



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

SUTTON POYNTZ SOCIETY - Newsletter No 122 – January 2007



2007 Happy New Year

The various Christmas lights on houses around the village provided a very pleasant seasonal picture. But it is now 2007 and all the lights and decorations have been put away and we can look forward to the best year yet – the next.

Forthcoming events

Curry Night 3rd February
Coffee Morning 14th February
Mission Hall AGM 16th February
Society AGM 20th April

Curry Night

Following last years Hog Roast Sunday lunch, the village Gnomes are busy organising the next event. A full house of 60 is expected to sample an evening meal at 7.30 on **3rd February** at the Mission Hall. Details of the starter, curry, pud and cost will be on the posters – see keep your eyes open. Numbers will be limited to 60 and were fully subscribed last time – so book your seat with one of the gnomes. (Gnomes to contact are Dave Caddy 832595, Graham Embley 833268, Dave Emery 832907, M Hayne 832995.)

Coffee Morning

We are reintroducing our annual coffee morning this year to brighten the short February days. It will be on Wednesday **14th February** from 10.30 am. Entry will be £1 as in recent years and will include a coffee and cake. We hope to see you all there.



Any contributions for the raffle would be appreciated – perhaps a beautiful but unwanted Christmas present! Telephone any committee member for collection.

Mission Hall AGM

The Mission Hall AGM is being arranged for **16th February** at 7.30 pm and will be followed at 8 by a talk by Geof Peters on the National Coast-watch.

Society AGM

The Mission Hall has been booked for your Society AGM on **Friday 20th April** starting at 7.30. Your committee will accept nominations for your next committee and officers – although nominations will also be accepted at the meeting.

Apart from the formal business of electing the officers for the coming year and receiving reports, we expect to have a speaker or similar event. See the posters and the next Newsletter for more details.

Report of events

French Evening

The French themed evening, organised by the Mission Hall Trust, was fully subscribed and enjoyed by all. Thanks must go to the organisers but also to the host of Francophiles who turned up suitably dressed, to join in and produce the oo-la-la atmosphere. In addition to a very good evening, some £218 was added to the Hall funds.

Christmas Coffee Morning and Bazaar

The Christmas coffee morning and bazaar on 2nd December was most successful with a further £372 added to the Mission Hall funds. The support was most appreciated. Thanks were expressed to all the helpers and in particular the WI who participated in the event.

Carol Service

Our annual carolling around the Christmas tree seems to grow in popularity each year. There must have been more than 200 of us enjoying the atmosphere of the run up to Christmas. After the carol service, Tim West tried to empty the pond as he conducted the christening service for six – the number keeps growing – before we tramped back to the hall for a warming mulled wine and mince pie.



Mission Hall

In trying to arrange the date for our AGM it was noted that the Mission Hall is busy on many evenings – and I thought you might like to know what the regular events were.

Monday evening	Whist
Tuesday evening	Bridge
Wednesday evening	German
Thursday a.m.	Baby club
p.m.	Puppy club
2 nd Thursday	St Andrews Ladies
Friday a.m. 3 rd Friday	Book club
p.m.	Art



If you want to know any more about these regular events, contact Maureen Morris for details of the organiser.

The Mission Hall Trust report that the next major expenditure for the hall looks like being renovation to the floor – but I assume this will be reported at the AGM.

Village Plan

The Village Plan Steering Group working in conjunction with Dorset Community Action (DCA)



has at last completed the enormous task of inputting the data from the survey carried out in April 2006, into computer programs that will analyse the results statistically. The survey has identified many issues of concern to residents as well as identifying opportunities for projects to bring about improvements in our community. It is planned to present the results of this analysis (a sample of which were shown at the Village Plan Open Day in July 2006) at a public meeting to be held in the village in the spring of 2007. In the meantime, if you would like to know more about the Village Plan and/or are interested in working with the Steering Group on the interpretation of its findings and the subsequent development of an Action Plan, contact Tony Heathershaw on (01305) 834375.

WI

In February the talk for the Sutton Poyntz WI is "From Pevensey To Cornwall to visit Granny" by *Mr David Smith*. In March the talk is "Little known gems of Dorset Churches" by Mr Gordon Le Pard – this being an open meeting starting at 2.15. It is hoped to follow the March meeting with a coach trip to some of the churches mentioned.

Weymouth Civic Society

At the Civic Society Awards meeting, recent developments in the village were given awards by the Society. The converted chapel in Sutton Road was highly commended whilst Bellamy Cottage, Laurel Cottage and the new development by Mr Jolliffe were also commended.

It was good to hear that additional members have been recruited into this important local Society to stave off fears of disappearing membership.

Matters discussed by your committee

Appearance of the village

Willows - Your committee continues in attempting to expedite the **pruning of the willows** around the pond that has been delayed due to the power lines passing through them. The council are currently pursuing the Electricity company to ascertain the delay – but I guess it involves spending money!!

Pond – Further maintenance by David Emery and assistants has stopped for the winter. In spite of "global warming" – the water is getting cold.

Flowers – Your committee has planted further bulbs around the pond (to replace those trampled by the ducks) and by the village border stone.

These will complement the bulbs planted around the Mission Hall by the WI.

Planning Matters

Your committee attended the Planning Appeal by Bourne Leisure against an earlier rejection for the addition of 30 extra static caravans at their Seaview caravan site. Your committee opposes further expansion of the caravan sites - the outcome is still awaited.

The committee supported an application for an additional house at 116 Sutton Road, which has been approved.

We objected to the conversion of outbuildings at Old Orchard to holiday accommodation – however, it has been passed.

Although well outside the village, your committee, whilst supporting the relief road, objected to the proposed closure of the Broadmayne Road junction with Dorchester Road.

No objections have been raised for other planning applications.



Neighbours – Walkers and dogs

From time to time the Society is asked what it is doing to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets and to exercise proper control over their animals when out walking in the village and surrounding countryside. Apologies to all well controlled dog owners.

Bye-laws and the Countryside Code say:-

- Dogs should be on a lead on all publicly maintained highways and footpaths.
- It is an offence for a dog not to wear an identity tag.
- Allowing any dog to be dangerously out of control, actually or potentially, is a punishable offence.
- It is an offence not to clean up after your dog. The Council can issue fixed penalties of £25 and Courts impose fines of up to £1000 on irresponsible owners.
- Dogs should be controlled so as not to cause disturbance to farm animals and wildlife. Farmers are entitled to destroy a dog that injures or worries their animals.

Out of respect for others, you should always clear up after your dog and dispose of dog faeces in a responsible manner. All too often, plastic bags can be seen adorning countryside hedgerows.

All walkers (regardless of whether you have a dog or not) are reminded that access to the countryside around the village (other than private access) should be via designated Public Footpaths and/or Permissive Paths. In particular, note that there are no definitive rights of way or public access across the land behind and adjacent to the Springhead Pub, North Down Farm and Upwater & Overcombe Barns.

Your Committee Your committee are available for any items of interest or concern

Peter Jones (833288)

Tony Bugler (832953)

Simon Emblen (Chairman) (832143)

Tony Heathershaw (834375)

Michael Haine (832995)

Sara Knight (Treasurer) (835893)

Joyce Litschi (833303)

Peter Riley (834653)

John Sutherland (Secretary) (832227)