



JORDANS VILLAGE  
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER  
February 2021

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


It's been a cold and wintry January, with some beautiful snowfall (which thankfully melted away quite quickly too). Although it's rather quiet in the Village, there is a lot going on behind the scenes.

One project in particular that has been progressing well is Our Living Village (OLV), spearheaded by Alan Kell. OLV aims to create an historical digital archive containing fully categorised information and images about Seer Green & Jordans, which can be displayed on maps and added to as time goes by. I've been working with Nigel Morgan and David Wooster to gather more information about Jordans, which has helped to keep us busy while in isolation!

I'm sad to have to include two more obituaries this month, on Mike Floyd and John Yannaghas, who had both lived in and loved the Village for a large part of their lives, and who will be greatly missed.

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Snow!](#)
- [Jordans Village Hall Trust](#)
- [Mike Floyd](#)
- [John Yannaghas](#)
- [Our Living Village](#)
- [Friends' Corner](#)
- [Paws for Thought](#)
- [Fish-n-Chips - New Times](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)

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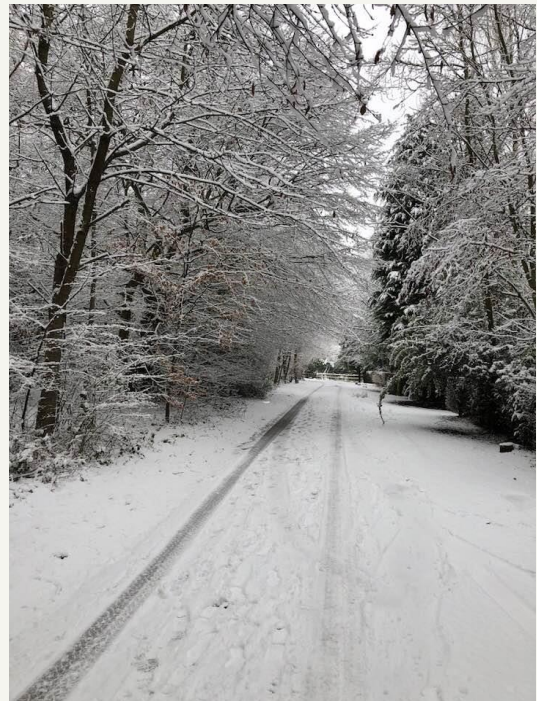
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Chris Jenkins, Editor

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Even the snowmen were social distancing...



