

It soon spreads, including to the Chilterns. George Fox and other Quaker 'Publishers of Truth' come here several times. What is now Jordans was a peaceful valley with two farms - Dean Farm and Jordans Farm (now Old Jordans)



Quakerism begins in the Lake District, led by George Fox and others.

1652

This map shows Jordans when it was just fields

It is clear that Quakers need a burial ground, as they are not allowed to be buried in churchyards. Land in front of the present Meeting House becomes what is now the "Old" burial ground. William Russell's daughter Elizabeth is the first person to be buried there. The only gravestones you can see today are those of the Penns, Peningtons, Ellwoods, and one

Old Burial Ground

1671

other Quaker, Joseph Rule



**Jordans History Timeline 1652 - 1913** 

### Stone Dean is built

PROPOSALS A Colledge of Industry TRADES and Husbandry Profit for the RICH.

A Plential Living for the POOR,

A N D

A Good Education for YOUTH.

John Bellin

In 1695 Quaker John Bellers, then living in Chalfont St Peter, publishes 'Proposals for Raising a Colledge of Industry of All Usefull Trades and Husbandry'.

In this pamphlet he described the college as a mixed agricultural and manufacturing settlement where about three hundred people who depended on their work or charity for their livelihood could live and work. Children would be educated and the elderly and ill cared for. Bellers described it as an "Epitome of the World" and put forward the argument that it was in the interest of the rich to take care of the poor and their education. This work influenced Karl Marx who

refers to it in 'Das Kapital'. In 1702 a Quaker workhouse was set up in Clerkenwell, putting some of this into

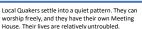
More than two centuries later, lordans nlanners went back to this vision

Quaker John Bellers has a vision for a new community



meetina

Watercolour of a Quaker



Stone Dean, Dean Farm, and Old Jordans all host many visiting Quakers. Jordans Meeting House and its environs become a peaceful and nourishing place for many Quakers, and many watercolours were painted. The two shown here are well known. The Presence in the Midst expresses the sense of the invisible Christ being present at a meeting in Jordans.

Quaker life develops peacefully and many visitors are drawn to Jordans

1730-97





Left: New

The new railway has brought many Quakers to the area, and in 1910 the Meeting House is reopened and regular meetings reestablished.

In 1911, Old Jordans is bought by Quakers, and opened as Old Jordans Hostel in 1912. It soon becomes a hive of Quaker activity, and several conferences are held there, developing new thinking, especially about peace and peacebuilding. In 1912, one of the orchards becomes the 'new' burial ground.

Quaker life is revitalised

1910-13

Quaker meetings are regularly held at Old Jordans

William Russell, owner of Jordans Farm, has become a Quaker, and there are many others in neighbouring farms and villages. They hold meetings in the kitchen of Jordans Farm. Regular worshippers include William and Gulielma Penn, Isaac and Mary Penington, Thomas and Mary Ellwood, and William Russell. Their gravestones are in the small cluster in front of the Meeting House. Many of them experience persecution for their faith imprisonment, fines. and confiscation of

property.



Drawings of Old Jordans Kitchen by Trevor Newton (above) and Edith Hughes (below)



Gulielma Penn

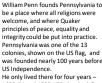
Statue of William Penn on top of the Town Hall in Philadelphia



William Penn

William Penn founds Pennsylvania

1682-4



1682-84 and 1699-1701 but he left a lasting legacy in its progressive constitution which in turn influenced the constitution of many US states. and of the LIS itself He spent most of his life in Britain.

and most of his family are buried here in Jordans with him. His first wife, Gulielma, never went to Pennsylvania, but his second wife. Hannah, did: she governed Pennsylvania for several years during his last illness and after he died.



William Penn



Hannah Penn



North American Colonies

William Penn is buried at Jordans

William Penn is buried at Jordans alongside his first wife Gulielma, and several children who died in infancy, Later his second wife, Hannah, was buried with him, as were other children who lived to adulthood. His grave is near those of Isaac and Mary Penington, Gulielma's stepfather and mother, and Thomas and Mary Ellwood, all leading Quakers in the early days of Quakers in the Chilterns. The stones marking their graves are in a small cluster

of stones in front of the Meeting House, in the old



Closed for worship, but used for weddings, burials and annual picnics. Later, new activism begins to emerge

The Meeting House is closed except for special occasions. Summer meetings are held there each year, often with picnics in the grounds, as one of the pictures shows. Weddings happen at Jordans from time to time, as the watercolour shows, There were hurials too

It is quiet at Jordans, with a resident caretaker looking after the building and grounds, but by the end of the century, things are brewing elsewhere among British Quakers. A key conference was held in Manchester in 1895, which expressed a burgeoning commitment to activism on social issues such as poverty and inequality. The ideas of John Bellers and others about building communities where people could live better and more fulfilling lives began to surface, alongside many other radical ideas.











Summer picnic in Jordans Dell

Quakers are now very aware of the threat to the tranquillity and peacefulness of Old Jordans and the Meeting House from proposals for suburban development along Longbottom, near the railway.

Quakers nationally are also giving much thought to building 'a new social order' once the war is over. The War and Social Order Committee hold a conference at Old Jordans in 1916 and consider many proposals. One proposal is from its 'Experiments subcommittee', which advocates that a new community be established, influenced by John Bellers' ideas in 1695. This community would be:

- Opposed to all war, military or industrial
- Believe in brotherhood of mankind and the equality of the sexes
- Hold fast by 'the light that guideth every man' as their guide in all matters
- Prepared to give expression to their spiritual views in a new way of life

Three things come together to make Jordans the place for this new community, this 'social experiment'.

