



THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN

FOUNDED JULY 7th, 1904

Newsletter March 2019. Issue 29



CHARITABLE DONATIONS:



The Society of Dorset Men made it a Christmas special for the county's disadvantaged children this year with a £100 donation to the Echo's Toy Appeal. Vice chairman Andrew Prowse said: "The Society of Dorset Men has helped the Echo's Toy Appeal for the past several years and we wanted to be involved again this Christmas.

With around 1,200 members, the society encourages members to be enthusiastic about all things Dorset- not forgetting the Dorset dialect- and to foster a love and pride of the county, its history, culture and traditions. To find out more about The Society of Dorset Men, visit www.societyofdorsetmen.co.uk

IN MEMORIAM

Late last year an old friend to many, who lived and worked on Portland, John Heather, also our Society webmaster for many years, passed away. He will be sadly missed by his many friends.

HAMBRO CUP - Calling all Golfers:

The annual competition for the Society's famous old golf trophy, now in its 81st anniversary year, will take place at Came Down Golf Club, Home of the Ryder Cup, on the morning of Wednesday 10th July 2019. It will be followed as usual by lunch at the club with announcement of the winner and prize winners after lunch.

Previous competitors will be circulated with an entry form nearer the time but please put the date in your diary - now! New entrants please contact the organiser John Rousell on 01305 266461 or email: john@celtic54.plus.com

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

MEMBERS:

Trefor Morgan, Weymouth;
James Vaughan: Pimperne,
Shaun Souster, Portland
Samuel Jeff, Dorchester

Total Membership:- 992

REMEMBERING OUR FOUNDERS

Each year some of our members meet at the Dorchester Cemetery in Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester to commemorate our founders, Sir Frederick Treves and William Watkins and where our Chaplain, Rev Dr John Travell conducts a short service of remembrance.

This year's commemoration takes place on Saturday 20th April at 2.30p.m. All welcome.

IN THE EDITOR'S VIEW

This is my twice a year chance to bend your ears. So, as they say in American films, 'Listen up!' We are in the season of hedge flailing; I'm not convinced that it is a good way of maintaining hedgerows but, for the smaller shrubs and bushes it at least leaves them tidy. But on the limbs of larger bushes and saplings it is devastating and leaves them looking like the shattered trees of World War 1 battlefields. Surely there must be a cutting machine armed with a band saw or similar that would make a clean cut? Also the amount of litter lining the county's roads is a disgrace, it looks as if no one cares for this beautiful land (Essex is even worse) and the largest part of it must be thrown from vehicles. When children's and prime time TV is full of wildlife and environmental programmes it has to be a matter of education to train people to be responsible and to take their rubbish home. It is no good enacting laws on the subject if they are not enforced. Having lived in the county for nearly sixty years if I have any roots this where they are, and I am saddened by the slow pollution of the countryside and the depreciation of the county's governance which I don't think will be halted by the latest local government reorganisation. But the people I really hate are fly tippers who think it's alright to leave their old mattresses and the lord knows what else to foul the beautiful countryside. I would give each of them a year's community service cleaning up the mess!

John Neimer, Newsletter Editor

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Greetins to 'ee all. Well, I am still soldiering on as Hon Sec for the time being because I certainly will not give up until we have a replacement. Despite all our pleas and endeavours no one has come forward from the membership to undertake this role. Therefore, we have been left with little option but make an approach to someone outside the Society which would mean possibly having a paid Hon Secretary and this could of course be a lady! No doubt it is a matter which will be the subject of discussion at the next AGM.

Those of you who attended the County Dinner will, I am sure, agree that this was an enjoyable and successful evening with good food and service but more importantly an excellent speaker in Michael Gove MP who gave us an extremely interesting and humorous talk on a range of issues with only a brief mention of Brexit as a result of a question from the floor! We have an excellent speaker lined up for the next dinner which will be on Saturday 27th October 2019 (more in the August Newsletter) so get the date in your diary now and those of you who have never attended, give it a try.

It was a full house at the Crown Hotel for the ever popular Xmas Lunch and the carol singing under the baton of Peter Lush was rendered with gusto and obvious enjoyment. Thought we might try the Swanage Railway next time or back to the Crown Hotel? Let me have your thoughts on this please.

