

October 2026

The Camels



Magazine

The Vale of Camelot Churches Ministry Team

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

Vale of Camelot Benefice Website: www.valeofcamelotchurches.org

WEATHER RECORDS FROM MEAD FARM, DOWNHEAD

August 2026:

Maximum temperature: 37.6 C (99.68 F) on the 13th*

Minimum temperature: 6.3 C (43.3 F) on the 22nd

Lowest grass minimum: 4.4 C (39.9 F) on the 7th.

Total rainfall: 48.8mm (1.92 ins.).

*a new all-time high.

Cover: A painting of Wells Cathedral by Richard Henry Wright (1857-1930), signed & dated 1900. One of the lots coming up at the Silent Auction on the 10th October.

Thought for the month . . .

Autumn always seems to me to be a time of fresh starts and new projects, probably because for so many years I was linked into the start of another school year. Even now, when I pass Yeovil College and see the boards advertising new courses and inviting people to begin something different, I feel a surge of excitement. It is a bit like January resolutions.

What could we as individuals do to begin a new project in our spiritual lives? The nights are drawing in, so we have more time inside to devote to reading spiritual books, listening to podcasts, meditating – to really make something new and different of our extra hours in the dark.

Christian Meditation has been around a long time, though at different times, it has been referred to as Contemplation. Jesus would spend hours alone, not just in the desert, to be able to connect with God and to be fed spiritually and the Desert Fathers and Mothers in the first Century were well known to spend time just being with their inner thoughts. Of course, like all good things, the secular society has borrowed the idea and uses Meditation without God at all. In fact, society has borrowed a great deal from Christian practices because the outcomes and blessings are valuable – but they left God out.

It is time to put God into our lives more. What about deciding to spend 10-15 minutes a day either reading the Bible or another spiritual book, watching a film about spiritual matters or spending 10-15 minutes with your eyes closed being with yourself, quietly sitting watching the trees or telling negative thoughts, “not now” and focusing on a spiritual thought instead. If you already do these things, why not step up a bit more and increase the time you spend or add another practice.

We could decide to spend more time in prayer. It is so easy to only pray when we want something. How about praying in gratitude for all the good things that happen? If you already do this once or twice a day, what about upping it to three times a day.?

We could also resolve to do more acts of kindness, to be more aware of those around us and their needs. We could smile more – it has been proven in research that smiling lifts our whole being as well as the recipient, even if they receive it grumpily!

How about a prayer before you start on anything creative – then you will have aligned yourself to the greatest creator of all time.

Have a wonderful Autumn – don’t let any opportunity pass you by to become more like the person God created you to be.

Christy Casley

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 (07879 845 445) or Paul Davis (07928 739 418)

Email Delivery of the Camels Magazine:

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. GDPR data storage obligations will be followed.

HARVEST CELEBRATION & LUNCH

Sunday 4th October

**A Service of Celebration at
St Barnabas Church @ 11.00 am
followed by a
Soup & Cheese Lunch at 12.30 pm
in the Memorial Hall.**



No charge but *generous* donations are invited for
The Lord's Larder in Yeovil

Everyone is most welcome.

For catering purposes, please phone
Alison Drake (01935 851 395)
Suzanne Corbett (01935 851 747)
or Morwenna Ford (07879 845 445)
by Friday 2nd October if you would
like to join us for the lunch.

There is no obligation to
attend the service
beforehand.



ST BARNABAS CHURCH NEWS : SEPTEMBER 2026

A reminder that the **Church Yard Clean up** is on **Saturday 28 September** starting at 10am - volunteers to help would be most welcome. Refreshments will be available.

Our annual **Harvest Festival Service** will take place on **Sunday 4th October at 11.00 am** followed at 12.30 pm by our Harvest Lunch in the Memorial Hall. Please see separate advert opposite. The format has changed this year in that we are offering five delicious soups for the Harvest Lunch, local cheese with rolls and butter together with some mouth-watering cakes.

The **Annual All Souls Service** will be on **Sunday 1st November** - please see overleaf for details.

There is one allotment available if anyone is interested in growing their own vegetables and fruit. Please contact Paul Davis (07928 739 418) if you would like to know more.

