Your Parish MAGAZINE

What's on in Seer Green & Jordans June 2021



Be a wildlife detective

More wildflower meadows

Education in Our Living Village

Seer Green and Jordans Quiz

Janet's Book Reviews



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From the Editors

"It was June, and the world smelled of Roses. The sunshine was like powdered gold over the grassy hillside." Maud Hart Lovelace. We are looking forward to some sunshine to lift our spirits this month as well as meeting one another again in larger groups! There are more places for us to visit again and outdoor entertainments.

It will be lovely for all those weddings that have been on hold to finally be celebrated!

This months edition has more on the history of Seer Green, a guiz (just for fun), another introduction to a member of the Clergy team, Bucks Art Week details, great book Reviews and more!

Phil Moody, Sue Puttergill and Carol Wright

Next Month's Magazine

Please send all contributions for the July/August double issue to: editorseergreen@gmail.com by 7 June. 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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Contents

- 9 Wildlife Detectives
- 12 More wildflower meadows
- 14 Education in Our Living Village
- 17 Football in Seer Green

- 19 Bucks Arts Week
- 21 Seer Green and Jordans Quiz
- 24 Janet's Book Reviews

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Thought for the Month



Despite living in Seer Green for nearly 14 years it is only during the last 15 months that I have really explored our local area on foot during my pandemic walks. I have always been grateful to live in this beautiful little village but my appreciation of it has only increased as I have enjoyed the escape from my flat to wander through the fields, woods and paths around Seer Green, Jordans and Chalfont St Giles. Those who know me well, or follow me on social media, will know that one of my particular enjoyments comes from walking over One Tree Field, (the field running along Bottom Lane) and in particular photographing the tree in the centre. During 2020 seeing this field change from bare



earth, through growing season and then harvest time brought a familiar sense of rhythm and hope when the rest of life wasn't following its normal pattern. This year I have started to photograph the tree daily, noticing not only the change in the field and tree but the beauty and splendour of the sky, clouds, sunrise and sunset framing it each day. Even on a grey or rainy day something can be found that catches my eye in a new way. As I reflect on the nature around us I can only marvel at the amazing artistry of God and the beauty of his creation. It causes me to be still and know that despite all that is going on there is joy, there is purpose and there is always hope.

Janna Holder - a member of the Holy Trinity Church team

Church Events I News

Introducing our clergy team - Rev Paul Henderson

My name is Paul Henderson and I will be serving in Holy Trinity as part of the wider team, with the churchwardens, Jane and Janine, and the children and families Minister, Janna. I will lead services and share in the church's wider ministry.

I completed my three-year curacy in the benefice of Chalfont St Giles, with Seer Green and Jordans in 2020 following a previous career as a chartered accountant in the banking sector. As a part-time self-supporting Associate Minister (SSM), I enjoy the diversity of Parish ministry and serving the community in the benefice, of which Holy Trinity Church is an important part. I am married to Frederique and we have three

children who are now independent. In my spare time I enjoy playing piano and sailing in the Solent.

Paul Henderson



Church news

It is 2 months since Cassa left Seer Green and Jordans and we are settling into new routines. You can now attend services at 8am on first and third Sundays in the month. At 10am every Sunday you can usually attend in person or follow the service on YouTube. Please remember to book if you wish to come along in person to any service. 'Coffee and a Chat' on zoom follows the 10am Sunday morning service.

This month we are looking forward to the first wedding of the year in Holy Trinity, with another next month and we have baptism services too. We have so many joyful occasions to look forward to.

As you may remember, we cannot start to look for someone to replace Cassa until a rector has been appointed in Chalfont St Giles. Their recruitment process is well

underway, with representatives of our PCC (parochial church council) contributing. The formal Diocesan process for approving the vacancy and advertising it will take place in the summer with interviews carried out in October. The Rectory in Chalfont St Giles and the Vicarage in Seer Green will both be let out while they are unoccupied.

Jane Spoerry

News from the Messervys

Cassa tells us that they 'are settling in well but it's full on'. Here is a photo of their new home.



