

If you live near Elm Tree Avenue you may have seen progress on the new Iwade allotment site and if you dont then see below for what's been happening!

Iwade Observer

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May 2011

Community Responder for Iwade!

by Tara Kent



Iwade Village and the surrounding area are just about to get their own Community Responder. Alex Hill moved to the village about 5 years ago, after settling into village life he started looking for a new challenge. "On a shopping trip to Tesco's I came across a group of Community First Responders who were fund raising. After a chat with the team I thought it would be a fantastic way to put a little something back into the community" Alex said. After previously spending 20 years as a volunteer for St. John Ambulance he was no stranger

to first aid, but was looking for something new. Community responders are volunteers who attend life threatening 999 calls within a 3-mile radius of their work or homes. When a 999 call is received by Ambulance control if there is a Community Responder closer than the nearest Ambulance the responder is dispatched at the same time as the Ambulance. Trained in essential first aid and basic life support they carry equipment including defibrillators and can start (what can be lifesaving) treatment before the Ambulance arrives. Primarily treating heart attacks and other medical emergencies where speed of treatment greatly increases the patient's chance of survival.

Professionally, Alex works in Financial Services and has done so for most of his working life. He is Head of Compliance for a network of mortgage, investment and insurance advisers and is more than happy to speak to locals about any of these areas. He lives in the village with his partner Hayley and has 4 children as well as being involved with the newly-formed Allotment Association - I don't know how he fits it all in, but as the saying goes, behind every great man.... Anyone who wishes to speak to Alex about any of the above, please feel free to contact him on 07900 496868 or email him ahill@stonebridgegroup.co.uk

Allotment Update *by Nicola McKenzie*

Firstly, A big thank you to the landowner who is desperate for us to get growing. Jonathan Reason from the council kindly spent a day with us marking out the plots. It was a beautiful sunny day and a real milestone in the project. All plots are now staked out and all lined with string. Rabbit-proof fencing has now been installed thanks to a £2000 grant from the Big Lottery Fund which also funded the original fencing down the left-hand side of the field. Meanwhile at Swale the lease is working its way through the machinery of the council, slow but sure! More slow than sure at points some would say (including me!). The other task in hand at Swale is processing our planning application for a car park to ensure that where plot-holders must drive they do not have to park in neighbouring roads. Fingers crossed that this will be approved. We also had to apply for planning for plot-holder sheds as apparently they constitute development. Interesting! A big thank you to Steven Beard LRPS who came to the site on Friday 8th April at sunset to photograph around 30 men, women and children on the site against the setting sun. The Iwade Allotment Association are a friendly bunch and if you live in the neighbouring properties we apologise for any disruption as we set up the site. Once the site is set up the allotments will be calm and our aim is to cause the least disruption possible so a big thank you for your patience.

Editor's Note

A very warm welcome to the May edition of the Iwade Observer. As I compile this edition the weather is glorious, let's hope it continues! I have been inundated with articles and pictures this month and have done my best to squeeze you all in. We love to hear from you so please keep sending your news to myself, Nicola or James. You can contact us via iwadevillage.co.uk or on the Iwade Does Facebook page.

Thursday May 5th is Election Day in Iwade for our Swale Borough Councillor and on this page are articles from 2 of the candidates hoping to represent Iwade. It is also election season for Iwade Parish Council. Make sure you head down to the Village Hall between 7am and 10pm to get your vote counted.

Tara Kent

Disclaimer

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Janet Gregory



We barely knew anyone when we moved to Iwade 10 years ago. To meet my new

neighbours I delivered newsletters in Kingfisher Close and volunteered to write news and parish council notes for local newspapers. So much was happening here that I wanted to "put Iwade on the Map"! I ran the highly successful Indulgence Therapy Days in the Village Hall and started the NHS Iwade Healthwalk group.

Entering Iwade for the Kent Village of The Year competitions entailed highlighting the positive aspects of living here and this made me realise that, not only do we live in a unique place with many enjoyable amenities, but there are also shortfalls overlooked in the rush of new developments.

