February 2019

THE LINK







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- Farewell Mary Smith

...and much more!

Parish magazine of Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech

£1

Welcome to the February Link

Bridget, Paul and I have really enjoyed our first few months at The Link and we have had some very positive feedback, thank you. Bridget and I have put together the content and Paul is the designer. Bridget also runs all the subscriptions, advertising and the publishing side of things with the unfailing and patient help of Phil Lotter at Newgraphic. Thank you Phil, and also all the regular contributors, it is amazing how quickly the new month comes around!

We have developed two regular slots in the magazine - a profile of a local person (this month the obituary of Mary Smith) and a short "What I do" article (this month Falconhurst) – and we would welcome further contributions from you. You can write the piece which we would edit or else we could interview you and write it up ourselves. If you have someone whose story you think should be told please do get in touch and we can organise a profile. "What I do" can be an "advertorial" for a small business you run or you could promote a charity or local group you are involved in - whatever you want to write should be about 250 words long.

As well as the paper copy delivered to your door you can find a PDF on the hever.org website so the magazine is never far away - if you haven't already, please pay your subscription..... and do remember that all feedback is very welcome.

Joanna Wade



news from the pews

It seems impossible that already plans need to be made for Lent. Ash Wednesday falls on 6th March. What kind of Lent series would work for you? So, readers, I have some questions for you:

(1) How would you like to spend an hour or so, once a week? You might prefer to study a book, or join in a 'conversation', or something else altogether. You can use it as a chance to be challenging or thoughtful. I have the seeds of an idea for our shared Lenten journey this year, but I'd like to hear from you.
(2) When could you set the time aside for an hour or so during those 5 weeks – weekdays or at the weekend, daytime or evening?
(3) Where shall we meet? In the Parish Office, in church, in one of our pubs – or somewhere else?
You can let me know directly, in person, by phone, or email. Or you can talk to your Churchwardens. Then we can all put our heads together and make 2019 a year to remember!

Rev Wendy Izod

St. Paul's Four Elms
St. Paul's Church celebrated Christmas with its usual Christmas Crib tableau and beautiful floral decorations. Due to inclement weather the usual outdoor carols and readings on Sunday 23rd December, accompanied by Edenbridge Town Band, were moved inside. Perhaps the delicious aroma of mulled wine and mince pies enticed so many to join us, although many said that the carols in our village Church is a wonderful start to the Christmas season. All involved say thank you for joining us and making it such a very special service. Our retiring collection of £200 was sent to the charity "Crisis".

The family service on Christmas morning was equally as happy and it is a pleasure that St. Paul's Church is able to hold this service. Café Church on Sunday 13th January was moved into the Church as its usual venue, the Parish Rooms, was without heating. Although different from the Parish Rooms the "Café" continued in its new home and the children (and adults) learnt about the Baptism of Jesus and the significance of our Baptism.

Despite being early to promote our biggest fundraiser, The Four Elms Village Fete, it is on our collective minds at this time of the year. We have some changes. After around 15 years Mrs Pat Fletcher has decided that she wants to step down from managing the Tea Tent (a Church Stall). Pat and her team do a wonderful job, often on very hot afternoons. We thank Pat for her sterling work and, while we hope that someone from her excellent team will pick up the reins (sorry teapots!) and take over the management of the Tent, there is always room for more assistance. But this is a note to say a huge thank you to Pat. You have worked so hard and always with a smile. 2019 brings new challenges in

the Benefice and St. Paul's Church is no exception. The PCC means to address the options and work towards a more inclusive church within our community.

Christina Hodson

St Peter's Hever

Christmas already seems a long time ago but the January edition had already gone to print by the time it started in earnest so here are some highlights to mull over as the days get longer.....

The services were all well attended with about 200 at the Crib service on Christmas Eve which was very pleasing. We were delighted to be able to welcome people into our lovely warm church thanks to the Friends of St Peter's who helped to pay for a lovely new boiler. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Friends who last year provided a new sound system complete with fully functioning hearing Loop and new curtains, carpet and kneelers - what would we do without them? Sue Hart, the secretary rose to the challenge of organising it all, including getting permission from the Diocese to work on our Grade 1 listed building - in church-speak called "a faculty" - which takes a lot time, effort and patience. We also sorted out some better external lighting to illuminate the path from the lychgate and make the entrance more welcoming.

