



JORDANS VILLAGE
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
January 2021

www.jordansvillage.co.uk

Happy New Year!

It was a strangely quiet Christmas and New Year, but I understand that the Jordans pixies and fairies came up with a novel way to remember all the great things about life in Jordans which we can look forward to this year - once the dreaded lockdown finally ends. You can read more about that below.

On my return to the office I was very sad to hear of the passing of two Jordans residents whom I'd come to know quite well - Annie Elliott, who lived in the Village for almost 85 years, and had just turned 100; and Nowell Stebbing who lived at the far end of Jordans Way and was Chair of their Residents' Association for some time. I'll miss them both.

I guess the year can only get better from here!?!


Chris Jenkins, Editor

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Aspects of Jordans life we are looking forward to in 2021

It was lovely to see so many tags hanging on the walnut tree on the Village Green over Christmas – messages to each other about what we enjoy and appreciate about living in this village. Over 50 people contributed – young and old, guessing by the hand writing!

Almost half of the messages were appreciations of friends, family and community, and opportunities to enjoy time together again. There were also specific mentions of Music on the Green, the Summer Fair, Jolly Quaker, Picture House, Lunch Club, carols around the Christmas tree, Sports Day, Village Supper, Supper & Song, Flower & Produce Show, the Village Shop, Big Camp, tennis, Village Cricket Match, yoga, concerts, pottery exhibition, quiz nights and our natural environment.

On behalf of us all I'd like to thank everyone who volunteers to make these events and others happen. You are amazing and make Jordans a very special place to live!

Here's a sample of what you said...

- *“We love coming together for Christmas carols as a village, and the wonderful atmosphere of Big Camp and Music on the Green”*
- *“Looking forward to all the village getting together at the Summer Fair. Can't wait to see everyone!”*
- *“Happy Christmas and hopes for a good 2021 to all the families in Jordans Village and thank you for all the support you have given to me.”*

- *“Community friendship at the pub, cinema and lunch club. Not forgetting music and carols on the Green”*
- *“Hope that we can all come together as a happy community after lockdown is over. We all need good neighbours. Missing my friends at the lunch club. Will be pleased when The Jolly Quaker reopens”*
- *“I’m really looking forward to sports day. I really missed it this year.”*
- *“Giving all my friends a very big hug!”*





ANNIE ELLIOTT née Sheppard

5.12. 1920 - 28. 12. 2020

Annie Elliott, née Sheppard was born on December 5th 1920 in Winchelsea, Sussex. She was the youngest of six children. Her father, Edward Sheppard, came from Seer Green and her mother, Annie White, was from Hedgerley. As a young man Edward Sheppard worked for the Ritchie family on the Welders Estate. Around 1908 when the second Baron Ritchie moved the family seat to Winchelsea, Edward Sheppard and his young family moved with them.

Annie's mother died when she was only eight, a traumatic experience for any child, and she was then taken to live with her grandmother in Seer Green. Annie longed to go back to Winchelsea and comforted herself by reading any book she could lay her hands on. After Granny Sheppard died when Annie was about fifteen Annie then went to Jordans to live with Helen Ellershaw, a young friend of her grandmother's, who lived at Birchwood in Wilton Lane (now The Blue House - Ed). It was Helen Ellershaw who encouraged Annie's appreciation of literature and introduced her to the theatre by taking her to performances at the Old Vic theatre in London. Here at Birchwood in 1938 Annie also got to know Maya, a refugee child from Nazi Germany who was looked after by Helen Ellershaw until her parents managed to come to England shortly before war broke out. Annie and Maya were to remain lifelong friends.

At the outbreak of the Second World War Annie volunteered for the nurses' cadet force and

she was sent to work at the hospital in Stoke Mandeville. She then moved on to the Princess Alice hospital in Eastbourne where she started on a three year SRN training. It was at this hospital that she first met our father, William Elliott, a young trainee RAF pilot from Belfast, Northern Ireland. It was quite a romantic set-up; William was the patient who fell in love with the beautiful nurse taking care of him. They got married in June 1943 but as a married woman Annie had to abandon her nurse's training, such were the rules in those days.

