



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

SUTTON POYNTZ SOCIETY - Newsletter No 137 – January 2010

Yes, its 2010 - Happy New Year to you all.

It does not seem that long ago that we were saying that the turn of the century may not be long – but now we are already a tenth of the way through the next century.

Forthcoming events

The 2010 Village Street Fayre

Preparations have started for our next Street Fayre that is being planned for **Sunday 4th July 2010**. Your support will be needed to ensure that we have a another successful day, hugely enjoyed and participated in by so many in the village,



As you know, the village stalls provide 100% profit for your chosen charities. This year we will have the usual successful stalls and a few new ideas for your consideration.

- Antiques & Bygones
- Accessories
- Gardening
- Perfect Presents
- Books

New ideas include

- Vintage and classic clothing
- American stall (due to the date) – popcorn, muffins, candy etc
- Shabby chic furniture – We would like to receive / collect small wooden items. E.g. Mirrors, lamps, bookcases, shelves, cupboards, tables etc. Any volunteers happy to join painting group for these would be most welcome.
- Children's stall – Toys, books, games, DVD's, good quality children's clothing.
- Christmas Stall – anything Christmasy that you would like to donate or buy. Cards, wrapping paper, labels, decorations, crackers, serviettes etc.

If you have any other ideas, let Debbie (832153), Judy (833349) or Ruth (833798) know. Remember the Street Fayre when you are spring-cleaning. This is a great way to give to charity and have some fun.

Coffee mornings continue on **8th January** (and then revert to the first Friday of the month). They continue to be popular with a tasty coffee, cake and a friendly natter – and, or course, the small supporting event.

Village History

A presentation is being planned to show the progress of the Village Plan History group, led by Bill Egerton. Bill and his team will be showing their progress to date at the Mission Hall on **24th Feb**. If you are interested in the village history - you are recommended to see

the progress of this team – and perhaps you could also contribute some additional items.

Society AGM

Yes, it's that time again. On **21st April** at the Mission Hall, your committee will be reporting their progress over the last year and seeking some new members to continue to represent the views of the village as we move into the 2010s. Do come and give your support.

Report of events

The 2010 Village Street Fayre Public meeting on Friday 30th October was well attended and a good number of volunteers have started meeting to put the Fayre together. There is always room for more assistance so if you still wish to get involved with the organising, contact Guy Bridge on 07775806658.

A Sausage Sizzle at Halloween went with a bang(er), on **Saturday October 31st** at the Mission Hall. The weather was forgiving and there was a good attendance with the younger members of the village getting involved. Prizes were awarded for the Fancy Dress Competition and a Spooky Pumpkin Competition.

Coffee mornings have continued on the first Friday in each month since October. Hope you were not caught out in January - we thought the 1st might be a bit too adventurous on New Years day and we moved to the date to the 8th. The November event had a display of the location of old water outlets around the area (provided by John Willows (from the Water Works)). A display of some examples from our local blacksmith (Simon Grant Jones) was displayed in December.

Table Tennis did not come to the Mission Hall in November. Interest was not as high as hoped but anyone interested could still join the organisers (Sarah) at nearby clubs outside the village.

Eating out in the Village

The end of last year provided a great opportunity for social gatherings around the dining table. The **Safari Supper** organised by the Mission Hall trust on **14th November** started the seasonal celebrations. With a slightly different format to previous years with dessert served at a well dressed Mission Hall. The event was fully subscribed with good weather contributing to the interval walks between venues. A bottle of Baileys was provided to the winners of a short quiz. All who attended look forward to next year. This enjoyable event was followed by the **Gnomes Seasonal Lunch** on **6th December**. Again, well attended and the

Gnomes really know how to look after their guests. The year was rounded off with a well subscribed **End of Year** evening at the Mission Hall. This event was so popular that no advertising was needed to reach the hall capacity.

Carols The **Carols** around the Christmas Tree (which was donated by Trinity trees) had the benefit of the Salvation Army Band for accompaniment. The cold rain did not seem to prevent a good turnout from the village, although I must confess I left during the singing of Good King Wenceslas that seemed so appropriate in the cold, damp weather.

Village Plan

John Crisp, on behalf of the Society Committee is co-ordinating progress with each group below.

