

Your Parish MAGAZINE

What's on in
Seer Green
& Jordans

September 2023



Fairy tale
fete winning
pictures

Spiced apple
chutney recipe

Our favourite
playgrounds

Church News



one pound

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From the Editors

We are thrilled to have such varied news for the September magazine and hope that you enjoy reading about all that has gone on and is planned for autumn in our two villages. We are grateful to James Williamson for his piece on local the playgrounds that he and Emma visit with their daughter Charlotte.

We are printing it in two parts, so look out for more next month. And also to Helen Lindsey Clark for her spiced apple chutney recipe which looks delicious.

The Fairy Tale Fete pictures (page 14) are a delight and do read Sarah Allen's comments on each one.

Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Phil Moody

Would you like this magazine delivered regularly?

Annual subscription is £10 a year.

Please email editorseergreen@gmail.com with your name and address and we will be in touch to arrange payment and delivery.

Next Month's Magazine

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

editorseergreen@gmail.com by **7 September 2023**. 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 photo by Chris Weymouth

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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

Thought for the Month



September is a funny old time, especially if you are in education. It feels like a promotion — you've been looking up to the year above for so long, and suddenly you've made it. However, while all the new spaces, people and rhythms feel fresh and exciting, they also feel unfamiliar and intimidating. All expectations have gone up a notch. Even if you are not in education, there may well be ways you feel weighed down by expectations of some sort as you look at the season ahead. It is part of living in any society.

Jesus lived in a society with heavy cultural expectations weighing everyone down. What's worse, they were dressed up in the language of faith, turning God from a loving father to an overbearing schoolmaster. This was what Jesus was reacting to in Matthew 11:28-30, where he invites people to 'come and rest'. Not a 'rest' of inactivity, but a 'rest' of things-as-they-should-be. (The same 'rest' God experiences on completing Creation in Genesis 2.) Rest means living unafraid of expectations, trusting that the One whose expectations really matter, our Creator God, loves us regardless of performance, and offers to hold us up throughout. It is the 'restfulness' of a drummer who is not thinking about an audience but who is caught up in the joy and fluency of rhythm.

In those Matthew verses in Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of the bible (simply called "The Message"), Jesus invites all those living under the forced rhythms of expectations to "learn the unforced rhythms of grace." He promises that there is a fluency of life available to those who place their trust in God's love, expressed perfectly in the rescuing work of Jesus. May that be how we and our loved ones frame all the unfamiliarities of this season.

Jez Carr - Vicar



Church Events | News

News

Come along to our final Sunday Afternoon Tea, 3-5pm on **3 September**. We'll have goodie bags to give out to everyone heading back to preschool/school, to remind them of our love and prayers this year. Drop in on your way to Spud in the Bucket!

On **6 September** at 10.30am, we'll have our regular first-Sunday-of-the-month midweek communion. Come and meet Michelle, our new curate, if you haven't yet done so.

The 10am service on **Sunday 10** will be particularly child-friendly: we're inviting recent baptism families to be 'officially' welcomed into the community of the church. Come along and enjoy the party! There will also be an 8am spoken Communion for those who prefer the quiet!

On **17 September**, we're having a joint service with Seer Green Baptist Church, 10am at Holy Trinity: this is a lovely opportunity to express our love and unity for the two most well known expressions of the Christian faith in the village, and to remind us all that we are partners in the same vision. In the evening there will be a Confirmation service in Chalfont St Giles with Bishop Alan, with

members of our village involved. 6pm at St Giles church.

Do come along to the Beer Fest (**22 and 23 September**) to see our vicar compèring the music and making a guest appearance in one of the bands!

24 September (10am) will be our monthly, 'traditional' Holy Communion service, this is usually the third Sunday of each month, but has shifted this month to enable the joint service.

On Sunday **October 1**, there will be no morning services. Instead, we will be celebrating Harvest with a lunch and afternoon service, partnering with The One Can Trust. Details to follow.

Rev Jez Carr - Vicar, Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans

Primary workdays: Sunday to Wednesday.

For urgent matters, please call/text me on 07916 559151



Holy Trinity Services in September

- 3 Sept 10am Holy Communion
- 6 Sept 10.30am Midweek Communion
- 10 Sept 8am BCP Communion Service
10am Morning Praise with Welcome for Baptism Families
- 17 Sept 10am Joint Service with Seer Green Baptist Church at Holy Trinity
6pm Confirmation Service at Chalfont St Giles
- 24 Sept 8am BCP Communion Service
10am Traditional Holy Communion Service

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

Baptisms

- 25 June James Cooper
- 2 July Isla Ritchie
- 9 July Charlotte Orton
- 6 August Mabel Rooney

Wedding

- 4 August Tim Zealey and Suvi Harmala

Suvi Harmala and Tim Zealey were married at Holy Trinity on Friday 4 August. Jenny Tebboth took the wonderfully happy service.



