

Your Parish MAGAZINE

What's on in
Seer Green
& Jordans

September 2022



Our new vicar!

**One Can
collections
appeal**

**AutumnFest
- the Autumn
Show**

**A nice autumn
day walk**

**Seer Green
Beer Festival**



one pound



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Gareth

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From the Editors

The summer's heat is upon us once more, but the autumn is just around the corner and lots of village activities are planned in Seer Green and Jordans. Seer Green has the return of the Beer and Music Festival, while the gardeners are organising AutumnFest and the Spud in a Bucket contest.

And over in Jordans, the Picture House new season and summer concert are coming soon.

All that and a new vicar - welcome, Jez Carr and family!

Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Phil Moody

Next Month's Magazine

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

editorseergreen@gmail.com by **7 September**. 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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- FC (adults) Art Anderson 07919 027351

Seer Green Village Choirs
Jane Smith 07759 841205

Thought for the Month



This is a really exciting month, at the end of which Reverend Jez (Jeremy) Carr will become our vicar. Jez's post is part-time and the other part of his working life will be a mission to musicians. Music is one of the greatest joys God has given us and, no wonder, as it has now been proved to help both our mental and physical health as well as our spiritual lives. It has been a vital part of my life since I joined my church choir at the age of 17, and I particularly love singing church music.

Singing to God is not new, dating back to well before Christ. The psalms were written for singing and we read of many places in the New Testament where the early Christians sang together, including St Paul and Silas singing hymns of praise in the middle of the night when shackled up in jail.

Life is not always easy, and we all look on in horror at much of what we see on the news. Yet St Paul tells us to 'give thanks in all things'. St Augustine said 'He who sings prays twice'. So, however low we may feel, let's try praising God in song. It's surprising how much better it can make us feel. Two hymns which come to mind are 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow' and 'Give thanks with a grateful heart'.

Welcome Jez and your family. We are so glad to have you as part of our church and community; we look forward to getting to know you and your leadership of our church. We are so thankful that you are here and praise God for the blessing of your coming among us; if only we could sing that welcome in print!

Linda West



Holy Trinity Services in September

4 Sept 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only
There will not be a 10am service at Holy Trinity
11am St Giles Day Service, Chalfont St Giles Village Green
12pm Baptism
4pm Inn Praise, Jolly Cricketers. Seer Green Churches Together

11 Sept 10am Holy Communion, in person and YouTube

16 Sept 11.30am Renewal of Wedding Vows

18 Sept 8am BCP Communion Service, in person only
10am Morning Service, in person and YouTube
12pm Baptism

25 Sept 10am Holy Communion Service, in person and YouTube

28 Sept 6pm Licensing Service for our New Vicar, Rev Jez Carr

Our streamed service will be on our YouTube channel.

<https://tinyurl.com/4n9xbhct>

For information about family activities contact Janna.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

Baptisms

5 June	Mariella Ciccone	3 July	Frank and Bobby Heal
18 June	Gabriella Hine	17 July	Isla and Otilie Weller

Weddings

25 June	Victoria Fischer and Alex Percy
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Ann Wyllie

We are very sad to report that Ann Wyllie died in August. She was a huge support for the Parish Magazine, organising the advertising (a huge task) and delivering the magazine for many years and always providing us with interesting copy. We will miss her.

Sue Puttergill



Gabriella Hine is baptised



Frankie and Bobbie Heal are baptised



Victoria Fischer and Alex Percy with Rev Cassa Messervy

Contact us

Holy Trinity website
Church Wardens and
General Enquiries

www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org
Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

Church Events | News

Church News

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we can announce that we have a new vicar, Jez (Jeremy) Carr, at Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans. We have to wait a bit longer for the paperwork to be completed, but Jez's Licensing Service will be held at 6pm on Wednesday 28 September in Holy Trinity, and then he can officially start. The service will be led by Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham. Invited guests include Archdeacon Guy, the Amersham Area Dean, the lay chair of the Amersham Deanery, the Parish Council, the Head Teacher at Seer Green Church of England School, local church leaders, as well as the congregation of Holy Trinity.

