



CRAFTWORKS COLLEGE



Louise Funnell

Did you know that over on the Culnells Farm site, Craftworks College (an SEN provider) students are learning Horticulture, Creative Crafts, Maths & English Skills in 'The Nook'?

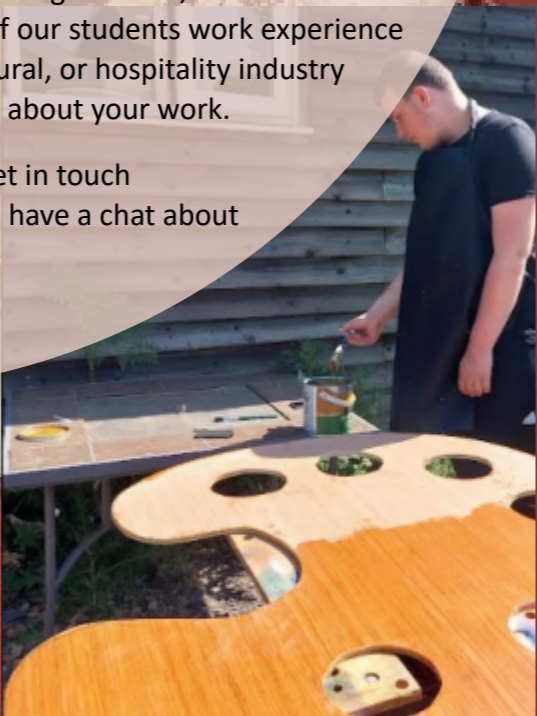
This site was a hub of creativity and growth in the last term, with Horticulture students designing a patch of ground into a Chelsea Garden Show-styled garden, complete with Gnomes and a bug hotel!

The Creative Crafts students also got stuck in with changing an area near their 'Nook' classroom, this is continuing into this year. They are designing a creative outdoor area that will inspire their learning in the summer months. We love this artist-inspired table!

At Craftworks College, we not only grow skills and knowledge but in personal development too. This includes wellbeing walks out into the Iwade countryside, and developing opportunities for work experience with our students.

If you are an inclusive and disability-confident company working in Swale, we would love to hear from you, especially if you could offer one or more of our students work experience placements. Perhaps you work in the creative, horticultural, or hospitality industry and would be willing to come and talk to our students about your work.

If you would like to know more, then please do get in touch with francesca@brogdalecic.co.uk and we can have a chat about partnering with you.



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

THE IWADE OBSERVER

OCTOBER 2023

IWADE ALLOTMENTS

Christine McQuade



We had a lovely afternoon recently at our annual get together. We look forward to these lovely summer days round the allotments, catching up with our allotmentees. The sun was out, the Gazebo was up, the BBQ was on and the Pimms was well received.

Our yearly competition for best plot was won by Andrew, 2nd was Helen & Mark and 3rd Christine & Peter.

Lots of hard work went into their plots and was well deserved.

IWADE WRITING GROUP

Yes, Iwade has a small writing group. We meet once a month to read and critique each other's written piece for that month and set a subject for the coming month. We usually write a piece of between 500 and 750 words on the given subject and then offer it to the group for friendly discussion. This is not for criticism but simply for comment and generally to consider how we have developed the piece, the strength of the narrative and the characters and scenario, etc. If you think this is something you'd like to have a go at why not contact the group via the.iwade.observer@gmail.com and give us a try. No need to write anything initially, just see how it works. Below is a sample piece from one of our members to give you an idea of the sort of thing we do. The subject for this piece was to Retell a Traditional Tale.

The Three Little Pigs and the Big?Bad?Wolf?

The office looked opulent; glass fronted bookcases containing leather bound volumes, ornate wood panelling, soft lighting and stylishly, yet classically furnished. It exuded an atmosphere of calm and mindfulness. In the centre of the room was a deeply buttoned leather couch on which reposed the red-haired Reynard, the psychotherapist's latest client. Reynard who suffered from inestimably low self-esteem was quietly recounting a tale to the therapist.