- Dean Farm is on the market
- The prospect of development around the Meeting House, destroying its peace
- A commitment to work for a different and better world after WW1

The Jordans Planning Committee goes forward on this basis.

The idea of a village in Jordans takes shape

The Friends War Victims Relief Committee meets at Old Jordans Hostel to plan its work in the Netherlands and France.

In the Netherlands the work would be in camps set up for refugees from Belgium. In France it would be in hospitals and convalescent homes, and provided district nursing care.

Friends War Victims Relief Committee



### Who ownded the land?

The land for Jordans Village was acquired from Lt Col William Baring du Pre [1875-1946], a politician, major land-owner, croquet and golf enthusiast, who then lived at Wilton Park, on the edge of Beaconsfield. His family came here as part of William the Conqueror's entourage. Lt Col du Pre ended the isolation of the area and opened it to Londoners by allowing the railway to pass over his land. One condition for this was a railway stop at his new golf course, to extend its use to Londoners.

## **Jordans History Timeline 1914 - 1919**

Extract from the minutes of the Executive

Committee stating the first three members

Jordans Executive

Committee formed to

manage the building work

1918

Feb

9

and Henry Harris.

were Albert. P.I. Cotterell, Frederick Rowntree



an Arts and Crafts architect. He was born in Scarborough on 19th April 1860 to John Rowntree, a master grocer, and Ann Webster the daughter of a Halifax grocer, His brother, John Rowntree, traded in tea and coffee. The Rowntree's were Quakers from an established family of venman grocers from Easby in Yorkshire, and related to Rowntree's, the well-known confectioners. Fred was instrumental in the design and layout of the village, and its founding.

The Tenant Members' Committee of prospective tenants is set up to represent the interests of new tenants. Eventually they would be elected by Tenant Members, that is by shareholding owners or occupiers of property in the Jordans Village Estate. Some of them would sit on the JVL

sto 18. We note with interest that ut a meetin Committee activean prospective terrents and the Cultivation Committee held at Jordano no 27th fully last a terrento Committee was formed consisting of Walter & Ball, albert Pl Cottaell, Elizh ainspeech any H. Gook and anna L. Littleboy.

Extract from Committee of Management

The Tenants Members Committee is formed

> Dec 1918 9

The conveyance of the land is completed and Jordans Village, at least on paper, came into existence. A newspaper of early September contained a paragraph which read 'Near Jordans, the Quaker centre in Bucks, an estate of about 100 acres, bought by Mr Fred Rowntree, Mr Douglas Rowntree and others, is to be laid out as a model Village to be known as "Jordans Village", Cottages are to be built with ample accommodation for market gardening, bee-keeping, poultrykeeping, and Village industries and it

is intended to begin the felling of

this autumn'.

Jordans Village is

established

timber and the planting of fruit trees

The brick kilns are erected on what would be the future site of Puers Field Flats, Clay was dug from a pit, bricks were fired in the kilns, and used to build the houses in the village









**Building work** gets underway

During the build Further Pegs was nicknamed Cocoa Cottage because all the workers went back there for a cocoa at the end of each day

1919

Jan

1919

1914



Friends Ambulance Unit







in 1914, a group of young Quakers meet at lordans Hostel for the inaugural meeting of the Friends Ambulance Unit (FAU). They were convinced that ambulance services would be woefully inadequate, so that offering such services could save many lives. It would also enable conscientious objectors to make a vital contribution. There was no conscription then, so they didn't have to get involved - their response came from their commitment to narticinating in a nonviolent way This first cohort trained in the orchard and the Mayflower Barn, and they were followed by other volunteers, Quaker and non-Quaker The FAU helped set up special ambulance trains in France and Belgium, and there were at least 8 hospitals in those countries staffed by the FAU. They also ran four hospitals in Britain, two of them in Quaker premises - a Cadbury house in Rirmingham and another in part of the Rowntree factory in York. By the end of the war there were about 1400 men serving in this way, and most of them

trained at Jordans.

A few weeks after the outbreak of World War 1

191

Beaconsfield Golf Links Halt opens - Now Seer Green and Jordans Station











6 A Committee is formed to create a village in Jordans, called The Jordans

At a meeting of theme French interested in the purchase of land at fortains, held at thronown House, Berk gragate, London, gth march 1916

Committee.

March 1916

Rosent Jone Humbyrn, A. Henry Breven, Olfred Humberg all & Enciet & Rosent, Edic Gult, J. Edward Hodykan, Maladon Sparker, Allow P. J. Cottasell and Henry Howard.

Elick 1. Houry Harris was asked to act as Eleck.

An extract from First Committee of Management Minutes. Note that Henry Harris was asked to be clerk and Albert P. I. Cotterell was also on the

Arthur Pickstock is introduced to the idea of a model village

When stationed in the Pangborne area in Berkshire whilst on leave from France. Arthur Pickstock meets and courts Rosa Jeanie Gray, who was then a ward of Fred and Rosa Hancock, her Uncle and Aunt, both of whom were Quakers



Fred Hancock prospectus to Arthur Pickstock while Arthur is in the trenches in France

Four strangers meet in a field (now the Village Green)

1919

The War is over and Arthur Pickstock has been contracted to help build a village in Jordans. He is the Master Carpenter and meets Fred Rowntree, the Architect, Sydney Lawson, the Master Builder, and Fred Hancock. the Horticulturalist. At that time the area was mainly woodland and fields. The entrance was a gate and stile on a public footpath from Jordans Lane, now known as Seer Green Lane. They surveyed the land and set out

The foundation stone for the first cottage is laid. It was the master builder's cottage (originally Ketton Cottage, now The Cottage).



