

April 2025

The Camels



Magazine

The Cam Vale Ministry Team

Priest in Charge:	Revd Caroline Walker (07765 126355) Email: carolinehwalker@btinternet.com
Readers:	Mrs Julie Ebsworth (07999 205757) Email: julieebs@gmail.com Mrs Christy Casley (07564 935555) Email: christylmy@icloud.com
Benefice Administrator:	Dr Rob Sage (01963 440432) (Home: 01739 850 934)
Email:	Email: office@camelotparishes.org.uk
Address:	Parishes Office, 6 The Close. North Cadbury. BA22 7DX Office hours: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm Monday - Friday
Churchwardens:	
Queen Camel:	
West Camel:	Mrs Jenny Clothier (01935 850281)

Queen Camel website:	www.queen-camel.co.uk
Queen Camel Email:	Queencamelvillage@gmail.com
West Camel website:	www.westcamel.org.uk
West Camel Email:	info@westcamel.org.uk

St Barnabas Church Website: www.stbarnabasqueencamel.org.uk

Cam Vale Benefice Website: www.camvalebenefice.org.uk

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WEATHER RECORDS FROM MEAD FARM, DOWNHEAD

February 2025

Maximum temperature: 15.6C (60 F) on the 22nd.

Minimum temperature: -2.8 C (27 F) on the 28th.

Grass level minimum: -6.1 C (21 F) on the 28th.

Total Rainfall: 53.6 mm (2.11 ins.)

Cover: *Daffodils near the church on a bright March morning in West Camel*

Editorial

It seems strange to be writing this in the second week in Lent, for the Easter Magazine, but the resurrection stories are so central to the Christian gospel they are relevant at any time of year. They are also some of my favourite stories in the Bible, so I make no apologies for looking at them again. They are stories of human doubt and weakness, as well as stories of reassurance and hope.

Mary, the first to meet the risen Jesus, mistakes him for the gardener. It was an understandable mistake. She could not have thought that Jesus could have risen, but once Jesus said her name, she recognised him, and went to the disciples to declare "I Have seen the Lord".

Then Jesus appears in the upper room, but Thomas is not there and declares that he will only believe if he sees the nail marks and puts his hand in Jesus' side. Thomas only had to see Jesus in front of him to believe that he was risen.

My favourite story is of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. I think they left Jerusalem, disappointed and disillusioned. Jesus had promised so much, but now he was dead, and all those promises had come to nothing. No wonder they did not recognise Jesus when he walked with them and talked to them. It was only when he broke bread with them, something that he had done many times before, that they realised that it was him. They had to see him do something familiar for them to believe. Then they returned to the disciples in Jerusalem to tell them that they had seen the Lord. The disciples told them that Jesus had appeared to Simon as well.

The disciples had returned to their boats to go back to their jobs fishing, once again disappointed and disillusioned. Jesus meets them in familiar surroundings, helps them find fish to catch, and cooks them breakfast. They know it is him but still find it hard to believe. I think that perhaps this was also something they were familiar with. Had Jesus cooked breakfast for them before?

I think that the disciples would have told each other these stories over and over again. To be able to say "The Lord is risen" "He is risen indeed" to each other brought hope and comfort at a time of great turmoil and disappointment in their lives. It was true, Jesus had risen from the dead. The truth they almost dared not believe.

We sometimes find it hard to believe in the risen Christ, and we need the encouragement of other Christians to say, "**He is risen indeed**", or maybe we need to be the encourager and say to someone else "**He is risen indeed**".

In Mark's gospel the father of the boy with an evil spirit asks Jesus to "help his unbelief" (Mark 9:24). Could this be something we could do, help someone's unbelief by declaring "**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**".

Alan Hoskins

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.

**THE
VILLAGE CAFE
QC Memorial Hall
TUESDAY 8TH APRIL
10.30 am - 12 noon**



- *Book & Jigsaw exchange
- * Lord's Larder collection box
- * Digital Cafe

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

***Profits from the Village Cafe will be
donated to the Lord's Larder***

ST BARNABAS CHURCH NEWS : APRIL 2025

HAPPENINGS IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS . . .

We enjoyed a Celtic style service led by Rose & Alan Hoskins at the beginning of the month and Holy Communion on the second Sunday taken by Caroline with Christy Casely preaching.

