

SUTTON POYNTZ SOCIETY

Newsletter No. 11

February, 1973

1973 is National Plant a Tree Year! where would you like to see new trees growing? Though by no means poor in trees the village could certainly be improved by judicious planting if only to replace annual losses. Mr. Saville has renewed his offer of expert advice as to type and size of tree for particular sites. Mr. Saunders has offered a site near the Old Court House, and we hope other members will follow suit! Anyone who has seen those "before and after" photographs, showing the devastating effect of loss of trees will understand the importance of maintaining our heritage.

"Instant Village" was how a critic, now converted described the society's suggestions for the way development should take place in Old Bincombe Lane. Our reply was that we preferred instant village to instant Suburbia, and now that it is taking shape we can see how carefully designed building, related to that around, can melt into the landscape as if part of the matured whole. The carefully considered shaping of this site in fact enhances several views, giving interesting and complimentary patterns of roof and stone, on a site where unrelated building would have been quite disastrous.

Water for the Pond. Members will have read in the "Echo" last June that the Local Authority gave the go ahead for a scheme to keep a small minimum flow of water through the pond, to avoid the worst horrors of summer stagnation as we have experienced it in recent years. Your committee gratefully voted £20 towards the cost of installing the meter and we understand the work is in hand. This will not provide ample water but will, we fervently hope, keep the pond water from becoming foul in the dry weeks when so many visitors are here to enjoy our village pond. This is another real achievement of your society.

Future Events

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 13th April, 7.30 in the Church Room, Mission Hall Lane. We have hopes for a short local film entitled "George's Dilemma" (!) and there will be a chance to extend discussion in a social way over refreshments. It is most important that you attend.

Colonel Weld has invited members to visit Lulworth Castle on the afternoon of Saturday, 14th April. First planned for last autumn but postponed, we are most grateful for this rather special opportunity. Hand in your names please, to your Secretary, Mrs. J. Litschi, (Preston 3303) as soon as possible. She will make the arrangements, probably for a coach, possibly for tea en route.

Past Events

The Bonfire organised by Mr. Fenton and Mr. Pressly and a band of helpers, was almost the sole beacon in the area on November 5th, which proved to be a wet night other than in Sutton Poyntz.

The Sausage Sizzle at Mr. and Mrs. Morris's, with home-brewed liquid refreshment, kept us warm and animated on a frosty autumn evening.

The Annual Social Evening was packed to the doors and made it difficult to imagine how we can possibly improve on such a super evening another year. Many members and friends worked hard for this led by Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Loveland, and the success is due to effort given generously by many.

The beautifully designed S.P.S. Xmas Card, or note-card since we left the wording to the sender, sold well over 1,000 copies. Mr. Litschi has more ideas for another design next Christmas but meanwhile we can get more copies of "The Old Mill".

Apologies for a long interval between newsletters. We are sure that members all busy people themselves, will understand that it is not possible for committee members to circulate the whole village for each event, and postal notice would put up the membership fees beyond reason. We urge you to:- keep an eye on the notice board on the wall of the Old Cart Shed; look out for posters which we try to display at least a week before events; and make enquiry of any committee member or of your Secretary.

The Society is your Society, and a most successful one which has without doubt had its effect in keeping the village a satisfying place to live in and to visit. It does not run automatically however, and it is the involvement of members which keeps it alive.