

Iwade Reading Group

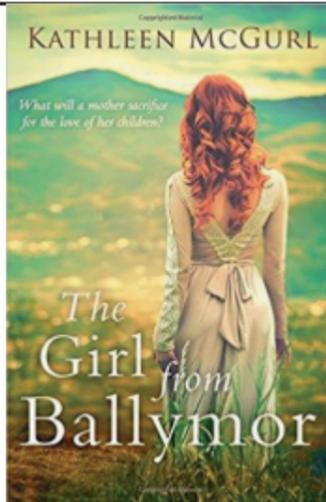
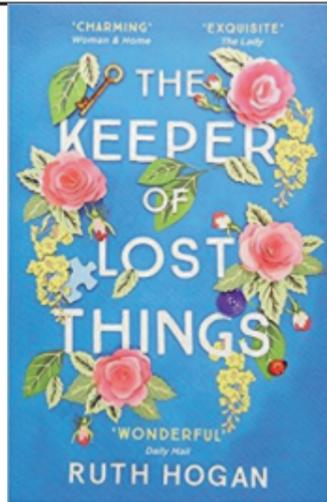
Hilary Foulds

Discussion about April's book, *The Lost Girl* by Carol Drinkwater, caused more discussion than most of the other books the group has reviewed. There was a distinct variation in views.

It's the story of 2 very different women who meet in a Paris bistro in November 2015, the night of terrorist attacks which rocked the city, leaving over 100 dead. It's set in 2 different time frames, that of the weekend of terrorism and post war southern France among the flower farms that fed the Grasse perfume factories.

A number of us felt the jumping between different time zones, as so many authors seem to do nowadays, confusing.

Carol Drinkwater is the author of over 20 books of fiction and non-fiction. Her quartet of memoirs set on her olive farm in southern France have sold over a million copies worldwide. Some members of the reading group had read and enjoyed them immensely. Generally speaking, however, *The Lost Girl* didn't encourage anyone to read more of Carol Drinkwater.



We didn't warm to the characters and found the story line depended on too many unlikely scenarios and coincidences to be believable. This prompted a discussion about our own surprising collection of coincidences in life! Our meeting on 8 May will be from 10.30 in The Barn. We will be reviewing *The Girl from Ballymore* by Kathleen McGur chosen by Lianna.

On 12 June, we will be at Christine's. She has chosen *The Keeper of Lost Things* by Ruth Hogan.

Check our FB page – search Iwade Reading Group.

BUSINESS FOCUS

IWADE GARAGE

When most people hit retirement age, they put their feet up and relax. Not RosKellow, she took over the business at Iwade Garage – “Although I’m fairly new to the area, having moved here in 2016 to be nearer my son, I’ve always lived in a village and been involved in village life”.

On the 1st December 2017, Ros' family and her team: - Al Dollimore (known to many in the village); Gary Marsh (workshop manager) and Paul Knight (mechanic) took over



at 36 Ferry Road and set about fulfilling Ros's vision. “It's really important to us that Iwade Garage is one that you can trust, and won't charge you the earth. We want our customers, young or old, male or female, to know that they can pop in, Facebook us or telephone to ask for help with their vehicles.”

“We have a new, up-to-date diagnostics machine so we can help you with any problems you may be experiencing with your vehicle. Book an MOT, need a service, need new tyres or bodywork repairs. Please feel free to pop in for a new windscreen wiper or a new bulb, my boys and I will be happy to help you. If you are stuck in the village or nearby, we can come to you.”

“We are also involved in motorsports. Last year we sponsored a local team with cars in British Rallycross, Quaife Modified Saloons and Quaife Tin Tops. This year we aim to be offering our services to the wider racing fraternity. We are working with some local talent on their cars already”.

You will often see Ros walking around the village with her Weimeraner dog, Grace. Stop her and have a word - Grace loves talking to people!

