of our children it was their first experience of the cold white stuff, we made two large snowmen, had a snowball fight (including staff) and was using different objects for sledging. Some children wanted to save the snow to take home and was pretty disappointed when it melted once taken inside.

Tinks would like to thank our volunteer story tellers. The children look forward to you coming in and sitting in our special place for story time. If anyone feels they could offer an activity such as reading, cooking, art, dance or football, anything, and could offer a little time we would love to hear from you. The children would be under direct supervision of staff and support would be given to you. You don't have to be an expert at the activity but new fresh faces and ideas always work well. Please contact Sue, Donna or Sherry at the setting for a chat .

Lets hope the weather starts to warm up and stay dry, I think we have all had enough of the cold weather now. If anyone has any unwanted plant pots hidden deep in the shed we would be grateful as we have planned alot of growing this term. Thank you



Message from Rev. Canon Alan Amos

Despite the ups and downs of the weather, I managed to find two wonderful crisp and sunny winter days at the end of January for walking. I had decided to walk around the six parishes - the 'Newington cluster' - for which I have just become priest-in-charge. On January 27th I walked from Keycol Hill where I live down to Newington, to Upchurch, Lower Halstow and Iwade.

And on 29th January I completed my walk, back home. At each church I stopped and prayed for those who worship there, and for the community. I knew how easy it would be, with these six parishes, to go everywhere in a spirit of busyness instead of a spirit of recollection. (Not of course that I am doing all of the ministry myself! We have an excellent team of clergy and laity, and my job is to work well with them for the benefit of all, to encourage and mark out the way ahead.)

There was a play which was quite popular a few years back, called "Racing Demon", about a vicar in south London and the pressures he faced in his ministry. Well, I am determined through God's grace not to be a racing demon, but to take time to see, to listen, to learn, to pray. There were some wonderful moments in my walk - I shall not forget eating a delicious firm cold juicy apple I found in an orchard I passed through on my way to Stockbury - the first time I have had "a January apple." Some rows of trees were still laden with red and green and golden fruit, many well pitted by the birds.

And talking of birds, I shall not forget my approach to Iwade along School Lane. As I came to one of the outlying farms, suddenly there in the middle of the road was a peacock. It was in magnificent form, resplendent in colours, and as pleased with itself as Punch! I worried about traffic, but soon it made off to an adjacent garden. (Well, I thought, perhaps that was to teach me not to "think more highly of myself than I ought to think!")

I still had a mile or more to go into the village, when a car which passed me stopped, reversed and drew up. 'Oh dear', I thought, 'someone wants to give me a lift.' I felt torn between being sociable and accepting the lift, and fulfilling my aim to complete the walk on foot. The driver lowered his window: 'Sorry mate, I thought you were someone else!' he said, and sped off towards Iwade. 'Well,' I thought, 'at least that is a problem solved!'

I reached the church as the sun began to set, and made my way inside to enjoy the tranquillity and simplicity of this sacred place, and said my prayers for those who worship here and all who live at Iwade. And then, without more ado, I adjourned to the Woolpack.



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Stone and Shrub

Iwade-based landscaping company with over 15 years experience in all aspects of garden landscaping including design, natural stone-work and brickwork, patios, wooden decking, driveways, water features and gazebos. Previous projects have included Hampton Court and the South East Garden show. Portfolio and references available - for a no-obligation estimate please contact Adrian on 07870 362351 or 01795 421994.



