

The Parish Pump May 2023

A regular newsletter from Damerham Parish Council
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Regular Village Events:

Mondays from 9am Pilates with Sandie

Contact: Sandie.wills@hotmail.co.uk

Tuesdays from 9.45am – Fluffy Chicks parent and toddler group.

Contact: fluffychicks21@gmail.com

Tuesdays from 5pm Taekwondo with Adam

Contact: adam.btsouth@gmail.com

Tuesdays from 7.30pm – Badminton Doubles club

Contact: m.walter@hotmail.co.uk

Wednesdays from 10.30 – Coffee Pot

Wednesdays from 6pm Zumba with Carolina

Contact: carolinatuc@gmail.com

1st Wednesday of the month from 2pm – Tea and Chat

Contact: cherrybrittan@hotmail.co.uk

2nd Wednesday of the month from 9.30 – Walking Group

Contact: Sarah@sarahings56@gmail.com

Last Wednesday of the month from 7pm – Craft Club

Contact: sharon54mia@btinternet.com

1st Thursday of the month from 7.15pm Bingo

Contact: sharon54mia@btinternet.com

4th Thursday of every other month from 7.30pm Book Club (held in the Compasses)

Contact: stevekarenlake@gmail.com

Fridays from 9.30 – 12. Avon Valley Shed at the Pavilion on the Sports Field.

Contact: [Paul Kalsi – 07597 470056](tel:07597470056)

3rd Monday of every other month from 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting

Contact: clerk@damerham.net

Damerham Celebrates King Charles' Coronation

The Damerham Beacon will be lit on
Saturday 6th May at 9.30pm to
celebrate the coronation of King
Charles III.

All residents and visitors are welcome to join the lighting. Please
bring something to raise a toast to our new King!



King's Coronation Picnic

*The Damerham Village Hall Committee would like to invite you to
bring your own picnic together with your chairs, or a mat, and join
with others to celebrate the King's Coronation. A small number of
tables and chairs will be available for those unable to sit on a
picnic mat/camping chair.*

*The Picnic is to be held in the grounds of the village hall on Sunday
7th May between 1 and 3pm. Tea and coffee will be served from
the hall, and toilet facilities will be accessible. If the weather is not
good, the event will be moved to the main hall.*

We look forward to seeing you there!

DDHS - Martin Plant Sale

At Reed's Farmhouse, Martin (SP6 3LN) on Saturday 20th May
from 2 – 4pm.

There will be lots of good value plants, teas and cakes will be
available. Cash only, and bring your own bags! Entrance is £1. (If
you have any spare plants to add to the sale, please bring them
along early afternoon).

Walking Group

Meeting at the Village Hall at 9.30am on Wednesday 10th May for a
friendly hour of walking in our lovely village. Anyone is welcome to join
us, including quiet dogs and their owners!

TEA AND CHAT

*At the risk of making it rain again, what a joy to be writing our Tea
and Chat article out in the garden in the sunshine, surrounded by 2
cats and dear Bess. Heaven. Well, call me doubting Thomas, but
the Easter Hat Parade held at the April meeting was simply
wonderful. Absolutely stunning bonnets displaying incredible
amounts of crafting talent were on show. Varying from the 'Royal'
for our new king, 'Easter' themes, containing rabbits, lambs, chicks
and eggs, 'spring flowers', 'village residents' and of course 'tea and
chat' themed ones. The effort involved in creating all the bonnets
was truly remarkable – you certainly set the bar very high for the
next show!*

*A short but very amusing Fashion Show followed, with models
wearing a selection from this season's 'pre-loved' styles from
Damerham's own fashion houses (ie jumble sale left overs!). Great
fun and a huge thank you to our fearless models – the show ending
in the surprise nuptials of our own Darby and Joan!*

*We hope that you had a lovely Easter and now look forward to the
talk, 'What the Butler Saw' at the meeting on 3rd May. With the
Coronation later that week, feel free to dress in appropriate colours
in celebration, if you wish. We look forward to a summer of varied
events, both at Tea and Chat and in the village – not forgetting the
outing to Exbury on 18th May. Enjoy the sunshine!*

Bless you all, Cherry and Simon (01725 518538)

Craft Club

*A friendly informal group that meets on the last Wednesday of
each month in the Village Hall from 7 - 9 pm. Our next session is
on Wednesday 31st May This one will be Needles! All sorts of
stuff with needles – so come with something you're working on at
the moment, or something you would be happy to share, and we'll
also talk about what we would like to do in future sessions. The
less than crafty, or not so confident are really welcome too!*

Contact Sharon and Jemma

sharon54mia@btinternet.com or jkcopershj@btinternet.com

Damerham Fair and Horticultural Show – 29th July

We now have the main arena attraction booked, and a band for
the evening event. We've had a great response for support on
the day, but could always do with more! If you would like to be
involved in any way, please contact us - Steve (07774 136211) or
Gilly (07774 995964)

Damerham Village Hall

Next session is

Thursday 4th May

from 7.30pm start

CASH PRIZES & RAFFLE

Refreshments Available



It's great fun, come and have a good laugh!

For new residents: lots of information on the village is to be found on the Damerham web site www.damerham.net

A welcome pack is also available from the Clerk clerk@damerham.net for newcomers.

