June 2019

THE LINK







In this issue:

- Introducing Simon and Susie Braid
- Jane goes hopping mad!
- Farewell Peter Mendelssohn and Rachel Dixon
- News from around and about

Parish magazine of Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech

£1

Welcome to the June Link

This month we have a very interesting article about hop picking in the Eden Valley which heralds the opening of an exhibition on the subject at the museum in Edenbridge, and tributes to Rachel Dixon of Four Elms and Peter Mendelssohn of Hever. Both were involved in the Link in their time and without them, and the band of volunteers who continue to deliver monthly, there would be no Link....

This month sees the Hever Hort Rose Show on 15th, and with the cricket season in full swing. Falconhurst are holding a cricket festival and match also on 15th. There is plenty to eat and drink too with the men's and ladies' breakfasts and parish lunches. Claire Longley writes about her art show which opens at The Red House on 7 June and Simon Sutcliffe of How Green nursery takes a break from growing for Chelsea to make his contribution. See the diary on the back cover for the fixtures and all dates.

Do take a look at the news from the councils, the schools and the churches and, since everyone is very welcome to everything, perhaps go along to an event you haven't tried before?

As ever, we welcome all ideas and contributions from you.....and you can find details of how to enter the Rose Show and much more in www.hever.org

Best wishes
Joanna Wade



THE LINK

news from the pews

Susie and I are delighted to have started worshipping with you and have enjoyed meeting many people so far. As explained in April's magazine, I'm here to 'research what rural ministry means… to foster mission and growth.'

We all know the 14th Century proverb: 'Mighty oaks from little acorns grow'. June 9th marks the festival of Pentecost. This was the point fifty days after Easter when Jesus' fearful followers were transformed through being filled with the Holy Spirit as recorded in Acts 2. This experience enabled them to persevere, to overcome incredible odds, and to 'turn the world upside down'.

2,000 years later, the Church covers the whole world and in many places is growing at an amazing rate; even in China where some reports suggest there are over 100 million Christians – more than members of the Communist party!

I believe with the Holy Spirit at work within us, God's church can grow within rural communities like the Three Spires. So we say again the ancient prayer: 'Come Holy Spirit'.

If you would like to contribute your views to my research, I would love to hear from you. Contact me by calling or texting 07802 809849 or email simonbraid@uwclub.net

Revd Simon Braid

THREE SPIRES



Gill Lambert
Being a Church Warden is a joy, a privilege and an enormous responsibility – all at the same time. It can seem to be a thankless role! Today, however, for Gill Lambert the time has come to say 'Thank You'.

As Church Warden, Gill has been deeply involved in all aspects of village life, in particular the annual Harvest Supper which has taken place year after year thanks to Gill's management and the willing co-operation of a large team of local people.

Gill became a corner-stone of the Church at Four Elms during a time of great change. At least 3 Rectors have Gill (along with Leslie) to thank for their time and support so generously given. Leslie agrees with me that Gill's attention to detail has been an enormous asset. Always there for all occasions, Gill's presence has been a very steadying influence.

St James wrote in his letter about faith that it is made complete by what we do. As Church Warden, Gill has for many years done exactly that. On behalf of all, I would like to thank Gill for her service, and wish her peaceful Sunday mornings and a long and well-deserved retirement in the years to come.

Four Elms

Easter week in Four Elms provided us with glorious sunshine. This was fortunate as St. Paul's Easter Sunday service was a sunrise service starting at 6am. As Easter was particularly late this year it was in fact dawn by 5.30am, which was wonderful for hearing the Dawn Chorus on a calm sunrise. For all you early bird risers I am sure this a daily joy but for we late risers it was a delightful bonus to the lovely Easter Day service, which started outside in the Church garden and then proceeded to bring the light into the Church. After the service we had an Easter morning breakfast in the Parish Rooms.

Our AGM was held on 30th April in the Parish Rooms. Mrs Gill Lambert resigned, after very many years of service as Church Warden. All present were delighted to see her joy at being presented with a beautiful painting. St. Paul's has much to thank Gill for her freely given service and loyalty. She is a great example of carrying out tasks quietly and efficiently. We are glad she is to continue as a PCC member. I will replace Gill as Church Warden.

July 13th sees our annual fundraising efforts reach its dazzling heights as we persuade, cajole and plead for extra help on the Church Stalls at the fete. Please see our notice in this edition. And, yes please, we always welcome help and contributions.

We also welcome the Rev. Simon Braid who will be in and around St. Paul's Church and Four Elms village (as well as the Hever Benefice) during the next three months.

Christina Hodson

Hever

The Church Easter egg hunt, which we ran jointly with Hever Residents Association, was a great success with children great and small running about to find eggs, with parents enjoying coffee, cake and a chat. The children then ate lots of cake too.... Easter Services were well attended, it was lovely to see everyone.

