Your Parish MAGAZINE

What's on in Seer Green & Jordans

July/August 2022





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/elcome

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From the Editors

Seer Green and Jordans have finally woken from their Covid-19 slumbers and a lot is going on.

We give an update on the recruitment of a new vicar, and of course this month's celebration of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee involved everyone - we have added extra pages with photos of the festivities.

The Seer Green Beer and Music Festival is returning, and a new

vineyard has been planted. In Jordans, upcoming events include the Village Fair and Big Camp, the village cricket match, a textile exhibition and the Tennis Summer Camp. Elsewhere, there are picnic venues, and a performance of Romeo and Juliet - it is hard to get bored!

Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Phil Moody

Next Month's Magazine

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

editorseergreen@gmail.com by 7 August. 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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Church and Community Organisations

Benefice Assistant Priests Rev Jenny Tebboth Rev Paul Henderson paul.e.henderson@btinternet.com	07708 094532
Licensed Lay Minister and Prayer Group Linda West	
Children and Families Minister and SGKIDS Janna Holder 07764 490960	
Churchwarden and General En Janine Dunnell	quiries 07525 322955
Parochial Church Council Audrey Hardy Treasurer	01494 672592
Pastoral Care Heather Rowe	01494 677573
Church Flower Guild Pam Britton	01494 678466
Magazine Distributors Alison Davies Carol Campbell	01494 671421 01494 677330
Scouts Explorers Cubs Bea andrew@seergreenscouts.org.uk	avers
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 Commissione	er 01753 887209
Jordans and District Rotary Cl Naomi Arnold Secretary	ub 01753 663305
Jordans Horticultural Society	
Emma Pegram	01494 874574
Shan Liu Faith Key	01494 730312 01494 870039
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Jordans School Holly Swain Head Teacher	01494 874217
Jordans Music Club	
Marion Pell Chairman	01494 872875

Jordans Village Hall Off Chris Jenkins Booking Secretary	ice 10.00 - 1.00 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 Alex Wildwood	e and Centre 01494 876594
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 Sandra Park Head Teacher	School 01494 676344
Seer Green Gardeners Jane Smith	07759 841205
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 730060
Seer Green Montessori School Libby Wilson Director	01494 672209
Seer Green Football - United (juniors) Tim Wyatt - FC (adults) Art Anderson	07833 246819 07919 027351
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Thought for the Month



It has been lovely to see our two villages come to life with large gatherings starting to take place, especially last month, for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Jordan's Village Fair, Holy Trinity's 175th Birthday and the Cherry Pie Fair. These opportunities for getting together have certainly been missed during the pandemic and it is wonderful to see these being added to our diaries once again.

As we have celebrated the Queen's 70 years of service, it has made me reflect on all the different ways that people serve our communities, and the rich tapestry of activities on offer due to people giving of their time, money, and skills. From individuals seeing a need and acting on it to organised groups running events, our villages benefit from the many ways in which community is created, nurtured, and developed.

At our village service celebrating the Platinum Jubilee, we heard the parable of the Good Samaritan, which the Queen used in her Christmas speech in 2004, reminding us of the importance of showing kindness to those in need. We are blessed to live in a village where there is genuine care and compassion, not only for friends and neighbours, but for strangers as well. The weekly generosity to help those in need through giving to One Can, as well as the response to the war in Ukraine, is evidence of this.



Our village communities cannot offer all that they do without people volunteering. Lots of the groups in the village would love more help - if you think you would like to get involved perhaps, get in touch and I am sure we can find a way in which you can not only be a blessing to others but no doubt you can find a reward in giving too!

Janna Holder

Holy Trinity Services in July

3 July 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only10am All-age Service, in person and YouTube12pm Baptism

10 July 10am Holy Communion, in person and YouTube3pm Explore pop-up church, Long Grove Woods

17 July 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only
10am Morning Service with Baptism, in person and You Tube

24 July 10am Holy Communion Service for Climate Sunday, in person and YouTube

31 July 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and You Tube 12pm Baptism

Holy Trinity Services in August

7 Aug 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only.10am All-age Service with Baptism, in person and YouTube

14 Aug 10am Holy Communion, in person and YouTube

21 Aug 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only 10am Morning Service, in person and You Tube

28 Aug 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube

27 Aug 12pm Wedding and Baptism

Our streamed services in July and August will be on our YouTube channel, at: https://tinyurl.com/4n9xbhct

For more information about families' activities and contact Janna.

