



THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN

FOUNDED JULY 7th, 1904

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AGM

On Sunday 25th July, after two failed attempts, the Society held a pleasant lunch attended by twenty-seven members and their guests, followed by its Annual General Meeting at the Rembrandt Hotel, Weymouth. The meeting was chaired by Sir Anthony Jolliffe, Deputy President, in the absence of our President, Lord Fellowes.



Retiring secretary, Hayne Russell being presented with a leaving gift by Vice-President, Sir Anthony Jolliffe at the AGM.

Photo: Trevor Matthews

The occasion was marked with the standing down, after 18 years in post, of our popular and hard-working Hon. Secretary Hayne Russell, who was thanked for his hard work by the Committee Chairman, Stuart Adam, and, on behalf of the members, was presented with a Mont Blanc pen as a token of thanks for his service. Hayne's wife, Pat, was presented with a bouquet of flowers. Hayne is succeeded as Honorary Secretary by Steve Newman.

Two long serving members, John Rousell and Shaun Cregan, have also now retired from the Committee and we welcomed four new members, Stuart Goodridge, Richard Hawker, Michael Kay and Paul Newman.

The statutory business took place including a tribute to the thirty-six members who had passed away during the year and then followed a proposal, which had been seconded, was discussed by the meeting:

“That the Society look again into allowing ladies to join the Society and that arrangements for voting on the issue, perhaps by post, be considered by the Committee and then placed before the next AGM.”

The proposal was agreed. At a subsequent committee meeting, the proposal was debated at some length and it was agreed that a suitable proposal will be put to a future General Meeting, and that voting would be in person and not via a postal vote.

Our Chaplain, the Rev. Dr. John Travell who led a small group of members in a Service of Remembrance on Sunday 18th April at the graves of Sir Frederick Treves and William Watkins.

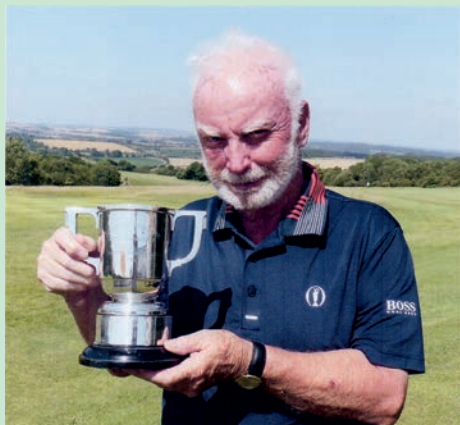
Photo: Trevor Matthews



THE HAMBRO CUP

Twenty members entered for the annual match for the Hambro Challenge Cup at Came Down Golf Club. The competition was inaugurated in 1938 when the magnificent silver trophy was presented by the Society's former President, Angus Hambro, a former High Sheriff and Deputy Lieutenant of Dorset.

In stifling hot weather the 18-hole Stableford competition was won by David Bonnett with an excellent 36 points. Close behind in second place was David Upshall with 35 points followed in third place by Chris Braithwaite with 34 points. The two additional prizes for nearest the pins on the 2nd hole and the 10th hole were both won by Brian Hansford.



David Bonnett proud winner of the Hambro Cup

IN THE EDITOR'S OPINION

One of the many aspects of the government's proposed ban on petrol and diesel vehicles that has not been considered is the effect of such a ban on farm machinery and heavy construction plant. The engineers of JCB, who know their stuff, have calculated that a backhoe, currently weighing twenty tons, would, if battery powered, weigh twenty eight tons and cost twice as much. Furthermore, the battery charging time would mean that the machine would be idle when it should be earning its keep. The same calculations also apply, of course, to farm machinery. Being a largely agricultural county this must be very worrying for Dorset farmers. Another Dorset industry which would be affected is fishing; batteries would be utterly impractical for sea-going small craft.

The government seems oblivious to these and other aspects of its proposals. For example, there is, nowadays, much talk about 'human rights' and 'conservation' yet we are heading for an era when major areas of the economy will depend on the efforts of child labourers digging cobalt from the Congo, devastating the forests and wildlife as they do it. And lithium will have to be bought from China which has a rather less than spotless record when it comes to human rights.

Last but by no mean least; what is the point of destroying our industries to achieve this arbitrary goal when we contribute less than 1% of the world's greenhouse gases whilst the real villains, China, India and Russia do nothing? Indeed, as we cripple our electricity generating capacity the Chinese are building more coal fired power stations and the mines to feed them!

Note: These opinions are mine and not the Society's. Ed.

COUNTY DINNER

Unfortunately, for a number of reasons we shall be unable to hold our County Dinner this year. The Annual Dinner, as it was previously known and a male only event, was held in London as near as possible to what was known as "Dorset Day" in early May. Lack of support eventually saw an end to this event in 1991. A further dinner to which ladies were invited was introduced in 1957 and continues as our County Dinner. Your Committee has decided that we should move the County Dinner from October to early May as it is felt that the lighter evenings, better weather conditions, together with it not being so close to the Christmas Lunch event will attract more members to what is now our premier event of the year. The committee also decided that future Annual General Meetings will be held in early October.

Report on Digitalisation of Year Books

All the Year Books have now been processed for uploading on to the website. It only remains for 1937 and 1938 to be proof-read and the Nineteen-thirties to be uploaded and the project is complete as far as we are going for the moment. If we go further it is to make the editions from 1946/47 onwards fully searchable. I do not think this necessary. Each section of about 10 books has an index of articles and researchers should be able to find what they require.

For the statistical minded the archive contains: -

113 Editions - 6356 Articles & Poems - 16480 Pages

It has been an interesting and worthwhile exercise and I hope it will be used and proved to be a useful source for research.

Peter Lush, Honorary Membership Secretary, 27th May, 2021

DORSET YEARBOOK 2022

2022 will be the 113th year of publication for our Year Book, and as I write this note (September 2021) it is progressing extremely well.

Your subscription copy will drop on your doormat early in November and, as usual, it will be full of items – that's features, stories, biographies, family histories, snippets, poems, songs etc that have anything to do with our county – in total around 50 titles and about 200 pages.

This year special features will include The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, The RNLI Training College at Poole, The Dorset Wildlife Trust, the new County Museum at Dorchester, and the life stories of the Tolpuddle Martyrs who eventually settled in Ontario.

A regular cornucopia of interest to satisfy all our readers and certainly something to look forward to!

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