In 2008 I became a Parish Councillor to help improve our lovely Village and try to preserve the natural environment around us. Since then much has been achieved including fibre broadband and community allotments.

The threats of new sustainable energy plants (huge incinerators with tall chimneys) and more housing here are forming dark clouds on the horizon. I am ready to stand up for Iwade on Swale Borough Council. I can only make this commitment if I am elected as a Borough Councillor on Thursday 5th May. Please make sure you go to Iwade Village Hall to exercise your right to vote.

Ben Stokes

Regarding the compost smell, the more people that complain the better.

You can register a complaint by phoning 0844 880 7700. The number is a call centre at Lenham where details will be recorded and sent to the respective site for investigation. You will not get an immediate answer but an investigation will be carried out and a response given to the complainant if required. On Thursday 31st March I contacted Arriva Bus Company in regard to the 9.30 bus pass but unfortunately they said they could not change the bus times or give OAP's any concessions. I have not yet received many replies to the survey on a 20mph speed limit through the village. I am working with the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee on the possibility of a new Village Hall and a sports dressing room in Iwade which would be a great asset to the residents and to the community in Iwade.

Road Closure

**RASPBERRY HILL LANE,
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Film Night at All Saints Church.

During the week 15th – 21st May, Christian Aid will be doing it's annual fund raising to support those in poverty around the world. As part of this fund raising - All Saints Church will be hosting a Family Film Night starting at 7pm on 20th May. The film will be 'G-Force' rated PG. This is a fast moving, action packed, family film, suitable for all ages and the Iwade Youth Group will be supporting this fund raising activity. Donations to the charity should be made on the night (suggested donations in the region £5 per family or £2 per person). Refreshments will be on sale, including popcorn, sweets and drinks. Please come along and support this worthwhile cause and enjoy a great movie.. Hope to see you on the night!
For more information please contact Carol or Colin on 01795 427354.



Iwade Wi's 2011 programme of events is now well under way.

Several of us

enjoyed the Annual Council meeting in Margate in March. . As well as the usual WI business, we were entertained by 2 speakers during the day, including Amanda Cottrell, former High Sheriff of Kent, who spoke about her life as a member of the Howard family. Amanda was dressed in Tudor costume and her knowledge of the history surrounding her family was extraordinary. In my opinion though they saved the best to last with Sheila Dibnah ending our day with her talk about life with husband the late steeplejack Fred Dibnah MBE. How many wives can boast about receiving an iron manhole cover for a birthday present? She was a fabulous speaker and had mastered an amazingly accurate way of impersonating Fred. There seems to be a proliferation of coffee mornings in the WI organisation at the moment, possibly because we have all been asked to "Stretch a Fiver" to raise funds for the

Federation Office in Canterbury.

Iwade WI has decided to use the £5 to make biscuits to sell at our May meeting, the proceeds of which will fund our own coffee morning in June. By the time you receive your East Kent News in May we will have enjoyed a Spring Gardening Day at Ashford School for Girls, a meeting in Eastchurch with all the WI members in our Group as well as our usual monthly meeting with a talk by Shirley Boyland about Indian Embroidery in April. Additionally, our lunch club will have enjoyed a visit to the Three Tuns in Lower Halstow. Many of us have enjoyed also making greeting cards in Hilary's workshop, knitted for the Oliver Fisher Premature Baby unit at Medway Hospital at Glenn's Knit and Natter afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed learning sugarcraft techniques in Val's workshop. Our meeting on 18 May is to discuss and vote on Resolutions to be taken forward to the Annual General Meeting in Liverpool. This year's resolutions are about Proposed Mega Farms and the closure of local libraries. 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 hilary.foulds@hotmail.co.uk



Iwade's Steven Beard LRPS (who took our front cover shot this month) is running a promotion in May where for any portrait sessions people will receive a free 10 x 8 framed print of their choice worth £135. Visit Steve's website at stevenbeardphotography.com



