

WEST CAMEL CHRONICLE AUGUST 2025

Swing, Climb, Slide



The new playground equipment has now been installed and signed off following a safety inspection on Friday 1st August. The working group and volunteers from the village have worked tirelessly to make this happen. Without the watchful eye of Chloe Warner it would not have run as smoothly as it has, so thank you for overseeing the installation and keeping on top of it.

There is now a new slide, see saw, peekaboo tunnel, swing alley, spinner bowl, hammock and play panel for young village residents to use.

There is still some work to carry out with regards to landscaping the area but the equipment can now be used.

There has also been a substantial donation towards some new bench seating which will be sited close to the new equipment.

There will be a call for arms, buckets, sponges and paintbrushes later in the year when we carry out some much-needed maintenance work on the older equipment in front of the tennis court.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered and attended the fundraisers. West Camel did themselves proud!

New Parish Councillor

We would like to welcome Jo Roberts to the parish council as its newest councillor. Jo joined the council following the APM in May and was formally co-opted in July. Jo and her family moved to West Camel 4 years ago and she has been a great supporter of all things West Camel since.

Jo has already started planning the start of a village volunteer group and was the mastermind of the recent village par-tea at the Walnut Tree on Saturday 26th July which she hopes will become a monthly event for our village to get together. Jo has some great ideas to help bring our community together and to help us support each other, so watch this space.

Weather Records from Mead Farm

May 2025

Maximum temperature: 28.1C (82 F) on the 1st.

Minimum temperature: 0.1 C (32 F) on the 6th.

Grass level minimum: -3.7 C (26 F) on the 6th.

Total Rainfall: 17.4 mm (0.69 ins.)



June 2025

Maximum temperature: 32.5C (91 F) on the 30th.

Minimum temperature: 6.4 C (44 F) on the 8th.

Grass level minimum: 3.2 C (37 F) on the 8th.

Total Rainfall: 27.3 mm (1.07 ins.)

Regular Events, Clubs & Societies

West Camel Book Group

I sensed that I was climbing a steep hill when I shared with our group the reasons why I enjoyed reading Rory Cellan-Jones' book, *Ruskin Park in June*. No amount of talking about the structure and pacing of this biographically intriguing memoir was going to convince them that it was an enjoyable choice. For the majority, it exposed Rory as someone who was cool and largely ungrateful in his relationship with his mother. She was swimming against the tide of the 1950s to 1960s in opting to be a single Mum and hold down a time-greedy job at the BBC. Descriptions of a 1960s childhood were evocative and the insights into the machinations of the BBC were fascinating. The novel/Memoir was built upon the letters that Sylvia, his mother, wrote and kept copies of throughout her divorce and ex-marital relationship. The problem for most of the Book Group was that they did not warm to the characters and were not drawn into the unfolding story. We averaged a score of around 4, even with my rather lonely 8.

We enjoyed the gentler warmth at the end of a hot day when we met outside at The Walnut Tree and celebrated our 100th book in July. Michael Gilbert's *'Game without Rules'* is a series of short stories set in the decades after the second world war. The three main protagonists, one of whom is a dog, are secret agents responsible for counter espionage and, in some cases, assassination. The tone of the book is understated and the writing emotionless and appealing at the same time. It is of its day, 1960s gently paced writing with credible detail and understated light humour. I saw it as *Biggles* for grown-ups. Our marks ranged from 5 to 9 with a heavy bias towards 7.

Our next book by Jojo Moyes is *'The Giver of Stars'*. This is a more absorbing read and we look forward to sharing our responses with you all again at The Walnut Tree on 13th August.

Happy reading!

Mel xx

Wednesday 13th August

Wednesday 10th September

Wednesday 8th October

Wednesday 12th November

*Wednesday 3rd December

7.30 at The Walnut Tree in West Camel

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

Orbital by Samantha Harvey

The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

The Gift of Rain, by Tan Twang Eng

The Robe by Lloyd C Douglas

Film Night at The Davis Hall

Doors open 7 p.m. for 7.30 start - Tickets £5 on the door (16 and under £3.50) Licenced Bar, Tea and Coffee available

Friday 29th August 2025 'Juror#2'

The film, directed by Clint Eastwood, follows a juror named Justin Kemp (played by Nicholas Hoult) who begins to doubt his guilty vote in a murder trial after a personal revelation. The story unfolds around a fictional murder trial in Georgia.

The hearing loop has been replaced and is working well.

Please spread the information to anyone who is not on the internet, Thank you. Trailers can be watched on the Davis Hall website - www.davishall.co.uk - click on the icon for the film you are interested in.

West Camel Parish Council News

You spoke, we listened

Following a suggestion at the Annual Parish Meeting back in May of this year regarding more advertising of the parish council meetings, please find below a list of all upcoming parish council meetings for 2025/2026.

We would love for more of our village to attend and get involved. The meetings are held every other month on the 1st Thursday at 7.30pm in the committee room at the Davis Hall.

