March 2020

THE OINK







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Village magazine of Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech

£1

Welcome to the March edition

We hope you enjoy it.

The snowdrops are out and the crocuses are following on - but since the Hever Hort spring show is not until 4 April, please ask your daffodils to hold back until then. The Hort is also hosting a talk in the village hall at 8pm on 18 March: “Arts and Crafts Movement and its Garden”.

I hope we all weathered the big storms of February, the trains kept running, the planes battled their way through the air and most of the trees held onto their branches. Here is a piece about Saharan ants to warm you up - irrelevant to Hever, but fascinating I hope you agree.

Joanna Wade

An ant we won’t be seeing in Hever

The Guardian reports that the sand dunes of the northern Sahara are home to the fastest ants in the world, according to researchers who clocked the insects foraging for food in the blistering midday sun.

Video footage reveals the ants galloping across the scorching sand at speeds approaching one metre per second, the equivalent of a house cat tearing about at 120mph. The faster the ants ran, the more they took to the air, in gallops that brought all six legs off the ground at once. At full pelt, the insects travelled 108 times their body length per second, the researchers found.“They fly through the air with no feet on the ground from stride to stride,” even at relatively slow speeds, said Sarah Pfeffer, who studies animal behaviour at Ulm University in Germany. There is a reason Saharan silver ants, or Cataglyphis bombycina, have evolved to be fleet of foot. Unlike other desert creatures which shelter from the intense noon heat, for the ants it is a prime time to scavenge. When the desert is at its hottest, they emerge from their nests and zip about looking for food – often the carcasses of less fortunate creatures that have succumbed to the brutal temperatures.

To survive, the ants have silvery hairs that reflect the sun’s rays. But even with this coating and other adaptations, the ants can barely survive the 60C (140F) heat and need impressive speed and navigational skills to find food and return to the nest before falling victim to the heat themselves.



THE LINK

village screen film club

Do join us for the last film of the 2019/20 season. We will be back in November.....

Friday 6 March
Finding your feet
When "Lady" Sandra Abbott discovers that her husband of 40 years is having an affair with her best friend, she seeks refuge in London with her estranged, older sister Bif. The two could not be more different – Sandra is a fish out of water next to her outspoken, serial dating, free-spirited sibling. But different is just what Sandra needs at the moment, and she reluctantly lets Bif drag her along to a community dance class, where she starts finding her feet.

Imelda Staunton, Timothy Spall and Joanna Lumley star.

The film which is less than two hours long starts 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 £3 for the film or £12 to include the meal. You can book with Bridget Harris by calling 01732700986 or emailing bcharris@btinternet.com or buy tickets at the door. However please pre-book your meal by the Wednesday morning (4th March) before the show if you would like to eat.

Drake Oil Syndicate win win

Over the years the people of Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech have supported the Drake Oil Syndicate and in so doing have enabled Drake to give annual donations to our three churches [£970 last year] and local Edenbridge charities.

If you have to buy oil for your home heating then joining Drake could almost be regarded as a NO BRAINER!

The syndicate was started some years ago by my neighbour Campbell Sim and I am now at the helm. Both Campbell and I live in Four Elms.

Every quarter I check oil prices with a number of local suppliers and then negotiate with Certas Energy to get the lowest price I can. Certas then notify everyone on the syndicate to see if at this price they want a fill up and if so advised the delivery is made. This price is normally competitive as we are buying for just under 700 members. Certas agree to donate to a charity account 5p per litre delivered. In the last year the total figure will be just under £10,000. This sum is then distributed among the parish churches where syndicate members live and a number of Edenbridge charities.

In this way everyone gains and the more people that are in the syndicate the bigger the charity pot!

If you are interested in signing up please email me and I will arrange for Certas to contact you…it's quite painless!

John Hodson
john@johnhod.co.uk



Easter egg hunt

Saturday 11 April 3pm

St Peter's church and the Hever Residents Association invite everyone, great and small, to the annual Easter egg hunt and pebble painting in Hever church and churchyard .