Photo by Janna Holder

Safeguarding at Holy Trinity

Everyone has the right to be safe, no matter who or what they are, and in any situation in life. Protecting a person's well being and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect is a God-given right. Safeguarding children, young people and adults is a collective responsibility. It is about people and organizations working together to prevent and stop the risks and experience of abuse.

This is why safeguarding is such a high priority at Holy Trinity, and why we are proactive in minimizing risk of abuse.

Everyone who is a volunteer leader or helper in church approved activities at Holy Trinity are thoroughly vetted through our safer recruitment process. They all have to undergo the following checks before they can begin working in the church:

- completion of an initial volunteer form
- completion of a confidential declaration form
- receipt of two confidential references
- a disclosure and barring service (DBS) check
- safeguarding training, the level determined by the role undertaken
- ongoing discussion between key personnel at Holy Trinity and the volunteers

If you would like to know any more about the safeguarding procedures or have any concerns about someone that you know, please contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Olwyn Davison-Oakley - Parish Safeguarding Officer - 07769677556

A further link to safeguarding at the Diocese can be found on our Church website.

Contact us

Holy Trinity website www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org
Church Wardens and General Enquiries Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

A Rocha: Demonstrating the Christian Hope for God's World



A Rocha ("the rock") began in Portugal in 1983 and now works in over 20 countries. A Rocha UK's mission is "caring for the earth and demonstrating the Christian hope for God's world".

The Church of England and our Oxford Diocese are committed to good stewardship of the Earth, and a key strategy is participation by churches - like Holy Trinity - in A Rocha UK's Eco Church programme. This offers certification to any UK Christian church, based on best practice in worship and teaching, management of church buildings and land, community and global engagement, and lifestyle. See <https://arocha.org.uk/> for details.

In 2021 Holy Trinity gained our Bronze Eco Church certificate, based on improvements to our heating and lighting systems, environmental themes in our services, conservation in the churchyard, use of fair trade products, and support for environmental charities.

Meanwhile Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green Baptists gained silver, and in 2022 the Oxford Diocese became an Eco Diocese.

A Rocha UK's other activities include 'Wild Christian', a network of families and individuals joining together for environmental education and action; 'Partners in Action', for Christian land managers supporting biodiversity and threatened habitats; and two community nature reserves - including Wolf Fields in Southall which offers a meadow, orchard, ponds, allotment, beehives, birdfeeders and nestboxes, braille and audio interpretation, sensory garden, prayer labyrinth, story-telling arena, and community events.

A Rocha UK provides all this for free, but relies on contributions from its supporters. We have chosen it as our annual environmental charity because we have benefited from its work, and we commend it to you. Contributions can be made online at <https://arocha.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>. To donate in church, use the blue envelopes, entering Gift Aid details if appropriate; leave in church or deliver to our treasurer at 58 Chalfont Road.

Nora Bennett

Have you noticed the churchyard?

In July Fernando Miranda, Denis Sousa and Carlos Edwardo mowed, strimmed and generally tidied the churchyard. The churchyard is a rare natural space, as fertilizers and weedkiller have hardly ever been used. This means that we have a wonderful variety of wildflowers and plants in the spring and early summer. I hope that you got a chance to see them.



From the left Carlos Edwardo, Dennis Sousa Fernando Miranda

However, the grass needed to be cut and it was too big a job for volunteers, so we got Fernando Miranda's team to help, and think that we will use them to care for the churchyard on an ongoing basis.

Sue Puttergill

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



Village Events | News

Our Living Village – Attracting More Village Families and Friends



The Our Living Village website developed by the Seer Green and Jordans Society continues to attract the interest of families and friends from far and wide.

We recently received a visit from Glynn and Wendy Worley who travelled all the way down from Wigan to explore their local family connections. Through our historical research, we were able to share with them information on their family from documents including: the Buckinghamshire Muster Book (1673), the Burnham Hundred Posse Comitatus Lists (1798), a detailed analysis of the census records,

and the Holy Trinity Church history written by Richard Thornton in 1994. In return, Glynn provided a fascinating link to Pirate Richard Worley, who sounds as if he would have got on rather well with the reported "nest of fighters and highwaymen" residing in Seer Green in the 19th century! If you'd like to know more about Glynn and Wendy's Worley family research, please do let us know.

