



Sutton Poyntz Society

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

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

As mentioned at the AGM, Clive Brown felt it necessary to give up membership of the Committee. Don Brierley and Christine Gates were elected. Ken Knight gave up being Secretary after thirteen years; members of the Committee presented him with a delightful picture of old Weymouth for which he expressed grateful thanks. The new Secretary is Don Brierley, 3 Sutton Close, (833244). Other officers and committee members remain unchanged.

The village continues to be divided into "patches" for newsletters, etc. Christine Gates has taken over the Old Bincombe Lane area previously Maureen Morris's and Maureen is covering Clive Brown's previous area; otherwise there are no changes.

Subscriptions (£2 per household, £1 for folk living alone) are now due; please pay your collector a.s.a.p. Thank you.

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BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The last Newsletter gave much information about this year's entry. Planting is now going ahead - a bit late because of the weather. A colour scheme appeals to judges so we have chosen blue/mauve and white. This does not mean that everyone should use plants etc. with those colours - a judge said last year that the joy of Sutton Poyntz was the variety of flowers and gardens. But for villagers using hanging baskets we hope the colour scheme will be remembered; in fact, million bells and white surfinia will be provided free from Simon Emblen, so if you would like to join in this, please contact him (832147) without delay as there is a finite number of plants. A donation is made to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital for plants used; by using the scheme plants, therefore, this worth-while charity will be helped. Many thanks.

There have already been favourable comments about the beauty of the village (flowers, bushes etc., not someone's daughter), so let's keep it up and win that first prize! A video has been and will be made at intervals until judging in July, to show the judges what the village has looked like over the months.

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WILLOWS BY THE POND

These trees were trimmed by the Borough Council some time ago. The Council is consulting us and nearby residents as to the long-term future of the willows, bearing in mind the importance of not allowing them all to deteriorate or even die all together. The SPS Committee has appreciated advice from the Council and is obtaining other comments.

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SOCIAL EVENTS

Barn Dance: This event on 30 March was enjoyable despite not being so well attended as previous ones. From the overall profit of £101.11 the Committee has decided to donate £25 to the (local man) Graham Hill Fabry Disease Fund. Thanks to all who helped in any

way, not forgetting Ivan Hoath's help with the programmes.

Summer Walk: The usual walk, ably guided by Richard Backwell, will take place this year on Wednesday 12 June. Meet at the Royal Yeoman, Grimstone at 7 for 7.15 pm for a leisurely walk of about 3 miles on quite level ground. Refreshments are available afterwards. Transport can be provided if needed - please contact a Committee member. It will be helpful for Richard to have some idea of the number who will participate.

Village Street Fayre, 30 June: The Society will again be running the tombola. Last time we made over £500 for the nominated charities and we hope to do better this year. But a lot of prizes are essential, so if you can donate one or more, please let Ron Birch at Little Acorns, Puddledock Lane, have it/them, or tell your area representative in good time.

Maureen Morris (tel: 835533) has written:

Calling all makers, bakers and hoarders -

Donations are required for the bottle, books, bric-a-brac, linen and lace, plants and filled jars stalls. Plus cakes, cakes, and even more cakes! Many thanks.

Cream Teas: As usual, a summer highlight will be Dorset Cream Teas on the Lawn. This year the date is Saturday 3 August from 3 pm, and the venue will probably be in the area of the pond.

Tentative arrangements for the future include: a "French Occasion" at the Springhead in July; the postponed talk by Hugh Jaques, County Archivist, in September; a talk about Weymouth's shipping in October or November; and a Christmas Evening of festive fare and entertainment by a Dorset choir in December.

Please do make a note of the events with fixed dates, and watch out for more information about the others. We look forward to your support of what will be an action-packed season!

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SUTTON ROOM, MISSION HALL LANE

Discussions are going on among the Society, the Church authorities (who own the hall), the Village WI and Weymouth Rotoract about the redcoration of the hall. Rotoract are willing to do the work without payment, although the paint will have to be paid for; this is really a wonderful gesture. If additional help in some form is required over the weekend when the work will be undertaken (probably late May or early June), we are sure the village will not be found wanting.

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FOOTPATHS OFFICER

The SPS Committee has appointed Jack de Carteret to succeed the Chairman as Footpaths Officer for this area. The task involves liaison with local authorities and others over any problems relating to footpaths - blockages, diversions etc. Mr de Carteret has had experience of this work elsewhere and can be contacted at 3 Sutton Court Lawns. He was of course the speaker at last year's AGM on wines.