The carol supper was popular as ever and now we have started our regular parish lunches on the second Thursday at the Village Hall from 12. Everyone in the villages is very welcome - do come along! Also please look into our short weekly services on Wednesdays 9.30-10 and Thursdays 4.30-5pm.

We look forward to another busy year ahead, sadly to be marked by Wendy's retirement in November. The Diocese is consulting the rural parishes about their future and the way forward is as yet unclear but I and the PCC are doing all we can to secure the best possible arrangement for Hever.

Jane Rosam
Churchwarden

Markbeech

After the whirl of Christmas, January has been a little quieter in Markbeech and we have been contemplating yet again the way forward for our little parish. We are delighted that several young families have moved into the neighbourhood over the last months and to make our offering more inclusive we have instigated a family service on the third Sunday of each month. We are hoping that people will appreciate the blend of old and new and see it as a way of introducing children to the traditions of the church in a more child friendly format with lots of participation from the young ones, plus coffee and buns! The style of the service is still a 'work in progress' and we are hoping for suggestions and contributions from the congregation.

By the time you read this we will have had our first family service but if you

have missed it, put the third Sunday in February (17th Feb) in your diary and come and see what we are doing. All are very welcome young and old.

Also this month we will be hosting another lunch in the village hall. This time on February 12th, 12.30 for 1.00pm. There will be good soup and cheese and jolly company and all are welcome. We hope to see people from anywhere in the benefice (and beyond?). It's a great opportunity to winkle out those neighbours who don't get out as much as they might and bring them along, again young and old!

If you can, please let us know that you are coming.
Email marielou@me.com or ring or text 07860 436668.

Marielou Linklater
Churchwarden

THREE SPIRES

United benefice of Hever, Four Elms & Markbeech
Rev. Wendy Izod (01342) 850738, izodiham@gmail.com

Benefice website: Threespires. wordpress. com
Community website: www.hever.org



Speaker meetings of U3A

(University of the Third Age, though not academic) held on the last Tuesday every month 2-4pm at Crockham Hill Village Hall. Anyone retired/semi retired/over 50 is welcome.

26 Feb - **Japanese Festivals and Celebrations** - Lesley Gould

26 March - **Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies** - Martin Lloyd

30 April - T**he Wonderful Wildlife of Edenbridge** - Mike Reed

Hever Parish Council - Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech

Call for Sites for Local Needs Homes.

*Hever Parish Council is working with English Rural Housing Assoc. to propose the development of a small scheme of affordable homes for **local** people.*

Do YOU own some land for sale? Ideally, it would be close to a village centre and be 3/4 an acre (or more) in size. In some cases, land has been gifted as a legacy to the Community by landowners who wish to support such projects.

see hever.org or contact clerk@hever.org. Deadline 28 February 2019.

Any proposals would go through the full planning process and full local consultation

the Annual Markbeech Book Fair

Saturday 23rd March

BOOKS WANTED

We are now collecting good quality books for this event, so start spring cleaning those shelves!

Hardbacks • Paperbacks • Children's books • DVDs

To donate, please contact:
Anna Hopwood: annamart23@gmail.com / 07811 956767
Gemma Wilkinson: gemmabain@doctors.org.uk / 07788 553867

Hever Horticultural Society talk

Hever village hall, Wednesday, 20th February, 8pm.

All welcome to 'All things nutty' by Alexander Hunt of Potash farm, St. Mary's Platt. They farm various nut varieties and turn them into nut based products.

Village screen film club at Hever Castle Golf Club

Friday 15 February
The Post



Second only to the Watergate scandal was the discovery of the Pentagon papers. Set in 1971, The Post depicts the true story of attempts by journalists at The Washington Post to publish classified documents regarding the 30-year involvement of the United States government in the Vietnam War. Starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks.

The films (all less than two hours long) start at 8pm and doors open at 7pm for the pre-show meal and bar - with ice cream and popcorn in the interval.

Tickets are a suggested donation of £5 for the film or £13 to include the meal. You can book with Bridget Harris on 01732 700986 or bcharris@btinternet.com or buy tickets at the door. However PLEASE pre-book your meal by the Wednesday morning before the show if you would like to eat.

CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE

HISTORIC HOUSE • COLLECTIONS • VENUE

LITERARY FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATES: Saturday 4th-Tuesday 7th May 2019

Chiddingstone Castle is delighted to announce the dates for next year's Literary Festival. Due to its increasing popularity next year's festival is expanding to FOUR days over the first Bank Holiday in May. The full line-up will be announced in the New Year with details of how to pre-register for priority tickets available on 28th February, 24hrs before going on general sale on 1st March 2019.

The Castle, Collections, Tea Room and Gift Shop are now closed until our 2019 season : Sunday 31st March - Wednesday 30th October

www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk hello@chiddingstonecastle.org.uk | 01892 870347

In memory of Mary Smith



Mary Smith, the much loved proprietor of Bradford's Household Store in Edenbridge High Street which closed a few years ago, sadly died in December. This is an extract from her son Stuart's eulogy at her funeral:

"Mum was born in 1947 in Four Elms. Her early years were spent with the family following her Dad, a Sergeant Major in the Royal Artillery, around various postings but they would always come back for Christmas and summer holidays. A few times they travelled down all theway from Edinburgh in a motorbike and sidecar, her father, my Grandad riding the bike with my Granny, Sheila, Mary and Pat the dog all in the sidecar!

After four years, they returned to Four Elms to stay and got a house in 1 Styles Cottages. Mum went to Four Elms Primary school and was a scorer for the cricket club next door. She was also an avid player of Stoolball (a cricket-like game for those of you not familiar) which she absolutely adored. It was whilst scoring a cricket game at the grand of age of 13, that she met my Dad.

When Dad decided to leave home and go to sea at 16, Mum decided (quite understandably) she didn't want to be stuck attached to a boy who was possibly gone for up to six months at a time, and so she dumped him and went out with other people. Unfortunately for her every time Dad was home on leave, he used to turn-up to Gran and Grandad's and much to Mum's annoyance, because they liked him, she kept finding he was ..... well.... there!

Eventually that tactic obviously worked though. After school Mum joined a local estate agents, Powell and Partners, a place she worked for the vast majority of her working life. After Dad left the sea and Helen and I came along, we lived in Edenbridge. We were aware that we didn't have a great deal of money as kids but it's only when you grow up that you appreciate some of the things Mum did – Mum took a job cleaning in the evenings.

After the Estate Agents closed, Mum didn't want to be idle and so took a job working in Bradfords Household Store. Some years after that she was made aware that Bradfords were

looking to sell that shop which would have meant her and her good friends would be out of a job: her response, buy the business! Still keeping the Bradford's name, but wholly her business.

Looking back it takes some amazing guts to buy a small business with the risk that entails. Every now and again there'd be the odd difficult customer who would demand to see the manager; knowing Mum as I do, she'd love responding to this. Whether she actually went out the back to "get him" and then came back out, I don't know, I can certainly imagine her doing that.

In later years she was overjoyed to become a Nanny to Thomas and Daniel, and just a year ago a Granny to Ellie. She was in short an amazing Granny, whether it be making Victoria sponges with the boys or on the floor with Ellie encouraging her to crawl.

Mum was absolute resolute that she wanted to die at home. She hated hospitals and discharged herself more often than they let her out. When she had her first heart attack six years ago, the Consultant told her that she was stressing him out and that he kept looking out the window and expecting to see her sprinting across the car park!

I spoke to Mum the night before she died, she said she was feeling better and looking forward to Christmas shopping at the weekend. So as much as it's a shock for everyone,this is the way it had to be.

No pain, no suffering and absolutely no hospitals!

Benefice monthly rainfall in millimeters

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Four Elms												
2017	67	50	22.5	9	59.5	71	74					
2018					62.7	1.2	44.7	67.2	17.1	38	96	70
Hever												
2017	73	53	19.5	10	60.5	67	70	37	42	36	56.5	
2018	79	36	81	65.5	79	0	36	63	32	41	127.5	81
Markbeech												
2017	73	50	26	6	63	72	76	41	43.5	34.5	55	
2018	83	40	82	77.25	70.05	1.5	51	68.5	33	47.5	105.5	91.5

Hever Parish Council

Your Hever Parish Council
PROUDLY REPRESENTING HEVER, MARKBEECH & FOUR ELMS
Any questions? Please contact clerk@hever.org

Hever Parish Council (made up of 10 volunteer local Councillors) – next meeting is 20th March 7.30pm Four Elms village hall – do come along!

