



Sutton Poyntz Society

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

FLOODING

Our sympathy to all who suffered damage or loss in the recent floods, some more than once. The Borough Council has offered owners of property flooded or in danger of flooding the provision of flood-defence boards for doorways and sandbags to retain the boards. Those concerned in this area should contact Kim Egerton (761222, ext. 288) if they have not already done so.

Reports in the local press referred to the responsibilities - or lack of them - of the various authorities. The Society supports the Council's efforts to secure finance for long-term alleviation. At the same time, we have urged the Council to ensure that streams etc. are kept free of obstructions. A mass of vegetation in the stream at the fork junction was in fact cleared a couple of times by villagers.

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BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The S.P.S. Committee has decided to enter the village in this year's B-in-B competition. A letter will be delivered to everyone later on but this early notification will give us all encouragement to get ready for another lovely display of blooms, won't it?

As previously indicated, a tree provided by the Society has been planted at the Sutton Road/Preston Road junction, with a small plaque.

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Arrangements had been made for us to have a talk in March on the general theme of wartime Weymouth but as this Newsletter was being typed we heard that unfortunately the speaker has had to postpone it. Another date will be announced as soon as possible. It is hoped that a whist drive can be arranged during May - more details later.

Village Fayre A Victorian Street Fayre is being organised by a group of villagers for 26 June 1994. The Society is co-operating and has loaned the Fayre committee £200 as a financial base.

There will be an OPEN MEETING to discuss the Fayre on WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH at 7.30 pm in the Sutton Room, Mission Hall Lane. Do go along and take your ideas with you! If you can't attend but have any queries or suggestions, contact Judy Backwell (833349), Dave Caddy (832595), Caroline Crisp (832529), Ken or Margaret Sykes (832200) or Terry Tebbutt (832592).

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OPEN DAYS

A large number of folk attended an Open Day in December arranged by Wessex Water to see the archaeological dig at the site of the new treatment plant. Members of the Trust for Wessex Archaeology were on hand to explain (and how well they did so!) the significance of the operation and the finds. Hundreds of artifacts were discovered, giving further evidence of the area having been occupied as far back as the Palaeolithic era and of the village having at one time been further up

the valley.

Several groups of villagers accepted an invitation to visit the Joseph Weld Hospice in Dorchester in November. The Society has supported both that hospice and the Trimar one. The Joseph Weld hospice has very recently accepted its first patients.

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THE MILL POND

Aren't we fortunate to have a resident family of moorhens on the pond? They make a habitat among the weeds - properly called helpagrimony - at the Southern end of the pond, and this will be borne in mind when the edges of the pond are being tidied up.

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WEYMOUTH CIVIC SOCIETY

Congratulations to the Civic Society on its 50th anniversary. In celebration of it the W.C.S. asked us, as an affiliated organisation, to contribute something for its newsletter. We did so, mentioning the origins of our Society and the close links maintained between both. The Civic Society is always supportive of our activities when necessary.

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"CHURCH CRAWL"

Sutton Poyntz Village W.I.'s outing will be another tour of interesting churches, with Mr Alan Penny again acting as guide. The Society has been invited to participate. The date is Saturday 14 May and a coach will leave Old Bincombe Lane at 9 am, returning about 5 - 5.30. The tour will take in Breamore Saxon church, Fordingbridge parish church and Christchurch priory and castle; the cost - £5.50, includes fare, tea/coffee, tips and lecturer's fee.

Members of the Society and friends who would like to join this interesting day out should contact Margaret Brown (on 833033) as soon as possible.

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THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our A.G.M. will this year be on TUESDAY 12 APRIL at 7.30 pm in the SCUTT HALL, Sutton Road.

Please note the venue, which has been chosen because a group of villagers will be presenting a short play at the conclusion of the meeting. So do please make a note of the date and place, and come along to make your views, suggestions etc known at the A.G.M. and also support our local thesians! Light refreshments will be served. One of the items on the agenda of the A.G.M. will be the election of the Committee for the ensuing year. Nominations should be given to the Chairman or Secretary by 5 April; nominees should of course have agreed to stand.

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GREAT DORSET BEACH CLEAN UP

Advance notice: this year it will be on Sunday 24 April, 10 am - noon. More than 20 beaches are involved; the nearest to us will be notified in our notice-frame. The organisers say that a plastic bottle can last 20 years and a glass bottle one million years - don't ask us how they know; let's just accept that beaches do need these clean-ups!