

COMMUNITY NEWS

Seer Green and Jordans Parish Magazine

September 2024



Happy third Birthday Toddlers in the woods

Seer Green folk night

Holy Trinity activities for families

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Thought for the Month

It's September, and many will be feeling a little anxious about the year that lies ahead, especially those for whom it marks a big change. And there's an adult baptism and confirmation service on 20 October.

Non sequitur? Actually, no: baptism and anxiety are closely linked. Think of the word, 'overwhelmed': a fearful, flood-soaked image for circumstances that feel beyond us. In baptism, we watch people sink into the depths of these waters, and rise out of them. (okay, I admit that the image gets lost when we settle for dribbling water on foreheads...)

Throughout the bible, chaotic waters (floods, seas, storms, waves)

represent the deathly darkness of God's absence. It evokes ancient Mesopotamian wars between storm gods and monstrous sea gods, and trusts that they're not reality. Conversely, ordered waters (gentle rivers, still waters) represent the abundant life of a loving God who. Quick survey: Creation, the Flood, the parting sea in the Exodus, Jonah, Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4); the psalms (poetic reflections on living under God's care in a stormy world) constantly resort to this language: "Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck!" (Psalms 69). In the bible's final image the flood is banished once and for all in God's Great Restoration.

So in baptism, we're watching someone drown and be raised to new life. It evokes the 'baptism' of Christ's death for the candidate, and resurrection ahead of them. It is about dying to the temporary and being raised to the eternal.

So if you're feeling a little 'overwhelmed' this September, remember: you're not alone. People have always felt this way, and it's a reality of life that sits close to the heart of Christian faith and practice. But more importantly, remember: Christ is a dab hand at stilling storms.

Jez Carr - Vicar



Church and Community Organisations

Vicar

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07916 559151

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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

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Seer Green Bridge Club

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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

We are delighted to have received so many wonderful articles and photos for the September magazine and hope that you enjoy them.

There is quite a variety! Toddlers in the woods is 3 years old, there is a delicious recipe from Helen Lindsay Clark, news from the biodiversity group and details of Holy Trinity's Autumn activities for families.

We have had to leave a few articles that were not time sensitive for another edition and look forward to printing them next month.

With best wishes Sue Puttergill, Carol Wright and Jill Moody

The Editors

Next Month's Magazine

Please send all contributions for the **October** issue to: **editorseergreen@gmail.com** by **7 September 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.

Contact us

Holy Trinity website www.seergreenandjordanscofe.org

Church Wardens and General Enquiries Janine Dunnell 07525 322955

Contents

6 Toddlers in the woods is 3
12 Seer Green Gardeners trip to Wisley
15 News from Seer Green preschool
19 Jordans biodiversity day

24 Seer Green Scouts
29 Apple and blackberry flapjack dessert
30 Chiltern kills
32 Janet's good reads

Celebrating three wonderful years of Toddlers in the Woods

If you go down to the woods one Friday, you're sure of a lovely surprise...

In a small clearing in Crutches Wood, just off Jordans' Beech Lane, a wonderful thing happens every Friday morning. Little legs skip and totter over root and mud to sing songs, get creative, clamber across tree stumps, hide in dens and generally enjoy all that the forest has to offer. This is Toddlers in the Woods, which was founded by former Jordans Village Nursery School manager Ali Cork in 2021

and invites the youngest residents of both Seer Green and Jordans to join them from 9.15am 'til 10.15am every Friday during school term time, come rain or shine.

The team is made up of some of the kindest, most inspiring women you could ever meet.

There's Ali, our intrepid leader, Bridget who conducts the singing and is remarkably handy with a drill, Nora, with a knowledge of birds to rival Bill Oddie, and Rachel, whose friendly smile never falters on even the gloomiest of days.



There's always a warm welcome for both toddlers and parents. In fact, I suspect the parents get just as much out of the experience as the toddlers do. There's many a time I've got to the end of a challenging week stressed and frazzled only to emerge from the woods feeling all's right with the world.

July marked my last visit to Toddlers in the Woods with my three-year-old daughter, as she'll be at pre-school on Fridays from September.

We will both miss it very much and I would eagerly encourage any local parents, grandparents or nannies to follow the leafy path down to the Centenary Clearing one Friday. It is a truly heart-warming experience and we will treasure the memories (and clay monsters) we made there forever.

To find out more about Toddlers in the Woods, please contact Ali Cork at alicork686@gmail.com.

