

Your Parish MAGAZINE

What's on in
Seer Green
& Jordans

December 2022/
January 2023



**Christmas
Services**

**A Christmas
walk**

**Jordans Picture
House films**

**Janet's
Christmas
Books**



one pound



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Gareth

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From the Editors

Happy Christmas and our very best wishes for the New Year to our wonderful contributors who have kept going through difficult times, our advertisers who keep supporting us, the distributors who drop the magazines through your doors and most of all to you, our readers.

We hope that you enjoy this Christmas edition with all the information about Christmas events in the church and

in the two villages, Helen Lindsay Clark's seasonal recipe and Janet Stewart's Christmas book suggestions.

Have you noticed the cover picture? We had some excellent entries for our competition - we'll do it again for the summer edition! The winner was Emmy Sheppee-Phelps aged 11.

Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Phil Moody

Next Month's Magazine

Please send all contributions for the **February** issue to:

editorseergreen@gmail.com by **7 January 2023**. Diary dates for the next two or three months would be very welcome.

Articles should be **300 words max** and photos should be jpeg format, preferable 300 dpi.

Please note any items submitted may be edited for space, content or style.

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Front cover competition winner - Emmy Sheppee-Phelps aged 11

Church and Community Organisations

Vicar	
Rev Jez Carr	rev.jezcarr@gmail.com 07916 559151
Primary working days:	Tues, Wed and Sunday
Rector of the Benefice	
Rev Dan Beesley	revdbeesley@gmail.com 01494 872097 07590 123603
Benefice Assistant Priests	
Rev Jenny Tebboth	07708 094532
Rev Paul Henderson	paul.e.henderson@btinternet.com
Licensed Lay Minister and Prayer Group	
Linda West	
Children and Families Minister and SGKIDS	
Janna Holder	07764 490960
Churchwarden and General Enquiries	
Janine Dunnell	07525 322955
Parochial Church Council	
Audrey Hardy Treasurer	01494 672592
Pastoral Care	
Heather Rowe	01494 677573
Church Flower Guild	
Pam Britton	01494 678466
Scouts Explorers Cubs Beavers	andrew@seergreenscouts.org.uk
Seer Green Brownies and 1st Seer Green Rainbows	
Carole Wharrier	07977 423555
Eight O'clock Club	
Monica Sado	01494 677851
Girl Guides	
Brenda Orr District Commissioner	01753 887209
Jordans and District Rotary Club	
Naomi Arnold Secretary	01753 663305
Jordans Horticultural Society	
Emma Pegram	01494 874574
Shan Liu	01494 730312
Faith Key	01494 870039
Jordans School	
Holly Swain Head Teacher	01494 874217
Jordans Music Club	
Marion Pell Chairman	01494 872875

Jordans Village Hall	Office 10.00 - 1.00
Chris Jenkins Booking Secretary	01494 875177
Jordans Village Lunch Club	
Catherine Robinson	01494 873193
Jordans Village Nursery School	
Julie Leonard	01494 875603
Jordans Picture House	
Alan Sealy/Box Office	01494 873205
Jubilee Hall	
David Howkins	01494 857760
Jordans Quaker Meeting House and Centre	
Alex Wildwood	01494 876594
Little Ducklings Nursery	
Libby Wilson Director	01494 672209
Seer Green Allotments	
Barry Richardson / Chairman	01494 673407
Seer Green Baptist Church	
David Horncastle - Head Deacon	01494 677266
Seer Green Bridge Club	
Irene Machin Secretary	01494 676321
Seer Green Church of England School	
Laura Morel Head Teacher	01494 676344
Seer Green Gardeners	
Jane Smith	07759 841205
Seer Green and Jordans Society	
Alan Kell	ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com www.ourlivingvillage.org
Seer Green Lunch Club	
Gill Roberts	01494 677281
Seer Green Parish Council	
Liz Bates Parish Clerk	01494 874233
Seer Green Pre school	
Kirsten Pole Manager	01494 677190
Seer Green Football	
- United (juniors) Tim Wyatt	07833 246819
- FC (adults) Art Anderson	07919 027351
Seer Green Village Choirs	
Jane Smith	07759 841205

Thought for the Month



As we approach Christmas, here's a nativity bombshell for you: Jesus probably wasn't born in a stable. At least not the kind we imagine.

I love the now-classic nativity story. I remember being dewy-eyed with pride watching my then-3-year-old son wandering the stage aimlessly in his lamb's costume. We'll embrace this version in many of our services and carols. But the popular version embellishes the original (mostly harmlessly). There are no mentions of donkeys for Mary or camels for kings (though those are reasonable inferences), nor of inns (apart from the King James Version — to be discussed!). And no stables as such. There is a manger (food trough), but we'll come to that.

A more likely story is this: Joseph and Mary arrive in Bethlehem for the census, to the home of relatives (it would be culturally inconceivable for them to go elsewhere, or for their relatives to turn them away). They crowd in with umpteen other travelling relatives. Mary goes into labour and the women take her to where the animals were kept overnight (for space and privacy from the men). Jesus is born amid the helpful (and not) fussing of the in-laws and is placed in the manger - and yes, maybe the cattle were lowing.

