October 2022

THE LINK







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- Show time in Edenbridge
- Film club, what's projected?
- Souper soup
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Parish magazine of Four Elms, Hever and Markbeech

£1

Welcome to the October Link

First and foremost in this edition we pay tribute to the Queen.

It is a sign of how active and conscientious the Queen was that within a few days of putting out feelers, I had found many locals who had met her. In fact the BBC's assessment is that about a third of the population saw or met her during her long reign.



The Queen and John Harris 1972

The Queen was a regular visitor to Hever Castle for weekend house parties in the 50s and 60s. Tim Higgs remembers that as a child he and his local mates would gather outside the castle gates to watch her drive by. Ken and Mavis Seale worked in the castle at that time and often waited on her, Ken being the Astors' butler.

Ann Cleeve met the Queen in 1956 when, as one of the last debutantes, she curtsied to her at that year's coming out ball. She had been taught to do a deep "court" courtesy by Madame Vacani, principal of the foremost society dancing school in England and tutor to the Queen herself. In fact she had to do it twice, in front of both the Queen and Prince Philip, and her mother, watching nervously from the front row, was terrified that she would topple over or trip on the rug on floor in front of the royal couple. She didn't do either and remembers how beautiful the Queen was at that moment.

The late Michael Brudenell, who many of us remember, had an intimate encounter with the Queen in 1960. His son Jem reports: "Dad described going to Buckingham Palace to assist his boss, Sir John Peel, the Queen's gynaecologist of the time, with the delivery of Prince

THE LINK

Andrew, driving up to the palace gates in his little Austin 7! He was a bit embarrassed about this but very proud when the notice, signed by Sir John and Dad, was pinned to the Palace gates some time later announcing to the world that the Queen had been safely delivered of her second son!

Mum and Dad attended Andrew's christening and Mum was extremely pregnant with me at the time and Prince Philip was so concerned he called for a chair and insisted she sit down!!


The Queen and Jane Higgs

Many years later when Dad had become Treasurer of the Royal College of Gynaecologists and was heavily involved with Birthright (now Well Being), its fund raising arm, there was a charity premiere of, I believe Cats, at which the Queen was guest of honour. As she went down the line of those waiting to greet her, Dad duly bowed and she said to him, "we have met before Mr Brudenell!!"

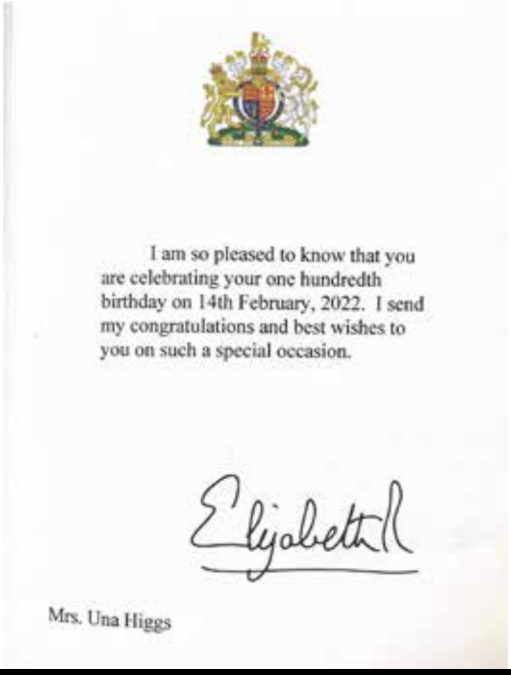
A number of the MBEs in Hever, Jane Higgs, Andrew Russell and me, were presented with their medals by the Queen. Andrew remembers being told not to try to climb onto the dais on which she stood to make sure she was at eye level with most of her much taller subjects. I remember that when she asked me what I did, she seemed to find it rather difficult to think of a reply when she heard I was a lawyer, but she politely asked if the charity I worked for was nationwide. She had a firm handshake and pushed me gently away when she was finished with me. A consummate professional, though I think she would have been happier discussing agriculture (though everyone who met her remembers being briefed to call her "Ma'am as in jam" not "Marm as in farm").

And she could do just that when she met Bridget Harris's father at the Royal Show in Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire in 1972 on the Farmers' Club stand. The Harris family pulled out all the stops for that event, Bridget's mother even investing in special white gum boots in case of adverse conditions under foot.