A little closer to home, the Seer Green and Jordans Society has been invited to participate in the 2023 Conference and Fair being organised by the Buckinghamshire Local History Network, which will

take place at the Oculus Conference Centre in Aylesbury on Saturday **7 October**. If you are in any way interested in our county's important local history, please do consider attending – full details at <https://tinyurl.com/bdcr22z8>.

For added interest, Nigel Rothwell has nominated the Seer Green and Jordans Society for the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society's prestigious Joan Elding Prize for 2023, for the development

Our Living Village - Eight O'Clock Club walk

Thanks to all of the people who joined the historical walk round the village. Hopefully, no one found it too demanding!

A number of people helpfully offered information and thoughts on people, places, and other aspects of village history. As walk leader, I already had my head full of information, and wasn't really in a position to take on board everyone's comments. However, I am keen to capture other people's input, and so your thoughts or ideas on people or topics we might follow up are always welcome - in the spirit of continuous improvement – so please let me know if you wish to get further involved by email to ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com.

and delivery of the Our Living Village project. The winner will be announced at the conference and, given our project's high level of innovation and achievement, we'd like to think that we are in with a chance!

Alan Kell - Seer Green and Jordans Society
www.ourlivingvillage.org
ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com

As well as documenting brief biographies of significant people, Our Living Village has a number of other topics which we wish to pursue, including the village at war, education, trade and commerce, where people lived, family histories, photographic archives, buildings, and more

We would also like to hear what else residents might like to know more about, and would happily welcome others getting actively involved, or equally, just being prepared to contribute what they know.

Nigel Rothwell

Seer Green Allotments



Allotment folk enjoying our summer barbecue - and no this isn't the most over the top shed on the site! Due to a somewhat turbulent and very wet period, the venue was changed to a generous allotmenteer's garden with the option of a retreat indoors if need be. A good time was had by all, scrumptious food was shared in excellent company, and our thanks go to our most welcoming host Mike.

*"Good housewives in summer will save their own seedes,
Against the next years, as occasion needes,
One seed for another, to make an exchange,
With fellowlie neighbourhood seemeth not strange."*

Thomas Tusser (C16)

Saving seeds is always worth a go, whether they are inside the produce - as with tomatoes, beans and butternut squash - or outside - like a sunflower. Sometimes seed from a hybrid fruit will not come true, and some might not produce plants at all, but trial and error is the watchword of true allotmentees!

Sharing seeds from the packet is another way of cutting the cost: do you really want 1000 parsnips? We operate a seed swap on the site; highly recommended.

One of my favourite means of propagation on the plot is self-seeding: poppies, marigolds, nasturtiums and foxgloves are always happy to oblige, ready to aid the pollinating insects we wish to encourage to our other plants. If too many appear, they can be dug up and gifted to friends, or just removed and added to the compost heap. Seed heads left on plants over winter will help to feed the birds.

August gifted us with two full moons, super-blue at the end of the month, and in September we have the full corn moon, also called the harvest moon; time to celebrate, freeze, preserve and store up for the winter months.

Charlotte Baggins for the Allotments

Fairy Tale Fête

The Seer Green Fairy Tale Fete on July 9 was a magical day for all. Visitors enjoyed petting the real Three Little Pigs (aka the mini pigs from Kew Little Pigs), making mud porridge with Woodland Adventure Club, singing along to some stories with Mummy Bear and Goldilocks, and much more. The fete raised almost £3,000 for Seer Green Pre-School.

To tie in with the fete, the children of Seer Green Pre-School and Seer Green School were invited to enter a fairy tale illustration competition, judged by local artist Sarah Allen. Sarah was very impressed with all the hard work that the children had put into their drawings and, after careful consideration, managed to whittle the entries down to four winners in each category, which we have the pleasure of printing here.

Rebecca Davies



Reception winner: Rupert Collins, for his drawing of Beauty and the Beast. Sarah says "such care was taken to include so many characters and so much action, covering the whole page with colour and representing the fairy tale in an exciting way".



Year 1 winner: Isabelle Bailey, for her drawing of Snow White.

Sarah says "the clear colours made this really stand out, and it presents the character in a very expressive way".



Pre-School winner: Holly Hatfield, for her drawing of Rapunzel.

