

# The Parish Pump June 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](mailto:Sandie.wills@hotmail.co.uk)
- Tuesdays** from 9.45am – Fluffy Chicks parent and toddler group.  
Contact: [fluffychicks21@gmail.com](mailto:fluffychicks21@gmail.com)
- Tuesdays** from 5pm Taekwondo with Adam  
Contact: [adam.btsouth@gmail.com](mailto:adam.btsouth@gmail.com)
- Tuesdays** from 6.30pm – Damerham AFC training  
Contact: Dylan - 07380192020
- Tuesdays** from 7.30pm – Badminton Doubles club  
Contact: [m.walter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:m.walter@hotmail.co.uk)
- Wednesdays** from 10.30 – Coffee Pot
- Wednesdays** from 6pm Zumba with Carolina  
Contact [carolinatuc@gmail.com](mailto:carolinatuc@gmail.com)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday** of the month from 2pm – Tea and Chat  
Contact [cherrybrittan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cherrybrittan@hotmail.co.uk)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday** of the month from 9.30 – Walking Group  
Contact: [Sarah.at.sarahings56@gmail.com](mailto:Sarah.at.sarahings56@gmail.com)
- Last Wednesday** of the month from 7pm – Craft Club  
Contact [jccoopershj@btinternet.com](mailto:jccoopershj@btinternet.com)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday** of the month from 7.15pm Bingo  
Contact [sharon54mia@btinternet.com](mailto:sharon54mia@btinternet.com)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** of every other month from 7.30pm Book Club (held in the Compasses)  
Contact [stevekarenlake@gmail.com](mailto:stevekarenlake@gmail.com)
- Fridays** from 9.30 – 12. Avon Valley Shed at the Pavilion on the Sports Field.  
Contact Paul Kalsi – 07597 470056
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday** of every other month from 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting  
Contact [clerk@damerham.net](mailto:clerk@damerham.net)

## Damerham AFC

After our first full season, we continue into the next one. We are always looking for players 16+ to join the team. We play on a Saturday and training is on Tuesdays on Damerham Recreation Ground from 6.30pm. If it's something you or anyone you know might be interested in, please contact Dylan on 07380 192020 or visit our facebook page – AFC Damerham.

## Royal British Legion

The RBL Social Get Together is on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June from 7.30 – 9pm at Martin Club, and the first Tuesday of each month thereafter. Info from [Jim.eames@btinternet.com](mailto:Jim.eames@btinternet.com)

## The Compasses Inn

Drop in to see our new Summer Menu now!  
Come along to our monthly quiz night – on the first Wednesday of every month  
Listen and enjoy our monthly live bands on the last Saturday of the month  
Sushi bar launching soon too!  
Or just drop by for a quiet pint or a meal – you are always welcome.

## Walking Group

Meeting at the Village Hall at 9.30am on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June for a friendly hour of walking in our lovely village. Anyone is welcome to join us, including quiet dogs and their owners!

## King's Coronation Picnic

Thank you to all who came to the Coronation Picnic in the grounds of the Village Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Although low-key as far as Damerham celebrations go, it was a lovely, friendly occasion, much enjoyed by everyone who attended. Special thanks to Ella, Jemma, Sue I, Sue H and Steve for serving the tea and coffee. Long Live King Charles!

## TEA AND CHAT

At the May Tea and Chat meeting we welcomed John Pitman as our guest speaker who gave us a really humorous account of life in the Victorian 'big' house, a version of Downton Abbey. Our own Tom and Jan Harris became Lord and Lady Damerham for the afternoon, with great effect and causing much amusement!

At time of writing, the group were soon to be off to Exbury Gardens on the first trip of the year. We are hoping the weather is kind to us, as the rhododendrons and azaleas should be at their best. (Ed: it was a beautiful day, and the gardens were breathtaking – thank you!!)

Our June meeting, on 7<sup>th</sup> June, sees the return of the Strawberry Tea, hopefully in the garden of the village hall, when we will be helped by year 2 children who are becoming waiters and waitresses for the afternoon.

