



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Council for the Protection of Rural England (Dorset Branch)

BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Western Regional office of B in B has sent us copies of the reports of the judges who judged Sutton Poyntz in this year's competition (small villages class). The first judge gave excellent/good for effort in all the categories used for judging; she commented that "residents work well together to achieve an excellent display".

The second judging, which took place later, was necessary because Sutton Poyntz was one of three finalists in its class. The judge on that occasion also gave excellent/good in each category. He commented on the village's attractiveness, mentioning particularly the Cartshed, the Springhead and the "splendid effort by everyone". He also said that in view of its natural beauty the village would not be improved by the extensive use of gaudy bedding plants, and that hanging baskets were used with justifiable restraint. The judge said that he "left with a memorable picture of Sutton Poyntz".

Isn't it good to learn of such complimentary comments by expert and respected judges? It may be unnecessary to recall that we were awarded the Preece Special Certificate for outstanding effort. The Committee will be considering whether to enter the 1995 competition - if you have views on that, please speak to a member of the Committee.

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Notelets

There is now available a special S.P.S. notelet/greeting card, designed by a local resident and indicating the village connection with Thomas Hardy. The cards are on six different coloured card and the insides are blank for your own message, greeting, "thank you" or whatever. A pack of six, with envelopes, costs only £1. Eve Noden-Wilkinson at 1 Old Bincombe Lane and Joy Eves at the Cartshed are selling them; a specimen is in the notice box at the Cartshed.

Supplies are limited so it would be as well to obtain your copies while stocks last.

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SOCIAL EVENTS

Why not make a note now of the events below, arranged for your delectation and delight?! The organisers look forward to seeing you.

Cheese and Wine Evening: The Sutton Poyntz Victorian Fayre Committee is arranging this on Thursday 10 November at 7.30 pm in the Waterworks Museum. It will give an opportunity for cheques from the proceeds of the fayre to be presented to Trimar and Water Aid. There will be an up-date on the hospice and slides about Water Aid. All are welcome.

Talk on "Crop Circle Formations - the U.F.O. Connection": This talk, with slides, will be on Thursday 8 December in the Sutton Room, Mission Hall Lane, at 7.30 pm. It will be given by Mr David Kingston, Dorset county convenor of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies. He lives in the borough and for many years has been taking

/part

part in investigations into the phenomena with international scientists.

Coffee Morning with mince-pies: A Society occasion, in preparation for Christmas! It will be held in the Sutton Room on Tuesday 13 December from 10.30 am to noon. A grand raffle will be arranged.

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TRAFFIC CONDITIONS

Local authority suggestions for speeding up traffic, etc. in the area, announced in the Evening Echo on 8 October, included making one-way the northern sections of Plaisters Lane and Coombe Valley Road. As the report said that the appropriate committee of the Council would be considering the proposals on 11 October, the Borough Engineer was informed forthwith of the Society's concern and doubts about the effect of the one-way ideas on residents of Sutton Poyntz and on the general level of traffic on local roads. We have been assured that, should the proposals be pursued, the Society will be consulted about them.

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THE DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST

From time to time, details of activities of this Trust, of which the Society is an affiliated member, appear in our notice box, and anyone wishing to take part in any of the events is asked to let the Society's Secretary know.

Among forthcoming events organised by the Trust are:

- Sat. 19 Nov. - Bird watching on the River Axe. Meet at Seaton tram terminal at 10.15 am. Cost £3.50
- Sat. 26 Nov. - Coach outing to Abbotsbury Gardens and Charmouth Heritage Centre. The coach starts from Bournemouth and picks up at Dorchester around 9.15 am. Cost £9.50, including ploughman's lunch at the Manor, West Bexington. Return time at Bournemouth - 5.30 pm.
- Sun. 27 Nov. and 22 Jan. Expedition to Brownsea Island from Sandbanks. Depart 11 am, return from the island 3 pm. Cost £1.60
- Sat. 17 Dec. and 18 Feb. Similar expedition to Brownsea but from Poole Quay; same times. Cost £3.

If any of these appeal to you, please have a word with the Chairman or Secretary of the Society.

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BITS OF NOSTALGIA (from early Newsletters)

- February 1971 - "Bonfire night, coinciding with the dustmen's strike, brought a good blaze". "At the social evening we all sang Nellie Dean most tunefully round the piano".
- October 1977 - "The Sutton Poyntz Players, an offshoot of the Society, would welcome new members. They meet on Friday evenings".
- February 1970 - "The Committee has been active over dangers in Plaisters Lane". (So what's new?!)
- Spring 1987 - "Last autumn the possibility of an Open Gardens event was mooted". (One was held in 1993)
- October 1975 - "A merry Christmas to all". (And to you all this year)