

CHIDEOCK NEWS

(including Seatown & North Chideock)

FEBRUARY 2026

- PARISH COUNCIL CLERK [\(chideockparishcouncil@gmail.com\)](mailto:chideockparishcouncil@gmail.com)
PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN Vanesse McAra, 6 Winniford Close, Chideock (07772 298422)
CHIDEOCK W.I. PRESIDENT Mary Rogers (01297 489452)
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS Paul Ramsden (07749 715091)
CHIDEOCK SOCIETY Lyn Crisp, The Farmers Arms, Mill Lane, DT6 6JS
and Sal Robinson, 60 North Allington, Bridport (01308 426327)
CHIDEOCK FETE COMMITTEE Keith Baylis, Seatown Cottage, DT6 6JT (01297 521430)
CHIDEOCK CIDER MAKERS Colin Hopkins, Colraine, Main Street, DT6 6JG (01297 489899)
ST. GILES GOLDEN CAP TEAM RECTOR Rev. Fi Budden
ST. GILES CHURCHWARDENS Mrs. Valerie Hunt, Longwood, Chideock Hill (01297 489417)
ST. GILES BELL CAPTAIN Mr. Dave Symonds, Dormer Cottage (07768193030)
ST. GILES PCC Mrs Lynn Stapleton, Greenways, Appletree Lane, Chideock (07852332938)
FRIENDS OF ST. GILES Vanesa McAra, 6 Winniford Close, Chideock (07772 298422)
CHIDEOCK ART GROUP Joan Emerson (01297 489416) and Ruth Christensen (07538860534)
CHURCH OF OUR LADY & ST. IGNATIUS Bridport Parish Office (01308 422594)
FRIENDS OF OUR LADY Gaby Martelli (01308 488348)
CHIDEOCK VILLAGE TRUST chideockvillagetrust@gmail.com..
SYMONDSBURY SCHOOL HEADTEACHER Mrs. Emma Roberts (01308 423502)
FRIENDS OF CLAPPS MEAD COMMITTEE MEMBERS Anna Dunn 489242 Lyn Crisp (489098)
WINNIFORD RIVER ACTION GROUP contact via winnifordrag@gmail.com

SERVICES AT ST. GILES

Sunday 1st February 11 am Chideock Praise
Sunday 8th February 11am Holy Communion
Sunday 15th February 11am Village Service
Sunday 22nd February 11am Holy Communion

The church will be closed during the week except for events and services during February.

CHURCH OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF MARTYRS & ST. IGNATIUS

Friday 6th. 10 am Mass
Friday 13th. 10am Mass
Saturday 14th. 6pm Vigil Mass
Friday 20th. 10am Mass
Friday 27th. 10am Mass
Saturday 28th. 6pm Vigil Mass

The Church and museum are open every day 10am - 4pm.

DEADLINE DATE :

Items for inclusion in the MARCH 2026 magazine to: Ms. Ruth Wrixton, Sweet Briar, West Road, Bridport, DT6 6AE. Tel: 01308 422649 or mobile 07811672058 or e-mail me: ruthwrixton@hotmail.com (I will always acknowledge I have received them – so that you know I have!) LATEST acceptance date will be Friday 13th February 2026.

(Opinions expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit material submitted for publication and all published letters and articles must be attributed unless agreed with the Editor)

CHIDEOCK VILLAGE HALL

Chairman: Richard Benjamin (489298); Secretary: Paul Ramsden (480941)

Treasurer & Table Tennis contact: Roger Carey (489782)

For bookings contact Paul Ramsden **07749 715091**

or email chideockvh@gmail.com or via our Facebook page @ChideockVH

If you wish to cancel a booking please notify us as soon as possible

For general information about the hall:

<https://www.chideockandseatown.co.uk/groups/chideock-village-hall/>

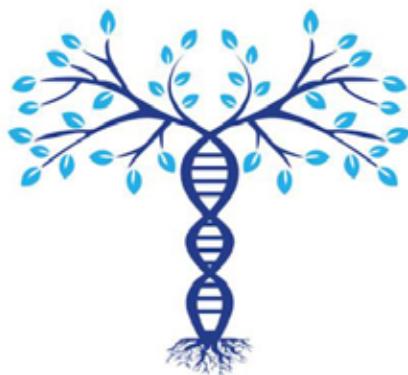
For the current availability either contact Paul Ramsden or go to:

<https://www.chideockandseatown.co.uk/groups/chideock-village-hall/>
and click on 'Check availability'

"Who Do You Think You Are?"

