

# Your Parish MAGAZINE

What's on in  
Seer Green  
& Jordans

May 2022



**Interviews for  
our new Vicar**

**News from Seer  
Green Beavers**

**A walk around  
West Wycombe  
and Bradenham**

**Jordans climate  
action**



**one pound**



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# Welcome Home!

Following the easing of pandemic restrictions, it is wonderful to be able to welcome visitors to our office again.

We've been busy and made some exciting changes, so if you are passing the office please do call in to see us, enjoy a coffee and see our new work space.



*Gareth*

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## From the Editors

We are delighted that the interviews are planned for the new vicar of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans and look forward to working with them when they move into the vicarage.

Diaries are filling up fast. We hope that you enjoy our new contribution on climate change and maybe try the walk and curl up with Janet's good book too.

It is very exciting to see so many events planned for the summer in the two villages a festival, concerts, fairs, plant sales and the last film for this season at Jordans Picture House.

**Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Phil Moody**

## Next Month's Magazine

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

**editorseergreen@gmail.com** by **7 May**. 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.

## Are you a subscriber?

You can buy an annual subscription to this magazine for only £10 a year (for 10 issues) and it will be delivered free of charge to your door. Please email: **editorseergreen@gmail.com** with your name, address and phone number and one of our distributors will contact you.

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## Church and Community Organisations

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 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

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 Jane Spoerry 01494 677328

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**Pastoral Care**  
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 Brenda Orr | District Commissioner 01753 887209

**Jordans and District Rotary Club**  
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**Jordans Horticultural Society**  
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 Faith Key 01494 870039

**Jordans School**  
 Hannah Bancroft | 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

**Seer Green Allotments**  
 Barry Richardson / Chairman 01494 673407

**Seer Green Baptist Church**  
 David Horncastle - Head Deacon 01494 677266

**Seer Green Bridge Club**  
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**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 07833 246819  
 - FC (adults) Art Anderson 07919 027351

**Seer Green Village Choirs**  
 Jane Smith 07759 841205

## Thought for the Month



As I write, the news remains relentlessly worrying; and since we are now so globally interconnected, we know that what happens in China, Ukraine or the Amazon will have its effects everywhere sooner or later (and we see it already in our fuel and heating bills). I expect there to be several Ukrainian families living in our villages before long and I hope they will find the warmest of welcomes among us. Certainly, churches locally are pooling resources to offer as much support as possible. We are all in this together and I am sure that calls on our kindness and generosity toward each other (local or global) will not be stopping any time soon.

Christian Aid week (15-21 May) focusses on drought caused by climate change. The people of Zimbabwe feel the effects of climate change, of Covid and of steeply rising food and fertiliser prices following the war on Ukraine; so many families will be unable to grow enough food to feed their children. This month they, like so many other excellent charities will also be calling on our generosity. Websters Dictionary informs me that to hope is to 'cherish a desire with anticipation'. By this definition, people who work for Christian Aid are surely motivated by hope; hope for a world where resources are more fairly spread, where climate is stable and where people are not hungry. They work to make that hope real wherever they find need.

Hope is also the motivator behind the ten days set aside for prayer at the end of May where we join with churches all round the world to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven'. Keep giving, keep praying. 'With every gift, every action, every prayer, we celebrate and share hope with our sisters and brothers around the world, from Ukraine to Zimbabwe'.

**Jenny Tebboth** a member of the Holy Trinity team



## Church Events | News

### Church News

May is an exciting month for Holy Trinity in our search for a new vicar. On 3 May, the interview panel with representatives from Seer Green and Jordans, Chalfont St Giles, Amersham Deanery and Oxford Diocese will meet to shortlist the candidates who have applied for our part-time job. 17 May will be a very busy interview day for a maximum of 3 candidates. Each of them will give a short talk in a Morning Prayer service at Holy Trinity, lead an assembly at Seer Green Church of England School, face the interview panel for an hour, and hopefully have a more relaxing time as they meet the Benefice clergy, and tour our villages and the Vicarage. If all goes well, we expect to be able to announce who will be our new vicar.

Our Annual Parochial Council Meeting will be held on 23 May on Zoom. This is when the members of the church, called the Electoral Roll, have an opportunity to review the audited financial statement and the activities of the church during the previous 12 months. The Electoral Roll are those whose applications having been received by the Electoral Roll officer, Heather Rowe, and have been added to the Roll.

