

The Parish Pump

August 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 6.30pm – Damerham AFC training

Contact: Dylan - 07380192020

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 at sarahings56@gmail.com

Last Wednesday of the month from 7pm – Craft Club

Contact jccoopershj@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

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

Contact clerk@damerham.net

CHECK whether meetings are happening during the summer!

There is no Parish Council meeting this month, and Damerham and District Horticultural Society (DDHS) don't meet in August either.

Summer Cream Teas

Delicious cream teas and bric a brac at the Village Hall every Sunday in August from 2 – 4pm. (Donations of bric a brac welcome before or on the day).

Craft Club

A friendly informal group that meets on the last Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall from 7 - 9 pm. But we're having a summer break, so won't be back until 27th September – there's some good stuff coming up though, so keep an eye out! The less than crafty, or not so confident are really welcome too.

Contact Sharon or Jemma

sharon54mia@btinternet.com or jccoopershj@btinternet.com

Two Bridges NEED YOU!

Can you help out, please – just a few hours a month is fine! Two Bridges provide transport for hospital and medical appointments in Damerham, Fordingbridge, Alderholt and area, and need more volunteer drivers. A vital service where we live, and a wonderful way to 'give back'.

Contact them on 0845 838 5902 for more information.

We are checking our electoral register.



You might get an email or letter from us, or someone might knock on your door.

Follow the instructions to check your details are up to date.

newforest.gov.uk/householdcanss23

The Electoral Commission

New Forest District Council

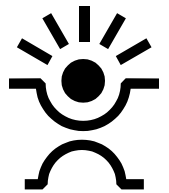
Cranborne Chase AONB

Lots of interesting things going on, as always! Check out the website cranbornechase.org.uk.

If you fancy helping out in the amazing work done all around the area, and find out more, you can register for training and volunteering opportunities.

TUFF summer

TUFF will be here every Wednesday afternoon 1.30 – 3.30 at the Community Meadow in West Park Lane. Come along for crafty stuff, games, sporty stuff and much more – all over 8's welcome, under 8's need to bring a grown up.



There will be an amazing foraging session followed by a foraged picnic run by Volf on Sunday 20th August from midday. Tickets in advance are £10 for adults and £5 for children.

Wild Night on the Community Meadow on Friday 1 September from 5.30pm – games, storytelling, bat walk and more – bring a picnic!

There is a storytelling session by Ben Haggarty in Fordingbridge on 11th August from 7pm – look out for more details

Contact Mandy on 07389 009995 or turnupforfun@live.com and check in on our facebook page – Turn Up For Fun – TUFF.

Veronica Herrington

Early in July, Damerham lost another one of its special people, when dear Veronica Herrington passed away.

Veronica was so involved with the village, running the post office and shop for so many years, keeping the Methodist Chapel going despite ever changing times, and we do miss the village Christmas carol service, held in the hall, which was always the day after the Christmas Get Together with mince pies by the ton! Memories of that wonderful Silver Jubilee cake in 1977 and serving the food at the evening dance in the marquee after the Flower Show and so much more.

Thank you, Veronica and all the Herrington family, for your devotion to the people of this village and the surrounding area for so many years.

From a very grateful resident.

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.

The Parish Pump is printed by Time2Display, Fordingbridge 01725 512021

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Nature Notes From Paul T.

Weather in June

We had 25mm of rain compared with the average of 85mm and there were 23 days with no rain. The warmest day was 13th when it reached 30C and the coolest night was on 4/5th at 10C Average high was 25C and average low 13C.

Wildlife

We have had several Grass Snakes on our allotment with as many as 4 on a few occasions. Slow-worms and Common Lizards in the field and a lot of damselflies on the garden pond. We have seen 2 Goshawks in Damerham and just one sighting of a Hobby. There were not many butterflies around until the end of the month and at that time a sudden appearance of grasshopper nymphs in our field.

Swifts

Last week there was a debate in parliament calling for the mandatory provision of "swift bricks" in new developments and I also read about a new book about swifts, "One Midsummer's Day" by Mark Cocker. For the past few years I have been a member of Hampshire Swifts, a group with the aim of improving the environment for these wonderful birds which have declined by 60% in Britain in the past 30 years. Swifts are the most completely airborne of birds spending their entire lives outside the breeding season on the wing. As they do not usually breed until they are at least 3 years old, just imagine how many wing beats without rest they must make. They even mate on the wing. The sight of packs of swifts screaming around towns and villages, often low to the ground is one of the most exciting experiences I know. Sadly, it is becoming seen less often as there has been a decline of about 60% in the British population in the past 30 years with an even bigger decline in southern England. Most adults return to Britain in early May or even later and then most leave again in early August in which time they nest, usually in cavities in buildings, lay 2 or 3 eggs and then rear their young. As they are dependent on flying insects, they are greatly affected by the weather and it is possible for birds nesting in southern England to collect insects as far away as Germany to bring back to the nest. The nestlings have evolved the ability to become torpid when food is scarce in bad weather and can go for several days without food, even as long as 3 weeks in the case of large young during which time they can lose up to 2/3 of their weight. The main reasons for their decline are considered to be loss of nest sites with modern buildings and the improvements in older ones providing none of the cavities which they need and to the reduction in insects due to the use of pesticides. How many moths come in through your windows now compared with 30 years ago?

So how can you help them? The provision of nest sites is something that many can do and this is especially important in areas where the birds are still breeding. There are a very few local authorities where provision of swift bricks is mandatory in new developments So encourage your local council to ask for these in any new building where they would be appropriate. Put up special nest boxes under the eaves of your house. Do not use any pesticides in your garden, they are really not essential. Finally, join Hampshire Swifts. **Happy spotting!!**

Avon valley shed (Men's Shed)

It's not all about making bird boxes.... But we can! It's about people (usually men) getting together in a shed environment over a cuppa and talking anything instead of being alone in a shed.

We do tasks for the community and social engagements mainly for our own piece of mind and satisfaction. (but a donation to funds for our costs is greatly appreciated) it is our ongoing intention to expand slowly, with having little groups of people engaging in such things like guitar sessions, with forthcoming ideas like photography, model making and more and all of which takes place on our Wednesdays session at the Methodist church hall in West St, Church St Fordingbridge SP6 1BB.

On Fridays we meet at Damerham sports field pavilion 09:30 till 12:00 and arrange pick up of colleagues from the Methodist church for those who can't get to Damerham otherwise.

Other dates are available on request see our Facebook page or just come along or ring Paul Dennis (projects) on 07368-300614 or Paul Kalsi on 07597 470056 for a chat. See our website or drop us an email we would be more than happy to talk to you.

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 22 August from 7.00am



Garden Waste

Collection for existing customers will be on 15th and 29th August. 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 September edition, please email me at mandysrobbins@gmail.com by Tuesday 15th August. Thank you!!!

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