



# Sutton Poyntz Society

*Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England*

## SUTTON POYNTZ SOCIETY - Newsletter No 115 – August 2005

### Summer Activities

Summer is here – hot days and rainy days - and we have new families of ducks and moorhens on the pond.

### Forthcoming events

**Vegetable Show ..... 6<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Society Cream Teas ..... 20<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Trafalgar Day ..... 21<sup>st</sup> October**

### **Village BBQ**

The Sutton Poyntz BBQ planned to be held on a Sunday in **July** was cancelled due to the extension work at the Mission Hall.

### **Vegetable Show**

John Crisp has provided details of the Village Vegetable Show in **Scutt Hall** on the **6<sup>th</sup> August** – details will also be posted on Notice Boards around the village. Any queries contact John Crisp 832529. Summary details are:-



- Entry £1.00
- Doors open 9.30
- "Spud in a Tub" weighing 11am
- Categories, longest bean, heaviest marrow, longest cucumber, selection of herbs.
- Three carrots, three tomatoes, three beans, three courgettes, any three vegetables.
- Single lettuce, five soft fruit, anything from greenhouse.

Any surplus proceeds will go to the Save the Children Fund – Watch for posters.

### **Society Cream Teas**

We look forward to seeing you all at this years Cream Teas on Sat **20<sup>th</sup> August** at 3.00. Cost will be £1.50 as last year. Due to the work going on at the hall, Sue and Dave Buckley have kindly invited us next door – so we can continue to enjoy your company for tea and scones – and of course there will be a raffle. If wet we will adjourn to the Mission Hall.



### **Trafalgar Day celebrations**

Our Trafalgar Celebrations will centre around a feast – 1805 style – in the Mission Hall. Bookings can be made with Simon Emblen or Maureen Morris (835533).

### Recent Activities and Events

#### **Entertainment Evening**

Dave Caddy's Sutton Starlets entertained a crowd on Saturday **14<sup>th</sup> May**. In addition to having an enjoyable evening, the Starlets also donated £100 to the Julia's house charity and a further £30 to the Claire Clement charity.

#### **Society Walks**

Richard Backwell led some 36 members on **19<sup>th</sup> May** around Langton Herring. Although the weather was inclement (sufficient to keep your secretary indoors), all reported a good walk and an enjoyable meal at the Elm Tree Inn on their return – a little damp but all smiling. As a contrast, the all day walk on **21<sup>st</sup> June** was held in a lovely day. Some 23 members enjoyed the walk from Corfe to Swanage and caught the train back to Corfe before returning home.



Our thanks to Richard for arranging both of these walks.

#### **Village Clean up**

Also during inclement weather some very soggy souls did a sterling job of picking up the surprising amount of odd bits of litter - prior to the Floribunda festival. It was expected by some that the clean up might have been delayed till after the rain stopped – but the soggy souls could not be stopped – well done.



#### **Floribunda Festival**

The Floribunda Festival over the weekend of **4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> June** was held in spite of bad weather. The gardens however benefited from the rainfall. Despite the persistent rain, over 180 people attended the event, and a £348 profit made. Half was donated to Water Aid. Congratulations to all those who helped or participated.



#### **Mission Hall Extension**

The work continues on the extension.



Foundations are now complete and the walls are rising.

#### **Sutton Poyntz WI**

The next 2 meetings of Sutton Poyntz Village W.I. will be as printed in the programmes. On Sept 7th

The Healing Power of Food - with food tasting - by Mrs Claire Willes and on Oct 5th, Woodcraft for the "Mini-Kids Trust" by Mr Roy Stenning. These will both be held at the Mission Hall at 2.15pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome. The first round of the W.I. quiz will be held at Wyndings on September 22nd at 2pm. For more information on any of these items please contact Dorothy on 832143 or any committee member.

## **Matters discussed by your committee**

### **The pond – a fishy tale**

Following the recent desilting of the Mill Pond, Tony Heathershaw has investigated the possibility of 're-stocking' the Pond with an indigenous species of fish (replacing the koi carp which were removed). However, enquiries with Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) and the Environment Agency (EA) have revealed that we are not at liberty to do this without first obtaining the EA's consent – and even then there would strings attached.

The problem arises because the waters of the Pond feed into the headwaters of the River Jordan – the latter supporting a run of sea trout, eels and other small fish. Section 30 of the Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act (SFFA, 1974) would require the Society (more specifically a named individual) to obtain the approval of the EA. Discussions with their Fisheries Officer have indicated that the only fish that the EA would be happy to approve are brown trout and that these would need to be of the 'triploid' variety to prevent interbreeding with wild species.

Additionally, the EA would need to be satisfied that the fish had come from an approved supplier; that they could be contained in the Pond and that the receiving waters were of sufficient quality - noting the presence of nearby roads and the possibility of polluted surface water run-off (plus the steady input from the ducks!). Containment, requiring a grill at the weir, would impede the movement of ducks and clog with weed.

On balance, therefore, your Committee feel that the benefits of 're-stocking' the Pond are likely to outweighed by the difficulties of managing it. From discussions with DWT and the EA, the best course of action would appear to be to let the Pond return to a natural balanced state, attracting insects, bird life and such fish as it may – possibly sticklebacks and minnows and of course eels – or whatever nature deposits in there.

### **The Future of our Village**

Peter Jones advises that you may have seen in the local press and on the Internet that the Weymouth and Portland Borough Council have published their Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This

### **Your Committee** Your committee are available for any items of interest or concern

Peter Jones (833288)

Tony Heathershaw (834375)

Joyce Litschi (833303)

Tony Bugler (832953)

Michael Haine (832995)

Peter Riley (834653)

forms part of the forthcoming Local Development Framework (LDF) to replace, in due course, the Council's Local Plan. The Sutton Poyntz Society has responded positively to participation in consultations for the development of the SCI as we have with previous planning initiatives.

This announcement has prompted your Committee to call a special meeting in the autumn to discuss the intentions of a study into the future of our village and to build upon the Village Survey of 1999. A steering group would be formed to use the breadth of experience available within our community to examine the existing community and its aspirations for the future. A Village Design Statement (or Community Plan) would be produced as conclusion of the study.

Village Design Statements (VDS) are a way for local communities to influence new development. They are written by the community and are about managing change, not about preventing it. The study would address matters such as the village context (geographical, historical etc), the landscape setting of the village and its visual character, particularly the buildings and open spaces, and of course highways and traffic etc. Information is gathered through a process of analysis of the comments from the community concerning the village and its development, and community engagement through consultation and public exhibitions etc. The final stage involves the preparation of a report or statement and its acceptance by the local authority for planning purposes.

Approximately 250 VDS have been prepared throughout England (including one by our neighbours in Osmington) and been accepted by local authorities as input to their local planning requirements in compliance with the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (2004).

Initial approaches have been made to Dorset Community Action and the Weymouth and Portland Strategic Partnership about such a plan and their reactions have been totally positive. There could be funding and assistance available through these bodies.

A note about the meeting will be sent out in due course to all residents inviting their attendance.

This would be a significant milestone in the development of Sutton Poyntz and the basis of the legacy we leave for future generations.

## **Sutton Poyntz - Neighbours**

**Obituary** – We do not normally include obituaries within the newsletter, but we could not let the passing of Hedi Farrant go without mention particularly as her husband Vic died only a short while back. Hedi asked for any donations to be given to the Mission Hall trust which benefited by £170. Thank you all and particularly - Hedi.