

# BWAG Monthly Reports to Bredhurst Parish Council

September 2007

- Due to the size of our website it has been necessary to move from a free host domain to another. The cost incurred is £32.87 for two years. The site has been visited by over 3660 people since the new site was launched in March 07. It now contains information and photographs of plants and wildlife observed in the area and last week a 'Guestbook' was added to enable visitors to leave messages and exchange views.
- BWAG attended the Kent County Show for the third year running and had many visitors to the stand enabling us to promote Bredhurst and our project.
- Several BWAG committee members attended the Woodland Trust national conference in Grantham, Lincolnshire in July to give a presentation about our community project, which generated much interest. As a result, an eminent tree expert has said that he hopes to visit Bredhurst this autumn to offer advice on the management of our many ancient trees. He specialises in the restoration of ancient pollards and was interested to learn we have a number of these within our woodland.
- We are very grateful to Cliff Hansford of the Ancient Yew Group who has compiled an extensive report 'The Yews of Bredhurst'. This can be found on the BWAG website.
- Kent Field Club visited the area twice during July and has informed BWAG that they found a nationally rare bee and wasp in Day Valley. They are currently compiling a full report of their findings.
- The Royal Engineers have confirmed that they will commence our path restoration in November and will be on site initially for approximately 1 month, but can return after this if more work is needed. They will start work on KH56 - the bridlepath which leads to White Hill. This will involve the temporary closure of some routes whilst the work is taking place and KCC Public Rights of Way are dealing with the closure procedures. Once work on KH56 is completed, the Royal Engineers will renovate KH52; KH52a and finally the byway, KH94. BWAG are extremely grateful as they are providing the manpower, machinery and some materials free of charge. We are having discussions with a local supplier of aggregate, who may be in a position to supply some or all of the materials required for the work free of charge.
- Membership renewals are steady with only a few negative responses. In particular, we are grateful for the support of the Potted Garden Nursery at Bearsted who made an extremely generous donation, in addition to their corporate membership fee.
- Cllr Malcolm Greer has contributed £500 from his devolved budget towards the cost of renovation work in Bredhurst Hurst.
- We have a vacancy for a BWAG committee member. Anyone wishing to take an active role in the organisation of BWAG events and promoting our project to other interested parties should contact Vanessa Jones on 07813 785940
- Vanessa Jones met with Paul Carter, Leader of KCC, on 13 August to discuss various issues including the progress being made towards the Traffic Regulation Order for byway KH94 and the installation of CCTVs. A subsequent meeting has been arranged for 11 October.
- Forthcoming Events include:
  - ❖ An invitation from the West Kent Badge Group for BWAG members to attend a talk they have arranged by Kent author - Chris McCooley on 15<sup>th</sup> September at

St Marys Platt Memorial Hall.

- ❖ Fungi Foray on 6<sup>th</sup> October - a walk through Bredhurst Hurst led by fungi expert Jo Weightman
- ❖ An invitation from the Kent Field Club for BWAG members to attend their 2007 conference on 13<sup>th</sup> October at Canterbury Christ Church University

Full details of all events can be found at [www.bwag.org.uk](http://www.bwag.org.uk) or contact Vanessa Jones on 07813 785940 [/postmaster@vanessajones.plus.com](mailto:postmaster@vanessajones.plus.com)