June 2022

THE LINK







In this issue:

- Platinum Jubilee... taking it to the streets!
- An artful June
- remembering Pauline Scott
- Crowned! Memories of coronation day

...and much more

Parish magazine of Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech

£1

Welcome to the June Link

So the platinum jubilee is upon us and the party at the castle on 2 June is all organised and ready, we just hope the weather is kind. Entry is by ticket only and unfortunately the tickets are all sold. All 1,000 went in a trice and the organisers are very sorry that there aren't more, we had no idea it would be so popular.

I remember the transformative effect that the silver jubilee of 1977 had on my London street. As is the tradition in cities, neighbours did not know one another and when they got together, painted the litter bins Union Jack colours and started to socialise, they really enjoyed it. There is a good programme about the 1977 jubilee in Radio 4's "The Reunion" series.

I also have to let you have some news about the cuckoo I sponsored via the British Trust for Ornithology - congratulations to JAC who has made it home to his nesting ground near Llangollen all the way from the Congo. Imagine this little bird flying all the way across the bay of Biscay (a shrewd move to avoid the bird hunters of Europe), across the Channel and then up to North Wales, often flying hundreds of miles a day.

Finally, a random fact gleaned at the excellent Chiddingstone Literary Festival: the pigment ultramarine is made from lapis lazuli from "across the sea", hence the name.

Have a lovely Jubilee!

Joanna Wade



THE LINK

pet of the month



Hello, my name is Ginnie and I have lived in Hever for about 10 years now. I was however born in Last Chance Animal rescue with my sister and two brothers. So nearby.

My brother Tommie and I came here together. He was a very large black and white cat, when stretched out he was over a metre long from nose to tail. Sadly he died a few years ago. We used to enjoy chasing each other around the garden. I still run around the garden, but now I chase mousies instead. I love bringing them into the house as presents for the people I live with. Sometimes they are alive and run away and hide though.

I am quite a big cat myself, so much so that I have to have a dog flap not a cat flap as my bottom is rather large and wouldn't go through a small cat flap! I love sitting looking out of the dog flap into the garden, as I like to know what is going on out there. If it is raining I still stick my head out of the flap and use it as an umbrella so I don't get wet.



If my family don't wake up early enough in the morning and I am particularly hungry I go into their bedroom to wake them up. I lick their noses and tap them on the face it usually works!

Ginnie Adkins

coronation day 1953

In 1953 I was a student living at a YMCA hostel situated opposite the Royal Mews. As the youngest resident in the hostel I was given the option of purchasing a ticket for a seat in the special viewing stands but I turned this down as I preferred to go and watch the procession with my friends.

We decided to wait opposite the Green Park underground station and made our way there the night before the Coronation armed with warm clothes and cardboard boxes in which we hoped to shelter for the night. The weather was cold and damp and we didn't get much rest but we were all excited at the prospect of seeing the Coronation procession. Another great excitement was the announcement of the conquest of Everest over the loudspeaker and this naturally caused a great roar of congratulations from the crowd.

When the procession passed us we had a fairly brief view of the Queen and the royal family and dignitaries. One memory which will always remain in my memory was the beaming smile of the statuesque Queen of Tonga and another memory was Sir Winston Churchill saluting the crowds.

By the time we returned to the hostel we were rather tired and very cold but extremely happy that we had witnessed a once in a lifetime experience.

Ann Bellamy



Jane More's royal memorabilia

Hever's coronation celebrations

Just before Christmas in 1953, Rev Foster, the Rector of Hever, was turning out his cupboards.

On an envelope marked 'Coronation Celebrations Q Elizabeth II' he wrote 'Some future social historian may be interested, possibly, in details of the Village Celebrations on 2nd June 1953'. At some point, the envelope was passed on to the Eden Valley Museum and 70 years on a volunteer historian has indeed found something of interest in those most mundane of items: invoices – a window onto a vanished world.

Milk and cream came direct from Truggers Farm in Chiddingstone, ice cream at sixpence a tub collected on the day from the Negresco Café (the Negresco was the now–long-defunct Edenbridge Cinema). Tomatoes and cucumbers cost 8 shillings and sixpence from the Model Fish and Fruit Stores in Edenbridge and cut loaves, bridge rolls, and 3 gross of cakes from Smarts Hill Bakery in Penshurst cost £6 .3s. Clearly tea was the main beverage of the day, with just £1 spent on 'minerals' to toast the Queen, plus £1 on squash, both purchased from the Greyhound Inn. All was done properly: paper doilies from Woolworths adorned the cake plates and trifle was served in 144 waxed paper jelly cases.

