

THE PARISH PUMP

A regular newsletter from Damerham Parish Council
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July 2013

Dog Don't, please!

The Damerham Sportsfield committee continues to be exasperated by the amount of owners who seem to think it is OK to leave their dog's mess all over the field.

Adults and children play on the field all the time, be it cricket, football, FunQuest, or just local families - not to mention Derek, who gives up so much of his time to look after the field and its facilities.

Dog mess is not only deeply unpleasant for anyone playing sport on the field - just imagine sliding in it - and other members of the public, it is also dangerous.

One disease common in dog poo, Toxocariasis, can also cause blindness, especially in children. For these reasons, not clearing up after your dog in a public place is illegal in England and Wales. Under the Dog (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, owners are required to clear up immediately after their charges, risking a fine of up to £1,000 if they don't.

Clearly, this is almost impossible for us to enforce.

The Sportsfield committee is keen for the field to remain open for use by ALL village residents, including those with four legs. It would be a terrible shame if it had to follow the lead of many other local Sportsfields and consider banning dogs from the field altogether.

For it to remain open for our four legged friends, we need the cooperation of their owners: so please, please, clean up after your dogs.

Simon White - Damerham Sportsfield Committee



Saturday, 27th July

in the marquee on
the Damerham Cricket Field

7.30 - Midnight

TICKETS ONLY £5.00

BAR - BURGERS - HOTDOGS ON SALE

Entry by Ticket Only

**Call Harvey on 01725 518100 or Janet on 01725
518426 or Dot on 01425 653560**

Damerham Leisure

**Salli's Exercise Class will be held in
Damerham Village Hall on July 1st, 8th and 22nd.
6.30 p.m. - no need to book, just turn up!**

Damerham Fair & Horticultural Show

Saturday 27th July
From 11.30 a.m.

**Produce & Trade Stands, Craft Show, Main Arena Events
Children's Activities - Animal Attractions - Fun Dog Show
Live Music - BBQ - Teas - Licensed Bar**

FunQuest is holding another summer of great events this year!

- * **July 29th** - 'A Day in the States' - This day is entirely American themed. We have some great activities planned such as Cheerleading, Dodge ball, Tug of War, Hotdogs & much more!
- * **August 8th** - 'Made in China' - This day is all about Asia! There will be Martial arts, Bollywood dancing, Chopsticks racing, learn how to spell your name in Arabic, and so many other super fun activities!
- * **August 13th** - 'Crazy Creatures' - you won't have many of these as a pet! And you'll be able to learn about them and touch them too!
- * **August 15th** - 'Escape to Africa' - Experience many of the things found in the African continent, there will be an African Drum workshop, Hair braiding, Cricket, Limbo, make your own Smoothies & so much more!
- * **August 21st** - 'Exploring our Continent' - Europe is the continent that we are part of and this day will feature a big Eiffel Tower building competition, T-shirt designing, make your own Pizzas, decorate Gingerbread the German way, Football Games, Language activities & much more!
- * **August 30th** - 'End of Summer Disco' - Celebrate the end of your summer holidays with us, there will be a disco, sweet shop and some other surprises too!
- * **September 7th** - Damerham History Fun Day - more to come on this at a later date, so keep your eyes peeled!

All these events are detailed on the website and posters and more information will begin to make their way around Damerham. Watch out for more information or visit www.funquest.org.uk.

(Many of these events will be bookable due to limited places.)

FunQuest - Registered Charity no. 1137191

Damerham Fair needs your help, please!

The Bottle Stall is a very popular part of the Fair and its profitability is directly dependent on the number of bottles we can get for it.

WE NEED YOUR (FULL) BOTTLES, PLEASE - alcoholic or otherwise, large or small.

A bottle from most of the houses in the village would stock a fantastic tombola and raise funds for village charities and the Hampshire & IoW Air Ambulance (This year's nominated charity).

If you have a bottle you can spare - please phone Ali Acland on 01725 518810 and make a plan to have it picked up.

A leaflet is available for new residents. Ask any Councillor for a copy of "Welcome to Damerham" or download it from www.damerham.net or contact Phil Tandy on 518802 or Bob Gilbey on 518417 for further information.

The Parish Pump is printed by James Byrne Ltd., Sandleheath, Hampshire, SP6 1PA

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As most of you will know, Brian Mair – our recently retired Parish Clerk died the other day and I have requested one who knew him best in the village to write a few words.

From Mike Jerrard – “**Brian Mair what can I say!**”

Authoritarian, obstinate, just two of his many qualities, YES - qualities and just exactly what Damerham needed back in 1998 when the village was deciding how to celebrate the new millennium.