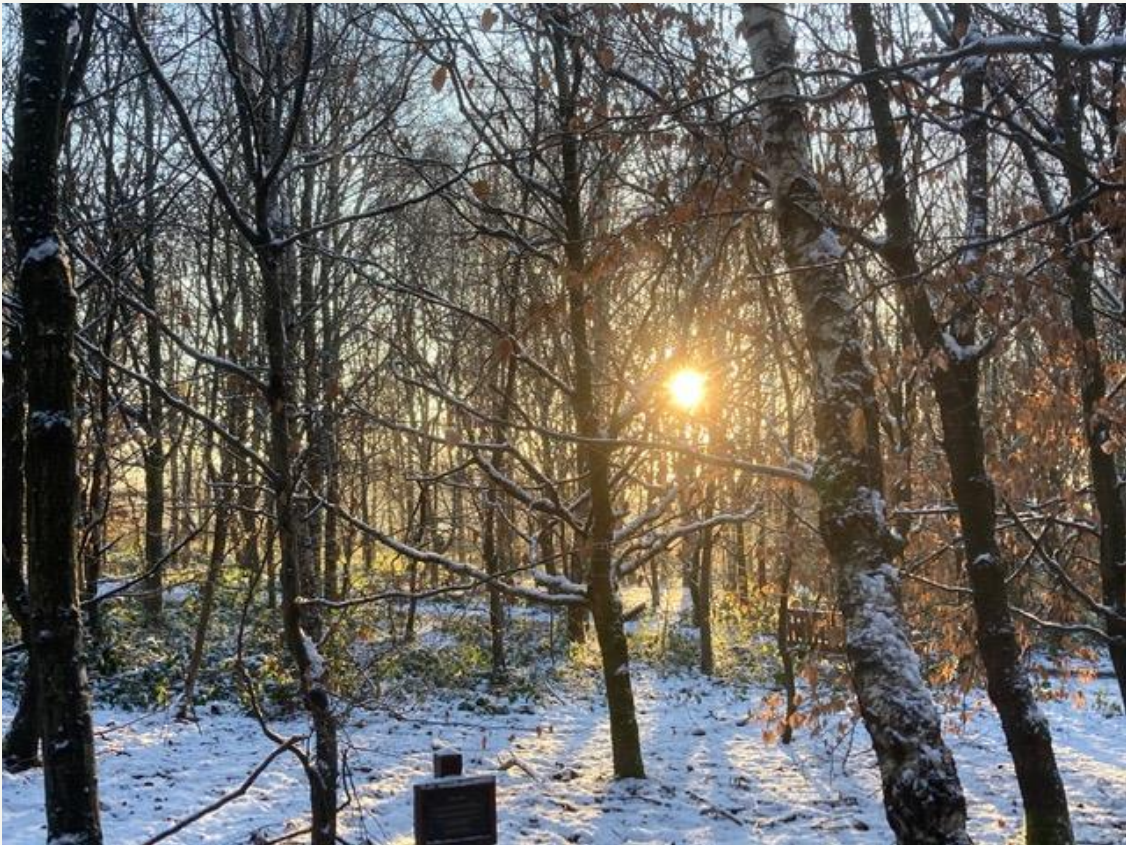
*Special thanks to Rosemary Mowatt, Louise Lomas and Paul Wright  
for sharing these lovely images of Jordans in the snow with us*

Top: the Village Green (Chris Jenkins)

Above: Crutches Lane and Copse Lane (Rosemary Mowatt)

Below: Long Redding (Louise Lomas)

Bottom: Crutches Wood (Paul Wright)





## Jordans Village Hall Trust

We are pleased to welcome Dave Allen and Andy Holdsworth to the committee. They have been proposed by JVL as their representatives and also become trustees. This is an important step in continuing to build a strong collaborative relationship with JVL, as we embark on the next phase of the Village Hall project.

The other committee members are:- Ali Cork, John Bell, Gordon Hamme, Dom Pegram, Alan Sealy, Paul Wright, Ray Munn & David Wooster.

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## Michael (Mike) Floyd

**12.Dec.1942 - 2.Oct.2020**

Mike died on October 2, peacefully, and at home with me, after 8 years contending with Parkinson's. During his last 30 months he was virtually immobile and very dependent, but thanks to a wonderful team of carers he was able to be at home. He enjoyed seeing family and friends, and regular outings to Cliveden, thanks to the generosity of our Quaker friends Douglas and Jenny Butterfield and their mobility vehicle.

I have been remembering Mike as he used to be, before his last challenging years, and wanted to share a little of this with you.

Mike was born in Swindon, but at the end of the war the family moved to Clevedon where they bought and ran a wool shop. Mike later went to Bristol Grammar School and then to Edinburgh University, where he studied physics.

After graduating he became a VSO and in September 1965 he was assigned to teach physics at Nyakasura Senior Secondary School in Fort Portal, in the far west of Uganda, close to the Ruwenzoris (Mountains of the Moon). I was teaching maths there, under the Teachers for East Africa scheme, and our 55 years together soon began. In December 1966, at the end of both our contracts, we travelled home by plane, train and boat via Luxor, Cairo, Jerusalem and Petra, and were married in May 1967 in my home church, Brecon Cathedral.

