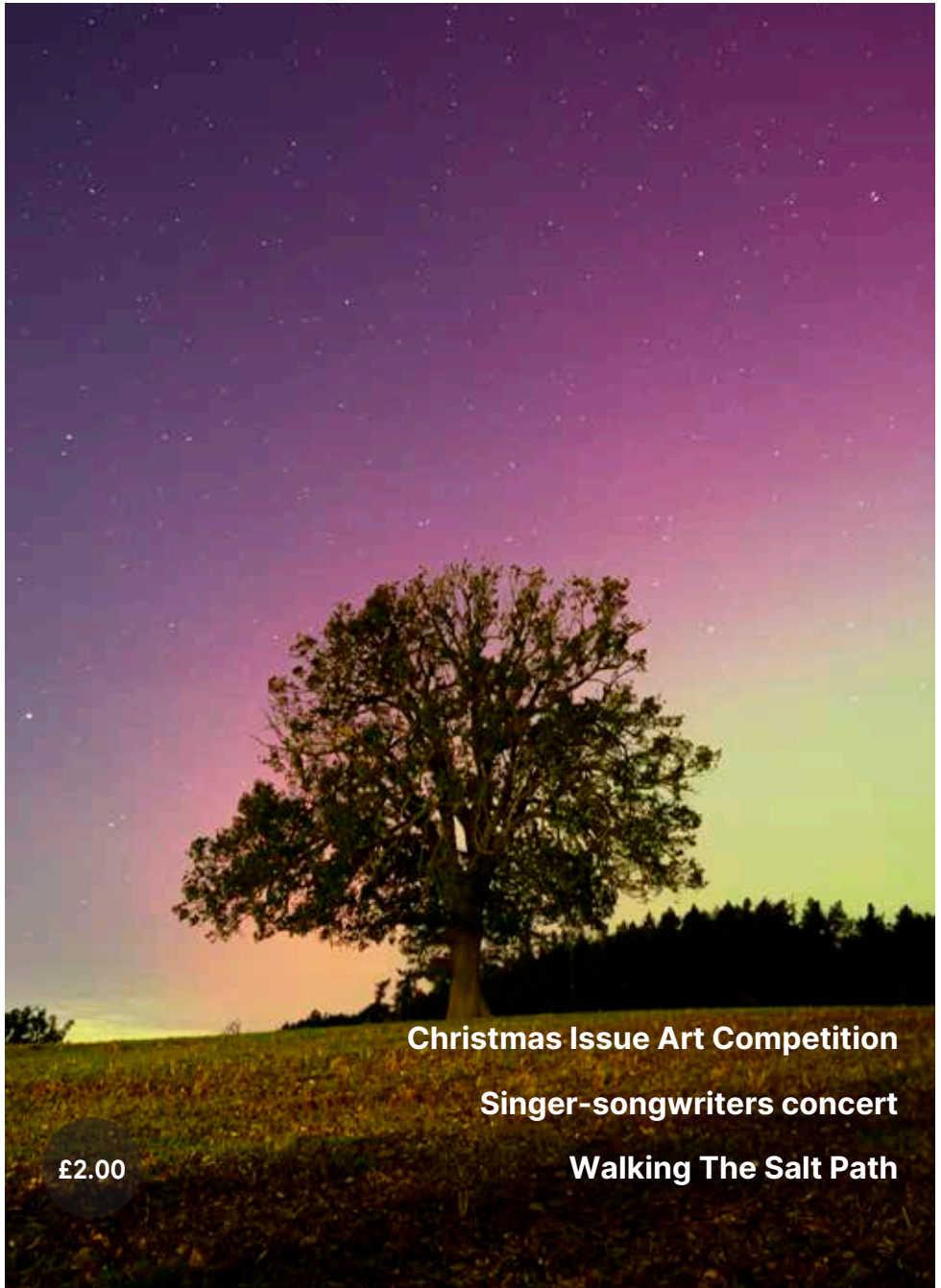


# COMMUNITY NEWS

Seer Green and Jordans Parish Magazine

November 2024



**Christmas Issue Art Competition**

**Singer-songwriters concert**

**Walking The Salt Path**

**£2.00**

# We care

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*Ashington Page*

Local Residential Sales & Lettings



## Thought for the Month

Since May I have developed a bit of an obsession with an app on my phone, the Aurora Watch UK. I had always thought that the only way to see the northern lights would be an expensive holiday to Iceland or Norway. I could never have imagined that so far this year I would have seen this spectacle in Seer Green six times!

I write this thought for the month after spending two nights last week photographing the Northern Lights from locations in Seer Green. Sleep certainly was not my priority when the app pinged and told me that the alert status was red. As I snapped away at the dark night sky the pictures that came back

were amazing as pinks, purples, blues and greens danced across the sky. On Thursday 10 October, these colours were so visible to the naked eye, and at 12.15am the alert level rocketed and as I headed out, I gasped in awe as the whole sky was pink. The only thing I could do was marvel at this stunning phenomenal and simply say "wow!"

