



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

SUTTON POYNTZ SOCIETY - Newsletter No 123 – March 2007

2007 Happy New Year



Spring is nearly here – due to start on 21st March. (Or, you may remember from last years Newsletter, spring starts on the 1st March according to the Met Office. But they do some times get it wrong!)

However, it is time to begin to prepare for our Village Vegetable show – so get those pots washed out ready for the super spud competition.

If that is too strenuous look at the other coming events – and there will be more in the May Newsletter.



Forthcoming events

Village Plan 29th March
Society AGM 20th April
Society Evening Walk 31st May
Society All Day Walk DTA
Village Vegetable Show ... 4th August

Village Plan

A meeting will be held at the Waterworks Museum on Thursday 29 March 2007, starting at 7.00 pm, to present the results of the Village Plan survey carried out last year. The Village Plan Steering Group cordially invites you to attend this meeting and to consider the next steps and way ahead with the development of an action plan that will seek to identify project and funding opportunities designed to improve the quality of life for our community. This will be a chance to find out what other people have said about the village (and villagers!) and to make a positive contribution to the future of the village. Borough and County Council officials and local councillors have been invited to attend, together with representatives from Dorset Community Action. Come along and have a say in the future of your village and your community! If you need further information contact Maureen Tepper (01305 834470) or Tony Heathershaw (01305 834375) – otherwise just turn up.



Society AGM

The Mission Hall has been booked for your Society AGM on **Friday 20th April** starting at 7.30. Your

committee will accept nominations for next years committee and officers – although nominations will also be accepted at the meeting.

Following the formal business of electing the officers for the coming year and receiving reports you will have the pleasure of seeing and discussing a collection of Archive Film and Photographic Material which we have called **Ronnie Waite's Memories of 50's Sutton Poyntz**. Those with long memories will recall that Ronnie was a former landlord of the Springhead. His daughter, Diana, will introduce the presentation. Copies of some of the material viewed may also be available for purchase.

Society Evening Walk

Mike Haine and Richard Blackwell will again be organising our **two walks** this year. The evening walk on **31st May** will be around the area of West Knighton with a finish at a convenient pub. Keep your eyes open for more details in the posters and the next newsletter.

Society All Day Walk

The all day walk is planned to be later in the year and is expected to be on Portland. The dates and more details will be advised in the next newsletter

Village Vegetable Show

John Crisp is planning our Village vegetable show this year for the **4th August** at Scutt Hall. There will be all the classes as last year, including the popular "Spud in a tub" – one potato plant growing in a pot with the opening less than 15 inches and less than 15 inches high. Any new classes will be advised in the next Newsletter. We have heard a suggestion that a Scarecrow competition might be included – but would like to get a feedback of any ideas. Let John Crisp know if you have any additional suggestions – perhaps at the AGM. As last year, entrants voting will choose class winners.



Report of events

Coffee Morning

At the 2007 coffee morning on Valentines day, Sara served around 30 coffees and some very tasty cakes. The morning was cold and damp, but the company was warm and inviting. Together with the raffle, our funds were increased by around £56.



Curry Night

The village Gnomes produced an excellent Curry night at the Mission Hall on 3rd February. A full house enjoyed the food and company. Thanks to the gnomes and helpers (including Dave Caddy, Dave Emery, Mike Haine, Graham Embley, and Jill,



Yvonne, Pat and Sue).

Mission Hall AGM

The Mission Hall AGM was held on the 16th February. Norman Brown, having chaired the Mission Hall Trust since its inception, has stood down this year and Anthea Heathershaw has accepted the challenge to continue Norman's good work. Other officers remain unchanged with John Allen as treasurer and Karen Albin as secretary. Following the formal business, Geof Peters presented a fascinating talk on the National Coast-watch.



Ladies Lunch Club

The first Ladies Lunch Club was held at the Springhead in February. It is intended that this will be a regular get together for any interested lady on the **Second Monday** of each month for a good meal and a chat. For more information or to book your place, contact either Julia Allen (832759) or Richard at the Springhead (832117).

WI

The March meeting of the Sutton Poyntz Village WI will have been held when you receive this newsletter. But the talk "Little known gems of Dorset Churches" by Mr Gordon Le Pard (planned for the meeting) – is being followed with a coach trip to some of the churches mentioned. If you are interested in the trip, contact Dorothy Emblen on 832143.

Matters discussed by your committee

Appearance of the village – Various complaints are heard on the mess left behind by a few dog walkers. Unfortunately, being such a popular walking area it seems inevitable that we will get more than our share of irresponsible dog owners. Any bright ideas to minimise the problem? See note below.

Access – The third new kissing gate should have been installed by the time you get this Newsletter. This access point is above Mr Hunts old timber shed site. The Society has worked in conjunction

with Rights of Way and Countryside Access Officers at Weymouth & Portland Borough Council and Dorset County Council (who funded and carried out all the installations).

Society Banner – A banner designed and produced by Mrs Betsy Martyn has been donated to the Society by Fredy Litschi and is being displayed in the Mission Hall. It was commissioned by Fredy when the Society was founded in 1968.

Planning Matters

The result of the Planning Appeal for 30 extra static caravans at their Seaview caravan site has been published. The inspector has rejected the request for further expansion of the caravan sites.

The committee, whilst liking the design of house to replace Brookberry and The Weald especially the inclusion of a thatched property, felt that five properties seemed excessive.

No objections have been raised for other planning applications at Hill View, Orchard House, Whitestone, 5 Sutton Road, Overdale or 30 Sutton Road.



Neighbours

Walkers and dogs



Following the last Newsletter, some dog walkers have expressed their concern on the growing deposits. Will all walkers and dog walkers **"Please keep vigilant and encourage any errant dog owners to clean up after their pets (and not leave plastic bags behind). You may be unpopular for a short time – but we will all benefit.**

Water Aid

Wessex Water have just published **two booklets on archaeological excavations** in the area with all profits going to Water Aid. Titled "Stealing away Like Time" and "By a Crystal Brook" – these booklets are available from the Water works at a cost of £4.95 and £9.95 plus postage. Alternatively you can save on the postage by buying them from the Museum when you attend the Village Plan meeting on the 29th March.



Avian Flu



Advice from Neighbourhood Watch has been received regarding actions to be taken if you discover a dead swan, goose, duck or three wild or garden birds in the same place – report it to Defra Helpline 08459 33 55 77. If a single small garden bird – do not call Defra but either leave it alone, bury it or dispose of it in 2 plastic bags in normal household refuse.

Normal soap, detergents etc are suitable cleaners if you have been in contact.

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

Peter Jones (833288)

Tony Bugler (832953)

Simon Emblen (Chairman) (832143)

Tony Heathershaw (834375)

Michael Haine (832995)

Sara Knight (Treasurer) (835893)

Joyce Litschi (833303)

Peter Riley (834653)

John Sutherland (Secretary) (832227)