The Woolpack
17 The Street Iwade ME9 8SH
01795 472656
Restaurant open midday to 9pm
Open fire
Warm welcome

Dates for the Diary

Farmers Market Sunday **1st** March 10am to 2pm Iwade Village Hall

Communion Service Sunday **1st** March 11am All Saint's Church Iwade

Mobile Library Thursday **5th** March 10.40 to 10.55 end of Sheerstone telephone 07740 183 758

Gardening Club Thursday **5th** March 7.30pm Woolpack telephone Ann on 599755

Family Communion Sunday **8th** March 11am All Saint's Church Iwade

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday **10th** March 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall

Church Open Day Saturday **14th** March 10am to 2pm All Saint's Church Iwade – refreshments and sale of home-baked goods

Flower Festival Meeting Saturday **14th** March 10.30am All Saint's Church Iwade

Communion Service Sunday **15th** March 11am All Saint's Church Iwade

W.I. Meeting Wednesday **18th** March 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall - speaker Julia Page will be giving a talk - "Ladies Through the Eyes of a Painter". Non WI members welcome at 8pm for £1.50 including refreshments.

Mobile Library Thursday **19th** March 10.40 to 10.55 end of Sheerstone telephone 07740 183 758

Family Service for Mothering Sunday **22nd** March All Saint's Church Iwade

Coffee Morning and Visit of Good News Van Wednesday **25th** March 10.15am to 11.30am All Saint's Church Iwade

Musical Theatre Club Performance Thursday **26th** March 7pm Wyvern Hall Sittingbourne

No Service at Iwade on Sunday **29th** March – combined Communion Service at Lower Halstow Church 10am

Useful Contact Numbers

Crime reporting line (manned 24/7) 01795 477055 | PCSO Lindsay Woods - 07772 226 188 / lindsay.woods@kent.pnn.police.uk | PC Spencer & Sergeant Walshaw 01795 419119 or sittingbourne.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk | Neighbourhood Watch - 01795 419211 | Crime Stoppers - 0800 555 111 | Anti-Social Behaviour Team - 01795 417575 | Fly Tipping/Graffiti/noise nuisance / Dog control and Abandoned Vehicles - 01795 417850

Kent Highways - 0845 8247800 | Kent Community Warden – Response Team - Sarah Port – 07872 378 220 (temporary post) | Gas Emergency - 0800 111 999 | Kent Healthwatch 08458 247 103

Iwade All Saints Church : Canon Alan Amos 01795 842913 (priest-in-charge) | Mrs Sylvia O'Shea, 01795 478103 (churchwarden) | Maria Wilkinson 01795 477133 | Rev David Webb 01795 424502

Village Hall Hire call Sue on 01795 475967

Parish Council: Parish Clerk Mrs Sarah George 01795 437053 | Chairman Phil Fearn 01795 476535 | Vice Chairman Brian Groves 01795 476981

News Contacts: Newsletter Editor Nicola McKenzie – newsletter@iwadevillage.co.uk 01795 439892 | Newsletter Distribution Janet Gregory – janetgregory117@btinternet.com | News Correspondent for local press - Amanda Hurrell 07866 413207 thehurrells@fsmail.net | iwadevillage.co.uk Nicola McKenzie - nicola@iwadevillage.co.uk 01795 439892

'Shop front' organisations: Iwade Community Primary School, 01795 472578 | Iwade Health Centre 01795 413100 | Bodycare - 01795 474555 | Budgens - 01795 421854 | Heaven - 01795 435958 | Iwade Garage - 01795 438988 | Lloyds Pharmacy 01795 439368 | NVQ Kent Ltd 01795 436471 | Town and Village Homes 01795 422776 | Woolpack - 01795 472656

Clubs: Cribbage Monday eve Woolpack | Cubs and Beavers Village Hall Mondays 6.15 to 8.30 | Darts Woolpack Tues Wed and Thurs male and female | Fishing Club Gordon Dickson 07889 155 315 | Health Walks Lynda 01795 476274 | Herons Football Club Debbie 01795 439711 | Junior Tygers 07810 204 739 | Lamplighters Wynn Webb 424502 | Model Flying Club 01795 877918 | Musical Theatre Club 07731 469 515 | Nyumon Karate Do 07709 632 879 | Parent and Toddler Tuesday 9 to 11 Village Hall | Weight-watchers Tuesdays 6.45 to 8.15 Iwade School | W.I. Hilary Foulds 01795 474686