



# THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN

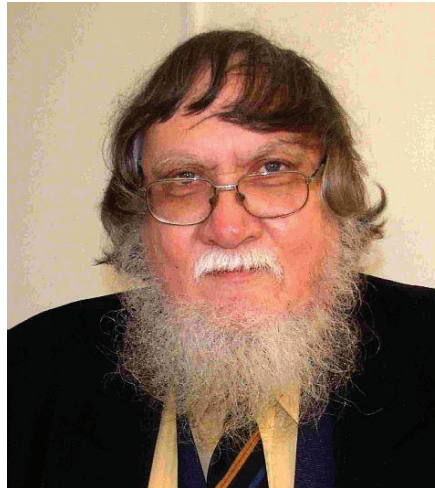
MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER



## MICHEL HOOPER-IMMINS

### A TRIBUTE

It is with much regret that we have to report the sudden and unexpected passing of Michel Hooper-Immins on Tuesday 20th February at his home in Weymouth. Michel was, of course, well known to many of our members as the Editor of this Newsletter. In addition, he was our Press Officer and being a competent photographer took the photographs at all our events.



Michel joined the Society in 1988 and in 2005 established our present, very professional, Newsletter which has proved most popular with the members. With journalism among the many strings to his bow he proved most adept at the task. In 2002, he was elected to the Committee where he proved to be an interested and active asset to the Society.

Proud of his Dorset roots he was passionate and sometimes most vocal about issues affecting the County. This led him to be active with many other Dorset organisations and Institutions to which he gave much of his time and unstinting support. Michel will be sadly missed by the many who knew him.

Michel leaves a widow, Joan, to whom we extend our sincere condolences in her sad loss.

Michel was in the process of putting together this edition of the Newsletter when he so sadly passed away. Committee members have pasted together this production to ensure that you are given details of past and forthcoming events while a new Editor is sought. On page 4 you will find a report of the County Dinner of 2017 in what proved to be Michel's last article. Unfortunately we have no access to any photographs he would have included.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

**LIFE MEMBER:** Peter Lucas, Christchurch

**MEMBERS:** Kevin Aplin, Dorchester: Gordon Banks, Motcombe: Raymond Davies, Stalbridge : Sidney Falla, Blandford Forum: David Guy, Dorchester: Graham Hatch, Wareham: Simon Hutchinson, Motcombe: Raymond Long, Shaftesbury: John Maiden, Wimborne: Colin Sandall, Sturminster Newton: Brian Sneddon, Weymouth: Gregory Schofield, Weymouth: Edward Taylor, Weymouth: Anthony Wade, Goulborn, Australia: Mervyn Whitelock, Dorchester: James Wilson, Godmanstone: Nicholas Wright, Weymouth.

Total Membership:- 1092

## CHRISTMAS AT THE CROWN HOTEL

'The best Christmas Lunch for some years' was the general verdict on our seasonal feast at the Crown Hotel in Blandford Forum. The Sealy Suite, venue for so many successful Society functions over the years, was brightly decorated. The lunch was excellent and well served by the staff. Specially welcome guests among the 160 attending were Hazel Adam and Jeanette Hine, widows of the late Roy Adam MBE and Gordon Hine, FRICS, who as Chairman and Secretary respectively led the Society for many years.

Chaplain, Rev. Dr. John Travell, FRSA, began with a seasonal grace "We praise Him who turned water into wine". After lunch, Secretary Hayne Russell led the singing of Christmas Carols accompanied by John Hickman, who provided quality seasonal music throughout the event. Diners continued in fine voice to wish long-standing member Squadron Leader Colin Pomeroy a Happy Birthday. Sam Woodcock expressed the thanks of the members to Hayne and Pat Russell for organising this Christmas Lunch.

The MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY has recently mailed members for whom he awaits MEMBERSHIP UPDATE DETAILS and those concerned are asked to respond as soon as possible. Peter is particularly anxious to have email addresses for as many of you as possible as the Society, in common with many other organisations, realises that the future distribution of information such as this Newsletter is greatly facilitated by such a medium and affords considerable savings on costs.

## ATTENTION ALL PURBECK MEMBERS

Purbeck Members, Geoff King, Ollie Miles and Mike Bonfield, who are trying to keep Society interest alive in their area, have organised a traditional  
**ANNUAL DINNER**  
at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club.