Sue Hart has met the Queen and says: "I met her in 2004 on the occasion

of the opening of the Gibbs Building at 215 Euston Road. I had been PA to the Chairman of the Wellcome Trust, Sir Roger Gibbs for many years and in recognition of his contribution to the success of the Trust, the new Wellcome HQ was named after him.

Both the Queen and Prince Philip were invited to the opening as they had been involved with other events at the Trust over the years. What I recall about actually seeing the Queen was her wonderful smile. She was genuinely interested in what everyone had to say, gave everyone her total attention and was so well informed.



I am so pleased to know that you are celebrating your one hundredth birthday on 14th February, 2022. I send my congratulations and best wishes to you on such a special occasion.

Elizabeth R

Mrs. Una Higgs

The Queen's letter of congratulations to Una Higgs

I only made a little bob to her and was passed on down the line, but Prince Philip stopped, gave me a firm handshake and when I was introduced to him as Sir Roger's PA, he said with a twinkle in his eye "How do you keep this fellow under control?"! The whole visit was so relaxed with such a warm atmosphere, it was a special moment for me."

Pat Fletcher saw her at a Buckingham Palace garden party to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Trust and Christina and John Hodson met her at a fundraising event for Cruse Bereavement Care. Christina says: "The Queen spoke with everyone in the line and when it came to me, my words became muddled as I explained that I was fortunate as I could always call on my husband's connection in the City to sponsor events. She beamed at John and said it was very good and fortunate. She had rather striking black gloves and a pretty blue dress. The good thing, since HM was the roughly the same height as me, was that we were able to look each other easily in the eyes. She carried a smart black bag as well!!!

Wendy and Andrew Izod met her many times because the reigning monarch is head of the Honourable Artillery Corps of which Andrew was adjutant. Una Higgs received a letter from the Queen on her hundredth birthday earlier this year And when she received her MBE a number of years ago Ann Cleeve met the King!

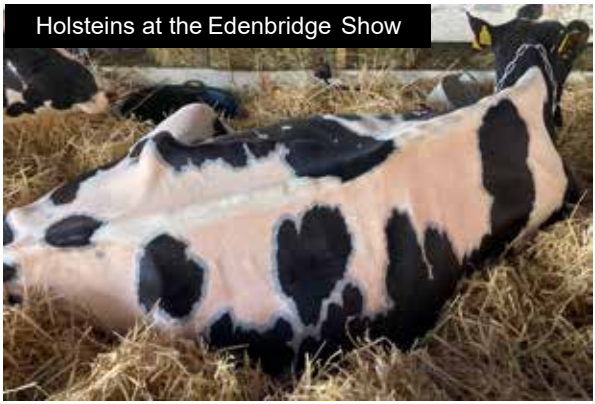
Joanna Wade

The Edenbridge and Oxted Show 2022

At the beginning of the 19th century there was great interest in spreading new ideas about farming to meet the growing food requirements of a booming population.

The East Surrey Society held one of the first agricultural shows in 1837 to encourage such innovation and "the breeding of better stock and horses in the district and encourage agricultural labourers and farm servants and better ploughing".

180 years later the August Bank Holiday gathering has evolved into the huge two day Edenbridge and Oxted Agricultural Show on the show's own 140-acre site near Lingfield. The Show is run by volunteers, many of whom have had family connections going back generations.



Holsteins at the Edenbridge Show



The two day Show attracts about 45,000 visitors a year. The livestock section continues to be at the heart of the Show and with the largest collection of cattle seen together anywhere in southern England. The modern showground has developed seven competition rings with over 1,000 horses, ponies and donkeys taking part in classes which range from Horse of the Year Show qualifiers to fun gymkhana classes.

Some will say that the show has been rather taken over by "country" clothing and "lifestyle" stalls which have nothing to do with agriculture, but this reflects the changing face of country life. There are still plenty of beautiful cows and sheep to admire, including the Dexters from the Hoggins family's Newlands herd at Delaware and Stephen Gribble's cattle from Becketts farm in Chiddingstone and the statuesque, shiny heavy horses always steal the show.

And so a good time was had by all!

Joanna Wade

pet of the month

Hi my name's Big Jerry, you've probably seen me before either on your way to Hever station if you catch the train whilst I'm waiting for my breakfast or snoozing outside The Kentish Horse whilst my mummy enjoys a drink.