I wonder what the psalmist King David saw when he wrote "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." Maybe it was the twinkling stars or a dazzling moon? Maybe he saw the northern lights in the sky? Whatever it was, I agree with him. Whether it's a sunrise, sunset or the northern lights, the beauty on display in the heavens above can to me only point to intelligent design and an incredible Creator of this universe.

I don't think I'll ever lose the wonder and awe of seeing them. The strongest solar storm period in eleven years is expected to continue until early 2025 so if you have so far missed out on seeing them from your doorstep there may still be time.

**Janna Holder** - Children and Families minister



## Church and Community Organisations

### Vicar

Rev Jez Carr rev.jezcarr@gmail.com  
07916 559151

Primary working days: Wed, Thurs and Sunday

### Rector of the Benefice

Rev Dan Beesley revdbeesley@gmail.com  
01494 872097 07590 123603

### Benefice Assistant Priests

Rev Jenny Tebboth 07708 094532  
Rev Paul Henderson paul.e.henderson@btinternet.com

### Licensed Lay Minister

Linda West

### Children and Families Minister and SGKIDS

Janna Holder 07764 490960

### Churchwarden and General Enquiries

Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

### Holy Trinity Administration

Janelle Stevenson holytrinitysgj@gmail.com

### Parochial Church Council

Audrey Hardy | Treasurer 07342 652707

### Pastoral Care

Heather Rowe 01494 677573

### Church Flower Guild

Pam Britton 01494 678466

### Scouts | Explorers | Cubs | Beavers

andrew@seergreenscouts.org.uk

### Seer Green Brownies

Carole Wharrier 07977 423555

### Eight O'Clock Club

Monica Sado 01494 677851

### Girl Guides

Brenda Orr | District Commissioner 01753 887209

### Jordans and District Rotary Club

Brian Westwood | Secretary 07885 579442

### Jordans Horticultural Society

Emma Pegram 01494 874574  
Shan Liu 01494 730312  
Faith Key 01494 870039

### Jordans School

Holly Swain | Head Teacher 01494 874217

### Jordans Music Club

Marion Pell | Chairman 01494 872875

**Jordans Village Hall** Office 10.00 - 1.00

Chris Jenkins | Booking Secretary 01494 875177

### Jordans Village Lunch Club

Catherine Robinson 01494 873193

### Jordans Village Nursery School

Julie Leonard 01494 875603

### Jordans Picture House

Alan Sealy/Box Office 01494 873205

### Jubilee Hall

David Howkins 01494 857760

### Jordans Quaker Meeting House and Centre

Nina Liebenberg | Warden 07962 105305

### Little Ducklings Nursery

Kelly Bartley 01494 677190

### One Can

Janet Stewart janetestewart@gmail.com

### Seer Green Allotments

Barry Richardson / Chairman 01494 673407

### Seer Green Baptist Church

Rev Louise Gilbertson 07983 882260

### Seer Green Bridge Club

Irene Machin | Secretary 01494 676321

### Seer Green Church of England School

Laura Morel | Head Teacher 01494 676344

### Seer Green Gardeners

Janet Stewart 07740 857451  
seergreengardeners@gmail.com

### Seer Green and Jordans Society

Alan Kell ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com  
www.ourlivingvillage.org

### Seer Green Lunch Club

Gill Roberts 01494 677281

### Seer Green Parish Council

Liz Bates | Parish Clerk 01494 874233

### Seer Green Pre school

Kirsten Pole | Manager 01494 677190

### Seer Green Football

- United (juniors) Tim Wyatt 07833 246819  
- FC (adults) Art Anderson 07919 027351

### Seer Green Village Choirs

Jane Smith 07759 841205

## From the Editors

Autumn is now well upon us and dare I say it, the festive season is approaching. In this edition you can read about the Beer and Music Festival and SG Gardeners Autumn Show. Two very different events which took place over the same September weekend, highlighting the sense of community in our villages with something on offer for everyone. An event which has delighted and surprised us all in recent months is the amazing Northern Lights display lighting up our night skies. Such a treat, given that they are not usually seen this far south.

Moving onto the December/January issue of Community News, we are looking forward to receiving entries from primary school age children for the annual art competition to design the cover. Full entry details can be found on page 10. In addition to seeing their design on the cover, the winner will have the honour of switching on the lights on the Christmas tree in front of the village shops – a traditional start to the Christmas celebrations. Good luck.

With best wishes Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Jill Moody

**The Editors**

## Next Month's Magazine

Please send all contributions for the **December/January** double issue to: **editorseergreen@gmail.com** by **7 November 2024**. Diary dates for the next two or three months would be very welcome.