The planning committee has been studying Sevenoaks District Council's local plan (with proposals for a medical centre on the Four Elms road) and a last minute proposal by a landowner and agent for 450 houses between the Hartfield and Hever Roads. We have been working closely with Hever Residents Association on this. Our priority is to support, if at all possible, affordable homes for local people – we are considering sites across the parish with English Rural Housing Association. Many young residents tell us that they want to stay in the area but need a realistically sized and affordable property and those who wish to downsize also wish to stay locally and are desperate for 2 – 3 bedroomed homes. Watch this space!

The good news, is that the Council have agreed a proposed budget for 2019 – 2020 which will see a REDUCTION in the parish council part of your Council Tax bill of ~7%. This is down to our careful spending and raising lots of grant money to help pay for the new playground at Four Elms. Have you been to see it yet? Do go, there is something for every age!

As the weather turns colder, please see www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/what-we-look-after/winter-service to see the routes that are gritted and location of salt bins.

We are busy planning for Summer – supporting the annual litter pick over Easter and working with Neverworld festival (Hever) to ensure that any disruption to locals is kept to a minimum. Perhaps you are a local musician, entertainer, builder or food producer or looking for some holiday work – do get in contact with them – it would be great for the festival to support lots of local businesses. We have been assured that this will be the only festival on the site during the year.

It's District and Parish Council elections this May…..could YOU...

- Represent the views of local people
- Bring fresh ideas about local services
- Help keep this community a good place in which to live?

You may be just the person your community needs! Find out what Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech Parish Councillors can do and how to stand for election...
www.kentalc.gov.uk/Becoming_a_Local_Councillor
www.hever.org clerk@hever.org
Facebook: Hever Parish Council

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE MEETING IN MARCH to find out what we do, tell us your views, see how you can stand for election and also what you can do for your community.

Charlotte Cole
Clerk to Hever Parish Council
www.hever.org

Sevenoaks council news

Forty years ago precisely, Britain was in the grip of 'The Winter of Discontent'.

The image of rubbish piled high in Leicester Square is perhaps that which has become most associated with the period. There the waste remained for just under a month.

Fast forward to the present day and headlines are being made once again: "Monthly bin collections in Welsh county."

It is a rather indulgent comparison. The two, besides both being real examples, are unrelated bar one important detail – waste sitting uncollected for a month. Not a situation in which you or I would wish to find ourselves, particularly given it's reported families in the second have resorted to paying up to £450 a year for extra collections.

It is a laboured line but no less important: Sevenoaks District Council is the only authority in Kent which has maintained weekly rubbish and recycling collections. In no other part of the county, or much of the country, is everything collected every week.

I am proud to have been the councillor who has maintained and overseen this unique service these past three and a half years. But I am even more proud of the team who make it a reality, week in and week out. Having been out with the crews, I can attest to what hard work it is.
So, once collected, what happens to the waste? Less than two percent goes to landfill, meaning approximately ninety-eight percent is either recycled via Kent County Council or reused to produce energy.

That's a tremendous achievement, particularly as just five years ago the landfill rate stood at over twenty percent. But we still need to make further progress. Not only does taking care to minimise waste and recycle save the environment, the more 'green' the method of disposal the more it keeps pounds in the pocket, saving money for you and me, our friends and our neighbours.

Despite rarely featuring in careers advice, waste – or 'resource' in industry terms – is an exciting world in which fortunes are made and cutting-edge technology employed.

I would be pleased to discuss any aspect of my work, so do feel free to get in touch.

Matthew Dickins
District Councillor for Cowden & Hever
cllr.dickins@sevenoaks.gov.uk
07910 328 110



Hever Residents Association

AGM

7.30 pm Hever Village Hall

Wednesday, 27th February

Please come along and meet the committee and tell us what you would like us to achieve this year.

Wine and nibbles will be available.

news from How Green Nursery

February can be a very uncertain month here at the nursery from a weather perspective. We've had years where the weather has been settled and spring-like kick starting the gardening season early. We've had other years where easterly winds have brought snow and ice, gardeners taking solace in the warmth of an open fire and a good seed catalogue! Either way we're busy preparing for the manic weeks ahead. The nursery is creaking at the seams with potted bulbs, perennials, grasses, herbs, alpines and now trees and shrubs, all waiting to burst into life with the onset of spring.