Want to get your business featured in our monthly Business Focus Feature? Tania Emery coordinates our Business Focus feature, so if you'd like to be considered for our next issue, please contact Tania Emery at tlemery@outlook.com

MOT's

Tyres

Air Con



Service

Diagnostics

Repairs

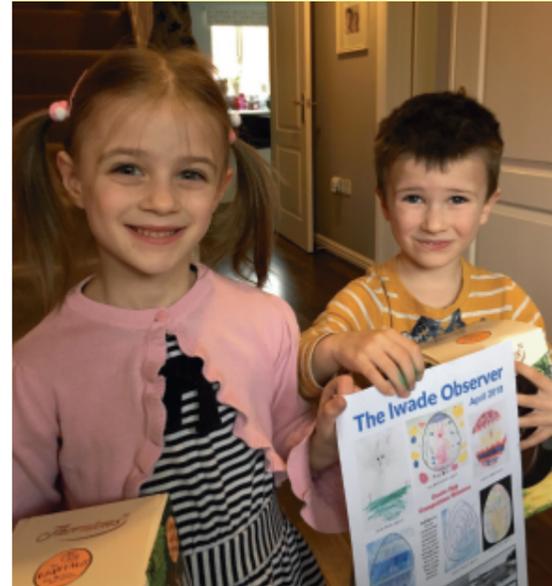
The Iwade Observer

May 2018

The Observer Easter drawing Competition

The winners of our competition; pictured below are:-

Bella Dawson aged 6, Dexter Dawson aged 4, Evie Whittingham aged 5, Isabelle Wade aged 6, Jacob Wade aged 4, Imogen Kemp aged 4.



Isabelle & Jacob



Bella & Dexter



Imogen



Evie

Young Photographer Competition

To enter take a photo of the local wildlife in Iwade, and send to the.iwade.observer@gmail.com

The winner will receive a photography book and a bug hotel.

Entries must be with us by 15th June 2018.

Competition for ages 7 to 12 years old.



By sending in the artwork you are confirming that you are the legal guardian of that child, or that you have sought permission from their legal guardian.

IWADE VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Sunday 27 May, 2018

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Please come along and help tidy our Village.

Spring

The Village Clean up starts at 09.00 a.m., helps to report to the Village Hall to collect black sacks and sign in. Refreshments will be available during the morning and we are looking to do something from 12.30 p.m. onwards, details to be confirmed.

Sponsored by Iwade Parish Council

Iwade Village Hall Update

February saw the hall's first quiz night of the year, which was well attended and raised an amazing £342! This was split between the Swale Cats Protection and The Village Hall and a very good time was had by all, especially the lucky table that won all of the raffle prizes! They did, very generously, donate one of their prizes back to the Swale Cats Protection. On 14th March we hosted our first Table Top sale of the year, which again was well attended and raised a further £128 for the hall. Thank you to everyone that attended both of these events, and many thanks to all of the organisers and



helpers. It is only with the help and support of the volunteers and attendees that the hall continues to play such a vital role almost 61 years after it first opened its doors.

The monthly market continues to be well attended. Lots of stalls with personalised gifts, homemade cakes, savouries,



sweets and soups. Fresh fruit and vegetables, fudge, breads, books, candles and much more! Brunch is also available and for May if you spend £3 on food at the kitchen counter you will get a free raffle ticket to win a bottle of wine. The next market is on Sunday 13th May 10am-1pm.

Tickets are going fast for our live 50s & 60s music event on 2nd June. Ray will be selling tickets at the market in May, or you can get yours sooner by emailing Ray treasurer.iwadevh@gmail.com or calling 07883 233741.

We are also planning a murder mystery event for later in the year along with quiz and race nights and another table top sale so watch this space...



If you would like to get involved at the hall please contact chair@iwadevillagehall.co.uk

All information on events, regular clubs and booking the hall can be found at www.iwadevillagehall.co.uk or by contacting bookings@iwadevillagehall.co.uk and please join our Facebook page to keep up to date.

Healing Hub

Hello,
My name is Hayley and I have lived in Iwade for 12 years.

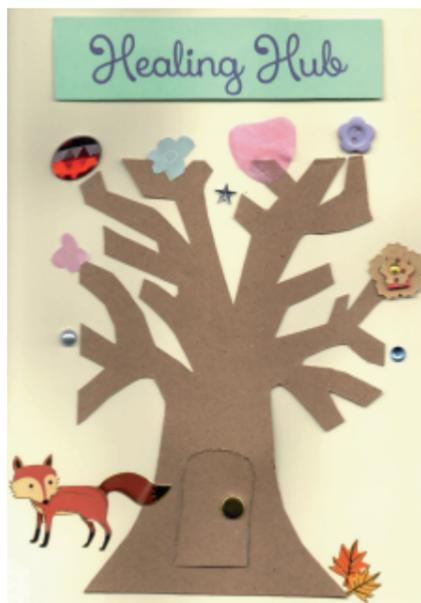
Three years ago, I became disabled due to sudden health problems. Things went from bad to worse and I really didn't know how to manage with life. Then, last February I attended a four-week residential programme at St Thomas' Hospital, London. I found the whole experience absolutely life changing. The knowledge and coping techniques have helped me slowly but surely to rebuild a new life. I can't ever turn my pain off, but I have learned ways of creating a bit of distance from it.