"I'd tried to make my voice as macho as possible as I attempted to terrorise the Three Little Pigs. The first pig had built what could only be described as a shambolically pathetic shelter, built from straw. I warned him to come out otherwise I'd huff and I'd puff and I'd blow his shambolic shack down. To be honest though, I suffer from asthma so I would only have been doing a bit of huffing and certainly no puffing! It didn't help either being inside a hot and uncomfortable fancy dress costume.

Well of course the first pig didn't respond to my oh-so-polite request, so I was forced to pop into town, to Airlines 'r Us, and hire an industrial airline to provide the puff to go with my huff. Well that worked and my cunning industrial-airline-related strategy showed me to be a genius of lateral thinking! The pig ran out squealing uncontrollably and headed for the second little pig's house to take shelter just down the lane.

I felt soooooo good! I'd got them on the run, literally! As I made my way to the second house (I use that term loosely of course) I saw that it was little more than a pitiful attempt to arrange a bundle of kindling into a des res! It didn't faze me one little bit! Again, I deepened my voice and told them (for there were now two little porcine protagonists sheltering therein) that I'd huff and I'd puff and I'd blow their posh pile of sticks down. My, though, it was getting hot, and a bit sweaty inside this costume, and of course, they didn't respond in a sensible way and ignored my oh-so-polite request.

Well, you know all about my asthma problem now, so I popped into town again, to Flamethrowers 'r Us, and hired their finest deluxe flame thrower to destroy the little pigs

totally inadequate little sticky construction. Well my cunning plan worked like a dream. What a genius strategist I am! As soon as the venomously licking flames slathered over their shack they ran out as it simultaneously burst into flames in what in my opinion was a wonderful pyro display. I do have to admit I have arsonist tendencies though! They ran out squealing that "our whiskers are scorched", and hotfooted it (Ha! Ha! Ha! – aren't I a card?) down the lane thinking they would thwart me by taking shelter in the third Little Pigs construction effort.

I was feeling, Hot! Hot! Hot! Literally and metaphorically. They wouldn't be able to outdo me now. My plan to rule their world was slowly coming good! So, I made my way down the lane, and I do have to say what a lusciously lovely leafy lane it was. Soon I happened upon a rather grand looking house, positively palatial compared to the straw and sticks efforts of the other little porkers. I was beginning to sweat profusely now inside the costume which seemed to be getting heavier and heavier as I walked up the slight incline to the third house. I decided that I wasn't even going to bother with all that huff and puff nonsense this time, what with my asthma getting worse due to a combination of stress, and wearing this bloody costume! So, I popped straight into town, to High Explosives 'r Us, where I purchased a few sticks of gelignite and a length of slow-burn fuse. That'll root them out, make no mistake. Their end was in sight!

Back at the positively palatial pigsty I set the gelignite beside the front door of the house, lit the fuse and wheezed off to take shelter in a nearby copse of trees and await the mayhem that was to follow. My, was I feeling on a high! I could finally get my paws on those pesky little porkers. But what happened next finally wrecked me emotionally and brought me to your couch.

Behind me I could hear a fizzing sound. I turned just in time to see the glowing fuse, that had got caught in my magnificent brush, reach the gelignite that I'd unknowingly dragged along with me. The resulting explosion left me in the buff, fur scorched and my brush, my pride and joy, a denuded, smouldering, smoking embarrassment. What made it worse was the sight of the Three Little Pigs sniggering at the window of their house untouched by the high explosive mayhem that had befallen me. The explosion had ripped off my Big Bad Wolf costume and revealed the mangy fox that I really was. Not Big, not Bad and certainly not a Wolf, just a mangy old fox with an identity crisis!

No wonder I'm in such a state, bested by and exposed by three stupid little pigs."