Rebecca Davies



Holy Trinity Services in September

1 Sept	10.00am 11.30-1.30pm	Traditional Holy Communion Service Family picnic all welcome (weather permitting) Green Meadow
4 Sept	10.30 am	Midweek Communion
8 Sept	8.00 am 10.00 am	BCP Communion Service Morning Praise - Joint service with SGBC
15 Sept	10.00 am 3.30 am	Holy Communion Service Families @ 3.30pm
22 Sept	8.00 am 10.00 am	BCP Communion Service Morning Praise Baptism of Ethan R outdoors
29 Sept	10.00 am 5.30pm	Traditional Holy Communion Service Afternoon Service

Coffee Shop

A meeting place for the community



Monday Mornings
10.30am to 12.00noon
Seer Green Baptist Church

8

Christopher

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Autumn term for children and families - there's lots going on

On Sunday **1 September** (weather permitting) we are inviting families to come to Green Meadow Park (next to SGCE School) for a picnic and games from 11.30 – 1.30pm. Do come along if you are free.

Then back for the autumn term...

Baby Group, for parents and their under ones starts back on Monday **2 September** 10am at SGBC.

Little Blessings tinies and toddler group starts back on Wednesday **11 September**, 9.30am at SGBC. Open to parents, grandparents and carers with their babies and preschoolers, who live in Seer Green or Jordans, or have qualifying connects to the villages. Places are booked each week via eventbrite.

Toddlers in the Woods, heads back to Crutches Wood in Jordans from Friday **13 September** at 9.15am. Enjoy having fun outside with your preschoolers.

Torchlight starts back on Monday **9 September** 6pm @ SGBC. Torchlight is run so that children in Y5 and 6 can come along and have a fun time together joining in the activities and games, such as table tennis, sports, air hockey, computer games, and can enjoy time interacting with their friends while chomping on goodies from the tuck shop.

New for the autumn we will be running three different Connect Youth Groups each one held once a month.

Similar to Torchlight there will be one evening for Years 7 and 8, one for Year 9 and then in addition Connect+ which is for any in Years 7, 8 and 9 who want to join us for discussion and donuts* and explore through games, videos and chatting together topics of faith, and the big questions of life. *other food may be available.

Who Let the Dads out returns on Saturday **28 September** and **9 November**, 9.30- 11.15am at Seer Green Baptist Church on 11.15am. An opportunity for all Dads, Grandads and male carers with their 0-7s to make friends and enjoy toys, activities and bacon butties.

Fun & Faith continues monthly @ SGBC on Sunday **29 September**, **27 October** from 9.15-10am. As does Families @ 3.30pm @ Holy Trinity on Sunday **15 September**, **6 October** and **3 November**. Both are short informal, fun opportunities to explore faith with your children through story, song, activities and refreshments.

And an advanced date for your diaries – Fun, Food & Fireworks, Sunday **17 November**.

If you would like more information on any of these please speak to Janna Holder 07764 490960

Janna Holder - Children and Families Minister

9

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

Baptism

18 August August Margot Elizabeth King

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 and just ask to subscribe.

With best wishes Sue Puttergill,
Carol Wright and Jill Moody

The Editors



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



September charity of the month

INNOVISTA

Supporting leaders where
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Charity of the month

Christian Leaders Home and Afar

Innovista identifies, equips and develops Christian leaders working in challenging contexts. They help leaders transform people and communities through churches, ministries and enterprises.

Where:

Great Britain – The 2021 census showed that large parts of GB are now among the least religious in the world.

Ukraine – The War has had a devastating effect on Ukraine & its people, and has created nearly 6 million refugees.

Moldova – Bordered by Romania and Ukraine, Moldova remains one of the poorest countries in the whole of Europe.

Central Asia – The Muslim-majority countries of Central Asia are highly challenging and dangerous locations for Christians.

Ireland – There has been a dramatic fall in church attendance in Ireland, and the wider culture is secularising fast.



Working in challenging locations

Training 1,500 leaders every year

Equipping and developing leaders

Seer Green Gardeners

Will our outdoor tomatoes ever ripen?! "Rain, cold and slugs" seems to sum up the gardener's pre-August summer, but maybe these are preferable to drought and 30+ degree temperatures! Happily we were blessed with a lovely 24 July for our first community outing.