Christian Aid week was 12-18th May, we held a 'Big Brekkie' at the Church on a glorious sunny morning where amongst those attending were two very well behaved horses (with their riders!) - they enjoyed it too! Well done everyone who contributed to this great cause. We will tell you the total raised next month. June's village lunch is in Hever Village Hall on Thursday 13th June at 12 for 12.30 and absolutely everyone is welcome.

The wedding season is upon us and both the bellringers and choir will be in demand, starting from early June. The ringers are fortunate to have had some very enthusiastic learners join the band recently who will be entering a team in the district striking competition at Seal Chart on 18th May. We all wish them well.

It has been good to welcome Simon Braid into both the church and school and any of you who have not yet met him will have the chance to do so during June.

Jane Rosam
Churchwarden

Markbeech

The news from Markbeech this month starts with memories of a very happy and well attended Easter Family Service. We didn't want to break the pattern of our newly established family service so attempted a fusion of a fairly traditional Eucharist service with lots of content for the younger ones. And then we gathered in the spring sunshine for coffee and hot cross buns, while the children set about a serious bit of Easter egg hunting around the churchyard. On Easter Monday Herbie Shrapnell-West was baptised surrounded by friends and family, and his big sister Kitty read a lovely poem. We welcomed Simon Braid to Markbeech at the beginning of May and have had some interesting and constructive conversations with him about how we do things and how we can build on the beginnings of our family service. He's doing his best to bring us up to date with a new projector so we can dispense with printed orders of service and be able to use images. And there will be a guitar! We'll report on how it all went next month, but make sure you earmark the third Sunday of each month and find an opportunity to join us as our family service evolves.

The monthly parish lunch in June is on Tuesday 18th in Markbeech village hall, 12.30 for 1.00pm. If you can think of someone who you think might enjoy getting out of the house for a change, and sharing chatter and good soup, please bring them along. If you can, please let us know that you are coming, but if you just turn up you'll still be very welcome! Email marielou@me.com or ring or text 07860 436668.

Marielou Linklater
Church warden

What I do ..... Hever flowers

Hi I'm Camilla and I have a small floristry business which I run from our small holding at home in Bough Beech.



I have always had a passion for gardens and plants so a few years ago I completed a garden design course at Hadlow College and created some growing beds in the orchard to add to what we grow in our cottage garden. I create individual, seasonal and natural style bouquets and displays. I love to forage locally and make regular trips to the famous New Covent Garden Market in London to buy fresh flowers to supplement our own produce.

The business really took shape in Spring 2018 and continues to flourish. It is only small but that's the way I want to keep it! Personal service and a closeness to customers is so important to me. My style could be described a 'quirky' and I am always looking for ways to create unusual, individual bouquets and displays with amazing textures and colours . You will find a small selection of my work available

at our workshop and I am always happy to make something to order or while you wait. We also love to help with small weddings and other celebrations. So, I would love to hear from you if you think we can help and please feel free to pop in and see us.

Email : camilla@heverflowers.com
Tel : 07984 579277
Web : www.heverflowers.com
Hever Flowers , Hever Road , Bough Beech , TN87NU

FOUR ELMS VILLAGE FETE



WANTED please for the Church Stalls

If you have any bric-a-brac, books either deliver to the Fete on the morning or call 01732 700247

Also needed please, cakes for tea tent,

Jams and Preserves for Produce Stall, Bottles for Bottle tombola

Thank you – look forward to seeing you



CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE

HISTORIC HOUSE • COLLECTIONS • VENUE

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AT THE CASTLE...

Spring was definitely the vibe at the castle in May. So many of our flowers were springing to life, sharing with us their bright and beautiful colours, some of our visitors had a spring in their step after enjoying a sunny cream tea in the tea room courtyard and some of the staff have been practising their steps for the Sussex Swing dancers performance at our Vintage Fair on the 30th June. This is a fun family day where you can shop, dance, sing, eat and enjoy all things vintage.

A wonderful time was had at the Literary Festival! We would like to thank everyone who attended and all those involved in making the weekend such a huge success.

WHAT'S TO COME...

June 2nd - Classic Motor Events London to Brighton Veteran Car Run are calling in and Roll Royce Owner's Club are visiting for the afternoon
June 30th - Chiddingstone Castle's Vintage Fair
July & August - ForestJack's Forest School will be with us
August 11th - Family Friendly Buddhist Arts and Activity Day
We look forward to welcoming you here in June!

Open 31st March to 30th October, Sundays to Wednesdays and Bank Holidays (excluding Good Friday) 11am – 5pm
www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk
Chiddingstone, Kent TN8 7AD - 01892 870347 - hello@chiddingstonecastle.org.uk

Jane goes hopping!

Joan Varley, who is curating the forthcoming exhibition on 'Hopping' at the Eden Valley Museum, invited me to join her for a day of hop picking at Chantlers Hop Garden, Larkins Farm, Chiddingstone last year. I was delighted to accept the offer as I always relish a day in the open air doing something useful.