The classic image of the family alone in an isolated stable may have comforted us during the loneliness of Covid Christmases and Jesus is present to all who are lonely this Christmas too. But a careful reading of the nativity points to something closer to the regathering we all long for this year. Jesus arrived into the buzz of family reunions and reignited friendships. He will be among us as we feel that buzz this Christmas. Come and enjoy the classic (and alternative) stories at our Christmas services!

Jez Carr, Vicar



Church Events | News

How did we get here? Part 2

Here are more memories of lay people (not the vicars) who made Holy Trinity the church it is today. This is part of Holy Trinity's 175 birthday celebration.

John Evans was a churchwarden and tended the churchyard. He was the first person (we think) to nurture and preserve the wildflowers in the churchyard and noted that it was a unique environment as it had had no fertiliser or weed killer applied. John was a very practical man and was one of the leading lights in the volunteer group who restored the church hall.

Richard and Mary Thornton were another couple who contributed greatly to the church. Richard was a

quiet and dedicated churchwarden. He produced the guide to the church which is still used today.

Joy Brand was a local artist and designed some of the covers for the altar, the millennium collage by the choir stalls and two of the beautiful collages on the north wall. Joy also produced wonderful sketches for the children to colour in - which were hugely popular

We have a lovely piece about Peter Bingle, who died more recently, and was also an important part of church life. It was written by his family. (See below).

Sue Puttergill

Peter Bingle

Earlier this year we lost a very dear Husband, Dad and Grandad. Peter was born and grew up in Chalford in the Cotswolds. His work brought him nearer London in 1968 and he settled in Seer Green with Eileen and their sons, Nigel and Tim.

They were warmly welcomed by all villagers, and when the Village Hall - then next door to them in Chalfont Road - was on fire, Bob Cyster, the Landlord of The Cricketers, knew

Peter would be working and made a point of checking his family were OK. Peter was always grateful for this.

Peter and Eileen were long-time members of Holy Trinity Church. He was a passionate member of the PCC and enjoyed ringing the Church bell at services.

He also had a keen interest in Seer Green Scouts, which his boys and his two grandchildren attended, helping

on many occasions. He was privileged to become Scout President. He and his sons also played cricket at Jordans Cricket Club until the mid-1980s. When Nigel tragically passed away aged 22, the villagers were immensely supportive and donated money for the Rose Archway at the beginning of Jubilee Walk.



After retirement, Peter became immersed in Seer Green School life where his grandchildren attended and became a Governor and eventually Chair of Governors, spending many hours listening to children read and offering Year 6 his stories of being a WW2 child and presenting them with leaving Bibles.

When he sadly passed away in July this year with Alzheimer's, it was comforting to hear from those who had been inspired by Peter: children at School, the Scouts, and the PCC.

We thank the villagers of Seer Green and Jordans for their kind messages and support – we are sure Peter will be watching over the villages that had a prominent place in his heart.

Eileen, Tim, Diane and Family

Donations to Holy Trinity

If you would like to donate to the work and upkeep of Holy Trinity Church there are many quick and easy ways to do so -

Go to our website:

- **seergreenandjordanscofe.org** and scroll down the homepage to 'Online Giving' and follow the link.

Or go to:

- **<https://tinyurl.com/4hx7cyzx>**

Or you can activate our Online Giving page by using the QR code opposite.

Donations in cash/cheque may be delivered to our treasurer at 58 Chalfont Road. If you can Gift Aid your donation, please add your name and address.

If you would like to join our planned giving scheme, please speak to our treasurer Audrey Hardy on 01494 672592.



Holy Trinity Services in December

Christmas for Families

There is so much on offer to get involved with this Christmas. We hope you can join us over the festive season.

- 4 Dec 8.00am BCP Communion Service, in person and YouTube
3.30pm Christingle Service, in person only - Our Christingle service helps us to start thinking about Jesus coming to Earth as the Light of the world. Join us in this special all age gathering as we have fun together with some edible treats!
- 7 Dec 10.30am Midweek Holy Communion Service, in person only
- 11 Dec 10.00am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube
5.00pm Sing into Christmas, in person and YouTube - New for 2022 - Led by Rev Jez and Jane Smith, featuring Seer Green Singers. Come and enjoy Carols, Christmas songs and festive readings.
- 13 Dec 3.30 - 4pm Carols, Cookies and Hot Chocolate - Come and sing your favourite carols and enjoy cookies and hot chocolate. This event is particularly aimed at popping by on your way home from school... but all ages are welcome to come and join in.
- 18 Dec 8.00am BCP Communion Service, in person only
10.00am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube
7.00pm Traditional Lessons and Carols, in person and YouTube
- 19 Dec 2.30-4.30pm Explore Christmas! - Particularly aimed at 3-11s, accompanied by their parents/carers. Come and enjoy Christmas crafts, activities, and refreshments, with the afternoon finishing with a short gathering altogether. *Note this is at Seer Green Baptist Church*
- 24 Dec 3.00pm Crib Service, in person only. Book your free tickets.
4.30pm Crib Service, in person only. Book your free tickets.
11.30pm Midnight Communion, in person only
- 25 Dec 10.00am Christmas Day Service, in person and YouTube (no communion)