The Friends of St Barnabas have had a very busy few weeks starting with a most enjoyable and popular **Cream Tea and String Quartet** afternoon in the church on the August Bank Holiday Monday. This raised a whopping £400. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day as well as those who provided delicious cakes, especially Marian Davis for her unforgettable scones!



The **St Swithin's Sweep** which covered the period 15th July - 23rd August (at the end of which a drought was declared!) managed to raise £578 from those who pledged a certain amount for each rainy day. We counted 10 days with rain during that time, and several people generously increased the amount they paid. Thank you to everyone who took part.

We didn't have enough takers to run the planned **Great Garage Sale** but hope to hold a table-top sale early next year instead – watch this space!

Events for your diary:

The In Like Flynn Gig on Saturday 26th September looks set to be a lively evening in the church. Tickets at £12 to include a glass of wine are available from Harriet (07880 714 559) and Paul (07928 739 418) or pay on the night.

A MEGA Silent Auction will take place on Saturday 10th October in the Memorial Hall starting at 6.45 pm. Free entry. Light refreshments. Bar taking cash or cards. Well over 100 lots - with the higher value items being sold by auction under the hammer at 8.00 pm. The auction closes at 9.00 pm exactly when successful bidders can pay for and collect their items. See separate advert.

A Bridge Afternoon - Thursday 12th November from 2.00 - 5.00pm in the Memorial Hall. Polish up your tricks and trumps - and enjoy a luxurious afternoon tea. £60 a table - book with David Biggart (07825 410533)

FINALLY, our Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 28th November, starting at 2.00 pm. More details to follow but save the date.



BUMPS, TOTS & TODDLERS

If you have a little one, why not come & join us on
Wednesdays during term time in the Church
(until half term) and from November in the
Memorial Hall, Queen Camel
10.00 am - 12 noon

It's an opportunity for parents to meet up and relax over a cup of tea or coffee & a piece of cake whilst their babies & toddlers enjoy crawling, exploring and making friends. Lots of craft, music & story telling & a great deal of fun. Refreshments are available. £3 per family.

For more information please call Marian Davis on 07513 107 916

WEST CAMEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH



Meeting at All Saints Church

Affiliated to the Independent Methodist Churches

member of
evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known

Reg. Charity No. 1205373

Please note changing service times

Oct.	4th	4pm	"Sunday @ Four" (U.S.)
"	11th	<u>5pm</u>	Stephen Jarrett of Shepton Mallet
"	18th	4pm	Rev. Craig Manley of Keynsham
"	25th	<u>3pm</u>	Ray Ursell (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

West Camel Churches Together



Our United Harvest Festival on Sunday 13th September was well-attended. There was a wonderful display of flowers, fruit, vegetables and other produce. The morning service was followed by a Harvest Lunch, enjoyed by 21 people. After the evening service, the perishable items, including fruit and vegetables,

plus home-made jam, etc. were sold in return for donations. A large quantity of tinned and packaged food was taken to "The Lord's Larder" food bank at Yeovil. Total proceeds of the day (after expenses) were £456. This will be shared between the *Farming Community Network* and *Tearfund*. Thanks are extended to all who helped in any way.



Contacts:

Rev. Caroline Walker (07765 126355)

Email: carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

Jenny Clothier (01935 850281)

Geoff and Elizabeth Chapman

(01935 850838) Email: Geoff.mead@yahoo.com

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WEST CAMEL

Tuesday 27th October
10am-12.30pm



**A fun-filled alternative Halloween celebration
for children aged 4–12
No ghosts or witches. No tricks — just treats!**

Crafts, games, quizzes, songs, a pumpkin hunt, Bible stories
and refreshments — lots of fun for everyone!

No charge, but children must be registered —
no later than **Sunday 25th October**.

