

March 2024

The Camels



Magazine

The Cam Vale Ministry Team

Priest in Charge: Vacant
Readers: Mrs Julie Ebsworth (07999 205757)
Email: julieebs@gmail.com
Mrs Christy Casley (07564 935555)
Email: christylmy@icloud.com
Benefice Administrator: Mrs Kerry Pike (01963 441 595)
Email: admincamvale@gmail.com
Address: The Old School, Queen Camel, BA22 7NH

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

* * * * *

Weather records from Mead Farm, Downhead January 2024

Maximum temperature: 13.8 C (56 F) on the 2nd and 23rd.
Minimum temperature: -8.3 C (17 F) on the 19th.
Grass level minimum: -10.4 C (13 F) on the 18th.
Total rainfall: 64.9 mm (2.56 ins.)

Monica Tallon and family would like to thank everyone for their kindness during Bill's illness and for their support, messages, cards and good wishes at this sad time.

Cover: Crocuses and daffodils in full bloom in the St Barnabas churchyard.

Editorial

The season seems to be changing rather quickly, it's still winter and yet my garden is telling me spring is here! It's not just the season but also the manner in which life is changing as well. Things are happening that are new to my experience. Last Tuesday I had pancakes – well it was Shrove Tuesday, nothing unusual about that! Yes, but for breakfast and cooked by a 7 year boy (closely supervised by his grandmother), with lemon and gritty sugar it truly was a treat and unexpected.

It's that time of year in the Churches life, called Lent, when Christians for a period of 40 days give up something they love in order to remember the events leading up to the crucifixion of Christ. It's a time for reflection upon our lives and where it is taking us. A period of preparation that leads up to a big celebration at Eastertide.

It was this that had triggered the thoughts of breakfast pancakes. Only, I haven't given up anything for Lent for years. No, I have tended to do something extra, something positive rather than give something up. I try to do some action, small though it might be, for someone other than myself which has consequences whereas denying yourself chocolate or cakes doesn't seem to impinge on anyone other than yourself.

I always remember something Archbishop Cury once said. It is wrong that someone receiving a present from you should say "thank you". No, it is the giver that should say "thank you". Thank you that God had given him the capability to give a present freely to benefit someone else. Positive actions, unasked for, invariable brighten the day and add a feel good factor.

This particular February the world at large is in turmoil, our media fills our daily lives with events that far from being uplifting, drag us down wondering how much further mankind can sink. God must be tearing his hair out as he observes how we choose to use the planet and the free will he gave us!! We may feel impotent but each one of us can do in his/her own small way something to show that basically we have goodness in us. So this year during Lent I challenge you rather than give up something act positively and help someone else and brighten their day and your own as well. (If you got the message I really could grow to love to eat pancakes for breakfast everyday).

Pat

Email Delivery of the Camels Magazine:

We are looking to establish an email delivery system for the Camels Magazine in Queen Camel and having started this exercise in late 2023, we are keen to make everyone aware of the possibility. As you can imagine, the paper copies involve a great deal of time, resources and shoe leather to deliver over 400 copies around the village. We will still print a hard copy each month as there are a considerable number of people in the parish without an internet connection to whom we will continue to deliver and there will be copies available in the shop, church and the Old School cafe.

If you would like to receive future copies in this format, please email Morwenna Ford at morwennaford@gmail.com giving you 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.

VILLAGE CAFÉ

TUESDAY 12th MARCH
Queen Camel Memorial Hall

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

**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 Queen Camel Hardship Fund*



ST BARNABAS CHURCH NEWS : MARCH 2024

HAPPENINGS IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS . . .

We have enjoyed an All Age Service - with breakfast - and a Communion Service taken by two of the retired clergy in the area who most generously give of their time to help us continue worshipping and enjoying fellowship during the current period of vacancy.

COMING UP . . .

There will be an informal service of Morning Prayer led by Julie Ebsworth and Christy Casely in place of our usual All Age Service on the first Sunday, 3rd March, at 9.30 am.

Mothering Sunday: This will take place on Sunday 10th March at 9.30 am. However, please join us beforehand for breakfast including croissants, toast, tea, coffee, milk shakes etc. from 9 am. The children from Camel Club will be taking part and the service will be taken by Rev. Mark Ellis who is really looking forward to being with us. There will be a little something for all the ladies as well as refreshments after the Service.

Please make a note in your diaries as this will be a very special service for everyone.

Easter Sunday – Sunday 31st March: This will take the form of a Family Communion Service, again taken by Rev. Mark Ellis who has kindly volunteered to lead us in our worship at 11am. There will be an Easter egg hunt for all children after the service.

The Church Path Fayre will be held on Saturday 8th June (St Barnabas Day) – please make a note of the date in your diary – and if you would like to help, please contact Paul Davis on 01935 850 139.

THREE REQUESTS FOR HELP . . .

THE LORD'S LARDER! As we know from the news each day the cost of living is hitting many people hard and Food Banks such as the Lords Larder in Yeovil are struggling to cope.