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Dates for the Diary

Iwade Village Market Sunday 1st May 10am to 1pm Iwade Village Hall
Communion Service Sunday 1st May 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade
Election Day Thursday 5th May Polling station at Iwade Village Hall
Family Communion Service Sunday 8th May 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade
Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 11th May 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall
Mobile Library Thursday 12th May 11.15am to 11.25am Sheerstone (Springvale end)
Church Open Day Saturday 14th May 10am - 2pm All Saints Church Iwade
Communion Service Sunday 15th May 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade
W.I Meeting Wednesday 18th May 7.30pm Iwade Village Hall
Allotment and Gardening Club Thursday 19th May contact Ann Menzies on 599755 for venue
Film 'G Force' showing in church Friday 20th May 7pm
Family Service Sunday 22nd May 10.30am All Saints Church Iwade
Mobile Library Thursday 26th May 11.15am to 11.25am Sheerstone (Springvale end)
BENEFICE SERVICE AT STOCKBURY CHURCH Sunday 29th May 10.30 am

Churchwarden's Notes By Sylvia O'Shea

As I sit typing this (5th April) I'm shivering after assuming Spring had arrived over the last few days. Never does to presume things where the weather is concerned, does it? I bet in a few months we'll all be saying how hot it is (we may be lucky). Walk up the road to the church if it does get hot, the blessed coolness of the building is very welcome then.

We had a lovely service for Mothering Sunday, led by Stephen Plumb the Church Army Missioner. Lots of happy faces and all the ladies went home clutching a bunch or two of daffodils.

Over the next few months we are regrettably having to say goodbye to Wynn and David Webb as they are moving to Sittingbourne. They will be greatly missed. Since Rev.

Tipping left Iwade early in 1994 they have looked after the Lamplighters and you will know David seeing him walk around the village delivering the weekly news sheet from church to all families who have come for baptism. We have a big treat for you all on May 20th, when Carol Galvin, the co-ordinator for Christian Aid for Iwade is organising the showing in church of the film 'G Force' at 7pm. Admission will be free with a retiring collection which will go to Christian Aid. Please come along and enjoy the film. I'm told it's quite funny.

Please note in your diaries that the Flower Festival will be over the weekend of 25th, 26th & 27th June with church open every day. Should be a very colourful occasion. Then on July 2nd at 7pm we have the annual Brass Band Concert in the church

grounds by the UK Paper Band. Tickets are only £5 which includes refreshments. We simply request you to bring your own seating.

QUIZ NIGHT

A big thank you from All Saints Church to Iwade residents who attended the recent quiz night. The village hall event sold out and everyone who took part had an entertaining evening including a ploughmans supper and raffle.

Janet and Bob's team won after a close finish ending with a tie breaker between the three top tables. £142 was raised through ticket sales and the raffle. Another quiz night will be held in the Autumn.



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Parish Council Notes taken from the meeting held on Wednesday 9th February, 2011

Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Committee Members

Cllr. Stephen Plumb was nominated by Cllr. White; seconded by Cllr. Hurrell and duly elected to the position of Chairman. Cllr. Gregory was nominated by Cllr. Hurrell; seconded by Cllr. Hunt and duly elected to the position of Vice-Chairman. With Members' agreement, this item was brought forward. Two candidates came forward for the vacancy left by Cllr. Wilks; Borough Cllr. Ben Stokes and Joan Exley. Candidates were asked to leave the room whilst a ballot was taken; the result being an overall majority for Mrs. Exley who was co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Stokes for his interest in the vacancy and for his support and then invited Cllr. Exley to join in the meeting. It was agreed not to reform membership of the Committees at the present time but to wait until after the Elections in May 2011.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Following discussions with Mike Knowles, Highways, Clerk advised he will recommend to the Transport Committee that yellow lines be placed on the corner of The Street/School Lane, Village Centre side, to prevent parking. Members asked the clerk to go back and

request that these be placed on both sides of School Lane, with the restrictions being in force from 8.00 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. *Action: Clerk*

Visitors/Public Time

County Councillor and Borough Councillors – Cllr. Whiting will reinforce the Parish Council's views on yellow lines at the Transportation Meeting. He stressed that Members should take time to look at Swale's Core Strategy, in particular housing and employment; the deadline for responses is 11th March.

