

BACS

Newsletter September 2006 No. 53

B e n e n d e n A m e n i t y a n d C o u n t r y s i d e S o c i e t y

Dates for your Diary:

Autumn Walk – Sunday 17th September, 2.30pm
AGM – Wednesday 7th March 2007, 7.30pm

Junk Mail:

The BACS committee has been made aware of growing concern about the volume of unsolicited 'junk' mail we all seem to have been receiving recently.

To remove yourself from junk mailing lists, contact Mailing Preference Service on 0845 703 4599 or visit their website www.mpsonline.org.uk. It is more difficult to remove your house address from receiving unaddressed mail, which the Post Office now delivers in greater bulk. You can try to send an email to optout@royalmail.com, or you could telephone 08457 950950 to make your request. Alternatively, write to: Barbara Miller, Opt Out Co-ordinator, Royal Mail Door to Door, Kingsmead House, Oxpens Road, Oxford OX1 1RX.

They may advise you that they still will send you envelopes marked "to the householder" or similar, and it may be difficult to stop all junk mail, but it is worth persevering. Please do let the committee know how you get on, or if you know of any other contact relating to this issue.

Autumn Walk:

The BACS Autumn Walk will take place this Sunday, 17th September, and will take in the Hutterian Brethren community in Robertsbridge. This is a religious community set in the East Sussex countryside comprising some three hundred men, women and children, making it the largest group of Anabaptists in the UK.

Nelson Kraybill visited the community in 1993 and wrote a short article about his experience, in which he described the community as a 'village in the valley' which follows Jesus 'unconditionally'. He met a family who had given up everything to join the Hutterian Brethren and found membership to this fascinating community was a life-long commitment, where everyone in the community relinquished personal possessions and share all goods in common. The Robertsbridge community was founded in 1971, but the history of the Hutterian Brethren is long and complex with most members tracing their lineage back to the 16th Century, and Anabaptist Jacob Hutter, who died in 1536. To find out more about the community, and to read Mr Kraybill's article in full, please visit the website: <http://www.anabaptistnetwork.com/node/179>

On Sunday, we shall leave the car park in Station Road, Robertsbridge at 2.30pm. To get there, take the A21 south to the first roundabout signposted Robertsbridge. Then, after 400 yards, turn right into Station Road. The car park is immediately on your left. The total walk will last about 2¼ hours. We shall start by going through the Hutterian Brethren's estate and we later pass a cricket bat factory. The walk is steep in places and covers a mixture of farmland and roads. Dogs on leads are welcome. Walkers may wish to bring their own tea for the end. There are toilets in the car park.

As usual, maps and walk notes will be handed out in the car park at the start. Walkers may also wish to know that there are two OS maps covering the walk (Explorer 124 and 136). Alternatively you can use Landranger map 199.

Planning Matters:

The Committee continues to look at planning applications for the benefit of all in Benenden. Natalie Blakemore is now responsible for monitoring all planning applications. A summary of planning applications can be found on the Parish noticeboard in the village centre, and details can be seen at the Borough Council Offices in Cranbrook.

If you have any concerns about a planning application near you, please contact a committee member who will be able to raise your concerns at the next committee meeting.

Subscriptions:

The subscription for 2006 is £3 for an individual or £5 for a family. Alternatively, you can pay £50 for life membership. If you know of anyone who may like to join BACS, please contact David Grief, who will ensure a form is sent. Perhaps you can encourage friends and neighbours to join. Members receive a quarterly newsletter, which contains details of events being organised by BACS, and items of local interest from around the parish.

Amenity Refuse Collection:

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council organises the schedule for amenity refuse vehicle, which visits the Parish for three hours every fortnight, on a Saturday morning. For your information, the dates and venues of this service for the next three months, are printed below. The vehicle is accessible from 8am until 11am, and this is the same every fortnight.

October

Sat 7th – Cherryfields, Benenden
Sat 21st – Iden Green Crossroads

November

Sat 11th – Benenden Village Hall
Sat 20th – Iden Green Crossroads

December

Sat 4th – Cherryfields, Benenden
Sat 18th – Iden Green Crossroads

Your committee:

Alan Milne – Chairman

Somers, Mounts Hill, Benenden, TN17 4ET
Tel: 240819 Fax: 241109, Email: alanmilne@chartsec.co.uk

Dick Hill – Treasurer

Columbanus, Off Standen Street, Iden Green, TN17 4HR
Tel: 240517

Angela Lloyd-Jones – Secretary

West Winds, Cranbrook Road, Benenden, TN17 4EU
Tel: 240354 Fax: 243064, Email: angela136@btinternet.com

David Grief – Membership

Crit Hall, Cranbrook Road, Benenden, TN17 4EU
Tel: 241772 Fax: 240772, Email: david@grief.co.uk

Natalie Blakemore – Planning

2 Hortons Close, Benenden, TN17 4LF
Tel: 243118, Email: nattyb@speed-mail.co.uk

Roger Lake – Parish Council Rep.

Benenden Barn, The Street, Benenden, TN17 4BZ
Tel: 241605

Gill Snow - Publicity

Orchards, Mounts Hill, Benenden, TN17 4ET
Tel: 240493, Email: nsnow@compuserve.com

William Davies - Newsletter

Weald House, Iden Green, TN17 4HH
Tel/Fax: 240723, Email: wgd@wealdhouse.co.uk