The Society AGM and Lunch will be held at the Purbeck Golf Club which has always proved a popular venue but will be restricted to 80 places. Full details can be found in this Newsletter. We need to make some minor alterations to The Rules of the Society and so following the AGM we shall be holding a Special General Meeting to enable these to be adopted.

We have very unfortunately lost the services of our Year Book Editor Selwyn Williams who has taken on another responsibility which will take up much of his time. We are indebted to him for taking on this role at short notice and extremely grateful to him for the last three excellent Year Books he has produced. In particular, that he was able to get sufficient material to enable the size to be increased to what it was fifteen or so years ago. We now extend a hearty Darzet welcome to Nick Wright who has agreed to take on the role of Editor but he will need your co-operation in ensuring we have sufficient material. All members have a story to tell so get writing. There is a plea from the Membership Secretary to all members in this Newsletter to recruit new members because our numbers have dropped to 992 I have plenty of application forms which I shall have with me at all our events; otherwise contact me and I will forward one (or more) to you.

Now for some Darzet humour. Ezra decided it was time he made a will so arranged to see a solicitor. "Would you desire to be buried or cremated" asked the solicitor "Oi reckon oi better be cremated" replied Ezra. "In that case do you wish that your ashes be placed in a lovely urn and then scattered in the Garden of Remembrance" "Nar I baint" came the emphatic answer "These kin put they in a envelope an' zend 'em t' thick Chancellor veller in Lunnen an' tell en 'er now got the lot"! Thy true vriend an' zarvent.

Hayne Russell, Hon. Sec.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The Committee give notice that following the Annual General Meeting of the Society on Sunday 28th April 2019 there will be a Special General Meeting whereby it will be proposed that the following amendments be made to "The Rules of the Society"

(The suggested amendments are shown in bold print)

MEMBERSHIP

3 The Society shall consist of a President, Deputy Presidents, Life Members and Members. (**Honorary Deputy Presidents omitted**)

MODE OF ELECTION AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

5 (ii) The Committee shall have the power to remove from the list the name of any member whose subscription is in arrears for **two years**.

OFFICERS

7(i) The Officers of the Society shall be: Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Membership Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary **Year Book** Editor, Honorary Newsletter Editor and they together with the President and Deputy Presidents, if desired, shall be elected t the Annual General Meeting each year.

COMMITTEE

8(i) The Society shall be governed by a Committee not exceeding **fifteen** in number, to be elected from the Members at the Annual General Meeting. In addition, the Officers of the Society shall be ex-officio Members of the Committee. Seven shall form a quorum.

BOOKS AND RECORDS TO BE KEPT

10 Proper Books of Accounts showing all receipts and expenditure shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer, and the Honorary Secretary shall record and keep Minutes of all Meetings of the Committee. The Membership Secretary shall record and maintain a list of Members **under the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulations**.

ALTERATION OF RULES

12 These Rules may be amended, altered or varied by a majority of two thirds of the Members voting at the **Annual General Meeting** or at a Special General Meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCH

SUNDAY 28th APRIL 2019

Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, Studland BH19 3AB
1215 for 1245 Cost £22.50p

The 115th Annual General Meeting returns to Studland where we can expect excellent food and glorious views over the Isle of Purbeck and Poole Harbour.

The Annual General Meeting will follow the lunch beginning at about 2.30pm with our President Lord Fellowes presiding.

For those who have not been before the Isle of Purbeck Clubhouse is situated alongside the B3351 Corfe Castle to Studland road and just west of Studland village. There is ample parking.

AGM LUNCH MENU

MAIN: Choice of either

Six Hour slow cooked Tender Roast Beef, Yorkie, Red Wine and Thyme Sauce

OR

Grilled Fillet of Sea Bass with Lemon, Herb & Prawn Butter (Gluten Free)

OR

Puff Pastry Case Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables and Olives with Basil Puree (Vegetarian)

All served with Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes except the Vegetarian Option .