Articles should be **300 words max** and in WORD (.doc or .docx format) and photos should be jpeg format, preferably 300 dpi.

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

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Front cover Northern Lights over One tree field Seer Green - Photo Dipesh Khira

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## Holy Trinity Services in November

3 Nov	10am	Holy Communion Service Seafarer Christmas cards on sale
	3.30pm	Family Light Service
6 Nov	10.30am	Midweek Communion
10 Nov	10.45am 5.30pm	Remembrance Service Reflective Service
17 Nov	Safeguarding Sunday	
	10am	Holy Communion Service
22 Nov	Concert at Church	
24 Nov	8am	BCP Communion
	10am	Morning Praise - Toy Service to donate to St Andrew's
	5.30pm	Reflective Service



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## Remembrance Sunday 10 November

This year Remembrance Sunday is on Sunday **10 November**. In keeping with the last couple of years we will have an outdoor service at the War Memorial, starting at 10.50am. All are welcome. Uniformed organisations will meet at the Jubilee Hall and parade up to the War Memorial where we invite village and community representatives to gather for our Act of Remembrance, starting at 10.50 – 11.15am (approx.).

School Lane, from Vicarage Close to the corner of the Holy Trinity Triangle, where School Lane turns into Chalfont Road will be closed from 10.35am – 11.25am. The junction of Stable Lane onto School Lane will also be closed.

**Janna Holder** - Children and Families Minister Seer Green & Jordans  
07764 490960

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## Baptisms, weddings and funerals

### Confirmations

October 20                      Ethan Bagnis  
    Harry Clarke  
    Richard Pennefather

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## Donations to Holy Trinity

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

Go to our website:

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

Or go to:

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

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

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

If you would like to join our planned giving scheme, please speak to our treasurer Audrey Hardy on 07342 652707 or [chardyseergreen@aol.com](mailto:chardyseergreen@aol.com)



## Coming up for children and families in November

The two monthly Sunday gatherings, aimed at those with preschool and primary aged children continues in November with Families @ 3.30, hosted at Holy Trinity on Sunday **3 November**. Fun & Faith, at Seer Green Baptist Church will be on **24 November** from 9.15 – 10am. Both of these gatherings seek to enable families to explore faith in a fun, informal way. All are welcome.

Who Let the Dads Out takes place on Saturday **9 November**, 9.30-11.30am at Seer Green Baptist Church. All Dads, Grandads and male carers with their 0-7s are invited to enjoy toys, activities and bacon butties.



The firm favourite annual event of Fun, Food and Fireworks is back on Sunday **17 November**, 5pm – 6.45pm at the Jubilee Hall / SGCE School Grounds. This event is aimed at families based in Seer Green or Jordans, or with a qualifying connection to the villages. Suggested donation £7 per person (to include entrance, pizza, activities and fireworks.) This is a ticketed event, which will sell out. Book tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/mvryeh92>

On **30 November** Seer Green CE School will hold their Christmas Cracker Fair from 12.30 - 2.30pm. Join them for some festive fun and support our local primary school.

Then coming up in December: Christingle, Sing into Christmas, Bauble Painting Workshop, Cookies and Carols, Little Blessing's Nativity, Carol Service, Crib Services, and more!

For further details on any of the above activities, including cost and how to book, please contact Janna on 07764 490960, [jannaholder@talktalk.net](mailto:jannaholder@talktalk.net).

### Contact us

Holy Trinity website [www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org](http://www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org)

Church Wardens and General Enquiries Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

## November charity of the month



The Royal British Legion is here to help members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families.

And we're not going anywhere.

We support serving and ex-serving personnel all year round, every day of the week.

Our support starts after one day of service and continues through life, long after service is over.

We campaign

We get together

We are there to help



## Christmas Issue Art Competition

Open to all Primary aged children

Closing date Friday **8 November**

The winning entry will appear on the front cover of the December issue of the Community News and the winning artist will switch on the Christmas Tree lights on Sunday 1st December.

### The Brief

The brief is to design a Christmas picture for the front cover of the December issue of the Community News. The rest is up to you! It could be Nativity related or food, decorations, family, Christmas characters or scenes. The background should be coloured in so that it stands out against the white of the cover of the magazine. Bold and simple designs work well but now it's a larger picture, more detail can be included. Paint, collage (as long as it is not too thick as we have to scan the image), felt pen, coloured pencil, mixed medium are ideas to use.

The winning picture will now fill the front cover of the Community News. Have a look at recent copies to see how it will be printed.

A template will be made available to download from the Community Chat or pick it up from Carol Wright at 16 Chalfont Rd in paper form. There will also be some in the Seer Green School Office and the Jordans School Office.

All entries should be returned to Carol Wright at the above address or scanned and sent to [editorseergreen@gmail.com](mailto:editorseergreen@gmail.com) by Friday 8th November.