Caroline continues to take a short service of Morning Prayer each Monday at 9.00 am.

COMING UP . . .

Our Easter Day Service on the 20th April at 9.30 am will be taken by Caroline and will include Family Communion. It will be followed by an Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard which will be for young and old alike!

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the church on Wednesday 23rd April at 7.00 pm. With the Cam Vale Benefice of six churches having been absorbed into a new, larger Benefice - The Vale of Camelot Churches - there are changes and challenges ahead for us all. St Barnabas deserves and needs support and encouragement to face the future and maintain its place at the heart of our community. We very much hope that you will be able to join us at the meeting - please see separate announcement for all details.

Church Path Fayre takes place on Saturday 7th June and we urgently need your input and help please! If we haven't yet approached you to help, please do come forward and volunteer. It is always a fun day with lots of attractions for all the family but it does need a lot of help behind the scenes to make it happen.

AND FINALLY . . .

Please see other notices in the magazine about services and events taking place throughout the Vale of Camelot Churches during Holy Week.

Church Flowers for Easter and beyond

With Easter celebrations being late this year, the daffodils will most likely have finished blooming, but hopefully there will be other delights in your gardens that you can spare to help decorate the Church.



The decorating will be done on the morning of Saturday 19th April - 9.30 a.m. onwards, and I would very much like to welcome more volunteers to help with the task. Guidance will be given with the hope that some of you may wish to take on providing altar flowers for one month each year on a rota basis.

Again I can give you guidance and a demonstration on 'how to create a pedestal arrangement' (Anyone interested in a workshop?) If you have any questions please contact me.

Sheila Reeves

tel: 01935 593272 email: sheila.reeves@aol.co.uk

St Barnabas Church

Queen Camel

You are invited to the

Annual Meeting

Wednesday 23rd April 2025

7.00pm

at St. Barnabas Church

The evening will include

The Election of Churchwardens

(All residents of the parish may vote in this election).

Election of The Parochial Church Council

(PCC)

(Members on the Church Electoral Roll may vote in this election)

Reports on the Church Year

We look forward to your support and your views on how we can improve or add to any aspect of the life of YOUR church in Queen Camel

Wine & Nibbles

If you wish to be nominated for either Churchwarden or PCC member nomination forms and ballot box are in the Church,
For further information please contact PCC Secretary
Suzanne Corbett 01935 851747

WEST CAMEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH



Meeting at All Saints Church

Affiliated to the Independent Methodist Churches



Registered Charity
No. 1205373

Minister: Ray Ursell (07770 238588)

Local contacts: Geoff and Elizabeth Chapman (01935 850838)

SERVICES IN APRIL

April	6th	4pm	“Sunday @ Four” (U.S)
“	13th	6pm	James Carey of Yeovil PALM SUNDAY
Good Friday	6pm	Geoff Chapman (Reflective Service)	
April	20th	6pm	Ray Ursell EASTER PRAISE
“	27th	6pm	John Harrison of Yeovil. (H.C.)

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

All PM services are followed by refreshments

“Sunday @ Four” includes a full tea.

To listen to our Sunday sermons, go to www.westcamelchurches.org.uk
and select ‘Sermons’

Prayer in the Parishes during April

Our Interim Minister, the Revd Caroline Walker, will be praying in and for our parishes on a regular basis and would welcome anyone wishing to join her in our churches at the following times:

Tue 1 st	5.00pm	Corton Denham	Wed 16 th	9.00am	North Cadbury
Wed 2 nd	9.00am	North Cadbury		12.30pm	West Camel
	12.30pm	West Camel		6.00pm	South Cadbury
	6.00pm	South Cadbury	Mon 21 st	<i>Bank Holiday</i>	
Mon 7 th	9.00am	Queen Camel	Tue 22 nd	5.00pm	Sutton Montis
	6.00pm	Weston Bampfylde	Wed 23 rd	9.00am	Yarlington
Tue 8 th	5.00pm	Sutton Montis		6.00pm	Galhampton
Wed 9 th	9.00am	Yarlington	Mon 28 th	9.00am	Queen Camel
	6.00pm	Galhampton		6.00pm	Weston Bampfylde
Mon 14 th	9.00am	Queen Camel	Tue 29 th	5.00pm	Corton Denham
	6.00pm	Sparkford	Wed 30 th	9.00am	North Cadbury
Tue 15 th	5.00pm	Corton Denham		6.00pm	South Cadbury

West Camel Churches Together

EASTER ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY, April 18th

10.30am. **United Service** on the Green near the village pond (inside if wet).

