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it to operate unmolested

Timewatch Wednesday 8:00

RETURN TO ARCHIVES



Mark Peppier

A life of dedication: Maria Cavanna (left) with fellow members of her community

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aria Cavanna has grown up, as her parents did, in a self-contained Christian community. She is one of those discussing life in alternative communities in a two-part documentary, *In Search of Utopia* (Sunday Radio 4), which looks at such lifestyles from the children's point of view.

Maria's family settled in Robertsbridge, Sussex, four years ago. The 300 members of the Hutterian Bruderhof community, which traces its origins back to 20s Germany, live and eat together and pool their money. Now 17, Maria is at Bexhill sixth-form college, where she always wears her "uniform" – checked skirt, pinafore top, white blouse and a dark headscarf. She plans to study dentistry, and has already decided that when she gets married, it will be to another Hutterian. "I'm quite friendly with some of the boys at school," she explains, "but I wouldn't consider a special friendship with any of them, because I have committed my life to something else."

8 RadioTimes

They sang „Lustig ist das Zigeunerleben“