When it came to publicity, Durrants of Edenbridge printed 12 posters for the exorbitant price of £16.9s. For menus and programmes the committee turned to Mrs Hoster's Typing, Shorthand and Translation Offices in Telegraph Street EC2, more reasonable at £2 and 6d.

The great novelty of the day was, of course, the live showing of the events in London through the amazing new medium of television. For this they turned to TC Hillier, Electrical Engineer of Oxted for the hire of two televisions and one radio, though with the average size of television screens at about 12 inches (30cm) how the entire village managed to see them is open to question! Anyway, Hever School offered its premises for the showing and for teas 'for Children and Old Folk'. Quite what happened to the ages in between is unclear. Children also had the excitement of a sports day, but what else went on is sadly lost in the mists of time as what were not preserved were programmes, menus or any photos.

But they must be out there somewhere! So has anyone any memorabilia of Hever's Coronation Celebrations? If so, the Eden Valley Museum would be delighted to receive them as loans or donations, ASAP, to display at their forthcoming Jubilee Event. Contact curatorial.chair@evmt.org.uk, drop into the museum when open, or phone Hilary Brand on 01732 500554.

Hilary Brand

The EDEN VALLEY MUSEUM

invites you to drop in for a nostalgic tea to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Rickards Hall, Edenbridge on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June 2- 4pm

FREE ENTRY

All proceeds from refreshments to Eden Valley Museum

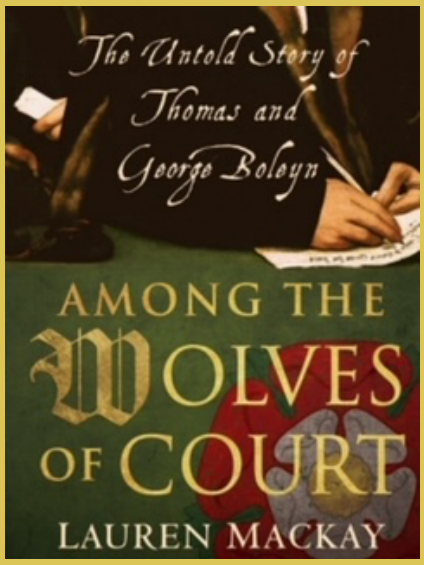
Video montage of the Queen's coronation and reign. Display featuring previous local Royal celebrations and memorabilia.

Free children's activity sessions, starting at 2 and 3pm
(For under 12s accompanied by an adult.
To secure a place for children's activities, book on line at evmt.org.uk or at the museum).

Among the Wolves of Court

a talk by Dr Lauren MacKay

in St Peter's Church Hever Saturday 25 June 8pm



Anne Boleyn's story is famous, but that of her father, Thomas Boleyn, is less known. Thomas is usually portrayed as a grasping courtier who sacrificed his daughters to the royal bedchamber but there is far more to his story. For over three decades Thomas enjoyed a successful career as one of the Tudor period's most highly skilled ambassadors, served as one of Cardinal Wolsey's right-hand men and was respected throughout the courts of Europe. A man of intellect and spirituality, he was also a patron of some of the greatest minds of the age, including the great scholar Desiderius Erasmus.

Lauren will spend an evening delving into Thomas Boleyn's life and career, moving beyond the myths and stereotypes to establish his place in Tudor history.

remembering Pauline Scott

Pauline's funeral service in Hever Church in April was packed and the Scott family did us proud with refreshments in the Henry afterwards. It was a time to celebrate Pauline as well as mourn her.

She was born in Douglas on the Isle of Man in 1941 and had enduring memories of fish and chips on the promenade and rushing home from school to watch the TT races. The family moved to the Wirral when she was about 13 where her father Dick worked as an engineer with the post office, now British Telecom. As her mother had passed away when Pauline was young, she was brought up by Dick and her Auntie Mae.



O'Reilly joins the happy couple on their wedding day

Riding had already become a huge part of her life and when she left school, and her father had helped her get a job in the Post Office drawing office, Pauline determinedly set about saving up to buy herself her first horse, Kerry. She worked hard at riding and went on to compete in the Working Hunter class at the Horse of the Year Show at Wembley.

After a time, and much to her dad's annoyance, Pauline left her job to follow her passion for travel and joined British Eagle as a stewardess – then moving on to BOAC and British Airways; there were many tales of far flung places and room parties. Possibly the high point of her career was being selected to crew one of the Queen's flights.