The Editors will judge the winner which will go onto the front cover for the December issue. There will be two runners up who will have their entries printed inside the magazine.

Best wishes from Carol Wright, Sue Puttergill and Jill Moody - the Editors.

NB Don't forget to write your name, age and school on your entry.



## Our Living Village: D-Day 'Lest We Forget'

Major General Sir Leslie Williams, interred in Seer Green cemetery

Every November we remember those who died fighting for our country, and this year also marked the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the start of the WWII campaign to liberate Europe from Nazi oppression. So it is fitting to remember those unsung heroes who made it all happen. Chief amongst these, literally and figuratively, was Major General 'Bill' Williams, Controller (Head) of Ordnance Services, Royal Army Ordnance Corps (RAOC) from June 1942 to April 1946, and one-time resident of Long Bottom Lane, Seer Green. The responsibility of the RAOC, non-combatants until 1941, was the supply of all 'Warlike Stores' to front-line troops.



On 6th June 1944 the Allied forces launched the largest air, sea and land assault ever assembled into northern France. This comprised over 7,000 naval vessels, 12,000 aircraft and 132,000 troops. Planning for the invasion had started after the Dunkirk evacuation in 1940, and the responsibility for the logistical operation to procure, package, and ship the hundreds of tonnes of vehicles, machinery and ammunition lay with Bill. He directed operations on D-Day, and over the following two months shipped 190,000 vehicles and 380,000 tonnes of ammunition.

Williams grew up in Dulwich, leaving school aged 15 to work as an office boy, before trading textiles in Africa and rubber in the Far East. In WWI he joined the Suffolk Regiment as a machine gunner, then transferred to the Ordnance Corps. Between the wars he rose to become Director of Ordnance Services, Motor Transport. By 1941 he oversaw 250,000 civilians and soldiers, and over 200 equipment and munition depots distributed around the country.

At his funeral in 1965 Williams was honoured with a 10-gun salute fired in Seer Green cemetery.

**Nigel Rothwell** - [ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com](mailto:ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com) [www.ourlivingvillage.org](http://www.ourlivingvillage.org)

## Heartfelt thanks to all our Beer Fest supporters!

Our 8th Seer Green Beer Fest was the biggest yet; a sell-out event for both Friday and Saturday, with over 1,500 tickets sold! And what an incredible weekend it was!

Friday night's new format was a massive success, with local bands including The Curable, Soundcheck in the Alley and House of Fire drawing huge crowds and creating an electric atmosphere in the big top. Saturday afternoon gave families the chance to socialise in the sunshine whilst the kids were entertained with games, face painting and magic shows, whilst the musical lineup catered for all tastes; from acoustic sets in the afternoon to the polished and energetic pop performance of These Certain People. Beer Fest veterans, The Derivatives and Blind Diviner, once again delivered superb sets to a packed tent.

Beer Fest is not only an incredible community event for our village, but also raises vital funds for Seer Green Scout Group. This year's festival was our most successful fundraiser to date, raising almost £17,000 which will go towards the building of a new shelter for drying tents, buying a new shed for secure storage of equipment and the purchase of two patrol tents which will be put to use at the first joint Cubs and Scouts camp this month.



Seer Green Scouts are incredibly grateful to all those who came along and supported the event, and to those whose generosity made the event such a great success: the musicians, the sponsors and the volunteers who did everything from checking tickets, barbecuing, serving drinks and supervising the stage. Last but not least, huge thanks go to the Beer Fest Team whose hard work and dedication in organising the festival is very much appreciated.

If you'd like to get involved helping organise our next Beer Fest we'd love to have you join our team! Please email: [kaysenior@outlook.com](mailto:kaysenior@outlook.com).

**Pam Pennefather**

## Amersham Festival of Music Winter Concerts



Celebrating 40 Years of  
Extraordinary Performances

### Key Winter Concerts

Friday **8 November** 8.00pm  
The Ronnie Scott's All Stars:  
The Music of Gershwin

Friday **15 November** 8.00pm  
Haydn and Mozart – A Celebration

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: [www.amershamfestival.org/programme](http://www.amershamfestival.org/programme)



## How to subscribe to Community News

We have made it easier to subscribe using the QR code below. The cost of each copy is £2 but reduced to £1.50 a copy (£15 a year) if you subscribe. If you are not happy using a QR code you can also email [editorseergreen@gmail.com](mailto:editorseergreen@gmail.com) and just ask to subscribe.

With best wishes Sue Puttergill,  
Carol Wright and Jill Moody

### The Editors



## Seer Green Gardeners

In spite of stiff competition from the Beer Festival, the village's gardeners didn't let us down, mustering another excellent display of produce and edibles for the Autumn Show in early September. And as ever, gardeners and non-gardeners alike came along to admire and share in convivial conversation over tea and cakes. Thank you Seer Green for supporting this traditional event - your generosity again enables us to make another donation to One Can.