Jez, his wife and young son moved into the Vicarage in August, and he will work for the Parish on Sundays and two days a week from the beginning of October. Please say hello if you see them. Jez will introduce himself in the October magazine.

On 4 September, Chalfont St Giles are holding a United service with the other village churches on their village green at 11am to celebrate St Giles. There will be no 10am service at Holy Trinity so that we can support our Benefice. All ages are welcome, and there will be live music.

Janine Dunnell - Churchwarden



Charity of the Month – David Nott Foundation

Our charity for September is the David Nott Foundation. Their mission is simple: they are dedicated to delivering the specialist training which surgeons need to save lives in countries affected by conflict and catastrophe. They have worked in Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Iraq, Libya, Kenya, Yemen and Cameroon.

One of their courses is designed for medical professionals working in, or travelling to, conflict and catastrophe zones. It equips doctors with the skills to make decisions, perform a range of surgical procedures, and handle common abdominal emergencies affecting civilian populations in challenging environments.

The Hostile Environment Surgical Training (HEST) course is designed to improve the emergency trauma surgery skills of local surgeons and doctors, and better equip them for the incredibly challenging

circumstances which they face on a daily basis. The course is delivered locally in the centre of the conflict zone. Usual methods of teaching are impossible, so the David Nott Foundation has designed a bespoke full-body trauma dummy. Embracing the latest technologies, they also use Virtual Reality (VR) to simulate mass casualty scenarios, training surgeons in the decision-making skills needed to prioritise patients and save lives.

The charity recognises that it cannot stop conflict or catastrophe, but by training more doctors, it can change the prospects for the people that endure these disasters.

For more information on the David Nott Foundation and stories of its work, visit <https://davidnottfoundation.com>.

You can donate in the usual ways see page 10.

Rachel Gibson



Donations to Holy Trinity

If you would like to donate to the work and upkeep of Holy Trinity Church, there are many quick and easy ways of doing so; or you can activate our Online Giving page by using the QR code.

You can:

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

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

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



Prayer

Prayer is the life blood of the church – it changes things. It does not just consist of asking God for things, but also thanking him, praising him and saying sorry when we get things wrong.

There are many ways in which the church encourages people to pray. We pray in our services, we provide ideas for prayer in our weekly notice sheet and the church is open every day to allow people to come in, be quiet and pray.

There are times when we find it difficult to pray or need some extra support, and our prayer and intercession group exists to help at these times, particularly when people are ill or

bereaved. If you would like them to pray for you or a friend in strictest confidence, contact either Linda West on 01494 673821, rogerandli datoosie@btinternet.com or Muriel Ward on 01494 6750324 or leave a request in the book on the small table near the pulpit.

The prayer table has a prayer tree, candles to light, copies of the Lord's prayer and other prayers you might like to use. Our pastoral care team provides a confidential listening ear, and if you would like to talk to one of them, contact Heather Rowe on 01494 677573 (heather.rowe@talktalk.net).

Linda West

Village Events I News

One Can collections - can you help?

It is with great sadness that I must report that One Can's referrals have more than doubled in a year: they are now supporting over 800 people a week.

This Autumn is going to be challenging for a great number of people with rising costs, a recession, energy hikes and a huge increase in food prices. The work One Can do to try to help those most desperately in need is astonishing. People are referred by many organisations: churches, schools, doctors, social services etc. They are then given food parcels for four weeks only, as there are so many people being referred that they simply can't keep up with the amount of food needed.

A small regular donation at one of the five collection points in the village would help enormously. I circulate the most needed items every week on the Community Chat What's App group but, honestly, literally any basic food/toiletry items would be so appreciated.