Meanwhile she met John Scott, born and bred on the Wirral, at a party. They courted for six years whilst she flew and he farmed. She was a keen member of the Birkenhead Operatic Society and managed to persuade John on stage at the Liverpool Empire - leading on an equally unwilling donkey. They were married on 1 October 1970, a carefully chosen date as John reckoned correctly that he would have finished the combining by then! Pauline's favourite horse O'Reilly was guest of honour and they honeymooned in Hawaii.

Their children, Caroline and Simon, were soon born and Pauline was happily grounded for a while when they were toddlers. She and John bred ponies of their own and Caroline

inherited her mother's love of horses, working now as an accountant for Tattersall's, blood stock agents in Newmarket where her partner is a trainer.

As the children grew, Pauline went back to her much-loved work as a stewardess, a brave decision in the mid seventies; John's mother lived next door so childcare worked well.


Living the dream in Barbados

And then the family made another brave decision, this time to move SOUTH! The Wirral was getting too built up so the Scotts were looking for a farm in rural Cheshire - when Polebrook farm caught their eye. It had been for sale in the big auction when the Astors sold the Castle and it's enormous estate but it didn't sell so they were able to buy it shortly afterwards in 1983.

The great migration included the horses of course, but also their 150 cows which arrived in three double decker wagons.

Hever proved a welcoming place and they made lots of good friends. Pauline would often recall the Haywards organising a welcome party with so many people. Over the years Pauline was involved in various parts of community life including the WI, the Church choir and the Penshurst amateur dramatic society along with organising many memorable dinners at Hever Castle.

The farm business diversified after the great storm of 1987 and they started a saw mill and timber business. Simon, who had done business studies at Bristol University and was working in London, wanted to come home and Hever Beavers was born. Simon gradually discovered his talent for making wooden structures and they moved away from the saw mill towards the more creative work the Scott Partnership is known for today.

Caroline and Simon remember Pauline as an amazing, encouraging mum – firm but fair. They say "the bits of wisdom we took from her were to "treat everyone the same no matter who they are" and that "everything happens for a reason"".

She will be very much missed by all of the family especially John, Caroline and Will, Simon and Denise and her two grandsons who she loved dearly, Alex and Charlie.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

KENT COUNTY WELFARE



To celebrate 100 years of Kent County Royal British Legion, I will be walking 30 miles from Hartfield to The Royal British Legion Village in Aylesford on Saturday 4th June.

Throughout the whole walk I will be carrying the flag of the Cowden, Hartfield and District Branch of The Royal British Legion.





If you would like to support this, please visit: 'GoFundMe' and enter 'James Castle' into the search engine or go directly to https://www.gofundme.com/f/kent-county-rbl-welfare?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

All funds raised will go to the Kent County RBL Welfare Fund that directly supports the ex-forces community in Kent. All donations will be very gratefully received. Thank you.

James Castle – Secretary and Standard Bearer – Cowden, Hartfield and District Branch – Royal British Legion





Art in June will once again be taking place around Sevenoaks and the Eden Valley. Locally, there are four venues with a great variety of fine art and craft. This ranges from paintings, printmaking, ceramics and glassware, to very large garden sculptures, silk creations and tiny copper enamel work.

All venues will be open 3rd – 19th June, Wednesdays to Sundays, but hours of opening vary slightly.

- **The Barn at Falconhurst, Cowden Pound Rd. Mark Beech TN8 5NR Open 10am-5pm.**
- **The Paint Kitchen, Old Farm, Cow Lane, Markbeech TN8 5NX. Open 11 am to 6pm**
- **The Red House, Rectory Lane, Hever, TN8 7LH, Open 11 am -5 pm, other times can be arranged 01732 864874**
- **Jessops Farm Studios, Tonbridge Rd, Bough Beech TN8 7AU Tel: 01892 870067 Open 10am – 6pm. Late opening till 9pm, Fridays and Saturdays.**

Workshops, talks and private views will also be running so look out for postings. You will always receive a warm welcome with lively conversation! View the Art in June brochure:www.artinjune.org

Dear Friends:

The Art Walk in June

will link Hever and Markbeech, starting at 2pm and ending at 5pm at St. Peter's Church, Hever. Join in or drop off whenever you feel like. The walk will take 60-70 minutes (average pace). We aim to support local artists stopping in 2-3 places, to rest, have a snack, etc., so this walk may take 3hrs or more, depending on the pace and how long we stop off at each place. The 3 art locations are shown in purple on the map.