Reynard had burst into tears as he recounted his tale. The psychotherapist sighed heavily, "Ah, yes I see now why you've come to see me Reynard, shall we meet same time again next week? This could take a lot of unpicking"



Sittingbourne Photographic Society Est. 1975
Love photography, taking photos and learning new skills!
Come along to the SPS and meet like minded locals!
Amateur - professional, 'all the gear' or smartphone user? Everyone welcome!
We host a mix of fun competitions, talks from professionals or enthusiastic amateurs and 'studio nights' to practice different skills

Club Nights: Wednesday 7.45 - 9.45pm
Season: September 20th 2023 - May 29th 2024
Venue: The Woodstock Club (Opposite Kent Science Park)
Broad Oak Road Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8AG

Visit our website: www.sittingbourneps.co.uk (or use the QR code)
Contact by email: info@sittingbourneps.co.uk
(all photographs from 2022/23 'top of the year' competition © SPS)

SCAN ME

ROYALS BRING DOWN CURTAIN ON LEAGUE SEASON

Kent Royals finished their home league speedway campaign with a fine win over Edinburgh Monarchs Academy by 48 points to 41 on Sunday 10th September. The meeting was run in blistering hot conditions which affected the track staff, riders and supporters who by the end of the day were very weary and longing to get in the shade. The management did their bit by kindly providing free sunscreen at the turnstile and the sweet stall. The end of the league season now gives the club a few weeks break to tidy up the track and site before embarking on a busy October which will include a four-team tournament and a special track training day.

N.B. Our pictures show close action racing taken at some unusual camera angles:

1. All four riders in line coming down the start/finish straight.



2. All four riders jockeying for position going into the first corner



THE SHEPHERDS' CROOK

Iwade's own pop-up micropub

Our next opening is on Saturday October 28th 2023 at The Barn as usual. See our Facebook page (search The Shepherd's Crook - Iwade) for more information in due course, as to opening times, special events, guest caterers, etc.

We look forward to seeing you there to sample our craft beers and ciders, and maybe some fine food!

IWADE VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Sunday 22 October 2023 - 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon



The Village Clean up starts at 9.30 am, and ends at 12.00 noon, helpers to report to the Village Hall to collect black sacks and sign in.

Refreshments will be available during the morning.
Please come along and help tidy our Village

UPDATES FROM CITIZENS ADVICE SWALE - SEPTEMBER 2023

How can we help you?

- General Advice: Call Adviceline on 0808 278 7979, send an online request at <https://citizensadvice.co.uk/email-general-advice/> (Monday-Wednesday) or ...

come to a drop-in session at Swale House, Sittingbourne on Mondays 10am-12pm, or 43 Stone Street, Faversham on Wednesdays and Fridays 10am-12pm.

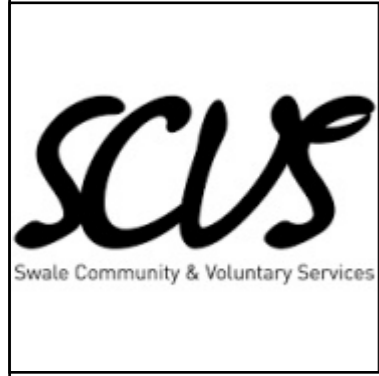
- Debt: Request a call back at <https://citizensadvice.co.uk/debt/>

- Our services are subject to adviser availability. Please follow us on social media for up to date opening hours.

We offer free, confidential and impartial advice to people living or working in and around Faversham, Sheppey and Sittingbourne. In addition to general advice we offer specialist advice services including debt and benefits. We're an independent charity and we rely on donations and grants to make a difference to people in our community.



SWALE SCVS BEFRIENDING SERVICE



Paul Harper

The Befriending Service is continually growing to meet the needs of the local community; providing a one-to-one service to older people, who are socially isolated, with weekly visits from a volunteer Befriender,

or a friendly weekly phone call from one of our telephone befrienders. This helps to promote confidence, independence and wellbeing.

Loneliness is one of the biggest 'illnesses' affecting our older people with more and more living alone; often without the support of their family. Alarmingly, over half of older people consider their TV to be their main form of company. Loneliness can have a huge effect on both physical and mental health.

The support we provide

Swale CVS Befriending Service provides support through the following:-

Home visits/Telephone Call - A volunteer will visit or phone someone regularly for a supportive and friendly chat providing a vital lifeline for those struggling at home with loneliness.

