

# Parish Pedals

## Around

# BENENDEN

Cycling is the ideal way to explore the Weald of Kent and the pretty country lanes around the village of Benenden. This picturesque village takes its name from Bynning Denn, which in old English translates to "Bynna's woodland pasture".

There are several Roman roads in the locality and these were probably associated with early workings of iron ore deposits. There are also many ponds in the area, flooded remains of marle pits. Under a statute of Henry VIII, every man was allowed to dig a pit for marle on his own land, and a look at a map shows how the yeomen of Benenden responded!

The route takes in a section of bridleway running through Hemsted Forest, which during the winter months can get muddy. You can expect to meet horses within the forest so please take extra care when approaching as your appearance could easily startle a horse. There are a number of public houses along the route, as well as places to stop for a picnic.

For further information on attractions to be found in and around the area, please contact the Tourist Information Centre at Royal Tunbridge Wells on (01892) 515675 open 7 days a week, all year round or at Cranbrook on (01580) 712538 (open April to end of September only). To explore further afield the Ordnance Survey Landranger Series map no. 188 is useful.

We hope you find this leaflet helpful, should you have any further queries concerning this publication please contact the Kent High Weald Project on (01580) 712771.

## Happy Biking

### Cycle Dos and Don'ts

#### Do

Always give way to walkers and horseriders on bridleways.

Be visible - Wear bright colours

Make sure your bike is equipped with reflectors and lights if you expect to be out in the dark.

Follow the Highway Code - Obey the rules of the road and show courtesy to other road users.

Consider - Wearing a cycle helmet, especially if you intend to cycle fast, on busy roads, or off-road.

Make sure - You carry water and a snack. Beware of the sun and carry a hat and sunscreen.

Ride in single file where the road narrows and where visibility is poor.

#### Don't

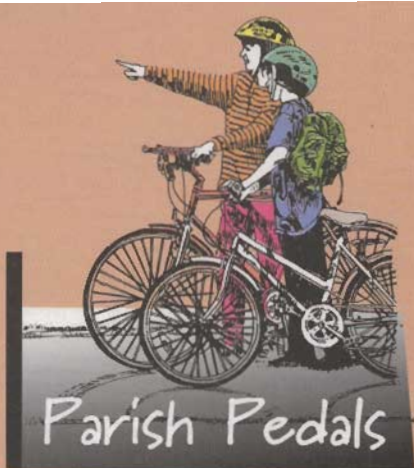
Manoeuvre - Without first looking and signalling.

Forget to always look and listen.

Hog the Kerb - This will allow you little room to manoeuvre.

Go out - Without letting someone know where you have gone, especially if you are cycling off-road.

Forget - To pump up your tyres before you go, and carry a puncture repair kit and pump.



# THE ROUTE



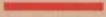
















## How To Use This Map

Proceed in an anti-clockwise direction - you can start at any point on the route!

Refer to the key, and follow the directions and arrows as shown on the map.

## KEY

-  Bridleway
-  Forest track
-  Main road
-  B road
-  Unclassified (country lane)
-  Downhill/Uphill
-  Turn left
-  Turn right
-  Go straight on
-  Cross roads
-  T junction
-  Direction of circuit
-  Public house
-  Telephone
-  Public toilet
-  Parking
-  Picnic site



Based on the Landsat photographic image

This route is suitable for family outings  
 Distance: 12 Kilometres 7½ Miles  
 Allow: 2-3 hours depending on stops