Here's a reminder of the collection points:

5 Coat Wicks (at the back of my house), Best One, The Baptist Church, 46 Orchard Road, Walton House, Manor Crescent.

This is the latest list – but if in doubt UHT milk is always needed:

- Rice
- Biscuits
- Tinned potatoes
- Pasta
- Tinned meat meals
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Jams and Spreads
- Tinned Pulses
- Toilet roll
- Cooking Sauces
- Condiments & Sauces (ketchup etc)
- Nappies (sizes 6-7)
- Formula Baby milk

I am so grateful to those who help me by delivering the donations to me on a Wednesday, so I can go with a loaded car on a Thursday, and to those who have been donating since I started as a Street Hero back in May 2020.

Janet Stewart



Seer Green Church of England school news

At the end of the summer term, we bade farewell to Sandra Park (who is retiring as Headteacher after 6 years of excellent service at the school). We also said goodbye to teachers – Sue Bremner-Stokes, Beatrice Heard, and Bryony Wells - and teaching assistants – Lily Bruce and Janet Schofield - who are either moving on to new jobs elsewhere or retiring. We will miss them all. We thanked them all very much for the huge contributions they have made to the school and the community and gave them our best wishes for the future. Children, staff, parents, and governors presented farewell gifts to them at a special assembly.

In September we will welcome Laura Morel who is taking over as Headteacher, together with other new members of staff. Laura comes to us from Bisham Church of England primary school (part of the Ashley

Hill multi-academy trust) where she has been Head of School. We look forward to working with them.

Michael Phipps - Chair of Governors - Seer Green CE School



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Coffee Shop

A meeting place for the community



Monday Mornings
10.30am to 12.00noon
Seer Green Baptist Church

Seer Green Gardeners

Here comes AutumnFest!

10 September - Autumn Show, Jubilee Hall, 2.30pm

11 September - Spud in a Bucket, Jolly Cricketers, 4.30pm

This year, two of our most popular events take place across the same weekend.

The Autumn Show sees Jubilee Hall turned into a vibrant showcase of seasonal flowers, fruit, veg and other goodies, along with lashings of tea and home-made cake!



Spud in a bucket weigh-in

If you grow anything in your garden, allotment, patio or window box, there is bound to be something you can enter. We have categories for photography and cookery, too. Full details of all the classes and how to enter are on the website.

The following afternoon, in the garden of the Jolly Cricketers, tensions will run high at the annual "Spud in a Bucket" weigh-in. Last year's winner, Jill Moody, broke all records with over four kilograms of spuds in her bucket. Whether or not you are entering the tense contest, this is an unmissable annual event for the whole family.

If you enjoy local talks about gardening, Chalfont St Giles Gardens Association monthly programme should be of interest. The next one is 'Plants for Bees' by Darren Lerigo on **8 September**, 8pm in the Memorial Hall, School Lane, Chalfont St Giles - www.csagg.org.

Gardening jobs for September

- Feed and deadhead plants to encourage late flowering until the first frosts
- Start planting spring bulbs in pots and borders
- Lift, divide and replant clumps of perennials once they have finished flowering
- Collect ripe seeds from favourite flowers and save to sow in spring.

Fliss Combes and Sally Ash - www.seergreengardeners.org

Seer Green Eight O'Clock Club



Prior to the June meeting, villagers were asked to submit samples of their handwriting for Graphologist Elaine Quigley to analyse. For some of us, this was quite challenging, since emails and text now often replace the hand-written word!

The British Institute of Graphologists (Elaine is President) was founded in 1983, & since then its members have, amongst other tasks, assessed job applicants and detected fraud through handwriting analysis.

Elaine explained that each individual's handwriting displayed its own character based on a unique

personality which could be grouped into one of nine character-types. Handwriting, said Elaine, is "brain writing!"

In July, John Tyler returned to reveal how plants and animals communicate by use of natural signals and encouraged us to tune-in to those "conversations" in the countryside when out for walks. Colour, touch, and smell all play their part, along with hypnosis!

John's captivating photography showcased visual signals amongst animals, birds and insects.

A safer form of communication in the wild is scent; perfectly demonstrated by the female Emperor Moths, which emit a pheromone scent to attract the male of the species.

Plants also send signals via scent that acts as a warning, and subtly drift on the breeze. As a result, other plants build-up their defense chemicals.