Annie and William lived and worked in Coventry until 1945 when they moved to London. Their first daughter Jane was born in 1946 and after their second daughter Clare was born in 1949 they came back to live in Jordans permanently. We lived with Helen Ellershaw at Birchwood and after our brother Ian was born in 1952 we moved into Bridleway, just two houses away from Birchwood. The garden there was a children's paradise.

In 1957, after a brief spell of living closer to London, our parents were able to purchase the leasehold for the last plot of building land on Green East Road (now Iona - Ed). A new house was built for the family and Louise was born here in 1960. Annie was a great home-maker and for over 25 years the house on the Green was a very happy and welcoming family home. Jordans was a wonderful place for children to grow up in and our parents took an active part in village life. They both belonged to Jordans Players and William, an accountant by profession, served on the Village Store committee for many years. At one stage he even played cricket for Jordans until one Sunday afternoon a cricket ball came flying through our sitting-room window!

Annie, who had trained as a nursery nurse while living in wartime Coventry, was asked by Maggie Breedon, the headmistress of Jordans School, to take over the infant reception class. Annie loved working with small children and she derived great pleasure in being able to teach numerous Jordans children how to read and write. At the end of the 1960s Annie applied to do a mature students' teacher training course at Wall Hall college. After qualifying she went back to Jordans School for a while and then moved on to a primary school in Denham where she was the deputy head for several years. Towards the end of her teaching career she was in charge of a unit at Little Chalfont that catered for children with special educational needs. She had a particular way with children, she understood so much about them and she could relate to them easily.

After Annie retired in 1984 our parents decided to sell the family house and move to Winchelsea, also intending to spend a good deal of time enjoying the lavender fields and the French way of life in the small village of Curnier in Provence, where in 1983 together with Ian they had managed to buy a traditional old village house. But they could never

really leave Jordans behind and when in 1987 they had the opportunity to move into Mercote they were only too happy to come back to the village.

Sadly William died a year later . Annie was heart-broken at first but then she decided to work as a volunteer counsellor for Childline , she was always a good listener and she found the work very rewarding. A few years later she decided to devote her time to her four young grandchildren, Lucas, Tom, Sarah and Jim. She fetched them from school, looked after them and spent holiday time with them in Curnier, in France. They all loved her dearly and when they grew up and left home they still remained in close contact with her.

Annie enjoyed being creative and she also took an interest in water-colour painting. She used to get together with her group of painting friends most Tuesdays until unfortunately, due to the Corona pandemic, it was no longer possible to meet up.

Well into her nineties Annie still enjoyed going on trips to the coast and to France and Switzerland with Clare and Louise, and meeting up with Jane and Ian and Sarah for a summer holiday in the old house at Curnier. Until she was 96 nothing would deter her from taking the train up to London every Friday so that she could meet up for lunch with Louise at Liberty's.

When Louise died in 2017 it was a devastating loss for Annie. However, she never allowed herself to give up and she was determined that she would stay in her own home in Jordans until the very end . Clare's constant and loyal support, regular phone calls from all the family, support from other friends and neighbours in the village and frequent visits from Simon, the postman, who would stop by at her kitchen window for a chat and a cup of hot coffee, all made this possible. She got to her 100th birthday on December 5th 2020 , a fantastic achievement. But we knew that she was gradually becoming weaker and sadly for us all she passed away peacefully on December 28th 2020.

She always wanted the best for her children and grandchildren and we will always be grateful for all she did for us. She was always very much a part of all our lives and we have many good and happy memories to cherish.