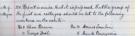
The idea of creating a Village Estate at Jordans took shape in 1915-1916 when land became available and enabled Friends to fulfil a long-cherished wish to do something to preserve the surroundings of the Jordans Meeting House. It was prompted by the knowledge that the owner of Dean Farm, was thinking of selling the fields facing the Meeting House (New Jordans) to a speculative builder. The Jordans Committee, which conceived the project, considered it an opportunity to establish a village community. They raised capital to setup a limited company under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, then in force. The declared aim was to create a village based on Christian principles and in a manner serviceable to the national well-being by promoting suitable industries (Jordans Village Industries) and to establish and carry on religious, social, recreative and educational works and institutions.

918

The Village was intended to be a community where artisans could ply their trades and skills in conditions that would provide a fuller opportunity for the development of character and self-expression than existed at the time elsewhere. It was not necessary to be a Quaker to join the Village.



These are the first group of cottages to be inhabited, known as Group A, on Green West Road, Building commenced in March '19 and was completed in Dec '19



First six families are allocated houses

3 Bart Cheston

28 April 1919



Typical Rent Book



RENT BOOK.

Team photo from 1949-

Jordans History Timeline 1919 - 1920

Players include:- H. Nicolson, Hughes, Migham, HB Ryan, Marton. MB Henev & Martin

1919

First village store is set

up in the front room of

Woodside, run part time by a Mr Tomlinson

Jordans Cricket Club formed

JORDANS FOOTBALL CLUB

Jordans FC is formed but only lasts one year

JVL is a Co-Operative Society and was incorporated on 15th January 1920 with the objective to "acquire, develop, maintain and govern an estate at Jordans ... by means of a village community"

1920 15 Jan

1920

14 July

First Village Sports

ANNUAL SPORTS

Old Jordans Hostel

Jordans Village Limited is incorporated

August 1920

RULES. 2. Notes of the read to be stated

RULES JORDAN'S VILLAGE CYCLING CLUB

Then onto two wheels

1920

Nollie Tomlin.
Frank William Bourgeois.
Nellie William Bourgeois
Frederick Hubert Hancock
Rosa Mary Hancock.
Jane Parfett.
Lucy Parfett. Arthur S, Picketock, Rosa Jeannie Pickstock, Arthur Fowler Parker, Annie Parker, Jack Morsman, Flora L, Morsman, George Bolam, William Mance, Violet Winifred Mance, Ronald Watter William

Ronald Walter William Ivy Winifred.

JORDANS VILLAGE CENSUS, AUG. 18, 1920

aarles Edward Brown.
Althern Brown.
Langeride.
Langeride.
Langeride.
Langeride.
Kathleen Ross Erin.
Molly Grace.
Fred Rowntree
Mary Anna Rowntree }
Henry George Fish.
Edith Kate Fish.
Kenneth George.
Parram Cheston. Charles Edward Brown.

Caroline Hancock.
George Stanley.
Lewis Harry.
Harry Burfoot.
Sydney Lawson.
Fanny Lawson.
Margaret Stafford.
Douglas W. Rowntree.
Winfired Rowntree.
Ann. (The Hut).

Nora Cundall, Wilfrid George Bligh, Ebenezer Worley. Annie Silverwood.

Pranes Kennedy,
Dorothy Kennedy,
The following, though not living within the actual boundaries
of the Village, are intimately associated with its life:

(Friends' Meeting House). William Ward.
Lutisa Ward.

1920

**Black Diamond Minstels** 

Troupe

They are formed by the

(Old Jordans Hostel). Adelaide Burtt Woodhead.
Total population—65



The Social Guild is formed

1919

Summer

In 1919 outside entertainment was almost non-existent. With the growth of the village some form of relaxation was a necessity, so the Social Guild was formed, which met in a room in the barn of Jordans Hostel, Several groups formed including art, literature, science, religion and an adult school.

### JORDANS VILLAGE SOCIAL GUILD

JORDANS VILLAGE SOCIAL GUILD When the work of building Jordans Village was begun in January, 1619, there was no community, no social life. Those who were responsible for these early beginnings had to gather work of the property of the social property o

its members, but above all to form a bond of fellowship and brotherhoids on necessary to such a scheme. The member of the member of the member of the member of the the first officers were: Fresident, Mr. S. Lawson; Secretary, Mr. F. Bowyers: Treasurer, Mr. C. Waller. So the Gulid was born, and although its first six months' term fell chiefly in summer, let the member of the lectures was arranged, including such subjects as architecture, music, horticulture, literature, &c. The first half-yearly busi-ness meeting was held on Wednesday, July so, 10s., and at this

1919 Oct

L-R unknown, Charles, Molly,

Laura, Kathleen and Kitty

The Browns are the first family to move

into a house in the village, The Homestead

1919

SHOW.

The willagers took a been interest or someof flower show this wear.

On the same day the village

holds a produce show

The Guild Hall is built



L-R Arthur Parker, Harry Burfoot, Sidney Farr, unknown, Arthur Pickstock (Senior) The Guild decides it needs somewhere to hold events, so work starts on the Guild Hall (now Village Hall) in August and six weeks later it

opened. The workers built it in their spare time. The entrance was adorned with a carved plaque with the motto "Each for all and all for each". Unfortunately the plaque disappeared in later years.