In August, villager Nigel Rothwell informed us of the extensive research into the history of the village - much of what we have previously been told is not true (see www.ourlivingvillage.org)!

Nigel then led us on an historical walk through an area of the village including Green Wood – evidence has come to light of an ancient settlement there.

Next meeting

'MI 9 - A History of the Secret Services for Escape and Evasion in WW2 by Helen Fry, Historian and Biographer.

Thursday October 6 at Seer Green Baptist Church: £4 includes tea/coffee.

Elizabeth Lee

News from Jordans School

The children had great fun at the end of term with a Pirate Day and farewell assemblies, but now the school is looking forward to the new year.

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception children into Fox Class.



They will have a staggered start on 6 and 7 September and will all start full time on 8 September. The rest of the school start back on 6 September full time. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Atkinson into Year 1 and Mrs Goddard full time in Year 2 and say thank you to Mrs Banks and Mrs Czekalowska who, although leaving us as regular teachers, will be back on an ad hoc basis to cover teacher absences when they occur. We also say goodbye and good luck to Mrs Taaffe who is moving on to start a new job.

News from over the fields in Jordans

Wow what a summer in Jordans with hardly a July weekend going by without something happening on the Village Green! The highlight was Music on the Green which folk from both villages really enjoyed. Our village shop enjoyed it too and the takings that day were just fantastic. A great big thank you for your support.

Moving into September the Village Green will not lie unused. Village sports day is on **Saturday 10** with the hopefully not needed reserve day being the 17. Such fun for everyone from the potential runners of the future to the celebrated Village Marathon. A real family day and just not to be missed.

Toddlers in the woods

This outdoor toddler's group for pre-school children, accompanied by an adult, is led primarily by members of Holy Trinity church and has now been running during term time for a year! And what fun we have all had in the woods learning about playing with natural resources with a few dumper trucks and dinosaurs on site to add to the experience! Term starts again on **Friday September 16** at 9.15am with no booking required. Simply turn up and join us.



This month Jordan's Picture House returns as do concerts both at The Meeting House and Jordans Village Hall, The Biodiversity Team continue to look at what could be best for Manor Farm Fields accepting that our climate is changing due to the our mishandling of our world and yes progress is being made by the trustees of Jordans Village Hall Trust re designing and building a Community Centre in the form of a new Village Hall.

Exciting times for our village of Jordans!

Ali Cork

More music in Jordans



Summer Concert, on the theme of 'Renewal'

Sunday 4 September 3-4pm

Jordans Quaker Meeting House

Esther Cavett (piano) and Jane Faulkner (violin) will be performing for us and there will be some readings too. Tea and cake will await you afterwards, hopefully in the garden. The concert is free though donations will be welcome and will go to charity. We hope to see many of you there.

Ann Floyd

Michael Bochmann

Friday 16 September 7.30pm

Jordans Village Hall

Virtuoso violinist Michael Bochmann returns to Jordans to be accompanied by pianist Esther Cavett in a concert of Schubert, Mozart and more.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Esther Cavett



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Jordans Picture House

Welcome back - The launch of our new season September 9

On Friday September 9 we shall be screening "Belfast". Doors open at 7.15pm and the Programme starts at 8.00pm.

Belfast (PG13) 2021

Awards: 1 Oscar, 47 Wins, 237 Nominations

Rotten Tomatoes Audience Score 92%

Cast: Jude Hill; Lewis McAskie; Catriona Balfe. Director: Kenneth Branagh

A young boy and his working-class Belfast family experience the tumultuous late 1960s

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ja3PPOnJQ2k

"No matter how far you go, you never forget where you came from." Source: IMDB



On Tuesday September 20 we shall be screening "The Father". Doors open at 7.15pm and the Programme starts at 8.00pm.

The Father (12A) 2020

Awards: 2 Oscars, 36 Wins, 158 Nominations

Rotten Tomatoes Audience Score 92%

Cast: Anthony Hopkins; Olivia Colman. Director Florian Zeller

A man refuses all assistance from his daughter as he ages. As he tries to make sense of his changing circumstances he begins to doubt his loved ones, his own mind and even the fabric of his reality.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFnoRaLAcIg

Top IMDB review - Brilliant...