Please phone 01935 850838 or email Geoff.mead@yahoo.com

(All our Club leaders have been DBS checked)

Prayer in the Parishes during October

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:

Mon 5 th	9.00am	Queen Camel	Mon 19 th	9.00am	Queen Camel
	6.00pm	Sparkford		6.00pm	Sparkford
Tue 6 th	5.00pm	Sutton Montis	Tue 20 th	5.00pm	Sutton Montis
Wed 7 th	9.00am	Yarlington	Wed 21 st	9.00am	Yarlington
	6.00pm	Galhampton		6.00pm	Galhampton
Mon 12 th	9.00am	Queen Camel	Mon 26 th	9.00am	Queen Camel
	6.00pm	Weston Bampfylde		6.00pm	Weston Bampfylde
Tue 13 th	5.00pm	Corton Denham	Tue 27 th	5.00pm	Corton Denham
Wed 14 th	9.00am	North Cadbury	Wed 28 th	9.00am	North Cadbury
	12.30pm	West Camel		12.30pm	West Camel

Fore and Aft Church



fun worship time



For God and All Family Together

All ages welcome - tea and cake

Sunday 4pm

at St. Barnabas, Queen Camel

October 11th Noah's Ark and
Pet Blessing

Bring your pet, pet photograph,
or your favourite animal toy



ALL SOULS Service

Sunday 1st November

3pm

**in St Barnabas church
Queen Camel**

**A short, quiet and reflective service
to remember loved ones who have
died and to light a candle....**

VALE OF CAMELOT CHURCHES

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2026

Date	Location	Time	Service	Officiant
Sunday 4 th October	Yarlington	9.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Caroline Walker
	Corton Denham	11.00am	Harvest Service	Christy Casley
Trinity 18	Queen Camel	11.00am	Harvest Service	Caroline Walker
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Rose Hoskins
	West Camel	4.00pm	Tea @ Four	United
Sunday 11 th October	Galhampton	11.00am	Harvest Service	Caroline Walker
	Sutton Montis	11.00am	Harvest Service	Julie Ebsworth
Trinity 19	West Camel	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ron Wood
	West Camel	5.00pm	Methodist Service	Methodists
Tuesday 13 th October	South Cadbury	12 noon	Holy Communion (BCP)	Caroline Walker
Sunday 18 th October	Queen Camel	9.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ron Wood
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Sunday Worship	Alison Parris
Trinity 20	Sparkford	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Ron Wood
	West Camel	4.00pm	Methodist Service	Methodists
	Yarlington	6.30pm	Sunday Worship	Lesley / Ron
Sunday 25 th October	Weston Bampfylde	9.15am	Morning Worship	Julie Ebsworth
	North Cadbury	11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	Nerissa / Caroline
Last after Trinity	South Cadbury	4.00pm	Harvest Service	Caroline Walker
	West Camel	3.00pm	Methodist Service	Methodists
	Galhampton	6.30pm	Evening Service	Ron Wood

From the Registers:

Date	Service	Name	Venue (Parish)
22 nd August	Wedding	Jo Mandeville	St Thomas à Becket,
		Glenn Bagley	South Cadbury
26 th August	Wedding	Matt Haynes	St Michael's,
	Blessing	Pia Brinkschulte	North Cadbury

THE VILLAGE CAFE

QC Memorial Hall

**TUESDAY
13th OCTOBER**

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 with friends old & new**

***Profits from the Village Cafe will be
donated to the Friends of St Barnabas***



IN AID OF THE ST BARNABAS CHURCH ROOF APPEAL

NOT TO BE MISSED ON ANY ACCOUNT!!

A SILENT AUCTION



OVER 100 LOTS

including . . .

**. . . AN AUCTION OF
PROMISES**



**WITH A TANTALIZING SELECTION OF
LOTS TO APPEAL TO EVERYONE!**

When? Saturday 10th October 2026

Where? Queen Camel Memorial Hall

Time? Silent Auction from 6.45 pm to 9.00 pm

Bidding Auction from 8.00 pm

**with Queen Camel's very own professional Auctioneer,
John Marshall, wielding the gavel**

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS : CASH BAR : CARD READER : FREE ENTRY

EXCITING ENTRIES INCLUDE:

- ★ a week in a Swiss Chalet
- ★ a flight in a Tiger Moth
- ★ meals from everyone's favourite pubs & restaurants
- ★ Hot Air Balloon ride for 2
- ★ a week in a French cottage
- ★ Fishing
- ★ Karting
- ★ Cricket
- ★ Football
- ★ Theatres
- ★ Food
- ★ Wine
- ★ Beer
- ★ Outings for the family

Catalogue available online & in hard copy by end of September

Contact morwennaford@gmail.com for more information



Report from the Queen Camel Parish Council

The Parish Council (PC) met on 21 September. The following points are of note:

- Sally Moore was co-opted on to the PC and agreed to join the Playing Field Working Group.
- Elite Baller FC (EBFC) made a presentation to the PC to confirm the plans to bring youth and girls football to Queen Camel. EBFC are a football coaching group run by Erin Bloomfield. The PC was pleased to endorse this opportunity to bring football back to the village and provide opportunities for young people in the area to participate. Training sessions will be held at the beginning and end of the season with matches from now till May.
- The PC confirmed the revised proposals to install new cricket nets on the playing field so that the project can be submitted for planning approval.
- As has been previously reported, the government has provided Somerset Council (SC) with £50m to be spent on flood resilience. SC have confirmed that Queen Camel and other villages in the central Cam valley will get funds to support flood alleviation schemes, when approved, in the second half of 2027.
- Fresh concern was expressed about the number of Hopkins lorries going through the village to Sutton Farm. The PC is working with neighbouring parishes to see what further action can be taken.
- The PC is going to look for ways to get the packhorse bridge, which was badly damaged in the May 2023 flood, rebuilt as SC always defer action.
- Continue to report pot holes, blocked drains and other issues to Somerset Highways and advise the Clerk (clerk@queencamepc.org.uk) at the same time.
- If you have any matters for the PC to consider please let me or any councillor know.

The next PC meeting will be on Monday 16 November in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

John Brendon

Chairman of the Parish Council

Email john.brendon@queencamepc.org.uk

Tel: 07976691895

Tuesday Group

At our September meeting we had a talk by Dr Francis Burroughes about his mother, a remarkable lady from Chorley, Lancs, who worked as a nurse. She cared for injured soldiers at the now demolished Netley hospital and after learning German in her spare time ended up nursing the sick at Dachau concentration camp. She was also a great knitter and embroiderer and he brought a beautiful knitted dress she made and pieces of embroidery to show us.

Next meeting: Tuesday 6th October

Speaker: Roger Marsh "Stagecoaches, Royal Mail & Coaching Inns in the area"



COUNTESS GYTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL

★ SCHOOL TOURS FOR SEPTEMBER 2027 STARTERS ★

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT PRIMARY SCHOOL?

Visit our friendly, welcoming school and discover how children learn, grow and thrive.

TOUR DATES

Friday 25 September 2026 • 9.30am

Tuesday 29 September 2026 • 1.45pm

Thursday 8 October 2026 • 9.30am

Wednesday 14 October 2026 • 1.45pm

BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!

01935 850345

office@countessgytha.ppat365.org

www.countessgythaprimary.co.uk

West Camel Road, Queen Camel, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 7FF

We look forward to welcoming you and showing you around our school!



HEALTH and WELLBEING WALKS

Queen Camel: Fridays at 10.00am: Open to all

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. We leave the Old School car park at 10.00am (once the church bells have chimed) each Friday, and walk for about an hour and a half.

For more information, please contact Health Walks Co-ordinator Georgina Hainsby on:

Mobile: 07599 654679

Web: www.sasp.co.uk/health-walks

Email: walks@sasp.co.uk

Facebook: SomersetHealthWalks



What's on in Queen Camel Memorial Hall in October

- Mondays:** Pilates 9 -11.15am
 Playing Field Working Group Oct 5th 7.30pm
 Parish Council Finance Comm Oct 26th 7.30pm
- Tuesdays:** Cam Vale Tuesday Group Oct 6th 10-12
 Village Cafe Oct 13th 10-12
 QC Quilters Oct 20th 10-4pm
- Wednesdays:**
- Thursdays:** Tai Chi 10.30-11.30am
 Art Class with Alannah 12-3pm
 Gardening Club Oct 8th 7-9pm
 Soiree Oct 29th 7.00pm
- Fridays:** Bones for Life 9-11.30am
 Table Tennis 7-9pm
- Saturday:** Silent Auction Oct 10th 6.30pm
- Sunday:** Harvest Lunch Oct 4th 12.30pm

For hall booking enquiries please call 07707206250

Queen Camel Memorial Hall

September 200 Club Winners Drawn at the Village Cafe

First Prize:	£30	Sue Gare	No: 45
Second Prize:	£25	Lavinia Frank	No: 100
Third Prize:	£20	Barbara Hewlett	No: 123
Fourth Prize:	£15	Jill & Paul Griffin	No: 34
Fifth Prize:	£10	Lavinia Frank	No: 23

It is time to join the 200 Club again ready for the October draw.
 You will receive a notification during September if you live in Queen Camel. Any profits made are used to maintain your village Hall. Due to bank charges it will be my last year. Good luck!!