Items needed most at the moment include: tins of soup; tins of macaroni cheese; tinned hotdogs; tins of beans & sausages; tins of fruit; packets of custard; packets of biscuits; carrier bags. Cheques, cash and bank transfers to the Lords Larder are always welcome. Other items welcome as well. **Please think when you are shopping - can I give a little?**

If you would like to donate some items to the Lord's Larder, we have a box on the right, inside the glass doors as you enter the church. It is available each week day and when services are held on Sundays. In addition, the box is placed in the entrance of the Memorial Hall when the Village Café is held (Tuesday 12th March) once a month. If you would like items to be collected from your home, please call Paul or Marian Davis (01935 850 139/ 07513 1007 916) who will arrange with you a convenient time to call. Alternatively items can be delivered to 26 The Glebe, QC. **THANK YOU!**

CLEANING THE CHURCH: A small number of people have been cleaning the Church for a while now. However, it is felt that it would be good to have more help. We would welcome anyone who is able to give a little of their time. If you are able to help please get in touch with Marian Davis 07513 107 916 who will be very pleased to hear from you.

MAKING THE CHURCHYARD READY FOR SPRING: Trees need a light prune, ivy needs removing from walls and hedges need trimming. If you are able to help with these tasks please get in touch with Paul Davis on 07928 739 418 who will be very pleased to hear from you.

/Cont'd overleaf

AND FINALLY . . . Allotments

There is currently one allotment available. It has been well cultivated, is free draining and has produced good crops in the past. The allotments have a water supply and benches for a well deserved rest. Please contact Paul Davis if interested on 01935 850139 or mobile 07928 739 418.

THE SIX CHURCHES OF CAM VALE

Services for the month of March 2024

Sunday 3 March	Queen Camel	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (Informal)
	West Camel	4.00 pm	Tea @ Four
Sunday 10 March Mothering Sunday	Queen Camel	10.00 am	Mothering Service / All Age Service
	West Bampfylde	10.00 am	Mothering Service
	West Camel	10.00 am	Mothering Service With Methodists
	Corton Denham Sutton Montis	11.00 am	Shared Mothering Service at St Andrews
Sunday 17 March	Queen Camel	9.30 am	CW Holy Communion
	Sparkford	9.30 am	BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday	Meet at Village Hall	9.45 am	Donkey procession
	Weston Bampfylde	10.00 am	Together @ 10
Friday 29 March Good Friday	West Camel	9.30 am	Pilgrimage Walk
	Queen Camel		
	Sparkford		
	West Bampfylde		Please see posters for more information and approximate timings
	Sutton Montis		
	Corton Denham		
	West Camel on the green	10.30 am	Good Friday service with Methodists Followed by egg hunt
Sunday 31 March Easter Sunday	Corton Denham	11.00 am	CW Holy Communion
	Sparkford	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	Sutton Montis	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	Queen Camel	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	West Camel	6.00 pm	United Easter Praise Service

From the Registers: Funerals & Thanks Giving Services

- 16th February Barbara Cottier at St Mary Magdalene, Sparkford
- 22nd February Miore Laurie Gordon at All Saints, West Camel

WEST CAMEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH



Meeting at All Saints Church

Affiliated to the Independent Methodist Churches

Registered Charity No. 1205373



SERVICES IN MARCH:

March	3rd	4pm	"Sunday @ Four" (U.S.)
"	10th	4pm	Steve Derby of Ditchat
"	17th	4pm	Chris Spracklen of Martock (H.C.)
"	24th	4pm	Stephen Gillham of West Moors
"	31st	<u>6pm</u>	Ray Ursell EASTER PRAISE (U.S.)

(U.S. = United Service)

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

Recorded Sunday sermons can be accessed on
www.westcamelchurches.org.uk

WEST CAMEL CHURCHES TOGETHER

Mothing Sunday, 10th March 10am.

All-age Service.

Posies for all the ladies. Followed by light refreshments

A warm welcome to all.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER EVENTS

Good Friday 29th March

10.30am Short service on the green near the Village Pond.

Followed by refreshments in the church, and a

Children's Easter Egg Hunt with an optional Craft Session.

Easter Sunday 31st March

11am Holy Communion

6pm. United Easter Praise service

www.westcamelchurches.org.uk :: www.facebook.com/westcamelchurches

WEST CAMEL CHURCHES



Our Children's Holiday Club on Tuesday 13th February went well. The children enjoyed making model thrones and crowns, and joining in songs and games. They also learned about two Bible kings – David, who killed Goliath, and Joash, who became king at the age of seven.

QUEEN CAMEL FLOOD COMMITTEE

The first signs of spring may be showing but recent weather and the extremely sodden ground remains as does the risk of flooding – a guide is never put your flood defences away until after the Bath and West Show!

Following the flash flood in May 2023 there are two strands of work –

Flood Warning - The River Cam Monitoring Group is now established following the meeting of all Parish Councils along the River Cam – water measuring devices will be placed at strategic points, linked to new rain gauges which will give better warning of rising river levels and we should be able to judge at what levels preventative action can then be taken – automatic warnings by text or What's App are being developed. The first monitors have been installed in Blackford and Yarlinton. (Sparkford, Queen Camel and West Camel are next)

River Management – Means to better regulate the river flow in high water such as Attenuation Ponds to hold water and then release it slowly are being planned. Funding and working with the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, Yeovil Community Rivers Trust, Somerset Council (the Somerset Rivers Authority) and Environment Agency progresses. Linked is work by the PC to ensure the A303, both current and previous works, take better account of flooding risks and appropriate infrastructure put in place.