"Give Anthony Hopkins the Oscar on April 26. He gives you the best performance of the decade. An old man with dementia loses his ties to reality. His mind deteriorates, and reality stops making any sense. This movie will haunt you, especially if you have a relative with dementia. Such a heart-breaking movie. ABSOLUTELY the best movie of the year and the best performance of the year by Hopkins." Source: IMDB

They did. Anthony Hopkins became the oldest winner at 83 years in a competitive acting category.



How to buy tickets

(Adults £8.00, U15s £5)

Online: Go to www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk

See "Programme and Buying Tickets"

Jordans Box Office: Alan Sealy
alan@janetsealypartnership.com 01494 873205

Seer Green Box Office: Gill Pettman
gillyp4@btinternet.com 01494 678050

Jordans Picture House Committee



THE NATIONAL LOTTERY



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CINEMA FOR ALL

Save Water to Save our Chilterns Chalk Streams!

Fact: The Chilterns has the highest per capita domestic water use in the UK.

Chilterns chalk streams - 'England's Rainforests' - are amongst the UK's most threatened habitats:

- For over fifty years, they have suffered from chronic low flows due to abstraction for public water supply and the impacts of climate change.
- Low water flows are one of the biggest threats to rivers and the creatures in them, and can be caused by natural droughts and by pumping too much water from aquifers.
- Since the 1970s, we have had more droughts and demand for water has increased.
- By September 2019, 67% of the chalk stream habitat in the Chilterns AONB was dry.
- Since 2017, Affinity Water and Thames Water have reduced abstraction at sites in the Ver, Gade, Chess, Misbourne, Wye and Hughenden valleys to promote sustainability, and monitor the result together with the Environment Agency.

Climate change is changing the patterns and predictability of rainfall

– both more intense rainfall and longer periods without rainfall – so there is more risk of severe flooding and droughts.

What can you do?

Collect rainwater in a water butt - rainwater is free! - Affinity Water offers subsidised butts at <https://tinyurl.com/mr2tryfs>. And use a watering can, not a hose – it uses less water.

Your Water Footprint

- Many household items have a water footprint - the amount of water it took to produce them.
- We each influence the distribution of water resource and water pollution – those who use water more sustainably contribute to society.
- It is not just the water we drink, use to wash, swim in etc, it is also the water needed to produce goods and services.
- Clothing production – particularly fast fashion - is one of the most wasteful water intensive production processes. Consider buying second-hand clothes or those using recycled fibres.
- Beef needs loads of water to produce - consider going meat-free at least one day each week.

- The least sustainable milk alternative is almond milk, so try oat milk (a study has found that global production of dairy milk uses twice as much water as almond milk, and 22 times as much water as soya milk).

Your choices could help save water and so help save our streams.

[This article abridges: <https://tinyurl.com/4jdd9z42> and references <https://tinyurl.com/275wx2zh>]

The Seer Green Beer and Music Festival

Friday 16 September (7.30 - 10.30pm)

Saturday 17 September (3.30pm - 10.30pm)

www.seergreenbeerfest.com



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Courgette Fritters

Perfect for using up a glut from the veggie patch

This recipe is easy to multiply; even so I suggest using a box grater instead of a food processor otherwise the mixture will become too watery. Also, make and fry immediately, as the mixture will become too wet to fry if left. Keep the fritters warm in the oven whilst cooking each batch.

Ingredients

- 600g courgettes, topped and tailed
- 1 garlic clove crushed
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 30ml (2 Tbsp) freshly grated parmesan cheese
- Salt & pepper
- Pinch of freshly grated nutmeg
- 60ml (4 Tbsp) plain flour
- 30ml (2 Tbsp) fresh mint, chopped
- Olive oil for frying
- Wedges of lemon to serve



Method

- Coarsely grate the courgettes and place in a large bowl.
- Add all the remaining ingredients.
- Heat the oil (approx 1 cm deep) in a frying pan.
- Shallow fry heaped tablespoons of the mixture until golden on both sides and firm, only turn once a good crust has formed.
- Serve immediately with lemon wedges.