After two years of online village nativities, this year we are back in person! Our Crib service is designed for the whole family, lasts about 35 minutes and tells the Christmas story with lots of audience participation! Come dressed as part of the Nativity story or in your favourite Christmas jumper. Due to the popularity of these services and the church capacity, you will need to get tickets. There is no charge for these but if you would like to make a donation towards the work Holy Trinity does, particularly with children and families in our villages, you can do so online with the tickets, or with cash or card on the day. Tickets will be available via eventbrite from 1 December. For the booking links, please visit - www.christmasinseergreen.weebly.com

Both our 2020 and 2021 online village nativities are still available to watch online on our Holy Trinity YouTube channel. If you would like any further information about any of the events please get in touch with me, jannaholder@talktalk.net or 07764490960.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas, may you enjoy time with your family, friends and community over the festive season.

Janna - Children and Families Minister.

Holy Trinity Services in January

- 1 Jan Begin the New Year at one of our benefice services at Chalfont Giles. For times see our notice boards. There are no services at Holy Trinity.
- 4 Jan 10.30am Midweek Communion
- 8 Jan 8.00am BCP Communion Service, in person only
10.00am Morning Praise for Epiphany, in person and YouTube
- 15 Jan 10.00am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube
- 22 Jan 8.00am BCP Communion Service, in person only
10.00am Morning Praise Service, in person and YouTube
- 29 Jan 10.00am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube

Our streamed service will be on our YouTube channel.
<https://tinyurl.com/4n9xbhct>

For more information about families' activities contact Janna

Our Focus Charities for December, Christmas and January

This year, our charities will be as follows.

The Children's Society

At the Christingle Service on 4 December, all donations will be given to the Children's Society (this year, presents for the St Andrews Family Support Group will already have been collected a week earlier). Additional donations are welcome – see below. The Children's Society say: "Everything we do feeds into our vision for a society built for all children – from engaging our supporters to lobby their MPs for policy change at



a national level, to directly supporting a young person experiencing a crisis with their mental health. We explore and expose the realities of children and young people's lives. We listen carefully to what young people tell us, hear what they say, and ground what we do in their voices and needs ... Our priority areas are well-being, adolescent risk, and child poverty."

Disasters Emergency Committee & Housing Justice

Throughout the rest of December, including all Christmas services, charitable donations will be shared between the Disasters Emergency Committee and Housing Justice (welcome donations to the work and upkeep of Holy Trinity Church will be treated separately, as usual). The DEC brings together fifteen leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently at times of crisis overseas including Christian Aid, Tearfund, and Oxfam. Pooling resources to work as one, they are pivotal in co-ordinating the UK public's response to overseas disasters, getting aid to people who need it, fast. And in collaboration with their Rapid Response Network of national media and corporate partners, they raise the alarm to the UK public and set up easy ways to donate. Particular current concerns include the humanitarian crises in Ukraine and Afghanistan and the floods in Pakistan.

Housing Justice

Housing Justice is a small, but highly influential, national ecumenical charity, mobilising churches and other faith/community groups to address homelessness and housing need in the many forms it takes.

Their work makes a huge difference to thousands of people across the country who are experiencing homelessness. Specifically, they set up and support winter night shelters, link people with spare rooms up with destitute migrants, and support them both as they share a home, support church and community groups in developing other local responses to homelessness and housing need, and help churches identify ways they can use church assets for the benefit of those who are in housing need or homeless.



Kisiizii Partners

Throughout January, we will continue our long-standing support as 'Kisiizii Partners' for Kisiizi Hospital and Nursing School in Uganda - an extraordinary place in rural south-west Uganda serving a very

poor community with healthcare, hydroelectricity, primary school education and a community health insurance scheme. Established 55 years ago, Kisiizi continues to develop with a School of Nursing, increasing networks both local and international and yet has continued to provide care for the most vulnerable including the mentally ill, children with disability and neonates. Its core aim remains to share "Life in all its fullness" with its patients, staff, community, and visitors. A few years ago, some of our members much enjoyed a visit as tourists.

Donations

Donations to any of these charities may be made via their website. Alternatively, cheques (payable to Seer Green PCC) and cash donations may be given to our treasurer, Mrs Audrey Hardy, at 58 Chalfont Road, or put in one of the blue 'charity' envelopes in church at any time, marking it 'Children's Society', 'DEC', 'Housing Justice' and/or 'Kisiizi Partners' and placed in the green box. If you can Gift Aid your donation, please fill in the required details of name and address - otherwise this is not necessary.

Geoffrey Brand for the PCC charities committee

Church News

The period of Advent starts four Sundays before Christmas Day, and is a time of expectation, celebration and hope as we prepare for the coming of Jesus. A purple candle (the colour signifies prayer, penance and sacrifice) is lit on the first four Sundays, symbolising hope, love, joy and peace. On Christmas Day, a white candle is lit for the light of Jesus.

We have lots to offer all ages during December: see the list of services, as well as articles highlighting particular services.

