

THE BENENDEN HISTORY

SENIORS

Three young women with £100 each and a dream to set up their own school in the early 1920s - so began Benenden School. The founding and subsequent history (to be published next year) is a remarkable story of faith by the Founders, Council and parents. Seniors, past staff and Council members, and wartime occupants of Benenden have all made valuable contributions through interviews and written reminiscences. Photographs and other memorabilia have provided us with a great choice of illustrations.

We shall have collected enough for more than one book! Anything submitted, if agreeable to the contributor, will remain in the archives for future generations of Seniors or researchers. There are 75th and Centenary Year celebrations coming up so I have no doubt that the material will be useful.

Janet Grenier
Benenden Historian



Pa Smith's Taxi

Photograph kindly lent by Marigold (Williamson) Page H40



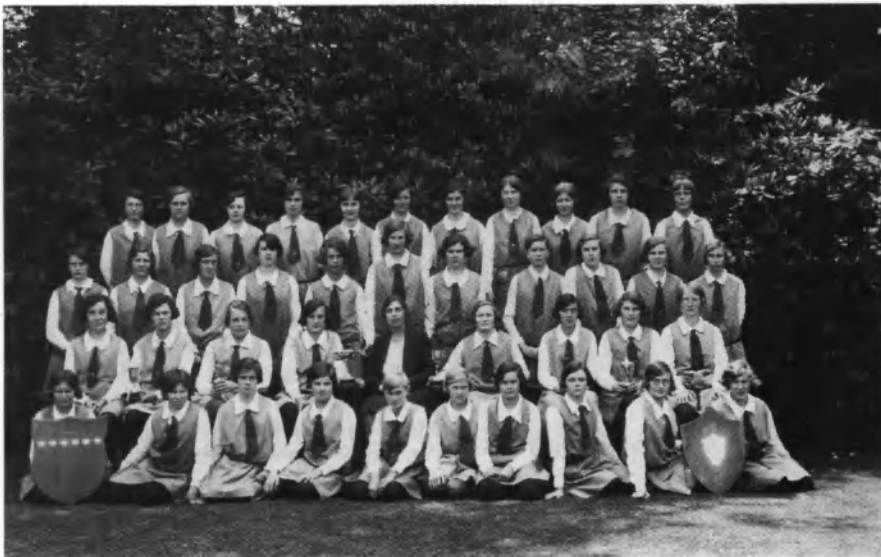
A School Holiday

Photograph kindly lent by Marigold (Williamson) Page H40

A School Holiday

We only went home at half-term in the summer. During the Christmas and Spring Terms one day was unexpectedly chosen to be a School Holiday. Shelley announced it after Prayers, to great delight. It was always a fine sunny day. No rules applied. You could **run** in the Long Passage and go up the front stairs! We were each provided with a 'nose-bag' - a brown paper bag with lunch. We were allowed to go anywhere we could get on our own feet, as long as we said where we were going and there were three of us.

Marigold (Williamson) Page
H40



Hemsted House with Miss Bird circa 1932 *Photograph kindly lent by Lettice Curtis H32*

Ringing the Changes

1995 has been a year of changing faces for the Seniors' Association. Mrs Jackie Scott completed her three year term as Chairman to the warm thanks and appreciation of the Seniors as did Honorary Treasurer, Jane Anderson. Mrs Consuelo Brooke, a current Benenden parent, took up the Chair and Deborah Simon was elected as Treasurer. The Association was delighted to be able to welcome Mrs Gillian duCharme as its President and Mrs Sheila Doyle as Vice-President.

Sally Everist retired from the Committee and was enthusiastically thanked for her five years of loyal service and Roz Hyslop, Victoria Hyman, and Penny Orgill were warmly welcomed on to the Seniors' Association Committee. Roz Hyslop will take over Sally Everist's responsibilities as young Seniors' representative. Victoria Hyman will assist Sue Elworthy with her sterling work in the regions and Penny Orgill will support Claire Harland with her promotion of Seniors' sporting activities.

The Seniors also said a very fond farewell to Mrs Hannah Addyman, who retired as Clerk to the Seniors' Association after sixteen years. In her role as Clerk to the Seniors Hannah served six different Chairmen and built up innumerable friendships with several generations of Seniors; her unique knowledge of the affairs of the Association will be a hard act to follow. Mrs Judith Hayter Johnson took over this summer as Clerk to the Seniors and has already been welcomed into the role by several vintages of Benenden Seniors.



Gym on the beach at Newquay

Photograph kindly lent by Dulcie (Roddick) Christmas H42

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