Coffee, tea and cake will be served. Do come along.



Will Cowell and his team, winners of the Grand Hever Quiz 2020

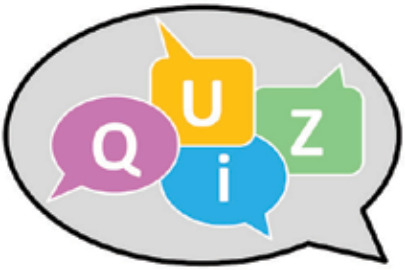
Litter picks on Good Friday

Hever village hall
9am – 12pm
Four Elms village hall
10am – 12pm
Markbeech village hall
2 – 4pm.
Wear sensible clothes and boots and bring gloves. All other equipment (litter pickers, bags, bag hoops, high visibility jackets and warning signs) and refreshments provided.



The Great Hever Landslide

Drama! Your reporter on the spot reports from Hever station where a landslide narrowly missed the track and closed the footpath which runs beside the railway from Hever Lane. Network Rail are working to shore up the mountains of displaced earth and repair the path. They anticipate that it will reopen in mid April. Their base is in the car park but there is also a lot of activity in Hever Lane.



MARKBEECH VILLAGE QUIZ SAT 18TH APRIL 7.30 FOR 8.00pm

Make up teams max 8 or come and we'll help you make up a team.

Cheese/Biscuits and Fruit, Raffle, Donation Bar

£10.00 each

Please contact:-

Carol Bowern, 01342 871307 or carol.ann1@tiscali.co.uk

Or Liz Kaberry, 01892 870539 or lizkaberry@hotmail.com

In aid of Holy Trinity, Markbeech

Tails of Brooke Cottage

Laura Palmer has not just one pet of the month but many. Here is the first instalment of her Tails.

Sophie and Toffee

The first tail of Brooke Cottage began because of Sophie, my very, very, much loved Welsh Mountain Cob. We lived in Biggin Hill and Sophie was at a livery yard is Keston. One day Ray, who tells everybody, that he is (and sorry, he is) very much down the pecking (and tail) order from the animals, asked me to tell him my dream. 'A cottage in the country where Sophie lives in the garden'. Well, very soon we had a very pretty but neglected cottage in Hever with 3 acres. I told Sophie. Huge green fields of her own, very little traffic, well that was 17 years ago….

But my horsey friends were appalled! Horses are pack animals, they live in herds, they will be miserable on their own, Sophie MUST have a companion. So, Shetland pony perhaps? Then someone said 'what about the little Falabella, Toffee?' So, I met Toffee, and I couldn't resist. He had been kept in a tiny back garden and then in a very tiny dark stable space. He was so small that I took him into the garden shed during a storm in case he was frightened. We arranged for stables to be built. I asked the vets to 'see to' his bits. But this is ME remember. Toffee is a 'RIG. 'What's that? His bits are not in the right place, somewhere in his body cavity. Unless they are removed, he, all 2 foot of him, thinks he is a stallion!





Horse lorry arrives for the move to Brooke Cottage. We take Toffee to the Equine hospital (costs me a fortune BTW). So, the back of the lorry comes down and they ask me to lead him off. He stands at the top of the ramp, listens to all the horses and gives a huge stallion call for such a tiny pony and JUMPS the entire 6-foot ramp, with me at the end of the rope. SPLAT, no, its OK, just me, he is fine, very excited in fact!

So, stables at home are ready. Sophie was a very clever girl. She knew exactly what was happening and positively jumped into the horse box to come home, but WHO was this very annoying companion?

I had separated them. Toffee made a ha-ha, galloping up and down the fence line to impress Sophie. They had two big stables, one with a big door and one with a little one, full of wood chips and straw. But it wasn't before long before they were cuddled up together in one.

remembering Kenneth Seal

Ken died on 10 January - here is his eulogy by his wife Mavis.

"Dear Ken was a cheerful hard worker most of his life. He was born in Hever in 1923 where he lived all of his life, attending school in the teacher's garden, now Ghyll Cottage, until the new school was built.