Cllr. Stokes referred to odour problems in the village and asked the Parish Council to contact Andy Sibley from Countrystyle regarding incidents. He has had a meeting with Swale B.C Chief Executive, Andy Jeffers and Graeme Tuff concerning the old orchard and hopes something will be done within a month.

Temp. Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO – Warden's report was circulated and noted by Members. He has spoken to Lloyds Pharmacy regarding delivery vehicles and parking issues.

Finance

Bus Shelter – Clerk still pursuing the Highway Licence, to enable a contractor to carry out the work. She reported that for safety reasons it was wise not to board all three sides of the shelter, but to

leave 'windows' in the ends.

Action: Clerk

Beavers and Cubs – proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Exley to pay the hall hire costs of £630 on behalf of this group - expenditure agreed under S19 1976LG(MP)A: the Parish Council's power to support recreational activity.

Women's Institute - proposed by Cllr. Hunt and seconded by Cllr. Hurrell to pay the hall hire costs of £177 on behalf of this group - expenditure agreed under S19 1976LG(MP)A: the Parish Council's power to support recreational activity.

Lamplighters – Having declared an interest the Chairman withdrew from the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Exley and seconded by Cllr. Hunt to pay the hall hire costs of £157.50p on behalf of this group - expenditure agreed under S19 1976LG(MP)A: the Parish Council's power to support recreational activity.

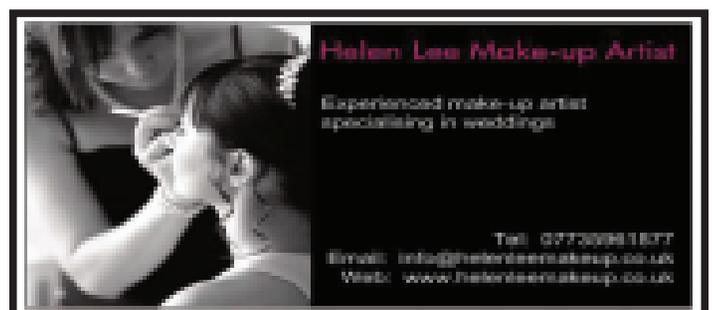
Youth Club – a representative of the Youth Club approached the Council during the public session with a request for a further £1487.84p, to cover the cost of replacing equipment; cooking and craft facilities and funding for external demonstrators. Cllr. Mike Whiting was looking to see if he



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Parish Council Notes continued from page 5

could help the group from funding he holds and Members suggested approaching the Big Lottery Fund, who have money for community groups.

Members agreed a donation of £1197 in May 2010; this being a 'one-off' payment to the group to assist with the setting up of the facility. Although they want to support this facility for the youth of Iwade, they felt they could not justify paying a total of £2584 to an individual group in a single year. Members will consider supporting the Youth Club in the future by paying the hall hire costs, but the group will need to apply to the Parish Council for each donation and this will be dependent upon funds available -proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Exley.

Cheques raised at this meeting:

09.02.11 - 1387

C. Mortlock - £29.99p

09.02.11 - 1388

Mrs. H. Chambers - £29.99p

09.02.11 - 1389

Mr. M. Hardy - £29.99p

09.02.11 - 1390

Inland Revenue - £84.00p

09.02.11 - 1391

Wages - £335.92p

09.02.11 - 1392

Stiddard Maidstone Ltd - £12.00

09.02.11 - 1393

Countrystyle Group - £90.74p

09.02.11 - 1394

L. Fisher - £4.65p

09.02.11 - 1395

Steve Wakeling - £244.14p

Nine cheques in total

Correspondence

Core Strategy 'Pick your Own' Open Day – Clerk to request details be placed on village website to encourage villagers to put forward their views. Members agreed preference for option 1, the only focus that does not propose to further expand Iwade. *Action: Clerk*

Planning

SW/11/0014ME – Erection of Electricity Substation (Retrospective) – Land to the East of the Street, Iwade – no objection

KCC/SW/0379/2010 - Countrystyle Recycling – Application to vary conditions – Clerk has received a response from KCC which indicates increased lorry movements from 66 in 66 out each day to 105 in 105 out. Clerk instructed to write expressing concern at the increase and querying a lack of response to the concern over increased tonnages raised in the Parish Council's letter of objection. *Action: Clerk*

The next parish council meeting will be on Wednesday 11th May 2011, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Why not go along and have your say.