Contact us

Holy Trinity website
Church Wardens and

www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org

Church Wardens and Jane Spoerry 01494 677328
General Enquiries Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

Church Calendar - June 2021

Sundays in June

8am Book of Common Prayer Communion Service.

in person only.

10am All Age Service. YouTube only.

11am Coffee and a Chat on Zoom

13 June 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and on YouTube.

11am Coffee and a Chat on Zoom

20 June 8am Book of Common Prayer Communion Service.

in person only.

10am Morning Praise. In person and on YouTube.

11am Coffee and a Chat on Zoom

27 June 10am Holy Communion, in person and on YouTube.

11am Coffee and a Chat on Zoom

There are also 8am BCP Communion Services at Chalfont St Giles on 13 & 27 June.

Weekdays in June

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom Tues

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom Thurs

10.30-11am Coffee and a Chat on Zoom

11am Study group on Zoom

26 June Wedding

To attend any service in person you must book a place. Please contact Jane Spoerry.

Our 10am services will be streamed on our YouTube channel.

www.youtube.com/c/holytrinitychurchseergreenandjordans

If you would like to come along to any of the events on Zoom, just ask Janine and Jane our churchwardens for the details or Janna our Children's and Families Minister.

For more information about Families Zoom activities contact Janna.

Wildlife detectives wanted - help solve our churchyard mystery

Holy Trinity churchyard is a special place. Until 1846 it was the village green, now it's the last resting place for many villagers, but it's also home to many wild plants and animals -and we'd like to find out more.

In the early 1980s, our churchyard was surveyed by Buckinghamshire botanist Roy Maycock, who recorded 92 different species of trees and wild plants. But are all the species he found still there? Have any new ones arrived?

And what about 'wild animals' - ants. bees, beetles, butterflies, lizards, mice? Recently the yellow meadow ant and seven-spotted ladybird were seen, and of course birds such as robins, goldfinches and jackdaws visit - but this may be just the tip of the iceberg, especially when it comes to invertebrates.



This year, June 5 to 13 is national 'Love Your Burial Ground' week and we're joining in the 'Churches Count on Nature' wildlife survey. Please come visit Holy Trinity churchyard

any time that week, bring your camera, field guide or phone app, and see how many plants and creatures you can spot. We'll collate all your discoveries and upload them to the national Caring for God's Acre survey site, and all data will later be freely available via the National Biodiversity Network Atlas.



We'd also like photos taken that week, to share on Holy Trinity's social media - send us one you're really proud of, or a mystery plant or creature you WEREN'T able to identify - we can post it and ask for suggestions!

Further information on how to send us your findings, as well as Roy's 1980s plant list to give you a head start, will be supplied on Holy Trinity's website and Facebook page. Please put vour Sherlock Holmes hats on and help us solve the mystery!

Nora Bennett

June 2021 Charity - St Andrew's Church: Family Support Group

This month's charity is a group which supports vulnerable families in High Wycombe with pre-school children. It is based in a very mixed area of Wycombe with a lot of social housing and minimal incomes. Not all families in the group are on benefits, but those in employment have such low incomes that regular food parcels from the food bank are needed to help feed their families.

The group met once a week during term time. Some sessions look at life issues and skills, whilst others are more recreational. These group sessions help women gain confidence and improve the quality of their own and their children's lives. They find new ways of coping and handling difficult situations that arise in life.

The children learn to play happily together in a structured crèche session, helping to prepare them for nursery and school. The group enables the mothers to strengthen both themselves and their family unit.

Thankfully, after nearly a year of attempting to run the group over zoom the group is starting to meet in person again, although the creche and lunches can't recommence until after June 21.

We are hoping that this year's donation can fund a summer trip to Beale Park. Holy Trinity has previously funded trips to a theme park and the seaside and for many of the families this is their only trip of the summer holidays.

Can you donate your time? In addition to financial donations the group is in need of fresh volunteers to help run the creche, prepare and serve lunches. If you are free on Tuesday mornings in term time and would like to volunteer please contact clairejenkin1@gmail.com to discuss how you can help. You don't have to commit to every week and it's a great

way to support local families and see how the mums and children grow in confidence and support each other.