On New Years Day a chestnut tree was planted on the corner opposite Christow Cottage to commemorate the first anniversary of the undertaking of building the village.

Jan



WEDNESDAY, JULY 140

August 1920 18

Jordans' first newsletter

# PENN PIONEER

JORDANS NEWS-SHEET

EDITORIAL

MY GARDEN

THE CHILDREN'S PLAY-HOUR

green and tea garden.

Early plans for Jordans included a Village Inn with its own bowling





## **Jordans History Timeline 1921 - 1925**



natural amphitheatre

Jordans Dramatic Society is formed. They stage productions in the Mayflower Barn and Village Hall

1921

(a) the state of the state of the limited by the li

A concert held in the Mayflower Barn

> The first baby born in the village was Arthur Pickstock junior, at Puers, Green West Road on 1921 27th April 1921

> > 192

tionia.

Kees, Thomas Charles - Eva Edith - Beresia See. Leigh, Sound Species. Annie Markin. Carett, Corti. Keight, John Chronic Ray Striker S. Street Streets Arthur Attack Maranas, John William

Tuke Oven. Sidered. Nella Ellenbe

d. Walker George, Constitute, Miley Constitute \$8564. Size. Size. Copy. Lithur (1406-

The village is growing fast

22 January 1922

Strry. Springs.

1922

lanuary

rein, M. Wilson, Plumon.

The Village has a day trip to Brighton by Charabanc

1922

In December, 1923, J.V.I. Ltd. went into voluntary liquidation. We rejoice that many of our craftsmen did not sink with the wreck, but are still afloat after all their struggles and trials and are making a long pull for the shore under the name of Wilton & Co. Long live Wilton & Co. ! Hearty congratulations and good wishes to them; may they live to complete the village | A start has already been made.

This threatened the Village's very existence, and brought about the store's closure. Almost immediately, some residents subscribed capital for opening a shop to take its place.

> Jordans Village Industries wound up.



Beechgarth is completed. Mr & Mrs Robertshaw with the workforce

1923

JORDANS CRICKET CLUB

Of the many sports clubs only the Cricket Club remains

1925

1921

A road is cut through Crutches Wood



NOTES ON THE MAYFLOWER CEREMONY FEBRUARY 12, 1921

The second of th

Mayflower Ceremony for

Peace Arch in Canada

1921

Frank Mackenzie, a member of the British Columbia parliament came up with the idea to create a Peace Arch exactly on the U.S.-Canadian border that would be reachable from Vancouver by highway. The arch would honor the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Ghent, signed in 1814, which ended the War of 1812 with Britain.

One of the builders, Sam Hill, conceived of the idea to take a piece of wood from the Mayflower and place it in the Peace Arch, since besides marking the completion of the Pacific highway from the Canadian boundary to Mexico, the arch also commemorated a century of peace which existed between the United States and Great Britain.

ON 21st May 1921 a donation ceremony is held in Jordans, it was remarked that this would be the only time the ship would ever again be cut. Many people from the village attended including A.P.I. Cotterell made a speech. Other speakers included Mr Frank Terrace, Mr F.C. Wade, Agent General of British Colombia, Baron Moncheur, Belgian Ambassador and Dr Rendel Harris. Also Loie Fuller, an American actress and dancer who was a pioneer of both modern dance and theatrical lighting techniques made a speech. It is rumoured that Ms Fuller filmed the ceremony. Maybe one day we will find the footage.

Sam Hill received the pieces from the Mayflower and they were taken back to Canada in the trunk and one was inserted into the Peace arch and two other pieces remained in the

1922

Mixed fortunes for the sports clubs

JORDANS ALL SPORTS CLUB The Chib are in great need of funds, Will you help?
C. A. Manca, Hon, Sec.

CRICKET PITCH AND TENNIS COURT ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

These are doing well. Next year we hope to play upon them. Why not tether bell and howling greens, de? See to it T.M.C.! We have only space for a mere reference to three Societies which are likely to play an important part in our Village life:—

Village Store has a new home in what is now the Estate Office.

1922



Mr W. Hughes, Ivy Brown and an errand boy outside the village store. Mr Hughes used to deliver coal on his back to the cottages and residents brought their own produce for sale in the shop.

William K. Hughes was introduced to the idea of the village by Oscar Rowntree (of the Rowntree Chocolate family) who was a relation of Douglas Rowntree the Architect for Jordans Village Industries. As the village community grew it was decided by the Management Committee that the needs of the village would best be served by engaging a full time professional Grocer. William Hughes had been the family grocer to the Rowntree family in Bransby a small village to the north of York. It was because of his connection with the Rowntrees that he was offered the

First performance by the Dramatic society of "Ici on parle Français"

(I) THE JORDANS DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Plaque in Mavflower Barn where timber was taken to be placed in Peace Arch

Junior School started in Village Hall as a private school

1923

First telephone installed in the village in Calverts Cross

1924 The village store moves into

a building on what is the forecourt of the existing

The Village Store is run by a manager under a shop committee, a structure that continues to present day







Florence lived in a house named Wayside in East London, and it looks like she brought that name with her to Jordans, to the eponymously named house on Seer Green





Back row: Bert Ryan, Kitty Brown, Ivy Brown, Jack Morsman, Molly Brown, Front row: Muriel Saunders, Beatrice Chapman, Lillian Hughes, Whinnie Saunders



Jordans forms its own fire brigade!

Florence Feek, cofounder of the Ark builds a cottage in the Village.