On behalf of all our family

Jane Doerry, née Elliott

30.12.2020





Chilterns Area

Friends' Corner

by Bob Redpath

Jordans Meeting House

Blended Meetings for Worship

During January and for the foreseeable future we will continue to hold blended (in person and Zoom) meetings in the Jordans Meeting House on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. However, notices will be sent to everyone on the mailing list if government policy changes. Because of the need to socially distance, numbers who can be in the Meeting House are limited; therefore if you wish to attend the meeting in person, please contact either Michael Phipps (michaeldphipps@aol.com) or Adrienne Midgley (adriennemidgley@hotmail.com). Please bring your mask.

If you are a newcomer and wish to attend by Zoom, please contact Ann Floyd (ann@quakersintheworld.org or telephone number 01494 874273) and she will send you the link.

Junior Jordans Meetings

David Matthews writes: Junior Jordans has been meeting on an ad hoc basis. Over the autumn term, as tier levels allowed, a few of us would sometimes meet in the woods around Jordans for a country walk. At other times, Tom and Sophie would join the adults for the last 5 minutes of their meeting. We will continue to adapt the children's meeting to suit current restrictions and if anyone would like to join us, please contact me on 07779 251107.

Swarthmore Visitor Centre

Swarthmore Care Home in Gerrards Cross is a Quaker care home and holds its own Quaker meeting, but is also linked by Zoom to the Jordans Sunday Meeting as well. As reported in last month's newsletter, a POD (Swarthmore Visitor Centre) has been constructed in its car park which has been used and enthusiastically welcomed by family and friends of residents. Chris Davies has been a resident since she moved from

Puers and a number of friends from Jordans visit her, including Mary-Anne Hall. Mary-Anne appreciates the effort and care that the staff at Swarthmore make each time she visits and has been moved to write the following, which appeared in the December issue of the Chiltern Area Quaker Newsletter:

“In one of the main texts for Quakers, Quaker Faith and Practice, Edward Milligan asks ‘Do we seek to be the channels of God’s love and caring? Caring matters most.’ (QFP 21.20). This might be an appropriate motto for Swarthmore Quaker Care Home in Gerrards Cross, which welcomes residents of any or no faith. To quote QFP again, the management and staff here are ‘called to continual unspectacular acts of loving kindness in the ordinary setting of every day.’ (QFP 21.43) One response to this calling has been their creative attitude towards visitors during this year of COVID. When other homes, in fear, locked visitors out, Swarthmore made huge efforts to enable visits which are so important for the well-being of residents.

Throughout the summer I did not enter the home. However, I was able to sit outside to visit my friend Chris who sat inside the house shielded by a perspex screen across the door. On arrival with my mask, I completed a simple process of questionnaire, temperature and oxygen level checks, as well as use of hand sanitiser to minimise any risk of infection. These checks have continued but, instead of being outside in the winter cold and rain, I now enjoy a warm and comfortable visit in a smart pod visitor centre. Visitors and residents are separated by a floor to ceiling Perspex screen with an intercom so visibility and sound are clear. There are comfy chairs on both sides, with the visitor chairs being easy to wipe down for the full clean which takes place after every visit. Local photographs have been used as murals on both sides. I enjoy sitting in front of a bluebell wood - the photo itself is wonderfully uplifting. So thank you to Swarthmore for all the time, resources and energy dedicated to creating and maintaining this visitor centre - indeed a sign of loving kindness in the every day.”

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

Woodbrooke Courses

There are two Zoom courses about climate change in January:

1. “Loving Earth-a spiritual retreat” A quiet day to nurture our spiritual roots and engage with the Loving Earth Project. 9 January 10am-4pm; £20.
2. “Deepening our commitment: Loving Earth Project”. The Loving Earth project

enables you to engage with the Climate Crisis in a way that doesn't feel overwhelming, centering on three questions we focus on: what we love; what is at risk due to climate breakdown; and what we can each do about it. The Loving Earth Project is a textile-based project and this workshop will equip you to make your own panel to join our travelling exhibition ahead of, and culminating in, CPO26. It is a partnership project with Quaker Arts Network.

Live sessions take place fortnightly on Mondays:

25 January 19:30-21:00

8 February 19:30-21:00

22 February 19:30-21:00

8 March 19:30-21:00

The cost of this course is £36.

