

# The Parish Pump



# November 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](mailto: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 [ellawhitche@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ellawhitche@hotmail.co.uk) tel: 07986 650123

*1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month Quiz Night at the Compasses Inn*

Contact: 01725 518231

*2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 9.30 – Walking Group*

Contact: [sarahings56@gmail.com](mailto:sarahings56@gmail.com)

*Last Wednesday of the month from 7pm – Craft Club*

Contact [jkcopershj@btinternet.com](mailto:jkcopershj@btinternet.com)

*1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 7.15pm Bingo*

Contact [sharon54mia@btinternet.com](mailto:sharon54mia@btinternet.com)

*1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 7.30pm, Royal British Legion social at Martin Village Hub.*

Contact: [Jim.eames@btinternet.com](mailto:Jim.eames@btinternet.com)

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

Contact [Paul Kalsi – 07597 470056](mailto: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)

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## Damerham and District Horticultural Society

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm at Damerham Village Hall. A talk by Keith Patridge. All welcome. Refreshments. Non-members £3.

## Royal British Legion

The RBL Coffee Morning will be at the village hall on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 12 noon. Please come along and join us.

Armistice Day on 11th November, at 10.50am, there will be Wreath Laying at the Damerham War Memorial.

Remembrance Sunday on 12<sup>th</sup> November

9.30am all ages worship at All Saints, Martin

10.50am RBL Service of Remembrance at St George's Church, Damerham.

## Diary Dates!

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December is the Christmas Get Together in the Village Hall, and Crossways Christmas Gathering is on the 14<sup>th</sup> December – more details in next month's Pump!

## Cancer Research UK

### Autumn Fair

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November from 9am – 1pm at the Village Hall.

There will be clothes, gifts, produce and refreshments.

Email – [crukfordingbridgefriends@yahoo.com](mailto:crukfordingbridgefriends@yahoo.com)

## Damerham Village Hall

The Village Hall is holding its AGM on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, from 7.30pm. All residents of Damerham, and friends of the hall are invited to attend.

This year, the AGM is important as 4 long-serving members of the Hall Management Committee are retiring. Carolyn Armitage has been Chair for 10 years, alongside Sharon as Secretary and Sarah as Treasurer. The fourth member is Mike Jerrard, who has been the mainstay of the hall since its rebuild and opening in 1996! We owe them all a great debt of gratitude.

The new Committee will be installed at the AGM. Any resident or friend of the Hall who would like to make their contribution to the running of this important village asset will be welcome to join the Committee.

## Jumble Sale in aid of St George's Church

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Sale! Did anyone lose a small set of keys, which were found as we unpacked a donation? If so, please contact Cathy or John Godber.

## 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 meeting is 29<sup>th</sup> November. We will be sharing some Christmas and seasonal crafts – come along and share some ideas! The less than crafty, or not so confident are really welcome too.

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

## Damerham Village Hall

Next bingo session is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 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.

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## Nature Notes from Paul T

September weather... A month of contrasts with lots of dry days and two very wet ones with 26mm on the 17<sup>th</sup> and a huge 42mm on the 20<sup>th</sup>. The total for the month was 92mm, compared with the 70mm average. The twelve month total is now 971mm. It was very warm, and in the first 2 weeks the temperature never fell below 18C, and daytime temperatures reached the high twenties several times. From mid-month things were a bit nearer normal and the night temperature fell into single figures twice. Average maximum was 22C, and minimum was 14C. There was a spectacular thunderstorm on the night of 18/19<sup>th</sup>, which lasted for over 2 hours.

Wildlife... I have very few records of wildlife for the month, as I was otherwise occupied, but one evening driving to Odstock a Merlin dashed over the hedge and flew along the road in front of me for about 400m and then as it turned aside, a Hen Harrier flew across behind it. Quite a surprise. Earlier that day, there was a huge flock of Swallows on the wires in Homington. We visited Langford Lakes one day, and had a meal in a cafe overlooking the lake, and a Kingfisher settled in a Willow in full view, about 8m above the water, before diving into the lake and emerging with a fish. On walking round we saw several Common Sandpipers, Snipe and Lapwing. It is well worth a visit.

I came across an article on Elder recently, and was surprised by some of the information. I expect that most people reading this know the Elder when it is in flower in the spring, and again in late summer with its crimson berries. I expect many have made or drunk the wine, champagne or cordial made from the flowers, and perhaps wine from the berries. This glut of berries is a very valuable source of energy for the birds to fatten up before winter, or for fuel on migration. Recent studies have shown potential for treatment of cancer. The central tissues of the stem of Elder is soft and pithy, but the rest of the wood is surprisingly hard and similar to Box. It was widely used in the past for carving to make bowls, cogs and tool handles and also for making musical pipes. The scientific name Sambucus, is derived from the Greek for pipe. The pith has been used for a long time for holding biological specimen sections for study under the microscope, and is still used by watchmakers to absorb excess oil.

Most Elders are not much more than shrubs, but if allowed full freedom they can become quite an impressive tree, and one in our wood is 10m high, and a wonderful sight in flower.

Elder does not support many invertebrates, with just 30 insects recorded, compared with more than 240 on Oak, but some of them are solely dependent on this tree, and it does support a wide range of lichens and liverworts because its bark has such good water retention.

Happy spotting!!

## Footpaths!

*If you see any problems or obstructions on our Damerham footpaths, please contact Ann Bellows, the Footpath Officer (pinkspeedster@hotmail.com) with photos, and ideally a what3words location. Hampshire County Council Countryside department are going to help give this issue some attention over the winter.*

## Fitness/Circuits Class?

Is anyone interested in coming along to a fitness/circuits class at the Village Hall, on a weekday evening to be decided? If you are interested, please contact tommeaden34@gmail.com. This would be not for profit class, with any costs just covering the cost of the venue hire.

## Damerham Fair

We are now collecting applications of requests for funding for projects or ideas of benefit to the village. We have received some applications for funding, but if you or your organisation wish to apply, please don't delay! Please email chairdamerhamfair@gmail.com or tel Steve (0777 413 6211 for a form).

We still have the Community Fund, which can help with donations of up to £50 per person/family in situations of need.

Apply in the strictest confidence to chairdamerhamfair@gmail.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 urgently 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

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> November from 7.00am



## Garden Waste

Collection for existing customers will be on 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November. 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 December edition, please email me at [mandysrobbins@gmail.com](mailto:mandysrobbins@gmail.com) by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you!!!*

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