1925

Aug 1925

Jordans Village Estates Ltd founded

> The wireless (radio) is perceived as a threat to the village's social activities

Midsummer Nights

Dream performed in

Crutches Wood

1925

June

The officials of the Guild are, we gather, a little concerned lest the growing vogue of "wireless" may tend to diminish the audiences of the Hall on all but the most popular occasions. There is no doubt that the broadcast programmes have made a secure place for themselves in the public estimation. Music and entertainment such as used to involve the trouble and expesse of an expedition to town, only to be undertaken at infrequent intervals, are now brought to our firesides night after night. The parent who cannot leave the children in the evening is no longer shut out from the opportunity of recreation. Those longer shut out from the opportunity of recreation. Those who appreciate music but have no executive ability are no longer starved for lack of music. Public men and leaders of thought in all departments of life have the nation for an audience, and the listener participates in great national occasions. On the other hand, "listenings such as the Guild organises. Something is lost in transmission however good the instrument, and the personal contact between a singer or lecturer and the audience has a value which will always give the old-fashioned concert or lecture a pull over a wireless transmission, while the more social occasions will always retain their own place in our lives.





The Dramatic Society is renamed The Jordans Players, and performs at a Midsummer Festival

1926

## Jordans History Timeline 1925 - 1934

A private school is started at The Croft by Mrs Roake, subsequently becoming Long Dene School.





Classroom at Long Dene

### Memories of Little Fir School by Phyllis Bligh

Very early, about 1922 or 1923, when there were only five or six children in the Village, a teacher was engaged by Jordans Village Ltd, and School was held in the Village Hall. Owing to small numbers this had to be given up, though Mrs. Robertshaw did carry on for a term in her garden but at Beechgarth. Owing to small numbers this had to be given up, though Mrs. Robertshaw did carry on for a term in her garden at Beechgarth.

In 1926 Little Fir Tree School was started as a private venture, and has so continued ever since except for one interval when premises were not available. Our first home was in Fir Tree Cottage where we were for five years. There were only five pupils at first, soon increasing to ten or more at times. Early pupils included Lilian Pickstock, Don Ryan, Oliver Dalton, Frank and Nancy Robertshaw, also three of the daughters of Mr. W.O.Saunders. In 1929 we rented classrooms from Long Dene school and continued there for a number of year. When these premises were no longer available, Little Fir Tree School lived for more than two years in the garden hut at Beechgarth and then carried on in private houses in Seer Mead, before returning to the Village Hall in

Little Fir Tree Nursery School starts in the Village Hall

Bypass through Welders

Lane threatens Jordans,

notably objected to by

GK Chesterton, a local

resident of Beaconsfield



The Penn Pageant, to celebrate the founding of Pennsylvania, is held in the yard of William Russell's farm (Old Jordans) where the Quakers held their first meetings for worship in the 17th Century. In the background is the Mavflower Barn.





Crutches Woods was donated as an open space in perpetuity by Henry Cadbury and Baron Trent of Nottinaham (aka Jesse Boot, who founded Boots the Chemist). Mr A. I. Cotterell is seen here unveiling the stone that still sits at the south-west entrance to the wood. The ceremony commemorated the first four acres of the wood being given for the use of the public.



Unveiling of Crutches Wood memorial stone





The Shop Committee decides to build a larger store on the site





The Shelter on the Green is officially opened

1931



## Jordans History Timeline 1936 - 1949



Minutes from 1936 Society Report. Chairman, GB Jeffery, notes that "During the year an agreement has been made with Jordans Tennis Club as a result of which a new grass court is in the process of construction which will replace the court hitherto used on the Village Green. The Society has provided the site at nominal rent and has made a loan of £75 to the club. The Club has provided guarantors for the repayment of the loan over a period of years.

> The Tennis Club moves

> > 1936

JORDANS VILLAGE FAIR SATURDAY, JULY 16 1938 ARCHIMAGON TO THE FAIR IS THEN THE TEAS, ICES & REFRESHMENTS -NCY DRESS PROCESSION

> Village Fair then and now

Long Dene School is sold to Leslie England (1936) and then to John Guinness (1938)

1936

JORDANS SCHOOL COUNTRY DANCING - 2:30pm FAMILY DOG SHOW

> Jordans Village School opens in the Village Hall with 12 children for one term

> > 1943

Chelsey Cottage licensed to sell veg

MINISTRY OF FOOD

were J. M. book 95. H. Brawn.

The State of State of

Crutches Wood & Cherry Tree Corner enfranchised by Deed as open spaces.

June 1940

to us september of his an entire lead in the conthe Tiller low Annual to a full-community of the State of

Jordans celebrates its Silver Jubilee

Jordans Music Club is formed by Sylvia Cook

JORDANS MUSIC CLUB THE BLECH STRING QUARTET Harry Blech (Violin) Keith Cummings (Viola) Max Salpeter (Violin) Douglas Cameron ('cello) PAULINE JULER (Clarinet) QUARTET FOR STRINGS IN F MINOR Op. 95 QUARTET FOR STRINGS IN D MAJOR, Op. 10. No. 2

> First performance by the Music Club

> > 1944 26 May



Fred Hancock retires as JVL secretary

ROGRAMME YAR WIND PRO WASK'T THOMAS THE VILLAGE RALL, ZOSDANG MODELER 17th, 19th a 20th

Players perform "The King who wasn't there"

The Ark, next to the Village Store is built



The Ark in 1939

'The Ark is built by Florence Feek and Laura Stead as a holiday home for girls living in a children's care and protection home called Wayside in West Ham. Wayside was destroyed in an air raid during WW2 and Florence Feek, who was visiting, died. It was never

rebuilt. From that time, The Ark became a temporary home for children in need of care and protection, and later a home for women, with or without children, who needed a temporary residence. It continued as a place for women in need of peace and recuperation in a community setting until it closed recently.



children at



War time meant special measures. Chelsey Cottage gets a license to sell vegetables that are being produced in the large garden at the rear of the house. In addition the Village is taking in evacuees. Many villagers host refugees from the conflict. Some were hosted in sheds and shacks in their gardens.