For more information on both these courses contact the Woodbrooke website

www.woodbrooke.org.uk.

<http://caqm.org.uk/>



Paws for Thought

Is Your Dog Warm Enough At Night?

During the winter when the temperature can drop below freezing, it is important that your dog is sleeping in suitable conditions. In the CDC Dog Boarding Licensing terms and conditions, it states that dogs should be kept in a room free from draughts. Suitable bedding is also important. Despite being covered in fur, dogs do feel the cold when the temperature drops. Most people turn off their heating during the night and may only heat parts of their house during the day. This could mean that your dog is cold when you are not. If the floor in the room where your dog sleeps is very cold you should be using a raised bed, or at least a bed with good insulation. If you do not have a raised bed you can place the

bed on some large cushions. Creating a nest for your dog is essential. This will help to keep it warm at night.

There are many different types of dog beds, some of which are insulated against cold floors. A dog bed with high sides will help to keep draughts off and will keep your dog warmer. Quality brands, such as those sold by Orvis, are expensive, but they are worth the investment. Plastic beds are inexpensive and easy to clean but are hard, so they need to have warm comfortable linings. Such things as old blankets are best placed in a bed, rather than on a hard cold floor. Heated dog blankets are another option. These are particularly good for arthritic dogs, or dogs that have been ill, and are low in voltage, and have anti chew cords, so they are safe to use.

If the room your dog sleeps in is cold, you should consider installing some extra heating, particularly if your central heating goes off at night. However, luckily most of the dogs I know are thoroughly spoilt and snuggle down on their owner's bed, if not actually in the bed with them. After all a dog on your bed at night is as good as a hot water bottle, if not better!

Lastly, it would be very much appreciated if all those that let their dogs off the lead when walking round the Village Green, would keep an eye on them. There have been some large amounts of poop seen on the Village Green by the fenced off fir tree and on the verges. So please do pick up your dog's poop, bag it and bin it.

Wishing all dogs and their owners a Happy 2021.

Jo Bell

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Wycombe Homeless Connection

On behalf of 'The Churchyard Girls' who slept out in the Churchyard of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans on Friday December 4th I wish to thank all of you who supported us so generously.

We were part of the 'Big Sleepout at Home 2020' raising much needed funds for Wycombe Homeless Connection to continue their remarkable endeavours to enable everyone in High Wycombe and South Bucks to sleep not out on the streets but somewhere with a roof over their heads. This is not a lot to ask.

As I write, with Gift Aid, the figure we raised is £7,166.98 and I know that there are other donations still to be put on our Virgin Money Giving page. The figure will rise to £7,500 and for all your help and support to allow us to raise this significant amount I cannot thank you enough.

The Churchyard Girls Virgin Money Giving page will be up and running for a further month so if any of you had wished to donate but just didn't get round to it please feel free to do so now. Sleeping out in the open for one night was a very cold experience but ending with an enormous sense of achievement. Sleeping out in the open every night must be intolerable.

Wycombe Homeless Connection aims to have the streets of Wycombe free of men and women sleeping out by the end of 2021. Let's hope that with financial help such as yours this can be achieved. Again from Cassa, Katharine, Nicky, Mia and myself - The Churchyard Girls - thank you.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/TheChurchyardGirls1>

Ali Cork

Team Leader, The Churchyard Girls

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



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 | 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 | 07555 802535 | www.facebook.com/SophieBruenCeramics

Tai Chi / Qi Gong

Thursdays Weekly 6 pm & 7 pm classes

Contact Keith Fensom

keith.fensom@gmail.com | 07787 224823 | www.yangshengtaichi.com

The Jolly Quaker pop-up Pub

1st Friday Monthly (excluding August and January)

Contact Chris Waymouth

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 | 01494 873205 | www.jordanspicturehouse.co.uk

Lunch Club 2020

Thursdays, 1pm in the Village Hall

Dates TBC

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