Contact us

Holy Trinity website <u>www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org</u>

Church Wardens and Janine Dunnell 07525 322955 **General Enquiries**

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

Baptisms

15 May Clemmie Barclay

Memorial Services

9 May Rob Toay

Weddings

21 May Jessica Morris and Joe Hobbs



Jess and Joe celebrate their marriage at Holy Trinity

Church Events I News

Church News

After a remarkably busy June, we go into a quieter period for summer. We are looking forward to celebrating a number of baptisms and a wedding during the summer months, as well as our usual Sunday services, and the 'Explore' pop-up church with the Baptist Church.

We are still waiting for our new vicar, as our shortlisting in May did not go as anticipated. From the applicants who applied to be our new vicar, the interview panel only chose one candidate - the one everyone agreed was the most suitable and exciting, who had carefully read our Parish Profile, and shown what they could bring to our parish. However, the candidate is currently working overseas, so we had a preliminary Zoom interview in June, and unanimously agreed to continue with this candidate. We are now awaiting their move back to the UK and will then have a face-to-face interview day in mid-July, when the candidate will lead an assembly in the Seer Green school, preach in church, meet the clergy, and visit our villages.

In the meantime, we are preparing by spring cleaning, and clearing out the church office so that the new vicar can have an uncluttered space. We are also using this time to restore the church to 'normal.' A variety of books are now available on the bookshelf inside the church: please feel free to borrow them, and when you have finished, please return them for others to read. The Prayer Request book has also been put out for anyone to enter requests for the Prayer and Intercession Group. All information is treated as confidential, and the requests are removed from the book.

As the weather is now warming up, so is the church building. We would love to see you in person at our services on Sunday.

Janine Dunnell - Churchwarden



Rooms for Hire

- Business Meetings
- Away Days Counselling
 - Family Celebrations

Welders Lane, Jordans, HP9 2SN office@jordansquakercentre.org www.jordansquakercentre.org 01494 876594

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 of doing so; or you can activate our Online Giving page by using the QR code.

You can:

- Use the new card reader which is on the bookstall during services.
- · Go to our website:
- www.seergreenandjordanscofe. org scroll down the homepage to 'Online Giving' and follow the link.
- Use an orange envelope and leave it in the green collections box.

 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, then please speak to our treasurer - Audrey Hardy - on 01494 672592.



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July Charity The Bible Society

When I was asked to write an article for the Parish Magazine for the charity of the month, The Bible Society, my first thoughts were "oh no, how do I make a 200-year-old, outdated, Bible-centred charity interesting to the many magazine readers who are not remotely interested in the Bible!". However, when I started looking at the charity website, I was surprised by how varied and current its work is.

The charity's single and unique mission is to bring the Bible to life, help people make sense of it and relate it to their modern lives, whether they are starving in Africa, at war in Ukraine, or visiting the Chelsea Flower Show - many enjoyed the peace and tranquillity of the Psalm 23 Garden at the 2021 Chelsea Flower Show, where it won a gold medal. It was the Bible Society's first-ever garden at Chelsea and its aim was

to "offer the chance to stop, reflect, and feel refreshed."

One of the Bible Society's more recent projects is 'Navigating Trauma' initiated by a church in North London which wanted to help those in their neighbourhood affected by knife crime. Navigating Trauma is now a programme for people who have experienced suffering, and who still feel the effects in their lives, years later. They have not been able to understand what has happened and it still haunts them.

I would recommend you look at the charity's website (www.bible society.org.uk). You might be as surprised about their work as I was!

If you would like to donate, you can do so in the usual ways. See the next page.

Rachel Gibson



August Charity Church Action on Poverty

Church Action on Poverty is not just another relief agency, important as that aspect is, but a national ecumenical Christian social justice charity working in partnership with people in poverty themselves to tackle its root causes in the UK.

"We know that the real experts on poverty are the people who live with it.

Our work is driven by their insights and experiences. We help them to make their voices heard, campaigning nationally and locally for policies that will loosen the grip of poverty on people's lives."

Founded 40 years ago - with strong support from Oxford Diocesan Synod - it helped change the law on irresponsible lending and has influenced policy in areas such as universal credit, holiday hunger, the minimum wage, and financial inclusion.

But poverty has not been ended, and things are going to get significantly harder as a result of the biggest drop in living standards for a generation. Future strategy includes the promotion of memberrun Local Pantry food clubs, self-reliant groups where people use their collective creativity and skills to generate income, and help to extend

throughout the country the Poverty Truth Commission movement which brings together locally people with direct experience of poverty and professionals who can make things happen.