Brain headed the ‘Millennium Damerham’ celebrations, which included the Millennium Night party, the awesome ‘Damerham Doomsday Book’, the erection of the village beacon, arrangements for the hand made bench in the War Memorial grounds, press coverage of the fundraising activities and coverage of the celebrations themselves.

Of course, he had a band of willing helpers but he was the mastermind and second best was no good when it came to the Millennium events, he ruled us with a rod of iron BUT we all know the results.

People still say that the best night of their lives was 31st December 1999; I remember the rush to get out to see the fireworks from the bridge and Brian falling into the ditch in his D J but insisting he was unsteady on his feet due to having a touch of flu!

Many hours I spent in his smoke filled office at Greenbanks going through the Doomsday Book’s Village Memories section, he was a perfectionist.

I didn’t even have a computer back then but how well we worked together and also in his capacity of Village Hall Secretary, he always let me have my say and then corrected me and I mean always! I would pop into the kitchen and say to Val is he in the office ‘Yes as usual’ was normally the reply.

Brian was original creator of the Mini Fair for kids held before the annual Damerham Duck Race and always wanted some good old ‘Umpa’ music in the background, a standing joke with him for many years, as this wasn’t to my taste!

Although not heading the Golden Jubilee Celebrations committee we leaned on his wealth of knowledge and experience to create another fantastic Village Event, despite much head holding which Brian always did in meetings when things were getting ridiculous or veering off course!

But to me more than anything else (and there was so much), Brian **was** the Damerham Millennium and I am so glad that I did have occasion to tell him this and for me personally he realised my dream of a book about Damerham with memories and stories from this wonderful village’s past.

Brian you may be gone but you will not be forgotten, Damerham thanks you!

Damerham & District Horticultural Society

The Damerham & District Horticultural Society are holding their Summer Show at the Damerham Fair on the 27th July – for information on entering exhibits, please log on to their web-site at www.ddhs.co.uk

23rd September 1931 - Brian Mair - 3rd June 2013

Brian & Val Mair came to Damerham in 1983 – buying a derelict house called Greenbank Farmhouse, primarily because it was close to the fisheries and he was a very keen angler.

He joined the RAF shortly after leaving school at Christ’s Hospital and later took up the profession of Reliability Engineer that led to a successful business career, creating innovative companies in the world of engineering software.

After a whirlwind six months courtship, Brian married Val in January, 1954 and they had five children, who all retain fond memories of the village, neighbours and friends.

Brian was a keen musician who used to play the organ for both pleasure and publicly – as long as the beer or whiskey was provided! He was amazingly creative, a hard taskmaster and whatever anyone says – “he ALWAYS did things HIS way!”

Brian was to his family and Damerham “Mister Millennium” – where his organisational skills came to the fore, and with his hard work this time is remembered by so many as the time of their lives.

Brian was responsible for the creation of the Domesday Book – for those that are new to Damerham, they can catch up with this incredible record on the village web-site www.Damerham.net and it is well worth the visit!

Brian was heavily involved in the start of the Damerham Duck Race, the fund raising for the new Village Hall and countless other events that took place.

For the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, Brian will be remembered for his major role as Queen Elizabeth 11 – appearing on his mobility scooter with a mask of the Queen. Unforgettable!

Brian was Parish Clerk for twelve years in Damerham – and if that wasn’t enough, he was also the Clerk to Rockbourne Parish Council when they had a difficulty in filling that post.

With the onset of serious illness, Brian reluctantly stood down as our Parish Clerk earlier this year and he will be sorely missed.

We send our sincere condolences to Brian’s family – as Mike Jerrard has said: “Brian, you may be gone, but you will not be forgotten”

Brian’s funeral will take place on Friday, 28th June at St. George’s Church, Damerham at 10.45 a.m. to be followed by a cremation at Hedge End at 12.15 p.m. for those who wish to attend.

Refreshments at Greenbank Farmhouse after the service for those who choose not to go to Hedge End.

If you are coming to the house after the funeral, could you please let Jacqui know by e-mail to jhmair@aol.com to help with the catering arrangements.

Village Events Diary

July

Saturday, 27th Damerham Village Fair - 11.30 to 4.30 pm
Sports Field

Saturday, 27th Damerham Disco Party in the Marquee
on the Sports Field - 7.30pm to Midnight

A leaflet is available for new residents. Ask any Councillor for a copy of “Welcome to Damerham” or download it from www.damerham.net or contact Phil Tandy on 518802 or Bob Gilbey on 518417 for further information.

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