Throughout February we take delivery of bare root perennials, a laborious job as we have to pot them by hand and not through our high-tech potting machine. Thousands of summer annual seeds are sown for local authority bedding contracts and cuttings for patio plants are potted.

Over two acres of greenhouses and tunnels have their annual clean. An important job to get rid of algae and dirt thus increasing light levels to the plants within. 2019 will be the seventh year in a row that we have grown for the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show. The 'World Cup' of horticulture tests garden designer, lLandscaper and grower to the limit. It is imperative we supply the plants in peak condition for the garden to be in with a shout for a lucrative medal. A tough ask when held to ransom by the weather extremes of late! This year we are growing for the Donkey Sanctuary based in Devon. The 'Donkeys Matter' garden designed by Chelsea gold medal winners Williams & Prebensen in the Artisan category celebrates the 50th anniversary of the charity.

The dreaded Brexit word looks set to challenge our industry next month. A fall in the pound will increase prices in the seeds and cuttings we import from Holland. Free movement of plants through our borders could be compromised and biosecurity issues could pose problems in the supply chain. This being said we remain extremely positive and hope this will encourage people to buy British grown plants.

We are a strictly wholesale nursery and supply garden designers, landscapers & local authorities. We do however have a series of very special public open weekends throughout the year. With over 2500 different plants totalling around 600,000 in stock, there is sure to be something to entice you! We also serve delicious tea and cake in our lovely nursery garden & summerhouse. Our dates for your diary for 2019 are as follows:
Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th April
Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th June
Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd September

Simon Sutcliffe
How Green Nursery

Hall Bookings

Four Elms:
Village Hall – Mr Leigh 01732 700514
Hever – Mrs Ryan 01732 864168
Markbeech – Mrs Paige 01342 850328

Councils

Kent County Councillor
Peter Lake 07740 701695
Sevenoaks District:
Matthew Dickins 07910 328110
Hever Parish:
Charlotte Cole 01732 865547

schooltime

news from Hever

A Happy New Year from Hever Primary School. We hope you had an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas holiday!

Team Hever received a wonderful Christmas present... the best primary schools in Kent according to SATs results were revealed and Hever was included in Kent's best performing schools for high scores. Our eighth position was reported in The Times league table which delighted everyone. We are so proud of our students! Hever children know when it comes to getting the best results, practice really does make perfect and our children are working hard to achieve, to attain and make progress.

In the first week back of school, we had a visit from international footballer Fil Kamps. Fil is a Great Britain and England international player. Fil first started playing football at the age of four, dreaming of one day representing his country. He played for several different club teams in his youth before to representing his county and signing for Charlton Athletic in 2012 and to win the English Deaf Football League and the British Deaf Plate before transferring to Fulham in 2013. He joined us to tell us a little about his journey and to work with all year groups and leading PE activities.

Fil was brilliant with all the children and encouraged everyone to follow their dreams and work hard to be the best they can. Fil is proof that you can achieve your goals, regardless of disability and that everyone has their own talents. Thank you Fil for inspiring our children and being a wonderful role model for them. The children are feeling motivated by Fil's quote: DREAM BIG, WORK HARD AND STAY HUMBLE

The children have also been focused on the themes of fairness, injustice, the rights of minorities, peaceful change and inspirational leaders. In assembly children learnt about Martin Luther King Day to coincide with his birthday, 15/01/1929 and Black History Month. The children were asked to sit and reflect on the most important messages from this story and to consider their own dreams.

Children read prayers including 'We thank you for the life of Dr Martin Luther King and what we can all learn from it. Help us to remember that, in the words of Dr King himself: Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Amen.'

Joanna Stratton

news from Four Elms

Happy New Year from Four Elms Primary School! In 2019 we continue with our learning experiences putting learning in a real life context. But first, let's briefly return to 2018 and an

update on our school's performance at the Kent Junior Schools Cross Country Championships.

Four Elms Dream Team
A huge well done to the Cross Country Team who took part in the Kent Junior Schools Cross Country Championships at the end of 2018 at the Kent Showground, Detling. Our little school was one of 91 schools and our seventeen runners ran alongside 1,015 other Kent school children. Despite the overwhelming scale of the event, there was great team spirit and support. The children worked very hard in the run up to the event and on the day, proving that true determination and grit pays off. We saw some excellent performances from our runners, with two runners placed in the top ten!

The team's attention now turns to the main event: the Chiddingstone schools cross country race in May.