We are not due a complete revision this year so it will be amended by Heather, removing those who have moved away, and adding those who apply and fulfil the criteria. You can only vote at the APCM if you are on the electoral roll. Churchwardens and new members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are also nominated and confirmed.

We also hope to be well underway in planning for our 175th birthday on Trinity Sunday 12 June. Save the date as we'd love to celebrate with you. Any help will be appreciated, no matter how small. Please contact the church wardens Janine Dunnell or Jane Spoerry. Contact details on Page 4.

### Janine Dunnell



## Holy Trinity Services in May

- 1 May 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only  
10am All-age Service, in person and YouTube
- 8 May 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube
- 15 May 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only and YouTube  
10am Morning Service with baptism, in person and YouTube
- 21 May 3pm Wedding
- 22 May 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube  
12pm Baptism, in person only
- 26 May Thursday 10.30am Ascension Day Service
- 29 May 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube

### Events

- 8 May 3pm Children's outside activity with SG Baptist Church
- 9 May Baptism preparation course, on zoom. Contact Janna or Rev Jenny Tebboth for details
- 26 May - 5 Jun Thy Kingdom Come, 10 days of prayer across the world from Ascension Day to Pentecost

Our streamed service will be on our YouTube channel:  
<https://tinyurl.com/yc6nj52p>

For more information about families' activities and the Maundy Thursday meal contact Janna Holder on 07764490960

Services may be changed if circumstances dictate. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page or website for more information.

## Contact us

Holy Trinity website

[www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org](http://www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org)

Church Wardens and  
General Enquiries

Janine Dunnell 07525 322955  
Jane Spoerry 01494 677328

## May charity of the month

### Christian Aid

Christian aid exists to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

For Christian Aid Week 'We're raising our voices to call for climate justice. Together, we can restore justice to our world.'



### Jessica's story

In Zimbabwe, the climate crisis is causing hunger for families like Jessica's. The combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict, and drought have robbed her of the power to provide for her children. 7000 miles away, the war in Ukraine will drive up food prices in Zimbabwe and around the globe.

Without the fertiliser and food-like wheat and cooking oil- that Ukraine and Russia produce. Vulnerable families will be pushed even deeper into hunger. Like many women in rural Zimbabwe - 7 out of 10 rely on farming for income and food - Jessica toils on her farm, but nothing can grow on her ashen, dry land. Drought starves. Intensified by the climate crisis, and the effects of war in Ukraine on global food production, it drives families into hunger.

### Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

'We're working with 3 partner organisations in the ACT Alliance; Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) in Ukraine and Hungary, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Poland, and Swiss Church Aid (HEKS) in Ukraine, Hungary and Romania, to offer assistance to internally displaced peoples and to refugees.



### Natalia's story

Natalia, Igor, 9, and baby girl Nastia, 2 months, are the first family to stay in a shelter supported by our partner Hungarian Interchurch Aid in Lviv. Nastia is also the youngest internally displaced person there. Natalia and her children arrived by bus. The family comes from the Kyiv region. Natalia's husband is in the army.

'Our village was destroyed. There was bombing every day. I feared for my family. I'm afraid for my husband.'

To donate and read more - [UK charity fighting global poverty](#) - Christian Aid

### Jane Spoerry

**Coffee Shop**  
A meeting place for the community

Monday Mornings  
10.30am to 12.00noon  
Seer Green Baptist Church

## Toddlers in the woods

Toddlers in the Woods ended the Spring term with a great Easter special. Special as we had such fun and special as there were so many of us in and around our wonderful Centenary Clearing in the Crutches Wood enjoying time together.



I would take the opportunity of thanking all who turn up with their young children week by week whether freezing cold or wet to enjoy our woodland activities, our songs and our friendship.

The Summer Term will begin on Friday 6 May and end on Friday 17 July. Half Term will be on Friday 3 June.

During next term, as the weather will be warmer, so perhaps no need for the extra 15 minutes to 'layer up', we will revert to starting the sessions at 9.15am and ending at 10.15am.

Ali Cork

## 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:

- Go to our website: [www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org](http://www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org) and scroll down the homepage to 'Online Giving' and follow the link.
- Go to In support of Holy Trinity Church, Seer Green and Jordans - Give A Little. <https://tinyurl.com/5adwwx4e>
- 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.



## Village Events | News

### Beavers

Beavers have enjoyed an action-packed Spring Term, including zipwire activities, hikes, Street-dancing with Pips Dance Academy - and of course some campfires.