Makes 16

Helen Lindsey-Clark

Wycombe Homeless Connection

Sadly, more than twenty people are currently sleeping rough in Wycombe alone. Wycombe Homeless Connection Support Centre is now fully open, as is Plug-In, the evening drop-in session. With the recent hot weather, the volunteer and staff team have been giving out lots of water and sun-protection and are running low on some items. Please see the Giving Goods page on their website for urgent needs and donations.

The Centre has extended the deadline to apply for a job as full-time Homelessness Prevention Worker, based in Wycombe offices with some homeworking. Homelessness Prevention Workers stop homelessness before it starts: they help stop unfair and illegal evictions, make sure people understand their rights to housing and defend the rights of people who are homeless or facing homelessness. Wycombe Homeless Connection is seeking someone with the character and aptitude to take on this rewarding role, but lots of experience is not required, as they provide training and guidance to develop professional skills and expertise. All the details are on the website at tinyurl.com/4edzct7. Because of the context of this role, there is an occupational requirement for the post-holder to be a Christian.

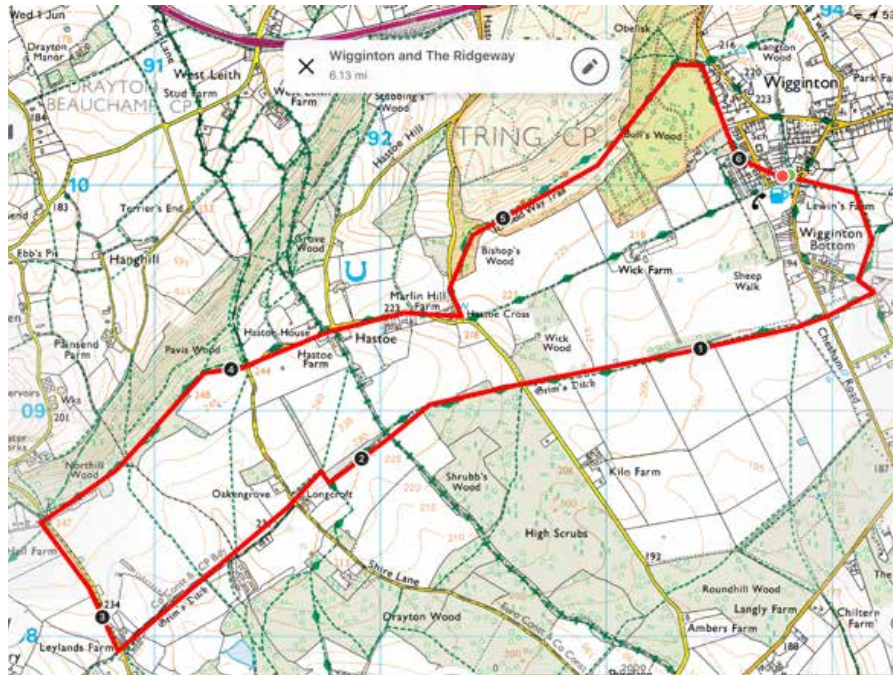
There are three FREE virtual London Marathon 2022 places available for anyone who would take on this challenge while fundraising for the Centre work. It takes place on **Sunday 2 October** - you can run, jog, push or walk 26.2 miles wherever you like, provided you start and finish on the day and it is outdoors. You can even do it in stages if that is the kind of challenge you need. All the details are on the website at tinyurl.com/22k8xzwv.

Thank you for taking the time to read our news and updates.

Heather Stanley - Fundraising and Marketing Manager
www.wyhoc.org.uk



Wigginton and The Ridgeway



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

Length: 6 miles

Start point: Greyhound Inn, Wigginton

Difficulty: Easy

This is a fairly flat walk above the Chiltern escarpment and across fields, woods and a country park. Start from the Greyhound at Wigginton (park on the road or pub car park if visiting afterwards) and take the footpath opposite the pub between houses and then downhill across a field. At the path junction turn right up the hill and follow the path past some allotments to a small road.