Day out at Wisley

This sunny July, 48 Seer Green/Jordans garden-lovers boarded a 50 seater coach to visit the RHS Garden Wisley in Surrey. The outing included informative introductory tours helping us to really immerse ourselves in Wisley's horticultural splendour. My group marvelled at flourishing tropical plants; the historic rock garden; the inspirational wellbeing garden and vibrant blooms paired with diverse companion plants in the Rose Garden.

Altogether a thoroughly enjoyable and sociable day out! This group visit was arranged as part of the SG Gardeners' community commitment.

Amanda Brown



Photo by Janet Stewart



Photo by Janna Holder

Upcoming events

- Spud in a Bucket weigh-in at the Cricketers on Sunday afternoon **8 September** - this is a great social occasion for everyone, regardless of whether you grew a spud in one of our buckets or not. Jacket potatoes will also be served with a range of toppings for £6.
- Saturday **14 September**, Autumn Flower and Produce Show in the Jubilee Hall. Here's the chance to share and compare the fruits of your summer, whether floral, edible or artistic, and enjoy a sociable cuppa with friends and neighbours. Check out the categories for all age groups online at seergreengardeners.org/autumn-show.html It's not too late to capture 'Summer in Seer Green' for the photography display. Choose your favourite and print it out no larger than 20x25cms.
- Thursday **17 October**, a talk by RHS accredited speaker George Lockwood on planning Plants for Early Summer, 7.30pm in the Baptist Church Hall. Tickets £5 include a complimentary glass of wine. Please book online via the website if you can.

Gardening suggestions for September

- Keep on top of watering any new plants you've bought this summer
- Look out for and pick autumn fruiting raspberries - and blackberries too of course!
- Divide any big clumps of perennials to help them continue to perform year after year.
- Collect and save seed to use next year - chard and rocket are particularly easy.

Sally Ash

8 O'Clock Club

Edwin Carter was the subject of one of the most iconic photographs of the early part of the 21st century. Known by his Russian name of Alexander Litvinenko, the picture was a shocking image of a man dying at University College Hospital, London, a result of deliberate poisoning on British soil by two ex-KGB officers, Andrey Lugovoy and Dimitry Kovtun. The poison was administered during afternoon tea by two people Litvinenko trusted.

In a fascinating talk, Paul Barwick a former Counter-Terrorism Officer, revealed an extraordinary forensic trail, activated in the aftermath of the assassination. The first attempt to poison Litvinenko failed.

On both occasions, the poison used was Polonium-210, a radioactive metallic element extracted from iron ore. Discovered by Marie Curie and named after the country of her birth, Poland. The nuclear facility required for production points to one place, the Urals.

Litvinenko had served in both the KGB and its successor, the FSB, where he operated searching out criminality within Russia. He was known for being methodical, tenacious, hard-working, and scrupulously honest, but was devastated to discover that his colleagues were taking orders from The Kremlin to torture and murder. By the year 2000, Litvinenko was

under constant surveillance. Fearing for his life, he and his family landed at Gatwick Airport where Litvinenko requested political asylum.

For six years, Litvinenko worked for MI5. He was an expert on the Russian Mafia and worked with the Spanish and Italian Intelligence Services, whose countries were feeling the tentacles of Russian criminality. The public enquiry into Litvinenko's death in 2016 concluded that the operation to kill him was probably approved by Nikolai Patrushev, head of the FSB and Vladimir Putin.

Future meetings

September 5 'Art Deco & Pearls' – Frances Carlaw (The Pearl Lady)

Frances will have a good selection of pearls for sale at reasonable prices (cash, cheque, card or BACS)

October 3 'The Curious Disappearance of Glenn Miller'

Since December 15, 1944, Glenn Miller's disappearance has remained a mystery. Did friendly fire destroy the plane? Was Miller involved in espionage? Was he on a secret mission to end the war? Historian Tony Eaton assesses the facts and rumours surrounding this mystery.

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

Elizabeth Lee

News From Seer Green Preschool

Thank You, Rebecca Davies, and Welcome, Steph Frost-Wellings!

As we look back over the past two years, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Rebecca Davies for her outstanding leadership as Chairperson of Seer Green Preschool. Rebecca's dedication and innovative spirit have left an indelible mark on our community.

Under Rebecca's guidance, fundraising efforts reached new heights with the introduction of the now-annual Comedy Night and Fairy Tale Fete. These events have not only brought joy and laughter to our community but also generated valuable funds that have enabled the preschool to invest in new equipment for so many of the village children who pass through our amazing preschool. These contributions have strengthened the preschool, positioning it well for the future.