Followed by hot cross buns, tea and coffee



11.15am **Children's Easter Egg Hunt**

6pm **Reflective Service**



EASTER SUNDAY, April 20th

9.30am **Easter Holy Communion Service**

6pm. **'Easter Praise' Service,**
Followed by refreshments

Thursday 8th May 7pm. D-Day 80th Anniversary SPECIAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Details to be announced in due course.

www.westcamelchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/westcamelchurches



By kind permission of James and Liz Tabor we will hold an Easter Sunrise service at the Beacon, Corton Denham.

Come and join us on the Beacon at 5:45 am to witness the first light of dawn with some readings, prayers and fire.

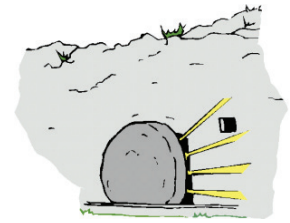
Followed by sharing a simple breakfast in Corton Denham village hall.

For catering purposes please let Julie know if you are coming:

julieebs@gmail.com 07999205757



Holy Week & Easter



in the

Vale of Camelot Churches



PALM SUNDAY - April 13th

Informal Service at Weston Bampfylde Church

Procession with Donkeys from the Village Hall at 10.45am



MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 17th

7.00pm Communion and Foot Washing at Galhampton Church

GOOD FRIDAY - April 18th

Walk of Witness starting at 9.30am at North Cadbury Church

10.15am South Cadbury Church

11.00am Sutton Montis Church

11.45pm Weston Bampfylde Church (Picnic Lunch)

1.00pm Sparkford Church

2.00pm Queen Camel Church - *an hour at the Cross to 3pm*



EASTER DAY

Celebrate the Resurrection



5.45am Sunrise Service at Corton Denham Beacon

9.00am Holy Communion at Yarlinton

9.30am Holy Communion at Queen Camel

9.30am Holy Communion at South Cadbury

9.30am Holy Communion at West Camel

11.00am Holy Communion at Corton Denham

11.00am Holy Communion at North Cadbury

11.00am Holy Communion at Sparkford

11.00am Holy Communion at Sutton Montis

11.00am Holy Communion at Weston Bampfylde



Palm Sunday
April 13th
A special service
For the Vale of Camelot
Churches
with blessing of Palms
and Donkey
procession

Beginning at 10.45 a.m.
at Weston Bampfylde Village Hall
A short procession with Eddie and Smokey
(our local donkeys)

Service in church
beginning at 11.00a.m.

Followed by refreshments and coffee back in
The Village Hall

All Welcome
for the procession, the service or both.

Maundy Thursday
17th April 7pm
Galhampton Chapel

Service remembering
The Last Supper



*Communion
and Foot washing...*

CAMEL CLUB

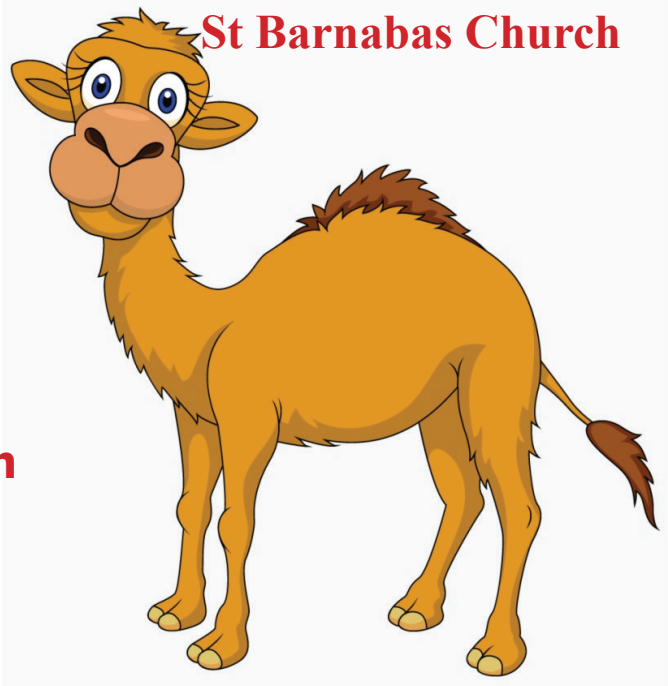
**Crafts, Music, Games,
Bible Stories** for all children
of primary school age

**Thursdays during term time in
the Queen Camel Memorial Hall
from 4.00 - 5.45 pm. (Collection
from school can be arranged)**

Great refreshments!