I've joined several local support groups, which again have given me even more knowledge, and I've met some truly amazing people along the way.

With the help of the pharmacist and the opening of The Barn for community groups, I thought it would be lovely to have our own support group in the village.

Please come along for tea, biscuits and a chat with local people from the community who are facing the same daily struggles and challenges.

At The Barn from 10:00 – 12:00 May 9th, May 23rd, June 13th and fortnightly thereafter,
You'll be very welcome.....



TINKERBELLS EARLY YEARS

Jody Nichols

March ended Term 4 nicely with the run up to Easter. We hope you all had a nice relaxing break and lots of fun with your families too! The children had lots of fun in keeping with our topic, 'Mini beasts and Spring.' We enjoyed some of the finer weather by getting out and about and took some bus trips to town to see the creatures in the pet shop. This was great and lots of fun was had by all!

The children also had fun getting creative at home to make their entries for our annual Easter competition. Thank you to all those who took part. There were so many wonderful creations and it really was hard to pick a winner. But this year's 1st prize went to Chester and family for their fantastic bunny piñata. The children had lots of fun hitting it until the sweeties fell out!

This term we will be exploring the topic 'Animals,' where we will learn all about the many creatures around us; from the pets we have at



home, to the more exotic creatures we share the world with. We are very excited about this topic and looking forward to the many activities that the children have picked to do from our 'thinking floor' discussions.

It's hard to believe that we are now beginning to think about preparing our older children for going to big school in September. By now, you will all have been informed of your places. We hope you all got your first choices and are looking forward to this exciting new chapter. We

will be supporting the children and families in this upcoming transition period through various activities and discussions. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of our staff.

All of our sessions at both Tinkerbells settings are now full until September and there are only a few limited afternoon sessions available thereafter. Therefore, if you are interested in a place for your child, or you wish to be put on our waiting list, we recommend that you call in for a copy of our prospectus or email us at enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk as soon as possible.

Monday Friendship Group

Our lively and sociable fortnightly get-togethers are gaining popularity. So much so that, as The Barn has limited capacity, membership has had to be restricted to Iwade residents only. The decorated egg display on Easter Monday was exceptional (see photo), and the judges were so impressed with all the entries that each one was awarded a prize, with Joan Exley winning overall.

Also in April we had an interesting talk by Terry Wiles introducing the new Neighbourhood Watch Group, as well as a fun "Guess the Logo" quiz, and not forgetting our free "Bring and Take" book and puzzle swap.

Looking forward to May, on Monday 14th Iwade's Michael Edwards (www.travelcounsellors.com) will be chatting to us, and on Spring Bank Holiday 28th we will be taking the chairs into the garden outside The Barn for a change (come on sunshine!)



(For further information, or if any relevant local businesses wish to book a half hour talk, please contact Janet Gregory or Joan Exley via Facebook, or call in to one of our above meetings at The Barn, 10.30 – 12.15)

Calling established and budding writers!

Sheppey Promenade 2018.

An Invitation.

This year's Promenade theme is "Women on Sheppey in World War One" which is part of the general recognition of Women's role in World War One with the emphasis on the Suffragette movement (and related topics).

The Sheppey Writer's Group are working with the Promenade 2018 projects and will be running workshops on the Island at the Rose Cottage of Curiosities in Sheerness on May 15th and 17th 2018.

Iwadians are invited to take part in these workshops. We would like Iwade writers and poets to take part, and to do that Sheppey Writers would like to run poetry and writing workshops at the Barn.

If you would like to take part in the workshops please let the Observer know: the.iwade.observer@gmail.com and if there is sufficient interest we will run the workshops and follow up with the purpose of including Iwade writers in an Anthology planned for 2019.