A challenging section will be between the Falconhurst farm shop and The Greyhound Inn pub marked in red on the map, through the wood along the public footpath linking Cowden Pound Road and Uckfield Lane, weather permitting. It is safe but not always steady ground and can be muddy if wet. Otherwise, it is all along the roads, so please wear comfy shoes and bring water, snacks, walking sticks, sunglasses, hats, and most importantly keep kids in hand and dogs on leads! Suggested drop off points: the Greyhound, the Kentish Horse KH), Falconhurst Farm Shop, and Hever Village Hall (HVH). We look forward to seeing you on June 11th at 2pm at St. Peter's Church, Hever. Please join in!!!

Ana Claudia.



Local Theatre Company to perform Jane Eyre at The Festival Theatre, Hever Castle Wednesday 1st June 2022 at 7.30pm

www.anotherwaytheatre.co.uk

Hi there – I'm Nicky Chambers and I am the producer of Another Way Theatre. I live in Edenbridge and, with my husband Chris Chambers, set up our own small professional theatre company, Another Way Theatre, in 2010. We are now very excited to be presenting Polly Teale's striking adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's novel JANE EYRE at The Two Sisters Theatre at beautiful Hever Castle for the first time.

We are very fortunate to have a talented professional company led by Rebecca Pickering in the title role. When not acting you may see her as a stage or screen fighter as a stunt woman. Rochester is played by Dan Avery who juggles his acting career with working as an Assistant Nursing Practitioner in the Salisbury A&E department. Chris Chambers, our director, is also Head of Drama productions at Trinity School, Croydon. As well as producing I am a PA to an environmentalist in London and a part time piano teacher – oh and I am also acting in the play as Mrs Reed and Mrs Fairfax.

Following our performance in Hever we will be heading West with JANE EYRE to the world famous Minack Theatre on the cliffs of Porthcurno, Cornwall 5-9 June.

There will be ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY of Jane Eyre at The Festival Theatre, Hever Castle on Wednesday 1st June at 7.30pm so book now to avoid disappointment for an experience not to be missed.



Hever Parish Council

With spring rolling into summer and the much anticipated Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, the work of the Parish Council continues with regular safety inspections of the equipment in the communal play areas and arranging repairs where necessary. The Hever bus stop has had a spring clean, the floor re-laid and the surrounding pathway cleared and repaired. The Annual Meeting of the Council and well attend Parish Assembly took place in May.

Our Parish is a great place to be, however, should you witness anti-social behaviour please do report it to Sevenoaks District Council Community Safety Team. They can be contacted by telephone on 01732 227000 or by email: community.safety@sevenoaks.gov.uk. For more information visit www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/info/20040/community_safety. You can report a non-urgent crime online at www.kent.police.uk/report or talk on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact. In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, please call 999. If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use the textphone service 18000. Or text 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service. Anti-social behaviour can have a lasting impact on neighbourhoods and communities. It can lead to an increase in crime, particularly violence, and criminal damage. Kent Police and Sevenoaks District Council are working with residents to address concerns around nuisance behaviour in this area.

- The next Bulk Refuse collection is due to take place on Saturday 23rd July. Details will be on the website nearer the time.
- On Monday 8th August, there will be a Family Fun Day from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm on Four Elms Field. The event is free to attend and is run by Play Place. The PTA will be on hand selling refreshments too.
- Our Facebook page Facebook - Hever Parish Council and website http://hever.org are regularly updated so please do visit them for up to date information and news posts.

Please remember your Parish Council is here and do continue to tell us what concerns you and what issues you feel the Council should be focussing on.

Mrs Rachael Turner
Clerk and RFO
07784 912645
clerk@hever.org



SUNDAY 26th JUNE

SERVICE: 11am at St. Peter's Church, Hever

PICNIC: 12pm at Hever Village Hall

This year we celebrate 900 years of St. Peter's Church in Hever

JOIN US for a wonderful service led by Archdeacon of Tonbridge, the Venerable Sharon Copestake, preceded by a quarter peel of bells

Followed by a fun-filled family picnic at the village hall with:

LIVE MUSIC from Lingfield Silver Band

FREE PICNIC LUNCH

BAR incl. Pimm's, Prosecco, beer and soft drinks

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

*****PLEASE EMAIL hever900picnic@gmail.com if you wish to contribute food/help*****

If you're extra organised, RSVP by email if you intend to join so we know numbers

FREE ENTRY AND ALL ARE WELCOME

Garden Open

at Little Chittenden, Four Elms TN86PB

IN AID OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

SUNDAY JUNE19th from 2.30pm

Garden only £5
Garden & English tea £10
Children free or with tea £2

Tickets for booked tea 01732 700247
Email: garden22@btinternet.com
Dogs must be kept on leads

news from Hever

The biggest news from Hever is the arrival of our Shepherd's Hut. A huge thank you to our PTA who have not only fundraised, and applied for grants but have also project managed the building works and decorated the Hut. The Hut has electricity and data and is nearly ready to use. It's going to be a very welcome break out space for interventions, counselling, art therapy and music.