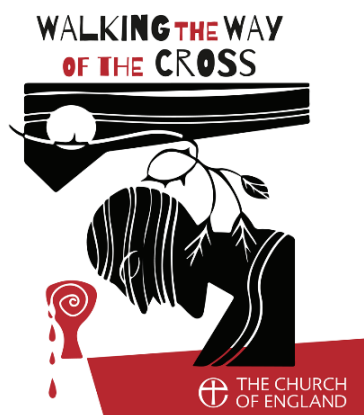
Somerset Council have started work on the mandated section 19 Investigation into the May 2023 flood. There is no timeline for completion.

Noting the likelihood of flooding and to properties that had hitherto never been flooded before all such households are encouraged to consider their own property flood defences and plans on what to do before, during, after a flood. The QC website has relevant information and useful links.

(An updated booklet on flooding should be available shortly to all PC's along the River Cam to distribute to at risk properties)

Martin Lilley

Chairman, Queen Camel Flood Committee



Cam Vale Benefice – Easter 2024

Good Friday Pilgrimage

Friday, 29th March 2024

Starting at 9.30 am
from All Saints Church, West Camel,

- 1) **West Camel, All Saints**
Service starts at 9.30 am - Stations 1 & 2
Leave for Queen Camel, St Barnabas – 10.00am
- 2) **Queen Camel, St Barnabas**
Service starts at 10.30 am – Stations 3, 4 & 5
Depart for Sparkford, St Mary Magdalene - 11.00am
- 3) **Sparkford, St Mary Magdalene**
Service starts at 11.30 am – Stations 6 & 7
Depart for Weston Bampfylde, Holy Cross.
- 4) **Weston Bampfylde, Holy Cross**
Service starts at 12.30 pm – Stations 8 & 9
Depart for lunch at the Weston Bampfylde Village Hall - 1.00 pm

Lunch - 1.15 pm to 1.45 pm

Depart for Sutton Montis, Holy Trinity – 1.45 pm

- 5) **Sutton Montis, Holy Trinity**
Service starts at 2.15 pm - Stations 10 & 11
Depart for Corton Denham, St Andrew – 2.45 pm
- 6) **Corton Denham, St Andrew**
Service starts at 3.45 pm – Stations 12, 13 & 14
Depart for afternoon tea in Corton Denham Village Hall – 4.15 pm

Afternoon tea 4.15 pm to 4.45 pm (Donation please)

Although this is principally a walking event, there is the opportunity to follow the walkers by car and attend the services at each of our churches. The estimated time of these is indicated above. Dogs and well-behaved handlers are, of course, also most welcome to join the pilgrimage.

Queen Camel Memorial Hall
200 Club Results-February 2024
Drawn at the village Café.

First Prize:- £30 Rosie Wellwood Number:-30
Second Prize:- £25 Trisha Rylance Number:- 91
Third Prize:- £20 Lawrence Hopkins Number:- 159
Fourth Prize:- £15 Pat & Dave Rankin Number:- 64
Fifth Prize:- £10 Bob Griffin Number:- 63

Now only £10 for half a year!!

**Contact Liz Jardine 01935 850074 or lizjardine@outlook.co. if
you wish to join and support the maintenance of your village hall.**

Cam Vale Tuesday Group

Our February meeting provided a wonderful interlude with a presentation by Dave Moon on 'The Gardens of the Rich & Famous'. His superb photos had been set to music, both classical and modern, and we were given the histories of the photographed gardens which were fascinating and sometimes poignant. Amongst the gardens shown were those of Rudyard Kipling and Mary Berry and 8 hospital gardens for UK spinal units with plans for another three. Dave is a member of the National Garden Scheme and all the money from his talks goes to the charities that the Scheme supports. In 2023 they donated an amazing sum of over £3 million pounds to nursing and health charities.

A good morning was had by all.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at The Memorial Hall in Queen Camel at 10am.

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 and give it a try – a warm welcome assured!

First two visits free, £2.00 per session, £1.50 for members.

See website: www.stmichaelsccdclub.org or contact

elspeth_a_wright@hotmail.com 07972125617





Report from the Queen Camel Parish Council:

The Parish Council (PC) did not have a meeting in February but I can report that working groups or committees have been active. The next full PC meeting will be on Monday 18 March 2024 in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