We met in 1945 as the war was coming to an end. He had failed his medical and was assigned to work on the Castle farm doing essential work like ploughing and sowing seeds. He also joined the Civil Defence.

We married in 1946 after which we lived in Hever and he stayed working on the farm until the doctor advised him to ask if he could work inside as he had suffered from bronchitis. That is how he became valet, then chauffeur, then butler to the Astor family - learning all the necessary skills from the previous butler.

Every year we travelled to Scotland in August to work in their house in Aberdeenshire. We loved the journey and met many lovely people while we were there. We spent many of our days off visiting different parts of Scotland - driving on quiet roads with beautiful scenery. He continued to work and drive for the Astors until the Castle was sold.

When he retired we moved from the Tudor Village to Mill Cottages and we had some 32 years of exploring the countryside and working in and enjoying our garden. We also enjoyed family celebrations and several trips abroad.

His last seven years were a fight against dementia but he still managed to laugh and tell jokes. He was an attendee at Edenbridge Hospital Day Centre which he enjoyed. He also loved watching the birds flock to the many feeders in the garden.

Now I must carry on with only my memories, it will not be easy, but I have family and friends to support me. Ken will be sorely missed."



To rid our verges and footpaths of litter we are planning another

Easter Hever community litter pick

on the morning of Good Friday 10th April from 9.00am to 12.00 noon.

Please bring your family or just yourself to assist. Most of the litter is discarded from passing cars so we will have to work on the roads and lanes around the parish. If you have youngsters with you or would prefer not to pick on the roads then let us know and we can assign you to a footpath.

We will meet at the Hever Village Hall from 9.00am for warming drinks, a briefing and to collect bags, long handled pickers and high viz vests.

If you are unable to get there for 9.00am or can only offer an hour of your time then please turn up at the Hall any time during the morning or just pop in for a cup of tea or coffee!

- If anyone has an open backed vehicle or Trailer that they are willing to use to transport rubbish bags on the day that would be very useful.
- Please bring your own thick gloves and strong footwear is recommended.
- Also if you have a warning triangle in your car then please bring it along to assist with traffic calming.

There is no need to register beforehand but to help give an idea of numbers then please call John Roundhill on 07720 882356 or email john@ingenpartners.co.uk. Please also let him know if there are any roads or footpaths of particular concern to you whether or not you will be joining us.

We are planning a few articles to mark the end of WW2 and would love to know about your or your parents' war experiences. We will send the material we collect to the Museum in Edenbridge as part of a permanent archive. A few random paragraphs will do fine - what did they do in the war and how did it end for those close to you?

Please get in touch - and if you would rather tell us the story on the phone and we write it down, that is fine too.

Joanna Wade - 07958 919631 or Thelink@hever.org

what I do

Hannah Harris
Reception Class Teacher and Forest School Leader at Hever CEP School.

I joined the team at Hever in September 2018 to teach Reception and I completed my forest school level 3 training at Circle of Life Rediscovery in Lewes last spring. Previous to Hever, I was teaching and then leading Nursery and Reception in an Inner London School for 9 years.

We are so fortunate that our school is located in a rural setting with beautiful woodland nearby. We were inspired to embrace this opportunity for learning and make Forest School a core part of our school. With the kind support of our neighbours, Claire and Martin Longley, we have use of their wonderful woodland site which we have named 'Hever CEP Forest School, Fostel and Church Gill.' In September we began our weekly Forest School sessions with Reception and Year 1.



At Forest School the children are taught in the woodland. We take what we need with us for each 2 hour session and leave no trace when we leave. We are there in all weathers, other than high winds.

Forest School provides a unique learning experience and opportunities for pupils to develop self-awareness, self- confidence, form positive relationships and develop strategies in order to take risks within the boundaries of safety. Forest School offers pupils opportunities to engage with the natural world and initiate and learn through play, make choices and learn from their mistakes. They learn to collaborate and work together. The children's wellbeing and involvement is a fundamental part of their learning experience, and so this is monitored and nurtured, to ensure that every child is content and engaged. I have noticed that being out in the woods can give a huge confidence boost to individuals and in simple terms it makes them happy.

