

December 2024/January 2025

# The Camels



# Magazine

## The Cam Vale Ministry Team

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**Cam Vale Benefice Website:** [www.camvalebenefice.org.uk](http://www.camvalebenefice.org.uk)

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### WEATHER RECORDS FROM MEAD FARM, DOWNHEAD October 2024

Maximum temperature: 19.0C (66 F) on the 7th.  
Minimum temperature: 0.6 C (33 F) on the 11th.  
Grass level minimum: -2.5 C (27 F) on the 11th.  
Total Rainfall: 105.9 mm (4.17 ins.)

**Cover:** *The thatched cottages along Grace Martin's Lane and the churchyard covered in a blanket of snow.*

## Editorial

### *A Christmas Thought*



The war had stretched on for so many years, followed by famine and failed crops ‘the year without a summer’ people called it. As dark and bitter winter nights set in many were feeling exhausted, anxious, hungry, poor in spirit as well as in pocket. In the mountain village of Oberndorf the congregation at the Nikolauskirche (the church of St Nicholas) was preparing for Christmas. Legend has it that on Christmas Eve the priest at St Nicholas discovered that, due either to the ravages of mice or recent flooding, the organ was unplayable. So just to add to all the gloom no music at the mid-night Mass. Father Joseph Mohr had recently written a poem to try to convey a little hope and encouragement to his congregation and with the help of organist Franz Gruber the poem was set to music and sung by the two friends and a small choir accompanied by Joseph on his guitar. Thus ‘Stille Nacht’ was performed for the first time at the Christmas Mid-night Mass in 1818. It immediately became popular and in 1858 was translated into English as Silent Night.

Since then, it has been translated into over 300 languages, recorded over 137,000 times and consistently remains among the top 3 favourite carols of all time. On Christmas day 1915 in the middle of the trenches of the First World War a German soldier began to sing Stille Nacht and troops on both sides of the conflict set down their arms and joined in the singing. Over 200 years after it was written in the midst of our busy, commercialized rush towards Christmas whenever the carol is sung whether in shopping centres, carol services or at Mid-night communion on Christmas Eve the words and the simple but beautiful melody have a way of weaving their own magic.

At its heart is a message of light and peace, a peace that comes into the world in the form of a tiny baby named Jesus, (literally meaning ‘God saves’). As he grows up, he will become known as the Prince of Peace and the Light of the World. Jesus was born into a world of mess and muddle, war, famine, suffering and anxiety much like the world of Joseph Mohr’s day and much like the world of our day. Over the course of the run up to Christmas we may hear the words of Silent Night many times, we may even have the chance to sing them. I suggest that when we do, we might like to pause and reflect on the places of conflict among the nations, in our communities, in our own lives, and make a prayer that the light, hope and healing that Jesus brings may be born afresh into our world. Without him we’re in the dark but with his light we need never be afraid because his light can outshine all the darkness.

May I wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

The Revd Rose.

### **Queen Camel Cares**

A village-based support network for anyone requiring a bit of extra help at times when life is particularly challenging. Please ring Morwenna Ford (850 300) or Paul Davis (850 139) if you think we might be able to help or make a difference.

# VILLAGE CAFÉ

**TUESDAY 10th DECEMBER** ★

and again on

**TUESDAY 14th JANUARY**

10.30 am – 12 noon

**Queen Camel Memorial Hall**

- \*Book & Jigsaw exchange
- \*Bottle top collection in aid of the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance
- \* Collection box for the Lord's Larder

★ **with the children from Countess Gytha Primary School singing carols from 11.00 am on the 10th December. There will also be a stall selling items from the Christmas Fayre.**

**Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and a bite of something delicious and meet up once again with friends old & new.**



***Please make a note of the dates!***



## ST BARNABAS CHURCH NEWS : DECEMBER 2024

### *COMING UP . . .*

**Wednesday, 4th December at 11.00 am** Countess Gytha School will be holding its **Christingle Service** in the church.

**The Christmas Fayre on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 2 – 4pm** looks like being a fun and gift-filled occasion with something for everyone. Please do come along – mulled wine as well as teas, coffees, squash and mince pies will be awaiting you as well as lots of fun for families and a wide range of gifts and goodies. Please see separate advertisement in this magazine.

**Our Annual Carol Service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm** is another date that should not be missed and we look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to this candlelit celebration. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available at the end of the service. If anyone would like to attend but is unhappy about walking in the dark, please contact Paul (01935 850 139) or Morwenna (01935 850 300) and we will arrange for you to be collected and returned home afterwards.

**On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00 pm, Countess Gytha KS2 pupils will perform a Christmas Concert** in the church.

**The Christmas Crib Service** is always a much enjoyed cornerstone of our Christmas celebrations in Queen Camel. This year it takes a different format and will start at the earlier time of 4.00pm. Please do join us - and children are especially asked to come along in costume if they wish - as we set the scene around the Crib and sing carols.

**On Christmas Day at 9.00 am** we will be holding a Family Service of Communion which will be celebrated by Caroline. Everyone is most welcome and children are invited to bring along anything special that Father Christmas may have brought them.

### *HAPPENINGS IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS . . .*

**The annual All Souls Service** was held on the afternoon of the 3rd November with the Revd Rose Hoskins officiating and the Revd Caroline Walker preaching. As always it was a poignant occasion as we remembered those who had died and were missed.