Rebecca also spearheaded the transition of the preschool to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This change has streamlined the management process, ensuring that the preschool operates more efficiently and effectively going forward. It also means less reliance on parents to help run the preschool and hands more control to the preschool management team.

As Rebecca steps down, we are delighted to welcome Steph Frost-Wellings as our new Chairperson. We are confident that Steph will pick up where Rebecca left off and continue to help the preschool to thrive.

Thank you, Rebecca, for all the time and effort you have afforded this role and warmest welcome to Steph. We look forward to many more successful years ahead for Seer Green Preschool.

Luke Hatfield



Steph Frost-Wellings left and Rebecca Davies right

Jordans and District Rotary Club sends 5 Ambulances out to Ukraine

Jordans Rotary Club members decided that they would like to achieve something of significance in the Rotary year 2023-2024. The decision was made to raise funds to buy and send a second hand ambulance out to Ukraine, triggered by our association with a refugee family appreciating their first hand experience of the trauma of war.

Second hand ambulances are for sale widely around the UK at around a cost of £6000, it was necessary to ensure that it would be one appropriate for use in Ukraine.

We linked up with Marlow Thames Rotary Club and raised £5200 including 2 Rotary Grants. We then approached Hereford Elgar Rotary Club who already had experience of buying and delivering ambulances to Ukraine. The ambulances are serviced, refitted as necessary, stocked with supplies of medical equipment, spare parts and transformers. Delivery is made in convoy with other ambulances and

donated 4x4 vehicles or loaded onto larger transporters with medical supplies. They are then driven out by Rotarians and friends from the UK, or volunteers from Ukraine who come over specifically to undertake the drive back.

Other Rotary clubs in our district were invited to contribute to the project and the response was way beyond our original aspiration of one ambulance. 20 Rotary clubs contributed a total of £17,000, two private donations of £5,000 and £1,000, 2 Rotary District grants.



Our funds raised gave us a total collected by June 2024 that was enough to buy and deliver 5 ambulances to Ukraine. These ambulances have now been delivered and are being used for front line work, by children's hospitals and for everyday emergency situations.

We will be having a talk "Interesting Times as a TV Director" by Renny Rye at our September Dinner meeting at Beaconsfield Golf Club on Monday 9th September, 7 for 7.30pm. Should anyone like to join

us to hear their talk please contact Jenny Owen on 07707386415 or Robert Britton, our new President on 01494678466.

Also save the date for our next Charity Film Night at The Beaconsfield Film School Saturday **October 19 2024.**

Jenny Owen



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Enjoy singing? Why not join a choir!

South Bucks Choral Society is looking for new members. Founded in 1980 by our Musical Director, Iain Ledingham, a professor at the Royal Academy of Music, the choir performs some of the greatest choral works in Western music. We are fortunate to be able to perform with a first-class professional orchestra and talented soloists from the Royal Academy of Music. Our next performance will be Handel's Messiah on **30 November**, a great introduction to choral singing. Rehearsals start on Tuesday **10 September** in St Joseph's School Hall, Chalfont St Peter.

We are conducting simple 10-minute auditions at Chalfont St Peter Parish Church on the following dates: Saturday **7 September** 9.30am to 3.00pm
Sunday **8 September** 2.00pm to 6.00pm. Ability to sight read is not essential, we just ask that you can sing in tune! To take part, please email your availability to sbcshonsecretary@gmail.com. If you can't make these dates, please message anyway as we may be able to arrange an alternative time for you.

Jay Roff - www.southbuckschoral.org.uk



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FINANCIAL TIMES Daily Mail COSMOPOLITAN E L L E GET THE GLOSS

Jordans Biodiversity Day 2024

On Saturday 3 August, Jordans held its first 'Biodiversity Day' - a dawn to dusk celebration of nature. We started early with a bird safari led by expert Dave Parmenter. August is not a busy time for birds and this proved to be the case but we saw or heard over 18 species.

Our second safari was to the wildflower meadows at Newbarn Farm in Seer Green. We are yet to establish the meadow on Manor Farm Field (we'll be seeking volunteer help this Autumn!) so it was inspiring to hear from Richard Woodfine about the meadows around the vineyard. The long grasses are dotted with flowers and it buzzes with insects - essential pollinators and food sources for other wildlife. It will take some years before Manor Farm Field is quite this good!