In April a group of our pupils travelled to the O2 to perform in a concert as part of the 25th Anniversary of Young Voices. The children performed a range of songs in medleys of the Muppets, Beatles and the Lion King, Power in Me and O Fortuna. The weeks of practise for committing lyrics and actions to memory were evident in the children's performance and they represented the school impeccably.

In preparation for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, we have been donated a maypole! The children are enjoying learning various maypole dances and are looking forward to performing at our Jubilee picnic on 27th May.





This week we hit two milestones at Hever since the beginning of the pandemic. We had the return of the year 6 SATs and a year 4 and 5 residential trip to Osmington Bay in Dorset. Our year 6 children took the SATs in their stride, especially considering their hugely different experiences over the previous two school years!

Finally, we welcomed Her Majesty's Inspectorate to the school and were grateful for the support of the whole Hever community. We look forward to sharing Ofsted's findings as soon as the report is released.

Joanna Stratton
Headteacher

business directory

to add your company email the Editors.
Just £25 per annum

Accommodation		
Edenbridge Manor Care Home, residential, dementia and respite care		01732 492282
Building & Design Services		
Albourne roofing	slating, tiling, flat roofing, repairs	01732 700 353
Causeway Joinery	bespoke joinery for the public and trade	01342 850170
Clare Elizabeth	painting and decorating	0777 5328781
G Moss	joiner & builder	07778 440 644
Jem Pickard	painting and decorating	07850 371558 or 01732 863062
M & M Walker	painting & decorating, plumbing, heating	07774 218 684
Richard A Maslen	Fine furniture and bespoke joinery	07930 341 415
W Smithers & Sons	listed building, conversions, extensions,	01342 850 559
Catering		
Gorard Dean Catering -	all events undertaken call Melanie Dean	07710 005 635
Cleaning		
Housecleans	cleaning, ironing	01959 532 223
Rockport Cleaning	dry carpet & upholstery cleaners	01732 387 046
Commercial Property		
Hever Business Centre Office Suites - Karrison Property		01959 563800
Dog grooming and walking		
Wash n blow, dogs to go – dog grooming - Chris:		01892 740170/07736 484184
Education		
Markbeech Nursery	for children 2-5 years	01342 850403
Chiddingstone Nursery School	for children 2-5 years	01892 871315
Equestrian		
Four Elms Farm Livery		07771 634995
Fitness		
Hever Castle Golf Club	golf course	01732 701017
Chiddingstones' Tennis Club		0776 964 2590
Falconhurst Cricket Club	cricket and training sessions	07771 892762
Pilates by Lorna at Four Elms and Ide Hill village halls		07747 628993
Smart Nutrition and Fitness personal training for midlife women and beyond		0771 8588847

Funeral Services		
Alex Jones	funeral directors & monumental masons	01732 860047
Garage Services		
Stuart Rieman luxury passenger car servicing & repairs		01883 715 037
Gardening and landscaping		
APF Trees,	tree surgery and garden maintenance	07786 884924
Hever Landscapes	for all your garden projects	01892 740133
French's Fencing	gates, automation, fencing supply & fitting	0779 5551436
R. Bennett	hedges, fencing, grass cutting	01732 862971
Thompson Tree Care Ltd,	tree surgery, tree felling, hedge cutting	07747345815
Health		
Emma Roper Chartered physiotherapist	home physio visit, pilates classes	07771 925346
Paul Marro	Cognitive Hypnotherapy www.htherapy.co.uk	01732 808211
Step by Step	foot health practice	07786 038149
Home services		
Andy Sayers	electrical services maintenance and repairs	07836 256146
Daren Wood	Chimney sweep, pots and cowls fitted	01959 564263
Pegrum	fuels, boilers, plumbing, solar panels, water/oil tanks	01732 463256
Sure Kill	pest control services	01732 863206
IT		
My IT Wizard Ltd	Computer problem solving	07779 285839
MR Computing	computer repairs in your home, no call out charge	01732 590077
Local Produce		
Allman Butchers	meat & groceries	01732 863214 or 700288
Falconhurst Farm Shop and deli		01342 850172
Travel, Taxis and bike hire		
Country Hire and Go,	electric bike hire and local taxi service	07723054863
Relyon Cars	local taxi company	01732 863 800
Venue Hire and Weddings		
Falconhurst Weddings		01342 850526
Markbeech Village Hall		01342 850328