We have two Carol Services, led by our vicar, Jez. On **11 December** at 5pm, come and enjoy 'Sing into Christmas', featuring Jane Smith and the Seer Green Singers, with your favourite carols, Christmas songs and topical readings. On **18 December** at 7pm, we have the more traditional Lessons and Carols, featuring Village Voices. Members of Holy Trinity choir will join Jane's choirs.

All are welcome to our Midnight Communion, to celebrate Jesus' birth as we enter into Christmas Day.

For those who are not night owls, there is the 10am Christmas Day service for the whole family.

We recognise that December, and Christmas in particular, can be a difficult or lonely times for some, and the Church will remain open from 10am to 3pm each day offering a space for quiet reflection.

In 2023, we are making a few changes to our pattern of services. From February, we are introducing a new 'gathering' on the first Sunday afternoon, as we recognise that Sunday mornings are just too busy for many, particularly younger families. We have moved the 8am Book of Common Prayer Communion service and the 10am Morning Praise to the second and fourth Sundays of each month. The 10am Holy Communion service will be on the first, third and fifth Sundays. On **1 January 2023**, we will join Chalfont St Giles for the Sunday services.

Janine Dunnell

Contact us

Holy Trinity website
Church Wardens and
General Enquiries

www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org
Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

Village Events | News

Seer Green Allotments Association

We enjoy two kinds of party up at the allotments, and October's working parties saw a great clearing of the area alongside the hedgerow. Several years effort has gone into this social area, and the final quarter saw much lifting of pig housing foundations, along with pernicious weeds and historical detritus.

Once cleared, it was flattened and grass seeds administered. Eventually wildflowers will run along the border of the adjacent plots. A truly splendid effort by all concerned.

November sees the annual bonfire party - a great way to rid ourselves of allotment prunings and unwanted wood. With food, drink and convivial company, it is a communal farewell to the growing season. Once cold, the wood ash feeds soft fruit bushes - let nothing be wasted!



In early December, the full moon is called variously the Cold moon, the Snow moon, and - with reference to the coming winter solstice - the Long Night Moon, heralding the start of winter, the shortest day and the related celebrations. January heralds the Wolf moon, named after the howling of hungry wolves in this time of food scarcity. At this time of year, allotmenters will stay safely indoors reading seed catalogues and dreaming of spring.

The gardener John Evelyn, in his *Kalendarium Hortens* of 1669, advises for December "All this Month you may continue to Trench Ground and dung it, to be ready for Borders, or the planting of Fruit-trees, &c."

Charlotte Baggins



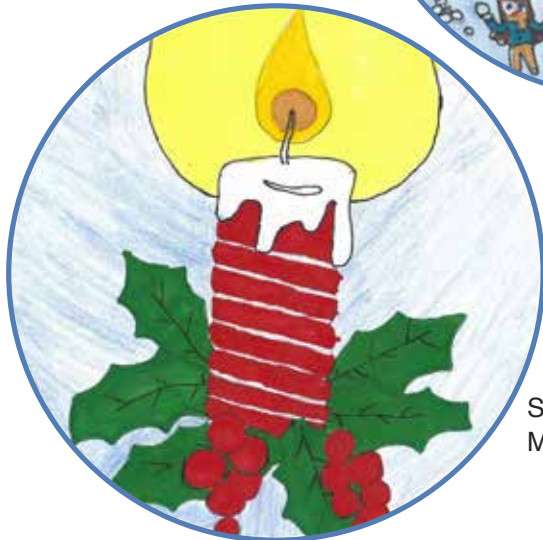
Christmas cover competition

Congratulations to our winning entries of our front cover competition. We had a wonderful collection of entries, and found it very difficult to choose one for the front cover. We eventually decided on Emmy Sheppe-Phelps picture. Congratulations Emmy!

A big thank you to all the children who took part. We had many fabulous entries but these six really fit the design brief and caught our eye.

There will be a display of all the entries in the church, do go along and have a look. Emmy will be switching on the Seer Green Christmas lights.

Winner
Emmy Sheppee-Phelps
aged 11



Second place
May Wagner aged 9



Third place
Elodie Cooper aged 7



Fourth place
Jake White aged 9



Runners up Sienna Wells aged 9 and Albie Sheppee-Phelps aged 8

The Editors



Seer Green Santa Dash



Sunday 4th December
12 noon @ The Scout Hut

Info and tickets

<https://bit.ly/3BUSTRx>



Questions?

Contact Jodie Homer
jodiehomer40@gmail.com

kindly sponsored by



Seer Green Gardeners

The SG Gardeners have been buoyed up by the success of this year's events and are planning more for 2023, starting with the return of the ever-popular Village Supper on Friday **24 February**: look out for further information in the New Year.



We would love to welcome a few more people to our team, either as committee members or as occasional helpers at events. It's all good fun, and while a little gardening knowledge would be great, enthusiasm and loving the Seer Green community spirit is far more important. If you are interested, why not come to one of our monthly meetings to find out more?

The first meeting of 2023 is on **9 January** at 7pm: please contact us for venue details.

