



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Newsletter No 160 – February 2014

More information at suttonpoyntz.org.uk

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SP Victorian Fayre helps many good causes

At a special presentation evening in the Mission Hall, Guy Bridge, the SP Victorian Fayre's dedicated and hard working Chairman, was delighted to report that there were 41 beneficiaries of the £21,000 raised at the 2014 Fayre. These included Julia's House, Chesil Sailability, Claire Clements Fund, Mission Hall Trust, Community Angels, Dorset Advocacy, Diabetes Local group, Dorset ME Support, Weldmar, WaterAid, Wessex Heartbeat, Josies Dragonfly Trust, Cruse Bereavement Services, The Lantern, Weymouth Macular Society, Greenhill Fingerpost project, Preston Village Hall, Alzheimers Society, Great Ormond Street, Weymouth Youth Rugby Club and many more. These reflect the various interests and



concerns of the volunteers and supporters of the Fayre. The picture shows representatives of many of the delighted recipients, with no prizes for spotting Guy himself. He paid especial thanks to everyone who helped, and all those who came along on the day, making the event such a success and enabling so many charities to benefit.

Planning Applications

WP/TP/14/00141: Tree at Sutton House - already approved.

WP/CA/15/00008: Fell 6 trees at Greendown House. The application does not contain any form of justification for the proposed felling, and a Supporting Document belonging to a different planning application is attached! The Council have been contacted about these errors, and as the Planning Application approval for the new house included conditions relating to tree conservation, the Society will submit a representation strongly opposing this application.

The Society's planning principles may be viewed on the web site.

The car park has landed!

A public meeting was called at the Mission Hall just before Christmas to discuss the small piece of land known as the 'Springhead Car Park' at the top of the pond. John Crisp, John Sutherland and Bill Egerton explained to a large audience that after much investigation over nearly a decade, it transpired that the owner of the land was neither any individual resident, WPBC, WDDC, nor Punch Taverns but in fact it belonged to Devenish Brewery Ltd. They were happy to sell it for a nominal sum to Sutton Poyntz Ltd (SPL), a company set up because the SP Society cannot legally hold land. After the sale, Title Absolute had been awarded to SPL by the Land Registry. John Crisp proposed a vote of thanks to those in the Society who had worked so hard and so long to bring the process to a satisfactory conclusion, which was greeted with warm and sustained applause. There was some discussion about possible uses for the land, but the first imperative was to give it something of a facelift, and in the first weeks of the new year this has been effected. The directors of SPL are now busy establishing the best way forward, but rest assured that all actions taken will be for the benefit of the village and its inhabitants.

Take 100 lines!

Industry power regulator Ofgem has funding available to allow electricity companies to replace overhead electricity lines with underground cables in areas where sensitive landscapes would benefit. One area under consideration is the view from the top of Coombe Valley road, where the pylons and lines blight the beautiful view out to sea. (Thanks to John Morris for the 'amended' picture) The Society has registered an interest in removing the pylons and lines, and is seeking support from surrounding village societies and from our local MP. A public exhibition has been organised by National Grid and the Dorset AONB, at the Colliton Club, Dorchester from 2 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday 18 February, so drop in and make your opinions known.



Martins flying high

The Autumn Scutt Hall Scout and Guide Jumble sale, the first under the direction of Mo and Dave Martin, ably assisted by Betty Hennessey, proved to be a huge winner. There were many items for sale of good quality and lots of people attended. Mo and Dave are grateful to everyone who helped, provided items to sell and turned up on the day to buy. Thanks are also due to them for their sterling work. The amount raised, a record, was just over £720, a fabulous result that will greatly benefit our local children. Start saving your items for the Spring Sale!

Forthcoming events

The last two coffee mornings of the winter are approaching - one of them might even have gone by the time you read this. For the **Friday 6 February** event, you are invited to bring along Programmes of interesting events - theatrical, sporting, whatever - which you have attended. Then on **Friday 6 March**, a goodly selection of Fredy Litschi's slides will be available as a rolling computer display, which should be a fascinating look back at SP as it was. Both are between 10.30am and noon in the Mission Hall, entry £1.50 including cake and coffee. See you there.

Want to make some dough? Then don't miss Ready Steady Bake in the Mission Hall on **Wednesday 18 February at 7.30pm**. Chris Balfe will be giving a bread making demonstration, with a promise of audience participation. He will also act as judge for any of your own baking efforts which you would like to take along. Tickets cost £3.50, which includes a glass of wine, and can be obtained from John Crisp, Jez Cunningham or Chris himself on 07969 781145, but get them quickly as they will sell like hot cakes.

Plans for the Sutton Poyntz Open Gardens Scheme are well advanced. The 19 gardens, plus all the front gardens of Old Bincombe Lane, will offer visitors a lovely variety of horticulture styles from wild flower areas to more elaborate creations. The Mission Hall is the start/finish point, serving refreshments, plus plant and craft stalls, a competition for the children and an art exhibition. Admission to the gardens is by programme, costing £5 per adult, children free. These will be available prior to the event and in the Mission Hall on the days themselves. Money raised will go to Cancer Research UK and WaterAid, so put the dates of **Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 June**, between noon and 5pm, in your diary now.

Advance notice of the SP Society AGM which will take place on **Wednesday 15 April** at the Mission Hall. As the business of the AGM is short, in keeping with other years there will be some interesting (a talk on electricity pylons received little committee support!) events laid on at the same time. Watch this space for more news, but mark the date in your diary for what promises to be a fun night out.

Your community needs YOU

The Preston Village Hall Management Committee needs a new Chairperson to replace long serving Terry Marsden, who is moving away from the area. The Hall, a registered charity, is a very well used community facility run by a committee of trustees of about 12 persons, including various user group representatives. They meet quarterly to ensure that the hall functions efficiently. The Chairperson will be very ably assisted by a Secretary and Treasurer and funds are readily available for the upkeep of the hall. Contact Terry (07768 707583) for more details if you can help, or know someone who can.

Weldmar Hospicecare Trust are in urgent need of volunteers to help to serve refreshments from the Tea Bar at the Magistrates' Court. The rota involves one morning either weekly or fortnightly. For further details please contact Irene Brierley on 833244.

Meet your new Committee member - Jez Cunningham

Jez, wife Jean and 'Harry' (a lady Westie, despite her name) moved to SP in March 2013 after 25 years abroad, the last 15 in Belgium. Here they lived in a village a little bigger than SP about 15km from Brussels, which, enviably, had good public transport. Their son is a Staff Nurse in Southampton, and daughter a Warfare Officer in the RN, who has just presented them with their first grandson, Edward. An electronic engineer by training, Jez retired as a Principal IT Architect. A keen photographer, he was heavily involved in the photo booth at the Victorian Street Fayre. He feels that the friendliness of the area is a key benefit, but misses the efficient road links of Belgium, especially when visiting grandson Edward near Bristol. Jez would like to see the Society act as a hub for events, news and communication in faster modes than the Newsletter (*Good job I have thick skin - Ed*), but he fears for the unique identity of SP as the pressure for more housing grows.

Brief email news updates are circulated between Newsletters. Contact newsletter@suttonpoyntz.org.uk to receive these

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Interim Chairman John Crisp 832529

Secretary Bill Egerton 832872	Treasurer John Sutherland 832227
Peter Riley 834653	David Rees 833867
Sue Wintle 834209	Hilary Davidson 834479
Tamzin Hyde 832103	Jacqui Atkinson 837361
Jez Cunningham 835811	

Please contact the editor with news or views - next copy deadline 1st May