



JORDANS VILLAGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

October 2020

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Welcome to the October 2020 issue of our Village Newsletter!

I write this month's newsletter with the possibility of another lockdown looming over us. Although the blasted virus has stopped many of our favourite events going ahead, a few events have still been able to be held this year with social distancing rules in effect.

The most recent being the Flower & Produce Show, and by the looks of it, the sunshine we've had and extra time spent in our gardens has made for a great growing year!

I hope you enjoy this issue, do read on!
Chris Jenkins, Editor
estateoffice@jordansvillage.co.uk

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Jordans Village Community Store](#)
- [Flower & Produce Show 2020](#)
- [Richard Stephenson](#)
- [Friends' Corner](#)
- [Down Memory Lane continued](#)
- [Painting by JE Hodgkin](#)
- [Paws for Thought](#)
- [October Fungi Foray](#)
- [Document Shredding](#)
- [Wycombe Homeless Connection](#)
- [Garage Wanted](#)
- [Fish-n-Chips](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)



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Jordans Village Community Store

Jordans Village Community Store now has its own separate, dedicated community newsletter. Tailor-made which will mean that our updates are brief and going directly to those who are interested in our shop. We promise to keep our emails to a minimum, probably only a single screen of information and only once a month - unless we have urgent news that cannot wait.

We would love as many of you as possible to hear our news about new products, opening times and events, so please follow the link to our website www.JordansVillageStore.co.uk and scroll to the bottom where you can enter your email address to subscribe. Alternatively you can ask for your address to be added next time you are in the shop.

Sally Wilson

Jordans Village Community Store Committee

01494 873279 | www.jordansvillagestore.co.uk

[Back to top](#)



Jordans Flower & Produce Show 2020

On Sunday 6th September a new style Flower & Produce Show happened! We borrowed from the 'covid safe' procedures of the hospitalities and event sectors to change what we normally do and how we normally do things. And the weather was on our side which meant the show could go ahead – over spilling a marquee on the Green! Thank you to everyone who entered flowers, vegetables and artistic creations – it was great to see the products of your lockdown gardening and to see your friendly faces after all this time.

Each year the proceeds from our refreshments are donated to the Village Shop. We'd like to thank Pat and Dom for working hard all afternoon, for all our volunteer bakers and for your generous donations. We raised £103! We'd also like to thank Rich Key Cycles whose kind sponsorship covered our printing costs – usually met by our May plant sale (this year donations were made to charities instead).

Next year's Flower & Produce Show will take place on Sunday 5th September – save the date! We hope lockdown will be lifted so we can put on a bigger and better event and even be able to encourage a crowd!

Happy gardening!

The Jordans Horticultural Society

Photos:

Above) The stunning 'mixed flowers' display

Below) Public voting – choosing the best 'selection of herbs'



Richard Stephenson

No doubt you will remember during the lockdown in May this year, when many residents gave Richard Stephenson a 100th Birthday to remember by walking past his house to wish him a "socially distanced" happy birthday. Sadly, Richard passed away in July, and a lovely service was held in his memory at the Woodland Burial Ground on Potkilm Lane. You'll find below some extracts from the eulogy which was written by his nephew, Guy Stephenson, and kindly shared with us. - Ed.

Home

Richard was married to Dorothy, who [I think] he met through his work. It was a long and

close relationship. Certainly work gave him many of his closest friends and some of those families are here today with us to help remember him. He was adventurous and sociable, and Hugh, his Godson, tells me he recalls stories of him cycling with friends from Maidenhead to Wales. No mean achievement in the 1930s.

Early years/career

Our two families grew up next door to each other on Jordans Way, so there was always a lot of traffic through the hedge in a very real sense – there is still a hole there today, connecting the two houses. But Uncle Richard also found other ways to keep the communications going, which we, as children remember well and I will tell you about this in a minute.

Uncle Richard trained as an electronics engineer specialising in telecommunications. In 1938, that was a skilled and important role in a new industry and having joined Post Office Telecommunications, as it was then known, he spent 44 years with the same company, moving over to sales in his later career.

We have his original job offer – he was made a “youth in training” on January 15th 1938, becoming a “skilled workman class 1” in 1945. You will see it in the photos in a minute, together with the important news in 1942 that he would not be joining the army, as his was a reserved occupation, meaning, he was needed at home to play an important part in the development, testing and maintenance of the fast growing UK telecommunications network to back the war effort. Back then, outside of government, very few people had telephones. As an engineer, Uncle Richard worked in the Circuit Testing Laboratory, a vital part of the organisation which went on to become British Telecom.