We ended with a sunset bat survey led by Berks and South Bucks Bat Group. Using bat detectors tuned to specific frequencies, we amazingly detected nine bat species including the tiny Common and Soprano Pipistrelles no bigger than your thumb, Noctule's bat and Serotine which are the UK's larger species, and Barbastelle which is rare. However, our surveying only picked up low numbers of bats and we hope that careful management of our land (varied plants = more insects = more bats) will help to increase numbers in years to come.



This event was kindly supported by Chiltern Rangers, Bucks Community Board and Chiltern National Landscapes.

Ever fancied Hedgelaying?

This Autumn we are planning to lay one of the overgrown hedges on Manor Farm Field. If you are interested in learning this skill and then helping us to lay the hedge, then do be in touch and we'll let you know the details as soon as they are finalised.

jordansbiodiversity@gmail.com

Insta: [Jordans_biodiversity_project](https://www.instagram.com/Jordans_biodiversity_project)

Emma Pegram

Our Living Village: CBA Festival of Archaeology walks



Hodgemoor Woods walk



Friends Meeting House, Jordans walk

This year's Council for British Archaeology (CBA) public Festival of Archaeology included a series of walks based on the Our Living Village heritage walks. These walks were delivered with the support of the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society (BAS). This was fitting as the festival theme for 2024 was Archaeology and Community, and the Our Living Village project was the winner of the 2023 BAS Archaeology Award (the Joan Elding prize) for its contribution to community-based heritage research.

Two walks were delivered in Seer Green, two in Hodgemoor Woods and one in Jordans. Numbers were limited to 20 for each walk, with a total of about 85 people attending across the events.

In Seer Green the walk covered 1000 years of the historical development of a typical Chilterns village, from Anglo-Saxon farmstead through to the coming of the railway in the early 20th century. In the ancient woodland of Hodgemoor Woods we looked at the landscape archaeology and its relationship with the geology, walking through 2000 years of history from a Romano-British farmstead and Roman Road, through to World War II occupation and post-War resettlement camp. In Jordans we focussed on the emergence of the Quakers in the 17th century and included a hosted visit to the Friends Meeting House, and how arrival of the railway enabled this to become the focal point for an early 20th century experiment with the creation of a model village.

Thanks to BAS for their support in making these walks so successful, and to Nina Liebenberg for hosting the visit to Jordans Meeting House.

These guided walks followed similar itineraries to those on the www.ourlivingvillage.org website, which are also available through the Love Exploring app.

Nigel Rothwell - ourlivingvillage@hotmail.com

Dates for your diary

Thursday 5 September 8pm

8 O'Clock Club Art Deco & Pearls – Frances Carlaw

Sunday 8 September 4pm

Seer Green Gardeners Spud-in-the-bucket weigh-in

Monday 9 September 7/7.30pm

Rotary Club Dinner Meeting

Friday 13 September 18.45/19.30

JPH A Man called Otto

Friday 13 – Saturday 14 September

Seer Green Beer & Music Festival

Saturday 14 September 2.30pm

Seer Green Gardeners Autumn Show

Tuesday 24 September 8pm

Seer Green Folk Night

Friday 27 September 18.45/19.30

JPH Jojo Rabbit

Thursday 3 October 8pm

8 O'Clock Club The Curious Disappearance of Glenn Miller

Saturday 5 October 9am

Chiltern Kills Crime Writers Festival

Saturday 12 October

Jordans Village Performs piano, cello and folk music

Saturday 19 October

Rotary Club Charity Film Night

From the Allotments

Curiouser and Curiouser

There it was lying by the side of the allotment path looking somewhat prehistoric, a curiosity...

A pine cone? Didn't make sense (it was housing various happy looking woodlice) couldn't make it out nor identify the tree it might have come from. The word 'sumac' was mentioned - now hitherto I had only encountered this as a dark red spice adding a lemony flavour to savoury dishes in my kitchen, time to hit the information highway.

Staghorn Sumac, (*Rhus Typhina*) has cone-shaped fuzzy, red seed spikes and that seems to match up with our curiosity, its leaves are fairly long and have jagged edges unlike the Smooth Sumac which has clusters of smaller smooth-edged leaves. Now a proliferation of names: wild sumac, smooth sumac, scarlet sumac, poisonous sumac, doesn't make things much clearer, suffice to say about 35 species of the *Rhus* genus, related to cashews. Various used as a spice, a dye and medicinally, its berries lasting well into cold weather so a useful food source for wildlife.