Further information is available on their website https://www.church-poverty.org.uk/ or in their newsletter – available from 28 Sandpiper Court, Water's Edge Business Park, Modwen Road, Salford M5 3EZ. Donations can be made through the website or by post to the same address, or by cash or cheque (payable to 'Seer Green PCC') to our treasurer at 58 Chalfont Road or by using a blue envelope in church. If you wish Gift Aid to be collected, please give your name and address.

Geoffrey Brand



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Events for families in July and August

Saturday 2 July, 9.30-11.15am - Seer Green Baptist Church

Who Let The Dads Out? An opportunity for dads, grandads, male carers and their little ones (0-7 years old) to get together for toys, activities and refreshments.

Sunday 10 July, 3-3.45pm - Long Grove Woods

Explore - Pop Up Church. All are welcome, but particularly aimed at families with children, providing an opportunity for fun, creativity, activities and reflection.

During the Summer Holidays, at Seer Green Baptist Church

Monday 25 July, 1, 8, 16 August, 10am - 12 noon

Create! An opportunity to enjoy creative activities aimed at 2-10s. All children must be accompanied.

Wednesday 27 July, 3,10,17 August, 10am – 3pm

Family Fun for parents/carers and their 0 - 7 year olds. Come and enjoy a change of scenery with lots of toys, crafts, games and activities, and a chance to catch up with your friends.

For further details on any of the above activities, including cost and how to book, please contact Janna on 07764490960, jannaholder@talktalk.net.

Other activities may be added during the summer holiday, but sadly there is no 3-day Holiday Club this year.

Janna Holder - Children and Families Minister Holy Trinity Church, Seer Green and Jordans - 07764-490960

Inn praise

The Churches Together in Seer Green would like to invite you to Inn Praise.

A 'Songs of Praise' Service in the back garden of The Jolly Cricketers, on **Sunday 4 September** at 4pm.

So please come and join us to sing some of your favourite hymns and songs whilst having a drink and a chat.

Sean O'Flanagan

Village Events | News

Seer Green Allotment Association

What's in a name?

This jolly blue flowering plant is well known on our allotment site - and throughout the village - but we have long disputed its name, calling it variously forget-me-not, field forget-me-not, borage and even comfrey - all incorrect.

Thanks to a keen eyed allotmenteer on a garden visit in Norfolk, we now know it is Pentaglottis sempervirens, commonly called Green Alkanet (and evergreen bugloss, or simply alkanet). It is a member of the forget-me-not family and related to borage and comfrey so our collective confusion is understandable.

A true Londoner, it eschews acidic soil, happy in a cold claggy clay. Introduced into this country in 1700, its roots were used as a dye to produce the rich red used in ecclesiastical robes. It is thought that it may have been used in ancient times by Egyptian priestesses as a hair dye. It is rich in nitrogen and a great



pollinator but invasive, so you might not want to let it run rampant. Glad to finally give it its correct name, though!

A flickering light at midnight on the site alerted one nearby allotmenteer to investigate: was it the robbers returned? No, a fellow allotment holder driven to insomnia by slug damage was out there hoping to catch the nocturnal feasters. Whenever you do it, happy growing to one and all.

Charlotte Baggins - for SG Allotment Association

Dr Luke Tester - Platinum Champion Award Winner 2022



Dr Luke Tester attended Seer Green Nursery and CofE Combined School, and became a qualified doctor in 2018: his passion is Emergency Medicine. This began when 16-year-old Luke volunteered for the Beaconsfield branch of St John Ambulance - he has never looked back!

While at University, the St John's Society lacked members. Luke recruited many new students and turned it into a highly successful society, which is thriving today. Now, as a busy Doctor in A&E, his spare time is spent volunteering for St John Ambulance.

In 2016, Luke was awarded "Volunteer of the Year" at a wonderful black-tie event, attended by Sophie, Duchess of Wessex. A year later, he won The Sovereign's Award - the premier achievement for young people within the Order of St John worldwide and the only award signed personally by Her Majesty the Queen. In March 2022, he was invested as an Officer in the Order of St John.

In May 2022, Luke was revealed on The One Show as the first Platinum Champion Award Winner. The Awards were launched by the Royal Voluntary Service in honour of their patron, the Queen, and the great example she has set in her 70 years of service. Her Majesty is also Sovereign Head of the

Order of St John, St John Ambulance's parent charity. From thousands of volunteers, 490 were selected by a panel presided over by the Duchess of Cornwall, and crowned Platinum Champions.