Church in June

We are so pleased that Jane Rosam has been licensed as a lay minister and, in addition to her existing ministry locally and in Toys Hill, she will start leading and preaching at services on an occasional basis.
Our big service this month is the Hever 900 years on 26th June which will be taken by Archdeacon Ven.Sharon Copestake. Note this is at 11.00am to accommodate the picnic following in the Village Hall. Please continue to watch out for any late changes with details of services below and also at https://threespires.wordpress.com/2021/06/08/our-next-service/

Date & time	Service details	Readings	Sunday
5th June 10am	Platinum Jubilee Holy Communion St.Paul's Four Elms	Genesis 11:1-9; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:18-17,25-27	Pentecost
12th June 8am	Said BCP Morning Prayer at St.Peter's Hever	Proverbs 8:1—4, 22-31; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15	Trinity Sunday
12th June 10am	Eucharist and Patronal Festival at Holy Trinity Markbeech	Proverbs 8:1—4, 22-31; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15	Trinity Sunday
12th June 4pm	Forest church at St.Peter's Hever	Pentecost theme	Trinity Sunday
19th June 10am	Holy Communion St.Peter's Hever	1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39	1st after Trinity
19th June 4pm	Family Outdoor worship at St.Paul's Four Elms	Father's day theme	1st after Trinity
26th June 11am	Holy Communion to celebrate 900 years at St.Peter's Hever led by Ven.Sharon Copestake	2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14; Galatians 5:1,13-25; Luke 9:51-62	2nd after Trinity

Our weekly Zoom Bible study continues on Mondays and Zoom Evening prayer on Thursdays both at 6.00pm.

For details of all these please contact Simon or see our website or Facebook page.

Please contact any of us if you would like prayer or to talk to someone or any other help.

Priest-in-charge
Revd.Simon Braid
07802 809849 and
simonbraid@icloud.com

Wardens
Hever
Mandy Yarnold
01342 850028
Four Elms
Christina Hodson
01732 700247
Richard Bennett
01732 862971
Markbeech
Nicki Talbot
01342 850526
Marielou Linklater
01342 850579
Administrator
Ana Roxburgh
beneficeemail@gmail.com

our rector's thoughts

In my experience, June is normally a very busy month: we have Art in June locally and Wimbledon at the end of the month. This year we also have the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and our celebration of 900 years of Christian worship in St.Peter's Hever, which will be marked by a flower festival and a special service and picnic on Sunday 26th June.

Plus, on the evening before, we have a lecture by historian Dr.Lauren Mackay on the Boleyn family. It is amazing that in St.Peter's we have the tomb of the grandfather of the first Queen Elizabeth as we celebrate the Platinum jubilee of the second Queen Elizabeth.

But we all know that many of the monarchs who ruled this country fell rather short. It is an embarrassment that the creation of the Church of England came out of Henry VIII's desire to divorce Katherine of Aragon, his wife of 24 years.

However, when it comes to our current Queen, we are blessed to have a sovereign who is known for being Head of State and confidante to 14 Prime Ministers, mother and great grandmother. Despite her recent understandable struggles with age, she is still working. She continues to show an amazing commitment to her duty in accordance with the solemn vow she made on her 21st birthday in 1947: *I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service….*

Whilst mainstream media always seems to downplay or ignore her Christian faith, she has consistently witnessed to Christ as her anchor, her guide and her help. In a recent broadcast she said: 'Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God.

So this June, we will be looking back with thanksgiving over 900 years for Hever church and 70 years for our Queen. Looking forward is a bit more challenging with the worsening international situation in Europe and threats of an escalating war. In 1939, the Queen's father, George VI, in his Christmas radio broadcast, quoted from a poem:

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown', and he replied, 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be better than light and safer than a known way.'

I wish you all a very joyful celebration this June.

Simon

Markbeech

Suddenly June looms - for me a very busy time as I exhibit with 'Art in June' and will be in my little studio welcoming visitors for much of the month. At the moment I'm hidden by a pile of mounting boards and canvases and hoping everything will be done in time. As last year I will also be serving Swedish waffles and coffee so am very much hoping for weather that is more inviting than the deluge we endured in 2021!