Observing the children as they play I am able to find out where their interests lie. These interests can then be built on over time and revisited during future sessions.

There are opportunities to learn how to make fires, cook, use tools for woodland crafts, tie ropes and build shelters along with woodland games and songs. This week, for instance, the children have been hunting mini -beasts with their magnifying glasses and making traps for bears. As it was chilly they also had hot chocolate round the fire.

We are currently seeking new volunteers to come and support our Forest School. Please get in touch if this is something you would be interested in. We look forward to hearing from you.

Phone: 01732 862304
Email: office@hever.kent.sch.uk

Sevenoaks council news

It transpires it is now five years since Hever Residents' Association invited me to present on 'A Week in the Life of a Councillor' – how time flies! Given the passage of time and The Link enjoying a broader circulation than just Hever, I thought I would touch on the subject again.

In the strictest sense, councillors are volunteers elected by the community they serve to set the policies and priorities of the authorities on which they sit – that applies at parish, district or county level. Those are then enacted by the officers of that authority. But just as with ministers in Government, the role is inevitably more hands on than leaving implementation to the local equivalent of the Civil Service.

As well as representing the interests of their community, councillors sit on a host of committees with responsibility for different service areas. Others instead scrutinise and oversee the work of the executive body of the authority, the Cabinet, or perform statutory duties such as Audit. There's no direct equivalent in the commercial world but the closest parallel is that councillors function as non-executive directors of the organisation.

In May my Cabinet responsibilities changed from environmental matters such as waste and recycling to financial ones. Despite sitting on the Cabinet, like all councillors, I am not an employee of the authority though the hours, predominantly evenings and weekends, make it akin to having a second full time job.

Recent weeks have seen some of the work including undertaking a Radio Kent interview on fly-tipping; discussions about markets – a source of vitality for the District's towns, a draw for visitors, a first step for some businesses, a career for others, and a source of income which reduces the Council Tax burden on residents like you and me; review of the Council's investment policy; the finishing touches on this year's budget – the only ten year balanced council budget in the country and one which now makes provision for our Net Zero 2030 commitment; speaking at meetings of the two parish councils in the patch; planning permission granted for the new Edenbridge Health Centre; correspondence and calls on planning and parking, trees and taxis, footpaths and finance, leisure centres and licensing; and, of course, penning this monthly column!

It's an enjoyable and rewarding role, not to mention a great privilege and honour to represent one's community. If it's one which is of interest to you then do get in touch.

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

Hever Parish Council

by Charlotte Cole, parish clerk

Did you know that Hever Parish Council has distributed over £15,000 since 2015 in grants to local groups? This does not include money spent on the new(ish) Four Elms playground,defibrillators or noticeboards etc.

All community groups are encouraged to apply for grants for suitable projects – forms online at http://hever.org/parish-council/hever-parish-council-community-support-grants

The Council and Clerk are always busy with a number of ongoing projects which are discussed at the meetings, do come along to hear what is going on locally and how to get involved or give suggestions. The Clerk is going to attend a roundtable meeting regarding Gatwick Northern Runway Project on 19th February 2020 in East Grinstead and will report back next month.

The Chair, John Hodson, and Link reader Pam Gilchriest attended the cramped Edenbridge Medical Centre briefing at the Eden Centre on 7 February. Pam says that the most noteworthy thing to emerge was the date of another public meeting, with greater capacity, on 17 April! The site in Four Elms Road has been purchased and planning permission has been granted. The War Memorial hospital will be sold by the NHS to the highest bidder and Edenbridge Town Council, the British Legion and the War Memorials Trust will decide on a new site for the War Memorial. The building will have to be able to cope with the 14,400 patients anticipated by 2024 and the plan is to provide community activities on the same site, so plenty of parking is needed. The X-ray unit and the MIU will move across and a new Friends will be set up, with a new name for the hospital, decided by a public vote (from a shortlist so there is no danger if it being called Hospy McHospface).