Ickle Pickles

by Hannah Williams



Ickle Pickles Nursery are very thrilled to announce that we have been awarded the Kent Quality Mark by Kent County Council. Less than 10 per cent of nurseries in Kent achieve this award, and the team worked really hard to meet all of the criteria over the past year and we are very proud of our glass trophy!

We have also had some great fun lately with our new PE classes in Pre-school and our new garden project taking shape. We are just putting together an Eco-committee to enable the children in the nursery to join us in voicing their ideas for the garden with our ultimate goal of achieving Eco-school status, and eventually a Green Flag.

The nursery is full at the moment but if you are interested in an Under 2's place from September (September 2012 for Over 2's) please feel free to log onto our website at www.icklepickles.co.uk or call us on 01795 474551

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Village Hall Ambition

by Peter Lovelock ,Village Hall Chairman

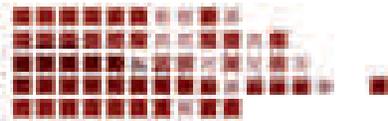
There are some exciting prospects being investigated for your Village Hall and if they come to fruition, they will benefit the entire Village community.

The present Hall has served the community for over 50 years since it was built by a population of about 300 village inhabitants! How they did it – I just don't know – but they are to be admired for their efforts and perseverance in what they achieved. The population of the village will shortly be ten times what it was in the 1950's and the Hall has served us well throughout this time; however, it is now beginning to show signs of having reached its full capacity and potential. The Hall is virtually fully let throughout the weekdays, both during the day and evenings, plus there are numerous weekend functions. That's the brief history, now what of the future? As most of you will know, the, (current!), final major development earmarked for the Village is the 325 Hillreed dwellings to be built at the southern end of the Village; these will stretch between Sheppey Way and School Lane.

Already included in this development is a small Pavillion

incorporating changing rooms and showers. It was decided to investigate the possibility of re locating the Village Hall within Village Hall within the current playing fields site and to include the Pavillion facilities within a single building. With this in mind a small sub committee was set up consisting of Village Hall and Parish Council reps, ably assisted by Borough Councillor, Ben Stokes. So that's the basic idea, the big question is; where's the money coming from to build it? First of all, there is no pot of gold. The Hall is not subsidised in any way, neither does it receive any grants; its only income is from the fees obtained by the hiring of the Hall and these allow the Hall to be necessarily maintained and meet the day to day running costs. I would add that the Village Hall Committee Trustees are entirely voluntary and are drawn from Iwade residents who do not receive any salaries, expenses etc. Therefore, the only possible way to finance a new building is by selling the present Hall site and using these monies for the new build. Having arrived at this base plan, an informal meeting was arranged with the developer, Hillreed and the plan discussed. The plan in principle is possible, in that the new building could be

incorporated into Hillreed's overall design and it would be acceptable that the new building would be ready for occupation before the present Hall would have to be vacated. Another big question then arises; what can we get for the monies from the sale? Answer; I'm afraid, is not much more than we have at present! Disregarding this fact for a moment; just what facilities etc would we want in the new premises? And this is where YOU come in! Enclosed in this copy of the Iwade Observer is a questionnaire asking what you would like in your new Village Hall/Community Centre. This is probably our last opportunity to improve what is a central feature of village life and we can't afford to miss it. There's no need to be too limited in your responses to the questionnaire, even though there is comparatively little money – we will be seeking, (hopefully successful), grants. Do be practical though! Do please take the time to complete and return the questionnaire, if by chance it gets mislaid then go to www.iwadevillagehall.org.uk where you can download a copy. We'll keep you updated of developments.



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