Our **Service of Remembrance** this year was taken by Caroline and we were joined by the local branch of the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. We had a full church with some good singing. Our thanks to Suzanne and John Corbett for decorating the gates with the knitted & crocheted poppies.

**Year 2 Pupils from Hazlegrove School visited the church** one morning in November and were shown around by the Revd Rose Hoskins who explained and let them examine different features of the church. They concluded their visit with drinks and biscuits having first coloured in their own St Barnabas bookmarks.

### *AND IF YOU CAN HELP . . .*

**Lord's Larder:** This is a local 'bank' of non-perishable food operated by volunteers from the Yeovil Community Support Trust supported by churches and other organisations in and around Yeovil for those in need in the town and throughout South Somerset. A box for donations is inside the glass doors of the church, on the right hand side. It will also be at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December when we have our Village Café. Donations of money are also welcome so that items that are in short supply can be purchased. Please contact Paul Davis (850 139) if you have items or money you would like to donate. Thank you very much indeed.

**Finally, from everyone at St Barnabas Church, may we wish you a merry and joyful Christmas wherever you may be and a happy and peaceful New Year.**

# THE SIX CHURCHES OF CAM VALE

## Services for the month of December 2024

Sun 1st Dec	Queen Camel	9.30 am	All age service
	Corton Denham	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	3.00 pm	Tea @ Three
Sun 8th Dec	West Camel	9.30 am	Holy Communion
	Weston Bampfylde	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	3.00 pm	Methodists Service
	Sutton Montis	6.30pm	Tune up for Christmas
Sun 15th Dec	Queen Camel	6.30pm	Carol Service
	Sparkford	11am	BCP Holy Communion
	West Camel	3.00 pm	Methodists Service
Mon 16th Dec	Weston Bampfylde	7.00pm	Carol Service
Tue 17th Dec	Sparkford	6.00pm	Carol Service for Scouts and Cubs
Sun 22nd Dec	West Camel	3.00pm	Carol service
Mon 23rd Dec	Corton Denham	6.00pm	Carol Service
Tue 24th Dec	Queen Camel	4.00pm	Crib Service
	West Camel	9.30pm	Midnight Mass
Wed 25th Dec	Queen Camel	9.00am	Family Holy Communion
	Corton Denham	10.30am	Family Service
	Weston Bampfylde	10.00am	Family Holy Communion (with Sparkford)
	Sutton Montis	10.30am	Family Service
Sun 29th Dec	West Camel	10.00am	Together @10

### Registers:

08/11/2024	Kathleen Betteridge	Ashes Interment	Queen Camel
20/11/2024	Ann Diment	Funeral	Mendip Crem

### Prayer Times

#### December:

**Mondays** 9.30am - Morning Prayer St Barnabas Queen Camel - 2nd and 9th Dec

**Monday** 6.00pm 9th, at Weston Bampfylde

#### January:

**Mondays** starting 20th Jan - Morning Prayer 9.00am - St Barnabas Queen Camel

**Monday** 6.00pm 20th Jan Sparkford, 27th Jan Weston Bampfylde

**Tuesday** 5.00pm 21st Jan Corton Denham, 28th Jan Sutton Montis

## THE NINE CHURCHES OF THE EXTENDED CAM VALE BENEFICE

### Services for the month of January 2025

Sun 5th January	Yarlington	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Queen Camel	9.30am	Holy Communion
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion
	Corton Denham	11.00am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	3.00 pm	Tea @ Three
Sun 12th January	Galhampton	9.30am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	9.30am	Holy Communion
	Sutton Montis	11.00am	Holy Communion
	Weston Bampfylde	11.00am	Informal
	West Camel	3pm	Methodists' service
Sun 19th January	Queen Camel	9.30 am	Holy Communion
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Informal
	Sparkford	11.00am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	3pm	Methodists' service
	Yarlington	4pm	Evening prayer
Sun 26th January	South Cadbury	9.30am	Holy Communion
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion
	Yarlington	11.00am	Informal
	Weston Bampfylde	11.00am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	3.00pm	Methodist's service
	Galhampton	4.00pm	Informal

### Update on developments in Bruton and Cary Deanery

As from the 1st January 2025 Cam Vale Benefice will begin working with the parishes of North and South Cadbury, Yarlington and Galhampton. This group will be called the Extended Cam Vale (ECV) until they choose their new name together. A service pattern has been agreed for Jan - March 2025 covering services across this new group as we begin to work together. You will see the range of services for January above. If you have not been to one of these village churches before why not try crossing parish borders and seeing what other places do? This is an exciting new chapter for us all and I look forward to working with you all and meeting you before too long.