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Nature Notes from Paul T

Weather from March – what a contrast to February! This was a very wet month, with 118mm of rain, more than twice the average, and the river is very full. The first 5 days carried on like February with no rain, but after that there were only 2 dry days. There were just 2 frosts, and there was a little snow lying on the 8th. On the 30th, the temperature reached a very respectable 16C.

Early April Walk in Damerham.

I set out in lovely warm sunshine and in our garden, an Oil Beetle female was busy digging a nesting burrow in the bare earth of an old molehill. These strange insects have huge bloated bodies full of eggs which they deposit in the burrow. Tiny larvae called triangulins emerge and these have to hitch a ride on a solitary bee to travel back to the bee's nest. They drop off there and then feed on the pollen and larva over the next months, emerging in spring to start the cycle again. At the bridge, the river was in full flow with the crystal clear water rushing under the arches. Aren't we lucky to have an unpolluted river? Long strands of Water Crowfoot were streaming out in the current and the luxuriant growth of Hemlock Water Dropwort was beginning to dominate the bank. This plant has begun to take over much of the riverside in recent years, tending to swamp many other plants. Probably because the river banks are no longer grazed by cattle, as they were in the past. The birdsong was very noticeable with Wrens everywhere and 2 summer visitors, Chiff Chaff and Blackcap, in the copses. The verges were sparkling with swathes of Celandine and in some places, Greater Stitchwort, a few Bluebells, Dandelions and Daisies adding to it all.

In West Park Meadow, 2 drake Mallards were loafing in the long grass beside the river, a sign that the females are probably sitting on eggs not far away. I have not seen any ducklings yet, but some have been reported.

Cuckoo Flower (or Lady's Smock) is coming out in the meadow and on the verge Garlick Mustard (Jack by the Hedge) is starting to flower. These are both food plants of Orange Tip Butterflies which have just started to emerge from their winter as a chrysalis. Watch out for these in the garden at any time now.

In Pound Lane I found a large clump of St George's Mushrooms, so called because this is the time of the year when the fruiting bodies appear. The Blackthorn is now in full flower in the hedges, quite late this year, and long after the Cherry Plum which is usually about a fortnight earlier.

Suddenly the weather changed, black clouds, a tremendous wind got up and then torrential sleet lashed across the road. I was only a few minutes from home, but was soaked to the skin by the time I reached shelter.

Happy spotting!

Damerham Dash – 17th June



You can now register for the inaugural Damerham Dash via sientries.co.uk. Please sign up asap so we know how many to expect on the day. Please come and support the 5km run, either as a runner, walker, dog walker or spectator, and get the kids involved in the colour run BBQ and refreshments available on the day, plus a few surprises! Bacon sandwiches and hot drinks available from 8am, with kids' colour run starting at 9.30am and adults' race at 11am. . Please contact Mathew.holden@sky.com for more information, or if you would like to help on the day. All proceeds shared between the Sports Field and the Friends of Western Downland School. Like and follow our Damerham Dash page on facebook too!

Damerham Parish Council

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on 15th May at 7pm at the village hall. It is an opportunity for the village to get together and to raise the issues that matter to you. The meeting will be followed at 7.30pm by the Annual Meeting of the New Parish Councillors, and those who wish to stay are most welcome. If you would like to receive agendas, minutes and other pertinent information, from the Parish Council by email, please contact the Parish Clerk on 07943 390965 or email clerk@damerham.net. Use this contact too if you are interested in the Parish Council election.

Potholes!

The County Council has been allocated additional funds for the repair of potholes and other road defects. From April, the Council will be deploying additional resources to utilise this funding and the money should allow the Council to fix an additional 40,000 potholes than funding had previously allowed for. It is therefore more important than ever that potholes and other road defects are reported, preferably online at www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance. As an alternative, potholes can be reported using 'FixMyStreet' mobile app (www.fixmystreet.com). It would be preferable for reports to be made using the Council's website, but better defects are reported than not and the simplicity and immediacy of the app may encourage reports.

Sports Field 100 Club

1st prize – ball 3 - £47 - anon

2nd prize – ball 28 - £28 – Paul Nicholls

3rd prize – ball 31 - £19 – George Pollard

A huge thanks to everyone for supporting and raising over £1,000 for the Sports Field so far!!

Please contact Mathew.holden@sky.com for details of how to join.

It's Rubbish!!

Recycling Sheds – in the school car parks in Damerham and Rockbourne – please use them if you can!

Household Glass collection

All glass bottles & jars

Metal lids only

No loose or plastic lids

No broken glass

Tuesday 2nd & 30th May from 7.00am



Garden Waste

Collection for existing customers will be on **9th and 23rd May**.

For more information about collection days for household waste, recycling and more, see www.newforest.gov.uk/recyclingandrubbish

Do you have any ideas, comments, or suggestions for the future of The Parish Pump? News to share, or a village event to publicise? Please get in touch!

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, or you have anything you would like to include in the May edition, please email me at mandysrobbins@gmail.com by Thursday 15th May. Thank you!!!

For new residents: lots of information on the village is to be found on the Damerham web site www.damerham.net

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