Lunch Club – A Lunch out to a pub or restaurant around Swale

Social Morning - Our Social morning offers befriending clients a monthly club on a Friday where they are able to meet new people on a regular basis and enjoy games, art and craft, quizzes.

Film Club - Our film club is held monthly and offers befriending clients a chance to meet new people, watch a film they have decided on and then have the time for a cuppa and to talk all about the film with other clients and volunteers.

Chair Based Exercise - Light exercises from a chair

followed by a cuppa and a biscuit making a huge difference with both the physical and mental health of our clients. This also includes a work sheet to continue at home.

Trips out - We are able to offer trips out to places of interest. These trips give clients the opportunity to get out and about whilst meeting new people.

Digital Skills Sessions - These sessions allow clients to gain new skills or improve their existing skills with all things digital from using an iPad or tablet, to their mobile phone or laptop enabling them to access medical, financial and social appointments.

10 Pin Bowling Club - Bi Monthly club that is accessible with raised sides and a ramp.

The Befriending service costs £25 a year, offers volunteer transport to get them to the clubs, a home visit or Telephone befriending once a week. (there is a charge for Tickets on outings and the lunch)

There are also opportunities for volunteers too, we are looking for:-

- Volunteer Drivers and befrienders. All out of pocket expenses are paid to the volunteers.

Paul Harper

*Older People's Services Co-ordinator
Swale Community and Voluntary Services
Central House, Central Avenue, SITTINGBOURNE, Kent,
ME10 4NU*

Telephone: 01795 473828 – (Option 2)

Website: www.swalecvs.org.uk



Help us win £1,000.
Please nominate us today!



ASSEMBLY ON SUNDAY



John Guest

On a sweltering Sunday in September, the long-anticipated experiment Assembly on Sunday, took place in Iwade Primary Academy school hall at 3.00. There was an enthusiastic crowd there from babes in pushchairs to pensioners who like eating cake! Despite a few technical issues, the afternoon was a great success and we plan to do it again. Next month in fact and every second Sunday at 3.00 at least until Christmas. I'm hugely grateful to the Bourne Alliance Multi Academy Trust and to Mrs Stewart and Mr Jacobs in particular for making this possible and to the congregation at All Saints (young and old) for helping to run the assembly.

The next Assembly on Sunday will be at 3.00pm on 8th October and we're going to focus on a Harvest theme so expect to engage in all things growing. If you're a Garden Centre frequenter or you've grown cress or sunflowers at school, then this is definitely for you. We'll have some gardening tips, some activity tables, some community advice and, as requested, more action songs and

audience participation! The story will be shorter, the sound will be clearer and the positivity will be even more positive. However, the homemade cakes and biscuits will be just as delicious as last time!

Do you like growing things? I'm pretty hopeless when it comes to gardening but my wife, Kim, is ace number one (though she probably wouldn't thank me for telling you). One thing I am good at planting however, is "Invisible Seeds". Some of you may have seen me do this before, especially if you were in The Barn earlier this year but I'd really like to draw in a few more budding Titchmarshes to engage in this vital community exercise. Planting these kinds of seeds is really easy (even for an old hack like me) but can make a real difference whether you're 8 or 80!

Intrigued? Well then ... come and join us on 8th October to find out more. As it says on the posters: Do you like stories ... and cakes and biscuits ... and making new friends? And can spare an hour? We'd love to see you and celebrate our growing partnership together!



IWADE READING AND BOOK GROUP - SEPTEMBER MEETING

Lynn Lowthion

This month we met to discuss The Bandit Queens by Patrini Shroff.

The book is a marmite tale some of us enjoyed it and thought amusing whilst other members thought it had a dark side.

The story is set in a poor Indian village and mostly covers the lives of the women who live there, it certainly made several of us glad to live in this country! There are many

customs that the women followed and it was interesting to read about this and also how the caste system works.