A family mystery:
unlocking the truth using DNA

Lee Ramsden



Chideock Village Hall Event
Saturday 14th March 6.30 for 7.15pm start

Tickets £10pp includes supper
Various fresh pizzas and toppings
with mixed salad leaves

Bar serving wine, beer, cider and soft drinks, card or
cash accepted

To reserve your tickets call 07484 709719 or
email suzytypea@btinternet.com

THE CHIDEOCK CHATTERS BOOK CLUB

AT THE CLOCK ON THE 2nd
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
7PM START



For more information contact: Jane on 01297
489996/07759274905

Help for Book Readers Accessing Lyme Library



*Dorset's Home Library Service (HLS), run by the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) across Dorset is looking to grow its **free service for people who can't get to the library due to health or mobility issues in the Lyme Regis area**. The Home Library Service brings books to people who can no longer get to the library for free on a monthly basis and operates from Lyme Library, through a team of RVS volunteers living in the area. The volunteers choose and/or deliver books, after an initial assessment visit to establish the readers' needs and preferences. They share their love of reading with the people they visit and are a friendly face, regularly visiting those whose mobility and social interactions are limited, and they provide a useful check on the safety and well-being of their readers, too.*

The Home Library Service is delivered **free of charge**; it is not just for older people, but for anybody who finds getting to the library difficult, including carers, on a long- or short-term basis. To find out more or to request the service, please contact the Library switchboard on 01297-443151, email Ian on ian.rumble@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk or call him on 07779-919678.

Need help with the cost of travelling to school or college this September? The Chideock Village Trust can help

As part of a new scheme, the Trust has decided to provide a flat rate grant of £500 a year to all young people in years 12 and 13 who are resident in the village. These grants are designed to support students to get to school, college or work placements - particularly vital given that public funding for school transport stops after year 11. All you need to do to access a grant is to send an email to: chideockvillagetrust@gmail.com

We also consider applications from residents for grants to cover other educational or preservation activities, for example, financial help to attend a school trip, or to preserve a historically significant public building or space. Just drop us a line using the above email address.

The trustees meet quarterly to discuss applications so you won't have long to wait to learn if your request has been successful.

**The Trustees, Chideock Village Trust
Charity Number 1084576**



CHIDEOCK PRAYER NET

Lockdown seems a thing of the past, even though Covid hasn't gone away, and we now have other problems to take its place. Members of St Giles have always prayed for our village and neighbours, so if you would like prayer for a concern you have, or to share thanks for something (because good things still happen!), please send an email to chideockprayernet@gmail.com. Your request will be sent on to individual members of St Giles; it will be kept confidential, and can be anonymous if you wish - even those receiving the request won't know who else is getting it. Thank you.

Peter Stapleton, St Giles PCC

Chideock Village Hall Event

Saturday Coffee Morning



Saturday 7th March, 10am - 12 noon

Chideock Village Hall

toast & marmalade available

and other treats on offer

Come along on your own to catch up with other villagers or join in with friends, it's all free and a warm welcome will be extended to everyone

Bring your children as well as there will be toys
and
colouring books for them

CHIDEOCK SOCIETY NEWS

The Chideock History website is up and running!

www.Chideockhistory.org.uk Whilst we still have lots more material from The Chideock Society archive to add to the website, more photographs, memories, etc., we have at last made a good start. We are also grateful to Antony Broad and Neil Mattingly for allowing us to share the link to their website which shows beautiful photographs and maps of Chideock and Seatown. Please look at the website and if anyone has any photographs or memorabilia they would like added then please contact Lyn Crisp tel: 01297 489098 or lyncrisp@chideockandseatown.co.uk .

Chideock Defibrillators – Dial 999 first

These can be found at the Spar Shop in Main Street, Golden Cap Holiday Park – Alberton, Golden Cap Holiday Park - Shop and The Anchor at Seatown.

Chideock W.I.