**Caroline Walker**

**Interim Minister Cam Vale**

**Area Dean Bruton and Cary**





## Christmas Experience -

from Sunday 15th December until after the Christmas services, there will be six areas in St Barnabas church Queen Camel unfolding the Christmas Story. They are interactive and you can come into church anytime during the day and spend time engaging with them and reflecting on the Christmas

Story. More details once they are set up will be released on Social Media. Further details contact Caroline Walker [carolinehwalker@btinternet.com](mailto:carolinehwalker@btinternet.com)

## WEST CAMEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH



### Meeting at All Saints Church

Affiliated to the Independent Methodist Connexion



Reg. Charity No. 1205373

**Minister: Ray Ursell (07770 238588)**

**Local contacts: Geoff and Elizabeth Chapman (01935 850838)**

### SERVICES IN DECEMBER/JANUARY

Dec.	1st	3pm	"Tea @ Three" (U.S.)
"	8th	3pm	Mike Thorner of Yeovil
"	15th	3pm	Ray Ursell (H.C.)
"	22nd	3pm	United Carol Service
"	29th	3pm	Geoff Chapman & Revd. Caroline Walker (U.S.)
Jan.	5th	3pm	"Tea @ Three" (U.S.)
"	12th	3pm	Tom Oaks of Milborne Port
"	19th	3pm	Ray Ursell (H.C.)
"	26th	3pm	Andrew Farquhar of Somerton

(U.S. = United Service. H.C. = with Holy Communion)

All PM services are followed by light refreshments.

"Tea @ Three" includes a full tea.

A very warm welcome to all!

"Zoom" Bible studies are held once a month. If you would like to join, please contact us for the link. [Geoff.mead@yahoo.com](mailto:Geoff.mead@yahoo.com)

Recorded Sunday sermons can be accessed at  
[www.westcamelchurches.org.uk](http://www.westcamelchurches.org.uk)

**Tuesday 24th December**

**4.00pm - St Barnabas Church Queen Camel**



**Crib Service - children can come in costume!**

Bring your friends and family

## West Camel Churches Together

**Happy Christmas to everyone!**  
**A warm welcome to these events**

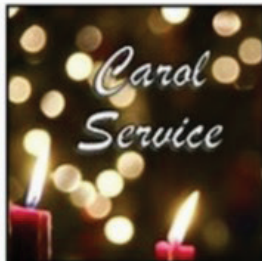
Wednesday December 18th.

7pm

**“CAROLS ON THE GREEN”**

by the village pond (in the church if wet)

**Followed by drinks and mince pies  
in the church\***



Sunday December 22nd. 3pm

**CAROL SERVICE**

**Followed by refreshments\***

**Tuesday December 24th. 9.30pm**

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE**



**\*Collection for children's charities**

**All activities will be at All Saints Church unless  
otherwise stated.**






# ST BARNABAS CHRISTMAS FAYRE

## DONATIONS NEEDED!

Please help us have the best Christmas Fayre yet by donating to our stalls. We need:

- 
- New/nearly new toys and children's books
  - Bottles for the tombola
  - Good quality teddies and cuddly toys
  - New gifts/wrapping paper for present stall
  - Raffle prizes (new only please)
  - Red and Green items for the Hamper
  - Preserves, chutneys, jams & other goodies!
  - Items for Christmas wreath making
- ..and we will need cakes/biscuits on the day



Please email [harrietchappell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:harrietchappell@yahoo.co.uk)  
or call 07880714559 or 01935 850982  
and we can arrange a time to collect

We are also looking for people to help on the day  
- please let Harriet know if you can help





# ST BARNABAS

SATURDAY DEC 7TH, 2-4PM

QUEEN CAMEL MEMORIAL HALL

# CHRISTMAS FAYRE

COME AND PLUCK THE LOLLY 'TURKEY'

BROWSE HANDMADE GIFTS

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND WRAP

STOCK UP ON CHRISTMAS TOYS

TRY YOUR LUCK AT THE TEDDY RAFFLE

WIN AT THE BOTTLE TOMBOLA

CHRISTMAS WREATHS AND CAKES

AND LOTS LOTS MORE!

IN AID OF ST BARNABAS CHURCH FABRIC FUND

## Report of the Queen Camel Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) met on 18 November 2024. There was a long agenda of which the following should be noted:

- **roads, drains and kerb gutters.** Somerset Council (SC) have limited resources so please report any issues you note on the roads and drains around the village to Highways and at the same time advise the Parish Clerk so that the PC can monitor remedial progress. Also can everyone do as much as they can to keep the area outside their houses as clear of growth, weeds and leaves; a small amount of effort by each of us should help keep the village streets and roads much tidier; we cannot expect much from SC.
- **neighbourhood planning (NP).** The working group for NP reported on its engagement with SC planning over the long outstanding planning application for new housing behind South View and for the overall development of that part of the village. We are trying to ensure there is a coordinated plan.
- the **Flood Committee** reported on the **draft Section 19 report** which had been received from SC. The PC agreed to a robust response to SC to what seemed a very inadequate draft which did not even explain why so much water came down the Cam on 9 May 2023.
- there was an initial discussion on the **budget and proposed precept** for 2025/26. SC have written to all parishes advising that more services may be devolved and contingencies should be built into budgets. The government has stated that local authority council taxes can be raised by 5%. No decisions will be made till the January PC meeting, but the PC is mindful that it may have to pick up more services from SC.
- there were further discussions on **road safety.** There seem to be three elements involved in Queen Camel: volume of traffic, HGVs and speeding. There was no clear conclusion on what should be done which would be cost effective. Tracking HGVs breaking the weight limit and knowing what the incidence of speeding is require clear evidence, if anything further is to be done, such as installing SIDs or extending the 20mph limit. The PC agreed that a working group should be established to review these issues further. As well as those who gave their names at the 2 October meeting, if anyone can help on this issue and even lead a **Speed Watch** team, can you let me or any councillor know.
- there was a discussion on providing a **village storage unit**, but opinions were very divided as to whether it was necessary, even if a suitable site could be found and it was not clear how it would be managed longer term. It was suggested that, should a new community centre or pavilion ever be built, a dedicate storage room might then be provided for local clubs to rent.
- The next PC meeting is on **20 January 2025**. Please let me or any councillor have any comments on the matters mentioned or those you wish to raise.