One of the highlights was spending the afternoon with the Buckinghamshire Fire Service at the Holtspur Fire Station. The Beavers enjoyed learning about fire safety, seeing all the parts of the Fire Engines and learning what they did, trying on the Firefighting equipment and even getting to operate the fireman's hose! It was brilliant to get the Beavers back in the community now Covid-19 restrictions have lifted. The Fire Service told us that the Beavers were the first members of the public to go and visit for over 2 years, so the visit was definitely enjoyed by all.



Lots of badges have been awarded this term, one Beaver has even gained their Chief Scouts Bronze Award – the highest award a Beaver can earn! Well done, Alfie!

The Beavers Colony is a section of the 1st Seer Green Scouts for 6-8 years old. If you have a child of this age or nearing this age who would like to join us, or join the waiting list, please contact [beavers@seergreenscouts.org.uk](mailto:beavers@seergreenscouts.org.uk).

We are also looking for volunteers to join the Beaver Leaders team, and if you think you would like to get involved and spare an hour a week (term time only), please get in contact via the same email address. Beavers meet weekly term-time at the Scout Hut on Wednesdays from 4-5pm.

Alison Davies & Jen Marianczak -  
1st Seer Green Beavers





## Seer Green CE School 18th June 12.00-2.30pm



**Cherry Pie Fair**  
Seer Green CE School, School Lane, HP9 2QJ  
Saturday 18th June 12-2.30pm

Come join the village community in a Jubilee celebration!

Raffle, BBQ, cakes, bottle & chocolate tombolas, Royal Red, White and Blue fancy dress competition, entertainment and much more!

Over 11's £1 entry, under 11's free

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## Seer Green Allotment Association

*"When April the sweet showers fall  
And pierce the drought of March to  
the root, and all*

*The veins are bathed in liquor of  
such power*

*As brings about the engendering of  
flower." (Chaucer – 14th century)*

That wonderful moment when the hedges turn suddenly from brown to vibrant green heralds the time to harden off those precious young plants nurtured from seed on windowsills, and in greenhouses with fleece to ward off the frost. Then planted out into soil warmed under cloches, mulched with manure and compost. If they have escaped being eaten by mice, it is now the turn of the slugs to dash our dreams, and so we allotmenters make up various

potions and barriers to protect our crops - garlic washes, nematodes, eggshells, hair, copper ... no stone is left unturned!

And now an invitation: everyone is very welcome to the allotment site next to the recreation ground on Saturday May 7 between 10.00am - 12.00pm when we hold our plant sale, with spare vegetable plants we have raised. Some flowering plants will also be on sale, and perhaps some freshly-pulled sticks of rhubarb. There will be homemade cake and coffee on sale, with advice and gardening lore freely available. It's "cash only", folks, and a good time to meet, eat and chat.

**Charlotte Baggins** - for SG  
Allotment Association



## Seer Green Gardeners

### Spring Show sparkled!

The first Spring Show since 2019 was a joyful occasion as we once again enjoyed colourful displays of home-grown plants and flowers, children's art, beautiful craft work and tasty home-cooked food.



Lily Langhorn

Big thanks to everyone who entered, our judges and stalwart volunteers, and congratulations to all winners, especially Best in Show: Sally Ash for flowers, Janet Stewart for domestic and Charlotte Baggins and Sarah Foister, joint winners of the craft trophy.

### Plant Sale - Saturday 14 May, 2pm - Baptist Church car park

Al fresco plant sale with nursery-grown plants for sale and a stall for donated plants in aid of One Can. The more donated cuttings, plants and seedlings, the more funds we will raise, so please bring donated items from 1.30pm and the sale starts at 2pm.



Sarah Foister

### Gardening Chat

We have a new WhatsApp group for keen or learner gardeners! It's a great forum for advice, ideas and sharing photos. To join, please email: [seergreengardeners@gmail.com](mailto:seergreengardeners@gmail.com)

### May jobs in the garden

- *Fill gaps in your borders by sowing annuals straight into the soil, cosmos and calendula work well.*



- *Plant runner beans, tomatoes, herbs, beetroot etc. amongst your flowers.*
- *Dead-head faded spring bulb flowers to build energy in the bulb for next year.*
- *Liquid feed tulips to encourage them to bloom again next year,*
- *Some weeds have beautiful flowers that bees love. Just deadhead them to minimise spread.*
- *Consider letting your lawn grow longer to help nature.*
- *For best results with new plants, always plant promptly and water generously.*

The Plant Specialist is an excellent local nursery in Great Missenden with own-grown stock, large choice, and lower prices than regular garden centres. Big tick too for planet friendly gardening!