- Following the discussions at the January PC meeting representatives of all the parishes affected by the Hopkins Estates lorries on the local roads met as a pressure group. Working with our MP, Sarah Dyke, their first step is to get some clear answers from Somerset Council (SC) on the position to see what action can be taken. The PC's representatives on this group are Roy Lawrenson and David Lowe.
- As was discussed at the January meeting the threat that the No 1 bus service from Yeovil to Shepton Mallet will stop in mid April becomes closer. We understand that the route has gone out to tender for a modified service. Please use the bus as much as possible and sign our MP's petition by going to <https://www.sarahdyke.uk/campaigns/save-our-buses>. If you are able to support the Somerset Bus Partnership's efforts in campaigning to save many bus routes in the county, refer to its website.
- Flooding issues remain of great concern with very high river levels being recorded on 18 February. Martin Lilley as chairman of the PC's flood committee has reported elsewhere in this magazine on its activities.
- The Playing Field Management Committee met to deal with a lot of management issues on 5 February. It is developing its rota of volunteers to help in maintaining the field. Also the gang mowers have had a log overdue service and, with this unusually warm weather, should be put to use soon. Anyone who can volunteer to help would be most welcome as there are plenty of jobs to be done. The new play area tendering is progressing and there should be more to report in March.
- The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Working Group met to consider some of the "projects" in the NP and how they can be progressed. The initial focus will be on some highway related matters such as whether SC can install a 20mph speed limit through the whole village from the old school to the new one and how to declutter street signage. There will also be groups looking at footpath accessibility and in logging the position on heritage assets.

The PC and many other organisations in the village need volunteers so if you feel you could contribute please contact me or any councillor.

John Brendon, Chairman of the Parish Council

Email: john.brendon@queencamelpc.org.uk Tel: 07976 691 895

Queen Camel Cares

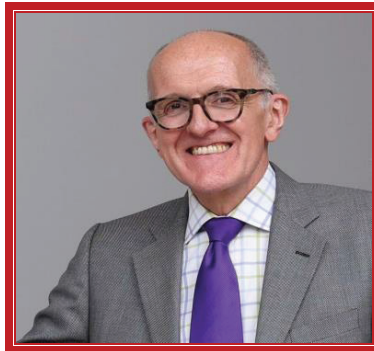
A village-based support network for anyone requiring a bit of extra help at times when life is particularly challenging. Please ring Morwenna Ford (850 300) or Paul Davis (850 139) if you think we might be able to help or make a difference.

Friday 8th March 7:30 pm

Queen Camel Memorial Hall

A talk by Richard Kay

Director and Picture Specialist at Lawrences Auctioneers.



‘An Auctioneer’s Ten Commandments’

(Light-hearted and informal saleroom reminiscences.)

Tickets £7.50



Bar & Nibbles!



Tickets at Village Café, Supply Stores, or Lesley: 01935 850135

Support YOUR Village Hall

Films at The Davis Hall, West Camel



Friday 22nd March: **‘The Miracle Club’**

Friday 26th April: **‘Napoleon’**

Trailers on the Davis Hall website davishall.co.uk

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

Tickets £5 on the door 16 and under £3.50

Come and try our new comfortable chairs – warm hall as ever!

Easy parking

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

What's on in Queen Camel Memorial Hall in March

- Mondays:** Pilates 9.00- 11.15am
Parish Council 18th March 7.30pm
- Tuesdays:** Cam Vale Tuesday Group 5th March 10-12
Brownies 6-7pm
Guides 7-9pm
Village Cafe 12th March 10-12
QC Quilters 19th March 10-4pm
- Wednesdays:** Bumps, Tots & Toddlers 10-12
Wessex Internet meeting March 6th 6-8pm
- Thursdays:** Tai Chi 10.30-11.30am
Camel Club 4.00-5.30pm
Gardening Club 14th March 7-9pm
- Fridays:** Pilates Bone Health Course 10.30-11.30am
Table Tennis 7-9pm (not 8th March)
A talk by Richard Kay March 8th 7.30pm
(An Auctioneer's Ten Commandments)
- Saturdays:** Easter Bingo 23rd March 7.30pm

Cleaveside Close Lounge Activities for March 2024



Friday 1 March 2.00pm from the Community Centre – A gentle walk, all invited. Wear sensible shoes. Wheelchair provided if required, plus help.

Monday 4 March 11.00-12.00 – Flexercise

Sitting down exercises to tone up your muscles whilst having fun with all sorts of gadgets and music! Refreshments included (£2 to non-residents)

Wednesday 6 March 2.30- 3.30pm – Relaxation Techniques with Jenny.

Thursday 7 March 10.30-11.30am – Tai Chi in the Memorial Hall. Pay as you go £5.

Thursday 7 March 2-4.00pm – Social and games A good variety of board games, cards, Dominoes, Hoy etc. to play in a fun and enjoyable atmosphere. Bring your own nibbles Tea/coffee provided. FREE

Friday 8 March 2.00pm from the Community Centre – A gentle walk, all invited. Wear sensible shoes. Wheelchair provided if required, plus help.

Saturday 9 March Eyes down 2.15pm – Fun Bingo – for an afternoon of fun and surprises! Raffle. (£3) Refreshments included. All welcome!

Monday 11 March 11.00-12.00 – Flexercise

Sitting down exercises to tone up your muscles whilst having fun with all sorts of gadgets and music! Refreshments included (£2 to non-residents)

Monday 11 March 12.30pm – Committee Meeting

Wednesday 13 March 11.30-12.30pm – Live Well with Pain Café. Are you living with a long-term pain condition? Come along and meet others in the same situation and learn how to deal with pain. Get help and advice from Liz Webber, Q C Health Coach and Sue Crisfield, Social Prescribing Coordinator, Rural Practice Network. FREE refreshments and a warm welcome await you!