Before I moved to the farm with my friends Muzzy, Sam, Dundee, Fizz and Emily the sheep I was a racehorse, well I tried to be, but even though I had the longest legs out of all my friends I just couldn't keep up.

I'm 9 years old but I'm just a big baby. Because I spent my life with the other race-horses on the gallops I only started learning new tricks since my mummy came along. We have had lots of fun and have been to lots of amazing places, we even went to a Palace called Blenheim to do some dancing but my favourite thing I've ever done is jumping in the main arena at The South of England show, when everyone cheers it makes me really happy.

Last year I helped my mummy raise lots of money for a charity called Riders Minds and next year we are going to go to Cornwall and try and ride coast to coast to raise money for UCLH in honour of my auntie's daddy.

If you see me out and about please say hi, everyone says I'm just like a giant Labrador! You'll be able to tell it's me by my big ears and long legs xx

Gemma Tisdall



Chiddingstone Castle literary festival to end

It is with regret that I need to inform you that after a change in leadership, Chiddingstone Castle have withdrawn their support for the Literary Festival, and it will no longer continue to take place at Chiddingstone Castle.

I would like to thank you for all your support, help and enthusiasm, which has enabled our small but dedicated team to create and provide a highly successful and much-loved series of literary events, for all members of our community.

Over the last seven years we have succeeded in attracting over 175 celebrated authors including 5 Children's Laureates – Michael Morpurgo, Cressida Cowell, Chris Riddell, Lauren Child and Joseph Coelho – plus Antony Beevor, Juliet Nicolson, Sandy Gall, Terry Waite, Artemis Cooper, Rev Richard Coles, Alison Weir, Sir Anthony Seldon, Ian Rankin, Diana Henry, Adam Kay, Kate Moss, Jim Al-Khalili, Evan Davis, Joanne Harris, Gogglebox's Giles and Mary, Victoria Hislop, Patrick Gale, Justine Picardie, Fi Glover and Jane Garvey to name but a few. Even during the pandemic of 2020, we brought you podcasts featuring 25 authors ranging from Joanna Trollope, Andrew Roberts, Maggie O'Farrell, Neil MacGregor, to Peter James, Alexandra Shulman and Tom Holland.

Please feel free to contact me regarding anything to do with the Literary Festival at chiddingstoneliteraryfestival@gmail.com.
Victoria Henderson, former Artistic Director, Chiddingstone Castle Literary Festival.

Ride and Stride 2022

Three electric bikes and one old fashioned "self propelled" model set out this year. We had a lovely ride around the lanes, including managing to go down but not up Uckfield Lane to Markbeech. We hope to have raised about £1,000 for Kent Churches between John and Christina Hodson, Jane Rosam and myself!



Four Elms Harvest Supper

Saturday 1st October

Four Elms Village Hall 7.30 for 7.45pm

EVERYONE VERY WELCOME

£10 per person £5 for children

Book early and let us know if you are vegetarian or vegan

Email: harvest2021@btinternet.com or 01732 700247

Flowers for St Peter's Church Hever

– can you help?

As St Peter's Church, Hever is now open to the public every day it would enhance the interior if there was a simple flower arrangement to be seen. We are asking for help to make the Church look more welcoming. Might you be able to offer help? Ideally once every couple of months depending how many volunteers come forward.

Please contact Jan Tolfree on 01342 850206 for more details

Out of the Darkness

– words and music to celebrate the 900th anniversary of Hever Church

Saturday 3 December
St Peter's Hever
7.00 pm

Tickets £10
e: heverbrocas@gmail.com
t: 07958 919631
or on the door.



Hever Christmas Fair needs

VOLUNTEERS

10th November in the Guthrie Pavilion, Hever Castle

The Hever Christmas Fair is taking place on Thursday 10th November this year. All profits made go to Hever School and Hever Church and historically that has been anywhere from £2500 to £3000 to the school and the same amount to Hever Church.

We would be extremely grateful for any help on the day. We have several 'stations' needing cover throughout the day and any time you could give us would be enormously helpful. If you do have some time, please get in touch and I can give you an appropriate slot.

We would also appreciate it if you could put your name down to bake a cake for the fair. We will be selling big, home-made cakes. Ideally please list the ingredients.

Please get in touch on beneficeemail@gmail.com
Very many thanks, Ana Roxburgh

village screen film club 2022/23

The film season begins in November at the usual venue, Hever Castle Golf Club.