Sarah says "the colour and joy in Holly's picture of Rapunzel really made it stand out".



Year 2 winner: Cedric Currier, for his drawing of Room on the Broom.

Sarah says "in this picture of Room on the Broom there is such a wonderful expression on the witch's face, and the cat looks like he is up to all sorts of mischief!"

Seer Green Gardeners

So far, it's not been a great month for sitting out and enjoying the fruits of our labours, but at least we've been spared onerous watering. Looking ahead, it's a busy month for village gardening events.

By the time you read this, the Scarecrow Trail will probably have ended, but if you enjoyed admiring the celebrity line-up and haven't yet voted for your favourite, you can do this online (link is on the website) until 10 September.

Hopefully Spuds in Buckets will have benefitted from plentiful rain, so we're looking forward to bumper crops at the weigh-in on Sunday **3 September** in The Cricketers' Garden starting at 4pm. You don't need to have grown a spud to enjoy this ever-popular annual event!

This year saw the return of a second growing competition with beautiful 'Blue Dancer' fuchsias. In April, we handed out 150 tiny plug plants to individuals, pre-school and Brownies and are hoping for a brilliant display of the results at the Autumn Show on **16 September**. Check our brochure or website for more information on all the usual flower, fruit and vegetable categories.

There's no charge for entries to the show, so if you're proud of something you've grown or photographed this year in Seer Green, please enter it into the show! If you'd like (another) copy of our 2023 brochure, just drop an email containing your address to Seergreengardeners@gmail.com. Entries for the photography classes should be printed at a maximum size of 10" x 8".

Finally - an addition to our events programme is a talk by local gardening eccentric, Alan Clark. Retired from his landscape gardening business,



Seer Green Primary Reception & Years 1-2 discover where potatoes come from.

90 children, 90 buckets, 2 tons of compost, 90 seed potatoes and lots of tlc!

Well done children, teachers and SGG committee!



Seer Green Open Gardens, June 2023

A big thank you to our ten garden hosts!

he now 'educates and entertains' as well as running nine(!) allotments and two good-sized gardens. He'll share his knowledge with us at the Baptist Church on Thursday **30 November** following our 7.30pm AGM. Everyone is invited to this, as we'd welcome feedback to help with planning next year's programme.

September gardening suggestions

- Sow hardy flowers in pots or trays in an unheated, light, frost-free place to make good sized plants ready to put out in the Spring. This will save you £££s compared to buying bedding plants and you can choose more unusual varieties. One of my particular favourites to fill empty spaces in a border is *Hesperis Matronalis* (look it up!).
- Hebes are such lovely plants but they need regular trimming after flowering to keep them bushy. If they are already straggly, leave hard pruning until after winter frosts. Similarly, trim lavender, but not into the woody stems.
- Another great money-saver is to try propagating your own plants. Take 'hardwood' cuttings of deciduous shrubs anytime from now until late winter. Particularly easy ones to try are flowering (or fruiting) currants (ribes), lavender, roses. Look up the simple technique on the RHS website.
- Committed gardeners love to share spare plants, so if there's something you particularly covet, try posting on SG Gardening Chat (email us to join this).
- Start planning where you would like more spring bulbs and look out for bargains as autumn progresses.

Sally Ash

Seer Green Eight O'Clock Club

Life is full of surprises and the same can be said of the past. In May, Denise Beddows of the Crime Writers Association delved into her family history, revealing four murders.

Denise conducted a traditional investigation, looking at the victim, and then who had the Means, Motive and Opportunity to commit the crime. She said that if we were thinking of writing about a crime, we should choose one about which little is known and delve into press reports, "The British Newspaper Archive", and official case files. This way, she discovered one of her family was hanged for a murder he didn't commit.

For those who want to delve more deeply, "Chiltern Kills" is a one-day crime-writing festival in Gerrards Cross in October.

On a lighter note, nature conservationist John Tyler returned in July to talk about "The World of Fungi". As always, John's talk was fascinating and humorous, and his photography was stunning - it's amazing what goes on under our feet: there is a 2,500-year-old honey fungus in America which, under the surface, covers the equivalent of 15 Football pitches and weighs more than two blue whales!

Fungi produce thousands of spores. Puffball fungi are often found in beech woods, and as spores ripen, a hole appears at the top of the puffball and spores are pushed out with the first drops of rain. Beech woods are also home to artist bracket fungi; John produced an amazing photograph showing how these stain beech black.