Location, location, location!
Class 2 invited parents and grandparents to attend their tour of Four Elms. The children spent the last few weeks learning about our village and its history and the tour is the culmination of their 'Location, location, location' experience. In the tour, the children worked hard to remember all of the facts about Four Elms and shared all they had learnt. They also created a small guide to the village, to remind attendees of the history of each place visited, which was shared after the tour.

Sleepovers!
Key stage 2 (years 3-6) are lucky enough to have a number of sleepovers and residential trips lined up this year. The overnight stays away from home with their friends help build confidence and create lasting memories for the children. The trips start with a night away for the youngest and build to 5 days for the oldest.

Year 3 won't be going home for the weekend but will spend Friday night at school with their friends (and lucky teachers) for their sleepover. Year 4 get to spend the night in central London… location yet to be revealed! Year 5 will enjoy a two night stay at Carroty Woods Activity Centre in Tonbridge. Year 6 are venturing all the way to the Isle of Wight for a four night residential palaeontology experience.

We look forward to telling you more about these later in 2019!

Nicole Holt



A message from our MP, Tom Tugendhat

"I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year and look forward to working with you all this coming year to achieve, much, much more for our community.

2018's highlights included the new beginning for Edenbridge Primary School and the plans for the new medical centre in Edenbridge - we have to thank many people, not least Dr Simon Morrison who has been serving our community for so many years.

If there is every anything I can help with, no matter how small you may feel it is, please do let me know, and I will do my best to assist."

Tom Tugendhat will be holding a drop-in surgery in the Eden Centre in Edenbridge on Friday 15 February from 17.15 to 18.45 or you can email him at Tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk

Events and exhibitions at the Eden Valley Museum 2019

The Museum is closed through January 2019 re-opening on Friday 1st February.

Following on from the very popular talk Weather without Technology by David King there is a new exhibition starting in February 2019 focussing on how David actually predicts the weather.

Continuing from February through to the end of June 2019 is the well-received WW1 exhibition 'We Will Remember Them'.The exhibition is being updated in 2019 with a few new information panels. If you haven't done so already go along to the Museum and add your relative/loved one's name to the poppy wall.

On 20th March the Museum receives, on loan from the Horniman Museum, a WW1 bugle. There is a talk by an expert from the Horniman on Brass Instruments Manufacture in 20thC London to be held on Friday 29th March 19:30 Rickards Hall. Tickets will be £5 members £6 non-members and will be on sale in February from the Museum or Le Grys estate agents.

Eleanor Ghey, a coin expert from the British Museum, will be giving a talk entitled Iron Age and Roman Coin Hoards from Kent on Friday 26th April 19:30 Rickards Hall. Tickets will be £5 members £6 non-members and will be on sale in March from the Museum or Le Grys estate agents.

The Museum's major exhibition for 2019 is Hop Picking in the Eden Valley. It opens on Wednesday 3rd July and runs through to Friday 20th December. The Museum welcomes any hop picking memories, photos or objects you have to add to the exhibition.

More exhibitions and events for 2019 are in the planning stages; details to follow.

News from Falconhurst

Mid winter on the farm, not a snowflake in sight, and all is calm. The cows are housed day and night during the dark months, some prefer deep straw beds; others a firmer sandy one. They choose; not us. The sand is good for prevention of mastitis and is comfy to lie on (remember the beach) but not all cows agree. Milk production is good and steady. Our cows are a mix of good, all round grass loving animals – not so huge that they can hardly reach the ground – and are fed almost 100% natural, herby organic grass grown around Markbeech, the balance being a little organic cake to entice them into the parlour.

We have pedigree Friesians (they are the small black & white ones) and Jerseys, Norwegian Reds, an Ayrshire or two and Holstein Friesians (big and ugly black & white ones).

There are decisions to be made about re-seeding fields in the spring; fields to be re-fenced; processing our own delicious milk and cheese making. We must look to a future where farmers will not be rewarded by simply owning land but rewarded for how they manage it. And that is good for us all.

In the office we are midst planning for the future: a new parlour for the cows (with viewing parlour for the public); new calf sheds for the young, and, of course, our much talked about Farm Shop at Falconhurst.

Building works cannot begin until any prospective bat families have finished with the building, but then it will be full steam ahead and we will look forward to selling you the most delicious produce we can source. Watch this space for a grand opening date!

Nicola Talbot

Thank-you!