Queen Camel Garden Club

Next meeting Thursday 8 October - doors open from 7pm for refreshments and the talk starts at 7.30pm

Speaker: Lara Horner : <Allotment to Children>s Garden>

Lara created the Skool Beanz project in Chilthorne Domer in 2019 and she will tell us how this muddy allotment plot was turned into a magical garden for children.

Please come along and support us. Guests welcome £3 per person

**Refreshments, raffle with garden related prizes and
free parking at the QC Memorial Hall**

Cleaveside Close Community Centre – October Activities 2026



Mondays: Flexercise at 11.30am: £3 for non-residents. Residents free. Refreshments provided. Stretching and toning exercises on 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Tuesdays: Craft sessions at 2-4.00pm: on 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Wednesday 14 October at 2.30pm: Committee Meeting

Wednesday 28 October at 12.30pm: Jenna Balmain visiting Chiropodist & Podiatrist

Thursday 15 October at 2.30pm: Games Afternoon

Thursday 22 October at 2.30pm: Sing-A-Long with Jen Wilson

Fridays: Mel's Coffee Mornings at 11.00am: on 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

Friday 23rd October at 5.30pm: Fish and Chip Tea, followed by a film (Michael Caine & Glenda Jackson in the Escaper). Alternative to fish available. Book early via Sue.

Saturday 17 October at 2.00pm: Fun Bingo and Raffle £5 with prizes for one line, two lines and a full house. Interval with refreshments included.

Saturday 31 October at 1.00pm: Homemade Lunch, followed by a dessert, tea/coffee £10. Book early via Sue

Please come along and join in. You would be most welcome! Further information from Sue Gettings on: 07527779248. We can deliver the meals, if required

Contributed by John Carnegie, our resident Apiarist

Yellow-legged hornet nest found in Somerset

We wanted to let you know that on Monday of this week a single yellow legged hornet was spotted in Ashcott Somerset. We thought at first that it may have been a hitchhiker, but the next day more hornets were found, and we realised that we probably had a nest in the area. A report and photo had already been sent in on the AsianHornetWatch app, and our local bee inspectors were informed directly. Members of the NBU turned up on Tuesday to start tracking the hornets towards the nest.

Tracking has continued since then and we are glad to report that a smallish nest was found. It will now be destroyed by a specialist team.



Café Opportunity in Queen Camel – Operator Wanted

We are looking for an enthusiastic and capable **café operator** to take on the running and development of an established community café situated within a beautiful **Victorian Grade II listed former school building**.

The café has approximately **30 covers** and is an integral part of a wider community enterprise that provides community access to **health, wellbeing and creative services** as well as opportunities for small businesses.

Our ethos is based on **inclusivity, helpfulness, kindness and collaboration**, and the café plays an important role in bringing people together. Dogs have always been welcome.

We are open to exploring different ways of operating the café and would welcome interest from:
an experienced **café tenant**; or
a **self-employed café manager**; or
an **independent organisation** such as a charity, CIO, CIC, partnership or social enterprise with the skills and capacity to manage and operate the café.

We want to find someone who can combine **good commercial and hospitality skills with a genuine commitment to community and, where appropriate, to support learning, training and employment opportunities for people with learning needs**.

The successful person will ideally:
have experience of running, managing or developing a café or other hospitality business;
be able to operate the café in a financially sustainable way;
provide a welcoming, friendly and inclusive customer experience;
work positively with the CLT Board and other enterprises within the community complex; and
value the café's role as a community meeting place.

There is scope for the right person to bring their own ideas and develop the café's offer while retaining its community character.

More than just a café - it has become a **core facility within the community complex**. We are therefore looking for a person who sees an opportunity to be part of something broader than a standalone catering business.

Interested?

We would initially like to have an informal conversation with people or organisations who feel that this opportunity could be right for them.