Make use of your wonderful venue, support the idea and have the satisfaction of seeing your work in print. The Workshops will cover poetry and prose:- Will hopefully create a writer's group in Iwade. Will be fun. Costs are expected to be met by grants or donations.

The facilitator is James Apps, MA Litt. (Auckland NZ) Author of Jake's Progress, a thriller set in Sheppey, The Kowhai and Me (A collection of poems), The Zradian Chronicles Trilogy, (A comic sci-fi tale), The Turval and the Grobble (an epic poem) and Tales from the Dark Side. In addition James Apps has also written a thriller set in Auckland City entitled And Darkly Glows the City.

James Apps

Ed's Notes

Iwade - What a great place to live.

Look through our pages this month to see what goes on to suit all walks of life and all ages and genders. Lots of these things need volunteers to keep them going though. If you don't already, why not give a thought to helping one of these organisations, get involved and contribute to our rich and varied community!! Your help will be much appreciated.



Sheppey Writer's Group

Sheppey Promenade 2018 - "Women in World War One"

Events 2018

Writing Workshops: Short Stories - May 15th 2018 Poetry - May 17th 2018
7 to 9 pm

Venue: Rose Street Cottage of Curiosities, 10 Rose Street, Sheerness
To book your place: promenade.taup.uk

Get started on your writing and share with others your ideas and direction - Sheppey Writers are looking for submissions for an Anthology of poems and stories from local writers.

Anthology of Poems and Stories to be published in 2019
We want your stories and poems!
Come along to the workshops or contact us and submit your work based around or inspired by this year's theme.
for details visit: promenade.taup.uk

Readings in a Country Church - 24th July 2018
St Thomas At Harty 2 to 4 pm
"An entertainment of readings by Sheppey Writers and Friends"



Sheppey Writer's Group publications - www.taup.uk
Publishers of local authors by local writers.



IWADE VILLAGE HALL COMMUNITY EVENTS PRESENTS

Quill & THE SHADES

An evening of song and dance from the 50s and 60s on

SATURDAY 2nd JUNE
7:30pm - 10pm

This band are guaranteed to get you dancing or your toes tapping as they play all your old favourites.
Large set list from many different artists.

Tickets are £6 and will be available at the IVH Food and Craft Fayres in April or May, or by contacting 07883 233741 or treasurer.iwadevh@gmail.com

Please bring your own snacks, but there will be a cash bar on the night serving alcohol and soft drinks

Iwade Health Walks waiting for Spring

James Apps

Like Waiting for Godot it seemed that Spring would be constantly delayed, yet when the daffodils popped out and the black thorn began to bloom it was certain that the strange optimism of the two tramps in Becket's play was not in vain. At the time of writing the weather is warm and friendly; the mist of days has lifted; the rain has hopefully filled the reservoir and things will grow.

My own garden is soaked and on our walk through the orchard there were extremely damp patches. The orchards close to the road approaching the Dancing Dog pub were puddled on their lower reaches with small lakes of muddy, standing water. The pathways were soft and wet and on the road we noted a nice crop of potholes. It was not a good idea to stomp the paths across the fields which is normally a pleasant choice of walking route. It seemed that March and early April had collaborated and offered a menu of showers and as we experienced, snow and ice, with varying temperatures that swung from below freezing to a barely typical 10°C.

It was a treat to see on our most recent walk Spring bulbs and bright water filled flowers battling the elements to blaze with healthy colour. The intensity of the hues are a contrast to the gloom of a prolonged winter.

Will the lad in the Becket play arrive with hope of a bright Summer - the boy informs the two tramps that Godot urges them to wait as he will be coming - and all we can hope for is a pleasant few days perhaps.

However, despite that we are optimistic and look forward to some pleasant walks.

We have some new members, a couple of pleasant men and two new women, locals who seem to be enjoying exploring their home village. I can approve of that and hope that, as a walk leader I can help them, simply by leading the walks properly, gain much pleasure from the experience. Sorry, I have gone all pompous. (Ed: No comment !!)

And to explain the reference to Waiting for Godot I have to say that when I first read the play I was fascinated by the strange characters, the dialogue and the odd two part structure. I suppose when the first line is "Nothing to be done" and the last line is "Nothing to be done" one realises that there is more to it than a first



reading. In a way it is like us waiting for the Spring to get going; there is nothing to be done but wait for it to happen and enjoy it when it does.

