

Weathermen now agree we have had one of the worst summers on record. It certainly caused the unfortunate cancellation of the Garden Party at Bellamy Cottage on 10 August and no doubt contributed to the smaller number of people on the Summer Walk in July. Those who did stroll over the hills to Osmington nevertheless enjoyed the evening. We hope for better things next year.

One thing not affected by the weather has been hole-digging in our roads. Had there not already been a comic song on the subject, one would surely have to be composed in honour of electricity, gas and water undertakings, British Telecom and local authorities - all doing necessary jobs but with little apparent co-operation. What is needed now is some decent resurfacing!

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We have renewed our membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Weymouth Civic Society. Councillor C. Taylor of the Borough Council serves on CPRE and offered assistance in representations etc to them. Our representative on WCS is Bob Fenton.

Sutton Poyntz featured delightfully in the Festival of Flowers at St Andrew's Church in August, when aspects of parish life were portrayed. Congratulations to the ladies who put together such a magnificent show, which raised over £850 towards furnishing the new church at Littlemoor.

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Diary note: The new licensee of the Springhead is arranging a Fireworks Evening at the pub on 5 November. The Pavilion will be heated and he will provide eats like hot dogs and also the fireworks. Drinks will be on sale. The cost will be £1 per head, excluding drinks, and tickets will be available from Committee members in October. Do come along and help make this an enjoyable event.

Frequent changes of management at the Springhead have been a cause of general concern. In July the Society wrote to the Managing Director of Buccaneer Inns regretting the lack of continuity and particularly the departure of Mr Bulgin and most of the staff, who had been very caring. The reply said that the company, too, were sorry about the changes, especially as their management background is "normally very stable". Anyway, that is now water under the bridge; let us look forward to Mr and Mrs Watts being among us for some time and let's support their Guy Fawkes night effort.

Previous Newsletters have mentioned the problems of arranging social functions successfully these days - not just here but generally. However, the Committee really do not want to let these functions slide, and a cheese-and-wine evening and a treasure hunt are on the cards. Please let the Social Secretaries know how these appeal to you and, more importantly perhaps, tell them of any other ideas you may have. (Their names are overleaf.)

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A few planning applications have been submitted to the Council since the last Newsletter, including a footpath diversion, two dwellings and the renewal of a thatched roof. Construction of the houses in Sutton House grounds nears completion.

Like many individuals, the Society was concerned at the possibility of dwellings being build on land at the end of Old Bincombe Lane. Our views were firmly expressed to the Council, to local councillors and to amenity societies. At the time of writing this, no planning application appears to have been made to the local authority. Everyone may be assured that if and when developments occur the matter will receive urgent attention.

Wasn't it nice to see the great improvement in the appearance of the River Jordan between No 85 Sutton Road and Puddledock Lane? This was carried out by Charles Dale, new owner of the bungalow. Well done. Could be a useful precedent?!!

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Over 900 years ago William the Conqueror's land survey resulted in the Domesday Book. We understand the B.B.C. has invited schools to take part in compiling a 1985 Domesday record, designed to preserve details of the country at the present time. Mr Miles, deputy head of St John's School at Weymouth and responsible for areas on the North and East of the borough, sought information from the Society about the village generally and from Miss Elizabeth Saunders about farming interests. We are assured of a fair share of space in the new record.

The thumb-nail history of this area on the board by the pond seems to be a considerable attraction to visitors, who are clearly fascinated by the references to millions of years! These information boards have appeared in various parts of the country; how interesting and helpful they are.

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Weymouth Police "Neighbourhood Watch" meetings in Preston Village Hall in September were well attended. The "watch" is a self-help scheme whereby small groups of people keep an eye on each other's property and generally co-operate for the benefit of the community. Perhaps it's a kind of more formal approach to what goes on informally in some parts already. But in any case it is highly desirable and we wish the scheme all success.

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As a result of the A.G.M. and a subsequent meeting of the Committee, the officers and members of the Society for 1985/6 are:

Chairman	Bill Mercer, Bellamy Cottage, Sutton Road
Vice-Chairman	Cllr. Joyce Litschi, Camelot, Sutton Road
Treasurer	Peter Stephen, 10 Sutton Close
Secretary	Ken Knight, Millstream Cottage, Sutton Road
Social Secretaries	(Mike Doyle, Blue Shutters, Silver Street (Matt Rosekilly, 10 Old Bincombe Lane.

Don Brierley, 3 Sutton Close
Cathy Pressly, The Rest, Silver Street
Ernest Saunders, 97 Sutton Road
Jean Smith, Bramble Patch, Plaisters Lane

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