Turn left for 100 metres then take the path on the right in front of a house and follow this back up to the Chesham Road. Do a small zig zag right along the road and then left onto another path across fields. You can miss out this first section by walking back from the pub along the road if you like but it's a bit busy.

Follow the path straight on across fields and through copses. The ditch in the copses is a Grims Ditch or Dyke – Iron Age constructions that are thought to have been used to demarcate land. Where muddy it may be best to walk either side of the copses along the field edge. Cross two small roads and keep following the line of the ditch until the third road where you turn right and walk along the road for 500 metres until you reach a wood just where the road descends sharply. Turn right onto The Ridgeway which is the higher of the two paths and follow that near the edge of the wood for just under a mile until you come out on a road. Carry straight on along the road (bear slightly right in Hastoe) for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to Hastoe Cross then turn briefly left at the road junction and then, as you enter the woods, right on to another path.

This path quickly opens out to become a pretty boulevard as it passes through Tring Park with lovely views to the left. The land is owned by the Woodland Trust and the house was built by the Rothschilds. Follow the paths (and the map!) through the woods for about a mile turning right as the path starts to descend more steeply, and then right again back into Wigginton where you can walk through the houses back to the pub.

David Tryon

Registered Osteopath

Preston Lee BSc (Hons) Ost.



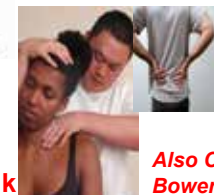
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Janet's book reviews



I read these books recently and thoroughly enjoyed them. I hope you do too!

The Whalebone Theatre – Joanna Quinn

This brilliant debut is the story of Christabel, a young girl from a gloriously dysfunctional family who yearns and fights to carve her own life in the world.

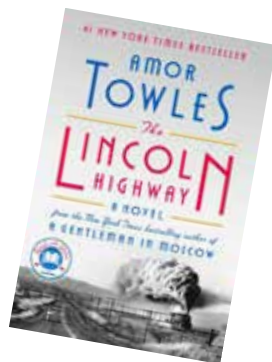
A sprawling family saga that runs between the wars and follows the fortunes of the members of the Seagrave family, heirs to a country pile in the Devon countryside. When the resourceful and fierce Christabel finds a whale washed up on shore, she is to use its skeleton to construct a theatre in which she directs the other children and adults in theatrical productions.

This is a wonderfully atmospheric story about all sorts of things - the magic of theatre, family, love, finding yourself, the British class system, also espionage work during WWII. Charming, funny, heart-breaking and devastating in equal measure, I thoroughly enjoyed and highly recommend it.

The Lincoln Highway – Amor Towles

18-year-old, Emmett, and his younger brother, Billy, live on a farm in 1954 Nebraska. Life has not been kind to them. Their mother left when Billy was small, their father dies leaving them in debt and Emmett has just been released from a youth detention facility serving a sentence for involuntary manslaughter. Their plan going forward? To hop in Emmett's Studebaker car and drive to California in search of their mother along the Lincoln Highway.

Their plans are thrown in the air when Duchess and Woolly, Emmett's compatriots from the youth facility turn up unexpectedly.



Part road novel, the narrative is suffused by myth and legend, and moral choice, held together by Billy, and his guidebook, Professor Abernath's Compendium, a key element in the unfolding tale. This book will keep you awake well past your bedtime and you will want to tell every book lover to read it!

The Island of Missing Trees – Elif Shafak

In a small Cypriot village in 1974, two teenagers become lovers. This sets the central theme of this distinctive novel. Both teenagers, Kostas who is Greek and Defne who is Turkish can meet only in secret, until two partners, Yiorgus and Yusef - one a Greek Cypriot, one a Turkish Cypriot - offer them the sanctuary of their tavern, The Happy Pig. In the middle of this tavern a fig tree is growing and becomes one of the narrators of the story.