Can I, on behalf of the PC, wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

John Brendon Chairman of the Parish Council  
Email [john.brendon@queencamelpc.org.uk](mailto:john.brendon@queencamelpc.org.uk) Tel: 07976691895





**Cleaveside Close Community Centre**

**Activities for December 2024**



**Flexercise on Mondays at 11.00am – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> only (£3 non- residents)**

**Walking Group on Tuesdays at 2.15pm. Meet at Centre – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> only, (followed by a cuppa & biscuits)**

**Golden Oldies Christmas Party at Martock Parish Hall (TA12 6JL) from 11-00am – 2.00pm Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec – Refreshments and transport provided- meet at the Centre**

**Live Well with Pain Café at 11.30am – 12.30pm – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec; plus refreshments (Free!)**

**Sing-A-Long at the Centre at 2.00 – 3.00pm – Thursday 12 Dec; plus refreshments (Donation of £3 to Golden Oldies)**

**Christmas Meal at the George, Castle Cary 12.00 for 12.30pm – Friday 13 Dec- transport provided. (Please give Mel your outstanding amount for the meal by 9th December)**

**Committee meeting at the Centre at 10.00 - 11.00am – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Games Afternoon with mince pies & mulled wine at 2.00pm – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec (Free!)**

**Christmas Fun Bingo at 2.00pm – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec - £4 Bingo; £1 Raffle, plus refreshments**

**Please come along and join in – for further information contact Sue Gettings on 07527779248**

## **One BIG “Thank You!”**

**The Coffee Morning organised by the Cleaveside Close Social Club held on Saturday 16 November in aid of the British Heart Foundation raised £558.46.**

**Thank you to everyone who helped to make it such a success; especially to those people who donated products for the Cake Stall and Raffle and came along to support.**

**Hopefully the money raised will go towards funding research to help beat this killer disease. Gaynor Brennan & Sue Gettings**

## Living with pain doesn't have to be hopeless!

- Do you live with a long-term persistent pain condition?
- Does it affect your ability to sleep?
- Does the pain generally give you low mood and affect your emotional wellbeing?
- Does it restrict your daily activities and stop you doing the things you want to do?
- Does it affect your ability to find and keep paid employment?
- Are you concerned about the amount of pain medication you are taking and their side-effects?
- Does your pain often flare up when you are feeling stressed and anxious?

Living with persistent (chronic) pain can severely impact our physical and emotional wellbeing and our ability to perform daily activities.

If you are registered with Queen Camel Medical Centre, you are welcome to attend a monthly Live Well with Pain café which takes place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Cleaveside Close communal lounge (BA22 7PR) – in the new year, we have a new starting time of 10.30am and have extended for two hours until 12.30pm. We follow a programme called Live Well with Pain: The Ten Footsteps, which is a non-medical, self-management approach to living with pain. <https://livewellwith-pain.co.uk/> Come along on January 8<sup>th</sup> and find out more!

These pain cafes are social, welcoming and friendly groups where you can meet with others living with pain and know that you are not alone!

To hear more about any of the above, please get in touch with the health coach Liz Webber or call Sue Crisfield on 07749 418850 or email [sue.crisfield1@nhs.net](mailto:sue.crisfield1@nhs.net)



**Please don't suffer  
in silence - help is  
available - you are  
not alone!**





Better wellbeing is just  
**a step away**

## HEALTH and WELLBEING WALKS

### Queen Camel: Fridays at 10.00am

### Open to all

We leave the Old School car park at 10.00am (when the church bells have chimed) each Friday and walk for about an hour and a half. A chance to meet people, learn some local byways and enjoy the fresh air and gentle exercise. The walks are for fun and everyone is welcome; no obligations, no fees, just wear suitable footwear and come along.

An alternative more gentle walk from Queen Camel Medical Centre is planned to start soon with Health Coach Liz. Please contact the health coaches for more details.

Further details on [www.sasp.co.uk/health-walks](http://www.sasp.co.uk/health-walks)

### **A DOG WALK TO WELCOME THE NEW YEAR**

**Wednesday 1st January 2025 : 11.30 am**

**IF** the weather is fair and **IF** the ground is not sodden, it is proposed to resurrect the New Year Dog Walk which last took place in 2018. We will set out from the Queen Camel Memorial Hall and although the route has not yet been finalised, it will hopefully include a stop for hot soup and mince pies + bowls of water for the dogs. Donations for the Dogs Trust.

Everyone is most welcome to come along, with or without a dog. A reminder that it is the responsibility of each dog owner to ensure their dog is kept under control at all times. And please bring a bag to clear up after your dog.

If you are interested in coming along, please call Morwenna Ford on 01935 850 300 or email her at [morwennaford@gmail.com](mailto:morwennaford@gmail.com) AFTER Christmas when, hopefully, we shall have a clue as to what the weather is likely to be doing on New Year's Day.