I used to live in London but spent many happy childhood Easter and Summer holidays on a farm in North Wales, during stays with my grandparents, where I dipped sheep, carried hay, sledged bracken off the hillside with horses and learnt to shear sheep by hand. I also enjoyed the old tradition of all the farmers in the valley going out to help their neighbours on big occasions like shearing and harvest and helping to carry the picnics to them in the sheds or fields. These were social events, fun and interesting, and now romantic memories.

So, on a bright but breezy day last September I looked forward to this opportunity to experience an element of harvest time that I knew nothing about and with my camera in my pocket and the apron and gloves we were advised to bring, I felt correctly kitted out for the day ahead. I was not disappointed.



Hand picking freshly collected hop bines

When we arrived, there were already many local people busy picking the hops into the 'Bins' or 'Cribs' so it was lovely to meet people I already knew and to find out that some of them had been volunteering for this harvest for many years. I also learnt about the 'green' harvest. This is the hand-picked hops that are brewed on the day they are picked to make Larkins 'Green Hop Best' beer. I loved the smell of the fresh hops which is surprisingly strong and discovered how they stain your hands! Bob Dockerty arrived with tea and biscuits at 11 am - there is nothing better than the tea break in the field - even if the bits of plant flying around do get in your mug!

Bob Dockerty waited with the poke (sack), whilst the 'measurer' fills the bushel basket from the bin. Traditionally pickers were paid 'by the bushel'. The chatter around the 'Hop bin' was enjoyable, not something you can enjoy stuck all alone on a tractor with a noisy machine bumping its way around a field for hours on end! No wonder the Londoners looked forward to their hop picking holidays. I'm tempted to suggest that reinventing this method of harvesting might benefit

quite a lot of them now because I came away from my harvest experience in the fields feeling invigorated, happy and fulfilled - and I had only been there for a morning!



Joan and I returned the next day, but down at the shed with the harvesting machine clattering away all morning. I had volunteered to try my hand at filming the whole procedure for her to include in the exhibition. So, with my new, rather small, camera on video for the first time and with a last minute story board in my head - no lighting camera man, no director, no actors - I couldn't ask anyone to do anything twice because I didn't get the right shot - off I went, walking very slowly, filming every aspect of the whole procedure.

A big thank you to Bob Dockerty and all the participants for letting me record them.

If you would like to see the finished film please go along to the special coffee morning at the museum on Saturday 13th July, or visit the exhibition which runs from 3rd July to 20th December 2019.

If you would like to help with hop picking you can contact Larkin's Brewery to offer your services direct: http://larkinsbrewery.co.uk 01892 870328

ART IN JUNE

OPEN STUDIOS

www.artinjune.org

This year 60 artists are taking part in this event across the Sevenoaks and Eden Valley Area, offering the chance to both see beautiful art and crafts and enjoy an outing to different venues.

23 percent artists are immediately local to us, in Four Elms, Hever and Bough Beech, with a huge variety of work to be seen, including sculpture, ceramics, glassware, enamelled copper, textiles, paintings, printmaking and drawing. The studios are open between the 7th and 23rd of June, but not always every day! Details of how to find all the studios and their individual opening times can be found at www.artinjune.org.

Come along and see our work, a warm welcome awaits.

Claire Longley
The Red House, Rectory Lane, Hever.

Peter Mendelssohn

The family would like to thank all who have sent flowers, letters, cards and messages all of which are so much appreciated and to extend their thanks to Wendy, Charles and the choir, Elly, Andrew and Jane for their contribution to what we felt to be a memorable and moving service.

Tributes and memories of Peter Mendelssohn.
Peter was born and lived in London, spending some time in Bognor during the war, son of Clive, a stockbroker, then in the army, and Olive, and younger brother of John; he went to St Peter's School in Seaford and then on to Wellington after which he took articles with Barton Mayhew when he was top (of the country) in both the intermediate and final parts of his accountancy exams.

He then did his National Service, in the Tactical Airforce in West Germany where he was posted to the finance department, which he reportedly completely overhauled, and the Isle of Man. While in Germany he owned a new, convertible sports car the first of several much loved cars including a favourite Lancia.

He married his first wife, Jackie, in 1960 and they moved to Oxted during which time his three daughters were born; Gaie and Nicola recall happy family holidays which often included walking, an activity he enjoyed for much of his life.

Peter had a distinguished career in chartered accountancy becoming, as his former colleague Joss Nangle recalls, the youngest person at the age of 26 to be admitted to the partnership in the firm's history, before or since.

Peter served as the partner in charge of several significant clients including the Howard de Walden property interests, PA Management Consultants and AGB Research.