November can be the most depressing of months for the gardener - the nadir that must inevitably follow early spring optimism when seedlings were sprouting and slugs still dreaming about treats to come. When this mood hits me I venture out into the soggy and hunt for things to lift the spirits, such as a hidden clump of forgotten cyclamen or a good picking of tasty salad rocket. As experts tell us, just being in a garden helps boost one's well being!



Paul Stewart

Turning to jobs for November, there's plenty of outdoor and indoor jobs, such as ...

- Tidy up - but not too much! Concentrate on clearing those nooks and cosy corners where slugs and snails hang out for winter. Leave plenty of seed heads for birds and insects to feed on over the coming months.
- Turn over compost - this is a great job for warming up on a chilly day. Re-mixing all the ingredients speeds up decomposition remarkably to leave you with free, superior material for next Spring's potting.
- Plant spring bulbs - you can do this throughout November and even later for tulips - look out for big discounts at this time of the year.
- Tidy the shed or greenhouse. Clean up used plastic plant labels for re-use. Empty petrol from mower etc to avoid starting problems next year.
- Do some garden journaling to help you with plans next Spring!

**Sally Ash**



## Jordan's Village Community Store has a brand new look!

Back in April '23 the Village Shop Committee hosted an amazingly well supported Grand Auction of Promises raising funds to purchase a new economical to run freezer and fund a smart new counter to replace the very tired counter that had served the shop well for many years. The total raised on that evening surpassed all expectations and proved to be enough to enable not just a counter but also a whole new look to the area behind it. The Committee and shop staff pondered over what would

serve well and look good and an experienced shop fitter was employed to make their ideas into a reality.

The shop closed for a day and on Thursday 3 October our amazing new shop counter, display units, cupboards and shelves were revealed to all!

One great big 'Thank you' to all who made this wonderful improvement to our Village Shop a reality.

**Ali Cork**



## 8 O'Clock Club

With the passage of time, sometimes a mystery becomes more mysterious, in unforeseen ways. The disappearance of the famous American Band Leader Glenn Miller, just before Christmas 1944, is such a case. Whilst the world has focused on Miller being the main player in the drama, it appears that a much bigger story was sitting in the wings.

Miller, the musician, was to become a Major in the USAAF and his hand-picked Band performed in England for the wounded at the U.S. 91st General Hospital (The Churchill Hospital in Oxford) and for the U.S. 8th Air Force at their H.Q (Wycombe Abbey).

For many decades, it was believed that Miller boarded a plane in fog, on his way from Bedfordshire to connect with his band who were over in Paris. The assumption had been that Miller had died over the English Channel. Our speaker, Tony Eaton, cast serious doubt on this theory.

Miller's disappearance is riddled with inconsistencies and mis-information. It resulted in Miller's wife conducting a 3-year campaign to get to the truth behind her husband's disappearance: then complete silence from her.

The truth is still impossible to verify but it's more likely that Miller left for Paris on a plane from Bovingdon and reported to General (Ike) Eisenhower's Office.

What happened next? A US Veteran said he was at the hospital when Miller died from head injury, having been flown into Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. It is a fact that posthumously, Miller was awarded The Bronze Star for Bravery.

The bigger story centres around the American General Eisenhower and his botched wartime operation in the Ardennes. The last 80 years of silence around Miller appears to have been embedded in protecting the reputation of Eisenhower, the Military Commander, later to become President of the United States.

### Future meetings

Thursday **November 7**

Blood Bikes

Volunteers who deliver blood, blood products, medical supplies & human donor milk to hospitals 'out of hours'.

Kamran Irani - Chair Oxon, Bucks, Berks Blood Bikes

All welcome £4 (cash) with tea/coffee included.

Thursday **November 28**

Christmas supper at Beaconsfield Golf Club. For menu and booking form contact Monica Sado - [monica100seer@gmail.com](mailto:monica100seer@gmail.com)

**Elizabeth Lee**

## Three high calibre singer-songwriters join forces



Friday **22 November** 8pm at Holy Trinity Church Seer Green and Jordans

From Seer Green (though hailing from British Columbia), Miriam Jones crafts moving songs of longing and inquiry delivered from a heartfelt place of faith.

Gareth Davies-Jones (from County Down, now living in Northumberland) writes songs inspired by the landscape, faith and history of the British Isles, using a range of stringed instruments.

Rob Halligan uses the power of song to explore hope in darkness, and love over hate.

### Tickets

£15.00 in advance

(link via QR Code or contact Rev Jez Carr)

£17.50 on the door



## To burn or not to burn....

It's November and the leaves have fallen; oh the romance of walking on a crisp, bright day, russet coloured leaves swishing and rustling as you pass through them.....then again you could be mopping away at the rising tide, leaves having blocked the drain again whilst heavy rains falls...