1944 Mary Rosso (L), with teacher Miss Stephenson in the middle

The Village School moves to its present site in Puers Lane















First Parish Council Meeting in the Mayflower Barn



Back row - Mr F. Lone, Mr Huntley, Mr Davidson, Front Row - Edwin Burrow, Mrs Ruffet, Mr Hancock, Mr Gloom



### Memories of Sebastian Bunce

In 1966, at 6 years old, I arrived at Jordans Village, with my social worker, suitcase and Teddy bear. Destination: The Ark. I remember crying and telling everyone that I did not want to stay here, that lasted for about 5 minutes, how lucky I was! My time at The Ark was very special to me and to all the children living there; it gave me security and an amazing place to grow up, surrounded by people who loved me very much, and a community that was accepting, caring and protective. It was one big family of about 12 children, an "Auntie" to look after us and the House mother who was called Hilda Pearce who ran the home and loved us all lots!! Not so much when we had been up to mischief, those could sometimes be painful experiences! I left the Ark in 1977 and lived in the village until 1987, when I left for 12 years before returning in 1999. Thank you Jordans Village for giving me such a great environment to grow up in, for being my family and for being such a wonderful place to live.

Junior Music Club perform "Scenes from Make Believe"



Players perform "Pilgrims

1951

Work commences

on Puers Field flats.

T'LE

PILGROUS PROGRESS

Progress" in the Mayflower Barn

Jordans History Timeline 1951 - 1967







The BBC broadcasts from the Village Hall

First Edition of The Mayflower - a Jordans Newsletter - is published



IN THE BEGINSING

This article provides a real insight into the early

Familiar Issues – The Shop needs support



What is the Peace Group?

1950's

1950's

To the east of the village is the Jordans Way estate. Unravelling the history of Jordans Way is not easy and too complex to go into detail here. The Jordans Way and Long Wood Drive developments were affected predominantly by the affairs of the Sinclairs, who moved into what would become known as The Old House [originally 'Oakfield'] in 1949. Mary Gwladys Sinclair came from a wealthy family and lived off a Trust which, over the years, provided the money for the acquisition of land and the development of Jordans Way, Meadowside, and Long Wood Drive, now amounting to 44 properties. The properties are relatively recent and most arose from the block of land acquired by Mary Gwladys Sinclair in 1953.



1956

Familiar issues - Is it time

for a New Village Hall?

1956

Jordans Way estate

1st June 1958

1950's

1950's

In Wilton Lane modernist developments by Gresham Dodd & David Jenkin are built. They are very different from





In the 1950's Jordans had many clubs and societies including :-

Social Guild Conservatives Folk Dance Group National Assembly of Women Film Group Cricket Club & Tennis Club

Women's Institute Jordans Labour Party Music Club Jordans and Seer Green Peace Group United Nations Association Garden Club - started in 1955 Jordans Liberal Association Painting Club - started in 1956

Oct

First meeting of the Film Group for a talk by Lotte Reiniger

Charlotte "Lotte" Reiniger was a German film director and the foremost pioneer of silhouette animation. Her best known films are The Adventures of Prince Achmed, from 1926-thought to be one of the oldest surviving featurelength animated films



age Hall. The Chairman said that the Committee hoped to call a general meeting devoted exclusively to the question of a new village hall, in three or four weeks' time.

From Mayflower 1957 vol3 no 2

lease with the Village School

JVL signs 99 year

Leasehold Reform Act becomes law

1967

The Leasehold Reform Act gives leasehold tenants of houses the right to buy the freehold. The right to buy the freehold (and any intermediate leasehold interest, for example the head lease) without the landlord's agreement is called 'enfranchisement'. This led to the village Management Scheme.

V.H. - Village Hall, S.A.W. - National Association of Women The diary of events for the first 6 months of 1955

> We congratulate Michael Thorne on his car. It has been seen to travel three-quarters of the way round the Green without assistance

p.m. V.H.



It seems that the Players initially arranged film screenings that evolved into the Film Group. In 1954 programme included "Jour de Fete" and "Crime Passionnel"

Tennis Club holds its first tournament





### About the Tenant Members' Committee

The TMC as it is usually called organizes a number of public events during the year. The most important event is The Village Supper, which is held in the Village Hall on the nearest Saturday to February 15th, to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the Village. The Supper is more than just a social occasion; it is an integral part of village life. The TMC also holds a Summer Fair to raise. funds to maintain or improve Village amenities and to carry out other activities such as Sports Day, a jazz picnic (now Music on the Green) and carols on Christmas Eve. It also runs a Mutual Aid Scheme.

Over the years, the TMC helped to start the first Village Store and induced the Railway Company to build extra accommodation at Seer Green and Jordans Station. Although the TMC organizes a number of regular events, it is not just a social committee. As the medium wherehy residents can play a part in the running of the Village, the TMC's most important function is to send three of its members annually to represent the Tenant Members and residents, whether shareholders or not, on the Management Committee.