Quietly, slowly, ...Fungi are the ultimate recyclers of natural material.



In September, members will be visiting 'Church Gardens' in Harefield.

Next meetings

Thursday **5 October** at 8.00pm: *'Windsor and the Nazis'* - Tony Eaton (researcher and lecturer). Seer Green Baptist Church - £4, includes tea/coffee. All are welcome.

Thursday **2 November** at 8.00pm: *'Blood Bikes'* - volunteers who deliver blood and medical products to hospitals out of hours - Kamran Irani.

Elizabeth Lee

Seer Green CE School – End of Year Activities

It seems impossible that a year ago, I was writing my first letter as Headteacher. Time has flown by, and I have enjoyed every minute, thanks to the wonderful staff, parents and most importantly children that I have been privileged to work with.



It was lovely to welcome the Seer Green Gardeners (SGG) in the last week of term to help children harvest the potatoes they had been carefully watering and 'earthing up'. They produced a bumper crop, which was delicious! Congratulations to Reception, who produced the largest crop, and thanks to SGG.

Years 5 and 6 excelled themselves performing 'The Island that Rocks', a new musical that encourages young people to get active, have fun and explore a sustainable future. The great performances from actors, singers and dancers created an enjoyable evening.

The term ended on a high as we were joined on our field by family members for a picnic. It was lovely to hear adults and children chatter as lunch was shared, followed by children playing happily with friends and siblings. A wonderful school community event.

During the holidays, there was plenty of school activity with classrooms decorated, some new flooring and a new IT system - including interactive whiteboards. An environment that supports children's learning is important and is only possible thanks to the office support team and the generosity of parents through the PTA and Charitable Trust.

We are excited to offer hot lunches from September. There will be a choice of hot, vegetarian or jacket potatoes and dessert. Lunch is a good time to eat a main meal and should have a positive impact on learning, too! We are looking for a Midday Supervisor to help with this: if you are interested, please contact the office.

If you would like to know more about what we are doing this year, we regularly post pictures on Facebook, at: Seer Green CE School.

Laura Morel - head teacher

News from over the fields in Jordans

There is so much happening in our village at the moment it is really quite difficult to know where to start. The Manor Farm Fields Biodiversity Group initiated a day of village involvement during last month and the very active Horticultural Society are busy preparing for The Flower and Produce Show on Sunday **10 September**. An event not to be missed regardless of whether you are a gardener, a baker - see the domestic section! - or a young person all out to win the Paul Woodham Memorial Trophy - for this year a futuristic vehicle!

It is a great afternoon for all to enjoy even if you simply fancy tea and cake in the sunshine (?) on the village Green.

Last but by no means least SPORTS DAY, now for many years held not in July among so many other Village occasions but the Saturday after the children return to school. It is scheduled, weather permitting, to take place on the Green on Saturday **9 September**. Together with The Flower and Produce Show it makes for a really great Jordans weekend!

Ali Cork



Midday Supervisor Opportunity

We are delighted to be able to offer hot lunches to the children at Seer Green School from September 2023.

As we begin this service, which supports both parents and children, a vacancy has arisen for a motivated and enthusiastic person to join our friendly lunchtime supervisory team as a Midday Supervisor.

Our Midday Supervisors are a valuable asset to our school, and we value their contribution to the children's lunchtime experience and wellbeing.

The purpose of the job is to oversee and contribute to the safety, welfare and supervision of children during the lunch times in the dining hall, supporting the children in both the social and practical aspects of eating together, ensuring that the whole lunchtime experience is as positive as possible for all children.

You will need to be confident, a good communicator, able to act on your initiative, be patient and enjoy working with children.

Hours are 7 ½ hours per week (11.45am-1.15pm), 38 weeks a year.

Salary £10.42 per hour.

Please contact Nicola Fairbrother (bursar@sgceschool.co.uk) if you are interested applying for this position.

Jordans music club

80th Summer Season

We are delighted that our 2023 season, which has just finished, has been a great success. And what a feast of wonderful music we have all enjoyed.

The first of our four concerts featured the return of the charismatic and award-winning Heath Quartet, who gave us a thrilling performance of pieces by Haydn and Fanny Mendelssohn, concluding with a dramatic Mozart string quintet for which they were joined by violist Garfield Jackson, a local resident and until recently a member of the famous Endellion String Quartet.