As I'm sure you local walkers know, Public Footpath SR577 is temporarily closed between Hever Lane and the connecting path to the bridge over the railway due to the likelihood of danger to users following a landslip. There is no alternative route. Please see https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccesscams/standardmap.aspx for all issues/routes of public rights on way.

Save the dates

Good Friday (10th April) – Easter litter pick across the parish. See pages 4 and 8 for details.

2020 Parish Council meetings

Tuesday March 17
Hever Village hall. Meeting.

Tuesday May 5
Four Elms village hall. Meeting /AGM

Thursday May 28
Hever Village hall. Annual Assembly Planning meeting 7pm, full meeting 7.30pm (unless stated otherwise).

Draft minutes (to be approved at the next meeting) of the January meeting are online http://hever.org/hever-parish-council-meeting-21-01-20-draft-minutes

Any queries please contact the Clerk clerk@hever.org

schooltime

news from Hever

We have reached the halfway point of the year and the promise of spring is in the air! After what seems like the longest half term we have arrived at half term break. The children have worked so hard through the year and have made good progress. There has been much to celebrate and a lot to look forward too.

Students in Year 6 have embarked on a six-week unit of work based around the artist Banksy. Children have been encouraged to appraise street art and learn stencilling techniques. They have used internet based tools to create a Banksy inspired piece with a moral message.

Wherever appropriate and possible Hever staff enable children to contextualise their learning by getting away from the school site and making educational visits. We know children learn best when they can apply their learning to real life experiences.

Year 6 are looking forward to their Language School Tour to the classical city of Seville. Storm Ciara threw our original travel plans into chaos as strong winds of up to 100mph caused airlines to cancel hundreds of flights. Our students showed such patience and resilience in a difficult situation and they have been keenly following the weather forecasts on Storm Dennis.

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics are at the heart of the curriculum. Year 5 students have been considering how weather forecasting plays an important part in their daily lives. They have learnt about the history of weather forecasting, from old weather proverbs to modern forecasting equipment and how improvements in weather technology have saved lives by providing advance warning of natural hazards. The learning outcome was for students to produce a forecast that they could present to the class. The children loved being videoed and it gave them time to show off skills in many aspects of their learning

This week we celebrated Safer Internet Day 2020 in true Hever style! Our children explored a wide range of activities all linked to supporting them with keeping themselves safe online! Our children learnt a wonderful song; created online safety posters to inform how to use the internet in a safe way and KS2 developed their understanding of the dangers of fake social media accounts. Keeping our children safe is our number one priority!

Joanna Stratton
Headteacher

New year new experiences
We have started 2020 with a host of exciting new experiences to engage our children with learning in creative and fun ways.

Class 1 had a visit from the fire service which kicked off their experience based on the emergency services. The children learnt about what to do in the event of a fire and had lots of fun using the fire hose. As part of this experience they were also visited by a representative of the RNLI and learnt about the role of lifeboat volunteers and the service they offer to the communities near the sea. A nurse working in the Accident and Emergency Department also came to school and taught the class how to make a sling and to use a bandage. The children then enjoyed putting bandages on each other.

Class 2 completed a geography experience about the United Kingdom. This experience took the class from England to Scotland to Northern Ireland and on to Wales. Along the way they discovered what makes the United Kingdom special. First, they enjoyed strawberries, cream and a cup of decaf tea whilst learning about England. The children wrote about landmarks such as the Tower of London, the London Eye, Buckingham Palace, the Shard and St Paul's Cathedral. Next, they learnt about Edinburgh, its location and popular landmarks whilst sampling delicious shortbread. Another highlight was learning about Northern Ireland and trying some Irish dancing. After learning about all the countries, they used their knowledge to create a radio advert to persuade people to visit the United Kingdom.