And you can join a convivial Art Walk that will take in the three venues in the benefice for 'Art in June', starting from St Peter's Churchyard at 2pm on Saturday June 11th, as part of the celebrations for the 900th anniversary of St Peter's church. Check the date and time in this issue or online.

Of course the big event of the month is the Queen's Jubilee and there are various events in the villages to celebrate it - Markbeech is having the Women's Cricket match at Falconhurst, an early home of women's cricket, on Friday June 3rd, and then a very superior village barbecue to follow at the Kentish Horse.

By the time you read this Simon will have been officially installed as our Rector, a matter for much celebration. And he will be leading us for our Sung Eucharist on June 12th. We are very happy that since we have been allowed to sing in church again, we have brought back more of our traditional singing of the Merbecke chants and this will be part of the sung service.

We are praying that June will bring joy and comfort for all those affected by inflation and shortages and the unspeakable war in Ukraine

.

Do consult the Three Spires website for updates and last minute info on events and church services.

Marielou Linklater
Churchwarden

Hever

We had a double celebration last month in which we saw Simon Braid installed and licensed as the Rector of the Three Spires Benefice and Jane Rosam was licensed as a Lay Minister for the Three Spires Benefice. We are truly blessed to have these two people in our lives and serving our benefice.

We now have a tap and go machine available at St Peter's for use during services or for church visitors. You can choose one of the fixed amounts or choose to select your own amount if you wish to give more.

This month the Parish of St Peter's will be holding a number of events to celebrate 900 years of worship in the village. There will be a flower festival, followed by a talk on Thomas Bullen whose tomb is to be found on the left of the altar. Please watch out for publicity on events surrounding these celebrations and support them. Following the patronal festival service Sunday June 26th to which everyone is invited, there will be a picnic at the Village Hall, do let us know are

coming and if you have any dietary requirements.

The next Parish lunch will be held on Thursday 9th June starting at 12.30. We normally have between 18 and 24 people and serve soup, fruit and a delicious home-made cake. Everyone in the Parish is very welcome but it would be helpful for catering, if you can, to let us know that you are coming or have any special dietary requirements.

Mandy Yarnold
Churchwarden

Four Elms

Undoubtedly Easter is one of the most important days in the Church calendar. It was, therefore, a joy to see St. Paul's filled with friends and neighbours at the Easter Sunday service. The beautiful weather enabled the children (and a few adults) to hunt for Easter eggs. Thank you Susie for hiding the eggs. Our churchyard is a welcoming place for meeting people and with the sun shining and birds singing it makes for a perfect post service chat.

Our morning Holy Communion Service on Sunday June 5th coincides with the Platinum Jubilee celebrations for the Queen. At the end of the service a glass of bubbly will be offered to toast the incredible length of reign which Her Majesty has achieved. In the afternoon a village walk is planned meeting in the churchyard at 3pm and returning for tea. Do please join us. It will be not be a vigorous walk and will be at the pace of slowest. Everybody is welcome as well as dogs!!

Sunday June 19th is Open Garden at Little Chittenden in aid of St. Paul's Church. It is a nice walk from the centre of Four Elms village and English summer teas are available (see the poster in this edition). For those not wishing to walk there is plenty of parking.

At last, we are nearing the Village Fete after 2 years of closure. May we ask you to support our stalls, with bottles, cakes, plants and as much help on the day as you can muster. It is always a fun day and we have a fly over by the BBF – so back in business.

The cuckoo, of which our editor is so fond; I am still awaiting his dulcet tones. Am I the only person in the Parish who has not heard them this year?

Christina Hodson
Churchwarden



From the register

Baptism

St Peter's Hever
15 May Margot Lucy Rowan
born on 15 May 2019
and Nico Derek Remy Rowan born on 18 June 2021

Funerals

St Peter's Hever
20 April
Pauline Mary Scott age 81
St Paul's Four Elms
5 May
Herbert Morel age 95

gardening

It's official! What many of us, and certainly those of us in the Hever Hort, have suspected for some time has now been given scientific credence; Spring is occurring three weeks earlier than before. Wytham Woods was bequeathed to Oxford University in 1947 and, since then, has been used as a 'living laboratory' for conducting a number of scientific studies, perhaps the most important being the Great Tit study. This shows that Tits are laying their first eggs up to three weeks earlier than when the study started 75 years ago. When deciding on the dates of our shows this change to the seasons always generates discussion, but so far we have stuck to the same dates. This change was brought home to me when a few of the sweet peas I started in January were in flower at the beginning of May, earlier than before.

