

Members Newsletter No. 14 - December 2012

## **Christmas Party**

We have a new venue for our Christmas Party this year. Penny Hughes-Stanton has kindly offered to host the event at her North House Gallery in Manningtree on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December. There will be the usual drinks and canapés and Penny is showing an exhibition of Winter Prints. We are asking members and their guests to make the usual minimum donation of £10. To book your tickets please contact Rachael at [Rachael\\_jowers@churchmanor.com](mailto:Rachael_jowers@churchmanor.com) or 01473 215854.

Stephen and Rachael experienced some computer problems when the original invitations were sent out so they had to try a second time. If that didn't work you can also download an invitation from the Stour and Orwell Society website at [www.stourandorwellsociety.org.uk](http://www.stourandorwellsociety.org.uk). I hope that you will get the details from this newsletter as a last resort!! We hope to see you on the night.

## **Collaboration with SCHU**

SOS and the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Unit are jointly funding a Landscape Character Assessment of the Shotley peninsula that will be carried out by Alison Farmer Associates. Part of the input to this will be the responses to a questionnaire that has been sent not only to members but also to Parish Councils, and students at Ipswich High School, the Royal Hospital School and Holbrook High School. The public at large have been invited to respond through the local In Touch magazines and the EADT. **If you have not responded yet please do so by using the link to our website at:**

[http://www.stourandorwellsociety.org.uk/landscape\\_character.html](http://www.stourandorwellsociety.org.uk/landscape_character.html)

**Your views will form an important part of the survey.**

## **Planning**

- The long-running saga of the planning application to build on the Ganges site continues. We understand that Babergh DC is engaging an environmental consultant to review the latest application from Haylink and that Suffolk CC is looking again at the forecast traffic flows.
- Planning permission to erect two medium-sized wind turbines at Levington has been granted despite critical comments from the SCHU. We are also keeping an eye on the Ipswich BC proposal to erect two large wind turbines at Thorington Barn close to Belstead village.
- The application to build a very large solar voltaic park at Tattingstone has been withdrawn.
- We are liaising with the Pin Mill Society regarding recent planning applications made by the owners of the Butt and Oyster.

## **Air Traffic Issues**

Just as we thought that the matter of a second runway at Stansted had been put to bed Sir Howard Davies has now been appointed to carry out a comprehensive review of UK airport capacity. He is not due to report until after the end of this parliament but SOS is closely monitoring the issue of changes to air traffic that might adversely affect the Shotley peninsula. In conjunction with the Dedham Vale Society we have opened up an important line of communication with NATS so that our views can be made known at high level.

## **Babergh Core Strategy**

SOS used the services of an environmental consultant to comment on Babergh DC's Core Strategy document at the consultation stage. The process has now reached the examination stage and we will make representations to the Inspector as we feel necessary to protect the environmental interests of our area.

# Stour and Orwell Society

A society dedicated to preserving and enhancing the environment on the areas around the Stour and Orwell estuaries

## **Publicity for SOS**

Thanks to the efforts of Susanna Bishop we were contacted by the East Anglian Daily Times who were running an environmental supplement on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. We were able to get useful publicity for SOS in a two page centrefold.

## **SOS website**

Our website has been upgraded and we are now placing there items such as planning matter and AONB newsletters. We strongly recommend that you make a habit of visiting the website so that you can keep abreast of our activities.

Rodney Chadburn  
Honorary Secretary, The Stour and Orwell Society

Patron **Griff Rhys-Jones**

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