The leaves of the smooth sumac are poisonous and here's where the sumac flea beetle comes into its own.... making itself fully at home on the poisonous sumac, the

flea beetle uses its faeces (having ingested toxin from the leaves) as a protective shield from predators by smearing it on its back. Thus avoiding being eaten by marauding ants and avian predators.

More information available: use of berries, twig bark, infusions for tea, warnings of toxins, colourful descriptions it's all there but one question remains unanswered ...how did this curiosity get to be lying on the path on the allotment site?

Charlotte Baggins from the Allotments.



Rhus Typhina

Jordans Village Performs

Jordans Village Performs is a community-run, accessible concert series for local people in Seer Green and Jordans. We put on a mix of classical and other music in Jordans Village Hall where there is a wonderful Yamaha concert-standard piano for performances, with drinks served in the interval. Music ranges from virtuoso piano and violin to accordion, oboe, flute, double bass with mostly classical with folk and other styles mixed in. The performers announce their pieces and explain a bit about them. Accompanied children are welcome. Concerts are usually on Saturday (7.30) or Sunday (3.30).

Local people can become members of JVP, giving them a say in how the series is run.

See jordansvillageperforms.org for dates of next Season's concerts (first one is **October 12**: classical piano and cello followed by folk). Concert tickets are released and bookable via the website. We don't want money to be a barrier to attendance, so we use a donation model, requesting £10 donation per person if possible. Contributions are important for the future of the concert series and to attract our wonderful performers to come to play for us.

Esther Cavett



Seer Green Scouts: A Legacy of Learning and Adventure

Since 1970, Seer Green Scouts has promoted a sense of adventure, community and resilience and has become an integral part of village life, with the majority of the one hundred children (aged 6 to 18 yrs) who attend living in Seer Green or Jordans.

Scouting has never seemed more necessary and relevant than it does today. Scouts offer a refreshing and much needed balance after the pandemic , promoting physical activity and real-world interaction, helping a diverse range of young people disconnect from their screens and reconnect with nature and community through activities like camping, hiking, learning outdoor skills and undertaking voluntary work. Through these activities, Scouts learn teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and self-reliance which in turn boost self-confidence.

Running a comprehensive programme requires significant financial support, especially as fees for Scouts are kept as low as possible (currently £53 per term) to make it accessible for all. The new Scout hut, Venture Hall, is a fabulous asset, however operating costs are between £9,000 and £12,000 per annum. Equipment (eg camping kit) needs to be maintained, and further



investment is also required to improve the facilities, such as incorporating a new shelter to provide the capability to dry tents. Additionally, due to the hut's estimated 30-year lifespan, plans are already being made to ensure the investment for its eventual replacement, an estimated cost of over £450,000.

Seer Green Beer & Music Festival began life as a fundraiser for the new Scout hut and has now grown into a spectacular celebration of community spirit enjoyed by villagers of all ages. It raises between £10,000 and £12,000 per year which contributes to the running costs of Venture Hall, with the surplus being part of the plan to raise funds for the next Scout hut.

With our eighth Seer Green Beer Fest taking place this month, we would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to all those who support the event.

We can't wait for another amazing Beer Fest on **Friday 13** and Saturday **14 September** and we hope to see you there!

1st Seer Green Scouts



Traditional Village Free House

- Open every day from 9.30am for Breakfast | Brunch
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Seer Green Folk Night

Bringing the craic to Buckinghamshire

Wander into any pub in Ireland or the Scottish Highlands and there's a good chance you'll stumble across some sort of live music. A group of musicians will be clustered around a cosy corner table reeling off folk classics over a pint while the punters tap their toes along appreciatively or get stuck in for a good old-fashioned singalong.

I've always wondered why you don't see these sort of impromptu musical gatherings as often in England. It's a joyous experience that brings people together and is one of the reasons pubs in Celtic countries are such good craic (or, as we might say in the Home Counties, "jolly good fun").

Luckily, you can now find the craic on your doorstep in the Three Horseshoes in Seer Green. On the last Tuesday of every month (sporting fixtures and school holidays permitting) a group of local musicians and music lovers gather to sing and play traditional and modern folk songs from the British Isles and beyond, with the odd original composition thrown in for good measure. Others come along simply to soak up the atmosphere and shout out requests, though invariably the whole room ends up joining in on the chorus.