Our second concert was a recital by Timothy Ridout, a BBC New Generation Artist and one of the most sought-after violists of his generation, together with award-winning pianist, Jonathan Ware. A concert full of variety included a magnificent performance of César Franck's violin sonata, a virtuoso piece for both players which left the audience quite breathless.

We were particularly pleased to hear for our third concert a piano recital by Jeneba Kanneh-Mason, the third member of the Kanneh-Mason clan to play for us at Jordans. We have previously been thrilled to have both Sheku (cello) and his sister Isata (piano) to perform for us and it has been wonderful to be able to offer to our local community an opportunity to hear another member of this extraordinary family. To no one's surprise Jeneba magnificently lived up to the reputation of her family with an electrifying performance.



Our 2023 season was brought to a brilliant conclusion with the return of the famous oboist Nicholas Daniel, together with the Britten oboe quartet. This was a masterful performance of fascinating variety, including rarely heard gems such as a Danish wedding trilogy, and concluding with Mozart's fabulous oboe quartet.

We now look forward to 2024 and the opportunity to bring yet more great music to our local community.

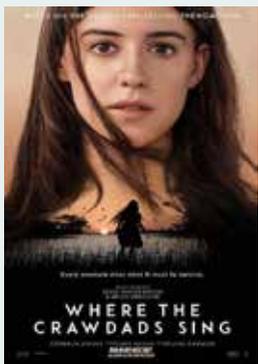
Marian Pell - Chairman

Jordans Picture House

Welcome back! Our programme will start on **September 10**.

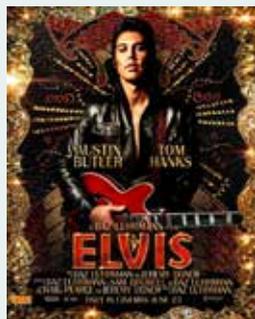
On Friday **September 10** we shall screen “**Elvis**”. Doors open at 7.15pm and the Programme starts at 8.00pm. There will be 45 minutes of Elvis’s greatest hits during this period - come and enjoy!

Elvis (12A)



On Tuesday **September 19** we shall screen “**Where the Crawdads Sing**”. Doors open at 7.15pm and the Programme starts at 8.00pm.

Where the Crawdads Sing (15)



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



An Adventure in the Cordillera Blanca



You may remember that we had no News from over the fields last month, as Ali Cork was away hiking in South America. She has written this short piece about her adventure.

On the 27 May I set off for Peru for my 5th trek at high altitude. The Cordillera Blanca is a region high in The Andes mountains and I was to embark on the area’s most adventurous trek, now due to Covid and the unstable

political situation in the country, not undertaken for several years. So exciting to be part of this expedition! The brief was to circuit Alpamayo, once regarded as the most beautiful mountain in the world, and appearing as a pyramid dropped on this snow capped high altitude range. 10 mountain passes ahead we set off from the mountain town of Huaraz with enough equipment and food for 11 days! Vertical slopes, freezing nights along with amazing views and that incredible feeling of achievement when standing ‘on top of the world’. I just loved it all though must, when considering another, remember that for me this was the greatest challenge ever. (Could age have something to do with it?!)

Ali Cork

Coffee Shop

A meeting place for the community



Monday Mornings
10.30am to 12.00noon
Seer Green Baptist Church

Jordans and district Rotary Club



On both Monday 10 July and Tuesday 11 July Jordans Rotary Club organised trips to Henley to enjoy afternoon tea on a Riverboat sailing both up and down the Thames for past and present senior residents of Seer Green. The weather was delightful on the Monday and a little bit cooler on the Tuesday. Both days were enjoyed by all especially as the boat is totally built to accommodate wheelchairs, rollators, and walking sticks as there is a lift down into the cabin, and a roof for inclement weather! This boat is run through the Rivertime Boat Trust.

At our September dinner meeting we shall have a local Seer Green resident as our speaker on "The camps of Colditz". Just in time for our Club visit to Berlin and "Colditz" itself the following week. Venue is Beaconsfield Golf Club 7pm for 7.30pm. Should anyone like to join us as a guest please contact Jenny Owen 01494677571

Also save the date Friday **22 September** quiz night in Jordans village hall for local charities details from Alan Sonnex 01494 874536 or Jenny Owen 01494 677571

Jenny Owen



On the Wild Side in September: The Red Admiral



What explains the mysterious inability of insects to get back out an open window? During this summer's heat wave, a Red Admiral butterfly appeared in my greenhouse, and despite the wide-open door and vent, stubbornly bumbled along the roof panes. Carefully I ejected it, and it immediately vanished out of sight - they are strong fliers, able to migrate from North Africa, Portugal and Spain. Radar has detected them at 2 km above the earth, and they can fly at night, unusually for butterflies.