To donate give cash or a cheque made payable to 'PCC of Seer Green and Jordans', to Mrs Audrey Hardy, 58 Chalfont Road stating the charity you wish to support, and if you can Giftaid it, your name and address. Bank transfer to: Family Support Group Natwest A/c number 15680541 Sort code 60-11-01

Or via paypal: https://paypal.me/pools/c/8ze4iK9G70

Claire Jenkin

Beaconsfield Library opens up

Of course you can borrow books but did you know that the library also offer

Support with council services

Access a range of council services at our council access point within the library. Our trained staff and volunteers are on hand to help with common queries, such as reporting a pothole or ordering a replacement bin.

You can use the self-service computers to access services online or use the phones to speak to a relevant member of staff. For more complex queries, such as housing, Council Tax and planning applications, visit our access plus centres based in Aylesbury, High Wycombe, and Amersham.

Use of their facilities

Public internet and computer access. Computer facilities for visually impaired persons.

Free online reference resources and e-Library. Photocopying, printing, scanning.

Village Events I News

Seer Green Gardeners



Throughout the pandemic the Seer Green Gardening Society has been busier than ever, not only thinking up creative ways to bring the community together, but also with genuine spade work, all socially distanced of course.

Members of the committee and other helpers have been creating new wildflower areas on the Chalfont Road and Bayne Hill, and ensuring that the wildflowers planted last year on Longbottom Lane will be even more spectacular this summer.

June in the garden

June 21st is the longest day of the year and the extra light and warmth encourages an exuberant burst of growth in the garden. The risk of frost should finally have passed too!

- Plant summer bedding in pots, borders and baskets and water regularly.
- · Liquid feed bedding plants every 2 or 3 weeks to encourage flowering.
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias and bedding plants for bushier growth.

- Provide support for tall plants before they splay or break.
- · Prune spring-flowering shrubs.
- · Lift and store tulip bulbs after flowering.
- Sow a few fast growing, late-flowering annuals such as Calendula, Godetia and Clarkia.
- · Shade or ventilate greenhouses to avoid scorching on hot days.
- · Continue to fill bird baths or leave a dish of water out for the birds.

Don't forget that house plants may need more water if on a sunny window sill.

Seer Green Gardeners - www.seergreengardeners.org



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Our Living Village – Learning about Schools & Education

We've got a wonderful collection of photos of the Seer Green Church of England School, assembled by Jane Smith and Janna Holder, but we're still keen to collect any further material that might be available within the community. Did you or your children attend this school and, if so, have you got any photos or recollections that you'd like to share with the Our Living Village project? And the very same question applies for the Jordans Village School, and its predecessor school based at Long Dean House.

Going further back, what about the earlier education establishments operating in Seer Green before the opening of the main school in 1859? We're told by an 1835 government report that there were Two Daily Schools in the Hamlet of Seer Green (Pop. 245), one with 20 males and 4 females supported by Lady Young and Mr and Miss Du Pree: the other 22 females partly supported by Lady Young. In addition, there was one Sunday School, in which 40 children of both sexes were gratuitously instructed. Where on earth were all these schools located in this tiny rural hamlet, and who was running them?



Seer Green school - 1896

And let's not forget the world-renowned finishing school based at Seer Green House in Longbottom Lane which, prior to its demolition in the late 1980s, attracted members of the European Royal families such as Princess Margaretha of Sweden and – as we're recently discovered – the famous British novelist Elizabeth Jane Howard. We currently have very little information on this school so if you know anything about it, please do tell!

Dates for your diary: we'll be presenting the findings from the Our Living Village project in two events at the Jordans Village Hall on 25 September and at the Seer Green Baptist Church on 2 October. More details to follow.

