



# Sutton Poyntz Society

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

Mrs JOYCE MERCER (nee Meech) who died recently was well known in the village and had lived at Bellamy Cottage for many years. Her grandfather was the miller at the Mill in Sutton Road. Joyce greatly loved Sutton Poyntz and much enjoyed walking the surrounding hills, where her ashes have been scattered.

We shall miss her, as we shall also miss Mrs Brenda Woods of Verlands Road, a Society member with many friends in the village.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (and Britain in Bloom)

As previously announced, the A.G.M. will be on Wednesday, 7 April at 7.30 pm in the Sutton Room, Mission Hall Lane. Mrs M Preece, the West Country Area Organiser of B-in-B, will address the meeting, with particular reference to the Village entry in the 1993 competition. She will obviously be able to tell us a lot about the competition, based on a wealth of experience.

The usual AGM business will follow - election of committee, accounts, reports, etc; and coffee and biscuits will be served. Do please make an effort to attend.

On 27 June Preston Gardening Club is organising an Open Garden Day in Sutton Poyntz, the proceeds going to St Andrew's School development fund. Since this is somewhat coincident with Britain in Bloom, one event will no doubt help the other.

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## PLANNING

Comments have been sent to the Planning Department of the Borough Council on a number of recent applications, generally on the basis of accepting what is proposed.

An application was submitted by Mr P Seal of Hampshire many months ago for consent to build a new farm-house on part of the land formerly owned by Mr Peter Diment at Fuddledock Lane. The Society was not happy with the application, nor was the Planning Authority - who refused consent. The applicant took the matter to appeal and the Department of the Environment has, after a public inquiry, allowed the appeal, subject to a number of conditions. The SPS Committee has asked that the Council bear in mind the undesirability of this approval being taken as a precedent for any development that may be contemplated in the area in future.

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## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

As stated in the last Newsletter, our 25th anniversary Barn Dance is on Saturday, 20 March. Admission programmes are being sold. The number of people who may attend is limited by fire and other regulations, so you should get your programmes without delay; members of the Committee have a supply. We are grateful to all who are contributing to the event and to Mr Ivan Hoath who once again produced and provided the programmes.

The usual Summer Walk this year will be in the Abbotsbury area on an evening possibly in the first week of May. August is the month for Dorset Cream Teas. More details later. A tour of the New Forest may be on the cards for the autumn.

It was regretted that the talk arranged for early February had to be cancelled as a few days beforehand the sudden and sad death of the Rev Ivor Bromham (who was to have spoken on some mysteries of Wales) occurred. Another villager whom we shall miss.

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#### PICTURE POSTCARD OF THE VILLAGE

The Committee has decided to obtain another picture postcard of Sutton Poyntz, for sale. The printers who have produced our cards previously - Noel Tatt Ltd - can supply cards approx. 8" x 4", similar to those which have been sold in the past at Preston Post Office and St Andrew's Church. If you have personally taken a colour photograph of the village which you would like to be considered, please let the Chairman, Tony Bugler, have it by the end of March. Although not excluding others, the Committee thinks that a picture of the part of the village in the area of the pond is to be preferred this time.

Photographs have to be the standard 6" x 4" size. Unfortunately other sizes are not acceptable to the printers, nor are transparencies or black and white prints.

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#### WHAT'S IN A NAME? ...

The Society learned that the new houses off Puddledock Lane, which were advertised under the name "The Puddledocks", were to be named as being in Cromlech Close. That name seems to derive from the Celtic and to have connotations of sepulchral chambers and prehistoric burial circles. Occupants of the houses and the Society felt that for new houses to be christened thus was bordering on the bizarre, and we made representations to the Council for the name to be dropped. We understand that this has in fact happened, though whether the name "Puddledocks" will remain has yet to be affirmed.

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#### AND WHAT ARE TRIG POINTS?

Of course they are triangulation markers installed by the Ordnance Survey to indicate land references and heights! The O.S. has maintained them for ages but is no longer doing so, as modern technology has superseded them. Trig points may be "adopted" by societies, etc. with the approval of the O.S, and the Committee of the Society has asked for information about our adopting the pillar on White Horse Hill at Map reference 712846, 158 ft above sea-level.

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