I'm a big fan of the wire pronged leaf rake, get a rhythm going and it can be very satisfying as the leaf mountain grows - a waste of effort on a windy day mind ( whereas the leaf blowing machine, noisy, smelly, polluting accessory, I digress )but either way the question arises of what to do with the collected leaves.

Three options spring to mind:

1. Blowing them off your patch onto the road, much favoured by contracted 'gardeners' and not recommended; ( anti-social, drain blocking nuisance).
2. Burning, we used to have pow-wows around the bonfire, aficionados of the I spy books will now be sinking into a happy nostalgic memory, younger readers maybe confused. The usual bonfire safety and consideration for others has to be taken into account, but bear in mind that bonfires do contribute to global warming. Simple wood/leaf ash can be used as a top dressing for garlic, chives, leeks, lettuces, asparagus and stone fruit trees.
3. Composting, glorious leaf mould can be prepared either by filling a black plastic bag (double up for strength) with leaves, adding some water and a small amount of soil, make holes in the bag, secure and leave in a shady spot; or make a chicken wire cage, fill as before and cover with hessian or similar. Keep moist and leave for 6-12 months. A few grass cuttings or comfrey leaves can be added as a nitro boost, and as ever with decomposition shredding or bruising will quicken the process. The resulting leaf mould can be used as a mulch around the plot or turned into a potting compost for seedlings in an equal parts mix of well rotted leaf mould, sharp sand, loam & garden soil. Nothing wasted, nothing lost.

Bear in mind this bonfire season to always search for sleeping hedgehogs before lighting the fire, and hooking up the goal netting when not in use, will save curious young foxes from getting trapped.

Charlotte Baggins from the Allotments.

# Registered Osteopath

**Preston Lee BSc (Hons) Ost.**

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*Also Cranial, Acupuncture,  
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## Jordans Picture House

### Our programme from November to Christmas

We look forward to welcoming you again!

On Friday **November 8** we shall screen "One Life".

Doors open at the new time of 6.45pm and the Programme starts at 7.30pm

#### One Life (12A)

Cast: Anthony Hopkins; Helena Bonham Carter; Jonathan Pryce.  
Director - James Hawes

Sir Nicholas "Nicky" Winton, a young London broker, in the months leading up to WW2 rescued over 600 predominantly Jewish children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia.



On Friday **November 22** we shall screen "The Miracle Club".

Doors open at 6.45pm and the Programme starts at 7.30pm

#### The Miracle Club (12A)

Cast: Maggie Smith; Laura Linney; Kathy Bates. Director - Thaddeus O'Sullivan

There's just one dream for the women of Ballygar to taste freedom. to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes.

*Quote Father Dermot O'Brien. You don't come to Lourdes for the miracle...you come for the strength to go on, when there is no miracle.*



On Friday **December 13** we shall screen "The Holdovers".

Doors open at 6.45pm and the Programme starts at 7.30pm

#### The Holdovers (R)

Cast: Paul Giamatti; Da'Vine Joy Randolph; Dominic Sessa. Director. Alexander Payne

A cranky history teacher at a remote prep school is forced to remain on campus over the holidays with a troubled student who has no place to go and a grieving cook.



#### How to buy tickets

(Adults £8.00, U15s £5)

**Online:** Go to [www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk](http://www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk)

See "Programme and Buying Tickets"

**Jordans Box Office:** Alan Sealy

alan@janetsealypartnership.com 01494 873205

**Seer Green Box Office:** Gill Pettman

gillyp4@btinternet.com 01494 678050

**Jordans Picture House Committee**



PLEASE DONATE  
TO  
THE SCHOOL FOR A  
NEW  
KITCHEN



## Healthy Food Better Mood - Seer Green CE School's Fundraising Campaign

YOU can help us build our own kitchen.

Currently, hot meals are no longer provided to the 200+ children at our village school due to lack of kitchen facilities. We are raising funds to build our own kitchen to provide our students with hot, nutritious, balanced meals every day.

Head Teacher Laura Morel shares the importance of this project: "Our goal is to build a fully equipped kitchen in the Jubilee Hall. By serving hot, nutritious meals daily, we can support our students' learning, health, and development."

### How You Can Help

We're asking for help from local individuals and businesses to raise £50,000 for this project. Every donation, no matter the size, brings us closer to creating a healthy meal environment for the children. Whether you're a parent, grandparent, local resident, or business, your support can help us

ensure every child at Seer Green CE School has access to a healthy, hot meal.

You can make a donation via our JustGiving page using the link or QR code below:



<https://www.justgiving.com/page/seergreenceschoolkitchen>

### Support from Businesses

Local businesses are also invited to contribute. In recognition, we offer the chance to display your company's name on a plaque in the school reception as a thank you for your generosity.