Jordans Village Ltd





JVL is a Co-Operative Society and was incorporated on 15 January 1920. The Society is governed by a Management Committee consisting of twelve Members, eight of whom are elected directly by ballot. One Committee Member is a representative of the local Quaker Meeting, and three Members are nominated by the Tenant Members' Committee (TMC). All Committee Members are volunteers. IVI owns the land with boundaries of Wilton Lane on the West, Jordans Lane & Chalky Field to the East, and Longbottom Lane to the South. It is responsible for the upkeep of the roads, Village Green (a designated Conservation Area), and Crutches Wood. JVL also owns two agricultural fields known as Manor Farm Fields to the west of Wilton Lane and licenses them for grazing to a local farmer. JVL also owns and maintains 61 residential properties on its land - 40 cottages and 21 flats. The properties within the Conservation Area are Grade II listed. Members of JVL may apply to

join its Waiting List for housing, subject to

Committee is nominated as Chairman and

over the years they have played influential

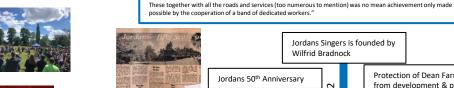
roles in the fortunes of the Village.

certain eligibility criteria. One member of the









Jordans Singers is founded by Wilfrid Bradnock

1992

1973

**Jordans History Timeline 1967 - 1983** 

"A word now about the workers (or pioneers) in the adventure which it certainly was to create a village with all the

all in residence is not far off the mark. There is no doubt at about the fact that the operation appealed to a body of

London. One walked - cycled or went by pony and trap - no gas or electricity until the cottages were built.

ideals of which you must be acquainted by now. It has been said that Jordans Village is unique, which it will be agreed by

workers with the highest ideal of what had been envisaged and entered into the same spirit. The adventure started off by the lifting of the first sod to commence the foundations of the first house for the master builder after which began a

hive of industry. ...It was much more remote in those days with no modern traffic and only one train per day each way to

Entertainment only what one made, so hence the Guild Hall (now Village Hall) which the workers built in their own spare

time. Then came the first village store to cater for the hungry needs of the workers in the way of food (yes coal) to say

Estate Office before it was enlarged as it stands today. After the work, play advanced to a remarkable standard beyond

all expectations. The cycling club - football club - cricket club - tennis courts - lectures - concerts - music - and yes the

Black Diamond Minstrels. Time of course does not permit of details of all the varied saw mill ( the only mechanical aid)

the joinery – cabinet making - blacksmiths shops, to mention only the main department of the undertaking. It will be

appreciated that all this was at the very difficult time at the end of the 1914 war. Although labour was plentiful, supplies

nothing of newspaper and tobacco. It was amazing, you named it and there it was in that small front portion of the

Jordans 50th Anniversary

1969

and materials were scarce and costly supply.

Extracts from Arthur Pickstock's speech on 50th anniversary of Jordans Village

Protection of Dean Farm from development & plot splitting is put in place.











### This stellar cast all performed for the Music Club in the Mayflower Barn

Jacqueline du Pre OBE was a British cellist. Despite her short career, she is regarded as one of the greatest cellists of all time



Yehudi Menuhin KBE was an American-born violinist and conductor who spent most of his performing career in Britain. He is widely considered one of the greatest violinists



Dame Janet Abbott Baker CH DBE FRSA is an English mezzo-soprano best known as an opera,



Dame Olga Maria Elisabeth Friederike Schwarzkopf, DBE was a German-born Austro-British soprano. She was among the foremost singers of lieder, and was renowned for her performances of Viennese operetta, as well as the operas of Mozart, Wagner and Richard



Edward Benjamin Britten, Baron Britten OM CH was an English composer, conductor and pianist. He was a central figure of 20th-century British classical music, with a range of works including opera, other vocal music, orchestral and chamber pieces.



Humphrey Lyttelton was a Jazz musician whose love affair with the trumpet began in 1936, he formed his first band 12 years later and has since wrote over 120 original compositions. He was also the host of "I'm sorry I haven't a clue" on Radio 4 for 30 years.

Over the years the Music Club has held many wonderful concerts. They have also had some illustrious performers.

Cherry Tree Corner is built

1967-1969

The plot used to be the sewage works for the village. It included a large 40-50' filter bed fed by a collecting tank. To fill it in they filled it with rubbish and rubble and anything else they could find including an old car!



1969

Jordans Players perform "The Nettle and Mavflower"

"The Nettle and the Mayflower" was specially written for Jordans 50th anniversary by Barry Sullivan, It was directed by Tenniel Evans and performed in the Mayflower Barn by the Jordans Players.





Dec

Seer Green train crash

killing 3 and injuring 5

On 11 December, the driver of an empty train from

branch lying across the track. He stopped to clear it.

the empty train had stopped, he looked at his signal

empty train was running towards Beaconsfield.

Marylehone to Princess Rishorough came across a fallen

Meanwhile the 07:31 from Marylebone to Banbury was being

cautioned by the signalman about the overhanging branches.

The signalman then attempted to clear the starting signal for

the train to proceed but the lever was locked. Unaware that

box diagram and thought that the indications showed that the

Assuming that the signal lever had frozen (when in fact it was

electrically locked by the stationary train), he authorised the

driver to pass the signal at danger, and the train set off into

the still-falling snow. Glancing again at his diagram, he saw

that the lights towards Beaconsfield were not in fact lit, and

realised that the empty train was still in the section near Seer

Green. He quickly went to the window and tried to attract the

conditions and ran into the back of the empty train at about

partly telescoped underneath the rear coach of the empty

train, and the driver and three passengers were killed. Five

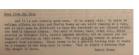
driver's attention by shouting, but nobody heard him.