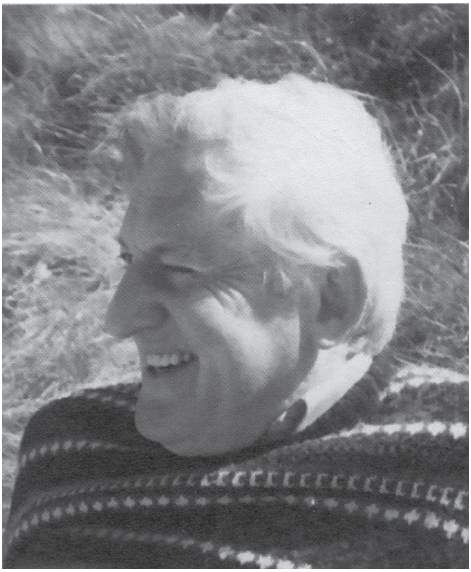
He was heavily involved in the 1971 merger with Turquand Youngs and in the late '70s with other firms, leading to the formation of Ernst and Whinney and then, on merging with Arthur Young, to the firm of Ernst and Young.

In Peter's day there was no in-house legal group, fully staffed compliance department or risk management group – these functions – in 1990 - being covered by Peter as a one man band; before he retired a lawyer, with whom he worked closely, was employed.

Peter and Penny married in 1984 on Grand National Day and came to live in Hever; they had a ready made family – three of Peter's daughters and two of Penny's - and thus started a long and happy family life with four grandchildren eventually coming along – none male! They all have most affectionate and happy memories of Peter as a generous, in all senses of the word, loving and beloved father, stepfather and grandfather epitomized by a quote from one of his stepdaughters: "I will never forget and always hold dearly the memory of Peter's kindness and generosity in wholeheartedly embracing his stepdaughters and granddaughters as part of the family" and from a granddaughter "He was a brilliant grandfather and I always looked forward to staying with him and Granny – he had endless patience and made me feel loved."

Peter retired in 1998 but continued to use his professional skills making a valuable contribution to a number

of local charities and organisations. These included the Scotts Project Trust, where he was a trustee and treasurer, Hever PCC and later the Benefice, and with Abbeyfield and EVTS for which



he was both trustee and treasurer. Jill Scott described him as having a great understanding of both residents and students, of chairing the Staff Committee meetings kindly but firmly, being instrumental in the running of the project's residential care home, the inception of the Day centre and with the start up of two Supported Living Houses.

Roy Cunington, chair of the Abbeyfield Trust remembers that "Peter always knew exactly what had to be done in any situation" and Bridget Harris, coordinator of the Transport Service describes him as bringing City standards to a country town.

Despite declining health Peter was able to spend his last years happily at home with much care from Penny (and their helper Sharon) with the daughters generously helping out. He continued to enjoy life with bridge an important part; he was in a men's four (as well as others) and a highlight was when it was Paul Aronow's turn to give him a lift – in his Porsche! It seems that on getting in Peter would relax, smile and suggest to Paul that they go to Brighton!

As Joss Nangle, who was articled to him as he (Peter) had been to his father says "I am sure that I do not speak only for myself when I say that I am thankful to have known him and proud to have been able to call him my friend" and, from a bridge partner "Indeed he never seemed to lose the happy knack of providing more than his fair share of aces for his partner. This was very appropriate; in a pack of people Peter was the ace".

Peter was a beloved and loved husband, father, stepfather and grandfather to Penny, Gaie, Nicola, Anna, Frances, Diny, Annie, Natalie, Niamh and Ella; his presence will be missed by many but still remain in their hearts.

Markbeech Men's Breakfast Group

On 1June at 8.30 am at Markbeech village hall. If you would like to come along call Rudy Porter on 01342 851449



Rachel Dixon



Rachel was born in southern India, in the hill station Kodai Kanal where her father Rupert Penn was a teacher and clergyman. She had two brothers, Michael and Barry with whom she shared adventures – escaping from cobra snakes to buffalo.

The family returned to England to be closer to the children's schools, and younger sister Gill was born. They moved to Surrey just in time for the war to start. The Battle of Britain was acted out overhead and more than a few smoking wrecks of Messerschmitts and Dorniers were to be inspected by the boys. One of these was at nearby Gincox farm, owned then by the Dixons. Harold Dixon (later to become her father-in-law) and Rupert were ARP wardens together. Rachel bicycled everywhere, a favourite route would be to Prettymans to visit best friend Margaret, who some years later married Barry. A V1 bomb landed close to their garden at Beech Cottage, causing the roof to lift off the walls. By a miracle, however, the said roof landed exactly where it had been before, only trapping bedroom curtains between the timbers. Rachel was subsequently evacuated with Gill in hand.

Rachel was an exceptional scholar, excelling at languages and finishing her schooling with a scholarship at Cheltenham Ladies College and a place at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. Best friend at Cheltenham was a Canadian, Rosemary Bridgman, who then went on to marry Uncle Michael. You're seeing a pattern here of her finding very suitable partners for her brothers.

Rachel's first job after leaving Oxford was as a modern languages teacher at West Heath, in Sevenoaks. Gill was a student there and enjoyed challenging her big sister in French lessons. Adventure beckoned, however, and Rachel moved to Canada to base herself with Michael and Rosemary. She taught French between skiing, hiking and all the other delights Vancouver Island provided.