There is an opportunity to establish a community veg garden here in Seer Green: free produce in return for a small amount of labour and a lot of satisfaction. Message 07710 175448 if you would like to know more.

**Fliiss Coombs and Sally Ash - [www.seergreengardeners.org](http://www.seergreengardeners.org)**



# The 3 Peaks Challenge Series

## Step up and make a difference

- National 3 Peaks 3 Day Challenge - May 6th - 9th
- National 3 Peaks 24hr Challenge - June 18th - 20th
- Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge - July 17th
- National 3 Peaks 3 Day Challenge - Aug 19th - 22nd

Sign up at [thepacecentre.org/3peaks](http://thepacecentre.org/3peaks)

Charity No. 1011133



### Chalfont St Giles and Jordans Literary Festival

10 - 22 May 2022

After the two-year hiatus, the Chalfont St Giles Literary Festival returns in May with a sparkling line-up of authors, speakers, and performers.



Jeremy Vine

Four successful local crime authors, Denise Beddows, Tony Kent, John A Marley, and Paul Waters, will take part in a fascinating discussion about whether crime pays, how they find the inspiration for their stories and the various routes to publishing.

Well-known broadcasters Jeremy Vine and Susie Dent are taking part in the festival, along with legendary fashion designer Zandra Rhodes and other acclaimed writers, experts and performers covering a wide range of subjects from well-known literary works, to broadcasting, history, fashion, and science.



Zandra Rhodes

These festivals in St Giles have been running since 2006, building on the local literary associations dating back to 1665 when John Milton came to the village to escape the bubonic plague in London and completed his epic work, Paradise Lost.



All the talks take place in various venues in Chalfont St Giles and Jordans. For further information, and to book tickets, please see: [www.chalfontstgilesliteraryfestival.org.uk](http://www.chalfontstgilesliteraryfestival.org.uk)

**Fliss Coombs**

## Jordans Music Club returns to the Jubilee Hall

After a two year absence, Jordans Music Club concerts return to Seer Green's Jubilee Hall on four Sunday evenings this summer.

This year our season celebrates that great composer, Franz Schubert, with works in three different genres - his string quartet 'Death and the Maiden', the Piano Sonata in Bb and that most wonderful of works, the great Octet.

The first of these is the Queen's Jubilee concert on 5 June, which features Adrian Brendel (cello) and Simon Crawford-Philips (piano). Their programme will include cello sonatas by Widor, Bach and Beethoven.

This is followed by the Sacconi String Quartet on 19 June. They will play quartets by Haydn and Tippett, as well as Franz Schubert's popular 'Death and the Maiden' Quartet.

Two further concerts follow in July, featuring the Pleyel Ensemble playing Mozart's Clarinet Quintet and Schubert's sublime Octet, followed by Steven Osborne playing works by Debussy and the Schubert Piano Sonata in Bb. Full details in next month's Parish Magazine.

Come and enjoy a glass of wine and some fine music from musicians of international calibre without high prices or the need to travel into London. Season tickets covering all four concerts are available at a discounted price.

All concerts are at 7.30pm on Sunday evenings. Full details and booking information can be found at [www.JordansMusicClub.org.uk](http://www.JordansMusicClub.org.uk).

**Derek Lake**



*Sacconi string quartet*

## News from over the fields in Jordans

What an amazing time we have had celebrating 100 years of Jordans Village Community Store being 'at the heart of our community' during the first week of last month. A big thank you to all who joined in and helped make these celebrations so memorable.

Our village shop is a 'community store' providing far more than just goods. It is a place where villagers can come along for a chat, catch up on village news, buy a cup of coffee to take and sit at the tables on the Green, meet friends and it's a stop off point for walkers and cyclists enjoying our beautiful Chiltern Hills.

Volunteering in the shop is far more than 'selling', it is becoming part of our community regardless of whether you live in Jordans or not. You get to know the customers and enjoy the challenge of helping the shop look attractive and maintain its friendly atmosphere. The commitment is up to you, a few hours a month on one of the volunteer shifts is so helpful to the shop - and hopefully very enjoyable for you.