At this stage, we are keen to hear about **you, your experience, your ideas and the type of arrangement you would be looking for**. We do not expect a detailed proposal at this point but we will require a business plan ahead of any decision.

For further information or an informal discussion please contact:

Email: admin@oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk or Telephone: 07486 385224

We would love to hear from you.

Queen Camel Community Land Trust Ltd.

Websites: www.queencamelcommunitylandtrust.org.uk and www.oldschoolqueencamel.org.uk

LELAND TRAIL CHALLENGE

SPONSORED WALK

3RD & 4TH APRIL 2027



50KM RELAY TEAM
CHALLENGE

KING ALFRED'S TOWER TO
HAM MILL MONUMENT

FREE CELEBRATORY HOG
ROAST- MILD MAY ARMS
5PM, 4TH APRIL



£50 ENTRY PER TEAM

TEAM PRIZES FOR WINNERS AND THOSE
RAISING MOST CASH

IN AID OF THE FRIENDS OF ST BARNABAS CHURCH, QUEEN CAMEL

RAISING £200K TO MEND THE CHURCH ROOF

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

DAVID.LOWE44[A7]BTOPENWORLD.COM (07971 877025)

STEVE MILLARD29[A7]GMAIL.COM (07745 579739)



HALLOWEEN

Charity Fun

Come if you dare!

Saturday 31st October
from 5 p.m.
at 5 Orchard Close,
Queen Camel.

Join us for



Hot Dogs



Cakes



Goodies

and lots of
**SCARY
FUN!**

In aid of the

Maple Unit

and

Breast Cancer Awareness

Come along, have fun,
and help support
a wonderful cause.



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.

In addition to our regular Club Night on Tuesday evenings at 6pm, we also have Club morning sessions on the first and third Sunday of every month at 10am.

Wednesdays (Adult Improvers)
7.15pm – 8.15pm

Saturdays (Juniors)
9.00 – 9.45am – Red Ball (5-8 yrs)
9.45 – 10.30am – Orange Ball (8 – 10yrs)
10.30 – 11.15am – Green/Yellow Ball (11+)

WINTER MEMBERSHIP OFFER
£50 for 6 months
Adult membership – starts 1st October

Interested in joining?
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 BOWLS CLUB



2026 SEASON

The outdoor bowls season has now closed for the year. Even with the long summer of very little rain and the scorching summer sun we managed to complete the schedule of matches with very few being cancelled. Plans for next year are already in motion with fixtures being arranged in the Wessex Mixed Triples League and Friendlies against local Somerset & Dorset Clubs.

The season officially closed on Tuesday, 15th September, which signalled the start of the Bowling Green renovation. Over the next few weeks the Green will be scarified, spiked, grass seeded & top dressed ready for the winter fertilizer.

We are always looking to increase our membership and give everyone a chance to "bowl" in the local league & friendly matches or just to join us for the regular Tuesday club nights. For more information please contact Howard Davies on 01935 850967 / 07957834717 or email the club at: queencamelbowlsclub@gmail.com

Please visit our website: QueenCamelBowlsClub.co.uk
for details of the club's various activities

My Favourite Plant - Jeff

The onset of Autumn brings the joy of a fruitful harvest. On this note, I spoke to Jeff, the Chairman of The West Camel Garden Club about his favourite plant.

I was delighted when he spoke of his passion of the Medlar which is steeped in history and Jeff continued the story. When he moved into his house there was a Medlar in the garden which really intrigued him. But alas, his Medlar succumbed to the dreaded honeyfungus.

Unperturbed, he bought three new trees, and they are growing well and producing plenty of fruit. He has made medlar jelly, but has so much fruit, he can give it away to The Jam Shed.

A couple of plants Jeff does not like are Lemon-scented Balm (Melissa) and Fennel (Foeniculum) and would be very happy to pass them on.

Mespilus germanica (Medlar) belongs to Rosacea family. An indigenous small deciduous tree grown throughout Europe. The large white rose-like flowers give way in the Autumn to the large brown fruits. The 'battered' fruit (part-rotten) bring out the full flavour which is an acquired taste. Charlemagne in 800AD and Henry V111 and the French introducing Medlar to N. America prove the historical value of this wonderful tree.



THE DAVIS HALL

Please go to the website davishall.co.uk and click on 'availability' for detailed information including one off bookings/ private hires.