Back home in England, she started a job a Barclays in the City doing economic research for the Dominions, Colonies and Overseas department. At an Oxted dance she met Nick, a dashing ex RAF fighter pilot. A winning raffle ticket number was called. Both had the same number so eagerly went forward. However, it was Rachel who had the right colour, not Nick. Rachel won the prize, but Nick won Rachel.

Nick's work took him around the country and in later years, around the world. Ed was born in Preston, but David arrived while they were living here in Four Elms. A short interlude followed in East Farndon, Northamptonshire where Rachel ran a boarding dog kennels.

They returned south to Toys Hill. Claire was born there soon after in Tile Cottage, with help from Dr Andrew Russell. Dr Russell worked hard in later years to reduce the impact of Rachel's replacement hip surgery.

After a break to have the three children, Rachel returned to the classroom, here at Four Elms. She worked part time, supporting children with their reading. There must still be people in this parish whose first steps with books were guided by Rachel. She remained connected to Four Elms School beyond retirement age, becoming a longstanding Chair of Governors. She was an active member of the Mother's Union and for decades helped run the Four Elms Fete. Started by her father, the fete has ever since been raising funds for St Paul's and the school. Rachel was on the committee, collected bottles for the bottle stall raffle and carried the basket with Miss Mays' beautifully dressed dolls, asking you to guess their names. How many have taken part and won some of those prizes?

Rachel was a talented musician. At Oxford she played for her college, and she continued to play the church organ at St Paul's for many years. The annual Christmas Carol Singing around the village was organised by Rachel for decades, while her legs were still strong enough to ascend and descend the gradients to the front doors of Toys Hill neighbours.

At home Rachel found busy relaxation working the hillside garden. The vegetable patch always had priority; being part of the war-time generation, growing her own fruit and vegetables was a natural expectation. Rachel loved the views from Tile Cottage out over the Weald of Kent, taking in the subtleties of the weather and the ever-changing colours and activities of the seasons. A love of animals also remained a focus through her life. From wartime rides through this parish, to visits by Claire's Labradors in the last months of her life, she loved the companionship of her four-legged friends.

Rachel passed through her last years with her characteristic stoic, uncomplaining patience. To the end there was a smile and a greeting for everyone who was looking after her. The family would like to thank all the friends and neighbours who have sent kind words following their bereavement. They have been a great comfort.

schooltime

news from Hever

Chiddingstone Castle Literary Festival is a gem and Hever students attended on 7th May. The Festival put together a wonderful line-up of top children's authors and performers for this year including festival favourites the Really Big Pants Theatre Company. Our students met the authors and got their autographs. They really liked Frank Cottrell-Boyce ...he's a hilarious speaker and his new book The Runaway Robot is a funny and heartwarming adventure about two best friends helping put themselves back together.

After Easter, Chestnut class had an amazing experience at the Outdoor Activity Centre in Bude. It offered a range of exciting activities in spectacular locations on the North Cornwall coast. The objective was getting out into nature, and the adventure activities included surfing, bodyboarding, climbing, abseiling, coastal traversing, archery, orienteering, and evening activities too! The children worked brilliantly in their teams and returned home with memorable experiences of Cornwall!

Many congratulations to the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils who participated in the EDSA Cross Country at Chiddingstone on 1st May. We are proud of all those who competed with special praise to Mia who was 4th in her race and Henry, the only Year 5 student to be placed in the top three and receive a medal! For some, this was their first competitive race and we were so proud of them all. We were placed 7th overall.

As we enter SATs week, we wish Year 6 (and Year 2!) the best of luck! Whilst SATs are extremely important, we are proud of how all the children display the school values LOVE, RESPECT and WISDOM alongside many achievements which cannot be measured by tests.

The Governors joined in with a wide variety of lessons and activities last month and had an informative and fun day. All were very impressed with what they saw. The children were very welcoming and were impeccably behaved.

Joanna Stratton

news from Four Elms

Spotlight on sport

We're starting rather than ending with sport this month.

Since the start of the cross country season in the cold, wet days of November, the team has been preparing for the local Edenbridge District Sports Association Cross Country tournament held at Chiddingstone. Four Elms' 21 runners came 3rd as a team, breaking all previous school records. What an achievement! And if that wasn't enough, they even claimed three of the 12 medals up for grabs! Well done to Isla (silver), Mia (bronze) and Heidi