So much so that we are having a communal nosh at the Woolpack at the end of May and hopefully a day admiring bluebells, at Hucking, on the North Downs. Now, that is worth waiting for, isn't it?

News from the Mews BrewHouse

You are invited to join us at the Mews BrewHouse to celebrate the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry & Megan Markle
On Saturday 19th May at 12pm
Wear Red, White & Blue, a Crown or Tiara and come and enjoy all the festivities.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/mewsbrewhouse for more information.

And on a different note ...

...calling all budding Thespians, Singers, Dancers or Dames.....

Anyone want to join in and help arrange a Village Community Pantomime to be held in the Village Hall around the New Year time. The proceeds to go to the Village Hall.

If you are interested in helping out and joining in the fun, why not come and see us on Thursday 17th May at 7.30pm at The Mews Brewhouse so we can all meet up and exchange ideas and talents for this exciting community project.



IWADE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday 14 March 2018

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Plumb, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 14 February 2018 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

Visitors/Public Time

1. Visitors – No comments.

2. County and Borough Councillors – County Cllr. Whiting submitted a written report – he referred to Swale’s comments regarding Brownfield sites register and approval to extend the period of working to extract brick earth at Orchard Farm, Iwade. He is still awaiting replies concerning Mansfield Road and the build out at the garage, He has written regarding Parish Councils and residents’ right to call-in planning applications, Swale Borough Council has informed him it is not proposing to change.

3. Community Warden/PCSO – The Community Warden checked fly tipping areas – two incidents in Raspberry Hill reported. Monitored the school gate. Visited the Barn and proposed a Dementia Clinic and Older Persons group, it would be a good opportunity for him to link in with them.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. Cycling Clubs – Had an extremely productive and enlightening meeting with Sheppey Velo and as a result of both sides positive contributions to the previous issues, the Village Hall Committee have agreed the Club can use part of the car park on their Trials nights, this will ease the congestion and safety situation on Ferry Road. The Club will also remind their members to adhere to the Highway Code and have advised they will look into issuing Registration numbers for their members so that any not following the clubs code of conduct can be identified.

2. Parish Councillor Vacancy – Following a vote of acceptance Richard Mills was co-opted on to the Parish Council. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and duly took up his seat.

Planning

3. 18/500792/FULL: 23 Stangate Drive Iwade Kent ME9 8UG: Proposed first floor front extension and new window to first floor rear elevation – no objection.

4. 18/501027/FULL: To extend existing block paved

driveway to front of property to accommodate one additional vehicle (retrospective): 10 Kingfisher Close Iwade Kent ME9 8LY – no objection.

Projects/Project Updates

Christmas Lights – Waiting for a meeting with Sittingbourne Christmas Lights. *Action: Cllr. Dollimore*

GDPR

Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Dollimore; agreed £220 (up to £20 per stick) to purchase encrypted memory sticks for each Councillor in order to protect data. Regarding the appointment of a Data Protection Officer (cannot be the Clerk), Cllr. Dollimore to approach a contact to see if he can advise the Clerk on this and GDPR in general. Keep this on the Agenda. *Action: Cllr. Dollimore/Clerk*

Reports from Representatives

1. Hall – In the middle of decorating. Broadband will be installed in the hall. Event - ‘Quiff and the Shades’ appearing in June.

2. KALC – in his absence, Cllr. Clark sent in a written report. He attended the Area meeting on the 12 March. He advised Swale Borough Council is looking at stopping Parish Councils having a voice on planning applications; discussed at their General Purposes Committee a decision will be taken at Full Council. The Stroke Service will be reduced to three major service providers in Kent. GDPR comes in on the 25 May and all Parish Councils are actively working on the issues this raises.

Any Other Matters Arising

1. Medical Centre – Cllr. Horner advised that a new Practice Manager is in place and things are improving.

2. Facebook Page – To work on this as a means of putting more information out to residents. It will be an information only page; comments will not be active because this will mean that the site needs monitoring 24 hours each day, which is impossible! The page will contain a link to the Parish Council’s website.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Printed by ‘The Print Section’ Swale Borough Council
Tel: 01795 417416
Email: printroom@swale.gov.uk

Iwade Youth Group

We continue to have fun for the young people of Iwade on Friday evenings from 6:30 until 8:00. Last term included a “Nail Bar”, a Para-javelin competition, and cooking Welsh cakes for St David’s Day, alongside our usual sports and craft activities. We also have lots of table games and enjoy a tuck shop each week.