Cost: £20 per term

For further information please call Marian Davis on 01935 850 139



VALE OF CAMELOT CHURCHES

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025

Date	Location	Time	Service	Officiant
Sunday 6 th April	Yarlington	9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Peter/Caroline
	Queen Camel	9.30am	Informal	Ron Wood
Lent 5	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Julie/Caroline
	West Camel	4.00 pm	Tea @ Four	Methodists
Sunday 13 th April	Galhampton	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Caroline Walker
	Weston Bampfylde Village Hall	10.45am	Procession with donkeys from the Village Hall	Rose Hoskins / Ron Wood
Palm Sunday	Weston Bampfylde	11.00am	Informal Service	
17 th April Maundy Thursday	Galhampton	7.00pm	Holy Communion (CW) and Foot Washing	Ron Wood
18 th April Good Friday	North Cadbury to Queen Camel	9.30am – 2.00pm	Walk of Witness (see <i>Holy Week advert for times at other churches</i>)	Caroline Walker
	Queen Camel	2.00pm - 3.00pm	An Hour at the Cross in St Barnabas	Caroline Walker
Sunday 20 th April	The Beacon, Corton Denham	5.45am	Sunrise Easter Service	Julie Ebsworth
	Yarlington	9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ron Wood
Easter Day	Queen Camel	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Caroline Walker
	West Camel	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Rose Hoskins
	South Cadbury	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Alison Parris
	Corton Denham	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Stuart Thomas
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Ron Wood
	Sparkford	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Alison Parris
	Sutton Montis	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Caroline Walker
	Weston Bampfylde	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Rose Hoskins
	West Camel	6.00pm	Easter Praise	Methodists
Sunday 27 th April	Yarlington	11.00 am	Sunday Worship	Ron Wood
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Alison Parris
Easter 2	Galhampton	6.30pm	Evening Service	Lesley Gillingham



Report of the Queen Camel Parish Council

There was no scheduled meeting of the Parish Council (PC) before The Camels Magazine went to press as the PC next meets on 24 March 2025. Whilst many of the recurring issues are being dealt with, I have only a few specific matters to report.

The PC held an Extraordinary meeting on 24 February to consider various quotes for the **refurbishment of the car park** by the new play area, given the original preferred contractor had pulled out. A way forward was agreed and the arrangements are hopefully being finalised.

The main issues this month have remained the **Hopkins lorries** and the overall **traffic and speed** through the High Street. Harriet Chappell is doing her best to try and find solutions and if you can help her by volunteering for various traffic monitoring and speed watch efforts that would be much appreciated.

The recruitment process for a new **parish clerk** is progressing as is the PC's plan to co-opt a new **councillor** to fill the casual vacancy.

I hope to be able to report more fully on all these and other matters after the March PC meeting in the next edition of The Camels..

I would ask you to make a note in your diaries that the **Annual Village Meeting** will be on Friday, **16 May 2025** in the Memorial Hall. Invitations will be issued in due course.

Please let me or any councillor have any comments on the matters mentioned or those you wish to raise.

John Brendon Chairman of the Parish Council
Email john.brendon@queencamelpc.org.uk
Tel: 07976691895

Queen Camel Memorial Hall

March 200 Club Results : Drawn at the Tuesday Group

First Prize:-	£30	Jenny & Anne Down	Number:-6
Second Prize:-	£25	Helen Solomon	Number:-62
Third Prize:-	£20	Anonymous	Number:-88
Fourth Prize:-	£15	Keith Burch	Number:-138
Fifth Prize:-	£10	Jo Burgess	Number:-57

Join now with a chance to win!!! Just £10 until September 2025.
Contact Liz Jardine 01935 850074 or lizjardine@outlook.com.



Will you be attending?