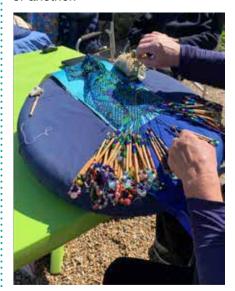
Alan Kell: alan.kell@igsystems.co.uk



Seer Green School Play - 1955

Spring Fest Sparkled

What a lovely event SG SpringFest was! The Gardeners were delighted with the way that the community came behind our efforts to celebrate Spring in a different way this year. We had 5 extremely well attended Zoom events, a treasure hunt, a plant sale, 4 bird walks led by local experts, free plug plants given out to children and then the culmination of the festival in the Front Gardens Trail in the glorious sunshine. I particularly loved being able to admire the very impressive creativity of the artists who live in the village, and felt very lucky to be part of such a vibrant community. Over 250 people got involved in the festival in one form or another.



Marion Cox making lace.

And then as the icing on the cake, we were delighted that Rachel Gibson's excellent flower arranging demonstration raised £415 for Cure Parkinson's Trust.



The French family doing the treasure hunt.

I am so privileged to have an energetic and creative committee working with me, and instead of focusing on the negatives about the restrictions that the pandemic has imposed on us, we have been trying to find opportunities to do things differently. Covid has given many of us more time to appreciate the beautiful environment that we are lucky enough to live in, and I am keen that the Gardeners work celebrates this through maybe

more diverse activities than we have engaged with in the past. As yet we don't know if there will be an Autumn show this year, but if there isn't, we won't be sitting back! I can guarantee that we will come up with some exciting and interesting events as the seasons change, (definitely including the Scarecrow competition!), and

I look forward to sharing them with you. If you'd like to be one of the first to find out about what we're up to, or if you'd like to get involved, then do join our mailing list! Just drop me a line at seergreengardeners@gmail.com

Jane Smith

Football in Seer Green

There are two football clubs in Seer Green: Seer Green United, and Seer Green FC.

Seer Green United currently has five teams for under 8s to under 17s, although this changes from year to year – some boys progressing to the adult team. Its coaches are FA level 1 qualified. The club secretary is Tim Wyatt (tjwyatt@btinternet.com, or 07833 246819).

Seer Green FC is the team for adults. Seer Green FC is a Sunday League football team with 28 team members and plays in the Grant & Stone High Wycombe Sunday Football Combination Division One. The club managers are Art Anderson and Dave Anderson, assisted by Lewis Payne.

Please speak to Tim or Art if you want to help – or if you or your child wants to join one of the teams! It is always challenging to find somewhere to play (there is not enough space in Seer Green, so the teams also play on recreation grounds in Beaconsfield, Holtspur, and Loudwater), so if you know of anywhere else which is available, please let the club secretaries know.

The football season is close to the end now, with only a few matches to play. Over summer, things usually change; particularly the youth teams, where players progress from team to team as they get older. Later this summer, we will publish more information about the teams and their plans for the 2021-2022 season.

Phil Moody





Bucks Art Weeks 12-27 June 2021



This will be taking place throughout the county from 12-27 June 2021 – put the dates in your diary!

In the meantime, take a moment to browse through all of this year's participating artists and makers on line or in the catalogue and, perhaps, begin considering who you may wish to visit. In Seer Green Sarah Allen and Sue Nowlan are exhibiting and there are artists' studios open in the Chalfonts and High Wycombe too. The world is opening up

again – and there's so much to see – so we recommend that you start early and hope you'll enjoy your time with us here.

The Bucks Art Weeks committee - www.bucksartweeks.org.uk

Bucks Art Weeks - Seer Green

In Seer Green there are 3 artists opening up their studios to the public during Bucks Art Weeks; Sarah Allen - Sculpture and water features for the home and garden; Linda Horncastle - landscapes and pet portraits; Sue Nowlan - contemporary oil painting and mixed media sculpture

