

# ENVIRONMENT FOCUS

## DARSHAM

ISSUE 4

SPRING 2023

Welcome to the fourth issue of **Environment Focus**. This is an opportunity to look back at 2022, which saw some extremes in weather. An incredibly long, hot, and exceptionally dry summer was soon followed by a long cold snap in December. In the meantime, energy prices rose to eye-watering levels and prompted many of us to re-evaluate how we use energy, not only for the benefit of our own wallets, but for the environment, too. Now a few months into in 2023, we're maybe looking ahead with a little more hindsight when it comes to weather and energy. To that end, make sure to pop along to our exciting seminar in April (more info overleaf) that will delve deep into this interesting topic.

As always, please get in touch with any questions: [darshamenvironment@gmail.com](mailto:darshamenvironment@gmail.com)

### GOING DIGITAL

In an effort to reduce our own environmental footprint by saving paper and ink, both of which come with a huge environmental impact, this will be the last printed edition of Environment Focus.

Moving forwards, the newsletter will be published digitally on the Darsham village website and made available via the village WhatsApp group.

A small number of printed copies will be made available in the church and village hall and on the notice boards. They will also be available in large print on request, so please just let me know if you would like to continue receiving a printed copy through your letterbox.

### ORCHARD WATERING



Thank you to the dozens of you who came out week after week last summer to water the orchard's fruit trees. It was such a heart-warming display of community spirit. Although a handful of trees sadly succumbed to the arid conditions, without your hard work, this could have been much worse. THANK YOU!

### RECENT WEATHER OBSERVATIONS

Late last year, I invested in an amateur weather station with the aim of keeping some informal records of Darsham's weather. Here's a snapshot of data since 1 January 2023:

- **Highest temperature:** 15.6 C 13 March
- **Lowest temperature:** -3.5 C 17 January
- **Wettest day:** 7.8 mm 7 March
- **Wettest month:** 37.6 mm January
- **Driest month:** 2.1 mm February
- **Wind speed:** 26.6 mph 3 January

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY & THE COST OF LIVING

*Information, tips and advice from the experts*

**Tuesday 4 April at 19:00** at Darsham Village Hall  
All welcome, no registration needed, and **free** to attend

The Parish Council is hosting a **free** seminar that will take a broad and impartial look at energy efficiency and its impact on our cost of living at all levels.

We will discuss a variety of practical ways that we can all improve our energy efficiency and help lower our cost of living through quick and simple everyday changes.

We will also have an impartial discussion about more significant investments such as solar panels and heat pumps. We have invited a number of experts who we hope will be able to attend and offer more in-depth advice and guidance on a one-to-one basis at the end of the seminar.

## **Topics:**

- Everyday energy efficiency and cost savings
- Heat loss
- Insulation
- Heat recovery
- Solar panels and home batteries
- Heat pumps and domestic heating

We would welcome any questions in advance so that we can do the necessary research to provide clear and informed answers. Please send your questions to:

**darshamenvironment@gmail.com** or put them through the letterbox of **2 Millfields**.

## **DARK SKIES – CONTINUED THANKS**

We would like to continue to thank residents for observing Darsham's status as a Dark Skies Village.

We know how tempting it is to keep outside lights on during the longer nights, but by continuing to keep our skies dark, we benefit wildlife, reduce energy consumption, and improve our own well-being... we may even get the chance to glimpse the Northern Lights as was possible in early March!

Please keep up the good work!