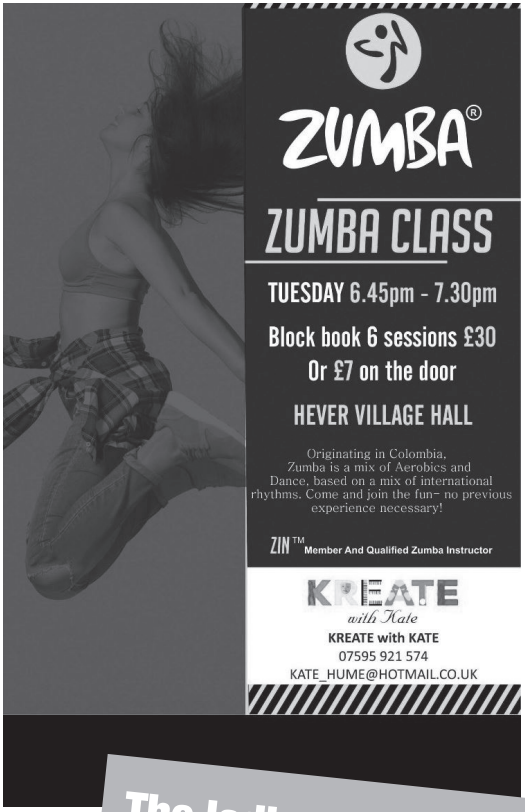
(bronze). PBs were smashed and every point scored by every runner counted towards this unprecedented result, so well done to the entire team. Teamwork definitely made the dream work!

To celebrate the win, the team held a sponsored Four Elms Dreams Come True Team Baton Challenge. The team ran a combined total of 516 lengths of the cricket pitch non-stop for 20 minutes in aid of Dreams Come True, a UK charity who enrich the lives of children and young people living with serious and life limiting conditions. We raised over £400 for the charity; a fabulous result!

The football club held a Football presentation day to raise money for the team. There were parents v kids matches, cakes, BBQ, music and awards for the players.
And finally in sports news, a group of Key Stage 2 gymnasts were selected to represent the school at the Kent School Games Key Steps gymnastics competition.

Carroty Woods
The year five children went on their two night residential trip. The overnight stays away from home with their friends help build confidence and create lasting memories for the children. The children were lucky enough to spend time at Carroty Woods Activity Centre in Tonbridge and enjoyed many different activities with their classmates including climbing and swimming.

Nicole Holt



The ladies breakfast

The Ladies Breakfast meet every other month on the 2nd Saturday. There is no Breakfast in July and August.

We meet at Markbeech Village Hall at 9 am for a continental breakfast and a chat. We may occasionally have a speaker.

All welcome. Do come and join us, this month on Saturday 8 June!

Hever Parish Council

Bulk refuse freighter
We are funding two visits of the Sevenoaks District Council freighter, on
Saturday 29th June 2019
Four Elms village hall 8 - 9.15am then Hever Bottle bank area next to Henry pub in coach car park 9.30 - 10.45am
Saturday 21st September
Four Elms Village hall 8 - 9.15am then Markbeech village hall 9.30 - 10.45 am

Unfortunately the freighter cannot take quite a range: electrical appliances/ hardcore / large amounts of garden waste / large panes of glass / oil or paint, fridges, freezers or hazardous waste. These items must be taken to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre. Compostable garden waste cannot be accepted either.

Vacancy for a new councillor from Hever
Do you care about where you live? Are you passionate about your community? If so, you could make a great local councillor.

It's not too late to stand as a local Councillor as we still have one vacancy. There are approx. six meetings a year and you have the choice to work on the topics that interest you most - maybe road safety, planning, affordable housing, Gatwick or anything else that you think affects our community!

Contact the **Clerk@hever.org** to find out more about Hever Parish Council and the work we do. Find out more on **https://beacouncillor.co.uk/how-do-i/** or **https://www.kentalc.gov.uk/…/KALC%20DL%20leaflet%20Final.pdf https://www.kentalc.gov.uk/ Becoming_a_Local_Councillor_2271**

Deadline for interest (to the Clerk) is end June 2019.

Charlotte Cole
Clerk and Financial Officer
Hever Parish Council
01732 865547
clerk@hever.org
www.hever.org
Facebook/Heverparishcouncil



Sevenoaks council news

As John wrote in the introduction to last month's Link, I was re-elected as the District Councillor for Cowden and our three villages.

It has been an immense privilege to have carried out this role for the past four years, and it is a great honour to have been returned once again. I will continue to do my utmost to serve you and our community.

I've always said we're incredibly lucky here. Enjoying beautiful countryside, good facilities and active village life, there's certainly lots to preserve. Change can, though, be a good thing. But it can also bring with it challenges and it is those with which much of the more out of sight work of councillors at all levels is concerned.

For example, there are proposals to create a national standardised bin collection which could see you and me paying more, the introduction of complicated collection calendars, and an end to our simple two sacks every week approach – needless to say, I'm fighting that! Similarly, the introduction of burdensome new rules for doggy day care establishments last year has seen the closure of some well-liked, convenient and affordable providers. Reform of the planning rules too invariably casts a shadow over our landscapes and relations with neighbours.

All three of these, and more, see the District Council, and I as your representative on it, having to reconcile the steady trickle of new laws, rules and regulation with what is best for our community. Always these are well-intentioned (seeking to improve recycling, animal welfare and the affordability of housing, in those cases) but the reality seems never to quite match the vision.