The Platinum Champions received a specially designed pin and signed certificate from HRH the Duchess of Cornwall and the 70 most outstanding volunteers, including Luke, were invited to a special edition of the big Jubilee Lunch in London on 5 June in the presence of Charles and Camilla.

Luke's family are very proud of him and it is well deserved. He is an outstanding young man who gives his time happily and selflessly to help his community.

All of this and he is only 27! Congratulations, Luke!

Carol Wright

The Seer Green Beer and Music Festival



Friday 16 September

(7.30 - 10.30pm)

Saturday 17 September

(3.30pm - 10.30pm)

Tickets are limited so get yours while they last!

Find the link to purchase tickets online at:

www.seergreenbeerfest.com

£12 for adult admission, which includes a Festival-branded pint glass souvenir.

£3 for general admission (over 12 years old)

We'd love to see you all there!

P.S. If you would like to perform at the Festival OR volunteer to help us run it, please send a message to seergreenbeerfestival@gmail.com

Seer Green Gardeners

Two of our most popular events are taking place across the same weekend in September!

On **Saturday 10 September**, the Autumn Show returns to Jubilee Hall and this year we have refreshed the class categories to encourage even more people to enter.

Sunday 11 September is bound to be a fun family event when all the spuds in buckets are emptied and weighed at a tense and often-rowdy ceremony at the Jolly Cricketers. Details for both these events are on the website.



Gardening suggestions for July and August

- Stake dahlias and other large flowering plants. String used with sticks or bamboo canes works well and is less obtrusive than shop-bought devices.
- Prune deciduous shrubs which flowered in spring to promote new growth.
 Cut out any old and tired branches but bear in mind this will affect overall shape next year.
- August is the time to tame wisteria's new, long tentacles by cutting them back to five or six leaves. Detailed advice on the RHS website.
- Go green and mow grass less often! Add any cuttings to the compost bin layered with cardboard, newspaper or twiggy prunings for lovely free organic material next year. Turning the compost regularly generates heat and speeds up the process. Adding peelings and other compostable matter from the kitchen will make your compost richer.
- Dead-heading flowers in early summer encourages new growth but leave the second flush intact for the birds in winter. Leave wildflowers to self-sow for next year.

Finally, if you're interested in learning more about veg growing, do take a look at Charles Dowding (https://charlesdowding.co.uk/) - he's truly inspirational!

Fliss Combes and Sally Ash - www.seergreengardeners.org

Two scouts write us an article

Hi, we are Charlie Tang and Wolf Williams, the oldest members of the Seer Green Scout Troop. We've been scouts for just over 2 years (mainly throughout Covid-19). However, we have still been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to be a part of the troop and engage in many fun activities.

Last November, members of our troop took part in the annual Grimsdyke hike in which we had to walk around the hilly areas of Stokenchurch getting to as many checkpoints as we could along the way, whilst it was snowing! We camped overnight and continued our hike the next day.

Another great opportunity for scouts is to be able to go to the PACCAR Outdoor Activity Centre which our members enjoy the most. Here, we take part in numerous teambuilding activities such as climbing, cratestacking and abseiling. We also play big games of 'capture the flag' in the large PACCAR woods, which is very popular among the troop.

Our scout leaders also hosted a family bingo night where scouts and our families participated to raise much needed funds for equipment. We had numerous prizes including sweets, chocolate, as well as alcohol for the parents. Our leaders also ran a tuck shop which many of our scouts enjoyed.

Since the recent invasion of Ukraine, we have been gathering medical equipment from members of the village to send to Ukraine; to provide care and medical assistance for anyone that needs it.

Unfortunately, we will soon be leaving scouts; however, we have loved every bit of our time. Our favourite memories include camping last year, the PACCAR visits and the social element that Scouts provides. We highly recommend scouts, whether that is becoming a scout or helping as a team leader. It is great to welcome new scouts and we hope for you to enjoy it as much as we have, all thanks to our amazing scout leaders.

Charlie and Wolf



A new vineyard



Winemaking and organic farm in Seer Green

In May 2021 you may have noticed that a new vineyard was planted at Newbarn Farm, on the corner of Newbarn Lane and Rawlings Lane. Two local families are behind this new venture: the Hobleys, owners of Newbarn Farm; and the Woodfines, managing the farmland, vineyard, and winemaking.