While in Uganda we had many discussions about what to do when our contracts finished. We shared an abiding commitment to, and love of Africa, which never left either of us, but

decided that we would go to Canada for a few years. Mike had read a great deal about the way that interdisciplinary teams, including scientists, could solve problems that single discipline approaches couldn't tackle. He really wanted to use his scientific skills in this way, in what came to be called operational research. Canada offered opportunities for this. We spent a year in Toronto, and two years in Vancouver. In Toronto, he worked for Gulf Oil as part of a team trying to optimise the use of their network of oil refineries, using what was advanced computing in the sixties, but now seems incredibly primitive. I have many memories of Friday evenings when he would have to return to the office to check that the batch of punched cards had been successfully loaded! In Vancouver Mike worked at BC Research, on the campus of the University of British Columbia, working among other things on the management of sawmills. Always an avid reader, he kept abreast of related developments in new areas such as systems theory and cybernetics and became increasingly interested in returning to academia for a while. In August 1970 we returned home, in time for our first child(ren) to be born here. Our daughters, Katherine and Sian, were born in November, and we became multi-taskers, combining parenthood, settling into our new house (Granfers, Jordans Lane) and working mostly from home. Mike embarked on a PhD in cybernetics at Brunel, and we both tutored for the Open University.

We had always intended to come back to the UK to live in a village where we could settle, raise a family, and be able to develop both our careers without changing where we lived. I remembered Jordans from a teenage visit to a summer camp nearby, and we came to have a look to see if it would be the right village for us. It was, and we, and now I, have been here ever since.

We soon became involved in village activities. Sian and Katherine, and later their brother Jonathan, all went to playgroup in the village hall and then to the village school. Mike joined the TMC and helped to run the village fair and sports days. For several years he took responsibility for organising the Bonfire Night fireworks display, which was quite an undertaking. He was also involved with setting up the first village lunches, and when his parents Ken and Kathleen, came to live at 16 Puers Field, to be near us, it was lovely to see that the lunches turned out to be a wonderful way for them to become part of the community. We played a lot of tennis on the village court (Sunday afternoon doubles with Bob and Cecily Redpath were a regular feature) and taught all our children to play. Neither Mike nor I were brought up as Quakers, but we began going to meetings in Jordans and soon found that this was right for us.

In 1979 we moved to Beechwood. At that time I was one of a group of villagers who got together to lead carol singing on Christmas Eve, first on the green at 5 pm or so, then in Old Jordans refectory, and finally at Beechwood at about 8 pm, hosted by the previous

owners, Kathleen and Doris Witz. We continued this lovely tradition for the next 20 years, so on Christmas Eve one of Mike's tasks was to collect a pile of chairs from the village hall and fit as many chairs into our downstairs rooms as we could manage. Our house was always packed with adults and children, some of them regulars and some newcomers to the village we had invited. People often used to tell us that this was where Christmas really began for them. It is a very happy memory.

In 1973 Mike went to work at the Institute of Operational Research in London. He worked on several different projects over the next few years, but one of them set the direction for the second half of his career. It was a Nuffield-funded study on schizophrenia and employment, exploring the difficulties that employees and employers experienced and how these might be managed, and risks mitigated. So when City University established the Rehabilitation Resource Centre (RRC) in 1984, it was a natural move for him, and he served as its director for 24 years. During that time there were many changes, notably the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act, which rendered it unlawful to discriminate on grounds of disability without reasonable justification, and also required employers to make 'reasonable adjustments'. Mike was very involved in discussions around this, feeding in evidence from research studies, and associated policy recommendations. The Masters programme at RRC enabled many professionals in HR, law and social services to understand relevant research and legal requirements and to undertake research projects in their own work settings, thereby influencing professional practice. Mike connected this UK work with analogous work in the US, across Europe and in Uganda, and participated in several international studies. He retired in 2008.