The driver of the Banbury train drove too fast for the

30 mph. The front coach of the Banbury train

others were also injured.

An ever recurring theme: the shop needing support





The Village Store is extended with a second storey added containing two flats











The new Village Store was opened by Paul Daniels and broadcast live on Good Morning Britain.





Many things changed over the year but - using a very Jordans word - the 'ethos' has

Origins of the Jordans Nursery

1980's



## Jordans History Timeline 1987 - 2005

"The area

special

identified in the

designated as of

architectural or

historic interest,

the character or

appearance of

which is

desirable to

preserve or

enhance",

Jordans is designated a

conservation area

map above is



The village holds a celebration supper in the Village Hall on the nearest Saturday to the anniversary the of laying of the first foundation stone in 1919. It is called the Founders Supper and this year the TMC celebrates the 70th anniversary

The Founders Supper

1989



The Burns' Day Storm was an extremely violent windstorm that took place on 25-26 January 1990 over north-western Europe. It is one of the strongest European windstorms on record. Paul Woodham was on his way home on the school bus. A tree had fallen on Longbottom Lane blocking the road, so the kids walked up to the village via Wilton Lane. As Paul walked through Crutches Wood he was hit by a falling tree. A stone in the woods commemorates his life. The Paul Woodham Cup is awarded to the best Lego model at the Flower and Produce Show every September. Approximately 75% of the wood was destroyed and replanted with mixed woodland trees.



Crutches Wood storm is fatal and decimates the wood.

1990



Village store front extension

Rent Row Rumbles as the residents challenge JVL Committee

then in 1993 they went up by 5% and

the following year by 9.5%. This

complaints from the tenants.

caused a great deal of unrest and

2002

1987

Jordans Jags entertain the village with their stunts.



Rich Key jumping 6 people



John Benford and Andy Allen jumping over ramps.



Line up includes Andy Allen, Mark Loveday, Cameron Summers, Rich Key, Peter Key, and Jon Stretton





Jordans cricket dispute goes national.

1993/94

1 INDEPENDENT Keep hitting sixes, judge tells village cricket team: Charles Oulton reports on a neighbour's failed attempt to stop the flow of boundaries into his

A typical year of TMC activity, similar to almost every year since the village was formed

1997

Disaster at the Quaker Meeting House

Fire rips through the oak-beamed roof of the Quaker Meeting House. It takes 3 years of restoration before it opens again







Mr and Mrs David Lacey moved to Jordans in 1988, their house "Covers" sited at deep square leg. Despite cycling over from Seer Green as a boy to watch the cricket, Mr Lacey nevertheless complained that the balls came into his garden. In 1993 a county court summons was issued by Mr Lacey, a temporary injunction granted stopping the cricket, resulting in all concerned pitching up in court at Slough in May 1994. Bewigged barristers battled balefully- or bail fully- before the Bench, His Honour Judge Hague QC. In a forty-six page written judgement he dismissed the Laceys' claim and cricket could continue on the Village Green. On 29 August the summer game recommenced to a sizeable crowd, much cheer and joy in most quarters of the Village, followed by a celebratory barbeque on the green afterwards. The late Betty Stephens painted the watercolour of "The Last Match" (which of course happily it wasn't). However the sound of willow was not heard for much longer on the green.

In 2002 the club merged with two other clubs, Chalfont Taverners and Green Dragons, necessary because of reduced playing resources in village cricket. Jordans Taverners CC was thus formed and the Club moved to Seer Green, staying as close as possible to Jordans, but to a ground with more extensive playing and practice facilities.



The sale has an impact on the Village meaning it no longer had use of the Mayflower Barn for concerts and performances from the Players.

Old Jordans is sold

2006

commences







The left side of this aerial photograph shows the bowling green as it was next to the tennis courts



The allotments are moved to the bowling green that was no longer being used due to lack of players.

2010

**Big Camp Starts** 

Big Camp starts and has become a

fixture in the Jordans diary. Villagers

stars, enjoy storytelling, a campfire,

stargazing and other games.

and friends get to camp out under the

## **Jordans History Timeline 2006 - 2019**





Once a year an Estate Manager's XI plays the Village XI for the Ted & Hubert Cup named after Hubert Douglass and Ted Salisbury, both great players for JVCC. The Colin Brown Cup is awarded to the player of the match.







Cricket on the Green returns, thanks to former JVL Secretary Colin Brown

2014



Welcome to the new Jordans Village Community Newsletter! It has been a scorching month and was packed full of fun, with both the Village Fair and Big Camp a great success, but it was also tinged with sadness at the possing of

send in some news, whatever the subject, we would love to hear from you, and hav

John Bell, Editor Chris Jenkins, Sub-Editor

Lorraine Bristow, Village Store Editor

Jordans monthly Community Newsletter is relaunched and delivered to residents by

2015







Crazy stunts on the Green as Philip Schofield shoots a commercial

2008

Chelsey Garden Cottages development







The Jolly Quaker opens under "publican" Chris Waymouth. It is open on the first Friday of every month.



Tatiana Suarez came up with the design for the Jolly Quaker pub sign, which was then made by Triss Darby. Here it is being presented to Chris Waymouth, publican & Sally Wilson, Chair of Jordans







Film screenings are back in the village when the Jordans Picture House opens with a screening of Suffragette.



Julie Barnett designed the retro-style logo for Jordans Picture House



Oct 2016







Frederick Forsythe presents "The Day of the Jackal" at the

Sept 2017





Jordans holds its 100th Founders supper in the Village Hall

Feb 2019