*Sally and Paula*

Getting to know how the shop works is easy and our helpful managers Sally and Paula will be very happy to guide you. Simply come along to the shop and have a chat about volunteering, email [jordansvillagestore@gmail.com](mailto:jordansvillagestore@gmail.com) or phone 01494 873279.

What a joy to have so many coming up in our village during the summer. Firstly in May do come to 'The Jolly Quaker' in the village hall on Friday 6, then on Saturday 14, the annual sale of seedlings and plants (both flowers and vegetables)

### Looking ahead to June and July

Saturday 11 June - the long-awaited return of our wonderful Village Fair.  
Friday 3 July - Platinum Jubilee celebrations on the village Green.

More about these in the June issue of the magazine.

We look forward to all that the summer of '22 has to offer in Jordans!

**Ali Cork**

## Jordans Picture House

### Our Annual General Meeting

Friday 13 May

Doors open at 7.15 pm and the meeting will start at 8.00pm.

Then a free screening for Members

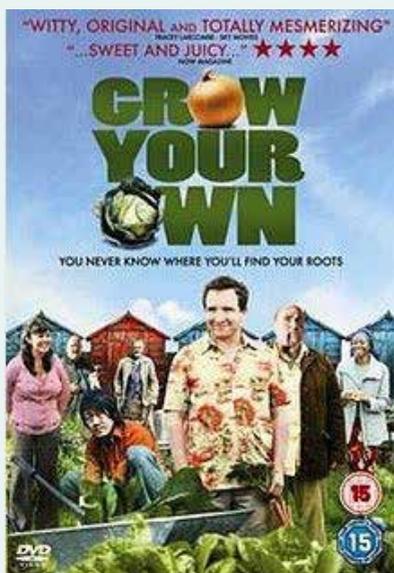
#### “Grow Your Own (PG) 2018”

Cast: Benedict Wong, Eddie Marsan, Omid Djalili.

Director: Richard Laxton.

*“Wonderful evocation of the English allotment scene, a community of individualists - all human life & experience is here!”*

<https://tinyurl.com/2p84wkm4>



We will be announcing the results of YOUR vote for the films to be selected for the new season starting in September 2022.

#### How to reserve/buy tickets

(FREE for Members, Non-Members £8)

[www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk](http://www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk)

Or email or call:

#### Jordans Box Office:

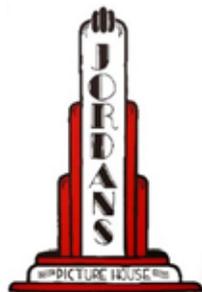
Alan Sealy  
alan@janetsealypartnership.com  
01494 873205

#### Seer Green Box Office:

Gill Pettman  
gillyp4@btinternet.com  
01494 678050

We all look forward to welcoming you to our screenings.

#### Jordans Picture House Committee



## Jordans Climate Action



I'd like to thank all those who attended the meeting in the Village Hall. We are now setting up a working group to explore what the village and JVL can do to reduce carbon emissions and protect nature.

Some people have already shown interest in being involved and if there are any others, please contact me if you'd like to get involved. The working group will be developing an action plan for the village and we welcome input from as many people as possible. It will also be a place to empower and encourage people to come with ideas and initiatives so we can be an enabler and catalyst for climate related projects to flourish.

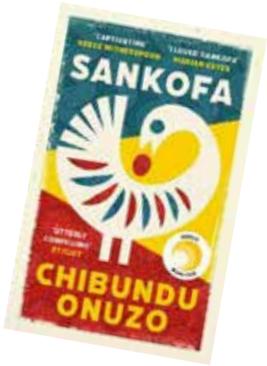
The Village Store is keen to do more but needs feedback and support from the community. A rewilding group has formed to explore improving

biodiversity on village land. There are already things happening but there is so much more we can do.

Many villages have declared climate emergencies. In talking to councillors from some of those villages, they have regularly come up against red tape and restrictions, primarily because the public land or council houses are owned by different public authorities. They all said that Jordans is in an unique position because it owns so much land and property. Their question was why weren't we doing this already? Jordans could become an example to other villages as to what could be possible. It seems the gauntlet has been laid down for us to take up!

**David Wooster** - 07802 770291  
david@worldmarkfilms.co.uk

## Janet's book reviews



### **SANKOFA** – Chibundu Onuzo

Sankofa is the story of Anna Bain a mixed-race British woman who at 48 years old, following her mothers' death, discovers that her father, Francis Aggrey, a man she never knew is alive and living in Bamana in West Africa, and what is more, has been a controversial political dictator there.