Gardening suggestions for December

- *It is not too late to plant tulips. Plant them deep - three times the height of the bulb.*

A great time for some armchair gardening:

- *Some free seed catalogues make inspirational winter reading, with advice on the best varieties of flowers and veg, plus growing ideas, free calendars etc. For example, try Kings Seeds or DT Brown.*
- *While this year's gardening is still fresh in your mind, make some notes of what went well and what you learned - and remember to check back next year!*
- *Microgreens like mustard, cress and unused vegetable seeds sown in pots on a warm windowsill can liven up a winter salad. Experiment with the growing medium – there is no need to buy fresh compost.*
- *Outside, try not to make everything too tidy. Hibernating frogs, toads, ladybirds and many other creatures and organisms will appreciate having their work for our environment undisturbed.*

Sally Ash - www.Seergreengardeners.org, email: seergreengardeners@gmail.com.

Our Living Village

The project has made tremendous progress this year, with the active support of many of the residents of Seer Green and Jordans. We are currently developing several interesting new themes, ready to be uploaded to the website www.ourlivingvillage.org in the New Year.

If you would like to get involved in next year's activities, please join our next planning meeting at 3.00pm on Tuesday **22 November** at The Jolly Cricketers.

As promised, here are the answers to Quiz No.1 in last month's magazine:

Our Village Pubs

1. There were three pubs in Seer Green in 1900: The Yew Trees, The Jolly Cricketers and The Three Horseshoes (the oldest).
2. The Cyster family ran The Jolly Cricketers for 160 years.
3. You can get a drink in Jordans at The Jolly Quaker on the first Friday of most months.



Henry III (1216 - 1272)

The Manor of Seer Green

4. Seer Green formed part of the Manor of Farnham Royal.
5. The hamlet of Seer Green was recorded as la Sere in a Close Roll of Henry III in the year 1232.
6. The first distinct mention of La Sere as a manor comes in the Calendar of Close Rolls produced in 1284 for Edward 1st.

Origins

7. The 'ancestral' River Thames, flowing north of the Chilterns in the direction of The Wash, deposited the surface gravels which exist across much of our area.
8. Seer Green's recently discovered Roman road runs through Hodgemoor Wood. Its route was discovered using data from the recent Lidar survey by the Chilterns Conservation Board.
9. The 1753 map of Seer Green was produced for Francis Godolphin and shows Coat Wicks is the ancient woodland now known as Green Wood.

And finally

10. The Chiltern Society partnered with the Seer Green & Jordans Society to develop "Our Living Village".

Alan Kell - Seer Green and Jordans Society ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com

Coffee Shop

A meeting place for the community



Monday Mornings
10.30am to 12.00noon
Seer Green Baptist Church

Seer Green CE School

My first half term has absolutely flown by and thanks to the amazing support of both the school and wider community, I feel settled already – thank you!

There have been a number of changes in school which are now embedded and are helping the children to make good progress, including the use of maths booklets that better support our scheme of work. These are proving popular and are having a positive impact on learning.

It has been a delight to talk to children about their work and to issue Headteacher's Awards to a number of children for their hard work and persistence as well as seeing their work around the school.

The range of topics that the children have covered already this term includes: "All about me, my body", "the Artist Yayoi Kusama", "investigating materials and their properties", "the early Islamic civilisation", and "beginning to understand how the internet is made up of networked devices". We look forward to another diverse range of topics this term, to provide a broad and balanced curriculum across the school.

We were delighted to be able to welcome parents back into school

for consultation meetings with the staff and to join us for a wonderful Harvest assembly. It was delightful to hear and see the children enjoying singing a range of Harvest songs, as well as hear from Padstones Charity about how valuable the generous donations were.

I can already hear familiar Christmas tunes ringing around the school as we prepare for the nativity and carol concerts and look forward to the awe and wonder that this season creates in school.

Please do get in touch if you have a question or would like to hear more about life in school.

Laura Morel - Seer Green School Headteacher



Jordans School – Our Forest School Learning

Well done Deer Class!



It has been an amazing Autumnal half term with our Year 2 Deer Class in Forest School! We have been able to observe seasonal changes week-by-week as the woodland floor has become increasingly covered in lovely natural materials for exploring and creating. The children have made all sorts of creations from little conker characters to large branch dens, big enough for a group to huddle inside!

Over this block of sessions, Forest School has provided Deer Class with opportunities to show "courage" by trying new things – including the use of tools and fire-lighting. Feeling success and engaging in (well-managed) risky activities supports

the development of children's self-esteem, resilience and independent risk management.

Following sessions and discussions around fires in the build-up to bonfire night (and the forthcoming Year 2 topic on the Great Fire of London), the children had the opportunity to try lighting a tiny fire of their own using a fire steel (they preferred the name "dragon breath" or "dragon sneeze"). It is tricky to produce a spark, but they showed perseverance, encouraged others in their group and had one-to-one support to be successful in the task. Fire creates an elemental sense of wonder – seeing the joy in the children's faces as their "cloud" or "fairy blanket" of cotton wool ignited was certainly a highlight of our Forest School sessions!