Queen Camel Parish Council
invites you to:

THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING

Friday 16TH May 2025

Queen Camel Memorial Hall

6.00pm: Doors open, complimentary drink and nibbles

6.45pm: Formal business with invited key speakers

8.00pm: Opportunity to raise local issues

This annual event brings the community together to keep informed and discuss local achievements and concerns: HGV's Speeding, Planning, Policing, dogs, Play Area and local clubs.



PLEASE COME ALONG, ALL WELCOME. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE.

What's on in Queen Camel Memorial Hall in April

- Mondays:** Pilates 9 -11.15am
Tennis Club AGM April 14th 7.30-9.30pm
- Tuesdays:** Cam Vale Tuesday Group April 1st 10-12
Brownies 6-7pm (not April 8th &15th)
Guides 7-8.30pm (not April 8th &15th)
Village Cafe April 8th 10-12
QC Quilters April 15th 10-4pm
- Wednesdays:** Bumps, Tots & Toddlers 10-12 (not April 8th &15th)
Youth Group 6-8pm (not April 2nd)
- Thursdays:** Tai Chi 10.30-11.30am
Camel Club 4-5.30pm (not April 8th &15th)
Gardening Club AGM April 10th 7.00pm
- Fridays:** Table Tennis 7-9pm
- Saturday:** Easter Bingo April 5th 7.30pm

For hall booking enquiries please call 07707206250

Come and Join us for ...



Queen Camel Memorial Hall

Saturday 5th April

Doors open 6:45 pm

Eyes Down 7:30 pm

Refreshments, Raffle & Prizes Galore!

Proceeds to Q C Memorial Hall

Cleaveside Close Community Centre – April Activities



Mondays Flexercise 11.30-12.30pm -Having fun -stretching & toning exercises £3 to non-residents on 7th, 14th & 28th April – Refreshments included

Monday 14 April Committee meeting at 10.15am

Tuesdays - weekly Walking Group from 1 April - **meet at the Centre at 2.15pm**

Wednesdays Live Well with Pain Café 10.30-12.30, on 9 April– Coping strategies – 50p for a cuppa & biscuits

Wednesday 9 April Relaxation Techniques with Jenny from 3-4.00pm Cost £1

Wednesday 16 April Cinema – tbc

Thursdays Tai Chi with Lucy in the Memorial Hall from 10.30-11.30am -3rd, 10th, & 24th April. Cost £6

Thursday 10 April Sing-A-Long with Jaine from 2.00pm. Donation to Goldies £3 Refreshments included

Thursday 24 April Games Afternoon from 2.00pm, plus refreshments

Friday 4 April Annual General Meeting (AGM) at 3-00pm. Please come along and elect your Club representatives; learn how the scheme runs and suggest ideas for any improvements/adaptations, activities, visits etc. Refreshments provided

Saturday 12 April Easter Fun Bingo & Raffle. Eyes down at 2.00pm. Refreshments included. Cost £5 for five games & raffle.

Saturday 26 April Lunch & Film from 1.00pm. Homemade mains and dessert followed by a cuppa and a film. Cost £7

*****Working microwave free – contact Dizzy on 07871 510663*****

Cleaveside Close Community Centre

• A big “Thank You!” to everyone who contributed to making our recent Soup and Bacon Butty Lunch a success. We raised £400!

• Special thanks to our customers, our donors, our helpers and those of you who made the soups, cakes and supported the Table-Top Sale.

• We will now be able to purchase the much-needed Combi-Microwave for the Centre.



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.

Further details on www.sasq.co.uk/health-walks

Cam Vale Tuesday Group. March meeting 2025

George Bethal, from the Secret World of Wildlife Rescue came to speak to us.

Pauline and Derek Kidner opened their farm as a visitor attraction in 1984 to implement their farm income. Soon, vulnerable and injured animals were being brought to them by concerned members of the public. Pauline began treating these animals and, in 1992, The Secret World of Wildlife Rescue was founded.

The Charity now deals with approx 5,000 animals, and 50,000 phone calls a year. All animals are assessed and if injuries are severe, sometimes euthanasia is the only answer. George showed some distressing pictures of animals that had been injured, some by thoughtless actions. Rubber bands can cause constriction for tiny mammals seeking food in the undergrowth. Nets in ponds are a danger to grass snakes. Drink cans, wire, string and plastic can be lethal. Lawn mowers and strimmer often cause injuries to hedgehogs and other mammals hiding in our gardens.