Wednesday 13 March – No Relaxation Techniques this afternoon

Thursday 14 March 10.30-11.30am: Tai Chi in the Memorial Hall. Pay as you go £5.

Thursday 14 March 2-4.00pm – Sing-A-Long with Jaine. Come along and join in singing songs and having fun! Refreshments included (At least a £3 donation in support of Golden Oldies).

Friday 15 March 2.00pm from the Community Centre – A gentle walk, all invited. Wear sensible shoes. Wheelchair provided if required, plus help.

Saturday 16 March – Lunch and Film – 12.45 for 1.00pm – Enjoy a home-cooked lunch and dessert, followed by a cuppa and a film to watch. (£5 per head). (please book your meal on 07527779248 with Sue)

Monday 18 March 11.00-12.00 – Flexercise

Sitting down exercises to tone up your muscles whilst having fun with all sorts of gadgets and music! Refreshments included (£2 to non-residents)

Tuesday 19 March 10.00 - 12.00pm Cookery Session - Hot Cross buns? Provide your own ingredients, some equipment on hand. Recipe sheets provided. FREE

Wednesday 20 March 2.30- 3.30pm – Relaxation Techniques with Jenny.

Thursday 21 March 10.30-11.30am – Tai Chi in the Memorial Hall. Pay as you go £5.

Friday 22 March 2.00pm from the Community Centre – A gentle walk, all invited. Wear sensible shoes. Wheelchair provided if required, plus help.

Monday 25 March 11.00-12.30pm - Flexercise

Sitting down exercises to tone up your muscles whilst having fun with all sorts of gadgets and music! Refreshments included (£2 to non-residents)

Monday 25 March – Afternoon film and refreshments at Westlands – to be confirmed

Wednesday 27 March 2.30- 3.30pm – Relaxation Techniques with Jenny.

Friday 29 March – No Walking Session today – Easter holiday

Anyone can come along and join in any of the activities at any time. Do come!

For more information on any of the activities please contact Sue Gettings on: 07527779248.

Happy Easter to everyone!



West Camel Book Group

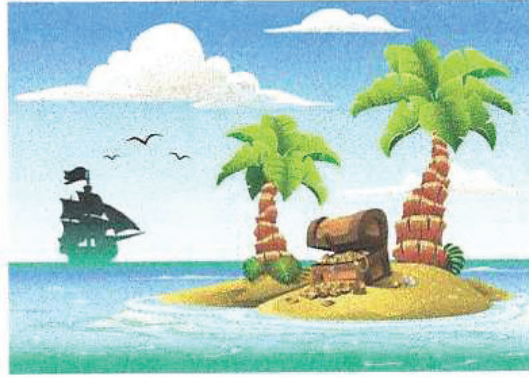
The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce was a hit with the Book Group. It is an unlikely story, but it reads at a charming pace and the format allows little insights into the lives of people Harold meets on his journey. The backdrop to the lives of Maureen and Harold is fairly bleak but the unfolding of it brings a healing that is very satisfying. It was given marks of 90 pretty much across the board as an engaging and easy read. Thank you to Kim who opened her doors to us when we found the Walnut Tree was closed.

Next month on Wednesday 13th March we will be discussing **Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins**. If you do not have time to read the trilogy we will be focusing on the first book. If the pub is still closed we will meet at The Old Barn, BA22 7QP. Let me know by email if you are coming so that we can be sure to have enough chairs out. Any newcomers are welcome but I would suggest you contact me by text to be sure you know where we are in case of last minute changes.

Melanie Smallwood 07967991519

Happy reading

Invite to take part



We invite you to join West Camel Theatre Group in a swashbuckling adventure of skullduggery on the high seas in Treasure Island the Pantomime, to be performed near the end of January 2025.

We are looking for anyone (children need to be over 5 years old, otherwise no limits) who would like to join in a fun time together, be that on stage (acting, singing, dancing), supporting backstage, creating costumes and any other role you would like to do that helps the pantomime to be a success.

We rehearse mainly on Sunday afternoons, starting from early September 2024. If interested please get in touch, at the email below. You can find out more about the theatre group on our Davis Hall webpage at: <https://www.davishall.co.uk/theatre-group/>

Or regular updates on our new Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556070488269>

Come on a pirating adventure with us and be assured of a warm welcome, oh yes you will!

Andy White, Director

Contact: andyw9c@gmail.com





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

An entry for your diary – our annual Open Day will be on **Monday, 6th May**. It will be a time to celebrate our 5th birthday at the Old School, and what a tumultuous time it has proved to be with Covid and lockdowns after just nine months and a catastrophic flood in May 2023. We hope you will be able to visit and see the restoration we have achieved.

Camelicious Café is gradually increasing its menu. It has delayed its opening start to 9.30 a.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, still finishing at 3.30 p.m. The days and times may be extended when more staff is available so if any reader is interested, please contact Caroline Packer, a2a Trust, on 01935 713140.



Flood Restoration Actions: we have met with a specialist flood prevention company and are awaiting proposals that will include flood prevention doors rather than barriers. These will be very expensive but we hope will give the protection and the confidence we need. We are also embarking on the restoration of the river bank and its fencing and hope that at least the urgent task of restoring the riverside boundary across the external car park will be started in March.