Since the first folk night in June, our group has been growing, and includes folk fans from Seer Green and Jordans. So far we have mandolin, fiddle, guitar, autoharp, shruti box, cajon and mouth harp in our line-up, but all musicians, singers and listeners are welcome.



If you'd like to find out more, we have a WhatsApp group and Spotify playlist where we share songs that we might like to play. Message me on 07793 743525 and I'll add you. Or else just pop into the Three Horseshoes from 8pm on Tuesday **24 September** and join us for a few drinks and songs.

Rebecca Davies

Jordans Picture House

Kick off for our new season

We look forward to welcoming you back!

On Friday **September 13** we shall screen "**A Man Called Otto**".

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

How to buy tickets

(Adults £8.00, U15s £5)

Online: Go to **www.**

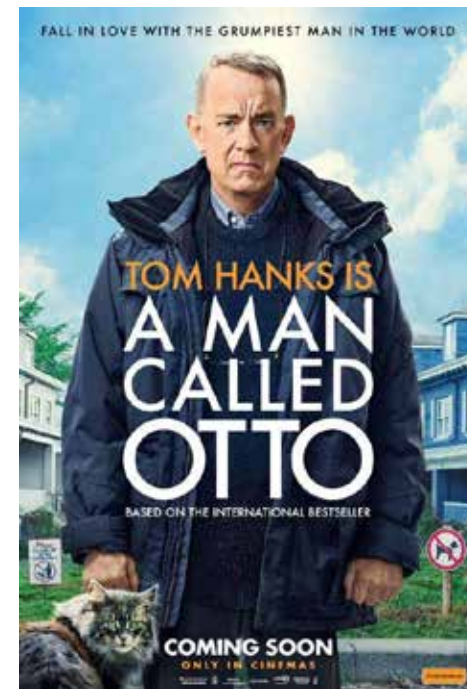
jordanspicturehouse.co.uk

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



Woodfine Wine

Liz and I were delighted to welcome Seer Green Eight O'Clock Club to Newbarn Farm - our largest group to date. The experiences and enjoyment of the whole group are expressed in the writings of one of the members:-

"What a Summer treat to visit Woodfine Wine at Newbarn Farm; doubly special because it's local and part of our village heritage!

Steeped in our local communities, the 16-acre organic Farm includes a restored 1741 Tithe Barn, although gone are the days when the North wind would blow through, separating wheat from chaff!

Today the land is a mixed-rotation smallholding under the custodianship of villagers Richard Woodfine and Liz Read, with a passion and commitment to this enterprise palpable throughout our visit.

This is regenerative farming, with the aim of leaving the land in a better state. It hums and buzzes after 4 years of intense and loving care, and really feels a place of meaning, purpose and; fruitfulness.

We toured land filled with an abundance of nature, and an eco-system that allows each aspect of the farm to flourish; the wild flower meadow, the vineyard, the orchard, and the no-dig vegetable beds. A richness prospers out of this biodiversity.

Chickens enrich the experience, bees and insects pollinate, whilst other invertebrates and small mammals are very much in evidence. As is nature's way, so too are Barn Owls, Tawny Owls, Little Owls and a flock of about 50 Goldfinch.

Community remit extends to co-operation and the sharing of resources. These are pooled with Swerlings' Farm in respect of grazing sheep, hedging, the supply of hay and extra manure. The local community plays its part from volunteering help, to designing labels for the wine and cider.

As a Food and Farming Champion of Buckinghamshire, the Woodfine Wines label is one of only three natural winemakers in the UK, and last year hosted the UK's Organic Wine Fair.

This amazing local venture is something to celebrate, definitely worth a visit!"

Richard Woodfine and Liz Read - www.woodfinewine.com

Apple & Blackberry Flapjack Dessert

When the days are drawing in and the temperatures start to drop there's nothing like a warming pudding. Instead of the usual crumble, try topping autumn fruits with oaty flapjack instead. Delicious served hot with ice cream or custard.

Ingredients

- 600g cooking apples
- 100g blackberries
- 50g caster sugar
- 1 tsp (5ml) ground cinnamon
- 100g butter
- 125g Demerara sugar
- 30ml (2tbsp) golden syrup
- 200g rolled oats
- Extra butter for greasing

Method

Preheat the oven to 180°C and grease a shallow one litre ovenproof dessert dish.