Our first film will be:

Friday 18 November

King Richard

The fascinating and dramatic story of Richard Williams who raised two tennis stars: Venus and Serena, overcoming many obstacles along the way



Save these dates in 2023 for more films:

Friday 13 January- Twelve Angry Men

Friday 10 February - Foul Play

Friday 25 March - The Duke

The films (all less than two hours long) start at 7.30 and doors open at 6.30 for the pre-show meal and bar - with ice cream in the interval.

Tickets are a suggested donation of £2 for the film or £15.50 to include the meal - scampi and chips or vegetarian quiche. You can book with Bridget Harris on 01732 700986 or bcharris@btinternet.com or buy tickets at the door. However please pre-book your meal by the Wednesday before the show if you would like to eat.

Borscht recipe by Dasha and Alla, Lisa and Will's Ukrainian visitors

2 lt veg or meat stock
1 white cabbage (650g)
5 mid size potatoes
300g cooked beetroot
300g carrot
150g onion
500g bottle of passata
2tbsp tomato paste
3 cloves garlic
1 tsp vinegar
Sunflower oil
Parsley, dill, salt, pepper, vinegar, sour cream, chopped spring onions

Boil the stock, finely chop the cabbage and dice the potatoes and put into the stock. While the cabbage and potatoes are cooking, heat sunflower oil in a pan. Cut the beetroot and carrot into small strips, finely chop the onion and fry these until the onions are golden. Add tomato passata and tomato paste. Simmer for 5 minutes, add finely chopped garlic, salt, pepper and teaspoon of vinegar. Add the vegetables stewed in the tomatoes to the stock. Reduce the heat and cook the borscht until the potatoes are ready. Remove from the heat, add more salt and pepper if desired. Add finely chopped parsley and dill, stir and serve with sour cream and chopped spring onions on top, with brown bread.



gardening

The period leading up to the Hever Hort Summer Show in August was more worrying than usual. The long, dry spell was a cause for concern; Would there be any flowers to exhibit? What about the vegetable classes? In the event the quality of the exhibits demonstrated the prowess of those who exhibited.

The judges and visitors were very complimentary, expressing praise for the standard of the displays, not just flowers and vegetables, but also flower arrangements, works of art, woodwork and crafts. Of particular note was the record display of photographs, 38 individual entries, which filled the whole of the long shelf at the rear of the hall, and made a wonderful backdrop to the display of flowers.

There are 15 cups and trophies awarded at the Summer Show, so too many to list all the winners, but Norman Greenaway received cups for his dahlias and master gardener tray, Jane Rosam for her vegetables and salads and Pauline Radford for preserves and the best photograph. A special mention goes to Mick George, a first time exhibitor, who scooped seven first and second prizes for his vegetable exhibits and a photograph. Well done to everyone who entered and thanks to all who helped to make it a splendid show.



Emma Scott, cup winner for her fantastic baking



Hort show cup winners Norman Greenaway and Jane Rosam

By the time you read this our rescheduled September talk, given by Simon Sutcliffe of How Green Nurseries on 'Preparing for Chelsea', will have been given. Our next talk is, 'Garden Lore, true, false or a matter of opinion', by Jude Lawton. It

will be held at Hever Village Hall on Wednesday, 19th October at 8pm. All are welcome to come.

On general garden matters, I have never been much of an autumn sower, usually leaving the starting of planting until late winter or early spring. However, I have recently read about the advantages of earlier sowing, so this year I am giving it a go. The common candidates among vegetables are broad beans, onion sets, shallots and spinach. For onions, I think I will stick to my usual varieties of Stuttgarter Giant and Red Baron, prepare the bed and plant in rows



in early October. Sweet peas can also be started in Autumn and I have seeds from this year's flowers. I will put them in a tray in the greenhouse and plant them out when the danger of frost is over.

Happy gardening!

Doug Bowern



Pauline Radford's winning photo

what I did

I have retired! My goodness, what a thing to say… and so here is a potted history of my former career which ended with me as Regional Judge at London Central Employment Tribunal.

"Judging" was not particularly in my game plan, in fact throughout my career I was ambivalent about whether I wanted to be a lawyer at all. I had always been an arts person and changed to law midway through my university degree because I suddenly realised what a powerful tool for social change it was. I was strongly committed to changing the world for the better, a modest ambition for a 20-something year old! I trained in London and Bradford and qualified as a solicitor in 1981. My specialisms were in crime and family law, including getting injunctions for victims of domestic violence and I saw the insides of many police cells and courts.

