



December River Clearance

A big thank you to all the councillors, volunteers and flood working group members who helped with the river clearance in early December. It was a chilly morning for the work to be carried out by these brave souls in their waders!

There was a lot of small debris caught up in the banks and between them they managed to get a good system going for collecting the debris and blockages and hauling it up from the river.



I think we can all agree from the before and after pictures below what a good job they have done so far and I am sure we all appreciate their efforts in helping to keep our village dry.



There is still work to be done but after the recent rainfall we will have to wait until the river has subsided once more to a safe working level, as even on this occasion there were some very deep channels. The next section of river clearance is anticipated to be carried out in March.



Weather Records from Mead Farm

November 2025

Maximum temperature: 17.2 C (63 F) on the 6th
Minimum temperature: -5.0 C (23 F) on the 20th
Grass level minimum: -7.6 C (20 F) on the 26th.
Total rainfall: 91.2 mm (3.59 ins.)

December 2025

Maximum temperature: 14.6 C (58.3 F) on the 7th & 9th
Minimum temperature: -5.5 C (22 F) on the 31st
Grass level minimum: -7.2 C (19 F) on the 26th.
Total rainfall: 107.7 mm (4.24 ins.)

Summary of 2025 weather

Highest temperature: 35.1 C (95 F) on 12th July
Lowest temperature: -5.6 C (22 F) on 3rd January
Total rainfall: 670.7 mm. (26.41 ins.)
Wettest month: January - 146.2 mm (5.76 ins.)
Driest month: March - 6 mm (0.24 in.)
Wettest day: 32.5 mm (1.28 ins) on 25th January.



Village Volunteers

Find your community. Lean on your community. Create community.

Register your interest to help in your community with Cllr Jo Roberts
jotwroberts@gmail.com

Regular Events, Clubs & Societies

Film Night at The Davis Hall

Films at The Davis Hall, West Camel - February to April 2026

Friday 27th February	The Roses
Friday 27th March	I Swear
Friday 24th April	The Choral





WEST CAMEL CHRONICLE FEBRUARY 2026

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.
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 Book Group

It is sometimes said that you should never discuss politics or religion – especially if you want to remain friends! It is a testament to the friendship and trust within the Book Group that we were able to do both in December, in our responses to *The Robe* by Lloyd C Douglas, sharing, as we did, many different viewpoints.

This is a novel that is set at the time of Jesus, and it follows the fortunes and experiences of a fictitious Roman Tribune, Marcellus Gallio, who was given the task of crucifying Jesus. The author, a clergyman, was well versed in the politics of Roman Palestine and recreated the story with imagination. It took in both the tensions in the Roman Empire and the new faith and disappointments within the early Christian church, covering politics, slavery and Roman history. The author challenges the reader to consider where they stand when Marcellus becomes convinced of the miracle of Jesus' resurrection from death.

There is a fine balance between truth and imagination in this fictional story that is built on historical facts. The robe that Jesus wore at his crucifixion is given miraculous powers and for some this muddied the water with regard to the otherwise believable representation of facts and probability. With one or two exceptions our marks were between 8 and 9, as the book was engaging and well researched.

In January, what a great evening we had! I think several members of our group were surprised at how much fun poetry could be. Old favorites, some harking back to school days, were shared, alongside new discoveries and some own compositions. Betjeman, Bilston, Fargeon, Lear, Anon and many more names made the cut. It was a remarkable evening, and we all went away with light spirits. Thank you to everyone for their contributions. I have a feeling this may become an annual event.

Don't forget our next book, C J Sansom's 'Dissolution' on February 11

Wednesday March 11th

We solve murders by Richard Osman

Wednesday April 8th

Stonehenge by Bernard Cornwell

Wednesday May 13th

Sashenko by Simon Sebag Montefiore

Wednesday June 10th

(The Levant Trilogy) The danger tree by Olivia Manning

Wednesday July 8th

At Risk by Stella Rimington



West Camel Gardening Club



West Camel Gardening Club Joiners Meeting
February 9th, 7.00pm at the Davis Hall

We will start 2026 welcoming members for the year with a social evening where we can swap ideas and have a Q&A session. Tea and coffee will be available and a raffle.

Fees for the year are £7 single and £12 joint membership which includes free talks, special events, and several discounts and benefits from our membership of the Gold Club at Castle Gardens.

West Camel Gardening Club
Monday 16th March, 7.30pm at the Davis Hall.
Gold Club Speaker on the topic of "Seasonal Colour and Interest in the Garden"

West Camel Gardening Club
Wednesday 8th April, 6pm at Castle Gardens, Sherborne.
Our popular Gold Club 25% discount shopping evening at the garden centre.