Richard Woodfine is taking the farmland organic by developing a circular farming ecosystem with



natural wine production at its heart. Woodfine Wines is bringing together Newbarn's own fruit, veg, chickens, bees, orchards, and wildflower meadows to help lock carbon in the soil, increase biodiversity and connect with the local community.

Progress so far has been made through many local suppliers and services, including Ellie Good - branding, Charlotte Cooper - artwork, Nathalie Lockwood - printing, Kati Noakes and Pippa Shakespeare - social media / marketing, and Seb Hemkes - creative carpentry.

We already have local volunteers helping with chickens, bees, fruit/veg and the vineyard, including Liz and Chris Read, Jim Brunt, Matt Norris, Sally Ash, Hannah French, Chris Marianzcak, Alex Garcia, and others to whom we will be eternally grateful! We have also organised activities with the Beavers, Cubs, Seer Green Gardeners and the school, churches, and pubs, with more ideas in the pipeline.

Conventional winemaking can use up to seventy different chemicals that customers do not need to be told about, whereas natural wine is made without any yeast, sugar, or chemical additions of any kind. Just grapes.

You can support our new venture by buying our natural wine and cider, or

by contacting me about volunteering, eggs or honey sales, chicken/bee experiences, vineyard and wine tours and tastings. All the information you need is on the website.

Richard Woodfine - www.woodfinewine.com

Thank You Seer Green and Jordans

The presence of so many of you at Robert's Memorial Service on 19 January provided huge comfort to the three generations of the Lomas family. This has made me realise the value of real village life. We received so many condolence letters, some telling me things that I didn't know about Robert's life even after 59 years of marriage - the things he had done to support people using his multiple skills, his love of village life, his huge knowledge of local wildlife and the area, and his many sporting skills. For example, as treasurer and player, he used his knowledge of foreign languages to organise the first trip abroad for the Seer Green Football team to Belgium, playing against local teams.

Robert's entire life was spent in Seer Green, apart from his time at Cambridge University to read languages (on a scholarship from Wycombe Grammar School), and national service as an officer in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). with a year in Kenya and a year in Germany. His mother's family lived in Seer Green, as did his parents after their marriage. Robert could never be persuaded to move, preferring to drive long distances for his work, because local family and friends were such a vital part of our life.

Robert's increasing deafness and dementia were an enormous challenge, made more difficult by Covid and its ever-changing rules, and the enforced isolation for the whole family.

Duncan, who is also increasingly deaf, and I would not have managed without all the prayers, support, humour, love and care we have had from so many of you, our village family. This shone a light at a very dark time for us.

With love and gratitude from Jen, Duncan, Sally, Richard, and the five grandchildren.

Jenny Lomas

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Seer Green Eight O'Clock Club

Every parent's worst nightmare: the Police call in the early hours to tell you your child has died.

Retired Berkshire teacher Elizabeth Burton-Phillips MBE spoke about the effect drugs had on her personally and the devastating damage drugtaking had on her Family.

This life-changing event resulted in Elizabeth starting the Charity DrugFAM in 2006 (www.drugfam. co.uk) to raise awareness of the harm caused to families by drug addiction. She also wrote a book called "Mum, can you lend me twenty quid?", which has been translated into six languages and recounts the tragedy that resulted in the death of one of her boys, aged 27.

The Charity's wider remit is to support people "affected by or bereaved from another person's harmful use of alcohol, drugs, substances or gambling."

There were two parents, a girl and twin boys in Elizabeth's family, and the tragedy started when both teenage boys started smoking. By the sixth form, they were smoking cannabis and Elizabeth believes smoking and vaping can be the initial gateway to drug-taking. Cocaine and heroin followed.

The research appears to show that those who smoke before the age of 15 are eighty times more likely to use illegal substances. Elizabeth's twin boys deteriorate from healthy happy children into skeletal, pockmarked street dwellers. They became depressed and mentally ill.

The mental and financial impact on the family was enormous. Drug dealers were paid off and money was spent on drug rehabilitation for the boys, who battled chronic relapses. Life savings were lost, and retirement postponed.

The message is to be aware, because children in Seer Green and Jordans have been offered drugs.

Next meeting - July 7

'Natural Signals - How Plants and Animals Communicate (and what are they saying)' with John Tyler - Nature Conservationist.

Seer Green Baptist Church: cost £3 includes tea/coffee and biscuits. All are welcome.

Elizabeth Lee



Seer Green's new benches

Here are photos of the three new benches we wrote about earlier in the year. The bench by the shop was donated in memory of the Lofty family, shopkeepers in Seer Green, while the bench on the way to Jordans was donated by Jordans Environment Trust, and the one on the recreation ground was donated by Bucks County Council.