That is why the most useful element of my work is hearing from you, so I know what really is working, and what isn't. John along with the rest of our Parish Councillors, Peter as our County Councillor and Tom as our MP, and I work as a team. Sometimes we can't help but sometimes we, or someone we know, can. And in either case your feedback informs decisions locally and nationally, which helps defend and improve our corner of Kent.

So thank you once again for all the support you have kindly shown and do please continue to let me know where things could do with improvement and, of course, where things seem about right.

Matthew Dickins
District Councillor for Cowden & Hever
Sevenoaks District Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG
e cllr.dickins@sevenoaks.gov.uk
m. 07910 328 110

Services in June 2019

Services rota

Day	Date	Time	Church	Service	Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions	Chalice
Sunday after Ascension	01 Jun 02 Jun 07 Jun 08 Jun	14.00 09.15 11.00 14.00 15.00	Four Elms Markbeech Hever Markbeech Hever	Baptism x2 Reddaway Sung Eucharist Matins Wedding-Joanna Hardy & Andrew Newman Wedding-Rorie Devine & Loana Wurzel	Ricky Calvocoressi Pat Eveny & Jan Tolfree	Roger & Lynnie Hopkins Robin Rouse & Andrew Izod	Nicki Talbot	Nick Irens
Pentecost	09 Jun 15 Jun	08.00 09.15 10.30 14.00	Hever Markbeech Four Elms Markbeech	Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Café St Paul Wedding- Maisie Sutton & Jack Polson	Ian Yarnold Ann Bellamy Church wardens	Ian Yarnold Fiona & Nick Irens	Ann Bellamy	Nicki Talbot
Trinity Sunday	16 Jun	11.00	Markbeech	Patronal Family Eucharist	Liz Kaberry	Duncan West & Alexander Irens	Nick Irens	Liz Kaberry
Trinity 1	23 Jun	11.00 18.00	Hever Four Elms	Parish Communion with Inspire Evensong	Liz Cowell & Andrew Izod Leslie Griggs	Jane Rosam & Will Cowell Gill Lambert	Elly Heard	Jane Rosam
Trinity 2	30 Jun	11.00	Hever	Patronal Festival Eucharist	Andrew Izod & Jan Tolfree	Jane Rosam & Daryl Roxburgh	Ana Roxburgh	Elly Heard

Date Lectionary readings June 2019

	OT	Psalm	NT	Gospel	Sunday
02 Jun	Ezekiel 36: 24-28	97	Acts 16: 16-34	John 17: 20-end	Easter 7
09 Jun	Acts 2: 1-21	104: 26-end	Romans 8: 14-17	John 14: 8-17	Pentecost
16 Jun	Proverbs : 1-4, 22-31	8	Romans 5: 1-5	John 16: 12-15	Trinity Sunday
23 Jun	Isaiah 65: 1-9	22: 1-9	Galatians 3: 23-end	Luke 8: 26-39	Trinity 1
30 Jun	Ezekiel 3: 22-end	125	Acts 12: 1-11	Matthew 16: 13-19	St Peter

From the register

Funerals

23 April, Peter Mendelssohn, Hever

Baptisms

20 April William Lawrence, Hever

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

Priest in Charge Rev. Wendy Izod (01342) 850738, izodiham@gmail.com
Benefice website: Threespires. wordpress. com

news from How Green Nursery

With the madness of Chelsea out of the way for another year (as we go to press, we have just loaded and delivered our plants to the 'Donkeys Matter' artisan garden!), we look forward to hopefully a good summer weather wise! June here on the nursery is a cracking month with the majority of our herbaceous perennial stocks bursting into life.

Here at How Green we specialise in new herbaceous introductions. Plant breeding has come on in leaps and bounds in recent years. There are some cracking new introductions. Here are some of the ones we offer.

Salvia Amethyst Lips – a new variety similar to Hot Lips but with a purple and white bicolour flower

Nepeta Purrisian Blue – lovely compact habit that doesn't flop with strong dark flower stems

Delphinium New Millenium series – a range of Delphiniums with very strong stems that do not need staking!

Lupin Westcountry Hybrids – a range of cutting raised Lupins, strong in habit/ flowering and seen at Chelsea the last couple of years

Astrantia Sparkling Stars – fantastic large flowered variety with sparkly stamens!

Eryngium Big Blue – as the name suggests, fantastic large flowers held on sturdy stems

Geranium Lilac Ice – new lilac flowered Rozanne

Persicaria Chocolate Dragon – fantastic hardy foliage plant

What interests us the most as commercial growers are the new plants that are breed with disease resistance. Firstly we do not want to be using chemicals to treat a problem for the environment's sake and for the bee and insect populations. Spraying can also be a costly procedure. A prime example of this is a new range of Monarda (Bee balm). The old varieties can suffer terribly from mildew, but the new range are mildew resistant. The plants themselves don't look much different than what's come before them, but they withstood a long hot summer last year, ideal conditions for mildew.