The next meeting is Tuesday 10th October and the book we will discuss is The Sleepover by Samantha King and for November we will be reading Blood in the Garden by Chris O'Donoghue. There will be no book for December as I am sure we will all be busy!

Thank you Ann for hosting this month's meeting.



COFFEE MORNING

In All Saints Church building on The Street, Iwade

A chance to enjoy a cuppa, make new friends, even make a donation to FoodBank

Every 1st Wednesday, 10.00 to Noon

Starts 4th October

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH JULY 2023

Present

Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Acting Chair
Cllr. S. Lancashire
Cllr. D. Waters
Cllr. B. Whiting
Cllr. R. Stalley-Moores
Cllr. S. Fuszard
Samantha Gray, Clerk
Borough Cllr. Lloyd Chapman
2 residents

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies received from Parish Cllrs. Hyde, Dollimore, Langham and S. Waters.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Stalley-Moores, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14 June 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

Visitors/Public Time

- 1. Visitors** - Nothing to report
- 2. County and Borough Councillors** - Nothing to report
- 3. Community Warden / PCSO**
No reports received at the time of the meeting. Members noted that PC Jez Chittim is holding a drop in service for residents in the Mews Brewhouse at 10.30am on Friday 14 July.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. Councillor Co-option:

- Noted that Cllr. Sam Fuszard was co-opted as a member of the Parish Council in the June meeting and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.
- Resident Tony Guest attended the meeting to discuss his application for the current Council member vacancy. All members agreed to co-opt Tony as a member of the Parish Council and he duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

2. Village Repairs - An update on

the work in progress:

- Overgrown hedges on Grovehurst Road & Sheppey Way – reported to KCC who confirmed they will action.
- Repair & Stain fences on entrances and exits of the Village – Handyman Steve Wakeling will carry out and keep the council updated.
- Maintain Flower Beds – Handyman Steve Wakeling has assessed the work required and will add to his weekly schedule.
- Bus Shelter – Handyman Steve Wakeling will add to his weekly schedule and keep the council updated.
- Damaged information board in Woodpecker Park – this has previously been “made safe” by Swale BC, they could replace this, but they advised this is not on the top of their list of priorities as they could replace and then it could be vandalised again.
- Fence posts at Monins Green rotten at ground level – Swale officer will inspect and carry out work required.
- Two trees by the Cairn appear to have died – One tree was recently planted, Clerk to contact the nursery to discuss this and source a quote to replace the older tree.

Action: Clerk

3. Parish Council Community Cost of Living Grant Scheme – The Clerk completed the funding application for the Church to help with the food bank and unfortunately was advised the funding has closed at the moment but this is under review. Clerk to apply for funding again when the scheme re-opens.

Action: Clerk

4. Parking Issues – Cormorant Road – Restricted access for emergency vehicles – Members discussed the amount of cars parked on the road/pavements that would restrict access for emergency

services vehicles. Double yellow lines have been discussed with KCC and they advised they do not think they would resolve this issue. Members suggested posting notices on Facebook regarding inconsiderate parking.

Action: Clerk

5. Issues with PROW between Springvale and Sheerstone – The Clerk contacted the KCC PROW officer and was advised they do not deal with anti-social behaviour issues and should contact Swale Borough Council, which the Clerk has done and is currently awaiting a response from them. The Clerk has also contacted PC Jez Chittim to make him aware of the issues residents are having with anti-social behaviour in this area.

Planning

Applications are viewable on:
Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

23/502863/TNOT56:

Telecommunications Unit Sheppey Way Iwade Kent ME9 8RE. Prior Notification for Electronic Communications for proposed 15.0m Phase 8 Monopole, 3no. cabinets, and associated ancillary works. For its prior approval to: siting and appearance.

Council members discussed and support this planning application.

KCC/SW/0104/2023: Extension to existing stores building and erection of new workshop Building. MVV Environment Ridham, Lord Nelson Road, Ridham Dock, Iwade, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8FQ. Council members discussed and advised no comments on this application.

Correspondence

1. Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2024-39 – and Draft Kent Minerals Sites Plan – Regulation 18 Public Consultation June 2023 – Council members discussed and advised no comments.