At a cremation ceremony on October 23, Covid-limited to family and close friends, tributes all referred to Mike as good kind man who made a difference and would be much missed by those who knew and loved him. So Sian, Katherine, Jonathan and I intend to hold a memorial meeting for Mike, to which more people can come, once Covid restrictions allow. This meeting will be 'blended' with some of us present in the Meeting House, and others online via Zoom. I will let people know the details when we have been able to fix a date.

**Ann Floyd, January 2021**







## John Yannaghas

**7.Oct.1932 - 7.Jan.2021**

John George Yannaghas sadly passed away in hospital on Thursday 7th January after fighting a short, unforgiving illness with characteristic and unfailing courage.

He, and his beloved wife, Jennifer, made Jordans their home for over 40 years, bringing up their family in Delgany, Puers Lane and making many happy memories and friends in the village.

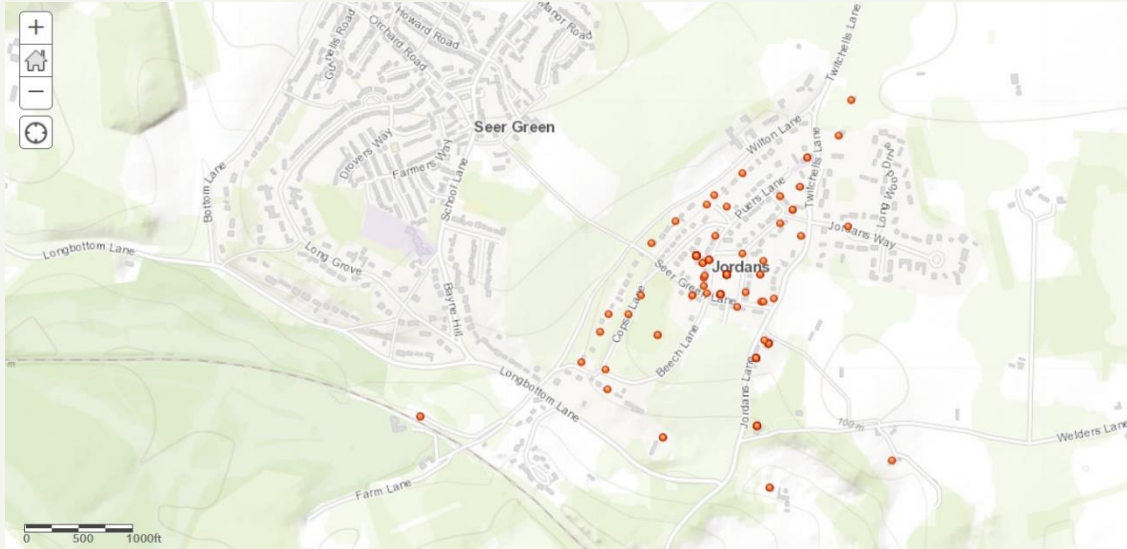
Adored father of Sophia, Annemarie and Corina and inspirational grandfather of 9, is now at rest, reunited with his darling Jennifer whom he never stopped missing.

Private funeral due to current restrictions.

Donations, if desired, to Save the Children through Camp Hopson 01635 522210.

<http://announcements.telegraph.co.uk/deaths/246933/yannaghas>

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## Our Living Village

### **Project Update**

Project progress in 2020 was inevitably slowed a bit by the coronavirus pandemic, but like everyone else we've now adapted to online communications and we're targeting to produce a comprehensive demonstration of Our Living Village featuring the villages of Seer Green and Jordans as part of the next Chiltern Society's Heritage Festival in September/October 2021. To achieve this, we're making a big push to involve as many people as possible over the coming months so if you're interested in engaging with this exciting project in any way please do let us know.

Over recent months our Technical Team has continued to collect and digitise historical and current maps for Seer Green and Jordans using powerful GIS computer software. At the same time, our People Team has been collecting and analysing residential data from the national census and other sources, and several village families have come forward with rich information which we're planning to incorporate into our village stories.