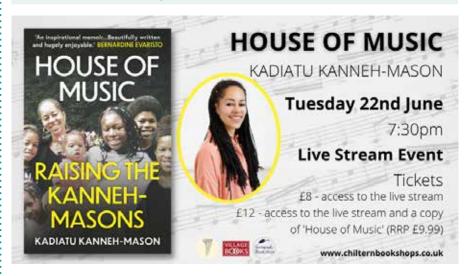
I'm excited to be featuring the water features that I've made during lockdown. Several were purchased as bespoke gifts for special occasions



and I love to work closely with the buyer and incorporate personal elements into these pieces. Some of my favourites are a stylish interpretation of a bicycle water feature; the partytastic "bottomless gin" fountain; and a more organic flowing branch of copper maple leaves all dripping with water. Linda also takes commissions and paints in pastels and watercolour and Sue shows her expressive oil paintings and some quirky 3D birds. We all hope to offer you a warm welcome in our studio and gardens soon. Brochures available from us and full details at www.bucksartweeks.org.uk, or come and visit at 27 Chalfont Road, Seer Green, HP9 2YS

Sarah Allen

The power of determination



Seven brothers and sisters, all of them classically trained musicians. One was Young Musician of the Year and performed for the royal family, while the eldest has released her first album, showcasing the works of Clara Schumann. These siblings don't come from the rarefied environment of elite music schools, but from a state comprehensive in Nottingham – so how did they do it?

Their mother, Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason, opens up about what it takes to raise a musical family in a Britain divided by class and race. What emerges is a beautiful and heartrending memoir of the power of determination, camaraderie and a lot of hard work. The Kanneh-Masons are a remarkable family. But what truly shines in this eloquent memoir is the joyous affirmation that children are a gift, and we must do all we can to nurture them.

Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason is a former lecturer at Birmingham University and the mother of seven children. The third eldest, Sheku Kanneh-Mason, was BBC Young Musician 2016 and performed at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. The siblings have performed at the 2018 BAFTA ceremony, Britain's Got Talent, The Royal Variety Performance and at major concert halls around the world. Chorleywood and Gerrards Cross Bookshops are offering 2 ticket options for this event:

£8 - Live stream access only ticket

£12 - Live stream access and a copy of (House of Music) (RRP £9.99)

Please note there can be no refunds or exchanges for events, and that events booked online are subject to a booking fee. Tickets can be purchased up to 1 hour before the start of the event. Books will be ready for collection/ dispatch after the event. The link to access the live stream will be emailed 24hrs in advance.

https://tinyurl.com/3me2b44w

Seer Green and Jordans Local Knowledge Quiz

- A School was built in Seer Green in 1829. What did it teach?
- 2. In which year was the first C of E school building in Seer Green erected?
- 3. What was the land used for before Holy Trinity Church was built?
- 4. What does Seer mean?
- 5. What is Seer Green known for?
- There was an important feature on the corner of Chalfont Road and Orchard Road. What was it?
- 7. What is the local name for the steep road from Jordans to the footpath to Seer Green?
- 8. Which lane in Jordans would help you if you had a broken leg?
- 9. Which barn in Jordans was allegedly made out of a famous ship?
- 10. Which state in America is named after a person buried in Jordans Friends Meeting House Cemetery?
- 11. What can humans and dogs both have done to improve their looks in Seer Green?

- 12. What are the small gardens, used to grow vegetables, called in Park Lane?
- 13. What is the Parish Hall currently used as?
- 14. What is the name of the Ladies choir in Seer Green?
- 15. Which business in Seer Green shares part of its name with a patchwork elephant?
- 16. Which road has a roundabout at the end of it?
- 17. What is the Princess Marina Centre now called?
- 18. Which famous Irish singer (famous for his cardigans) from the 1950's lived in Long grove?

Answers on page 27.



Our Very Own Jordans Village Community Store - 18 Years On

What a tricky 15 months we have witnessed here at the heart of our village in our community store and I am delighted to say that as of last month we have emerged, not exactly triumphant, but on top.

In May 2003 we heralded the newly enlarged shop with a party. After the oldest, Christina Morley, and the youngest, Rosie Merchant, village residents had cut the tape under the watchful gaze of so many of us including shop manager Bryan Burrows and Chairman of the Shop committee Alan Sealy, we headed out on to the Green for a picnic, a game of 5 aside football and music and dancing. What a difference that extra space has made over the subsequent years even incorporating

a much enjoyed coffee corner. Flats had been built above and really it is quite hard to recall the rather insignificant single story building that had served as the hub of our village for so many years.