The Old School Community Garden: some 70 indigenous trees/shrubs (whips) were planted on Tuesday, 20th, and there are more yet to be planted. These are part of a hedging programme that will also be using willow and hazel. The spring bulbs and wildflower seeds planted a few months ago are now starting to show life. We reiterate that if anyone would like to help in any way please contact Joe Knights at Joeknights@able2achieve.org.uk or, in respect of all matters aquatic, Karis Hockey at karis.hockey@yrct.org.uk

Silversmith lessons with Shelly – demand has been so great that she is holding further classes. Enquiries through e-mail: jouellejewellery@btinternet.com

SPACE STILL AVAILABLE

One room (some 152 sq. ft. with washbasin) in the Victorian Schoolhouse; one room (some 77 sq. ft.) in the 1920s building; and the whole of the Old School Hall.

If any reader wishes to know more about these spaces or the Old School generally, please contact Rebecca, our Administrator, e-mail: admin@oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk or to postal address: Queen Camel Community Land Trust, High Street, Queen Camel, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7NH

Rosemary Heath-Coleman

community ... wellbeing ... education ... enterprise centre

Open Pathway to Peace

Charity 800412 ~ findyourway@openpathwaycentre.org

Christy & Daniel Francis, Laurel Lane, QC BA22 7NU Tel: 01935 850266

We would love to hear from you and welcome you here.



Yoga classes Friday mornings 9.30-11am.

Join our Pool membership and have a relaxing, quiet, and private swim, in a peaceful atmosphere.

Volunteers much needed and very welcome. Come for an hour or two, half a day or a day and enjoy the teamwork. We need DIY skills and painting to renovate after last year's flood, gardening, and cooking. Please can you help?

Need a very short break? – come and enjoy the peaceful gardens full of daffodils and blossom - with a cup of tea, Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays mornings in March.

Meditation Course 18th-22nd April – good for health

Sound Bath 30th April 7-8.15 – to tone and relax you.

Bede Griffiths Retreat led by David Cole 10-12 May.

Accommodation available throughout the year: B/B, Half Board or Full Board, & Personal Retreats.

Rooms for Meetings and Christening, Funeral or Wedding Receptions, small groups, or venue hire

QUEEN CAMEL BOWLS CLUB

The Recreation Ground, off Englands Lane, Queen Camel, Yeovil, BA22 7NN

Now that the days are getting longer, we are now having the time to prepare for the coming Season of Lawn Bowls. This not only means more time playing but also being able to have more social events too.

This year we have some dates in the diary that we would like to share with you, these are: -

- An Afternoon Quiz, with Cream Tea on 16th March, from 2:30pm.
- We will also be running an Open Day on 20th April, from 10:30 – 4pm. A Tabletop Sale and Tombola will be taking place along with an opportunity to have a cup of Tea or Coffee and perhaps even a slice of cake.

Why not come along and join us.

March 2024

Welcome to Queen Camel CC as we start our 2024 season.

We have now over 35 senior and 45 junior fixtures for the coming season, see our website for more details.

We are now looking for new players to join. Please contact us via our email below or if you know some of our local team members, please let them know you are interested.



News – Fixture card goes to print 31st March

We are looking for sponsors, place an advert in our 2024 fixture card and on our website for £25?

Or if you would like to become a Vice President and make a donation, please contact us via our email below.

Senior Cricket

Senior indoor nets have now started at Sherborne Boys' School every Tuesday 1800 to 1900, £3 per session. All Welcome

Weather permitting outdoor nets will run on Thursday evenings from mid-April

Youth Cricket – Only a few place left

U8's, U10s, U12s & U14s- Starting April 2024

Coaching Sessions for U8s & U10s - 1700 to 1800

Coaching Sessions for U12s & U14s - 1815 to 1915

League games are scheduled for:

Mid Wessex League – U10s Sunday Mornings, Mid Wessex League – U12s Monday Evenings

U14s Thursday evenings

We are now looking to recruit a total of 60 children (12 in each team group) from academic years 2 & 3 for the U8s, 4 & 5 for our U10s years 6 & 7 for the U12s and years 8 & 9 for the U14s.

Both boys and girls are welcome to join. Years 8 & 9 girls also welcome as they can play in U12 games.

A waiting list will be operated if oversubscribed.

The sessions will be led by an ECB Level 2 coach and will be assisted by ECB Level 1 coaches.

Please contact any of us, also see our website.