Congratulations to the Parish Council for obtaining the funding and arranging the purchase.

Sue Puttergill







Jubilee Trees

The village certainly seems to have enjoyed celebrating the Platinum Jubilee over the last week. To mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, Seer Green Parish Council would like to plant at least one, but ideally two, new trees, to join in with the Queen's Green Canopy, a unique UK-wide tree planting initiative inviting people to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

Our Plant a Tree for the Jubilee project will only be able to happen if it is supported by donations from the village, and so this is why we have set up a crowd funder.

Our initial target to raise is £2,500, which includes one tree with a 25-30cm girth, materials, labour, machinery, fees, delivery, excavation, handling, planting, and watering.

We have a stretch target which would allow us to plant another significant tree.

More information about the project can be found on our 'crowdfunder' page at: https://tinyurl.com/mr3f97pj, or you can contact Liz Bates (Clerk to the Parish Council, clerk@seergreenparishcouncil.gov. uk), Mandy Thomas (Chair of the Parish Council) or Councillor Janna Holder.

Janna Holder



Our Living Village – Latest Developments

The Our Living Village website continues to develop and expand its rich history of the villages of Seer Green and Jordans. If you've yet to engage with this important community initiative, this must surely be the time to do so at www.ourlivingvillage.org.

Our latest upload is a wonderful piece of local history research by Nigel Rothwell: 'The Manor of Seer Green: tales of Lords, Ladies and Liberties'. This explores the lives of Lords of the manor of Seer Green, who played significant roles in forging British national identity. By researching original records, Nigel illustrates how five former Lords, Ladies and Tenants-in-Chief have had an important national legacy: Bertram de Verdun (1066 - 1100) first held the manor of Farnham for William the

Conqueror; Roesia de Verdun (1231 - 1247) may have created the manor of la Sere; Theobald de Verdun (1274 - 1309) held the manor of la Cere during its apogee; Elizabeth (de Burgo) de Clare (1316 - 1360) was one of the nation's most wealthy and powerful women of the Middle Ages; and Queen Elizabeth I (1550 - 1603). And is the Black Prince's reputed hunting lodge in Seer Green myth or reality? Well take a look at this definitive historical research – there's an interesting twist or two to that story!

Two further themes being prepared are 'A History of the Public Houses of Seer Green and Jordans' and Nigel Rothwell's 'Geology and Archaeology of Hodgemoor Wood'.

If anyone would like to pull together an illustrated record of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations we'd also be happy to capture this for posterity.

Our Living Village was developed by the Seer Green and Jordans Society in partnership with the Chiltern Society, and on **Saturday 24 September** we are again coorganising the Two Villages Walk – Historical Highlights of Seer Green and Jordans.

Full details of this and other events in the Chiltern Society Heritage Festival are at: https://chilternsociety.org. uk/heritage-festival/

Alan Kell - Seer Green and Jordans Society alan.kell@igsystems.co.uk

PERRA DERTRAMMI DE VERBUN. IN STOCKES DUNG.

TO BERTRAMMS de Verduno ven FERMENA. Px. but

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Platinum Jubilee parties































Perfect picnic places



It is the middle of summer and you fancy a change of scene, so what could be better than packing up a picnic and heading to one of the many glorious historic beauty spots not far from here?

These suggestions are all less than an hour's drive away, and are all looked after by the National Trust.

Coombe Hill, Butlers Cross

Just a few minutes from the Wendover by-pass and topped by a distinctive monument, Coombe Hill is the highest viewing point in the Chilterns. Extensive views open up before you, and you also get a bird's eye view of Chequers, the country home of every serving British prime minister. With its breath-taking views and hillside dotted with wild flowers, this is the perfect place to sit back and enjoy the view or some old-fashioned family fun.

Ashridge, near Tring

If you have never been to Ashridge, you are in for a treat. Set in an area of outstanding natural beauty, there are miles of trails and open spaces amid ancient trees, lush meadows, and rolling hills. The main hub is the Bridgewater Monument with a café, visitor facilities and plenty of space for the kids to run around, but if you explore further afield you can easily find yourself in a timeless forest rich in wildlife.