Here he learnt how to design and build telephone systems, something he was to put to good use at home too.

The home phone

My brothers and I still recall a period of mysterious activity one winter in the 1960s. Clearly, the two families were tiring of running to the hole in the hedge in the cold and rain to talk or swap food, so Richard decided to design, build and install our own hotline phone system linking the two houses. I have no idea how he came by the scarce equipment needed, but a huge Bakelite phone appeared one day in our lounge and a matching one in his house. A trench was dug between the two houses and a line laid in a hosepipe for protection... and it worked! This was during the 60s, at a time when few homes had a phone, yet we had our own hotline linking our two houses.

Garden

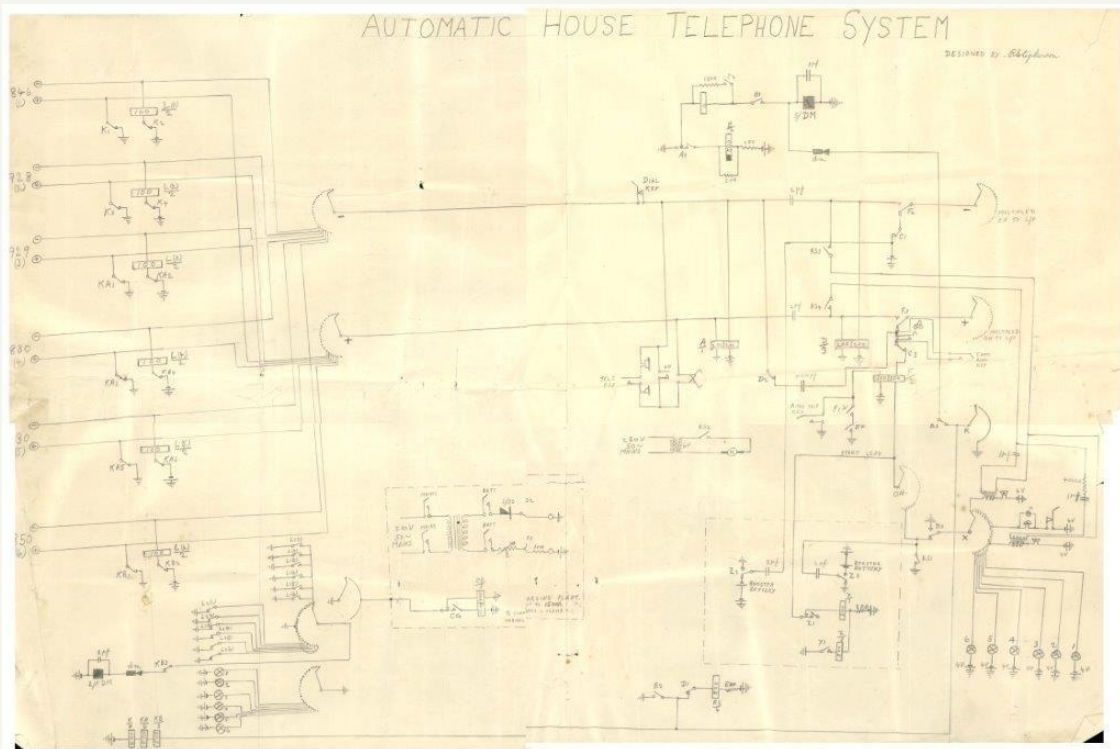
Outside of work, Richard's two enduring passions were his garden and steam engines. Steam engines in fact came a distinct second to the garden, but he would always photograph a locomotive or a traction engine, if he could. He had a huge and well stocked vegetable plot which is still producing rhubarb and the occasional soft fruit today.

His greenhouse again featured some unique designs – rather than run back and forth to the outside tap to water the plants, he dug a hole, installed an underground water tank and mains water feed to keep it full, so he never had to leave his greenhouse to water the plants.

His two garden sheds, the workshop and the top shed, to give them their correct names, were both home built and to this day stand rot free and dry, after more than 60 years.

When Uncle Richard did something, he did it properly. The workshop is still meticulously laid out, everything labelled, within easy reach.

And this is how we would like to remember him, a skilled man, a charming, composed and measured man, a gentleman, always with a smile on his face.





I am so pleased to know that you are celebrating your one hundredth birthday on 11th May, 2020. I send my congratulations and best wishes to you on such a special occasion.