Our community working groups have now produced extensive information on a number of historical village themes including Natural Environment – landscape, woods & wildlife; Music, Literature & Art; Schools & Education; and Religion in our Two Communities

The next stage of our project involves collecting, digitising and displaying in-depth information on selected village topics which will demonstrate the full potential of the Our Living Village model. Depending upon the level of community support, these topics may include:

- The histories of the Boddy, Payne and other traditional families in the village of Seer Green.

- The history of the two village pubs in Seer Green.
- The history of several of the historic buildings in Seer Green and Jordans including Hall Place, Stone Dean, Dean Farm, Manor Farm and the development of the Manor Farm Estate, and Broom House with its links to TS Elliot, Henry Moore and Sir Herbert Read.
- A detailed inventory of natural features in the villages including trees, ponds and hedgerows.
- Traditional village trades such as lace making and woodworking

You can now find a really comprehensive review of the Our Living Village project on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/58RjANXNkoY> as well as a shorter, fairly light-hearted Short History of Seer Green at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_3xfn1zbVGc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_3xfn1zbVGc).

At this historically challenging time, let's come together to ensure we hand on to future generations an historical record that does full justice to the rich and varied histories of our two village communities.

**Alan Kell**

[Alan.kell@igsystems.co.uk](mailto:Alan.kell@igsystems.co.uk)

The data from the [Jordans Village Centenary Timeline](#) has now been categorised and uploaded to the mapping system, as shown in the image above. I've been looking in our archive for suitable maps to act as "base layers" to illustrate the village in various decades, and aim to have those scanned and uploaded soon.

Nigel Morgan has been helping with the history of some of the more significant buildings and their inhabitants, which we will use to enrich the data available. This is going to be a fabulously interactive way to create a living archive, and visualise how life has changed, and continues to change.

**Chris Jenkins**

[estateoffice@jordansvillage.co.uk](mailto:estateoffice@jordansvillage.co.uk)



About the "Our Living Village" project



OLV - short history of Seer Green



## Friends' Corner

*by Bob Redpath*

### **Jordans Meeting House**

#### **Zoom Meetings for Worship**

Shortly after the January issue came out, a decision was made to close the Jordans Meeting House for the foreseeable future. Therefore there are only Zoom Meeting for Worship on Sundays starting at 10:30am. If you are a newcomer and wish to attend the Zoom meeting, please contact Ann Floyd ([ann@quakersintheworld.org](mailto:ann@quakersintheworld.org) or telephone number 01494 874273).

#### **Junior Jordans Sunday School**

Sunday School is suspended during the lockdown. Until the schools are open again there will be no attempt to invite newcomers. If there are any queries, please contact David Matthews. ([davidmthemba@gmail.com](mailto:davidmthemba@gmail.com) or 07779 251107).

#### **Douglas and Jenny Butterfield Zoom Meeting for Worship**

Douglas and Jenny Butterfield would like to invite you to a virtual Meeting for Worship at their house, which is on Zoom during lockdown. The meeting will be held on Friday 5th February at 10:30am for about 40 minutes with fellowship afterwards.

If you want to join us you would be most welcome. Please contact Douglas by email

[douglasbutterfield13@gmail.com](mailto:douglasbutterfield13@gmail.com) to be sent the Zoom link for this meeting.

### **Swarthmore Care Home vaccinations**

The shocking number of deaths in care homes has been of great dismay for those of us who have family or friends in care homes, indeed everyone else. Swarthmore is an outstanding exception with a record of no infections and no deaths. Previous articles have been about the Pod in the forecourt of Swarthmore where visitors can meet with residents in fully protected circumstances and also about the caring Swarthmore staff. Now it appears that Swarthmore is one of the first care homes in England to be chosen for vaccination. Claire Allsopp, the manager, writes as follows:

*“The majority of Swarthmore residents have been vaccinated. We were one of the first 6 care homes in England to be chosen. The Chiltern Clinical Commissioning Group (CCCG) approached us and asked if we were willing for the doctors and team to come to the home. They came on 17th December. As we were the first home to be done in the area they were not risking anybody with known allergies at that time..so not everyone had the jab on that day. Staff and residents were brave. The day went smoothly. One person fainted - staff, not resident. We are now awaiting news of our second dose.*

*We are able to have visitors in our pod, despite being in Tier 4 as the pod is designed specifically. However, I would ask anyone visiting to think about their own health and check if they think the visit is essential travel. We are happy to support contact between residents and their families and friends with WhatsApp video calls, Zoom sessions and telephone calls.”*

Due to the Lockdown, please check with Swarthmore Visitor Centre regarding visiting times, by telephoning them on 01753 885663.

### **Jordansian Friendliness**

Somehow, with all her responsibilities as manager of Swarthmore, Claire Allsopp finds time to take Chris Davies on regular drives to Jordans and has been surprised and pleased to find a friendly welcome. She writes:

*“Chris and I continue to go for regular drives around the Village. We have a particular route and I feel very much part of the village from the car. Many friendly hellos and greetings are shared with Chris and me.*

*I have learned more and more in the last few months about how and why the village is so important to Chris. It doesn't change. Each house has a memory: the Green; the Shop;*

*the woods; the Quakers. Everyone is welcoming in the shop; they all stop to say hello and are keen to make small talk with Chris, we buy biscuits and cards when we visit. It really is like a Tardis! I am amazed and didn't believe it until I saw it.*

*Jordans is fundamental to Chris and her life. Her history and memories of people from across many decades are clear to her now as they were years ago and she becomes quite chatty. I enjoy the time spent with her learning about the dances, the Mayflower Barn, summer fetes and schooling”.*

Thank you, Claire, for going the extra mile with Chris. We're glad you feel welcome in Jordans Village. Come back soon.

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## Paws for Thought

### **Looking After your Dog's Coat during Lockdown**

[The Pet Industry Federation \(PIF\) Response to Defra-Revised Guidance -12th January 2021/Dog Grooming.](#)

Since we now find ourselves once again in a national lockdown, many dog owners find that they are not able to get their usual appointments with their dog groomer. Certain breeds and coat types are more prone to matting, examples being: Poodles and Doodles, Cockapoos, Bichons, long silky coated Yorkies and double coated dogs. Nancy Woo from wikiHow states that while hair mats may seem like minor annoyances, they can become a serious problem. If they are not brushed out or removed, mats can tangle the fur to the skin, which can then cause sores, which are hidden by the matting. These sores can become infected, spreading across the body. The best way to avoid matting is through regular grooming.

It is still possible to get your dog groomed professionally if your dog's welfare is at stake.

The PIF states, *'Groomers may accept a dog to be groomed by appointment where this is necessary for the animal's welfare and not simply for aesthetic reasons. Welfare reasons could include on veterinary advice for a skin condition or excessive matting causing the pet discomfort. When routine grooming can be delayed without affecting the pet's welfare until the national lockdown is eased it should be put off.'*

Government rhetoric has shifted in recent days to try to restrict movement as far as possible. Therefore, groomers are being encouraged only to deal with genuine welfare cases stating it should not *'be business as usual'*. This is applicable to groomers working in any environment, home based, high street, or mobile, who undertake home visits. Professional groomers should be assessing each request for dog grooming on an individual basis, deciding what is urgent, and whether the dog in question needs to be seen for welfare reasons.

If you are desperate, and your dog is overdue for its visit to the groomer, you can always try some home grooming. Although if your dog's coat is slightly matted in places, it is advisable to finish the easy part of the groom first and come back to the knots. You may have to tug a little to get rid of them, and this may make your dog anxious, so best to leave it to last, rewarding your dog when you have finished. More information on how to groom your dog properly can be found on the wikiHowPets website. I also found an informative video on the Country Living Magazine website under 'How to groom a dog: 5 expert tips to help you groom your dog at home', by Lisa Walden. The video demonstrates how to brush, shampoo, dry, and finally trim or clip your dog. It also demonstrates how to trim nails safely without causing them to bleed. However, it is not surprising that most dogs find being groomed quite tiring and a bit of an ordeal. Therefore, I always offer any dog I collect from a groomer a drink of cool water, a treat, followed by a short walk and a little snooze!

