



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Newsletter No 166 – May 2016

More information at suttonpoyntz.org.uk

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Lighting up for the Queen's 90th birthday

Celebration beacons were lit all around the country on Thursday 21 April for the Queen's 90th birthday - including of course ours up on the hill behind the village. In contrast to the inaugural lighting some months



ago, the weather this time was dry, but with a brisk cold wind. An advance party led by Bill Edgerton and Jez Cunningham conveyed wood and other essentials up to the brazier. They were joined by porters carrying vital supplies, including Dave Caddy who was very generous with his sparkling wine, making over 15 in total - including your

intrepid reporter. Meanwhile, down at the start of the Millennium walk a larger party of about 30 waited patiently, sipping prosecco provided by the Springhead and other liquid revivers. At the appointed hour, to rousing cheers, the beacon burst into flames and burnt fiercely, while all sang an enthusiastic chorus of 'Happy



Birthday' to her Majesty. As the flames died down and the cold began to bite, the summit party roped up and descended to base camp to be greeted with relief and congratulations. After medical checks for frost bite, a swift return to the warmth of the Springhead completed everyone's recovery.

Planning

WP/CA/16/00044 – fell 26 ash at Valley Cottage – is unclear whether this is wholesale clearance of the area or thinning for the benefit of better specimens. The loose woodland up this part of Plaisters Lane is felt to be important and the clearance will be opposed. A number of other tree planning activities have been left in the Tree Officer's hands.

The Village History Board is history

The Village History Board was 'deconstructed' by a group of Saturday night revellers and deposited in the pond. Jez Cunningham rescued it from its watery grave and Peter Dye removed the broken ground fittings, which were dangerous. As the board and the land are the property of the Borough Council they may wish to consider reinstalling it, preferably on the opposite side of the pond, which would allow room for another seat.

.....and on the subject of seats

Some of the seats around the village are in a sad state of repair. Volunteers to help to refurbish these are being sought, so if you would like to help, contact any committee member or the Editor.

Sutton Poyntz Society AGM

Chairman Mike Blee welcomed a full house, especially newcomers to the village. The minutes of the previous AGM and Annual Report were approved. Treasurer John Sutherland reported on the basic soundness of the Society finances, which meant no change was necessary to the subscription. His report was approved. Bill Egerton stated that Sutton Poyntz Ltd had been created in order to allow the village to purchase the Top of the Pond land, and its relationship to the SP Society would be formalised by proposed changes to the Society's Constitution later in the meeting. Mike Blee outlined how a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) would benefit the village and must comply with National and Local policies. A Working Party would be needed to develop the Plan. It was proposed and approved "That the Society agreed to create a NP for Sutton Poyntz, to apply to become a Neighbourhood Forum with a Neighbourhood Area amended to include those houses on and near Puddledock Lane with Sutton Poyntz postcodes". Bill Egerton then explained the changes proposed to the Society's Constitution to define the relationship between the Society and Sutton Poyntz Ltd; for the Society to qualify as a Neighbourhood Forum and therefore to create a Neighbourhood Plan; and finally a number of administrative changes, all of which were approved. The election of officers took place and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Officers and Committee.

PMN 14 people have expressed an interest in becoming members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. This Group will review the Terms of Reference and, subject to SP Society approval, submit a Forum/Area Application to the Borough Council which hopefully should result in grant funding for Steering Group training.

A tribute to the tank heroes

In March 2016 HRH The Princess Royal visited the Bovington Tank Museum to formally open a new exhibition entitled "Tank Men", which tells the personal stories of eight men who served in the tanks, set among the vehicles in which they served.



For the Exhibition our own Mike Haine, who works part time in the Museum, was asked to provide a model of a Mark I tank, the first to be used in conflict. Mike says that this would have been relatively simple except for two complications. The model had to be

cut away to show the interior, and at the scale required there were no commercially available models meaning it would have to be built from scratch! But as the actual vehicle is resident in the Museum, and with the help of some of the original plans, Mike was able to construct the model, mainly from paper, card and plastic tube, in just over 6 months - as you can see from the photograph. Mike was presented to Princess Anne during her visit.