Class 3 loved their visit to the local Four Elms café as part of their maths-based experience. The children were allowed to bring money to buy a small snack and a drink. They were also allowed to buy a small bag of sweets which were specially provided by the café for this occasion. Addition and subtraction are two of the four mathematical operations which are essential in order to function in the real world. This experience helped them to put into practice these core skills to ensure they had sufficient money to afford the items they wanted and received the correct change.

Class 4 have been helping out the teachers by planning the Year 6 residential trip to the Isle of Wight later this year. The class used their problem-solving skills to calculate all the expenses of the trip; including the cost of the ferry for all the children and adults, the price of the fuel and the cost of the accommodation. This helped the class to use all four mathematical operations and use decimal numbers in a real-world scenario. The class also had to work to justify their costs to the teachers, presenting what they have found out and justifying the decisions they have made.

Nicole Holt

news from the pews

Four Elms

As we work through a period of interregnum, we thank all the visiting ministers for their support. especially, the Rev. Simon Braid, who must now know the quickest way from Mark Beech to Four Elms, via Hever.
At the end of winter the arrival of snowdrops, aconites and daffodils is a very welcome sight. However, coupled with this is the sight of fallen trees and waterlogged fields caused by the inclement weather, especially the Ciara storm. It is a visual reminder to us all that we should address seriously the issue of climate change. We read and hear about the concerns but when we see for ourselves how much it is causing change to our own landscape it concentrates our minds. It is particularly pleasing that the Church of England's Lent course/campaign this year is "Care for God's Creation". St. Paul's Church should certainly be addressing this and seeing areas where we can improve or change.

Last August, we had a robbery. Following this we have installed CCTV cameras on the outside of the church. St. Paul's thanks Hever Parish Council for its financial support for this project. The church continues to remain open during the day for all who wish to visit. And … hurrah! Four Elms now has two coffee/bistro shops. We are all delighted and hope we may bump into friends and neighbours in one or the other.

And finally … The Fete Committee meets in a few weeks. For we Church Stallholders it is a huge opportunity to raise much needed funds. We shall have all the usual stalls and look forward to contributions and help if you are able. Thank you everyone for the many years of happy successful Four Elms Village Fetes.

Christina Hodson
Churchwarden

Hever

This year's Grand Hever Quiz was a great success once again, winners and runners up were Will's Team and Team Lisa and I am assured that this rivalry has not upset matrimonial harmony in the Cowell household! (A photo of the winners features in this magazine). A very credible third place went to the Hever Bellringers! A huge thank you to all the teams, helpers and sponsors whose efforts resulted in us raising nearly three thousand pounds to help maintain our beautiful old church.

The ever-popular parish lunch will be held as usual in the village hall on the second Thursday of the month - 12th March at 12.30pm - all welcome. Further dates for the diary are the Hever Mothering Sunday service on 22nd March at 11am and, looking forward to the beginning of next month, our Easter Services beginning with Palm Sunday on 5th April - a Benefice Service starting with a Donkey procession at 10.45am. On Good Friday there will be Noon Devotions and the popular 6am Sunrise service on Easter Sunday- 12th April, bacon rolls provided afterwards.

Everyone is welcome to the Easter Egg Hunt on the Saturday before Easter (11th), organised jointly with the Hever

Residents Association**.** Starting at 3pm, there will be cake and coffee in the church and plenty of hidden eggs in both the church and churchyard!

The interviews for our new Parish Priest are taking place and hopefully exciting further news will be forthcoming shortly.

And finally British Summertime begins on the 29th of this month. Do not forget to 'spring forward' with your clocks!

Jane Rosam
Churchwarden

Markbeech

Interregnums are always unsettling so it feels really important to keep up the routines of our parishes as closely as possible. We had hoped, rather optimistically, at one stage that we might have a new priest in place for Easter. That now seems unlikely so we, as congregations, will need to drive the energy for Lent activities and Holy Week services etc while we pray for the right decision to be made for our future.

Visiting priests have been taking interesting services and we are very grateful for their support, and hope congregation numbers keep up despite the wild and stormy weather we have been having, particularly it would seem on Sundays!