**Jo Bell**

[Back to top](#)

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## Fish-and-Chips

### **Fish & Chips Van**

The Howe & Co fish-and-chip van schedule has been changed as it was running too late in the evening to serve Jordans well. The new timing is that the van is at the village green



(north side) every Wednesday at 4.30 pm. It leaves at 4.45 pm.

The service at Jordans is by Howe & Co's **Van 19**. **The driver Rich's** mobile phone number is **07392 732774**. You can ring it to confirm arrival time; there are two staff per van so one will answer en-route.

The menu is here: <https://howeandcofishandchips.co.uk/menu/> . Vegetarian cheese and veg cake is offered. Prices not shown on the menu; the cod (excellent) is £5.00 and basic one-person chips is £2.00. Mushy peas are £1.00.

***Ed: This helpful update was sent in by Mark Sullivan***

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**Howe & Co**  
*Quality Fish & Chips*

**Fish & Chips**  
**Wednesday Nights Every Week**

The van stops in the layby near the cricket hut on the Village Green  
between 4:30pm – 4:45pm

Call Rich on 07392 732 774 (direct line to van) to place your order  
and get the exact time of arrival in Jordans

Menu: <https://howeandcofishandchips.co.uk/menu/>

Vegetarian cheese and veg cake is offered. Prices not shown on the  
menu; the cod (excellent) is £5.00 and basic one-person chips is  
£2.00. Mushy peas are £1.00.

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## Events Calendar

Unfortunately all regular events are suspended until further notice.

Please contact the organiser for information about them.

There is so much to do in Jordans, see below for a list of regular events and activities:

### **Regular Events in the Jordans Village Hall**

#### ***Yoga***

***Mondays Weekly 8 pm - 9:30 pm***

Contact Georgina Wright

[georginaw29@icloud.com](mailto:georginaw29@icloud.com) | 01494 874552 or 07946 382570

### ***Ceramics Classes***

***10 week course every Wednesday Weekly 7 pm - 9 pm***

Contact Sophie Bruen

[sophie.bruen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sophie.bruen@hotmail.co.uk) | 07555 802535 | [www.facebook.com/SophieBruenCeramics](http://www.facebook.com/SophieBruenCeramics)

### ***Tai Chi / Qi Gong***

***Thursdays Weekly 6 pm & 7 pm classes***

Contact Keith Fensom

[keith.fensom@gmail.com](mailto:keith.fensom@gmail.com) | 07787 224823 | [www.yangshengtaichi.com](http://www.yangshengtaichi.com)

### ***The Jolly Quaker pop-up Pub***

***1st Friday Monthly (excluding August and January)***

Contact Chris Waymouth

[c.waymouth@btinternet.com](mailto:c.waymouth@btinternet.com) | Tel: 07831 309379

### ***Jordans Picture House***

***2nd Friday & some Tuesdays and Sundays Monthly (Autumn - Spring)***

Contact Alan Sealy

[alan@janetsealypartnership.com](mailto:alan@janetsealypartnership.com) | 01494 873205 | [www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk](http://www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk)

### **Lunch Club 2020**

***Thursdays, 1pm in the Village Hall***

Dates TBC

[Back to top](#)

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If there is a subject you'd like to talk about, an event in Jordans you'd like to publicise, or have some other news relating to the Village, please contact Chris Jenkins, the newsletter Editor, on 01494 875177 or via email [estateoffice@jordansvillage.co.uk](mailto:estateoffice@jordansvillage.co.uk)

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