## **What's on in Queen Camel Memorial Hall in December**

- Mondays:** Pilates 9 -11.15am  
Youth Group 5.30-7.30pm
- Tuesdays:** Cam Vale Tuesday Group Dec 3rd 10-12  
Brownies 6-7pm  
Guides 7-9pm  
Village Cafe Dec 10th 10-12  
QC Quilters Dec 17th 10-4pm
- Wednesdays:** Bumps, Tots & Toddlers 10-12
- Thursdays:** Tai Chi 10.30-11.30am  
Camel Club 4-5.30pm  
Gardening Club Dec 12th 7.30pm
- Fridays:** Table Tennis 7-9pm
- Saturday:** St Barnabas Christmas Fayre Dec 7th 2-4pm

## **What's on in Queen Camel Memorial Hall in January**

- Mondays:** Pilates 9 - 11.15am  
Youth Group 5.30 - 7.30pm  
Parish Council Jan 20th 7.30pm
- Tuesdays:** Cam Vale Tuesday Group Jan 7th 10-12  
Brownies 6-7pm  
Guides 7-9pm  
Village Cafe Jan 14th 10-12  
QC Quilters Jan 21st 10-4
- Wednesdays:** Bumps, Tots & Toddlers 10-12
- Thursdays:** Tai Chi 10.30-11.30am  
Camel Club 4-5.30  
Gardening Club Jan 9th 7.30pm
- Fridays:** Table Tennis 7-9pm

For hall booking enquiries please call 07707206250



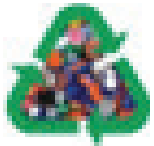
Queen Camel Memorial Hall  
200 Club Results  
November 2024  
Drawn at the Village Cafe

First Prize:- £30	Pauline Lewis	Number:-13
Second Prize:-£25	Elliott Lloyd	Number:- 126
Third Prize:- £20	Lucy Kendrick	Number:- 76
Fourth Prize:-£15	Pauline Farror	Number:- 68
Fifth Prize:-£10	Colin & Zanna Bardsley	Number:- 112

December 200 Club Bonanza prizes  
£100, £75, £50 & £25

Join now with a chance to win!!!

Contact Liz Jardine 01935 850074 or [lizjardine@outlook.com](mailto:lizjardine@outlook.com).



## Bottle Tops

**The collection of Bottle Tops will cease at the end of 2024.**

Donations have decreased considerably since Covid: in 2019 we delivered 700kg of bottle tops to Perry's Recycling in Marston Magna as against 120kg this year. With regular recycling collections in the village and a request for tops to be kept on bottles, the need to collect the tops separately has largely fallen away.

We have been collecting them for the past ten years and we have donated some £500 to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance. Thank you very much to all of you who have saved bottle tops so diligently and have encouraged your work colleagues to do likewise as well as the local schools who have helped enormously.

Finally, a huge thank you to John Lye and Trisha Rylance who have sorted through bags and bags of bottle tops left in the old telephone box near the Supply Stores over many years.



## Book Club review November 2024

'Behind Closed Doors' by B A Paris was an uncomfortable read with some challenges to credibility, but it was a catalyst for serious discussion on the topic of abuse in Marriage. The extreme threat to Grace, the main character in the book, was difficult to conceive of in the current technological age, but it was a reminder to us that no one is immune from deception, and that there are predators out in the community who have intelligence and social graces. Interesting that we were meeting in a week where the abuses by John Smyth have been so topical. As ever, our discussion expanded and drew on the experiences of many of us, in different walks of life. The novel is written in the first person, which gives one confidence that the main protagonist will survive.

Much of the writing was linear and rather lacking in variety of tempo and colour which some of us found turgid and repetitive. It is, however, a worthy read and scored between 5 and 8 with an average of 6+.

We have received many suggestions for our reading into the new year. I will write below the reading list and additional recommendations. **Please note that our December meeting is on The First Wednesday – 4<sup>th</sup> December.**

### Happy reading.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December\*\*\*

The Silver Pigs by Lindsey Davis

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January

The Satsuma Complex by Bob Mortimer

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February

My son, my son by Howard Spring

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Odyssey by Melanie Smallwood.

(Please get in touch if you would like a PDF of the final draft.)

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May

Trustee from the toolroom by Nevil Shute

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Ruskin Park by Rory Cellan-Jones

### Other recommendations:

The Paris Wife by Paula McLain

Less than Angels by Barbara Pym

Dissolution by DJ Sansom

The Dentist by Tim Sullivan

**THE SUPPLY STORES, QUEEN CAMEL**

has a new telephone number:

**01935 726 946**

**Films at**

**The Davis Hall, West Camel**



**Friday 29th November 'Vindication Swim'**

**Friday 13th December 'Wilding'**

**Trailers on the Davis Hall website [www.davishall.co.uk](http://www.davishall.co.uk)**

**Doors open 7 p.m. for 7.30 start : Licensed Bar, Tea and Coffee**

**Tickets £5 on the door : 16s and under £3.50 Warm hall as ever! Easy parking**

**Please tell anyone not on the internet who might like to join us.**



*Fun and friendly*

# ADULT BALLET CLASSES

The Davis Hall  
West Camel  
Wednesdays  
19:30  
£8

Contact Natalie  
07541398925

## **Tuesday Group**

Our November speaker was Jane Chapman, an acclaimed children's author and illustrator who gave us an art workshop as well as a talk.

The room was unusually quiet as each one of us listened to instructions and drew very passable pictures of animals and vehicles. One member surprised us by drawing an elephants trunk on the wrong end!