Our half-term of Deer Forest School sessions concluded with the children enjoying their (self-initiated) early Halloween Forest School session. They used skills and activities they have developed over previous sessions to create their "Haunted House", mix potions in the "Witches' Kitchen", made a giant spider - complete with a pink string web and created self-tied broomsticks worthy of a Harry Potter story!

Vanessa Hughes



Jordans Picture House

Our program for December 2022 and January 2023.

On Friday **December 9** we shall screen "West Side Story". Doors open at 7.15 pm, programme starts at 8.00pm.

West Side Story (12A) 2021

Awards: 1 Oscar, Wins: 67.
Nominations: 276 Rotten
Tomatoes Audience Score 94%

Cast: Ansel Elgort; Rachel Zegler;
Ariana DeBose. Director: Stephen
Spielberg.

An adaption of the 1957 musical,
West Side Story explores forbidden
love and the rivalry between the
Jets and the Sharks, two teenage
street gangs of different ethnic
backgrounds. Source: IMDB

<https://tinyurl.com/3nzpxna4>



On Friday **January 13** we shall screen "The Last Bus". Doors open at 7.15pm, programme starts at 8.00pm.

The Last Bus (12A) 2021

Awards: 1 win

Cast: Phyllis Logan; Timothy
Spall; Natalie Mitson. Director
Gillies MacKinnon.

Timothy Spall gives an unforgettable
performance in a fascinating
travelogue and mini social com-
mentary of the UK. IMDB's own
summary is a bit understated: "An
old man crosses the country just
using local buses".

"The film is really beautiful and
portrays a plethora of deep emotions
effectively" – IMDB reviewer.

<https://tinyurl.com/yc3ndmvz>



On Sunday **January 15** we shall screen "I Never Cry". Doors open at 3.15pm, programme starts at 4.00pm.

I Never Cry (15) 2020

Awards: 12 Wins, 13 Nominations
Rotten Tomatoes Tomatometer
Score 100%

Cast: Zofia Stafiej, Kinga Preis,
Arkadiusz Jakubik. Director: Piotr
Domalewski

An unforgettable comedy/drama.

Ola, a seventeen-year-old Polish
girl, sets off to a foreign country -
Ireland - on her own. It turns out
to be a trip of a lifetime, where
she tries to reconnect with her
estranged father, comes to know
a different world and changes her
approach to life. Source: IMDB

*(Polish and Romanian language
with English subtitles)*

<https://tinyurl.com/58d4jpw8>



On Tuesday **January 17** we shall screen "Off The Rails". Doors open at 7.15pm, programme starts at 8.00pm.

Off the Rails (15) 2021

Awards: 1, Nominations: 1, Rotten
Tomatoes Audience Score 67%

Cast: Jenny Seagrove; Sally
Phillips; Ismael Calvillo Millan,
Director: Jules Williamson

Three 50-something women set out
to repeat the inter-railing adventures
of their youth, after their close friend
passes away and leaves them rail
tickets and a final request to take
her teenage daughter with them.
Source: IMDB

With the music of Blondie

<https://tinyurl.com/3d7tnmwc>



How to buy tickets

(Adults £8.00, U15s £5)

Online: Go to www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk

See "Programme and Buying Tickets"

Jordans Box Office: Alan Sealy

alan@janetsealypartnership.com 01494 873205

Seer Green Box Office: Gill Pettman

gillyp4@btinternet.com 01494 678050

NB We have retained the option for buyers of our tickets to pay a donation. It is not a requirement.

Jordans Picture House Committee



News from over the fields in Jordans

How we all welcome the festive season, and the positivity of a new year.

In Jordans, we get into the Christmas spirit early with the village pop-up pub - The Jolly Quaker - opening its doors on Friday **2 December**.

The Christmas Party for village children and the 'grand' turning on of the Christmas Tree lights on the Village Green is on Saturday **3 December** - don't miss it, it is a great way to herald in Christmas!

This is followed by the 'Toddlers in the Woods' Christmas party in the Centenary Clearing in Crutches

Wood from 9.15 - 10.15am on Friday **9 December**, for all pre-school children from both villages, each child to be accompanied by an adult. Please let me know on 07803 139079 if you are coming along for festive fun and games in the woods.

Jordans Picture House screening of West Side Story is also on **Friday 9** (see JPH entry).

Saturday **10 December** features our very own local Christmas show, staged by Jordans Players. "Supper and Song" is a wonderful example of what a small village can put on for the enjoyment of everyone,



and you are welcome to buy tickets, by contacting Nigel Morgan on 01494 672416. Tickets cost only £10, and that includes a delicious hot meal - bring your own drinks.

The village Lunch Club welcomes everyone to enjoy a wonderful festive meal on Friday **17 December** (please book your place with Pat Holdsworth on 01494 874565) and then, as always, we will all be out on the Village Green singing wonderful Christmas Carols by our beautifully lit Christmas tree on Christmas Eve.

I hope you all enjoy this wonderful run up to Christmas and wish you all an excellent Christmas and happiness in the year ahead.

Ali Cork



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Seer Green Eight O'Clock Club



It is hard to believe nine years have passed since Colin Oakes remarked to the 8 O'Clock Club that "London has a Museum to suit every taste!" He returned to talk to us about the Foundling Hospital in London, from which the Foundling Museum was established.