Chideock W. I. January 2026 Meeting

Members met to discuss and vote on the National W.I.'s 2026 Resolutions.

These concerned: Accessible Public Toilet Facilities, Action on Women's Homelessness, Nearer to Nature, Self Checking for Cancer, Visitor System for Children in Care.

Following the vote Diane Benjamin gave an amusing and animated talk on the History of Chideock W.I. 's early years, from 1919-1966. Diane had been able to access archives and well-kept minutes from the earliest meetings. The National W.I. was established in 1910 with the motto 'For King and Country'.

By 1919 this had changed to 'For Home and Country'. Education, activity and social intercourse for women were the core purposes for the 26 Chideock members, much as now. Mrs Hilda Urquart and Mrs Emily Roper founded the Chideock group which had risen to 62 members by 1921, with Isobel A Thomas as the first elected President, from 1920-1927, 1931-1933 and 1936. These ladies' graves can still be found in

Chideock Cemetery. On leaving Miss Thomas noted the 'cordial spirit of co-operation' and 'willing support' given by members to the work of the W.I.



There was an opportunity to buy premises in 1936: a former scout hut, orchard and garden. Diane noted that it would have been more unusual for women to own property in those days.



Chideock W.I. was extremely active during the years of the Second World War. The ladies kept meeting, with a focus on food production: meat from their rabbit farm, distribution of seeds and fruit and jam making. As sugar was rationed they had access to supplies via the National Sugar Scheme. They helped those in need such as evacuees and supported the Exeter Bombing Appeal with clothing and knitting, with wool from the National Scheme. The hut was used for billeting soldiers and home guard training. In 1940 300 knitted garments were sent to France for the Lonely Soldiers Christmas Parcel Fund and for Prisoner of War Parcels.

Following the War Chideock W.I. supported many fundraisers and appeals. Now there was a greater focus on education, with a mention of Denman College in 1949 and such events as a demonstration of an electric sewing machine. In 1953 the group established a shrubbery in honour of the new Queen and sent her a gift. By 1960, with the support of our female Monarch and perhaps a greater focus on the political, there was the first mention of Resolutions. At that time they concerned: 'Maintenance Allowance for Separated Mothers'; 'The Importance of Cytology Clinics'; 'Compensation for Disabled Housewives' and 'Eradication of Brucellosis'. Over the years the group has continued supporting the original core purposes and the format of meetings now, with a talk or presentation followed by refreshments and some light business in a convivial atmosphere, is very much as it was in those early days.

JDS

Chideock W.I. is always open to new members. Please come along to Chideock Village Hall on the first Tuesday afternoon of the month from 2.15, or call us or email at chideockwi@gmail.com. In addition to monthly meetings we have a website and several satellite groups which run through the month.

Chideock Parish Council



Chideock Parish Council

Parish Council Clerk -

(chideockparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Parish Council Chair - Vanesse McAra, 6 Winniford Close, Chideock

Email - chideockparishcouncil@gmail.com

Website www.chideockparishcouncil.com

Facebook Group: Chideock Parish Council

The Clerk will seek to acknowledge receipt of an email within five working days. The Council continues to lobby various individuals, organisations, and bodies regarding the A35 issues experienced by the village. Parish Council Meetings are in-person at the Village Hall at 7pm on the last Tuesday of the month.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2026

24th February 2026,

31st March 2026.

28th April 2026 - Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting.

26th May 2026 - Annual Meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

A Happy New Year to everyone in the village.

We need to make you aware of the following :-

1. Finance.

-The current parish council, following clarification of what remains in this year's budget, are focused on bringing the current budget in without a deficit occurring. This relates to the fact that there has been a significant overspend by the previous parish council, in the current 2025-6 budget, which has left just a small amount of money left for what remains of this financial year.

-2026-7 budget preparations. These will have been discussed and finalised at the end of January 2026, when the parish council is required to send the final precept to Dorset council. The aim of this Parish council is to not raise the precept, unlike the previous parish council,

recognising that villagers will already be facing increases in council tax due to decisions made by Dorset council and other relevant authorities.

- consideration of grant applications in March 2026 for 2026-7, will be restricted with regard to the amount and to organisations which promote individuals personal need. This reflects the fact that there are less funds available and that where previous village organisations have sought grants, there are other sources of funding available or organisations have significant reserves already.