Jane explained that while parents would read the text of a book, a child would <read> the pictures and would gain a vocabulary in shapes, expressions, colour and design while listening to Mum or Dad.

Jane talked of her career which started in Corton Denham when she held a portrait exhibition after attaining her degree at Brighton Art College. Interest in her work led her to concentrate on Illustration. She had a year designing and making soft toys but soon realised children's books was the way forward for her. To date she has illustrated over 140 children's books.

A fun morning and I suspect many of us will pass our new skills onto our grandchildren..... if we can remember!

Our Dec morning will be our Christmas celebration. We will be meeting at the later time of 11am for Christmas songs and carols from a quartet, a festive lunch and surprises from Secret Santa gifts..

We meet each month on the first Tuesday at Queen Camel Memorial Hall, usually at 10am. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Please contact Marion Chapman 01963 220741 for further information.

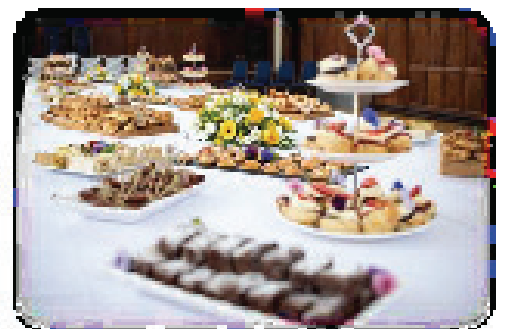
# **Dorset Delights Catering**

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Celebrations,  
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Garden Parties**



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[www.dorsetdelightscatering.co.uk](http://www.dorsetdelightscatering.co.uk)

**Contact Alice 07783 928532 or Louise 07743 780609**



## BUMPS, TOTS & TODDLERS

If you have a little one, why not come along and join us during term time

on **Wednesdays** in  
the **Memorial Hall, Queen Camel**  
from **10.00 am - 12 noon**

Refreshments available.  
**£3 per family**  
Do come and join us!

For more information please contact  
**Morwenna Ford : 01935 850 300**

**St Barnabas Church**

## Crafts, Music, Games & Bible Stories

**Queen Camel Memorial Hall**

For all  
children  
of primary  
school  
age



**THURSDAYS**  
during term time

**4.00 - 5.45 pm**

Cost: **£20 per term**

For further information  
please call **Marian Davis** on  
**01935 850 139**



## Scottish Country Dancing

**Every Thursday**



St Michael's Scottish Country Dancing Club  
**7.30 – 9.30pm** at the **Davis Hall**, West Camel BA22 7QX

Always a fun evening - come along & give it a try – a warm welcome assured! First 2 visits free, £2.00 per session, £1.50 for members.

**New Beginners Class for four Thursdays in September 2024 7pm - 7.30pm,**  
then do stay on and enjoy the session 7.30 -9.30pm!

See website [www.stmichaelscdclub.org](http://www.stmichaelscdclub.org)





# West Camel Village Cafe

9:15 - 12 Every Thurs

At the Davis Hall

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Cake .....£1.00

Tea.....£1.00

Espresso.....£1.00

Cappuccino....£1.50

Latte.....£1.50

Americano.....£1.50

Bacon Sandwiches

£3.50

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Featuring Bakery and  
Post Office



# Merry Christmas from everyone at the Queen Camel Gardening Club!

Join us for our **Christmas Social**  
on **December 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
at **7.30pm** in **The Memorial Hall.**



There will be **mince pies**, **festive cider** (from the King-Brains farm) and **Mickey Little** with a bespoke talk full of Christmas fun, bad-dad Christmas jokes, and **an informative insight into the plants that make our festive season special.**

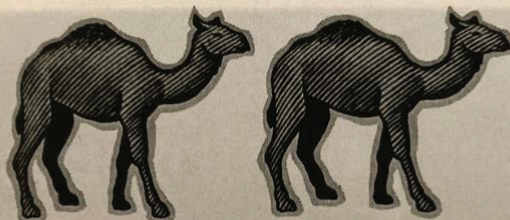
On top of all that, there will be a raffle and free entry for members (£2 for non-members)

Come along for an evening of jollity and merriment!

**ALL WELCOME!**



**WEST CAMEL SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB**



Monday afternoons from 2.00 - 4.00 pm  
in the Davis Hall BA22 7QX

Everyone Welcome – beginners or professionals  
Soft shoes and a sense of humour required



Merry Christmas



We wish all our community  
good health and happiness during 2025.

This is our last communication for 2024 and our first for 2025. 2024 for the Old School has consisted of a variety of restoration works following the flood of May 2023. Great progress has been made with new windows in the 1920's building, resurfacing of the external car park, replacement fencing and installation of flood doors to name just a few! We are proud to say that with the installation of flood doors across the site, we have been able to mitigate against any future floods as much as we can. We continue to make improvements in 2025 with the first task being the restoration of the floor in the former Willows Day Centre which was severely damaged in the flood. We welcome and encourage volunteers to help maintain the site, please email [admin@oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk](mailto:admin@oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk) if you think you can help.

**Camelicious Café** will be opening under new management in 2025 as we say goodbye to our current tenants able2acheive. Thank you to the staff and in particular the learners, who have all contributed to the café's success over the last two years.

Please note, there may be a short period in the new year when the Café is closed during the transition to a new tenant; we will try and keep this to a minimum. Updates, including a date for the grand re-opening will be sent to our members and added to our Facebook page - watch this space.