We learnt so much about wildlife. A hare, when having to leave its young, will leave them in separate fields to aid survival. Owlets often fall out of trees. Baby Tawny Owls will wait until night-fall and then climb up the tree back to the nest, a feat not learnt by other owl species.

The charity has its own Hospital and a part-time vet. There are outside enclosures suited to individual animal's needs where they can recover. Limited human intervention during this time aids their lessening dependence on humans. Animals are generally released back where they were found so that they recognise their surroundings and know where food can be found.

The Rescue centre is not open to the public, but there are occasional Open Days. Educational tours can be arranged. A fascinating talk.....On closing, any idea how big a polecat is at birth? I was amazed, it's the size of a 50 pence piece.

The Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the Memorial Hall, Queen Camel. Our next talk on April 1st is on International Gardens. New members and visitors are welcome. For further information please contact Marion Chapman. Tel 01963 220741.



West Camel Village Cafe

9:15 - 12 Every Thurs

At the Davis Hall

Cake£1.00

Tea.....£1.00

Espresso.....£1.00

Cappuccino....£1.50

Latte.....£1.50

Americano.....£1.50

Bacon Sandwiches

£3.50

Featuring Bakery and
Post Office

Films at

The Davis Hall, West Camel



Friday 25th April

Paddington in Peru

Trailers on the Davis Hall website 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.

Book Group at The Walnut Tree, West Camel

On Wednesday a record number of members joined in the discussion of Odyssey, the third draft of a novel by me. It was a magical evening of open discussion which was very encouraging for the author, who was pleased to have a few suggestions for tidying up the structure. As ever, we enjoyed frank discussion, not always in agreement but always in harmony. Thank you to all those who gave time to reading the novel and giving such encouraging feedback. Should I ever get around to publishing you will be the first to hear.

Our next read will be On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan on Wednesday 9th April. A short but intense novel.

Wednesday 14th May

Trustee from the toolroom by Nevil Shute

Wednesday 11th June

Ruskin Park by Rory Cellan-Jones

Please think about suggestions for the summer and into the Autumn.

Happy reading! Melanie Smallwood



PET PORTRAITS FOR THE PLAYGROUND PROJECT

I will happily produce a pastel portrait of your pet for £50 (framed) all monies going to **West Camel Playground Project.**

All I need is a good, well-lit photograph and a brief visit to get to know the subject a bit.

I put them in inexpensive frames to keep the cost down.

Mary Gordon

marygordon2901@gmail.com 07870408548

Linhay, Old Cotes, Parsonage Road, West Camel



Fun and friendly
ADULT BALLET CLASSES

The Davis Hall
West Camel
Wednesdays
19:30
£8

Contact Natalie
07541398925

Whether you have danced before and want to get back into it, or just want to try something completely new, come and join us on Wednesday evenings for a fun and friendly ballet class.



Scottish Country Dancing

Thursdays

9th January – 26th June 2025 (except 23rd Jan)

St Michael's Scottish Country Dancing Club, 7.30 – 9.30pm at the **Davis Hall**, West Camel BA22 7QX.
Always a fun evening– a warm welcome assured! First two visits free, then £2.00 per session, £1.50 for members. **Bring soft flat shoes.....no partner needed**

See website www.stmichaelscdclub.org or contact elspeth_a_wright@hotmail.com 07972125617

Somerset Wildlife Trust asks us all to become hoverfly heroes for this year's Wild about Gardens campaign

The Wildlife Trusts and the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) are calling on gardeners across the country to help save hoverflies. This fly family is the second most significant pollinator after bees – some species of hoverfly are known to visit more flowers than bees.

These insects are unsung heroes of many of our ecosystems. Hoverflies visit 52% of crops globally¹, which they either pollinate or protect by eating sap-sucking aphids. Additionally, they pollinate wildflowers, are food for birds and even help break down organic matter in gardens.

Yet, intensive agriculture, harmful pesticides, urban development and climate change have all taken their toll. Hoverfly distribution has seen a 44% decline between 1980 to 2020² and in 2022 the International Union for the Conservation of Nature added hoverflies to its Red List of threatened species.