Fingers crossed for a lovely sunny day for this popular event. Again, this year, Tea and Chat will be running a Book Stall at the Summer Fair, and are in need of donations, if possible, please. If anyone has spare books that are no longer needed, we are very happy to collect them from you at your convenience. Please call us on the number below for collection. Thank you!

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 28<sup>th</sup> June. This one will give us a chance to learn about flower arranging and to be able to have a go ourselves! The less than crafty, or not so confident are really welcome too.

Contact Sharon or Jemma  
[sharon54mia@btinternet.com](mailto:sharon54mia@btinternet.com) or [jccoopershj@btinternet.com](mailto:jccoopershj@btinternet.com)

## Damerham Fair and Horticultural Show – 29<sup>th</sup> July

ABBA and 80's Music – internationally acclaimed tribute band  
ABBA Inferno plus 80's Inferno from 8 – 11.30pm  
Tickets £12.50 before 30<sup>th</sup> June, from the Compasses, The Potting Shed or [damerhameveningevent@gmail.com](mailto:damerhameveningevent@gmail.com)  
Meal deal available from the Compasses Pub from 5.30pm.  
Get your tickets early, as it was sold out last year, and was brilliant fun!

We have had a lot of offers of help, which is fantastic, but we could always use more! Can you join the fun and help for an hour or more, or manage the infamous Damerham Derby on the day – contact us at [chairdamerhamfair@gmail.com](mailto:chairdamerhamfair@gmail.com) or 0777 4136211 or 0777 4995964.

## Damerham Open Gardens on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 2 – 5pm

Four gardens open in Damerham in aid of Marie Curie. The Limes, Woodmans Yard, Ashbourne House and Crossways Farm.  
Very different gardens, but all with masses of colour and wildlife interest. Entry £4 (children free and welcome). Donations for tea and cake at the Limes, and plants also for sale.

## Damerham Village Hall

Next session is  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June  
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](http://www.damerham.net)

A welcome pack is also available from the Clerk [clerk@damerham.net](mailto:clerk@damerham.net) for newcomers.

The Parish Pump is printed by Time2Display, Fordingbridge 01725 512021

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## Nature Notes from Paul T

**Weather in April.** Another fairly wet month with 68mm of rain, compared with the average of 52mm. There were 12 dry days, which was good for the gardening. The river Allen in Damerham is still flowing well. The warmest day was the 17<sup>th</sup>, when it reached 17C and the coldest was just 1C on the nights of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. There were just 3 frosts.

**April Wildlife.** Alec saw a Pipistrelle bat flying at midday on 2<sup>nd</sup>. No doubt it was needing to restock food supply after a winter in hibernation. On the 30<sup>th</sup> there were several Pasque Flowers in bloom on Martin Down, and the Cowslips were magnificent.

With the butterfly season getting underway I thought it interesting to contrast the life cycles of the early species to be seen in the garden.

First out in the year is Brimstone, which can be seen on any warm day from February on. The adults spend the winter in hibernation, as do Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell which can also be seen on any warm day.

Brimstones have an extraordinary long life as adults; almost 12 months.

The ones on the wing now will lay eggs on either Buckthorn or Alder Buckthorn and as neither of these is often very common, it is amazing how widespread and abundant this species is. The eggs hatch very quickly, and the larvae then feed on the leaves of the host plant for a few weeks and then pupate for just 2 weeks before the adults emerge to spend the rest of the summer, feeding on nectar ready for the long winter of hibernation.

The next species to emerge in April and early May is the Orange Tip. These have spent 8 or 9 months as a chrysalis. The males are the ones with the orange tips to their wings whereas the females look very like the other whites from above. Both of them, however, are very different from the other whites underneath, as the underside of their hind wings are mottled green and white. The females lay eggs on a few different Crucifers, but in the garden, the wind flower Garlic Mustard is the most usual, although Honesty is also frequently chosen. In meadows and by the ponds, Cuckoo Flower is the usual host. It is quite easy to find the eggs on the underside of the leaves, but the caterpillars are a bit more tricky, as they resemble the seed pods of the plants on which they feed. After only a few weeks, the caterpillars pupate, and the chrysalis has a long 9 months to survive to the following spring.