DESSERT: Choice of either

Apple & Cinnamon Crumble with Custard (Vegetarian)

OR

Raspberry Panna Cotta, Clotted Cream and Fresh Berries

OR

Classic Vanilla Crème Brulée (Vegetarian and Gluten Free)

Tea, Coffee and Mints.

COUNTY DINNER: at The George Albert Hotel, Warden Hill, Evershot on Saturday 26th October.

COUNTY DINNER 2018

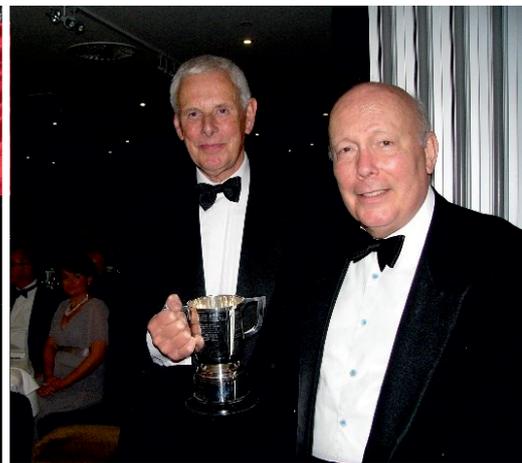


Our speaker at the County Dinner:
Rt. Hon. Michael Gove M.P.



Photographs by Trevor Matthews

Presentation of the "Dorset Award"
to Dr. John Murden, Director of
Dorset County Museum.



Winner of the Hambro Golf Cup:
Angus McIntyre.

NEW EDITOR FOR THE YEAR BOOK

As you know, because of his many other commitments Selwyn Williams has had to stand down as Editor of our Year Book after producing three editions. We are most grateful to Selwyn for his expertise, dedication and hard work in producing three outstanding editions which included the introduction of full colour.

We are pleased to announce that Selwyn's successor as Editor is Nicholas Wright (Nick) of Weymouth who is new to the Society, having been elected to membership in 2017. Nick has lived in Dorset since 2003 but is proud to say that his connections with our county go back somewhat further than that. He got engaged in Dorset in the mid sixties and then spent his honeymoon in the county (he says that in those days one had to be a multi-millionaire to be able to afford foreign air travel (after all, he says, they'd only just invented aeroplanes!). In later years he and his family frequently visited friends in Gillingham and in Bournemouth, and he has a son and a daughter who settled in Bournemouth.



He spent most of his working life as an officer in the Royal Air Force and followed this with a spell as Secretary to the Department of Engineering at Cambridge University, and then a stint as Bursar to the Royal Alexandra & Albert School in Surrey.

He is a lifelong amateur naturalist and ornithologist and spent some years as a trustee and Secretary to the Trustees at Portland Bird Observatory and Field Centre. He's a published author in military history and over the years he's been a countryside columnist in various newspapers and editor of a couple of local journals. He's delighted to take up the reins as Editor and hopes that he can maintain the very high standards set by Selwyn.

He looks forward to receiving your articles and other contributions and his contact details are:

**Nicholas Wright, 39 Cross Road,
Weymouth, DT4 9QX
01305 459268 Wright1941@btinternet.com**

MEMBERS GONE MISSING

During the course of a year we get several letters to members returned marked 'Gone away' resulting in the entry 'address unknown' in the Membership Register. If any member knows the whereabouts of any of the following could they please let me know, by letter or e-mail.

Mr G C Briggs, OBE, Sir David Checketts, KCVO, Mr D P Comely, Mr T H Durrant, Mr Ian R Fletcher, Mr G Frampton, Mr D C Goddard, Mr K R Hall, Mr Brian Harding, MA(Oxon) PhD, Mr A Hatcher, Mr D B Hewitt, Mr J R Hillman, Mr Peter Huntsman, Mr Geoff Jeans, Mr M C Jewkes, Mr C E Kellaway, Mr Peter Lardner, Mr T A Laycock, Wing Cmdr W W J Loud, DSO DFC, Mr K G Palmer, Mr J Rogers, Mr D Spiller, Mr G Stockwell, Rev R Stone, His Hon E T H Teague, QC, Mr Darren J Ward, and Rev Canon J S Wood.

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