

As a result of the A.G.M. and a subsequent Committee meeting, the Chairman and other officers of the Society remain unchanged from last year, although there are two additional Committee members. Here is the list:

Chairman	Mr Bill Mercer	(83)
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Mrs Joyce Litschi	(83)
Hon Treasurer	Mrs Eve Noden-Wilkinson	(83)
Hon Secretary	Mr Ken Knight	(83)
Hon Social Secretary	Mrs Margaret Brown	(83)

Committee members in addition to the above:

Mrs Linda Brownridge	(83)
Mr Jon Campbell	(83)
Mr Mike Doyle	(83)
Mrs Jean Mullins	(83)
Mrs Cathy Pressly	(83)
Mr Ernest Saunders	(83)
Mrs Joy Shires	(83)
Mr Peter Stephen		

As has often been mentioned in Newsletters in the past, any member of the Society wishing to raise any matter concerning the village or the area generally should not hesitate to contact a Committee member.

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Social Activities

The ladies of the Committee, supported by several of the men, worked hard to bring success to the "Dorset Cream Tea" afternoon on Saturday, 28 July, at Bellamy Cottage. This occasion was to enable residents to enjoy together a typical Dorset cream tea in appropriate surroundings and at reasonable price. Although the weather was perfect, the number of members present was well short of what had been hoped - even though there was jam on it! Several visitors to the district who came expressed pleasure at being able to do so.

A fairly small but enthusiastic party, led as usual by the indefatigable Ernest Saunders, enjoyed the now customary summer walk - this year, over the hills to Broadmayne - at the end of June. Refreshment at the Black Dog afterwards was equally enjoyable. Do let's have more walkers next year!

Those who have been involved in the Art Class, and anybody else interested, will be glad to know that it will be resumed on Thursday, 20 September. Enquiries to 83 .

FOR THE DIARY - Thursday, 18 October, at 7.30 pm in the Mission Hall.

"Linda Lou" - William Barnes' Dialect Poetry and the Environment.

As schoolmaster, priest and poet, Barnes is closely associated with our locality. Though a man essentially of the 19th century, he had many of our 20th century concerns about the effects on the countryside of man-made changes. Uniquely he has commented upon these and preserved the atmosphere of an older Dorset in his dialect poems.

Raymond Mullins, principal lecturer in philosophy, English and the social sciences at the Dorset Institute of Higher Education, will talk about and introduce some of these poems on 18 October. Do come.

Planning Matters

The last Newsletter referred to a general concern about some aspects of the proposed development of the late Henry Diment's land by Sutton Road and Puddledock Lane. It is good to report that our representations against the demolition of the old barn have proved successful; in fact the barn now hums with activity on its conversion into a dwelling, and work on the adjacent land goes on apace. We shall soon be able to assess the impact of this development on the approach to the village.

Gradually we have seen and welcomed the growing order and beauty out of chaos surrounding Sutton Mill, as Kit and Jan Wallis continue their efforts to complete the ambitious programme of restoration. The artistic walls along Silver Street are of great benefit to the area, and the vista will improve even more as the plants and shrubs become established.

Electricity Supply - Overhead Cables

Some years ago the Society examined the possibility of the substitution of underground power cables for the overhead cables which supply electricity to many parts of the village. The project was not pursued because, even then, the cost was going to be prohibitive. The matter is, however, again being brought to the fore by the needs of the dwellings to be erected on the Diment land mentioned earlier, as well as by the necessity to alter the arrangements for electricity supply from the pole adjoining the Mill in Sutton Road.

We understand that the Electricity Board does undertake conversion from overhead to underground - but in only a very limited number of cases. This moreover involves participation by the local authorities concerned and by British Telecom in providing a common duct and helping to meet the cost. There would also almost certainly be a requirement that owners of premises involved would shoulder a proportion of the cost.

The Committee of the Society will be considering whether we should make representations on this subject and - if so - the nature of those representations. It may well be desirable to call a general meeting to consider not only this question of electricity cabling but also an extension of the gas supply. Any comments which anyone may have should be passed (in writing, please) to the Secretary, Millstream Cottage, Sutton Rd.

Subscriptions

Committee members between them endeavour to collect the annual subscriptions from members; in fact a good proportion of this year's subs. have been received. Naturally, however, some members are not at home when the collector calls - in some cases, several times. If you have not paid your subscription, would you care to drop it through the Treasurer's letterbox, 1 Old Bincombe Lane? It is still only £1 per household and 50p where the member lives alone. Thank you.

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Tailpiece

One very hot evening in July two stalwarts of the Committee cut the grass and trimmed the bases of the old tree stumps on the Sutton Road side of the pond; the Borough Council seemed to have missed out on that job for many weeks. First thing the very next morning Council workmen arrived to do the work. The moral of this escapes us at the moment. Anyway, thanks to those concerned.