Thank you for helping us create a brighter future for our students.

**Charlotte Antoniou** - Chair of Governors



## The Jolly Cricketers

Pork sausages sourced from farmer Keith Bennett's happy pigs just 2 miles up the road.

Onions braised in Hawkstone Cider, grown on Jeremy Clarkson's Diddly Squat Farm in the Cotswolds.

With creamy mash and spring greens.

The best of British farming produce, brought together lovingly by The Jolly Cricketers kitchen team.

Available Mondays & Tuesdays only.



## Seer Green Santa Dash



Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December

12 noon @ The Scout Hut

Bring card for hot refreshments and treats

**For info and tickets scan QR code**



Questions? Contact Jodie Homer – [jodietayloruk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jodietayloruk@yahoo.co.uk)

## Coffee Shop

A meeting place for the community



Monday Mornings  
10.30am to 12.00noon  
Seer Green Baptist Church

## Christopher THE LOCKSMITH

### ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

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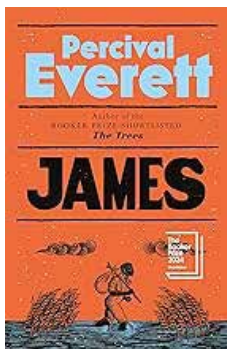


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## Janet's good reads



### James – Percival Everett

I have never, to my shame, read Huckleberry Finn, does that matter when reading this book? I don't think so. This is the story of Jim, a slave, told from his perspective, turning the plot of Huckleberry on its head.

James/Jim, his wife Sadie and daughter Lizzie are all slaves to Miss Watson. Jim has a friendly relationship with Huck and supports him, but when Finn's violent father returns home from time away, the boy fears for his life and fakes his own death. At the same time Jim finds out he is to be sold and separated from his wife and daughter. They both go on the run to head for the free state of Illinois resulting in people believing he killed Huckleberry putting a bounty on Jim's head.

The narrative is exciting and brutal, you are willing Jim to succeed throughout the many encounters with white folk.

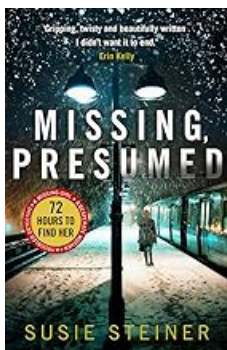
It's an obvious comment on slavery and oppression but also about love and friendship. It's shortlisted for the Booker prize this year – it would be a worthy winner in my opinion.

With descriptions of changing social attitudes and new approaches to treatments in psychiatric institutions, it also depicts a time of significant social changes in the 1960's reminding us as well of typical British suppressed emotions.

### Missing Presumed – Susie Steiner

I'm a massive fan of the podcast Off Air with Fi Glover and Jane Garvey. This book is their most recent book club read.

It is the first to feature DS Manon Bradshaw, a truly likeable character, yes, she is flawed, as many detectives are, but her flaws are endearing and give her greater depth and, for me, honesty than some other fictional detectives.



She's a grump, prone to mood swings, is desperate to find a partner, estranged from her own family and is terrific fun!

It's a beautifully written story with superb scenes and dialogue between the characters. Written from multiple views, the reader has a clear impression on the direction of the inquiry from the point of view of both the investigating officers and the frustration of the family and friends who are in limbo.

Beautiful student Edith Hind has vanished, signs of a violent struggle left behind, and DS Manon Bradshaw is thrust into a high-profile case. Media interest rapidly builds and Sir Ian Hind uses his political connections to influence the investigation into his daughters' disappearance. And when a body turns up, the pressure on Manon really builds.

The characterisation throughout is what I loved most about the book – the police team in particular are real humans. No gory gratuitous violence towards women, warm humour throughout whilst written in a literary style. I will be reading more by this author.

### Shy Creatures – Clare Chambers

An article in an old newspaper whilst researching her previous book Small Pleasures is the inspiration for this wonderful book.

Helen is an art teacher working at a psychiatric hospital having an illicit affair with one of the married doctors Gil. They are called to see a patient, William who has been found after reports from the neighbours of an unseemly altercation. We discover he has been hidden away in the house from when he was a child to an adult with only his aunts for company. He is mute and looks neglected. Helen discovers that he is a talented artist and with slow probing, we get the story of how he came to be living in this state and why no-one knew he lived there.