The story then alternates between Cyprus in 1974 and North London 2010.

In London, we find recently bereaved Kostas a botanist and his daughter Ada, establishing their new lives, and nurturing a precious cutting from the Happy Pig fig tree in their garden. Ada, as she struggles to adapt to her new school, is suffering from grief and loneliness which manifests itself in a shocking classroom incident.

The arrival from Cyprus of her mother's sister, Meryem, is unwelcome, but gradually Ada learns about her mother's life and the effect of the devastating civil war in Cyprus.

An apposite tale about refugees and displaced people all over the world wanting reminders of their home and identity. It seemed an unusual device at first, to give the tree a voice on the page, but by the time I reached the final chapters, it seemed the most natural thing in the world, reminding us that humans are only ever part of the story. This is a beautiful book which will teach you and stay with you.

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Beaconsfield Library Notice

Weekly Activities

Tuesdays	10.30am – 11.00am	Storytime
	11.00 – 12.30pm	Talking café
Wednesdays	10.30am – 12.30pm	Knit and Natter
	10.30 – 12.30pm	Scrabble for adults
Thursdays	10.00 – 11.00am	LEGO for pre-school
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Scrabble for adults
	2.30 – 4.00pm	IT Help – Bookable sessions
Fridays	10.00am – 10.30 am	Bounce and Rhyme
	2.00 – 3.30pm	Friday from 2 Sept Chess
Saturdays	2.00 – 3.30pm	Chess

Monthly Activities

Saturdays	10.30am – 12.30pm	Beaconsfield Conservative Councillors' surgery (1st Saturday of each month)
	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Lego club (2nd Saturday of each month)
	10.00 am – 11.30am	Reading Groups for adults (3rd Saturday of each month)

Special events

- Saturday 3 September** 1.30 – 3.00pm Junior Craft – Boat cards
- Wednesday 14 September** 10.00 – 10.30am Spanish for Babies and Toddlers under 2yrs (For 3 weeks)
- Wednesday 14 September** 10.30 – 11.00am Spanish for Toddlers over 2 years (For 3 weeks)
- Thursday 15 September** 10.00 – 12.00 Adult craft

Please look out for more details on our website, Facebook Page and in the library. 01296 382415 - To use Text Relay dial 18001 01296 382415

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On the Wild Side: European Roe Deer

You cannot live long in Seer Green or Jordans without encountering a little Muntjac deer, barking in the woods or scooting across a road at dusk. If it's bigger than a Muntjac, it's likely to be a Roe: Buckinghamshire lacks wild Red deer, the nearest wild Fallow are at Marlow, and Chinese Water deer are limited to the area around Aylesbury and Tring.

The European Roe deer, *Capreolus capreolus*, is one of Britain's two indigenous deer species. The Roe and the Red deer both crossed into Britain from the continent around 9,600 BCE, at the end of the last ice age, before melting glaciers submerged the land bridge. They remain common in Europe: Bambi was an Austrian roe, until transformed into an American White-tailed deer for film audiences.



Photo: Stephan Sprinz, Creative Commons 4.0

Roe adults stand 63-67 cm at the shoulder, smaller than Fallow; they are ruddy brown in summer, duller in winter, tail-less, with a white rump that flashes as they bound away. Males, known as roebucks, have short, pronged antlers. The alarm bark, given by both sexes, is less repetitive than the Muntjac's: <https://tinyurl.com/2ur68ajw>. Roe mate in late summer and the spotted kids, usually twins, are born in May or June.

I was excited to see a Roe in the woods by One Tree Field this spring; and in July a Seer Green allotment holder was surprised by one that had taken advantage of a gap in the fence. Their usual diet is grass, tree shoots, ivy, berries, brambles, and ferns -- but they apparently have a taste for sweet corn.

There are an estimated 500,000 wild Roe in the UK today. Due to the absence of predators, the British deer population is at a thousand-year high, with resulting damage to woodland understory species, and culling is sometimes necessary.

Nora Bennett

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