Back in in London, I gravitated towards housing law. This combined well with running the annual Crisis Open Christmas shelter for street homeless people which I did for quite a few years. After Crisis I was for many years a trustee of another homelessness charity, Thamesreach.

Although I enjoyed my work I never felt like a proper lawyer and I tried several times to escape. One of my more significant bids for freedom was the move from the private sector to work as legal officer for a charity, the Maternity Alliance, reasoning that I could take my foot off the accelerator a bit. The plan failed miserably as I became hooked on employment law! The European Court of Justice had just decided some important cases which established the right of pregnant women and new mothers to keep working and it was an exciting time. I emerged with an MBE for the policy work I had done and I even wrote a book!

Slightly on a whim, I applied during this time for a job as a part time "Chairman" of an Industrial tribunal. Although there had been women judges since Dame Elizabeth Lane in 1962, it was still unusual for younger women, and for solicitors, to be appointed, but appointed I was in 1998 and we became "Employment Judges" of the Employment Tribunal a few years later. Employment law covers everything from claims for unpaid wages of a few hundred pounds to multi-million pound discrimination claims by high fliers who say they have lost their careers because they were, for example, disabled.

There followed seven happy years back in private practice in my own "boutique" firm which I co-founded, specialising in developing the law on rights for mothers to return to work part time. Having worked as a judge a few days a month, one day I realised that I did not want to litigate any more; I wanted to bring closure to disputes instead. I was appointed to a salaried

role in 2008. I am so glad that I did not bail out on the law earlier in my career because being a judge was definitely my best ever legal job. For 10 years I worked 80% of full time, enjoyed a good work/ life balance as never before and was able to throw myself into village life in Hever. But then it felt the like the right time to try something new and I was appointed full-time (plus!) Regional Employment Judge responsible for 55 judges hearing employment cases across central London - claims against the Government, the BBC, city megaliths such as Goldman Sachs and the Metropolitan police but also claims by builders and waiting staff who hadn't been paid a day's pay, pole dancers and pantomime horses – all of life was there!

This job, enabler and troubleshooter in chief, knitted together many experiences from across my working life. It reminded me of the terror and excitement of bringing shape to the chaos of the Crisis Open Christmas, of all the challenges of running my own firm - we managed to keep going during Covid when I was often the only lonely commuter on Hever station - and above all how important delivering "good justice" is. The youthful me would never have guessed that this job was the one I had always wanted, but so it turned out to be.

So, the final curtain on the law but the start of many more exciting adventures…. And I am not retiring from the Link, no way!

Joanna Wade



Joanna at Crisis at Christmas

Hever Parish Council

With the children returning back to school and the Autumnal hue to the trees my in-box continues at its usual busy level.

September brought a change to the bus services across the Parish. Those most impacted appear to be buses used for school routes with many parts of the Parish now without a bus at all, making travel very challenging and time consuming for some. If you use the bus routes, especially if you have a child of school age, please can we urge you to have your say and complete the annual bus survey arranged by Tom Tugendhat, Member of Parliament for Tonbridge and Malling. The link is to the survey is here or go to www.tomtugendhat.org and follow the link.

With the recent increases in the cost of energy, food and other bills, many people may experience financial difficulties for different reasons and might not realise they're entitled to help. The significant rise in the cost of living is a concern for everyone, and Sevenoaks District Council do offer some help and support.

There is a wide range of support available for individuals and families who are facing rising energy costs and are worried about their finances. Details of the support being offered can be found at https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/homepage/97/help_with_the_cost_of_living .

Vulnerable households can access financial support to help with essential household costs over the coming months as part of the Household Support Fund. Pensioners living in the District, who are in receipt of Council Tax Reduction and/or Housing Benefit, and any low income or vulnerable household can apply for support to help with essential household costs including food, energy and water. For further information please visit: https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/householdsupportfund

The Bulk Refuse Freighter, provided for the community by the Parish Council, will be in the area on Saturday 1st October at the following locations:
09:15-10:00 Four Elms Village Hall
10:15 - 11:00 Hever Bottle bank area next to Henry pub in coach car park
11:15 - 12:00 Markbeech Village Hall

The last Hever Parish Council Meeting of the year will be held on Thursday 10th November in Markbeech Village Hall with Planning at 7.00 pm and the full council meeting at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mrs Rachael Turner
Clerk and RFO
077849 12645 clerk@hever.org

district council news

Landing on your doorstep shortly will be a postcard bearing details of your new rubbish and recycling collection day, as of Monday 17 October.