### Janet Stewart



## Dates for your diary

Thurs 7 Nov 8pm	<b>8 O’Clock Club</b> Blood Bikes
Fri 8 Nov 6.45pm/7.30pm	<b>JPH</b> One Life
Sun 10 Nov 10.50/11.00	<b>Remembrance Service</b> - War Memorial
Sun 17 Nov 5pm	<b>Fun, Food &amp; Fireworks</b> - JH & SGCE School Grounds
Fri 22 Nov 8pm	<b>Concert</b> - Holy Trinity Church
Fri 22 Nov 6.45pm/7.30pm	<b>JPH</b> The Miracle Club
Thurs 28 Nov	<b>8 O’Clock Club</b> Christmas Supper at Beaconsfield Golf Club
Sat 30 Nov 12.30	<b>SGCE School Christmas Cracker Fair</b>
Sun 1 Dec 12 noon	<b>Santa Dash</b> – Rec/Scout Hut
Sun 1 Dec 3pm	<b>Christingle Service</b> Holy Trinity Church
Sun 1 Dec 5.45pm/6.15pm	<b>Christmas Lights Switch On</b> - Orchard Road Shops
Sun 8 Dec 5pm	<b>Sing into Christmas</b> SG Singers/ Holy Trinity Church - Jubilee Hall
Fri 13 Dec 6.45pm/7.30pm	<b>JPH</b> The Holdovers
Sun 15 Dec 3pm	<b>Carol Service</b> Baptist Church
Sun 15 Dec 7pm	<b>Traditional Carol Service</b> Village Voices Holy Trinity Church
Mon 16 Dec 3.30pm	<b>Cookies and Carols</b> - Holy Trinity Church
Sun 22 Dec 10am	<b>Family Carol Service</b> - Holy Trinity Church
Tues 24 Dec 3pm & 4.30pm	<b>Crib Services</b> - Holy Trinity Church
Tues 24 Dec 11.30pm	<b>Midnight Mass</b> - Holy Trinity Church
Wed 25 Dec 10am	<b>Christmas Day Celebration</b> - Holy Trinity Church/SG Baptist Church

## On the Wild Side in November: Grey Squirrel

The term ‘cat burglar’ is a misnomer: it ought to be ‘squirrel burglar’. If you have bird feeders in your garden, chances are you’re regularly robbed by the grey squirrel, *Sciurus carolinensis*. An entire YouTube genre records their ingenuity at outwitting feeder defence systems.

Like our allotmenters this summer, your tenderly nurtured sweet corn may have been plundered just as it reached its peak. Or, like me last month, you may have had an apple thump out of an oak tree, missing you by inches. I looked round in bafflement for human adversaries, then noticed the tiny, squirrel-size teeth marks: it must have carried it into the tree clenched in its jaws.

But of course their chief crime is the near-eradication in England of the red squirrel, *Sciurus vulgaris*. Since greys were brought from North America in the 19th century, our native ‘tufties’ have retreated to the fringes of the UK. Not only do greys compete for food – eating nuts, seeds, fruit and pine cones, and even eggs and young birds – they are happy at larger population densities than reds, and in a wider range of environments. Finally, they carry squirrel pox, while being immune to it themselves.

Proposed eradication schemes have included shooting, birth control in feed and the re-introduction of pine

martens, which find the heavier greys easier to catch. Yet none of these schemes is foolproof and so the battle continues.

I’ve got squirrel-proof bird feeders, and next year I’ll put plastic bottles over my sweet corn. But I’m prepared to be outwitted by the wily greys, which have been seen pretending to bury nuts to divert rivals from the real location of their cache. And, come spring, I’ll enjoy seeing the grey squirrel kittens frisking round Green Wood: they are pretty, no matter how infuriating.

**Nora Bennett**



Picture credit: covenantwildlife.com

## Walking the Salt Path

Never did I realise the impact of loaning a book to my husband in lockdown, would have on our lives. From reading the Salt Path by Raynor Winn, John decided that when we were both retired, we would walk the Path ourselves.

So on April 8 this year, we set off from Minehead, not really knowing how far our legs would take us on the 630 mile journey. We've already walked a few routes over the last few years – the West Highland Way being the longest so far of just under 100 miles, so this really was a walk into the unknown.

We were not camping, and had two weeks of accommodation booked ahead, so that if anything did go wrong, we only had two weeks to unravel, not the entire route – thank goodness for Booking.com, Airbnb and the internet!

We decided to treat each day as a 'stroll', it seemed less daunting to look at only the day ahead. A flask of coffee kept us going in the morning, and goodness knows how many pasties for lunch!

Mileage each day was variable, depending on the ascent. The first section to Bude is definitely the hardest (23,400ft of ascent), but it is also the most spectacular.



The weather was very kind to us for the whole of the 10 weeks it took us to complete the route. We had a day off nearly every week to rest up, we didn't rush the route, but rather treated it as an experience to savour, even taking afternoons off to visit the Minack Theatre and St Michael's Mount.

I think it's fair to say, we loved every step of this adventure - the beauty of our British coastline is staggering. It is certainly the best thing we have ever done. It certainly surprised us that we actually completed the whole route! It was challenging, awe inspiring, and left us feeling fitter in body, mind and spirit.

**Diane Gamble**



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