Runnymede, near Egham

These tranquil meadows next to the River Thames have an unrivalled place in world history. Here, in 1215, King John met with a group of rebellious barons to seal the Magna Carta, and Runnymede became known the birthplace of modern democracy. It also makes

a fascinating and pleasant place for a picnic, with riverside trails and paths criss-crossing grassy meadows which leading to a series of important monuments and art installations.

www.nationaltrust.org

Fliss Coombs



Community Meeting

Presenting a plan to manage Manor Farm Fields to promote biodiversity

Jordans Village Hall

Thursday 7 July

7.30pm - 9pm

All welcome!

A presentation of plans to increase the biodiversity of Manor Farm Fields and an opportunity to hear from conservation experts about similar plans locally, including Chalfont St Peter's plan to become the most biodiverse village in Bucks!

Followed by Q&A.

"This field is green in colour only" (John Shaw, Chiltern Rangers, 2022)

Jordans Rotary Club



Jordans Rotary Club would like to thank all those people who supported our charity film night in April at Pinewood Studios where we showed the new film "Westside Story".

We are pleased to say we shall be donating £1,000 to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance and £1,000 to the Ukraine Appeal where, through the group of Rotarians who are onsite, we are supporting the most severely injured civilians and soldiers by sending out much needed surgical equipment and medicines directly to the hospitals.

Should anybody like to hear how The TVAA (Thames Valley Air Ambulance) has fared over the last two years, they would be most welcome to join us on **Monday 11 July** at Beaconsfield Golf Club for dinner to hear from their representative. Contact Jenny Owen on 01494 677571 / 07707 386415 for more information.

Jenny Owen





News from over the fields in Jordans

Friday's celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee were wonderful. The village BBQs were excellent with all sorts of appetising fare, the music was perfect thanks to the TMC speaker system, the football goals were in constant use and everyone had a brilliant time!

Thanks to our wonderful publicans, Francesca and Paul, the Jolly Quaker (the Village pop-up pub) opened its doors at 6pm. The beer flowed!

Looking forward to one of our village's best-loved annual events - MUSIC ON THE GREEN - a live band on Jordans Village Green on **Sunday 3 July**, from 1.30pm until late. It is open to everyone in both villages, so bring your gazebos, picnics - the village BBQs will be fired up again ready to cook on - a chair or two and your dancing shoes, and head over. The Village Shop will be open all afternoon for ice creams, cold drinks, and anything else you might like.

Donations by card or cash towards the cost of the band would be appreciated on the day.

August sees another popular event - The Village Cricket Match on Sunday 14 August (Sunday 21 if it rains) on Jordans Village Green at 2pm, when a team from the Jordans Estate Office takes on the Village team. Cream teas, a bar and refreshments will be provided by The Jolly Quaker. Always an enjoyable afternoon, and not to be missed!

There are other great events in our village this summer, including sinking the Village Centenary time capsule, a textile exhibition at The Quaker Meeting House, the Summer Camp for our young hosted by Jordans Tennis Club ... How lucky we are 'over the fields in Jordans'!

Ali Cork

Jordans Summer Tennis Camp

Jordans Tennis Club - All standards welcome



1st - 5th & 22nd - 26th August

10 - 11 am 4 - 6 years old £7 per session - £32 for the week

11 - 1 pm 7 years old + £14 per session - £63 for the week



We will start most sessions working on agility, balance and co-ordination skills which are essential for most sports. Your children will be taught the basic technique of the forehand, backhand, volleys and serve. They will practice rallying using these shots and will also practise these newly squired skills in lots of fun and enjoyable games.

To book onto any group please call or text Nick on 07841 018855 or E-mail: niwood14@vahoo.co.uk,

Location: Jordans Tennis Club, Green East Road, Jordans. HP9 2SU

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View a selection of textile panels at Jordans Quaker Meeting House



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office@jordansquakercentre.org www.jordansquakercentre.org

Toddlers in the woods

How different are our Friday mornings in the Woods now in the summer months than they were in the depths of winter! The trees are coated in green leaves, the birds are nesting and singing - perhaps not along with our enthusiastic singers under team member Bridget's expert lead!

We are, adults and children alike, revelling in being in the great outdoors and in our beautiful woodland setting every Friday morning. Crutches Wood in our village of Jordans comes alive with fun and laughter as we play, attempt to take on board some of the wonders of our environment and undertake all types of craft projects.

All pre-school children from both our villages, accompanied by a responsible adult, are so welcome to simply come along and join us.



Start time during the summer months is 9.15am and we run for an hour every Friday during term time. Contributions towards running costs of about £2.50 per week are welcomed but far from essential.