Peel, core and chop the apples and place in the dish with the blackberries. Sprinkle the caster sugar and cinnamon on top and set to one side.

In a saucepan melt the butter, sugar, and syrup over a medium heat until the sugar has completely dissolved.

Remove from heat and stir in the oats.

Spoon the flapjack (oat mixture) over the fruit.

Bake in the oven for 25 minutes or until golden.

Helen Lindsey-Clark



The 2024 Chiltern Kills crime and thriller writing festival

Saturday **5 October** at Colston Hall on East Common in Gerrards Cross. You should come.

Tickets are the same price as last year, £40, with all the money raised going to support the Centrepont charity combat youth homelessness.

If you're worried about knowing anybody else there, don't be. You'll see loads of faces and names you know from books or TV, like Ian Rankin, Jeffrey Archer, Peter James, Dempsey and Makepeace, Louise Minchin, Harriet Tyce, Elly Griffiths and Abir Mukherjee. Plus Jolly Cricketers regular and Chiltern Kills patron, Frederick Forsyth. Altogether about 60 authors and celebs. And they won't just be on stage – they'll be signing books, pulling pints and hanging out with everyone who comes to the one-day festival. There's no barrier between panellists and ticket holders. We'll all be in it together. So come armed with questions.

Yes, it's about books. But we'll also have bars and our high-end food village "Chiltern Fills". Plus our Murder A Song karaoke to end the night. It's run by best-selling writers Mark Edwards and Ed James, and it's your chance to sing, croak or whatever you can manage, with top authors and screen-writers.



Ian Rankin



Louise Minchin

(We're also looking for volunteers – contact Paul at paulwaters99@hotmail.com if you're interested.)

It'll be epic. You should be there. But then I would say that, wouldn't I? I'm co-founder of Chiltern Kills. So don't take my word for it. This is what people said after the 2023 Chiltern Kills: "I cannot even describe what a joyous day I had at Chiltern Kills. The vibe was amazing, the choice of food fabulous, drinks were flowing and author panels exceptional! I even got to sing karaoke with the gorgeous Laura Marshall."

Get your ticket for Chiltern Kills via the festival website www.ChilternKills.com It would be a crime to miss it. (Sorry. Couldn't resist.)

Paul Waters - co-founder of Chiltern Kills

Our 7th Chilterns Heritage and Culture Festival

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!

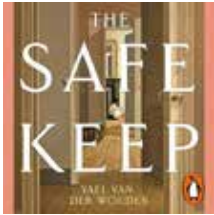
We hope you enjoy our range of events, as well as supporting heritage in the Chilterns, by attending you are also helping us to protect this special place now and in the future.

See more at <https://chilternsociety.org.uk/heritage-festival>



Taking place from Thursday
12 September to Sunday **29**
September, 2024

Janet's good reads



The Safekeep – Yael van der Wouden

This debut took me completely by surprise, I'd seen it recommended but had no idea what it was about.

It is set in the Netherlands in the 1960's but the themes concern the repercussions of WWII, the country's occupation and treatment of Dutch Jews. The main character, Isabel, lives an orderly quiet, sad life alone in her childhood home, but the arrival of Eva, her brother's girlfriend, shakes her rigid world.

The characters are drawn so well and the claustrophobic atmosphere throughout the book is tangible.

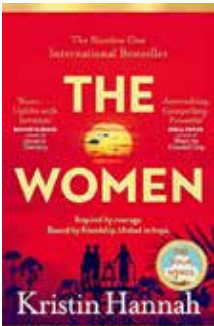
Erotic at times, this is the history of an explosive relationship whilst reminding us about a part of recent history I for one had never considered.

A brooding and powerful novel.

The Women - Kristin Hannah

I loved her book *The Nightingale* set in France during WWII about the French resistance so I knew her latest set with the backdrop of the Vietnam war wouldn't disappoint.

The story delves into the impact of the Vietnam war on female veterans focusing on Frankie, a sheltered girl from a wealthy family, who wants to prove to her father that women can be heroes too. The narrative doesn't hold back with detail of the terrible conditions endured during this conflict, but lifelong friends are made who share her experiences. When Frankie returns home, she grapples with PTSD, sexism, addiction and animosity towards veterans.



I know this doesn't sound like a cheery read, but it is so well written and researched that you become engrossed.

Definitely food for thought – again an area I knew very little about. A great read.

Janet Stewart

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