Another early butterfly is the Holly Blue. These are interesting because they have 2 generations each year, which feed predominantly on different plants.

The ones which emerge now lay eggs on a variety of shrubs, but most commonly on Holly. The eggs hatch quickly, and the caterpillars feed for a few weeks before pupating. A new generation of adults then emerges in July and August, and this time, most eggs are laid on Ivy. The winter is spent as a chrysalis.

**Happy Spotting! Paul**

## Damerham Dash – 17<sup>th</sup> June



Please remember to block out 17<sup>th</sup> June and come along and support the Damerham Dash! Online entries will close on 1<sup>st</sup> June, but tickets will still be available on the day. Please come and support the 5km run

either as a runner, walker, dog walker or spectator, or get the children 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 youngsters Colour Run starting at 9.30am, and the adults race from 11am. Please contact [Mathew.holden@sky.com](mailto: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 Village Hall

By common consent Damerham has the finest village hall in the area. We need to keep it that way, since there is a lot of competition for bookings. However, several long-serving members of the management committee have decided to retire. We therefore URGENTLY NEED NEW PEOPLE to replace them.

If you feel you can contribute a small amount of your time to keeping our village hall as the best there is locally, then please email the Secretary [sharon54mia@btinternet.com](mailto:sharon54mia@btinternet.com)

## Eddie Robbins

Damerham Village Hall Committee offer their deepest condolences to Robin, Mandy, Calum, Malaika and all the Robbins family on the loss of dear Eddie.

Eddie was a true friend of the Village Hall, and for 24 years supported the Committee in so many ways, not least the many, many maintenance jobs. I could never list them all, but the committee room chairs spring to mind, and, of course, his quiet, unflustered approach to clearing up 5 litres of 'orchid white' emulsion paint from the main hall floor carelessly spilt by the former caretaker! Not one for the limelight, you would always find Eddie in the kitchen at village functions, that's where he was happiest.

Eddie, we have so much to thank you for, your legacy is all around the village, in the hall, the sports field, village information notices and boards, and not least here at Crossways Farm after the fire in 2011 when you and Robin were there for us all the way.

We love and miss you, dear friend. Rest in peace.

*Mike Jerrard.*

## Cathy and John Godber

Wishing Cathy and John congratulations and the best of wishes on celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and renewal of their vows recently.

## Pot Holes!

HCC have been allocated additional funding for the repair of potholes and other road defects. From April, the Council will be deploying additional resources to use this funding.

It is therefore more important than ever that potholes and other road defects are reported.

It is best done online at [hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance](https://hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance), as an alternative, potholes can be reported using 'FixMyStreet' mobile app ([www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com)). Please let us make a big effort to rid the village of potholes.

## Sports Field 100 Club

1<sup>st</sup> prize – ball 34 - £47 – Paul Nicholls

2<sup>nd</sup> prize – ball 23 - £28 – Hayley Jordan

3<sup>rd</sup> prize – ball 07 - £19 – Phil Tandy/Carolyn Andrews

Please contact [Mathew.holden@sky.com](mailto: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 27 June from 7.00am**



## Garden Waste

Collection for existing customers will be on 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June.

For more information about collection days for household waste, recycling and more, see [www.newforest.gov.uk/recyclingandrubbish](http://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 July edition, please email me at [mandysrobbins@gmail.com](mailto:mandysrobbins@gmail.com) by Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June.  
**Thank you!!!**

For new residents: lots of information on the village is to be found on the Damerham web site [www.damerham.net](http://www.damerham.net)

A welcome pack is also available from the Clerk [clerk@damerham.net](mailto:clerk@damerham.net) for newcomers.

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