Elizabeth II

Mr. Eric Stephenson



Chilterns Area

Friends' Corner

Jordans Meeting House

During October it will be possible to attend Sunday Meetings for Worship at 10:30am either 'in person' at the Jordans Meeting House or on-line by Zoom. There is no longer a Zoom meeting at 6:30pm.

Attendance 'in person'

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, entry will only be by the main doors of the Jordans Quaker Centre by the car park, except for wheelchair users who can access the 1688 Meeting Room by the double doors leading to the Burial Ground. There will be social distancing of two metres and those attending need to wear masks, except when ministering. No refreshments will be served after the meeting and the Library will not be available for browsing or borrowing. For further details contact Michael Phipps (michaeldhipps@aol.com) or Adrienne Midgley (adriennemidgley@hotmail.com)

On-line Zoom attendance

For those who are first-time attenders who wish to join the Meeting by Zoom, please contact Ann Floyd (annfloyd@btinternet.com).

Children's Sunday School meeting

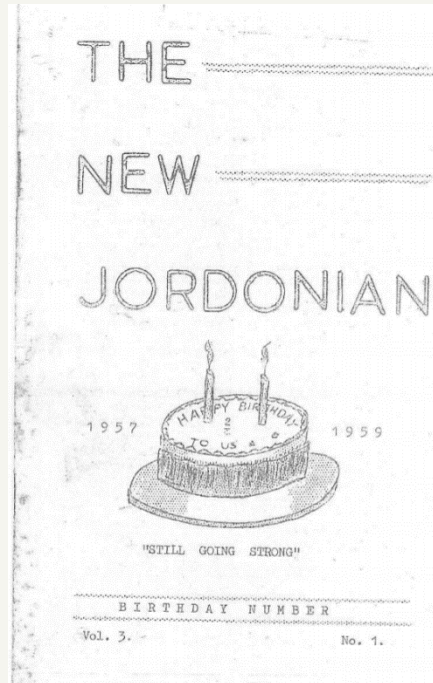
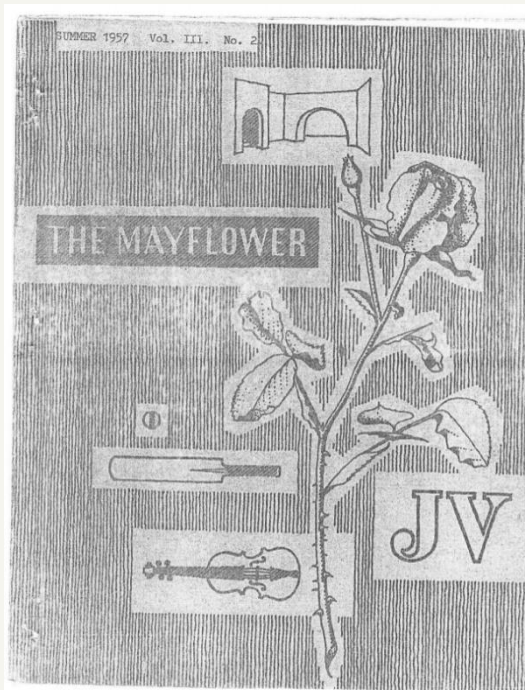
Jordans Children's Sunday School Meeting will not be held during the first two weeks of October; it may resume thereafter. For further information, please contact David Matthews (telephone 07779251107; email davidmthemba@gmail.com).

Other news

Chris Davies lives in Swarthmore and had not left Swarthmore since she became a resident. However, on 11th September Claire Allsopp, Swarthmore's general manager, took Chris to the Jordans Meeting House so that she could visit the grave of her mother, Lorna Davies, in the Jordans Burial Ground. And on the 18th September Claire and Chris returned to visit the Meeting House where Nina Liebenberg, the warden, gave them a tour and spoke about the history of the Meeting House. Chris asked me to

express her gratitude to both Claire and Nina for these two very special days.

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



Down Memory Lane continued...

By Bob Redpath

Does anyone have any issues of The Mayflower or The New Jordanian that they can loan to me as background for Bob Bradnock's intended book about Jordans history since 1937?

We have located a few issues so far, but want to find more because they provide wonderful glimpses into life in Jordans in the past.

Please contact me if you have any issues that I can copy.

Bob Redpath

Tel: 01494874102

Email: randc@sheldon59.com



Painting by JE Hodgkin, former Chairman of JVL

I recently received a message from Sally Wilkin, offering a painting of Grove Farm, by Jonathan Edward Hodgkin, who was Chairman of JVL from 1920-28. - Ed.

