



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Council for the Protection of Rural England (Dorset Branch)

This is by way of an extra Newsletter mainly to keep members abreast of social activities.

1 Mick Shepherd's talk arranged for 8 February had unfortunately again to be cancelled; because of the atrocious weather we were sure that very few people would have felt like turning out for the talk, and in fact Mr Shepherd was relieved not to have to! We hope to arrange it for next season - third time lucky.

2 Visit to Exbury Gardens Azaleas, rhododendrons and many other lovely plants abound in the 200 acres of Exbury, in natural woodland by the Beaulieu River. Facilities at Exbury include the Five Arrows Tearoom and the Smithy Buffet (adjoining the car-park) where coffee, light snacks and teas may be obtained. Our visit has been arranged for Saturday 11 May 1991. The intention is to leave by coach from the area of the Cartshed/telephone kiosk at 10 am. After a stop for coffee, we should arrive at the Gardens around noon, and after lunch - which we suggest be taken as a picnic lunch, or it can be bought at the Buffet - the tour of the Gardens can take place from, say, 1 pm until about 3.30 pm, which will be time for tea. We will leave Exbury about 4 pm, returning by way of Lymington and Bournemouth to arrive back in Sutton Poyntz about 5.45 pm. The cost is £6.00 per head, including coach and entrance to the Gardens, but not any refreshments. Do please let Ron Birch know by 29 April whether, as we hope, you can attend and how many places are required. He lives at "Little Acorns", Puddledock Lane; tel. 83 .

3 A Barn Dance will be held on Saturday 22 June commencing at 7.30 pm in Preston Village Hall. The pattern will follow that of last year's successful evening but the theme will be "Continental". A mouth-watering supper will be provided during the interval - plus, of course, a drink on the House - followed by a "Surprise Spot" of entertainment at 9.30 pm. There will be a 5-piece band, plus caller, to play throughout the evening, which will include some popular 'sing along' melodies (softly in the background) to welcome you and during the supper. There will also be a grand raffle. Tickets will be available from Committee members later on at £4.00 each; and as there is a limit to the number of folk who may use the Hall, early booking would be desirable.

4 Dorset Teas on the Lawn will once again be a feature of the summer. This year at "Little Acorns", Puddledock Lane, by invitation of Ron and Aviv Birch, on Saturday 17 August from 2.45 pm. The cost will be £1 per head.

Please note these dates now.

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This is a reminder that the Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 April at 7.30 pm in the Sutton Room, Mission Hall Lane. After the formal business and light refreshments, Mr Roger

Peers of the Dorset Archaeological Society will speak to us.
Nominations for the Committee should please be handed to the Secretary,
Millstream Cottage, Sutton Road, by 8 April.

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Information was received that the Dorset Best Kept Village Competition will be held again this year. For a number of reasons, the Committee of this Society and the Sutton Poyntz Village Women's Institute decided not to enter this time. Both organisations very much hope, however, that the interest and hard work of last year in tidying up, etc. will be maintained throughout the coming summer. It's our village, so let's do all we can to keep it attractive and clean - despite the inevitable carelessly dropped cigarette packet, drink can and so on!

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