This follows a recent review of collection rounds designed to improve the efficiency of routes, saving time, fuel and emissions.

Not only are the new routes better for our pockets and planet alike, they'll also see subscribers to the District Council's popular garden waste service receive their collection on the same day as that of their clear and black sacks, making things simpler and easier to remember.

As you may recall from the last such change about a decade and a half ago, these things can take a little while to bed in as crews learn new routes and familiarise themselves with the whereabouts of 53,000 homes' waste. There has been lots of planning so hopefully problems will be kept to a minimum but if you are missed then first, please accept my sincere apologies, and second, don't hesitate to telephone 01732 227 000 so it may be remedied as soon as possible.

It would be remiss of me not to add that even for those lucky few who find their collection day unchanged, the time may well alter – so do try to pop your waste out nice and early.

And rest assured, our collection day is all that's changing. The teams remain the same, they continue to be employed by the Council rather than contractors, and – unique in Kent – our rubbish and recycling will still be collected every week!

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





ART FROM THE ATTIC PENSHURST

ART BARGAINS ON SALE
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THURS 29 SEP
PRIVATE VIEW & PARTY 6.30
Wine & canapés , tickets £25
www.artfromtheattic.org.uk

FRI 30 SEP, SAT 1 & SUN 2 OCT
FREE ENTRY 10-5 (Sun 12-4)

Art from the Attic is organised by Friends of Penshurst Church reg. charity no.1133172.

news from Hever primary

On Friday 9th September we gathered together for a worship to celebrate the Queen's life. It was a wonderful opportunity for reflection together as a school community.

In Forest School Year 6 created some nature art in memory of the Queen. This is in the same area where we planted trees as part of the Queen's Canopy to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee.

The children all decorated hearts and rainbows and wrote messages and prayers for the Royal Family and these tributes were hung in the school garden. Oak Class drew pictures of her using new sketching techniques.



Rainbows and hearts for the Queen



Sketch of the Queen



Forest school tribute to the Queen

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 October

October is the season for Harvest festivals and there is something at each of our churches. 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
2nd October 10am	Harvest Holy Communion St.Paul's Four Elms	Lamentation 1:16; 1 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10	16th after Trinity
2nd October 6pm	Healing service Holy Trinity Markbeech	Isaiah 43:1-13 & James 5:13-18	16th after Trinity
9th October 8am	Said BCP Morning Prayer at St.Peter's Hever	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Luke 17:11-19	17th after Trinity
9th October 10am	Harvest Family Eucharist at Holy Trinity Markbeech	Malachi 3:6-10; Luke 6:37-38	17th after Trinity
9th October 4pm	Forest Church at St.Peter's Hever	Harvest theme	17th after Trinity
16th October 10am	Holy Communion St.Peter's Hever	Ecclesiastes 5:8-17; 1 Timothy 6:6-10; Matthew 19:16-26	18th after Trinity
16th October 4pm	Family Outdoor worship at St.Paul's Four Elms	1 Chronicles 29:1-20	18th after Trinity
23rd October 8am	Said BCP Holy Communion at St.Peter's Hever	Ephesians 4:17-32; Matthew 19:1-8	19th after Trinity
23rd October 10am	Family service at Holy Trinity Markbeech	Special service with 'High Hopes'	19th after Trinity
30th October 10am	Morning prayer at Holy Trinity Markbeech	Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31	20th after Trinity
30th October 6pm	Commemoration of faithful departed at St.Peter's Hever	Isaiah 65:17-25; Hebrews 11:32-12:2	20th after Trinity

Our weekly Zoom Bible study continues on Mondays and Zoom Evening prayer on Thursdays both at 6.00pm and our in person Bible study on Monday evenings at 8pm. If you are interested in joining 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 during this time or any other help.

Rector
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

I'm writing this during the period of official mourning following HM the Queen's death. It's as if time has stopped to focus intensely on this one life. Thousands have crammed the streets to catch a glimpse of the cortege and thronged Buckingham Palace and other civic buildings to lay flowers. Our special church services have been well attended and books of condolence are full of messages. It's extraordinary for someone most of us have not even met. I admit to shedding a tear when I heard the news.