One of the storms has taken down a huge oak tree in the churchyard at Markbeech, this is going to be expensive to clear, although fortunately no gravestones seem actually to have been damaged, despite some of them having been slightly displaced. The tree seems to have snapped just above the ground, and you can see that much of the surface of the break is already weathered so it must have started some while ago. As you drive around locally so much of the woodland looks sparse and sad with fallen trees everywhere.

Climate change is clear. And that is the theme for the Church of England's 2020 campaign, 'Care for God's Creation'. We are hoping to arrange some discussions on this for a Lent course, and will make sure you know about it as soon as it is decided.

In March we have a Sung Eucharist on the first Sunday at 9.15am, and the Family Service is on March 15th.

Our parish lunch is now regularly on the first Tuesday of the month, March 3rd, 12.30 in the village hall. Someone asked me the other day if this was just for lonely people? I assured him that it was for everyone! All are very welcome and we can always make the soup stretch if you haven't managed to tell us that you are coming. If possible please email me at marielou@me.com or ring or text 07860 436668, if you can come and let me know any dietary requirements!

Marielou Linklater
Churchwarden

Services in March 2020

Services rota

Date	Time	Church	Service	Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions	Chalice
01 Mar	09.15 11.00	Markbeech Hever	Sung Eucharist (HH) Parish Communion (HH)	Ricky Calvocoressi Sandra Dell & Daryl Roxburgh	James Calvocoressi & Marielou Linklater Daryl Roxburgh & Jane Rosam	Janey Cooper Ana Roxburgh	Vasile Nedelcu Jane Rosam
08 Mar	09.15 10.30 16.00	Markbeech Four Elms Hever	Sung Eucharist (DC) Café St Paul (CH & SS) Evensong (SM)	Janey Cooper Christina Hodson & Stephen Short Robin Rouse & Elly Heard	Ann Bellamy & Carol Bowern Elly Heard & Robin Rouse	Ann Bellamy	Nicki Talbot
15 Mar	09.15 11.00	Markbeech Hever	Family Service (SB) Parish Communion (BF)	Irens family Lisa Cowell & Elly Heard	Elsie Bain Lisa & Will Cowell	Kitty West Elly Heard	 Elly Heard
22 Mar	08.00 11.00	Four Elms Hever	Holy Communion (BCP) Mothering Sunday Service (SB)	Richard Bennett Robin Rouse & Elly Heard	Gill Lambert Jane Rosam & Robin Rouse	Elly Heard	Gill Lambert Jane Rosam
29 Mar	11.00	Four Elms	Parish Communion with Inspire (SB)	Gill Lambert & Christina Hodson	John Hodson & Stephen Short	Marion Purll	Gill Lambert

Celebrants Simon Braid (SB), Sally Musson (SM), Heather Hughes (HH), Deryck Charnock (DC)
Christina Hodson (CH), Stephen Short (SS), Brian Fortnum (BF)

Lectionary readings March 2020

Date	OT	Psalm	NT	Gospel	Sunday
01 Mar	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7	32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11	Lent 1
08 Mar	Genesis 12:1-4a	121	Romans 4:1-5,13-17	John 3:1-17	Lent 2
15 Mar	Exodus 17:1-7	95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42	Lent 3
22 Mar	Exodus 2:1-10	34:11-20	2 Corinthians 1:3-7	Luke 2:33-35	Mothering Sunday
29 Mar	Ezekiel 37:1-14	130	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45	Passion Sunday
05 Apr	Isaiah 50:4-9a	31: 9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14-27:66	Palm Sunday

Churchwardens

Hever	Jane Rosam	01732 868085
Four Elms	Leslie Griggs Christina Hodson	01732 700428 01732 700247
Markbeech	Nicki Talbot Marielou Linklater	01342 850526 01342 850579

Altar Flowers
St. Paul's Four Elms
Lent – no flowers

From the register
Funeral
February 6th Ken Seal Tunbridge Wells Crematorium

As we pen this column the rain is relentlessly pouring down! With one of the wettest Autumns on record and equally appalling Winter, it can stop now! On a serious note the weather patterns of late are a worrying fact of global warming.