Sea Captain and philanthropist Thomas Coram returned to England from America in 1702 and was horrified by the social and environmental conditions greeting him. This was not the London metropolis

we know today. The St Pancras area was very rural: fields, cows, streams, raw sewage, and dung heaps aplenty. Coram was particularly troubled by the illegitimate babies left to die on dung heaps and tried desperately to raise money for an establishment to care for them.

In France and Italy, religious establishments cared for illegitimate children. Monasteries provided a similar role in England before their Dissolution, so a different option was needed. Thomas Coram first tried to persuade men of business and wealth to buy into his scheme, but in 1739 he changed tack and concentrated on persuading the wives of wealthy men to obtain money from their husbands for the "Hospital"; a place of hospitality and refuge for abandoned babies.

So great was the demand on the Foundling Hospital, with babies being loaded into horses' panniers and brought from York to London, that initially a random selection process was introduced. This ceased once a grant was obtained, and other foundling establishments (one in Aylesbury) were opened in the mid-1750s. Many thousands of children passed through the Foundling Hospital before the Coram Foundation established new approaches to care after WWII.

Follow the story at <https://foundlingmuseum.org.uk/visit-us/>

Talks resume on **2 February** 2023, with a different story from Community Speaker Sue Granshaw, who takes us on a family journey through the life-changing experience of dementia.

Seer Green Baptist Church. £4 including tea/coffee.

Elizabeth Lee

Defibrillators in Seer Green and Jordans

There are defibrillators in both villages, but you may not have thought how to use one in a time-critical emergency. We tend to regard defibrillators like lifebelts at the sea-front: happy to see them, but never seen one used. Heart failure can strike anybody at any time, and it is important that the patient gets help quickly and helpers can access the appropriate facilities.

Heart attacks and cardiac arrest are different: heart attack patients feel pain in the chest and possibly down the left arm; while cardiac arrest patients feel nothing and are completely unresponsive.

A cardiac arrest is very time-critical for a potential good outcome.

So, what do in the case of a Cardiac Emergency?

- Assess whether the patient is breathing (i.e. no breaths in 10 seconds).
- If the patient is not breathing, treat as a cardiac arrest and attach a defibrillator to the patient ASAP.
- Ring 999, ask for "Ambulance" and tell the Ambulance Service that the patient is not breathing.
- If only one person is present, they should start CPR immediately, as instructed by the Ambulance Service.

- If a second person is available, they should fetch the defibrillator as swiftly as possible: the Ambulance Service will give directions to the nearest one and tell the caller the access code. Timely CPR is very important and keeps feeding blood to the brain when the heart has stopped. Stay on the line, put the phone on "speaker", and the Ambulance Service (and the defibrillator) will provide verbal instructions as appropriate for the situation.
- Don't stop CPR, or stop following verbal instructions from the defibrillator. Keep going until the Ambulance Service arrives and takes over. They may ask you to carry on CPR until they have their defibrillator ready and attached to the patient.
- You should familiarise yourself with the location of your nearest defibrillator, as you could be called to act at any time. Please do not open the cabinet or interfere with the defibrillator unless required for a cardiac arrest.



Panforte

If you fancy a change from a traditional Christmas fruit cake, have ago at this Italian festive treat. Delicious with coffee, or as part of a cheese board. Perfect to wrap as a homemade present!

Ingredients

- 100g shelled hazelnuts
- 100g blanched almonds
- 125g candied mixed peel - chopped
- 100g dried figs - stalks removed, finely chopped
- 50g plain flour
- 25g cocoa powder
- 5ml (1 tsp) ground cinnamon
- A pinch each of ground coriander, ground cloves and grated nutmeg
- 175g caster sugar
- 175g clear honey
- Icing sugar for dusting
- Edible rice paper – 2 sheets * available online, alternatively use baking paper
- Flavourless oil for greasing.



Method

Preheat oven to 180°C fan. Lightly oil 8-inch (20cm) sandwich tin, and line base and sides with rice paper. Place hazelnuts and almonds in baking tin and roast in the oven for 10 minutes. Leave to cool, then roughly chop.

In a bowl, mix chopped nuts with mixed peel and chopped figs. Stir well. Sift together flour, cocoa powder and spices, and stir into nuts and fruit. Heat sugar and honey gently in pan, stirring until sugar has dissolved. Increase heat and boil for 2 minutes until slightly syrupy. Carefully stir syrup into dry ingredients, mixing well, then spoon mixture into prepared tin and press down.

Reduce oven to 170°C fan, and bake panforte for 40 minutes. It will look soft, but will harden on cooling. Leave to cool for 15 minutes before turning out – do not leave longer or it will stick to the tin. Use a palette knife to ease from sides of tin. Rice paper can be kept on, but remove baking paper. Once cooled, trim top edge with scissors to level. Dust heavily with icing sugar.

Wrap as a gift, or slice thinly and enjoy. Store in an airtight tin – it will keep for one month, so perfect to make ahead.