Ali Cork

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Janet's book reviews

These are a couple of books I read on holiday recently and thoroughly enjoyed, recommended to me by a friend. It's always great when you enjoy the same things, especially in the sunshine.



The Funny Thing about Norman Foreman – Julietta Henderson

A wonderful, endearing, heart-warming read.

Twelve-year-old Norman is determined to become a comedian with his best friend and comedy partner Jax. When they were ten, they wrote a five-year plan to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe. Sadly, Jax dies when he is twelve.

We meet Norman and his mum Sadie in deep grief.

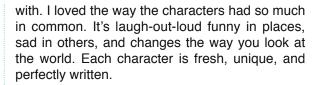
They both loved Jax and now Norman has lost his smile. He decides to pay tribute to Jax by rewriting the plan: he's going to The Fringe this year, and wants to take care of his mum and find his dad, who could be one of four men!

Sadie meets Leonard, who is on a scheme for the over-seventies at work, and they become firm friends. When Leonard hears about Norman's wish to get to the Fringe and perform, he offers his support to get him there. What follows is an adventure, with lots of highs and lows.

Anxious People - Fredrick Blackman

You may recognise the author's name – he wrote the best-selling "A Man called Ove" - so you might know what is in store in his latest novel which, on the face of it, is about a bank robbery/hostage situation that goes wrong ... or is it?

Anxious People has a whole host of colourful characters, each with their own flaws, insecurities, and problems, which makes them easy to identify



The plot is, in many ways, completely unbelievable, but it works - possibly because it's almost incidental.

A completely joyous read – don't miss out. A proper feel-good book.

Janet Stewart

Solar Together

Buckinghamshire residents can take advantage of a group-buying scheme to purchase solar panels, battery storage and electric vehicle charging points to help save on energy costs and cut carbon emissions. The Council has joined the Solar Together initiative, run by iChoosr, as part of its commitment to tackling climate change and supporting local people to access affordable ways to reduce their carbon footprint.

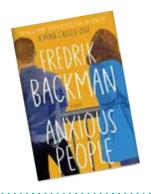


Interested householders can find out more and register for free online to become part of the local group, with no obligation, at: www.solartogether. co.uk/buckinghamshire.

Romeo and Juliet

The Chiltern Shakespeare Company are presenting **Romeo and Juliet** in the grounds of Hall Barn in Old Beaconsfield at 7.45pm from **5 to 10 July**, with matinees on the Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are available at various prices from 01494-573559, or online at https://chiltern-shakespeare.co.uk/ **BoxOffice**

More information on the CSC website at: https://chiltern-shakespeare.co.uk/





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Tweet of the Month - Lhude sing cuccu!

Have you been fortunate enough to hear a Cuckoo this year?

The Common Cuckoo, Cuculus canorus, arrives in April from its Congo breeding grounds. With grey back, barred breast, and a sleek profile, in flight it resembles a small hawk. The male woos the female with his 'cuck-oo' call; she lays eggs in the nests of the songbird species she herself was raised by, matching her eggs to theirs.

As soon as it hatches, the little Cuckoo blindly pushes the host eggs and chicks out of the nest. It grows rapidly and chatters like a clutch of nestlings, confusing its foster parents who rush to fill the giant baby's gaping beak.

An old rhyme, borrowed by Simon and Garfunkel for their 'Sounds of Silence' album, goes: 'In April, come he will. In May, he's here to stay.



Young cuckoo being fed by foster parent Photo credit PBS.com

In June, he changes his tune. In July, he prepares to fly. In August, away he must.'

The adults leave by July, and the young follow in August, never having met their own parents. Ornithologists have tracked them with radio technology since 2011, but the fledglings' ability to plot a course for Central Africa, with no adults to guide them, remains a mystery.

'Sumer is icumen in. Ihude sing cuccu!' wrote Anonymous in the 13th century. I was working at the allotments this May when I heard a Cuckoo 'singing loud', flying east across the horse pastures. I stood up, listening intently. Was I deceived, was it a pigeon? Again - loud, clear and again - as it flew: 'cuck-oo'. But this call is no longer a routine sound of summer: UK numbers declined by 43% between 1995 and 2015, and the bird is on the BTO Red List.

BTO map tracking 'Daniel', 'Calypso' and other Cuckoos as they migrate: https://tinyurl.com/2p8fzycv

Cuckoo calls:

https://tinyurl.com/4u4rxm3c

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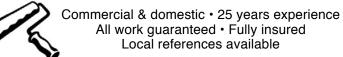
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