Hoverflies are masters of disguise. These stingless insects are often mistaken for wasps, bees or even hornets and the different types go by various common names such as Batman, Footballer and Marmalade, thanks to their distinctive markings and colours.

True flies have only one pair of flight wings (whereas bees and wasps have two) and they make up over 280 of the 6000 fly species in the UK. It can be easier to identify them by their behaviour than their looks, because they hover or even zigzag around plants.

Bryony Slaymaker, Wilder Communities Manager at Somerset Wildlife Trust, says:

“Hoverflies are a tiny but essential part of the natural world, and we’d love everyone in Somerset who has a garden, allotment, outdoor space or even just a window box to consider making their space more inviting for these special creatures! You can access lots of free tips and tricks to make your garden more wildlife-friendly on our website.”

Vicki Hird, author of Rebugging the Planet and strategic agriculture lead for The Wildlife Trusts, says:

“Hoverflies are the hidden heroes of our gardens and countryside – but whatever their shape, size or disguise, they are critical for our food security. They can thrive in well-managed woodlands and wetlands, but there is also so much we could be doing in our gardens to help.

“Providing a range of flowers to feed on through the year, ponds for larvae to grow in, dead wood to lay eggs in and even a few aphid pests for them to feed on, and you will have these gardeners’ friends for life. And they are so helpful, and don’t bite or sting. You can be a hoverfly champion by telling friends and family to cherish them.”

Helen Bostock, Senior Wildlife Specialist at the Royal Horticultural Society, says: “We’d like people to open their garden gates to hoverflies this summer. These incredible insects help pollinate our plants, keep aphids in balance and break down rotting matter in the garden. Gardeners can help attract them by planting open, easily accessible flowers. In spring, they’ll be drawn to aubretia. In summer, they’ll love blackberry flowers, oxeye daisy, marigolds, fennel, cow parsley and poppies. Come autumn, they can be seen on heather, aster and even common ivy.”

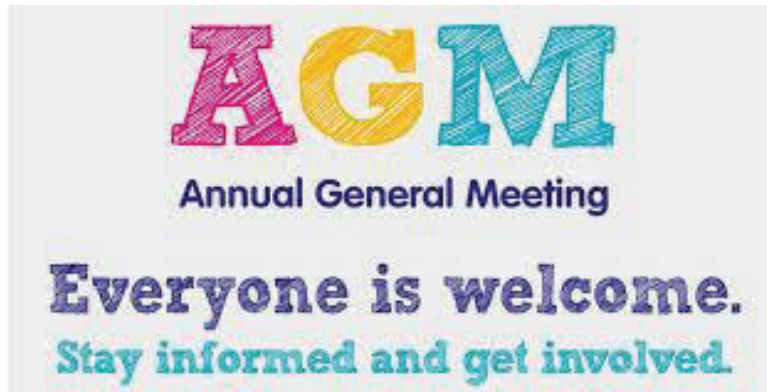
Experts from the two charities have designed a series of projects for gardeners to help hoverflies in spaces large or small. These include:

- Pollinator plant boxes: Ideal for small-space gardens or balconies, these can be jam-packed with flowering plants to suit the season, representing a giant buffet for visiting hoverflies.

- Hoverfly lagoons: These are pools of shallow water where fallen leaves create a perfect breeding ground for many of the hoverfly species which have aquatic larvae.
- Larvae nurseries: Log piles and even shrubs can make perfect homes for hoverfly larvae.

To identify which hoverflies are visiting your garden, and to find out more about how you can help save this species, please visit www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk

Queen Camel Gardening Club



On Thurs 10th April.

AGM at 7pm

In the Queen Camel Memorial Hall,

followed by refreshments and then a talk from

Dave Moon on

'Gardens of the Rich and Famous'

a slide show with music and anecdotes.

Everyone welcome!

Free to members, £2 for guests.

There will also be a raffle.

For more information, contact

Julie Bloom on 07590 984343/julb1957@yahoo.com

QUEEN CAMEL TENNIS CLUB

A friendly and sociable two-court Club with floodlights on the edge of the Playing Field in Queen Camel.

We enjoy competitive & social play and have a great coaching programme including Saturday mornings for children from 5 upwards and for adults Wednesday evenings.

