WEST CAMEL CHRONICLE JUNE 2025

Parishes Working Together

Urgashay ditch - recently work was carried out to improve the flow of surface water through Urgashay and part of Bridgehampton as well as draining surrounding fields.

A headwall was agreed to be essential, as during times of inundation the headwall would be partially submerged and a lesser construction wouldn't be maintainable.

The work was carried out by West Camel Parish Council in conjunction with the 2 landowners, Paul Crang (Owner of Courtry Farm and councillor on Yeovilton and District PC) and Graham Holland.

The headwall was sourced and kindly paid for, at a cost of £500 by Graham Holland and Somerset Council Highways provided the Flap Valve as their contribution at circa £450. The installation work took place with Les Stevens; Jeff Stamp our West Camel Lengthsman and Paul Lee (who works for Paul Crang) driving the digger which was provided by Paul Crang.

The ditch and headwall will be maintained by West Camel Parish Council assisted by the Urgashay Flood Warden John Elliot and our own Lengthsman Jeff Stamp.

Vacancies for a Parish Councillor

West Camel Parish Council still has a vacancy. If you can spare some time and commitment (need only be as much time as you are able) please contact the Clerk, Angela Suter, or any councillor for further details. There are exciting times ahead as Somerset Council look to Town and Parish Councils to take on / manage their own communities.

Weather Records from Mead Farm

March 2025
Maximum temperature: 19.5C (67 F) on the 20th.
Minimum temperature: -5 C (23 F) on the 4th.
Grass level minimum: -8.3 C (17 F) on the 4th.
Total Rainfall: 6 mm (0.24 ins.)

April 2025
Maximum temperature: 27.2C (81 F) on the 30th.
Minimum temperature: -1.8 C (29 F) on the 11th.
Grass level minimum: -4.5 C (24 F) on the 7th.
Total Rainfall: 15 mm (0.59 ins.)

Regular Events, Clubs & Societies

West Camel Book Group

Book Group Review of Nevil Shute's Trustee from the Toolroom.

Ten of us met on Wednesday 14th May and enjoyed a leisurely chat about Trustee from the Toolroom, published in 1960, the year that Nevil Shute died. It was very much of the period and the main protagonist was an unassuming chap who was drawn, against his natural instincts, to venture abroad on a quest to recover a small fortune.

The writing was understated and largely unemotional, the characters, normal people in quiet lives of moderate mundanity. In spite of this, the book was an easy read and drew the reader on, telling 'a good yarn'. It was refreshing to read a book that reliably displayed the intrinsic goodness of people.
There were times when the level of detail was difficult to absorb, for some of us, but it was rated highly by the majority, garnering 3 votes of 10 marks out of 10.

Don't forget our next dates:

Wednesday 11th June	Ruskin Park by Rory Cellan-Jones
Wednesday 9th July	Game without Rules by Michael Gilbert
Wednesday 13th August	The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes
Wednesday 10th September	Orbital by Samantha Harvey
Wednesday 8th October	The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides
Wednesday 12th November	The Gift of Rain, by Tan Twang Eng
*Wednesday 3rd December	The Robe by Lloyd C Douglas

7.30pm at The Walnut Tree in West Camel

Recommended:
A Town like Alice by Nevil Shute
The Mountains Sing by Nguyen Phan Que Mai

Enjoy reading and I look forward to next month. Mel

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 27th June 2025 'Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy'
Bridget is alone once again, widowed four years ago, when Mark (Oscar® winner Colin Firth) was killed on a humanitarian mission in the Sudan. She's now a single mother to 9-year-old Billy and 4-year-old Mabel, and is stuck in a state of emotional limbo, raising her children with help from her loyal friends and even her former lover, Daniel Cleaver (Hugh Grant).

Friday 25th July 2025 'Maria'
Directed by Pablo Larraín and starring Academy Award®-winner Angelina Jolie, MARIA reimagines the legendary opera singer in her final days in 1970s Paris.

