

OCTOBER 1988



THE NARROW STREET, LOOKING UP THE HILL

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## WILD LIFE IN TRUST.

Miss Helen Brotherton, Chairman of the Dorset Trust for Nature Conservation, gave an illustrated talk on the work of the Trust at the bi-monthly meeting on the 14 September. As a founder member and secretary for 25 years, Miss Brotherton used her exceptional knowledge and experience to describe the wide-ranging work of the D.T.N.C. in a most interesting manner, using high quality slides of such species as Lizard Orchids, Dartford Warblers, Sand Lizards, Smooth Snakes and Red Squirrels to emphasise the quality and variety of the County's wild life, most of which unfortunately now needs protection if it is to survive.

Reserves currently managed by the Trust, which has 5,700 members, amount to 2,500 acres and include the remarkable Kingcombe estate much of which it acquired last year. Throughout the County, there is constant pressure for new housing and industry, oil and mineral exploration, and the Trust strives to ensure that landowners, planners and developers avoid so far as possible the further destruction of important wild life habitats.

Miss Brotherton stressed that the work of the Trust depended upon support of its membership and she appealed for all who cared for Dorset's wild life to join in its work. Peter Moreland (Winsham 346) has a small supply of D.T.N.C. membership application forms and will be pleased to let you have one on request.

Over 20 members attended the talk which was followed by the usual raffle and bring and buy.

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## NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting of the Village Trust will be on Wednesday 9 November 1988 in the Village Hall, speaker to be arranged.

## PARISH WALK.

The date for the Parish Walk has now been fixed for Sunday 30 October 1988 starting at 2.30pm. Details and map of the route, which has been chosen to include the least number of stiles, will be available later. Tea will be provided at the Community Room at the end of the walk. This promises to be a worthwhile afternoon and it is hoped that everyone will come.

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## TREE PLANTING.

Here we are again nearly at Tree Planting Time, it is hoped that these notes will encourage members to increase the local stock of trees, especially indigenous deciduous species.

The remarks in paragraph 3 do not include container grown trees which of course can be planted at any time.

### 1. SOIL

- a. Where earth movement is involved, take great care to skim and preserve top soil;
- b. re-spread top soil to correct depth over newly created earth banks and levels;
- c. if top soil has been compacted by the passage of earth moving equipment, re-aerate it with sub-soiling equipment.

### 2. CHOICE OF SPECIES

- a. Where heavy clay-based soils are involved, plant ash and oak as deciduous varieties and holly and scots pine as evergreens;
- b. interplant the above with viburnum opulus, field maple and hazel;
- c. beech needs well drained ground and in this locality will normally flourish only at the top of banks.

### 3. PLANTING

- a. Always plant in the 'dormant' season ie November to February;
- b. 3ft. 'whips' will take most readily in sites where extensive earth movement has occurred; larger specimens frequently fail;
- c. Protect the young trees with 1.2 metre tubes if deer are about, or with 18" plastic spiral guards for rabbits;
- d. weed round each tree for the first three years in March-May, using Round-up where hand weeding is impractical;
- e. losses are inevitable and a special check should be made for these each autumn.

### 4. SOURCES

G.Peacock, Kingsfield Tree Nurseries, Broadenham Lane, Winsham, Chard is especially recommended because trees there are grown from seed obtained from local specimens.

### 5. GRANTS

Apart from grants obtainable from the County Council in certain circumstances, both ADAS and the Forestry Commission have schemes to assist those planting tree-screens. In addition the Woodland Trust run licensed planting schemes for private landowners, the Trust being responsible for management for the first 25 years and the landowner for part cost of the fencing.