2. Visuals for Parish Council meetings – Cllr. Fuszard suggested the Parish Council use visuals such as a TV screen connected to a smart phone or tablet to display planning applications and any other documents needed during meetings. Council members also suggested video recording meetings and asked the Clerk to look into whether we could allow access to the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Action: Clerk

Finance

1. Gala Lights – Quote to Extend Christmas Tree Lights – Council members considered the quotation to extend the Christmas Tree Lights and the Clerk advised Gala Lights provide a 1 year warranty for new Lights. Cllr. Guest advised he could obtain another quote from a steel fabricator. Clerk to keep on the agenda. Members also suggested installing a concrete bollard to protect the lamppost on the corner of Telly Tubby Hill which has recently been knocked down and requires replacing. Clerk to add to the next agenda.

Action: Clerk/Cllr. Guest

2. Councillor Training – How Councils can more efficiently engage with young people – Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Whiting, members agreed to the cost of £44.40 for Cllr. Fuszard to attend the training course.

Action: Clerk

3. Councillor Training – Managing Difficult People and Conversations – Proposed by Cllr. D. Waters and seconded by Cllr. Whiting, members agreed to the cost of £44.40 for Cllr. Fuszard to attend the training course.

Action: Clerk

4. Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting - Proposed by Cllr. Whiting and seconded by Cllr.

Lancashire, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 30 June. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Whiting and Lancashire to log in and authorize payments.

Action: Cllrs. Whiting/Lancashire

Projects – Updates on Current and New

1. King’s Coronation 2023 – Members reported the event was a success, some residents attended along with council members to enjoy the Beacon Lighting.

2. Iwade Clean Up – Unfortunately only a small number of volunteers came forward for the event scheduled for Sunday 2 July, therefore this was cancelled.

Council members agreed to hold the next clean up event on Sunday 22 October, this time with no BBQ, but tea, coffee and light refreshments will be served. Clerk to invite local groups and advertise the event on Facebook, notice boards and the Parish Council website.

Action: Clerk

3. D-Day 80th Anniversary Beacon Lighting – The Parish Council plan to take part in the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings, taking place on 6 June 2024. As well as a Beacon Lighting in the evening, 6 June 2024 will also be national Fish and Chip day and members suggested inviting the Fish & Chip Van to the event, also organise a parade, and involve local schools.

Reports from Representatives

1. Hall – Representatives not present to report.

2. KALC – Representative not present to report.

3. Swale Western Area Committee – No meeting held.

4. Swale West Parishes – No meeting held.

Any Other Matters Arising

• Members discussed the concerns raised by residents over the plan to lawn over the new cemetery. Swale Borough Council are responsible for

maintaining the cemetery and there are signs on the gates which states this will be a lawned cemetery. The Clerk contacted SBC and they advised all funeral directors were advised of this in writing and were also provided with a copy of the revised regulations. A resident has explained to Cllr. Whiting that 11 funeral directors they have contacted say they were not informed of this. Council members sympathise with the residents that are affected by this situation.

• Members reported there are traveller’s parked underneath the Sheppey Crossing bridge. Clerk to find out if the area is within our Parish and contact Kent Highways.

Action: Clerk

• Members discussed the Village Precinct – no action has been taken on wall repairs and members suggest contacting Gordon Henderson, the Press and the Landowner. Clerk will add to the next agenda.

Action: Clerk

• The Clerk, Cllr. Stalley-Moores and Cllr. Lancashire met with Southern Water to discuss the water leak on Ferry Road. Southern Water hope to detect the leak within the next month and will clean up the area and repair the pedestrian crossing lights. The Clerk will place a detailed response on Facebook pages and the Parish Council website.

• Cllr. Tolhurst advised the CCTV camera which is scheduled to be installed to the recently damaged lamp post on Telly Tubby Hill will be installed to a lamppost nearby on Sheppey Way, and when the new lamp post is installed the camera can be moved over. The cameras will be installed on 10 August.