Funerals are usually rather private affairs whereas for the Queen her coffin has been on public view for the best part of a week. For a short period this outpouring of public grief has pushed our differences and the huge challenges we face into the background. We are fortunate in this country that we've had a peaceful change of a Prime Minster and a Sovereign and people have gone out onto the streets not with guns but with flowers.

One reason for all this is that we mourn the Queen's qualities of humility, service, love and duty as well as her quiet but strong 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. Funerals are a time when we look back to commemorate the life of the departed and forward as part of the process of coming to terms with the fact that the person has died. In the case of our sovereign, we also look forward to the reign of HM King Charles III and pray for him.

For Christians we have the 'sure and certain hope' of the resurrection and that death is not the end. The many comments about our Queen joining Prince Philip attest to the fact that many of us know this. As the Queen said in her Covid broadcast, echoing Dame Vera Lynn, 'we'll meet again'.

Appropriately, October ends with All Souls and the commemoration of the faithful departed on 30th October at 6pm in St.Peter's. Do come and light a candle as we remember those we love but see no longer. Funerals can also be a time of healing as people come together: we have a healing service in Holy Trinity Markbeech on 2nd October – this is not just for people who need physical healing!

And finally we will be having a service of Evensong in St.Peter's on 6th November. If you would like to sing in the choir, please contact Phil Lindsay at philip.lindsay@tiscali.co.uk

God bless you all

Simon

Markbeech

September was dominated by the devastating news of the death of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. There is an instinctive need to be with others and share our sadness with friends and neighbours, to be comforted in the place that we knew she too would have chosen, our local church. And so it came to be a service we will all remember, of carefully chosen readings and hymns, an uplifting and comforting sermon and a communion with our Lord. A service that our late Queen enjoyed weekly wherever she was. What an example she was to us and how beautifully and gently she displayed her deep faith. The service ended with the congregation singing 'God save the King' with hardly a dry eye in the house.

Such a momentous service needed a proper ending. The best English 'champagne', Squerryes, was opened in a sunny churchyard to say 'Farewell' to our Queen; and 'Welcome' to our King.

We must now look forward and back to work. The Harvest Supper! It is on Friday 7th October at 7 for 7.30pm. We have a line up of great local talent to amuse you following a delicious supper in Markbeech Village Hall. We hope you have already bought your tickets! If not, please contact Marielou Linklater on 07860 436668 or email marielou@me.com Tickets are £17.50. Payable in advance please. Cash Bar.
Finally! A date for November! The Markbeech Winter Fair: Saturday 26th November in The Barn at Falconhurst.

Nicki Talbot
Churchwarden

Four Elms

The undoubted love and respect for the late Queen Elizabeth is palpable. Her Majesty was an exceptional lady and an exceptional monarch. Her devotion to her role, she told us, was with the support of her faith. Throughout her Christmas broadcasts there was rarely a time when she didn't mention her Christian faith. Of the very many memories we all have of Her Majesty, I should like to mention two which I think sum her up. The first is the young 25-year-old mother of two small children arriving home after her beloved father had passed away. I contemplate now, how did she manage to declare (in her obvious grief) to serve as the monarch as her father had done before. This she did to the age of 96, accepting the new Prime Minister, her 15th a few days before her passing. My second is the lady with a twinkle in her eye and a beautiful smile taking tea with Paddington Bear. At last, she gave us the answer to the question we have wanted to know – what is inside the Queen's handbag? Now we know, it's a marmalade sandwich. She was the monarch but able to separate the solemnity of monarchy while allowing the fun-loving lady to shine through to communicate with us all.

St. Paul's Four Elms marked the Queen's passing with tolls of the bell, a Commemorative Service and a Book of Condolences for all who care to sign. As a warden I am acutely aware that a loss of a loved one, be it a monarch or your loved one and however grand or small the final farewell, it is personal and special to you. Here in St. Paul's and across the Benefice of Hever we understand.

Moving into October in our small village, we have the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall on Saturday 1st October and Harvest Festival on Sunday 2nd October. I hope you can join us.

Finally, our prayers are with our new sovereign, King Charles III.