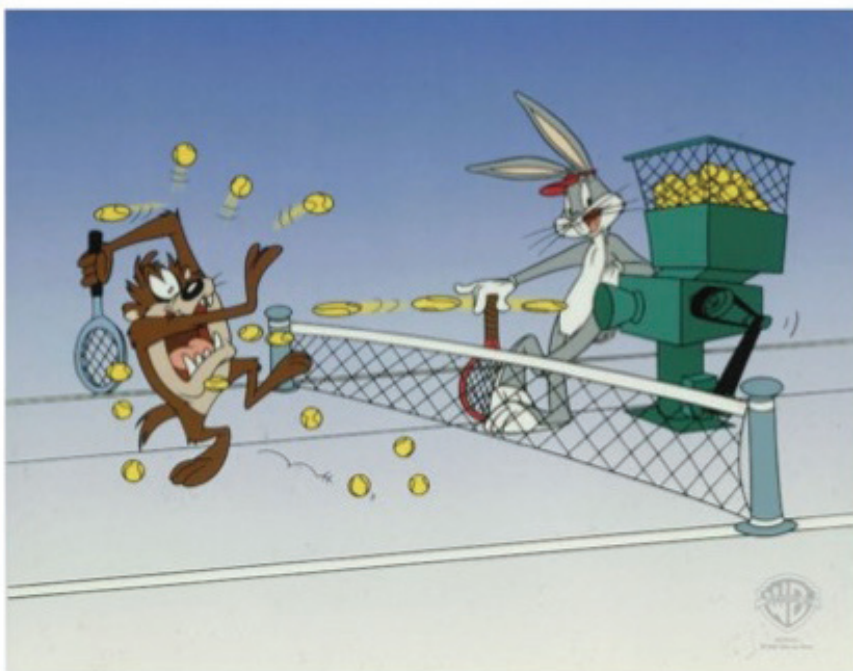
Want to be involved? Ways support your Cricket team

QCCC are always looking for new members of the community to join the club, see below for details on how you can be part of a fantastic village cricket team.

Do you shop online? Do it through [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and raise a free donation for Queen Camel Cricket Club every time you shop! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/queencamelcc/>

Visit our website for Club Contact Details <http://queencamel.play-cricket.com/>

Club Email: queencamelcc@hotmail.com



MONDAY 8TH APRIL EASTER TENNIS CAMP

Join our qualified LTA tennis coach, Rich, for some fun-packed Easter tennis and activities.

All levels welcome from beginner upwards (ages 5-15)

FUN GAMES : TENNIS DRILLS

MINI TOURNAMENTS

To book online visit

www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/QueenCamelTennisClub



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

**Mini Red and
Orange Ball**

(ages 5-10)

10:00am - 12:00pm

**Mini Green &
Yellow Ball**

(ages 11+)

12.30pm – 2.30pm

**Bring a water bottle,
snack and
waterproofs just in
case!**

**New players
welcome, we can
lend rackets**

Members £10/session

**Non-Members
£13/session**

QUEEN CAMEL SPORTS OPEN DAY

In May (date to be confirmed) there is to be a Sports Open Day for everyone to come along and 'have a go.'

So far the tennis, cricket and bowls clubs will be hosting various activities and we are awaiting responses from other organisations. Please keep an eye out for the confirmed date and put it in your diary so you don't miss out.

wessexinternet.com



Want to know more about full fibre broadband?

Join us for our community meeting to hear
more about our plans in Queen Camel



Where: **Queen Camel Memorial Hall, Queen Camel**



Date: **Wednesday 06 March**



Time: **6:30 - 8.00PM**

Please let us know if you are attending by emailing
community@wessexinternet.com or calling **0333 240 7997**

Queen Camel Gardening Club News

The next meeting is:

14th March with speaker: **Bonny Sartin** (ex-member of the Yetties!) talking on
‘A Gardeners Questionable Time’.

April 11th is our **AGM**, followed by a talk by **Micky Little** on **Roses**.

(Mickey Little trained at Cannington, was a nurseryman at Kelways and Head Gardener at Castle Drogo, Hestercombe and Achamore before joining Avon Bulbs as a propagator.)

All meetings start at **7.30pm** in the **Queen Camel Memorial Hall**.

There are refreshments and a raffle available.

Entry to meetings is free to members, £2 for visitors.

Other highlights to look out for:

Saturday 4th May - Plant sale (with refreshments) in the QC Hall.

Wednesday 17th July – Trip to Rosemoor Gardens. (see overleaf)

Saturday 3rd August – Village show in Village hall, with Junior Section as well as Plants, Flowers, Home Produce, Handicrafts and Best Front Gardens classes.

Thursday 12th September – Castle Gardens Discount shopping for QCGC members.

Thursday 14th November – Talk on Cider with Jen King Brain.

(Full programme is available)

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU

After asking for help for organisations in the village in the November magazine I am pleased to say a few people came forward. However, there is still a need for help in all areas. If you do not have time to be on a committee please would you consider being on a volunteer list so that you can be approached to help as and when support is needed. This could include offering to help with work on the Playing Field, making cakes, soup for a charity event, helping on a stall for a Fayre, delivering flyers for events and much more.

The average age of those running organisations is getting older by the day. Many people would like to stand down and allow younger people have the opportunity to give fresh ideas in running the organisations. If you are able to help in any way please let me know. Also which organisations or activities you are interested helping with.

I am happy to compile a list and pass it on to the relevant organisation. Please let me know either by phone 07513 107 916 or email marian2810@hotmail.co.uk

I look forward to hearing from you. Marian Davis



Queen Camel Gardening Club
would like to invite you on our trip to
RHS Rosemoor Garden, Devon.