Friday 29th August 2025 'Juror#2'
"Juror #2" follows family man Justin Kemp (Hoult) who, while serving as a juror in a high-profile murder trial, finds himself struggling with a serious moral dilemma…one he could use to sway the jury verdict and potentially convict—or free—the accused killer.

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

Our Annual Parish Meeting (APM) held on Friday 30th May was well attended including attendance from Somerset Councillor Henry Hobhouse. The presentation was informative and hopefully gave everyone something to talk about.

The main topics covered included the playground equipment renewal project update from Chloe Warner with the installation hopefully being completed before the summer holidays start. Councillor Cliff Baker gave an update on the work carried out by our village lengthsman Jeff Stamp, highlighting some of the work big and small that has been carried out over the past few months, and Councillor Jane Lawrence gave a very informative talk on the flood mitigation works and what has been put in place so far.

Other news on the night was the A303 which is now nearing completion and Planning, all applications are still awaiting decision. Les Stevens (Clerk retired) had written to local MP Sarah Dyke regarding Hopkins Estates Ltd current planning applications and her office has responded commenting they have requested further information and will revert back to us in due course. Watch this space.

Also worth noting that David Green attended and for the first time in APM history was very quiet (on strict orders I understand!).

Les Stevens has officially (or so he thinks) retired as Parish Clerk and is hopefully enjoying more time in his garden.

The parish councillors held a small gathering on the 3rd of April to thank him for his extraordinary 15 years of service to our community.

He has done an amazing job for our village pioneering and assisting with many projects and attending to things above and beyond the role of the clerk.

Thank you, Les.

Walnut Tree Defibrillator was recently used to save a life and is currently out of action. New pads and a replacement kit have been ordered and generously paid for by The Independent Methodist Church and it should be back in action early next week.

West Camel Gardening Club

Annual Plant Sale
Saturday 7th June - to be held at the West Camel Bus Stop 10am – 4pm

West Camel Gardening Club Host A Garden Event
Sunday 13th July - visits to some of our members gardens.

West Camel Gardening Club Annual Flower Show
Saturday 16th August - All welcome and for a programme and further details please contact Ann on anngant698@gmail.com

West Camel Gardening Club Visit
Wednesday 3rd September 2pm - Barcroft Hall, South Petherton

West Camel Churches Together

We held a special service on 8th May to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day, and to thank God for the victory which brought us the freedom we now enjoy.

The service included special prayers, and an audio-visual presentation, with historical news clips.

The service was followed by refreshments, including a special cake (below) baked by Joy at The Bakery. A collection for 'Help for Heroes' raised £254.

"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.

Local contacts:
Revd. 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

Do you care about the future of

All Saints church West Camel??

Would you like to learn about the current situation and the possible vision for the future? We would love to share this with you, so please come along to a meeting in the church for all residents of West Camel on Tuesday July 1st at 7.30pm

Our Interim Minister - Rev'd Caroline Walker will be there to discuss and to answer questions. Refreshments will be provided - glass of wine and nibbles!

We look forward to sharing with you
Further details speak to Jenny Clothier XXXX Or
Caroline Walker carolinehwalker@btinternet.com 07765 126355

Your West Camel Events Diary

Mon pm	Short Mat Bowls @ The Davis Hall
Tue pm	Pilates 17:00
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
7th June	West Camel Gardening Club – Plant Sale 10am-4pm @ the bus stop
7th June	Cream Tea Fundraiser for the Playground 3pm-5pm @ the Davis Hall
11th June	Book Club at The Walnut Tree
27th June	Film Night - Bridget Jones: *Mad about the Boy*
3rd July	Parish Council Meeting
9th July	Book Club at The Walnut Tree
13th July	West Camel Gardening Club Host a Garden Event
25th July	Film Night – *Maria*

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

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

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

FOOD

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	

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!

Prebook your cream tea to avoid disappointment
Email
creamtea7@yahoo.com