Christina Hodson
Churchwarden

Hever

Following the announcement of death of her Majesty the Queen, a number of actions had to be taken quickly and I am very grateful to Jane Rosam for ringing our bells half muffled through the mourning period and un-muffled on the proclamation of King Charles III accession to the throne. Thanks also to Alex Jones for providing us with a condolence book and Andrew Izod for using his calligraphy skills to insert the Queen's name and dates inside the front cover. The date of the State funeral meant that it was decided to cancel this year's Barn Dance, but it will be back next year.

The Hever bell ringers once again took part in the Ride and Stride day raising funds for our church and the Friends of Kent Churches and we are grateful for their achievement. We are excited to tell you that BBC Songs of Praise will be filming St Peter's Church preparing for our Christmas services at the end of November for transmission on December 18th. More details in the next Link.

The next Parish lunch will be held on Thursday 13th October 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

From the register

Weddings

8 September Four Elms
Annamarie Hatcliffe and Mark Atfield

10 September Hever
Alice Colquhoun-Flannery
& James Smith

Funerals

29 June Hever
Elspeth Mary Rowan Russell age 93

12 August Hever
Michael Stanley Hibbett age 74

16 September Four Elms
David William Sayers age 71

Cowden, Hartfield and District Branch RBL – 101 years in the local community.

Remembrance Services will be held at the churches in the Branch area: Cowden, Colemans Hatch, Withyham and Hartfield - on Remembrance Sunday, 13th November commencing at 10.45 am.

Following these services there will be an enhanced Ploughman's Lunch held at Cowden Village Hall from 1 pm.

Everyone from our community is welcome.

Even if you are not able to attend one of the services, you are welcome to come to the lunch. Applications for tickets at £10 per head, please contact the Branch Secretary: James Castle at CowdenHartfield.Secretary@rbl.community or 07766 747 601

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Calling all artists and designers, big or small!

This year we are starting our planning for Christmas early because we'd like our cards to arrive in good time. As always, we are looking for a great design for our Christmas Card 2022. So, gather your brushes, sharpen your pencils, grab a piece of A4 paper and draw, paint or create a collage, then take a picture of it or scan it and email it to us at beneficeemail@gmail.com.

We are looking for a card that will show the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus's birth and the joy this brought with it. We'll select the best creation, and we'll use it to print our 2022 Christmas card, which will go out into our parish and beyond.

The winner will receive the Real Advent Calendar. The deadline for submitting your creations is Sunday 21st October at midnight!

Get creative!

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	58	12	7	36				
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	62	19	15	39				
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	55.5	21	3	0				

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

Bridget Harris, Joanna Wade, Paul Houlton
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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 **November** edition should reach us no later than **17 October**

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

October diary

21 and 22 Sept **Shakespeare's Globe's Julius Caesar,** Hever Festival

30 Sept **Bat walk at Bore Place** (adults £8 child £6) 6.30 – 8pm

1 Oct I**D walk small mammal survey** at Bore Place (adults £8 child £6) 8-10am

1 Oct **Bulk refuse container** Four Elms Village Hall 9.15am - 10am

1 Oct **Bulk refuse container** Hever bottle bank 1 0.15am – 11am

1 Oct **Bulk refuse container** Markbeech Village Hall 1.15am – 12 noon

1 Oct **Four Elms Harvest Supper,** Four Elms Village Hall 7.45pm

7 Oct **Wildlife Gardening club, hedgehogs + small mammals**
Bore Place 10am-1pm

7 Oct **Harvest Moon night walk at Bore Place**
(adults £8 child £6) 6.30 – 8.30pm

7 Oct **Great Markbeech Harvest supper**
(17.50pp), Markbeech Village Hall 7.30pm

9 Oct **Dairy workshop – labneh + paneer making**
(adults £28) Bore Place 10am – 12.30pm

13 Oct **Hever Parish lunch,** Hever Village Hall 12.30pm

19 Oct **Hever Hort talk on Garden Lore,** Jude Lawton, Hever Village Hall 8pm

5 Nov
RBL Poppy appeal recital, Holy Trinity Church, Forest Row 2pm

10 Nov **Hever Christmas Fair,** Guthrie Pavilion, Hever Castle

10 Nov **Hever Parish Council meeting,** Markbeech Village Hall 7.30pm

18 Nov **Hever Film Club 'King Richard',** Hever Golf Club supper 6.30pm
film 7.30pm

26 Nov **Markbeech Winter Fai**r, the Barn, Falconhurst

3 Dec **Concert of words and music "Out of the Dark Ages"**, St Peter's Hever