Found from Scandinavia to North Africa, North America and Asia, the Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*) is a successful species, and according to the Butterfly Conservation charity, 2023 has been a good year for them. You may still see one in September, prospecting on a fading buddleia, or the flowering ivy on an old tree; they'll also eat tree sap in spring and rotting

fruit in autumn, so perhaps leave a few windfalls in the grass. Males and females have the same handsome pattern, appearing duller when the wings are closed. Their green eggs are usually laid on stinging nettles, the preferred food of the spiny, black caterpillars – maybe leave some nettles at the bottom of the garden too.

The butterflies that emerge here in summer typically fly south by November, but Butterfly Conservation believes climate change is allowing more to overwinter here, sheltering in log piles and garden sheds or even in houses. A friend with a wood burner inspects the logs carefully for dormant butterflies and puts those with a sleeping occupant aside.

Finally, why 'red admiral'? Historians say the name appeared in print by 1700, perhaps inspired by naval flags displaying bright patterns on a dark ground. Or is it a corruption, as some suggest, of 'red admirable'? Answers on a postcard.

Nora Bennett

Picture credits - On buddleia: gailhampshire, Creative Commons 2.0;

Why I'm still collecting for one can



May 2020

Everyone's fears were realised – we had to stay home. People lost their jobs and were struggling to feed their families. I decided to become a "Street Hero" and galvanise the village into helping those worse off than themselves with huge success.

September 2023

The need has grown exponentially.

I can't really believe that I'm still having to make weekly trips to the High Wycombe warehouse. If I didn't, the shelves would look even more bare than they currently do. They're at crisis point, running out of absolute basic items every week and having to spend from their reserves.

The generosity of Seer Green has been truly remarkable.

We have 5 collection points around the village which lovely residents drop items in to.

They are then delivered to me by wonderful supportive helpers and I drop to the warehouse.

However, my car is nowhere near as laden as it has been.

I know that One Can are organising Supermarket drives and have donation points and I'm hopeful that people are donating there.

But it's so easy to get out of the habit of buying one or two extra items especially with rising costs.

Believe me, just a pack of tea bags, some tinned meat, tinned vegetables, or toiletries would make a massive difference.

I share the most needed wants and needs each Friday on the Community Chat WhatsApp group, but pretty much any unused, unopened, in date items would be greatly appreciated. (They can't accept alcohol, homemade, frozen, or refrigerated items)

Please get in touch with me for more details of how you can help struggling families in our local area.

Thank you so much

Janet Stewart - 5 Coat Wicks -
07740 857451

Spiced Apple Chutney

Makes: Approx six 500g/1lb jars

Ingredients

- 1.5kg cooking apples
- 3 medium onions, peeled
- 3 small, dried chillies, crushed
- 750g demerara sugar
- 15ml (1 Tbsp) ground allspice
- 7.5ml (1½ tsp) ground cloves
- 7.5ml (1½ tsp) sea salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 45ml (3 Tbsp) fresh ginger, peeled and grated
- 15ml (1 Tbsp) turmeric
- 1 litre cider vinegar

Method

Peel, core and roughly chop the apples and finely chop the onions.

Place the apples and onions in a large pan and add the remaining ingredients, bring slowly to the boil.

Cook over a medium heat for 45-50 minutes or until thick enough to run a spoon through and see the bottom of the pan. Stir frequently.

Spoon into sterilized glass jam jars and seal with wax discs and lids.

Label once cold and leave to mature for 1 month before serving.

Helen Lindsey-Clark



Simply Walk is 21



Walking is a great way to get out and about and meet new people while improving your health and wellbeing. Our volunteer-led walks run all year, with over 700 walkers who join us on one of over 65 walks across the county every week.

Most walks are weekly, but we also hold fortnightly and monthly walks

at some locations. All new walkers are welcome whether you are fit and active, haven't exercised in a long time, or have been advised to join by a doctor.

So, why not join us and start walking. We have walks to suit almost everyone, so come along!

Go to the Simply Walk website for more information. The nearest Simply Walk venues are in Amersham, Chalfont St Peter and Gerrards Cross but there are walks all over Bucks.