My hobby is collecting pictures at local auctions, finding out about them and either keeping them or selling them on giving a percentage to our local hospice. I recently acquired this charming watercolour painted in 1922 (by Jonathan Edward Hodgkin, R.B.A) of Grove Farm, Jordans - and wondered whether it might be of interest to anyone involved in your village. The painting measures 20.5 x 13.5 inches and is in fine condition. It is currently unframed, but could be mounted and framed if that helped.

I had in mind a sum of about £45.00 plus postage. If anyone is interested, please do get in touch.

Sally Wilkin

Cerne River Cottage, 8 The Folly

Cerne Abbas, Dorchester DT2 7JR

Tel: 01300 341969

Mob: 07850 436747



Paws for Thought

Picasso's Muse and Amber

Recently I spent some time in Devon at the house of my ex sister-in-law, the artist and one-time muse of Picasso, Lydia Corbett. Lydia changed her original Christian name, Sylvette, after becoming a member of Subud, a spiritual movement founded by an Indonesian in the 1920s. Lydia married David Corbett in 1971, after she and Toby had divorced.

For the early part of my childhood I lived with my parents Paul and Kitty Jellinek in a Mock Tudor House in Furzefield Road, Beaconsfield. Tobias was then married to Sylvette, (now Lydia) and they would sometimes come and stay. Kitty had always had a great passion for dogs and wouldn't ever be without one. However, my father Paul rather resented our two gorgeous Golden Retrievers Bumble and Amber, because he had to compete with them for Kitty's affection. In February 1957, Paul sent Kitty one of his romantic homemade Valentine cards, where in the final stanza he acknowledges his position writing, *"Tho' dogs and children fill your heart, I'll be content with just a part"...*

The house was a short walk from the railway bridge that led to Baring Road, where if you turned left you could walk to Walk Wood. Lydia still loves to remind me of the times that she would be despatched by Kitty on a dog walk with Bumble and Amber, and how Amber would play her up. "Oh she was such a naughty girl that Amber" she recalls with her still very French accent, "she would just turn tail and go home, running off, gone, just like that". However, it would seem that although most of the neighbourhood were desperate to get a glimpse of Sylvette, whose great beauty, grace and unique sense of style had captivated Picasso, Amber did not share their interest!

So why do dogs sometimes behave in the way that Amber did? My husband has on occasion attempted dog walks, only to return with the dog in no time at all saying "He or she just wouldn't come". There could be several reasons for this behaviour. Normally it is due to the fact that the dog feels a strong paralysing fear that makes it panic and head for

the only place it feels secure; home being a safe haven for insecure dogs. But if the dog is old or in pain it won't want to walk very far. Of course such things as loud bangs or gun shots might cause a dog to run off. Or in the case of Dougal a small Cairn cross who sometime comes to stay, when two donkeys started braying at him down in Hedgerley Lane, he shot off in terror like a hare on a greyhound track, only to be found back at the car! Even to this day he always looks rather anxious when passing the donkey field, even though the donkeys are long gone. Quite often dogs that run off on walks will eventually find their way back home. This is due to the fact that they have a hypersensitive sense of smell.

In 1992 'The Control of Dogs Act' came into being, and it became the law for a dog to wear a collar with the name and address of the owner either engraved, or written on a tag. It is also recommended to give one's telephone number. However, it is not advisable to display the dog's name on the tag. This is because if your dog is stolen it can be sold on more easily if it answers to its name. Those that are licensed to walk or care for other people's dogs should attach their own tags displaying their contact details, since their owners could be out of the country.

In April 2016 it also became the law to have your dog microchipped. Dog owners who do not get their dog microchipped and registered with an approved database can face a fine of up to £500. If the dog should not be chipped for health reasons diagnosed by a vet, they could be exempt. A lot of people don't seem to realise that even if their dog is microchipped it must now by law also wear identification.

This month I've not included a poem, but a photograph of me aged about 5 with Amber, and a picture of Lydia (Sylvette), with Picasso at his studio in Vallauris, France. Information about her life story and paintings can easily be found online.

Jo Bell

[Back to top](#)





October Fungi Foray

Sunday 11th October 11am - 3pm

This hearty and educational mushroom foray will offer the opportunity to learn useful skills around how to identify wild mushrooms correctly.

We will be exploring the Woodlands, Meadows and Village Green seeking out and learning about all we find.