Victorian Street Fayre

Village Stalls for the Victorian Street Fayre on Sunday 26th June still need items to sell. Unopened or unused gifts; jewellery, posh hats, scarves and handbags; garden accessories, tools, seeds; good quality paperbacks, hardbacks; DVDs, jigsaws and board games; posh frocks, hats; shoes, boots; good quality antique and bygone collectables will still be gratefully received by Judy (833349) or Sharon (834659). Plus cakes for the cake stall and in the Mission Hall. If you can help on the day, even for just a couple of hours, call Elise on 835475.

Forthcoming events

Street Fayre : Sunday 26 June 2016 is the date and your help **IS** needed, so contact Elise on 835475 **NOW**.

Mission Hall Trust : The AGM of the Trust will be held on Wednesday 29 June at 7 pm in - you guessed it - the Mission Hall. Please attend to support those volunteers who do so much to keep the Hall in fine fettle.

Scout Jumble Sale : Mo Martin tells me that the Spring Jumble Sale for the Weymouth East Guide and Scout Troop in the Scutt Hall raised over £511. She and Dave would like to thank everyone who donated items, helped on the day or attended, making the sale so successful. The next fundraising event is an Esplanade stall on Saturday 16th July, always a money spinner. Mo and Dave are to be congratulated on their hard work on behalf of all the local youngsters who use the Scutt Hall.

Cream Teas : These will be taken in the Mission Hall garden on Saturday 16 July between 2.30 and 4 pm. No cost figures yet, but in the capable hands of Sue Wintle and Maureen the Mill this will undoubtedly be another excellent village occasion. Mark it in your diary.

Village Vegetable Show : This keenly contested annual event will take place on Saturday 6 August at the Mission Hall. Starting at 9.30 for competitors to display their wares, members of the public can vote - subject to a suitable donation - from 10.30 to 11.30. Undoubtedly all the traditional categories will be in evidence, such as Longest runner bean; Longest cucumber; Heaviest marrow; Selection of herbs; 3 carrots; 3 tomatoes; Single lettuce; 3 courgettes; 3 beans (any kind); 5 soft fruit (same or mixed); Anything grown in the greenhouse; Any vegetable not already listed; A bunch of flowers; A bunch of different leaves and Plant/s growing in an unusual container. Light refreshments will be available including delicious homemade cakes. There will be a nominal charge to enter any number of classes, and proceeds go to charity. Don't miss the famous "spud in a tub" competition for the Des Evans trophy for the heaviest quantity of spuds grown in a tub. No quarter is given in this class, and fisticuffs may result! Prize giving will start at 11.45. Bill Egerton (832872) has answers to any queries.

Scarecrow Competition : Organised by Dave Martin, the closing date for entries is Sunday 10 July and the scarecrows will be on display from Sunday 23 July until Saturday 6 Aug. With no theme this year you can really let your imaginations run riot. Dave will be sending out entry forms later, but for further information, contact him on 836322 or email at dave2you@btinternet.com.

A **Village Clean-up, Summer Walk and Pimms Evening** are all in the pipeline. Watch out for Newsbites giving details of these events.

Business matters

Minutes of the Society monthly committee meetings are on the web site.

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

***Organising an event?** Send the editor a reminder about a week before it takes place so that a Newsbite can be circulated.*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mike Blee 458763

Secretary Bill Egerton	832872	Treasurer John Sutherland	832227
Peter Riley	834653	Peter Dye	837139
Sue Wintle	834209	Hilary Davidson	834479
Jacqui Atkinson	837361	Jez Cunningham	835811
Chris Balfe	07969 781145		

Please contact the editor with news or views - copy deadline 1 Sept