Date: Wed 17 July 2024

Time: Leave at 9.30am Return (approx) 4.30pm

Pick up/Drop off: QC Memorial Hall **Transport:** 22 seater coach

Cost: (includes coach and entry to gardens): £20 for members/£25 non-members

Book your seats now with a **£5 non-returnable deposit** – balance **must** be paid at our 13th June meeting at the latest.

**SIGN UP AT THE NEXT MEETING ON 14TH MARCH,
OR AT THE AGM ON 11 APRIL (both 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall)**

For further information contact:

Julie Bloom: julb1957@yahoo.com or 07590 984343

Garden Highlights:

Gardens such as: Rose Garden (with over 250 cultivars); Fruit and Vegetable Gardens; Vibrant Hot Garden, Foliage Garden; Cool Garden (with teardrop pond), also an Apple Orchard; Lake, Rock Gully and Waterfall.

Garden Information:

3 eating places (Café, Restaurant and Tea Room), Picnic area,
Garden Centre and Shop, Accessible toilets, mobility scooters and manual wheelchairs available.



Chimney sweep and vacuum



Clean and friendly service
covering all local and
surrounding areas

For more details please call Daren on 01935 850 913



EASTER BINGO

**SATURDAY 23RD
MARCH**

**QUEEN CAMEL
MEMORIAL HALL**

**Doors Open 6.45pm
Eyes Down 7.30pm**



**ANY DONATIONS WOULD BE GRATEFULLY
RECEIVED TO BRENDA SWEBY OR A
COMMITTEE MEMBER**

ELECTRICIAN

18th Edition Qualified

For all your electrical needs from a extra socket to
a complete rewire.

Call Phil on 07767 863625

Email: philnicholls539@yahoo.co.uk



STUDIO 6 DESIGN & PRINT

Business Cards & Letterheads • Leaflets & Flyers
Building Plan Copying, Printing & Scanning
Colour and B/W Copying • Personal Stationery
Banners & Signage • Booklets & Brochures
NCR Forms & Pads • Labels & Rubber Stamps
Wedding Stationery • Funeral Orders of Service

www.studio-6.co.uk

Woodside Court, Sparkford BA22 7LH (next to Motor Museum)

Please make an appointment

01458 460933 • print@studio-6.co.uk



Stewart Baldwin
Your Local
OvenGleamer

BBQing this Summer? We clean those too :-)

Need your Dirty Oven, AGA Or Range Gleaming Again?

A Professional Deep Cleaning Service Which Will Have Your Cooker Looking 'Like New'
We Don't Just Clean Ovens...We GLEAM Them!

COVID-19 SAFE CLEANING AT ALL TIMES

Camels Special
FREE Oven Liner* (valued at £12)
*With all cleans Quote: Camels Magazine

"Hi I just wanted to say a big thanks for doing such a great job on my Range Cooker - I never thought it would look as good as new ever again! Thanks again" Judith Young

Call and Book Today On **01935 351007**

Check out our 3100+ reviews at www.ovengleamers.com
Ovens | Ranges | AGAs | Hobs | Extractors | Microwaves | BBQs

Dorset Delights Catering

Family run since 2010, based in North Cadbury, Somerset

Event Catering for all Occasions



Funeral Teas,
Anniversary
Celebrations,
Drinks Parties,
Garden Parties



Buffets dropped off and served
www.dorsetdelightscatering.co.uk

Contact Alice 07783 928532 or Louise 07743 780609



Somerset Wildlife Trust needs your help spotting frog spawn this winter . . .

The Frog & Toad Spawn Count, an annual citizen science event hosted by Somerset Wildlife Trust, will be running until 31st March.

People across Somerset — including families, businesses, and wildlife lovers — are being asked to help spot frog and toad spawn in their local area and share their sightings to help Somerset Wildlife Trust build up a better picture of the state of nature in Somerset.

The Trust is encouraging Somerset residents to keep their eyes peeled for any frog and toad spawn they find while out and about, whether it's from their garden pond or spotted during an adventure in the countryside. Once they find the spawn, they're encouraged to snap a picture and upload it to the popular citizen science website, iNaturalist.

Frogs and toads are 'indicator species', which means since they absorb water directly through their skin, they're especially vulnerable to water pollutants like pesticides and are some of the first species to be affected by degradation of the environment and the impacts of climate change. The Frog & Toad Spawn Count is all about encouraging more people to help collect data on these indicator species — allowing Somerset Wildlife Trust and the Somerset Environmental Records Centre (SERC) to build up a better picture of the status of Somerset's wildlife. As this is an annual event, the Trust is also able to compare records from each year, helping it to spot trends in populations and any declines that can be identified.

To take part, download your free spotter guide via the Somerset Wildlife Trust website: www.somersetwildlife.org/wildlife/great-somerset-wildlife-count/frog-toad-count

QUEEN CAMEL QUILTERS

are taking part in a

SPRING TEXTILE FAIR

**on Saturday 23 March from 9.30 am - 2.00 pm
at Silton Village Hall, Church Road, Silton SP8 5PN
(just off the A303 near Mere)**

Besides our stall there will be high-end designer fabric remnants, silk scarves, hand block printed day & nightwear, home accessories & Terry Macey British handmade clothing (terrymacey.com)

Ample parking, refreshments, raffle etc. £3 entry fee.

In support of the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Service



=====

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