For the new term, which restarted on April 20th, we are trying opening for the first three Fridays of each month only. We have difficulty being properly staffed – we have to have leaders of both genders, and minimum numbers also, to ensure we meet safeguarding requirements. We would love to have an inrush of volunteer helpers to alleviate this situation so please do get in touch!! If you would like to help, but in a less ‘hands-on’ way why not consider joining us in a behind the scenes capacity. We can always use help with committee roles e.g. secretary, treasurer or just voice of wisdom! etc.

Dates for May will be 4th, 11th and 18th – meeting in The Village Hall.

If you’d like to help or need more information please contact 01795 436027.

**IWADE MEN’S
BREAKFAST CLUB**

Ron Francis

On Tuesday 3rd April, we held our second men’s breakfast club. This was well supported with an enthusiastic talk from Rynn explaining a little of the early history of The Sittingbourne and Kemsley Light Railway accompanied by plenty of bacon and sausage butties and coffee/tea. The talk generated lots of reminiscences as a number of our members had connections with the paper mill, and lots of chat followed on working life at the mill.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 1st May in the Barn at 09:30 (ish) when we are fortunate enough to have Alex Hill coming along to speak to us about the work he does as a Sittingbourne community first responder.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Disclaimer

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Swale Cats Protection – May 2018

It’s been a really busy couple of months for Swale CP with numerous fundraising events taking place and many cats and kittens needing to be rescued and/or rehomed.

Without the fundraising, our fantastic team couldn’t do anything though, so if you’ve previously attended a quiz night (more of that later), bingo (more of that too) or just put a few pence in the bucket, thank you!

Way back in March, we held our first ever Chip and Snip day, a day that saw us hire the RSPCA mobile neutering wagon and work in conjunction with WellPets and Borden Lane Vets in Sittingbourne. Over a period of 2 days, the vets and nurses neutered and chipped 47 cats and kittens, which, in turn has potentially stopped over 500 kittens from being born in 1 year alone! All owners were charged £10 for the neuter and chipping as the full costs were subsidised by Swale CP, RSPCA and the two vet practices. An unbelievably successful event, team work being the key and we cannot thank those involved enough. We will definitely be running another event, but need to do some more fundraising first!

Helping to top up the funds again, on St Patricks Day we held a quiz night in conjunction with Iwade Village Hall. We raised just under £200 for each charity which was a brilliant effort and will help so much with our costs. Thanks again to Iwade Garage, Heaven Hair and Beauty and IVH for their raffle donations. Congratulations to the Agatha Quiztie team who won, let’s see if they can hold on to their crown for the next one!

We were at Bunnings twice in April and managed to raise over £150 despite the weather trying to ruin everything. Thanks to Nikki at Bunnings for her continued support. We also had our Pets at Home fundraising weekend in April that raised £233 over 3 days. We had some fab raffle prizes to give away, and also donations of more prizes given to us and some carpet samples for our foster cats – thank you to our donators.

Coming up on the fundraising diary is our second bingo evening on Saturday 16th June. The first one sold out, so make sure you get your names down as quickly as possible. We always try to make our evenings as reasonably priced as possible and the bingo ones are no different. It’ll be £2 per book or 6 books for £10, so you can split the books up between a group of you, or hoard the whole lot and try to win big! Children over the age of 8 are welcome to come along and it’s bring your own food and drink. Email us at publicity@swale.cats.org.uk or call 01795 437372 to book your places.

With more events happening, we’d like to appeal to anyone in the Iwade area who may have some storage we could rent please. Nothing of value would be stored there, just banners, leaflets and tables etc that are filling up our own homes currently! A garage size would be ideal, but we’d consider anything secure and dry basically. We’ve contacted Optivo, the local housing association but they have no spare garages unfortunately. Could you help? Call or email us, we’d love to hear from you.

Keep up to date with what’s going on at Swale CP and the cats/kittens we have ready for rehoming by adding us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram– just search Swale Cats Protection, or go straight to our website www.cats.org.uk/swale