This is open to all Purbeck Members and will take place on **Thursday 19th April 2018** and cost will be **£29.50**. Those Members who have not received the details but would like to attend should contact **Geoff King on 01929 423133**

## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Greetins to 'ee all an' I d' 'ope these could mæke zense o' thick last lot I wrote vor ee ! Zo yer' be t' next lot. Vust o' all I 'spect zum o' thee got in a bit o' a lather an got proper flummocked seein' as 'ow we could 'ave 'ad zum maids join-in' us Well bissen 'appening this yer, tho' I 'spect us ain't 'eard t' last o' it coz zeveral members be all vore it. Be a bit in this yer Newsletter vor 'ee t' zid what 'appened. Now twas good t' zee zoo many o' 'ee at thick County Dinner an' I 'ope thee all 'ad a good hem an' haw. Vitals wadden bad were 'em an' thick wunnervul Kate Addy gid us a praper talk-in' to. Us 'ad a voine ole night didden us ! Zame ver thick Xmas do at t' Crown. Janoo these all zid t' be zingen these 'eart out an' lovin' they carols an' twas good zoo many o' 'ee turned up. I tell 'ee what, we bin 'aven zum wicked cold winds down yer in Weymouth an' I do veel t' cold at my age! Tis no good ver man nar'n beast I tell 'ee. Zo I bin thinkin' bout what we be doin' in t' zummer when tis a bit warmer. Well, zum member zaid why don't we visit zum of they Darzet gin makers ! Thought twould be ar' bit difficult gettin' ee' 'ome arterwards 'cos thee zure t' 'ave tried a vew ! Zo , arter we zorted thick lot out at t' AGM in April ver our zummer do we'm gonna visit they lovely Abbotsbury Gardens an' 'ave a bit a nammet atterwards in thick gert new marquee 'er 'ave got. Zum o' 'ee might loike t' zid they swans down be Chissell while you'm at it. These must git yer applycation in sharpish 'cos twill be praper popalar I low. Ain't much else t' tell 'ee zoo yer be a couple a' Darzet pieces vor 'ee t' chew on.

A passer-by heard a mother calling out to her children to come inside for their tea. She saw a group of children playing nearby and told them that their mother wanted them. The reply came back "Er baint callin' we. An' us don't belong to she"

Zo now a couple a wold-vasioned remedies vor 'ee. If these got the screws, thread zeven snails on a' thread avore the vire. Atter they be burnt thee be cured ! If these got warts rub 'em wi' a bit o' raw meat. Bury en in yer garden an' atter it be rotted zo will yer warts!

Thy true vriend an' zarvent

Hayne Russell

Hon Sec

## 2019 DORSET YEAR BOOK

Editor Selwyn Williams is already working on the 2019 Dorset Year Book. He needs poems, stories about Dorset, Dorset men or women, its history, landscape, flora and fauna plus the odd fictional story. Articles should be e-mailed in Word, pdf or rtf file format—but if on paper, in a larger font so that it can be scanned in. Photographs need to be in as high a resolution as possible. The deadline is preferably 1st September but we can add the occasional article up to 1st October.

Email Selwyn Williams at [selles.macuquina@btinternet.com](mailto:selles.macuquina@btinternet.com) or phone 0780 588 4786

## BOOK NOW FOR ONE OR ALL OF THE EVENTS BELOW

COMPLETE AND SEND THE ENCLOSED FORM AND YOUR CHEQUE—Payable to 'The Society of Dorset Men'  
to The Hon Secretary, Hayne Russell at 34, Brunel Drive, Preston, Weymouth, DT3 6NX  
Email: [hrussell@gotadsl.co.uk](mailto:hrussell@gotadsl.co.uk) to telephone 01305 833700

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCH

Our 114th Annual General Meeting and Lunch will this year be held at The Castleman Hotel and Restaurant, Chettle, near Blandford Forum DT11 8DB on

**Saturday 14th April 2018**

1215 for 1245 Cost £23

#### MENU

##### Main

Rare roast rib of locally raised beef, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables OR

Leek red rice roasted vegetable and Sharpham brie with Wellington creamy mushroom sauce

##### Dessert

Apple and Blackberry crumble with custard or ice cream OR Lemon Posset with berry sauce and shortbread OR Cheese and biscuits.

Tea or coffee.

**PLEASE NOTE - ONLY 50 PLACES AVAILABLE FOR LUNCH.  
All members are welcome at the AGM which will commence at 2.30 pm**

### REMEMBERING OUR FOUNDERS

Once again our Chaplain Rev Dr John Travell FRSA, will be leading a short service of remembrance at 2.30p.m on Saturday 7th April 2018 at the Dorchester Cemetery in Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester, alongside the graves of our two founders Sir Frederick Treves and William Watkins. No need to book but please come along if you can and there will be a cup of tea afterwards !