West Camel Parish Council News

In January, Council agreed their 2026/27 budget and set the Precept (the portion of your Council Tax Bill that funds your Parish Council).

The Environment Agency (EA) face financial constraints and are unable to fund works which means we will need to budget to have these works carried out by sub-contractors where our flood working party and volunteer skills are missing.

For the last 10 years West Camel PC and many other groups in the parish, have been fortunate to be able to call on the CBF (Community Benefit Fund), to help fund the larger capital expenditure projects. September 2025 saw the final payment from Southfield Solar Park.

The annual Precept 'charge' levied by West Camel PC for an average Band D property was increased last year from £60 to £117.02 this generated a total income of £22,400. We have elected to keep this at the same rate for 2026/27. Dwellings in higher or lower bands will pay more or less.

This will allow continuation of the 'Lengthsman' scheme, further flood mitigation, maintenance of public Rights of Way (e.g. Cottis) and provision / emptying of litter / Dog Poo bins.

Our village website will also be getting a fresh new face and this will mean easier access to meeting agenda's, minutes and help us as a parish council to meet new statutory requirements. The detailed budget will be available via the Village web site.



WEST CAMEL CHRONICLE FEBRUARY 2026

The next parish council meeting will be held at the Davis Hall 7.30pm start on Thursday 5th March 2026. All welcome.

FOR SALE – Community Housing


Only available for sale to residents of West Camel until 28 February 2026

Plot 1, South Street - Building Plot with Planning Consent
Building Plot and paddock extending to approximately 1.3 acres
Full planning approval for a modern 4-bedroom house with internal area of circa 350 m²



To register interest and request further information please email:
ivellhouse@yahoo.com

West Camel Churches Together

Wednesday 18th February 10am-12.30pm	
 <p>LEGO CLUB</p> <p>One day only For children aged 4+</p>	<p>Come and have fun with Lego! There will also be songs, a 'Lego' Bible story, a craft, quiz and refreshments. Free admission, but please register children by <u>Monday 16th February</u> to help with catering. Please contact: Geoff.mead@yahoo.com or phone 01935 850838</p>

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

Local contacts:

Church contacts:

Revd. Caroline Walker (07765 126355)
Email: carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

Jenny Clothier (01935 850281)
Geoff and Elizabeth Chapman
(01935 850838)

Email: Geoff.mead@yahoo.com

www.westcamelchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/westcamelchurches





MOTHERING SUNDAY

15th March

3pm Family Tea
4pm Family service
Posies for all the ladies!
 We all had mothers, even though they may no longer be with us, so we can give thanks for them!



PLEASE JOIN US!

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES:

For the third year running, bad weather prevented us from having 'Carols on the Green'. However, around 30 people gathered in the church on 17th December to sing carols introduced by the Revd. Caroline Walker and accompanied by friends from St Paul's Church, Sherborne.

On Sunday 21st December our church was packed for our Family Carol Service with around 60 people attending, including seven children. The service was led by Julie Ebsworth, who involved the children with a "Pass the Parcel" talk. At both events seasonal refreshments were provided. Collections at both amounted to £520.90, which was shared between *The Children's Society* and *Action for Children*.

Your West Camel Events Diary

Monday	Short Mat Bowls, Ballet Class
Tuesday	Bridge, Pilates
Wednesday	Model Railway Group, Ballet Class
Thursday AM	Coffee Morning & Post Office 09:15 – 11.30am
Thursday PM	Scottish Dancing
Saturday	Model Railway
9th February	West Camel Gardening Club – Joiner's meeting
11th February	West Camel Book Club
27th February	Film Night – The Roses
5th March	West Camel Parish Council Meeting
11th March	West Camel Book Club
15th March	Mothering Sunday Service – All Saints Church
16th March	West Camel Gardening Club – members evening guest speaker
27th March	Film Night – I Swear



WEST CAMEL CHRONICLE FEBRUARY 2026

Next edition of 'The Chronicle' is scheduled to hit the 'news-stands' in early April 2026.

If you have any news item or event you wish to publicise, please provide your draft to 'the editor' clerk@westcamel.org.uk by 25th March 2026 - OTC.

COFFEE MORNING @ Davis Hall from 9:15-11:30am every Thursday morning

MENU

WEST CAMEL CAFE

All proceeds go to the hall



DRINKS

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



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!



FOOD

Cake du jour	£ 1.00	Eggs on toast	£ 3.50
Bacon sandwich	£ 3.50	Poached or scrambled	
Sausage sandwich	£ 3.50		
Cooked breakfast			
Any four items	£ 4.50	Bacon	Egg
Add any item	£ 1.00	Sausage	Tomato
		Black Pudding	Mushrooms
		Baked Beans	Toast/Fried Bread