#### NOW OPEN – Halo Breathing Space



People are asking "What is Halotherapy, and what happens when you are in the Salt Room?" My reply is "come and have a try". You will spend 40 minutes in the Salt Room where finely ground dry salt is misted into the air and fills the room.

Initially it can cause a tickle in the throat or cough, which most people get used to. The salt, music and the dimly-lit room helps the body and mind relax. It also thins mucous and helps the lungs to clear, easing colds and coughs. **For more information, contact Rachel at Halo Breathing Space at [hello@halobreathingspace.co.uk](mailto:hello@halobreathingspace.co.uk) or 0736986972.**



Shelly continues her silversmithing courses into 2025 with Make it Mondays from 20<sup>th</sup> January and Fashion it Fridays from 7<sup>th</sup> March for those who have completed a beginners course. 5-week beginners' courses start on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and 13<sup>th</sup> March. Email [jouellejewellery@btinternet.com](mailto:jouellejewellery@btinternet.com) for more information and to book your place

**In time for Christmas - gift vouchers for beginners' courses are now available to purchase through the website, [www.jouellejewellery.co.uk](http://www.jouellejewellery.co.uk).**

#### SPACE AVAILABLE

- a room (some 152 sq. ft. with washbasin) in the Victorian Schoolhouse
- Pods in The Old School Hall, one with washbasin for regular or ad hoc rental.

To find out more about the Old School including future workspace, please contact Rebecca, our Administrator, e-mail: [admin@oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk](mailto:admin@oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk) or to postal address: Queen Camel Community Land Trust, High Street, Queen Camel, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7NH.

**PLUS!  
Xmas Gift  
Vouchers**

# Learn Silversmithing

With  
*Shelly Roberts*

**At The Old School  
Queen Camel  
BA22 7NH**

Learn traditional silversmithing skills and techniques to design and make your own jewellery.

See full course and booking details at [www.jouelle.co.uk](http://www.jouelle.co.uk)

5 week courses are just £165pp and include use of all tools in my fully equipped classroom, expert instruction and practise metals.

Precious metals and gemstones are additional to the course fee and available to purchase during class.

**Available now...**

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**Coming soon...**

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[www.jouelle.co.uk](http://www.jouelle.co.uk)

**OR CONTACT ME**

[jouellejewellery@btinternet.com](mailto:jouellejewellery@btinternet.com)

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# 1

## SHEPTON MALLET - CASTLE CARY - YEOVIL SERVICE 1

MONDAY TO SATURDAY (EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

FROM 15TH APRIL 2024

SERVICE NO	1	1	1	1	1	667/1	1	1	1	1
Notes								X	X	X
Shepton Mallet, Dobbies Garden Centre	-	-	11:20	13:20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cannard's Grave Road	-	-	11:27	13:27	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Shepton Mallet, Cenotaph</b>	7:30	9:30	11:30	13:30	15:30		17:30	9:30	13:30	17:30
Whitstone Road	7:35	9:35	11:35	13:35	15:35		17:35	9:35	13:35	17:35
Cannard's Grave	7:37	9:37	11:37	13:37	15:37		17:37	9:37	13:37	17:37
Prestleigh ( for Bath & West )	7:39	9:39	11:39	13:39	15:39		17:39	9:39	13:39	17:39
<b>Evercreech, Village Hall</b>	7:42	9:42	11:42	13:42	15:42		17:42	9:42	13:42	17:42
Southwood	7:47	9:47	11:47	13:47	15:47		17:47	9:47	13:47	17:47
<b>Ditcheat, Bus Shelter</b>	7:51	9:51	11:51	13:51	15:51		17:51	9:51	13:51	17:51
Alhampton	7:54	9:54	11:54	13:54	15:54		17:54	9:54	13:54	17:54
Castle Cary, Rail Station	7:56	9:56	11:56	13:56	15:56		17:56	9:56	13:56	17:56
Ansford, Churchfields	7:59	9:59	11:59	13:59	15:59		17:59	9:59	13:59	17:59
<b>Castle Cary Horsepond</b>	8:05c	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:05	17:35c	18:05	10:05	14:05	18:05
Galhampton, The Old Pub	8:10	10:10	12:10	14:10	16:10	17:40	18:10	10:10	14:10	18:10
North Cadbury	8:15	10:15	12:15	14:15	16:15	17:45	18:15	10:15	14:15	18:15
Chapel Cross	8:18	10:18	12:18	14:18	16:18	17:48	18:18	10:18	14:18	18:18
Sparkford, Church Road Turning	8:20	10:20	12:20	14:20	16:20	17:50	18:20	10:20	14:20	18:20
<b>Sparkford Inn</b>	8:22	10:22	12:22	14:22	16:22	17:52	18:22	10:22	14:22	18:22
Queen Camel	8:26	10:26	12:26	14:26	16:26	17:55	18:26	10:26	14:26	18:26
Marston Magna	8:30	10:30	12:30	14:30	16:30	18:00	18:30	10:30	14:30	18:30
Mudford, Half Moon	8:35	10:35	12:35	14:35	16:35	18:05	18:35	10:35	14:35	18:35
Kingston, (for Yeovil Hospital)	8:43	10:43	12:43	14:43	16:43	18:13S	18:43S	10:43	14:43	18:43S
Yeovil Borough	8:46	10:46	12:46	14:46	16:46	18:16S	18:46S	10:46	14:46	18:46S
<b>Yeovil Bus Station</b>	8:48	10:48	12:48	14:48	16:48	18:18S	18:48S	10:48	14:48	18:48S

S = SET DOWN ONLY

c = CONNECTS WITH SERVICE 646 @ 08.16 TO STREET (STRODE COLLEGE) IN THE MORNING & 1 TO YEOVIL IN THE AFTERNOON.