<https://tinyurl.com/4873dba7>

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Our favourite playgrounds part one

Seer Green playground - middle of the village, very well looked after, always clean and tidy. Great range of equipment for kids of different ages, including six-foot ones with kids of their own! The Jolly Cricketers make great coffee which is useful on morning walks.

Chalfont St Giles - Brand new playground by the duck pond, with café nearby. Great equipment, but limited shade and the swings can get a bit hot on a warm sunny day. Free parking around the high street.

Hazlemere Recreation Ground - Zip wire, trampoline, slide, merry-go-round. Atrium Cafe 5 min walk away - located in Holy Trinity Church, Hazlemere. Child friendly cafe with toys, high chairs, nappy change tables. Recommend the passion fruit meringue cake! Ample free parking.

Emma Sallis Adventure Playground (Black Park) - Large playground with see-saw, various swings, slides and play structures. Paved pathway around the lake - perfect for children's scootering/biking and pram walks. Nearby Cafe with nice outdoor patio overlooking the lake - coffee, cakes, ice cream, casual lunch options. Parking on RingGo is £3.90 for 2 hours.



Hughenden Park Playground (not to be confused with Hughenden Manor playground) - Zip wire, spinny chairs, a variety of swings and slides. Free parking on surrounding residential streets (Coates Lane). Large open green space surrounding, good for picnics, walks, dog walking.

Higginson Park, Marlow - Newly renovated large playground with various climbing structures, baby swings, slides. Parking: Pound Lane (pay by the hour, 0.90/1 hr, RingGo) and various other paid car parks in the surrounding area. Resolute Cafe is connected to the playground. Paved pathway leading to River - great for scootering/biking/pram walks.

James Williamson

Our 6th Chilterns Heritage and Culture Festival

Taking place from Saturday 16 September to Sunday 1 October

We have something for everyone - walks, talks and exclusive tours showcasing the rich and diverse heritage and culture which has shaped and continues to shape this ever-changing region. Explore new places or discover a new side of old favourites. The full programme of events is listed below.

Heritage is not just the past, it's a living, breathing part of everyday life that's just waiting to be discovered!

Here are two local events - to book go to Chiltern Heritage and Cultural festival www.chilternsociety.org.uk



Afternoon Tea and History Talk at Missenden Abbey

18 September at 2.00pm until 5.00pm
£30 Adult

Join us for an elegant afternoon tea at the famous Missenden Abbey, a Medieval Abbey dating back to the

12th Century and nestled in the heart of the Chiltern Hills. With Vaulted ceilings and stained-glass windows, you will be transported through time while indulging in a quintessential English treat.

A short history talk will take place after your tea and then you are free to explore the grounds at your leisure.



Sickness and Health in the Amersham Area Talk

18 September at 2.00pm until 3.30pm
£7.50 Adult

Join us for an insightful talk from plague and pest house, workhouse and hospital, to wartime nurses and pioneering doctors, discover the many strands to local experiences of sickness and health over past centuries. Museum Director and medical historian, Briony Hudson, will investigate medical history in Amersham and the surrounding area.

Refreshments of tea, coffee and biscuits will be available and are included in the price.

Chiltern Kills



Former Seer Green resident and author Paul Waters is one of the organisers of a new national crime writing festival happening in Gerrards Cross on Saturday **7 October**. It's called Chiltern Kills. 70 authors are taking part, including Frederick Forsyth, Sarah Pinborough, Mark Billingham, Laura Shepherd Robinson, Vaseem Khan and other bestselling writers. All ticket money is going to the Centrepont charity for young homeless people. The authors are donating their time for free and the operating costs are being covered by generous local sponsors – Sacla', BP Collins and Fairweather Insurance.

As well as panels happening throughout the day on two stages (the Poirot and the Marple), there'll be TV shows and podcasts recording at the event, celebrity moderators, a crime-themed Windsor and Eton bar (the Whodunhim Inn), an upmarket food court to rival Borough Market, a specially written play by Gytha Lodge, and a How To Murder A Song karaoke presented by Mark Edwards. The Gerrards Cross Bookshop will be handling book signings - and watch out for new book launches too.

Check out the website www.chilternkills.com for the extensive line-up of authors, and buy your ticket while they're still available. Then look out for your favourite crime writer pulling pints behind the bar as well as answering questions on stage.

Paul Waters

Registered Osteopath

Preston Lee BSc (Hons) Ost.



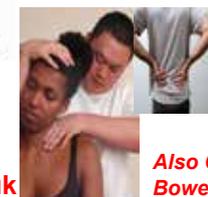
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