A sincere thank-you from Sue Butcher and Beat Brigden to all who helped, contributed and attended the Christmas Fayre at Cowden in November. A total, after expenses, of £1050 was raised.

£525.00 has gone to the Cowden hall funds and £525.00 has been donated to The Hospice in the Weald.

Hever Parish lunch

Thursday 14 February
12 for 12.30 in Hever Village Hall.

All welcome to come to lunch - delicious home made soup, bread and cheese, cake etc. The company is good too!

The lunch is free although donations are always welcome.

Do join us if you can!

Services in February 2019

Services rota

Day	Date	Time	Church	Service	Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions	Chalice
Candlemass	03 Feb 06 Feb 07 Feb	09.15 11.00 09.30 16.30	Markbeech Hever Hever Hever	Sung Eucharist Parish Communion Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Liz Kaberry Jan Tolfree & Pat Evemy	James Calvocoressi & Nick Irens Elly Heard & Robin Rouse	Duncan West Marion Purrl	Duncan West Elly Heard
4 before Lent	10 Feb 13 Feb 14 Feb	09.15 10.30 09.30 16.30	Markbeech Four Elms Hever Hever	Sung Eucharist Café Church Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Ann Bellamy Gill Lambert	Jill Linden & Ann Bellamy Gill Lambert	Liz Kaberry	Nicki Talbot
3 before Lent	17 Feb 20 Feb 21 Feb	09.15 11.00 16.00 09.30 16.30	Markbeech Hever Four Elms Hever Hever	Family Service Parish Communion Evening Prayer Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Liz Kaberry Andrew Izod & Anne Simmonds Churchwardens	Anne Simonds & Jane Rosam	Elly Heard	Jane Rosam
2 before Lent	24 Feb 27 Feb 28 Feb	08.00 11.00 09.30 16.30	Hever Four Elms Hever Hever	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion with Inspire Club Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Ian Yarnold John & Christina Hodson	Ian Yarnold John & Christina Hodson	Marion Purrl	Cynthia Mead
Sunday before Lent	03.Mar	08.00 09.15 11.00	Four Elms Markbeech Hever	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Eucharist Parish Communion	Churchwardens Ricky Calvocoressi Lisa & Will Cowell	Roger Hopkins & Lynnie Hopkins Will Cowell & Daryl Roxburgh	Nicki Talbot Ana Roxburgh	Nick Irens Elly Heard

Date Lectionary readings February 2019

	OT	Psalm	NT	Gospel	Sunday
03 Feb	Malachi 3:1-5	24:7-end	Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19	Mark 4:35-end	Candlemass
10 Feb	Isiah 6:1-8	138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11	4 before Lent
17 Feb	Jeremiah 17:5-10	1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26	3 before Lent
24 Feb	Genesis 2:4b-9.15-end	65	Revelation 4	Luke 8:22-25	2 before Lent
03 Mar	Exodus 34:29-end	99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:37-43a	Sunday next before Lent

Churchwardens

Hever	Jane Rosam	07766 763124
Four Elms	Leslie Griggs Gill Lambert	01732 700428 01732 862976
Markbeech	Nicki Talbot Marielou Linklater	01342 850526 01342 850579

From the register
Funerals
21 December Mary Smith, Four Elms



The Link Team

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February diary

7 Feb	**Zumba class,** Markbeech Village Hall	6.30pm
12 Feb	**Village lunch,** Markbeech Village Hall	12.30pm
14 Feb	**Village lunch,** Hever Village Hall	12 for 12.30pm
14 Feb	**Zumba class,** Markbeech Village Hall	6.30pm
15 Feb	**"The Post" Village Screen film club** Hever Castle Golf Club	8pm
16 Feb	**Tonbridge Philharmonic Society** Elgar and Rachmaninov (see Society website for details),	7.30pm
17 Feb	**Eden Valley Footpath Group** Waymarking walk Charcott to Wickhurst	10am Charcott
20 Feb	**Hever Hort talk 'All things nutty'** Hever Village Hall	8pm
21 Feb	**Zumba class,** Markbeech Village Hall	6.30pm
26 Feb	**U3A talk Japanese Festivals and Celebrations** Crockham Village Hall	2pm
27 Feb	**Hever Residents Association AGM,** Hever Village hall	7.30 pm
28 Feb	**Zumba class,** Markbeech Village Hall	6.30pm

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