She gets a glimpse of who he was by reading the diaries he left with her mother before he left England for Africa and feels an affinity with him through the pages.

Going through a divorce and with a distant only child, Anna decides to travel to Bamana on her own and meet the father she never got the chance to know whilst getting to know herself.

Written in the first person, this novel explores race, belonging, identity, and different forms of power.

This book was recommended on 'Between The Covers', the book programme hosted by Sara Cox. If you haven't watched this, then I think it's worth a look on catch up, lots of great books are reviewed.

Janet Stewart

## Registered Osteopath

Preston Lee BSc (Hons) Ost.



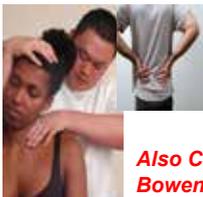
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## A Few Facts About May

*"May, more than any other month of the year, wants us to feel most alive."*  
- **Fennel Hudson**

The name May is the modern-day English form of the Latin word *Maius*, which has origins going back to the time of the ancient Greeks. May (or *Maius*) was named after the Greek goddess of growth.

It was called Tri-Milchi by the Anglo Saxons for the knowledge that lush, green grass and longer days led to being able to milk cows three times a day!

May actually has two birth flowers – the Lily-of-the-Valley and the Hawthorn. The Hawthorn flower is a symbol of hope, while the Lily-of-the-Valley represents the return of happiness and sweetness.

It is a pretty unique month as during any given year no other month will start and end with the same days that May does.

May is known as National Smile Month and is the door to summer, a good reason to smile!

Carol Wright



## West Wycombe and Bradenham



A nice walk through woods and along ridges with lots of historic context

**Length:** 7 ¾ miles  
**Start point:** West Wycombe car park  
**Difficulty:** Moderate

A longer walk this month of nearly 8 miles but with a good refreshment stop after 5 miles! The starting point is the National Trust Car Park on Chorley Road near West Wycombe. From there cross the road and bear left up the hill on a footpath. Continue until you meet the large track that leads to the hill top (which you visit later) and turn left along the ridge.

Follow the track for about 1½ miles and after a downhill section it comes out on a lane where you turn right. Follow the lane past Saunderton Station and over the A4010 continuing up the lane to Small Dean Farm. Turn right on

a footpath to the corner of a wood then bear right and follow the edge of the wood, eventually crossing fields and coming out on Bradenham Wood Lane. Turn right and head down to the junction with the A4010 and the Red Lion cafe (which also serves drinks!).

After leaving the cafe, re-trace your steps and turn right on a minor road, then left onto a footpath up the hill skirting the seventeenth century Bradenham Manor which is on your left. The path goes into woodland then levels out and eventually goes quite steeply downhill to the railway bridge. Last time I was here the footbridge was closed and a short diversion was needed to the right and then along the A4010 footpath for a short while. Either way take the footpath on the far side of the road up the hill and across the field to a narrow road where you turn right up to the church and mausoleum car park.

These were originally part of the Dashwood Estate and the golden globe above the church was reputed to be a venue for the infamous drinking society founded by Sir Francis Dashwood – the Hellfire Club. There are wonderful views from the top of the hill of the surrounding Chilterns and of West Wycombe House across the valley behind the village. After exploring the area head down the other side of the hill to the car park to finish the walk.

David Tryon

## Seer Green Beer Festival

The Seer Green Beer Festival is set to return this year on Friday 16 to Sunday 18 September - please put the dates in your diary!

We are forming a team of volunteers to organise and run the event, and if you could spare some time to help bring this fantastic event back to the village in 2022, we would love to hear from you!

To register your interest, or for more details on the volunteering opportunities, please email: [seergreenbeerfestival@gmail.com](mailto:seergreenbeerfestival@gmail.com).



## Eight O'Clock Club: Game of Stones!

Many a villager has waged war to gain control of a flowerbed by sieving the soil get rid of the stones! Whilst the result may be pleasing for a while, the stones and flints keep rising to the surface, and the earth returns to how it looked before all that time and toil.

This is a perfect example of learning to work with the natural world and not against it! As geologist and archaeologist Dr Jill Eyers explained, our gardens are the product of plant material, water, oxygen and rock from a few million years ago. Geologically speaking, the Chiltern Hills are mere youngsters, and the main shaping only took place half a million years ago, when we were in the grip of a massive ice sheet and our gardens were under the ice.