West Camel Book Group – September 2026

On Wednesday we gathered around a large table at The Walnut Tree and enjoyed sharing our thoughts about Chloe Dalton's book, *Raising Hare*. This is a non-fiction story of how she found an abandoned leveret just at the start of lockdown and became involved in nurturing the young hare to maturity. She endeavoured not to treat it as a pet, attempting to respect the natural world of a hare and adapt her home and her life to allow it the freedom it needed to reintegrate into the wild. Her style was revelatory and her research easily flowed into the text with interesting relevance. She writes clean prose that is concise, but for some the story could have been compacted to avoid repetition. It was also noted that for all her attempts to honour the hare's integrity as a wild creature, she did compromise at times. Nonetheless this is a restful book to read that has charm and engages the reader in the natural world. The marks given were pretty consistently 7/10

Next month we will be discussing *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier on October 14th

November 11th *Killing Floor* by Lee Child

December 9th *Murder under the Mistletoe* by Rev. Richard Coles

January 13th 2027 *The Names* by Florence Knapp



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Any four items	£ 4.50	Bacon	Egg
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		Black Pudding	Mushrooms
		Baked Beans	Toast/Fried Bread

West Camel Book Group August 2026

Another serious evening of laughter and opinion drew a small crowd to discuss 'The seven husbands of Evelyn Hugo' on Wednesday. We delayed the evening to allow people to view the eclipse, and lost some members to heat exhaustion. So, eight of us enjoyed discussing both the merits of the novel, and the hideously attractive world of Hollywood in 50s and 60s contained within it.

The form of the novel is quirky - a story related in the first person, largely within the frame of an interview for a magazine. The interviewer, Monique, has a connection to the story but we are kept guessing as to what that might be until the end. Interspersed are gossip columns, relating the Hollywood view of what is happening in the story.

There are, indeed, seven marriages, but each has a purpose in the main protagonist's confused journey of sexuality. The historic suppression of alternative sexual identities in Hollywood at the time led to a discussion of whether the subject matter was already out-dated.

For some this was well-written and engaging, while for others (mostly the men in the group) it was mildly intriguing and mostly distasteful. It is notable that the only sympathetic character in the book is a quiet and wise homosexual actor's agent. All other men have major flaws and were misogynistic or self-seeking.

Nonetheless, it garnered a mark of almost 7 from those present and those who gave feedback by email, and that was with three marks of 2, 4 and 5.

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Trailers on the Davis Hall website:

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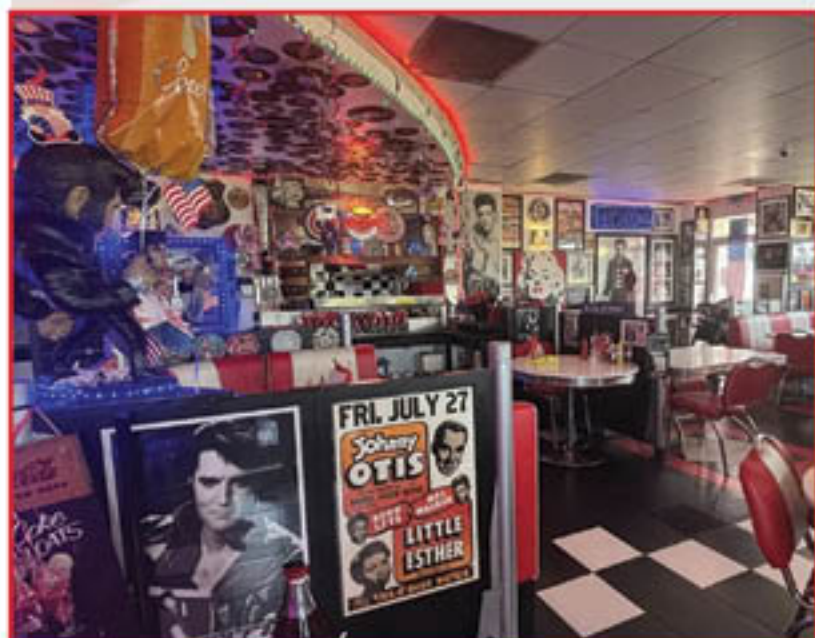


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