Plant habit can also be improved by plant breeders. Another great example is Geranium Azure Rush. They have taken the RHS plant of the century, Geranium Rozanne and made it more compact! Geranium Rozanne can get a bit scrawny in a border and not suited to a small garden environment. Geranium Azure Rush still has the lovely big sky blue flowers that flower for months, but with a lovely mound forming habit.

From a novelty prospective Salvia Amethyst Lips is flying out at the moment! Launching at Chelsea this year, it is very similar to Hot Lips, but with a purple and white flower. Great long flowering hardy perennial – good in containers as well as the ground.

Come and see for yourself some of the new plants we have to offer at our next public open weekend June 8th & 9th!

Happy gardening!

Simon Sutcliffe

Benefice monthly rainfall in millimeters

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Four Elms												
2018					62.7	1.2	44.7	67.2	17.1	38	96	70
2019	28	33	54	12								
Hever												
2018	79	36	81	65.5	79	0	36	63	32	41	127.5	81
2019	23	56	45.5	12								
Markbeech												
2018	83	40	82	77.25	70.05	1.5	51	68.5	33	47.5	105.5	91.5
2019	39.5	41	59.25	13.25								

Hall Bookings

Four Elms:
Village Hall
– Mr Leigh 01732 700514
Parish Rooms
– FE School 01732 700274
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
clerk@hever.org

The Link Team

Bridget Harris, Joanna Wade, Paul Houlton
email: thelink@hever.org
Telephone 01732 700986 (Bridget) Mobile 07958 919 631 (Joanna)
Address 1 Triangle Cottage, Hever Road, Hever TN8 7NL
Benefice website threespires.wordpress.com **Community website** www.hever.org

The views expressed in the articles in this magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the editorial team. There is no implied approval or recommendation for any service or event advertised in the magazine.

Copy for the combined July/August edition should reach us no later than **15th June.**
Subscriptions cost £5 pa if delivered by a volunteer. For payment either: a) Send a cheque payable to 'The Link' with your address to 1 Triangle Cottage, Hever Road, Hever TN8 7NL or b) Make a bank transfer or set up a standing order payment to 'The Link' at Lloyds a/c 01057697 sort 30-92-92 with postcode and surname as reference.

A copy of The Link can be viewed in The Link section of the community website www.hever.org

June diary

1 June	**Men's breakfast** MB village hall	8.30am
1 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Speldhurst (1sts)	1.30pm
1 June	**Falconhurst CC home match** against the President's XI	2pm
2 June	**Four Elms CC home match** tbc	2pm
4 June	**Zumba**, Hever Village Hall each Tuesday	6.45 – 7.30pm
7 - 23 June	**Art in June**, the Red House, Rectory Lane, Hever – see advert for details	
8 June	**Ladies breakfast**, MB Village Hall,	9am
8 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Otford (2nds)	1.30pm
8 June	**Summer Concert**, Holy Trinity Parish Church Forest Row	7.30pm
8 and 9 June	**How Green Nursery open days**	9am – 5pm
9 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Beckenham Wizards	2pm
11 June	**Four Elms CC** Kent over 60s v Herts over 60s	12 noon
13 June	**Hever village lunch**, Hever Village Hall,	12 for 12.30
15 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Sissinghurst (1sts)	1.30pm
15 June	**Falconhurst cricket festival**	
15 June	**Hever Hort Rose show**, Hever Village Hall	2pm
16 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Langton	2pm
18 June	**Markbeech village lunch**, MB Village Hall,	12.30 for 1pm
22 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Bearsted (2nds)	1.30pm
23 June	**Falconhurst CC home match** against Locksbottom	2pm
25 June	**U3A talk Scilliness by Briar Blake** at Crockham Hill Village Hall	2-4pm
28 June	**Concert at Holy Trinity, Forest Row** (tickets call 01342 823940)	7.30pm
29 June	**Bulk refuse freighter** – 8.00 and 9.30am - see Parish Council news	
29 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Shipbourne (1sts)	1.30pm
30 June	**Four Elms CC home match** against Dormansland	2pm
30 June	**Eden Valley Museum WWI exhibition ends**	
3 July	**Eden Valley Museum Hop picking exhibition** opens	
11 July	**Hever Parish lunch**, Hever Village Hall.	12 for 12.30
13 July	**Four Elms Fete**	
17 Aug	**Hever Hort summer show**, Hever Village Hall,	2pm
7 Sept	**Hever Barn Dance**	
7 & 8 Sept	**How Green Nursery open da**y	9am – 5pm
14 Sept	**Ladies Breakfast**, MB Village Hall,	9am
21 Sept	**Bulk refuse freighter** – 8.00 and 9.30am - see Parish Council news	
28 & 29 Sept	**Hever Castle Triathlon**	
14 Nov	**Ladies Breakfast**, MB Village Hall,	9am