Change in shopping trends always result in insecurity and as the super stores drew closer, our store had to establish its presence as a larger and more competitive shop and not simply a corner store to pick up a pint of milk.

17 years on and this time with no flourish or cutting of ribbon the shop was faced with reestablishing its position in the community once again and this time from the outside! We were not allowed in and all goods from a kilo of potatoes to

Jordans
Dillage Store

Image 1921

Date 1934

Contact 2013

a birthday card had to be, dare I say, slung out to the unsuspecting purchaser at the front of the queue. Yes COVID restrictions had arrived in force and the amazing staff and volunteers had to convince all, from a distance, supporting Jordans Village Community Store was the way forward for our community.

15 months on our trading situation is better than it has been since the village got behind the shop extension 18 years ago. It is the heart and soul of our village, a rock that might get unsettled on its base at times but will always stand firm to be there for villagers old and new.

Ali Cork - JVCS Committee member



Open Gardens in Jordans in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance

Date: Sunday 4 July

Gardens to visit: Spindrift - Puers Lane Downfield - access from the

end of Puers Lane

Mayfield Cottage - Crutches Lane

Comely Bank - Wilton Lane

Tickets: COVID restrictions mean tickets must be bought in

advance from the Thames Valley Air Ambulance

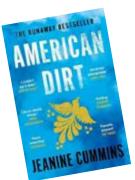
web site.

https://www.tvairambulance.org.uk/support-us/open-gardens/

Come along for an inspiring afternoon!

Ali Cork

Janet's Book Reviews





American Dirt – Jeanine Cummings

From the opening page of this novel, your heart will be in your mouth. This tough, powerful read is the story of Lydia and her son Luca as they desperately try to escape from a violent drug cartel in Mexico. Their journey seems impossible, but it is one which is undertaken daily by optimistic South American refugees trying to get to the USA to live a better life. There are moments of hope, kindness, friendship and love amongst the grim realities. Viscerally real but so elegantly written, this is a wonderful read.

The Nightingale – Kirstin Hannah

Vianne and Isabelle Mauriac are two sisters who have grown apart. When France becomes occupied by Germany during WWII, they each have their own part to play. This movingly written story demonstrates the importance and strength of women in the Resistance. The suspense and jeopardy grow in a well-written, thought provoking and absorbing novel. A gripping tale of love, family, grief and forgiveness. Read it before the film is released!

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Hamnet – Maggie O'Farrell

In this emotive historical story, Maggie O'Farrell reconstructs the life and death of Shakespeare's son Hamnet. The author could not have foreseen that this book would arrive on the shelves when the world was being touched by a deadly pandemic. arousing in us the fear and panic mirrored in the family at the centre of the book, as they are touched by the plague in the sixteenth century. The reader is effortlessly transported to the Stratford of 1596. where we see life through Ann Hathaway's eyes. It shows what life was like for women, particularly with an absent husband. More than anything, the description of parental grief will stay with me. Four years after this event, Shakespeare wrote Hamlet, probably his most acclaimed play. A wonderful piece of literary fiction.

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1st Seer Green Scouts BEER & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Many of you have been asking.....
Will there be a Seer Green Beer and Music Festival in
September 2021?

The answer is...MAYBE

It depends on two things

The COVID rules & new Volunteers for the Committee

The Seer Green Beer and Music Festivals are a highlight of the village calendar. After 5 years of fun and hard work, it is time for the current committee to step back and a new committee to lead. There are a wide variety of roles to choose from and the current committee will be around to help.

This great village tradition will ONLY continue, IF there are new committee members. This year we can't do it without you.



Answers to quiz

- 1. Lace making
- 2. 1859
- 3. Village Green
- 4. Dry
- 5. Cherry orchards
- 6. Well
- 7. Dangerous descent
- 8. Crutches
- 9. Mayflower
- 10. Pennsylvania

- 11. Haircut
- 12. Allotments
- 13. A Gym
- 14. Village Voices
- 15. Perkin Elmer
- 16. Gurnells
- 17. Princess Grove
- 18. Val Doonican







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