This fungi foray will be held in local woodland and will capped off by a modest sample of edible wild mushrooms on Jordans Village Green.

(Please note: Social distancing will be observed for this event)

Tickets: Adults £30 Children £15

Bookings can be made via Jesper on 07900544826

Or at www.jesperlaunder.com/events



Document Shredding

During the course of my self-employment I have accumulated quite a quantity of paperwork e.g. printed emails and other documents of a semi-confidential nature, but these are now obsolete and rather than taking them to the tip I am arranging for them to be collected and destroyed by a professional shredding company.

I will have only a few boxes and bags and this small quantity will be subject to a minimum charge, so if anyone is in a similar situation and would like to share the cost with me, do get in touch. I am thinking of arranging collection in the week commencing 12th October, so there's a bit of time to sort things out.

Chris Waymouth
07831 309379



Wycombe Homeless Connection

We are without a doubt the lucky ones as we all have roofs over our heads. Just a few miles down the road this is not the case and historically in Wycombe there are men and women sleeping out on the streets and with nowhere to put their belongings. Days are spent endeavouring to find shelter that is open, hot meals and in winter escape the bitter cold.

For 14 years the charity Wycombe Homeless Connection (WHC) - which came into being after a man was discovered dead on the streets after a freezing winter's night - has provided

a night shelter, where I have been honoured to volunteer, during the 3 coldest months of the year. This far from solves the problem but has provided much needed shelter and hot nourishing meals for some who would otherwise be out in the streets.

This year due to Covid 19 the shelter was required to close early and there will be no night shelter this coming winter.

Undeterred WHC has undertaken to house, not just during the coldest months, but throughout the year, all out on the streets of Wycombe and other pockets of deprivation in South Bucks. The charity's mission is also to help secure permanent homes for all, to assist with finding much needed employment and to help those with language, or other problems, to secure their deserved financial benefits.

All this requires funds and although there is a contribution from the local authority since the outbreak of the pandemic the charity's reserves have been significantly eroded.

WHC's biggest fund raiser of each year raising through sponsorship in excess of £50,000 is the BIG SLEEP OUT - most participants in makeshift cardboard shelters during November on the football pitch at Adams Park. This year Government Guidelines prevent this from going ahead. Again undeterred, the charity invites us all on FRIDAY 20th NOVEMBER to sleep out, in groups of not more than 6, in unusual places. The only stipulation is that they are out in the open air.

Decision made and 6 of us are to sleep in the church yard at Holy Trinity our parish church in Seer Green. A risk assessment has been undertaken and we are all set to create coverings out of cardboard boxes and scour the local charity shops for some very warm night wear! WHC will stream encouraging words and music to our phones and one lovely parishioner has already offered to bring steaming mugs of hot chocolate at 1am!

How can you all help?

WHC uses VIRGIN GIVING and we are setting up a page in the name of Holy Trinity Church Seer Green and Jordans and how grateful I would be if you would generously sponsor us in our aim to 'make a difference'. Our hope is to help give those a lot less fortunate ourselves some quality of life by having - what we take for granted - a roof over their heads, somewhere to cook a hot meal, somewhere to put their belongings, somewhere to call home. <https://www.wyhoc.org.uk/donate>

Thank you so very much

Ali Cork

Garage Wanted

Red fiesta in need of a warm, dry garage ideally with power. Happy to pay for parking....
Please contact me if you can help!

James Silver

07710 404 025

Fish-and-Chips

Fish & Chips Van

Howe & Co's popular fish-and-chip van is now again serving Jordans every Wednesday evening. With resumption of service, the staff report large demand at their stopping points in Amersham which they visit before Jordans. This is affecting the ETA at Jordans. On 20 May the van arrived at 8.45pm. The time given on the old Howe & Co advert on the village notice board (7.00-7.30pm) is not correct. In winter the van aims for 7.45 pm but in summer it can be up to one hour later. Advice is to telephone direct 'Van 19' which serves Jordans: **07342 173 366** in the early evening to find out ETA. The van then proceeds to Chalfont St Giles village green, so if you miss it, there is a second opportunity to buy shortly after it has left Jordans.

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

[Back to top](#)

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

The Jordans Village Community Newsletter is published on the 1st of each month.
Deadline for copy is 28th of each month.



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You are receiving this email because you expressed interest in receiving news about Jordans Village Community Store and Jordans Village and either gave your email address to a committee member or signed up on the website or in the store.

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