



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Newsletter No 143 – March 2011

(<http://suttonpoyntz.org.uk>)

Forthcoming events

Question Time 16th March
History Group 30th March
Society AGM 20th April
Street Party 29th April
Scarecrows 23rd July to 6th August
Cream teas 30th July
Vegetable show 6th August

Question Time

The Society is arranging a social evening in the Mission Hall on Wednesday 16th March starting at 7.30 based upon a "Question Time" format. The panel will consist of Hazel Bruce, Peter Chapman, David Mannings, Dennis Ackroyd and Chris Hubbard; they will answer questions submitted earlier by the audience. Some tickets were still available from the committee (at the time of writing the Newsletter) at £1.50. The bottom of the ticket has a tear off strip for the submission of any question – which will allow the chairman to order questions in a logical sequence.

History Group

The History Group are organising an evening on Wednesday 30th March. Tickets at £1.50, including refreshments, are available from Caroline Crisp or Dorothy Emblem. The main speaker is planned to be Richard Samways, Archivist at Weymouth Museum, who will talk on the 1862 Sutton Poyntz Murder. If this event lives up to the reputation of the first presentation – it must not be missed. Get your tickets early to ensure a seat.

Society AGM

The Society AGM is currently planned for 20th April at 7.30. Come along with your ideas for the future of the Society. We need to develop how we assist the W&P Planning Committee in discharging their duty of care to our Conservation Area.

If you have any items for discussion (or motions to propose) at the AGM – please submit details to a committee member at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

This year we will be electing a new Chairman and Secretary as well as some new committee members and already we have several volunteers to ensure an active and healthy Society. There is still time to add your name to the nominees – up to the time of the meeting.

After the formal business, we look forward to the pleasure of listening to a talk by Simon Grant Jones. Anyone who has seen his appearances as the

Blacksmith/Ironmonger in the BBC's historical documentary "Turn Back time" or other craft based programmes will know he does not need to use a furnace to provide a fascinating talk.

Subs for 2011 / 2012 can also be paid at the AGM.



Street Party

Arrangements for a village street party are progressing for Friday 29th April to join in the celebrations for a royal wedding on that date. So keep your eyes open for notices / flyers with more details.

Scarecrows

This competition runs for the two weeks before the Vegetable show – from **Saturday 23rd July to Saturday 6th August** with the winner announced at the vegetable show. All entrants need to place their scarecrow visible from the road. As last year, the winner will be voted by the public using forms that will list the entries. Further details in the next Newsletter and usual notices.



Cream teas

We know that summer is really on the way when we start to talk of the Society Cream Teas. This year we will look forward to another good sunny day, in the middle of the scarecrow competition, to enjoy cream teas in the Mission Hall orchard on Saturday 30th July. Reserve that day, it is often one of the best-attended events of the year. If we should get a wet day we will adjourn into the hall. Look out for notices for any more details.

Vegetable show

This years show will be on **Saturday 6th August** with any profits donated to Waves. Classes will be similar to last year. More details in the next Newsletter – but get the seeds ready as 6th August is less than 5 months away.



Reports on Village Activities

Valentine Safari Supper

The Mission Hall Trust Valentine Safari supper on 12th February was well subscribed. Starting at the Mission Hall for aperitifs the evening's itinerary was available. All guests arrived back safely at the mission hall from their last port of call for coffee a quiz and to compare notes. A good time was had by all – congratulations to all participants and the organisers.

Mission Hall AGM

The Mission Hall AGM was held on Wednesday 23rd Feb at 7.30.

Coffee Mornings

By the time you receive this newsletter we will have had the last Coffee morning of this season. All coffee mornings have been well attended and enjoyed with a variety of small events run concurrently – the February event exhibited a collection of old photographs from local residents whilst March had display of embroidery. Many thanks to the cake makers and organisers for looking after us and one hopes another season of coffee mornings will return in October.

Northdown Farm Alcohol License

Following a couple of village meetings, your committee opposed the application for an alcohol and music licence at Northdown Farm at the licensing meeting on 3rd February. The Licensing Committee met in the Ocean Room due to the large response to the application. The Committee **rejected** the application for music. The sale of alcohol on the land at Northdown Farm was **approved** with conditions.