### HAMBRO CUP

The 2018 competition will again be held at Came Down Golf Club on the morning of Wednesday 4th July 2018 followed by lunch in the Clubhouse. **PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES.** We would like to see a bumper entry this year. Details will be circulated to previous entrants, but new entrants should contact:

John Rousell on (01305) 266461 or email  
[john@celtic54.plus.com](mailto:john@celtic54.plus.com)

### OUR SUMMER EVENT

**Saturday 2nd June 2018**

This year we will be visiting Abbotsbury Tropical Gardens and having lunch in their new large events marquee. You will be able to stroll around the beautiful gardens either before or after your lunch. Also, should you wish, you will also be able to visit the renowned Abbotsbury Swannery. All included in the cost, which will be **£36 a head.**

Lunch will be served at 1 p.m. so you need to be in the marquee by 12.45p.m. at the latest.

There is ample free parking at both locations.

Please ensure you have your **PASS** with you which will be forwarded upon receipt of your application form. Without this, you will not be able to enter the gardens or the Swannery.

**Limited to 120 persons**

#### MENU

##### Main

Roasted loin of pork, crackling, apple sauce and gravy OR Vegetarian roasted Filo or similar with roasted tomato sauce. Assortment of vegetables shared on the table.

##### Dessert

Warm chocolate Brownie with clotted cream, ice-cream or chocolate sauce OR fruit and toasted oat and flapjack crumble with clotted cream ice cream

Teas and Coffee.

You will also be able to purchase wine, beers and soft drinks in the marquee.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 27th October 2018  
COUNTY DINNER at the George Albert

Sunday 2nd December 2018  
XMAS LUNCH & CAROLS  
Crown Hotel, Blandford

## **"A REAL PRIVILEGE TO LIVE IN DORSET"**

**"It's just wonderful living here in Dorset. Locals always chat and pass the time of day," broadcaster Kate Adie OBE DL told the County Dinner. "I adore the Dorset landscape, adore the coast and I am very happy here. It is a real privilege to live in Dorset." The President, Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL began by reading the traditional message from the Queen. The royal message has been a feature of the Society's County Dinner since 1904, when King Edward VII first sent his greetings.**

**This year's royal message from Buckingham Palace read: "The Queen was pleased to receive your kind message of loyal greetings. Her Majesty much appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing and wishes all members of the Society of Dorset Men a happy evening at their County Dinner this evening." The President spoke of the Society's "steadfast and unchanging loyalty" to the Queen.**

Guest Speaker Kate Adie OBE DL, described as "an icon in the world of news reporting," spoke about her early life in Sunderland, much bombed in the war. At Newcastle University she had undertaken Swedish and Icelandic studies. The concept of local radio was in its infancy and Kate Adie joined BBC Radio Durham. From radio, she became a regional television reporter, then in 1989 became the BBC's Chief News Correspondent. "I was able to wander around the world, talking to people who had stories to tell, meeting people full of energy for life. I've never lost a sense of optimism," she told members in an entertaining address.

Chairman Stuart Adam rose to thank Lord Fellowes for his leadership and interest in the Society. He thanked Hayne and Pat Russell for organising the County Dinner so well, attended by 214 members and their wives. Among guests of the President were Captain Angus Campbell [HM Lord Lieutenant of Dorset], John Young MC JP DL [HM High Sheriff of Dorset] and Deputy President Dr. Paul Atterbury DPhil BA [Hons].

President Lord Fellowes concluded the evening - "We live in difficult times - but exciting and full of promise. I believe we are all lucky to be living in Dorset."

The toastmaster was again Colin Fry.

## **AN URGENT PLEA FROM YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Your Hon Secretary has announced that he will definitely be standing down after the next Annual General Meeting of the Society and unless we can find a replacement to take over in 2019 the Society will find itself in very considerable difficulties. The position of Hon Sec will now be split with one of our members having come forward to become our Events Organiser which means that the role of Hon Sec will simply be an administrative responsibility.

Hayne Russell will of course work alongside both the Events Organiser and new Hon Sec for the next 12 months to ensure a smooth take over.

If you feel that you could fulfil this important Society function or know of someone who might be interested please contact the Committee Chairman Stuart Adam either by telephone - 01823 432076 or e-mail [stu.adam@outlook.com](mailto:stu.adam@outlook.com)

## **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY**

A Special Meeting was convened at the George Albert Hotel, Evershot, near Dorchester, on Friday 24th November, 2017, to debate a proposal by 22 members to change the Society's constitution and allow ladies to become members. Although, 24 members voted in favour of admitting ladies, with 18 voting against, the proposal failed due to not reaching the two-thirds majority required to amend the Society's constitution.

## **AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY DORSET MEN**

There are still plenty of copies available so if you have not got yours or know of someone who would like a copy they will be available to purchase at all our events this year and the cost is only **£6**. Alternatively, they can be obtained by post from Andy Hutchings, tel no 01305 784332 for £8 which includes postage.