**CONNECTION IS NOT GUARANTEED.**

**X = THE ONLY SERVICES RUNNING ON A SATURDAY**

Tel - 01963 33124 (WINCANTON) - 01935 475872 (YEOVIL) - 01305 823039 (PORTLAND)

### Email Delivery of the Camels Magazine:

We continue to establish an email delivery system for the Camels Magazine in Queen Camel and if you would like to receive future copies in this format, please email [morwennaford@gmail.com](mailto:morwennaford@gmail.com) giving your name and street address. The email version of the magazine is, of course, in colour and we will be pleased to forward a copy of the current magazine for you to compare if you wish. GDPR data storage obligations will be followed.



South West  
Coaches



1

## YEOVIL - CASTLE CARY - SHEPTON SERVICE

MONDAY TO SATURDAY (EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

FROM 15TH APRIL 2024

SERVICE NO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Notes								X	X	X
<b>Yeovil Bus Station</b>	7:30	9:30	11:30	13:30	15:30	17:30		7:30	11:30	15:30
Clarence Street, Tesco	7:33	9:33	11:33	13:33	15:33	17:33		7:33	11:33	15:33
Kingston, (for Yeovil Hospital)	7:35	9:35	11:35	13:35	15:35	17:35		7:35	11:35	15:35
Yeovil College	7:36	9:36	11:36	13:36	15:36	17:36		7:36	11:36	15:36
Mudford, Half Moon	7:43	9:43	11:43	13:43	15:43	17:43		7:43	11:43	15:43
Marston Magna	7:48	9:48	11:48	13:48	15:48	17:48		7:48	11:48	15:48
Queen Camel	7:52	9:52	11:52	13:52	15:52	17:52		7:52	11:52	15:52
<b>Sparkford Inn</b>	7:56	9:56	11:56	13:56	15:56	17:56		7:56	11:56	15:56
Sparkford, Church Road Turning	7:58	9:58	11:58	13:58	15:58	17:58		7:58	11:58	15:58
Chapel Cross	8:00	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:00	18:00		8:00	12:00	16:00
North Cadbury	8:03	10:03	12:03	14:03	16:03	18:03		8:03	12:03	16:03
Galhampton, The Old Pub	8:08	10:08	12:08	14:08	16:08	18:08		8:08	12:08	16:08
<b>Castle Cary, Horse Pond</b>	8:12c	10:12	12:12	14:12	16:12	18:12		8:12	12:12	16:12
Ansford, Churchfields	8:16	10:16	12:16	14:16	16:16	18:16		8:16	12:16	16:16
Castle Cary, OPPOSITE Railway Stn	8:19	10:19	12:19	14:19	16:19	18:19		8:19	12:19	16:19
Alhampton	8:21	10:21	12:21	14:21	16:21	18:21		8:21	12:21	16:21
<b>Ditcheat, Bus Shelter</b>	8:24	10:24	12:24	14:24	16:24	18:24		8:24	12:24	16:24
Southwood	8:28	10:28	12:28	14:28	16:28	18:28		8:28	12:28	16:28
<b>Evercreech, Village Hall</b>	8:33	10:33	12:33	14:33	16:33	18:33		8:33	12:33	16:33
Prestleigh (for Bath & West )	8:37	10:37	12:37	14:37	16:37	18:37		8:37	12:37	16:37
Cannard's Grave	8:40	10:40	12:40	14:40	16:40	18:40		8:40	12:40	16:40
Whitstone Road	8:42	10:42	12:42	14:42	16:42	18:42		8:42	12:42	16:42
<b>Shepton Mallet, Cenotaph</b>	8:47	10:47	12:47	14:47	16:47	18:47		8:47	12:47	16:47
Cannard's Grave Road	-	10:50	12:50	-	-	-		-	-	-
<b>Shepton Mallet, Dobbies Gdn Centre</b>	-	10:57	12:57	-	-	-		-	-	-

**c = CONNECTS WITH SERVICE 646 @ 08:16 TO STREET (STRODE COLLEGE)**

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# TREASURE ISLAND

The top half of the poster features a vibrant illustration. At the top, the words 'TREASURE ISLAND' are written in a large, ornate, brown serif font with decorative flourishes and leaf-like patterns. Below the text, a three-masted pirate ship with white sails and a skull-and-crossbones flag is sailing on a blue sea with white-capped waves. The background shows green hills under a yellow sky with soft clouds. The bottom half of the poster has a sandy beach background.

## *A Buccaneer of a Panto* by the West Camel Theatre Group at The Davis Hall, West Camel

### Performances

23rd, 24th, 25th January at 7.30pm

Matinée Saturday 25th at 2.00pm

### Contact

[mpc609@gmail.com](mailto:mpc609@gmail.com) / 07801 968608  
or the Queen Camel village shop

### Tickets

Thursday:

Adult £10 / 16 & under £5

Friday & Saturday:

Adult £12 / 16 & under £6



*Tearfund Christmas card*

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