Helen Lindsey-Clark

High Wycombe's very own edition of Monopoly

Wycombe Homeless Connection told us about this game, and said that what is most exciting for them is that people in their community nominated them, meaning Wycombe Homeless Connection is included on the board of the game: it appears on a Community Chest square, and even features on the box. They are sure this great game will bring much fun, and say being included alongside four other local charities is an honour.

Wycombe Monopoly is available online at WH Smiths, Waterstones and Collectables'R'Us in the Eden Centre. More than thirty High Wycombe landmarks and favourites feature, including The Golden Ball, Wycombe Arts Centre, Adams Park and the Eden Shopping Centre.

Heather Stanley



Janet's Christmas Book Reviews

Janet Stewart is our literary guide, and offers these recommendations for a good read over the festive season ...



The Trees – Percival Everett

Shortlisted for the Booker Prize, this very funny book is like nothing else I've read.

A series of murders occur in the Southern town of Money, Mississippi. At each crime scene, an additional body keeps appearing, disappearing and then reappearing again at the next murder scene. A buddy cop/ detective story about two Black FBI agents investigating the revenge killings of white people linked to historic lynchings doesn't sound hilarious, but there are laugh out loud moments whilst depicting the worst of humanity.

The author is new to me, but I'll be looking out for his other books. Give it a go.



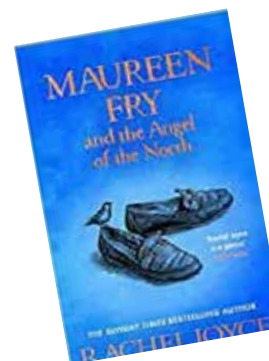
Shrines of Gaiety – Kate Atkinson

I'm a bit of an Atkinson fan girl and this doesn't disappoint.

She masterfully brings 1920s London to life, the glamour, the grime and the seediness that lingers in the darkness.

Shrines of Gaiety centres around the Coker family and their collection of clubs in London in 1926. The Coker matriarch has just been released from prison and her six children are learning how to adapt as a family since her release, as well as how to work together against the dark forces that wish to bring the Cokers down.

The period details and atmosphere are superbly observed and add to the page turning enjoyment of this part historical fiction, part detective drama.



Maureen Fry and the Angel of the North – Rachel Joyce

This is the final part in the Harold Fry trilogy which I'm sure you've all read – if not get on it!

This is a short novel featuring Maureen, Harold's wife. It's been a long wait to hear her story as it's ten years since Harold did his pilgrimage.

Maureen hears something that compels her to make her own journey, but this time it's a road trip to the north of England. A determined woman, Maureen sets off on a long drive across the country. It's a story full of pathos and self-discovery. She's a spikey, somewhat judgemental character who, during the course of her journey, has to learn to accept help, care and kindness from others.

A beautifully written fitting conclusion to this wonderful trilogy.



Children's Christmas

People need People – Benjamin Zephaniah

Recommended age 2-5

A timely and uplifting picture book poem about the power of people and the importance of connecting with others, by the legendary poet and performer. A joy to read to the youngest family members.



The Zebra's Great Escape – Katherine Rundell

Recommended age 5-8

From award-winning Katherine Rundell comes a picture book about bravery, friendship, and adventure. Sara Ogilvie's illustrations are wonderful and further bring the story to light. Picture book perfection!

On the Wild Side: The European Robin

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, and the robin reprises its starring role on cards and festive jumpers. The link between robins and Christmas dates back to Victorian times, when greetings cards exhibited not just robins, but fairies shooting squirrels, pigs with binoculars, frogs under umbrellas, and insects playing tambourines (who said the Victorians were boring?). Not many Christmas cards feature mice riding lobsters these days, but everyone still loves a robin.



Unlike most songbirds, the European robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) sings throughout the winter, and its red breast cheers our leafless hedgerows. Once the speckled nestlings have fledged and adopted adult plumage, the family breaks up, and every bird holds its own territory, singing to defend the borders. Notoriously pugnacious, they will furiously repel interloper robins, until mating starts again in the new year. Robins are active from dawn until dark, and if there are streetlamps lit, you may hear the liquid, melancholy song at midnight on Christmas Eve. This twilight activity is aided by larger eyes than standard for such a little bird, which adds to its charm.



Photo credit Walter Baxter, Creative Commons 2.0

The robin's cheeky confidence in visiting us while we're digging flower beds is also appealing to a nation of gardeners, and it is not surprising that in 2016 it was voted the nation's favourite bird. Robins eat invertebrates, seeds and berries; they may appreciate dried mealworms or berry suet pellets for Christmas dinner, and it's easy to train them to feed from your hand - though be

warned, it may then confront you on hovering wings like a tiny angel every time you open the door, which can eventually become a bit oppressive. Robin populations are stable, and the species is conservation green-listed. Happy Christmas!

Robin song: <https://www.british-birdsongs.uk/robin/>

Nora Bennett

Registered Osteopath

Preston Lee BSc (Hons) Ost.



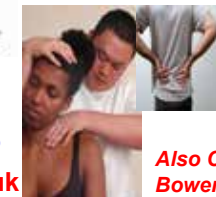
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