The meeting agendas are displayed 3 days in advance on the Notice Boards at the bus stop and Southmead.

This is your chance to raise concerns or even compliments and share ideas with your parish council - We hope to see you there!

MEETING DATES 2025 – 26

4th September 2025
6th November 2025
8th January 2026

5th March 2026
7th May 2026 (AMPC)**
29th May 2026 (APM)

News from the Davis Hall

Lena Morgan stepped down as Chairman of the Davis Hall after 5 years of sterling service to the village. Alison Stevens has stepped up to take on the role of the Chairman and Kelly Baker has joined us as Secretary. Lena wishes to extend her thanks and gratitude to the committee for their support and the support of all who have used the Davis Hall over the years.

West Camel Gardening Club

🌸 THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW 2025 🌸

West Camel Gardening Club will once again host this yearly event at The Davis Hall in West Camel on the 16th August. The competition entries are open to all villagers, family and friends and we would welcome you all to come and take part.

Classes for fruit, vegetables, flowers, baking, preserves, photographs, handicrafts and classes for under 16's - there is something for everyone to show off their talents.

Doors will open between 9am and 11am for exhibitors to bring their entries, after this time the hall will close for judging to take place. The Hall will reopen at 2.30pm when everyone is welcomed back to see the results, prize giving and afternoon tea.

This year we will have a special exhibition of artwork by Mary Gordon and Carol Mellish for us to enjoy and also a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses.

If you would like a programme with a full list of all the classes, cake recipe, times etc please contact me anngant698@gmail.com or any gardening club committee member.

West Camel Flower Show 16 August 2025



9.00 a.m.
11.00 a.m.
11.15 a.m.
2.30 p.m.
3.30 p.m.

Village Hall open to exhibitors
Entries close & exhibitors to leave the Hall
Judging of all entries begins
Village Hall open to all
Presentation of prizes for Show and raffle

IMPORTANT AMENDMENT TO PROGRAMME

Class 52 for Children under 16

Should read - Design the cover artwork for the 2026 Flower Show Programme (not 2025)

All Saints Church, West Camel.
Tuesday-Thursday 5th-7th August
Daily 10am-12.30pm

'TREASURE HUNTERS'
HOLIDAY CLUB



For children aged 4-12

Games, quizzes, crafts, Bible stories, songs, videos, and refreshments.

Lots of fun for everyone!

This will include a 'Lego Day' and a Treasure Hunt.

Free admission, but children must be registered.
Please let us know by Monday 4th August to help with catering etc.,

Safeguarding: all the club leaders are DBS checked.

**Please contact: Geoff.mead@yahoo.com
or phone 01935 850838.**

"Sunday @ Four"

The first Sunday of the month at 4pm.

An informal united service, followed by a full tea.

Details of all regular church services are displayed on various notice boards. A warm welcome is extended to everyone.

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Local contacts:

Rev. Caroline Walker (07765 126355)

Email: carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

Jenny Clothier (01935 850281)

Geoff and Elizabeth Chapman (01935 850838)

www.westcamelchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/westcamelchurches

Your West Camel Events Diary

Mon pm	Short Mat Bowls @ The Davis Hall (September restart)
Tue pm	Pilates 17:00 (September restart)
Wed pm	Model Railway Group
Wed Eve	Adult Ballet Class 19:30
Thu am	Coffee Morning & Post Office 09:15
Thu Eve	Scottish Dancing
Sat am	Model Railway Group
5th-7th August	Treasure Hunters Holiday Club (ages 4-12) – All Saints Church
13th August	Book Club at The Walnut Tree
16th August	Annual Flower Show @ The Davis Hall
29th August	Film Night – Juror#2
4th September	Parish Council Meeting
10th September	Book Club at The Walnut Tree

Event notifications by email: Register at westcamel.org.uk/communications

Next edition of 'The Chronicle' is scheduled to hit the 'news-stands' in early October 2025. If you have any news item or event you wish to publicise, please provide your draft to 'the editor' by 24th August - OTC.

MENU

WEST CAMEL CAFE

All proceeds go to the hall



D R I N K S

Espresso	£ 1.00
Hot Chocolate	£ 1.00
Tea	£ 1.00
Latte	£ 1.50
Americano	£ 1.50
Mocha	£ 1.50
Flat White	£ 1.50
Cappuccino	£ 1.50



COFFEE MORNING

At the Davis Hall from 9:15 every Thursday morning.

Tea and cake, bakery and post office, collect your meds delivered from the Health Centre.

Pop in for a cosy chat and catch up on what's happening locally.

Now with Barista style choice of coffees and full fried breakfast!



F O O D

Cake du jour	£ 1.00	Eggs on toast	£ 3.50
Bacon sandwich	£ 3.50	Poached	
Double egg sandwich	£ 3.50	Scrambled	
Add an egg	£ 1.00	Fried	