Our gardens have experienced cycles of global warmings and periods of intense cold. Seas have risen and fallen, providing perfect conditions for coccoliths that created the chalk. A staircase of river terraces was formed from the ancestral River Thames which was much wider than today and followed a different course. Our gardens sit on "Beaconsfield Gravel": clay with flint. We see chalk, sand, muddy sediment, silty clay deposits and shiny particles of quartz in the flint. Stones are angular or rounded, being worked and re-worked over long periods of time.

There is a story under our feet that can be explored through free apps downloaded to a phone, such as the British Geological Survey app "iGeology", but even just observing stones with the naked eye can reveal marks of cross-stratification.

Geology helps us understand our gardens and the forces of nature that shaped them.

Next meeting: 'Mum Can You Lend Me 20 Quid'. Elizabeth Burton-Phillips MBE will tell us what drugs did to her family. May 12 (note: the 2nd Thursday of the month) at Seer Green Baptist Church; £3 includes tea/coffee.

Elizabeth Lee



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## Beaconsfield Abbeyfield Society: Bradbury House

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helping out in our shop, in activities such as art, board games or cards, chatting to residents at our weekly coffee mornings or accompanying them on regular minibus outings both around the lovely Buckinghamshire countryside and sometimes further afield. There are any number of ways that you can make a real difference while at the same time getting a great sense of satisfaction and enjoyment yourself. Why not give it a try. You might surprise yourself. The person to contact is Maureen Camier, our Activity Organiser, on 01494 671780. She'd love to hear from you.

Heather Rowe

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## Blocked sewage drains

How many people have recently received notification from Thames Water regarding disposal of items in your premises? Ok, have you read it? More to the point, did you pay attention to it and are you doing something about it? Bag it and bin it!

In the last 3 months I have had to call out Thames Water to my house in School Lane twice, for exactly the same reason: to find out the cause of our drain spilling raw sewage onto our property - and I mean spilling out the extremely disgusting contents of the village's sewage system: toilet paper, sanitary items, wipes, to name just a few (I would show a photo, but it might put you off your food if you are eating as you read this ...

The gentleman from Thames Water informed me that they had discovered huge rag and grease balls blocking

the main sewage system in School Lane, causing a backflow that ended up in my garden - just millimetres away from coming through my kitchen door! Apparently, this is going to continue to happen on a regular basis, if people continue to flush anything other than toilet paper down their drains.

Our village drainage system is not built for unnecessary waste, and from the large number of homes which has increased dramatically over the decades. I would really appreciate your support in this matter, as I imagine that no-one reading this would want untreated sewage in their own property.

So, a final reminder – please “bag it and bin it” - thank you!

**Liz Darlington**

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## Tweet of the Month for April

### Aerial Manoeuvres over Seer Green

Watching the skies for enemy action is, thankfully, just WWII history for Seer Green and Jordans - if you're human. For birds, life is not so tranquil.

Kites and buzzards fill up on rodents, earthworms and carrion, but will gladly take the eggs and chicks of other birds if they can. Crows are territorial and aggressive and will try to drive these predators out of their airspace, in a behaviour known as 'mobbing', sometimes carried out singly, sometimes in a gang.

Thus the stage is set for the drama that unfolded over Farmers Way in mid-March, with a daring crow, *Corvus corone*, diving and feinting at a squealing red kite, *Milvus milvus*. Neither bird wants to incur injury in these situations, so the crow was avoiding the kite's talons and the kite was giving ground, as the pair vanished over the rooftops.

Moments later, the kite reappeared and was joined by its mate, both exchanging their wild keening calls. They soared round the green in interlocking arcs, calling to one another, diving at times to within two or three meters of the ground, and performing synchronous flying manoeuvres, in a mating season display - this time undisturbed by indignant crows.



Photo credit: Jake McGowan-Lowe

Of course, our grandparents watching the skies during the war were unlikely to see a kite: they'd been extinct in England since 1871, until reintroduced to the Chilterns in 1989, followed by similar initiatives in the north.

I often see a kite perched in the oak in One Tree Field, surveying the scene, forked tail hanging down; and a nest in Green Woods is sometimes visited by a pair in spring. It's not clear if young have ever been raised there, but I've no doubt kites nest in Hodgemoor and other local woodland.

Red kite calls:

<https://tinyurl.com/yckpnzt6>

Kite reintroduction:

<https://tinyurl.com/mr4ayzcn>

**Nora Bennett**

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