



NEWSLETTER No 85      MAY/JUNE 1999

# Sutton Poyntz Society

*Affiliated to the Council for the Protection of Rural England*

## A.G.M. OF THE SOCIETY, 15th APRIL 1999

At a well attended meeting, with over 50 members present, the reports on the Society's activities were received, and at the suggestion of the Treasurer the level of annual subscriptions (£2 per household and £1 for a single person household) were agreed to for the coming year. Maureen Tapper resigned from the Committee and her place taken by Julia Allen; other members were re-elected en bloc. Members of the new Committee are: Michael Pressly (Chairman), Julia Allen, Richard Backwell, Ron Birch, Don Brierley (Secretary), Tony Bugler, Simon Emblen (Treasurer), Peter Jones, Ken Knight, Joyce Litschi, Richard Meech (Vice-Chairman), Maureen Morris (Social Secretary) and Alan Simpson.

Following the business meeting Geoffrey Poole gave a most fascinating talk on 'Dorset you may not have noticed'.

## VILLAGE SURVEY

Members may recall that in 1997 the Society organised a meeting with officers and councillors of Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, when Richard Burgess, the Council's Chief Planning Officer, suggested that the Society might like to prepare its own report on Sutton Poyntz, to inform his Department's thinking when the time came to revise the Local Structure Plan early in the new Millennium. His challenge was accepted and last year a three man working party (Michael Pressly, Peter Jones and Richard Meech) set about the task of preparing the survey.

The draft version was displayed at the A.G.M. and received very favourable comment from members, who appreciated the effort and commitment that has been put into the production of the survey and the skilled printing of it by Ian Jefferis. The final version of the survey has since been printed and copies sent to the Borough Council, Dorset County Council, the C.P.R.E. and other interested bodies. The Chief Planning Officer (now the Director of Environmental Services) has acknowledged its receipt and, to quote from his letter, congratulates the Society on the quality of the presentation and its content. He has indicated that arrangements will be made for members of the working party to make a formal presentation to his officers and possibly to councillors, once the new committee membership has been sorted out following the recent elections.

Copies of the survey will be available to members of the Society at a cost of £7 each. They may be ordered from the person who collects your annual subscription.

## PLANNING MATTERS

a) Application to develop the site at the rear of the Mission Hall: As many members will know, the outcry against this application caused the Rector to call a special meeting of villagers on 20th April to allow people to express their views on the proposal. The Society has lodged a strong objection to the application and a group of Society members will be attending the Council's Planning Sub-Committee meeting when a representative will

speak against the proposed development.

b) Replacement of industrial buildings at Mission Hall Lane/Plaisters Lane corner with a cottage style house: The Society wrote in support of this application.

#### VILLAGE CLEAN UP

We are indebted to Maureen Bond and her 2nd Preston Brownie Pack for their efforts in tidying up the litter that accumulates in the village. It is encouraging that young people are prepared to tackle one of the scourges of modern times. Well done, and Thank you.

Some members have voiced concern about the state of the pond. Julia Allen has kindly agreed to organise a working party to clear out the debris. Anyone wishing to join should please contact her at Millstream Cottage, 99 Sutton Road.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

a) Sutton Poyntz Walk. The annual walk will take place at 6.30pm on Tuesday 15th June. The starting point will be the Old Ship Inn car park at Upwey, where orders will be taken from those wishing to eat at the pub after the walk.

b) Portland Outing. This trip will combine an open top Bus ride from Bowleaze Cove to Portland Bill with a 4-mile walk round the southern part of the Island. The bus leaves Bowleaze at approx 10 am (time still has to be confirmed by the company). A picnic will be eaten half-way round the walk, so please bring a packed lunch and something to drink. Before returning by bus it is intended to visit the Lobster Pot - restaurant at the Bill - for Dorset cream teas.

The proposed date is Tuesday 6th July. In the event of bad weather the outing will take place on Thursday 15th July.

c) Cream Teas - Saturday 31st July. This year's cream teas afternoon will be held at the Old Stables, Sutton Road, by kind invitation of Marion and Ken Knight and their neighbours. Let us hope we will be blessed by the good weather we have experienced in recent years for this very popular event in the village's social calendar.

d) Barn Dance, Saturday 2nd October. In response to popular demand, this barn dance will be held in Preston Village Hall. Details will be circulated nearer the time, but please note the date now.

AND FINALLY - Subscriptions are now due and will be collected by the end of June. Thank you for your continuing support of the Society.

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