In addition to our regular Club Night on Tuesday evenings, we also have a new Club morning on the first Sunday of the month 10 am until noon.
All members welcome

Interested in joining? Great news, new memberships run annually, beginning on the 1st April. We offer Junior, Adult, Social and Family memberships. For more information visit our website
www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/QueenCamelTennisClub

Queen Camel Tennis Club, The Playing Fields, Green Lane, Queen Camel BA22 7NW



QUEEN CAMEL TENNIS CLUB

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON

MONDAY 14th APRIL 2025 AT 7.30 PM

IN THE MARPLES ROOM, QUEEN CAMEL MEMORIAL HALL.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND BUT ONLY MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

* * * * *



QUEEN CAMEL BOWLS CLUB

Off Englands Lane, Queen Camel, BA22 7NN



**Are you looking for a new form of gentle exercise?
Would you like to play a competitive but enjoyable game?
Why not try Lawn Bowls and make some friends at the same time?**

**We hold a number of social events throughout the year and have a subsidised bar.
All are welcome, even if you do not wish to play Bowls.**

Get in touch to find out more today.

**howard.davies121@yahoo.com
07957 834717**

ANYONE FOR BADMINTON?

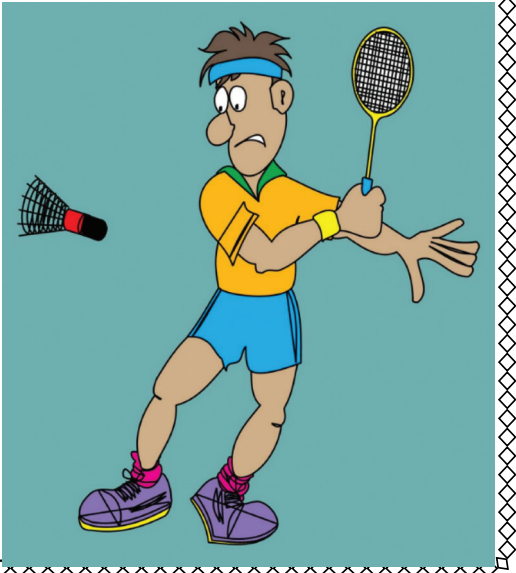
Would you be interested in playing this sport for fun? Rimpton Badminton Club would like to encourage new members for weekly or occasional games.

We play on a Wednesday evening from 7.00 – 8.30pm in Rimpton Village Hall BA22 8AD.

We have one court and if more than four people turn up, we rotate so you should get to play a few games and have a breather in between! There are no membership fees and no commitments; just turn up and play for £2 a session. The standard is moderate and beginners are welcome.

If you are interested in any way, please drop me an e-mail:

Mr Lindsey Maguire: Lindsey@studio-6.co.uk or give me a call on 07903 297712.



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Volunteers much needed with DIY, painting cooking and
gardening skills after last year's flood. Please can you help?

Courses & Events

Meditation 26-30 May or 1 to 1- for health, focus & space.

Sound Bath 30 April and monthly from then
good for rest, relaxation, and toning.

A Healing Way of Life led by Daniel – 4-5 May.

Bede Griffiths Retreat with David Cole – 10-12 May.

Animal Energy Therapy Training with Daniel – 18-19 May.

Labyrinth Retreat, 'within and without' find your inner
answers in sacred space led by Julie and Christy – 6/7 July.

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For Childhood Conditions:

- Croup, Bronchiolitis

📍 Old School, High Street, Queen Camel, BA22 7NH
☎ Call/Text/WhatsApp: 07368 986972

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Email: e.j.silk@btinternet.com



OPENING 15TH APRIL!

I'm so happy to be back in the cafe - there will be a few changes which I hope you will all like. Please pop in for a coffee and a catch up. We're open 8.30am - 4.00 pm Tuesday - Saturday
Great menu including the popular ALL DAY BREAKFAST + extensive LUNCH selection + delicious sweet treats, drinks etc.








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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 send an email to 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.

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Magazine Editor: Morwenna Ford, Woodpeckers, Green Lane, Queen Camel BA22 7NP
Tel: 01935 850 300; Email: morwennaford@gmail.com

Please supply copy not later than the 20th of the previous month

Distribution: Rachel & David Scully Tel: 01935 851642; Email: rachelscully475@btinternet.com