We are often encouraged to spend time just enjoying our gardens, as well as working in them, and Simon Sutcliffe alluded to the physical and mental benefits of gardening in the last issue of the Link. In our garden we have created a number of areas where we can sit, have a coffee (or something stronger) and relax. The picture shows our morning coffee area, with a rhododendron, climbing rose and Wisteria. The rhododendron was a one metre high youthful plant when we moved to Hawthorns nearly 19 years ago, and is now about three meters high.

There is always a proliferation of gardening advice, and a couple of snippets on pollinators struck me as interesting. Globe thistles (Echinops) provide a massive amount of nectar, equivalent to about 30 cosmos, and plants stop producing nectar in dry weather, so it is important to keep nectar-rich plants watered.

We are well into the 2022 Hever Hort season, with a couple of talks, the Spring Show and most recently, the annual Plant sale, under our horticultural belts. The rain just about held off to allow the Plant sale to be held outside. The combination of George Payne's lovely selection of perennials and bedding plants, and the home-grown contribution from Hort members was a great success, almost equalling last year's record sale.

The next big event in our calender is the Rose Show, on Saturday, 11th June, 2pm - 4pm. There will be refreshments and a raffle, so please come along (or why not enter) if you can. For more information contact Jan Tolfree on 01342 850206 or me on 01342 852 307.

Enjoy your gardens!

Doug Bowern



Benefice monthly rainfall in millimeters

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Four Elms	**2020**	66	106	55	38	6	45	21	42	35	142	59	88
	2021	134	46	30	6	58	79	45	54	41	121	21	78
	2022	22	55	27	7								
Hever	**2020**	77	125	48	38	13.5	45	25	41.5	41	160.5	55	97
	2021	127	42	41.5	5	65.5	84	61	73	41	139	14.5	87.5
	2022	16.5	44	22.5	2								
Markbeech	**2020**	96.25	140	47.5	40	10	49.25	31.6	36	54.6	163.75	40.5	95.6
	2021	120	40	51	4	55.5	38.5	48	0	39	141	11.5	86
	2022	21	80	23	12								

Hall Bookings

Four Elms:
Village Hall
– Kevin Haydon 07787 394 806
Parish Rooms
– John Southworth 01732 700670
Hever
– Mrs Ryan 01732 864168
Markbeech
– Mrs Paige 01342 850328

Councils

Kent County Councillor
Margot McArthur 03000 414817
Margot.McArthur@kent.gov.uk
Sevenoaks District:
Matthew Dickins 07910 328110
Hever Parish:
Rachael Turner
07784 912645
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 **July/August** edition should reach us no later than **16 June** Subscriptions cost £5 pa if delivered by a volunteer. For payment there are two options:
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

26 May	**Hever Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly,** Hever Village Hall	
28 May	**The London Mandolin Quartet concert,** Edenbridge Parish Church	7pm
1 June	**Jane Eyre at The Festival Theatre,** Hever Castle	7.30pm
2 June	**Queen's Platinum Jubilee Garden Party**, Hever Castle	6.30 – 10pm
3 - 19 June	**ART in JUNE** various venues - see advert in this edition	
3 June	**Falconhurst Ladies Cricket match** followed by village BBQ at the Kentish Horse	11am
9 June	**Hever Parish lunch,** Hever Village Hall	12.30pm
10 June	**Wildlife Gardening Club.** Book free tickets www.boreplace.org. Bore Place	10-1pm
11 June	**Hever Walk and Art** from St Peter's church Hever	2-5pm
11 June	**Hever Hort Rose Show,** Hever Village Hall	2-4pm
11 June	**Platinum Jubilee concert,** (tickets: Simon Morris 01342 823940) Holy Trinity church Forest Row	7.30pm
12 June	**Introduction to Beekeeping** book tickets www.boreplace.org. Bore Place	10-4pm
19 June	**Open Garden**, all proceeds to St Paul's church, Little Chittenden, Four Elms	2.30-5pm
25 June	**Hever Festival talk by Lauren MacKay** on Thomas and George Boleyn, St Peter's Hever	8pm
26 June	**Patronal service** at St Peter's Hever followed by a **picnic at the Village Hall**	12 noon
3 July	**Jazz AlFresco,** Saxby's Mead, Cowden	
9 July	**Four Elms Fete**	
8 Aug	**Family Fun Day,** Four Elms field	10-2pm