- **Heritage and History** – Bill Egerton leads the group that has started documenting the history of the village – see forthcoming events above.
- **Crime prevention** – Peter Jones reports on Sutton Poyntz Homewatch. "I mentioned in the last newsletter that the crime rate in our village is LOW. However we must look beyond the normal concept of break-ins and theft at the multitude of sophisticated crimes that are being perpetrated via communication. Increasingly we are learning of telephone and Internet scams that are very professional in their concept. The sensible response is to be prepared, aware and suspicious of those approaches that are unexpected. So too we should be fastidious in the protection of our personal details and identities in whatever form. Whilst not wishing to intimate that life is more complicated we live in an environment of exploitation and must be aware. Chip and pin transactions withdrew a ready source of income for criminals and now they are looking at more devious ways of luring us in to their net. If you are approached, by whatever means, please share it with us so the police may be advised and it can be shared via the Ringmaster circuit.

I emphasised at a recent meeting with Chris Grayling MP, shadow Home Secretary, that sufficient funding must be made available to the local Police force to ensure the Homewatch network is well supported. There is no point in asking community volunteers to try their best without adequate resources at the Police HQ to manage the system. I will divulge my telephone number that you are free to use at anytime – Peter Jones 01305 833288"

- **Conservation** – Your Committee continue to examine and comment on all local planning applications. Note that all other interested parties also need to comment.
- **Tourist leaflet** – A leaflet highlighting the features be found in a walk around the village is now available from Sara Knight or at our coffee mornings at a cost of 25p.
- **Biodiversity Group News** John Newbould reports – "As I write this note, naturalists across Britain have been celebrating 150 years of Darwin's

Origin of Species. Most people are familiar with the voyage on the Beagle and his detailed observations on the Galapagos Islands, but how many know that for the rest of his life he lived and observed nature at Down House, Surrey. It was here that as a result of his observations made on a daily basis his theory was continually revised with new evidence. So it is with the Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group. As a result of observations made, we have realised that the waterworks bowl is one of the more important sites in Dorset for breeding Linnet. However, getting all the data together to make comparisons is quite hard work and much of our winter months will be spent on writing observations up and publishing a Biodiversity Report in the New Year.

Have you seen a HEDGEHOG in your garden? If you have tell John Newbould when and where you live 837384 or email john_newbould@btinternet.com." The monthly *Newsletter* is displayed in the notice board on the Cartshed.

Sutton Poyntz Village WI

Valerie reports on the December Meeting and Christmas Party.

"The Mission Hall was bright with festive cheer, the tables gaily decorated with ivy, baubles, cards for every member and little coloured boxes of chocolates for the raffle. The buzz of conversation hummed around the hall as members arrived.

Valerie, our President, conducted a short business meeting and welcoming visitors from the W.I.s at Crossways, Broadmayne and West Knighton Reminders were given about the January meeting and also to bring voting papers for next year's resolutions. Now for the best part of the afternoon, our very own line dancers called 'The Duck Pond Dippers' entertained us with 2 vigorous dances, followed by Nora with amusing ditties from her 'Verse and Worse' collection of poems. Barbara and Valerie then performed a sketch on the delights of 'Dorset' as opposed to all those foreign places and all was rounded off by some beautiful carols from our very own member's choir under the leadership of Joy on the keyboard.

The applause was thunderous in appreciation of everyone's efforts.

Party tea was followed by the distribution of gifts from Santa's sack and a collection of food items for The Lantern Centre, more of which can be brought in January together with other items for the Lantern Shop.

The Christmas season had started as members braved the cold and rain to head home."

Theatre Group

Finally, the proposed **New Theatre Group** (being organised by Colin Marsh and Rita Oxby (833892)) has received interest from some 10-15 people. It is hoped to arrange a meeting shortly. Look out for notices.

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

John Crisp (Chairman) (832529)

Tony Bugler (832953)

Graham Embley (833268)

John Bellis (Treasurer) (837162)

Joyce Litschi (833303)

Maureen Tepper (834470)

John Sutherland (Secretary) (832227)

Karen Phillips (836330)

Peter Riley (834653)

Louise Sheaves (833338)