There don't seem to be seasons now just extremities. As a nurseryman plant selection is now extremely important. Plants that can tolerate a range of conditions are paramount.



Nothing could be more true than the month of March. For many it's the start of the gardening calendar, but we can still see frosts, snow and storms.

We grow an extensive range of Spring flowering plants. Here are some recommendations for the month of March.

Narcissus Rip Van Winkle - remarkable dwarf variety with spiky, star-shaped, golden double flowers.

Narcissus Minnow - charming miniature Daffodil with pale yellow, scented flowers. Clusters of up to 5 flowers/stem.

Brunnera Jack Frost - fantastic shade loving perennial forget-me-not. A mass of blue flowers above majestic foliage with silvery overlay.

Pulmonaria Blue Ensign - brilliant cobalt-blue flowers that last through until May.

Daphne Jacqueline Postill - fabulous Winter, early Spring shrub with pink, very highly scented flowers.

Viola odorata Queen Charlotte - Sweet Violet, this dainty little plant packs a punch with highly scented purple flowers.

As we go to print we are delighted to announce our first Spring Lecture. We welcome Steve Edney, head gardener from the Salutation Garden in Sandwich, Kent. In 2019 the garden was awarded RHS partner garden status - a high accolade! Join us at Hever Golf Club on March 12th. Tickets strictly in advance £6.50. Please email simon@howgreennursery.co.uk to book your tickets.

Simon Sutcliffe
How Green Nursery

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	29.5	111	55	27	58	112	115	114
	2020	66											
Hever	**2018**	79	36	81	65.5	79	0	36	63	32	41	127.5	81
	2019	23	56	45.5	12	24	90	63	28.5	64	119	98	114
	2020	77											
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	29	78.5	74.5	38.5	71	133	92.5	138
	2020	96.25											

Hall Bookings

Four Elms:
Village Hall
– Mike Follows 01732 700280
or 07887 950921
Parish Rooms
– John Southworth 01732 700670
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

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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 April edition should reach us no later than **15th April 2020**
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

March diary

5 Feb to 3 May	**Exhibition at Eden Valley Museum,** Edenbridge and the Foundling Hospital	
29 Feb	**Penshurst Choral Society Concert,** Penshurst church	7.30pm
3 Mar	**Markbeech parish lunch,** Markbeech Village Hall	12.30
6 Mar	**Film Club, Finding their Feet,** Hever Castle Golf Club	7pm
7 Mar	**Men's breakfast,** Markbeech Village Hall	8.30am
12 Mar	**Hever parish lunch,** Hever Village Hall	12 for 12.30
14 Mar	**Ladies' breakfast,** Markbeech Village Hall	9am
17 Mar	**Hever Parish Council meeting,** Hever Village Hall	7.30pm
18 Mar	**Hever Hort talk: The Arts & Crafts Movement and its Garden**, Hever Village Hall,	8pm
4 Apr	**Hever Hort Spring Show,** Hever Village Hall	2-4pm
9 Apr	**Hever parish lunch,** Hever Village Hall,	12 for 12.30
10 Apr	**Village litter picks,** 9am Hever, 10am Four Elms and 2pm Markbeech	
11 Apr	**Hever Easter egg hunt,** Hever Church,	3pm
15 Apr	**Easter Lambing Tea Party** at Ockhams	2pm-4pm
17 Apr	**Public meeting about the medical centre,** Edenbridge Leisure Centre	
18 Apr	**The Markbeech Quiz** in Markbeech Village Hall with supper	7.30 for 8pm
5 May	**Hever Parish Council meeting and AGM,** Four Elms Village Hall	7.30pm
7 -10 May	**Chiddingstone Castle Literary Festival**	
8 May	**VE Day village party,** Hever Castle	
28 May	**Parish Assembly** Hever Village Hall	