Planning Controls - As outlined by David Mannings at the licensing meeting, there is a provision within planning regulations for the temporary use of land. This effectively permits the use of a site without having to get formal planning permission for a certain number of days per year. Event organisers use it a lot for events, gymkhanas, arts festivals, local fairs and the like.

The land can be used for not more than 28 days in any calendar year and allows for the siting of moveable structures in connection with the use (portaloos, stalls etc).

Other Village Activities

- **Village History** – The History Group are arranging a History Evening in the Mission Hall on the 30th March. See details above and on notices around the village and on the village website.

- **Village Web Site** – The new village website went live in December, and is already proving valuable for distributing urgent information, such as about the licence application on Northdown Farm land. Those of you with computers can find the website at <http://suttonpoyntz.org.uk>. The website contains a village calendar and information on village groups, as well as a wealth of useful and/or interesting information on the village. If you have any comments or want information (calendar entries, reports on events, information on other village Groups etc.) put onto the website, contact a member of the Web Group - Bill Egerton, John Sutherland, Dave Emery or Peter Sheaves.

- **Biodiversity Group** – John Newbould reports that in the past month, the group has completed two important tasks funded by out side bodies. David Emery and Peter Shreeves with some other willing volunteers have removed many dead elms and planted new hedging on the “old dam wall” on Wessex Water land. Chris Hubbard has provided good publicity for this project in the *Dorset Echo*. see:

Your Committee

Your committee are available for any items of interest or concern [collection area]

John Crisp (Chairman) (832529) [MH Lane] Tony Bugler (832953) [Puddledock] Anne Dye (837139)

John Bellis (Treasurer) (837162)

Bill Egerton (832872) [S Sutton Rd]

Karen Phillips (836330) [N Plaisters]

John Sutherland (Secretary) (832227)

Peter Riley (834653) [o/s Village]

Louise Sheaves (833338) [Mid Plaisters]

Collectors – M Haine – [S Plaisters etc],

C Gates [Old Bincombe]

W Palframan – [N Sutton Road, Silver St]

<http://www.dorsetecho.co.uk/communitynews/latestnews/8868125>.

As part of the OPAL funding, we received last autumn, we organised an open afternoon at Osmington village hall on 5 March to see if a similar group could be formed in the Osmington area. The results to say the least were disappointing. Adrian Bicker of the Dorset Dragonfly Group would like to visit some garden ponds in the area during the summer to look for Dragonflies and their larvae. If you are willing to take part, contact John Newbould 837384. On 7 March, the group were surveying above White Horse Hill. There are good numbers of Skylark looking for suitable places to nest. Please could dog owners keep dogs to heel or on leads during the breeding season for this European endangered species.

• WI - Sutton Poyntz Village WI Report

The February Meeting had a presentation from Stuart Morris with images and music on the theme of ‘Fun and Magic’. Later in the month the group had a very enjoyable Birthday lunch at Cygnets with a general view that the students did very well. The March meeting heard of the enjoyments and pitfalls of running a B&B and also an early annual report as the president will be unable to attend the AGM in April when the committee for next year will be elected.

- **Theatre Group** - As the Sutton Poyntz Theatre Group enters its second year of existence successful visits have already taken place to Poole and most recently to Salisbury Playhouse to see The Constant Wife which proved to be an excellent production enjoyed by all 36 who attended. Plans are already underway for theatre trips to Chichester and Bath later in the year, commencing with the Tom Stoppard play Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead in May. The group will also be attending at least one musical theatre event later in the year. Coach seats are often available for people wishing to visit venues for shopping only. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Colin Marsh on 833892 for details.

Matters discussed by your committee

Gritting - The committee is in correspondence with our local councillors on the policy for gritting and snow/ice clearance of local roads now that the responsibility has moved from W&PBC to DCC.

Planning applications -

- The committee expressed some concern over the suitability of a sedum roof for the planning application for Myrtle Cottage but were very supportive of work to bring the property back into use again.

Neighbours

Pot holes – If you are unlucky enough to have a pot hole appear adjacent to your home, please let the local council know so they can add it to their database for remedial work – Responsibility has moved to DCC on 221020 or e-mail dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk.