2. Inground jumper/ trampoline.

This matter has now been resolved and a new insurance provider identified and agreed. This means that the current installation was clarified as being correct when independently inspected in October 2025, with the need for levelling off to be completed before it is uncovered and put back into use. Arrangements are now in place for this to be completed and a date will be announced on the parish council website, when the equipment will come back into use.

3. Clapp's Mead .

- fortnightly inspections have re-commenced and a Rota is now in place.
- a volunteer team have been identified and signed up.
- following two independent play inspections, there is now a Clapp's Mead action plan with a traffic light system, which identifies risk, repairs and whether equipment has reached the end of its life, and requires removal.
- Clapp's Mead management committee has been reinstated, with a new meeting dates identified.
- the Friends of Clapp's Mead have been reconstituted.
- new insurance has been purchased which places different restrictions regarding use of Clapp's Mead by organisations other than the parish council.

Any villager wishing to join the volunteers or the Friends, should contact Anna Dunn or Lyn Crisp, details on the Parish council website.

4. The clerk - vacancy. We currently remain without a clerk and advertising is taking place , our aim is to hopefully have someone in place by April at the latest. This is a paid position that may interest someone in our local community, if so then please contact the chair-Cllr Vanessa McAra for more details.

In the meantime, all aspects of the parish council business are being covered by the parish councillor's.

5. The village car park. Applications are invited from residents who wish to purchase an annual car parking permit at the cost of £120.00 per year. Currently, there appear to be a number of cars using the car park without displaying permits. The parish council will be checking

on a regular basis to ensure compliance. The car park remains an asset owned by the village, and it is a source of income for the village, therefore it is important to ensure that it is used correctly on behalf of the village.

6. Salt bins and bad weather. Chideock is fortunate to have several salt bins placed around the village. However, their use is dependent upon individuals to take a bucket, fill it up and use it , on the pavement, or on your own driveway, steps or wherever it can be most useful.

Dorset council does not grit what it considers are minor roads, which means Duck street and North road miss out. Please use the salt bins and if they are low in salt, then please let us know. At the beginning of the winter, the parish council will check every salt bin, but when bad weather occurs, they may need refilling .

7. Have you thought about being a parish councillor ? We realise that the last couple of years may have felt difficult to many, but more people make light work. Becoming a parish councillor, can be a way of supporting your community, learning more about local politics and having a voice. Chideock has many issues to consider, but without local voices, then it may well be in the years to come, that the parish council will cease to exist or becomes absorbed into another council. So if you are interested, then please contact us through our website.

Reporting Issues to the Relevant Authority

Sewage / Water Leakages in Public Areas - Ring Wessex Water Operations on 0345 600 4600 with as much information on the location as possible e.g.

Post code

Environmental Issues - Environment Agency 0800 80 70 60 with Post Code if possible

Rights of Way Issues -

<https://mapping.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/rightsofway/reportproblem>

Highway Issues - except for the A35 - including blocked drains

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roads-highways-maintenance/report-a-problem-on-the-road-or-pavement> - excluding street lighting

Emergency phone 01305 221000 (24 hours)

Highway Issues A35 - including street lighting -

<https://report.nationalhighways.co.uk>

Street Light Issues (apart from on the A35) -

<http://www.lightsonindorset.co.uk/ReportFault.aspx>

If you do not have internet access, then please contact the Clerk or a Councillor with as much information as possible.

100 plus club winners for December 2025

1st. prize no 122. Robbie Higgins

2nd prize no 77 Keith Payne

3rd prize. No 80 Val Hunt

January 2026 100 Plus club draw

1 st Prize No 110. Nick Zaiger

2nd Prize. No 108 Vanessa MaCara

3rd. Prize. No 04. Suzy Pengelly

Congratulations to you all your winnings will arrive on your door mat in the morning

It is time to get the 100 club renewals out - details below

Chideock 100 plus club renewals and new membership for 2026

To all newcomers to Chideock welcome. If you would like to join the 100 club the cost is £12.00 per number and you can have as many numbers as you wish. The new draw starts in April 2026 prizes are monthly 1st Prize £30.00 2nd prize. £20.00 3rd prize £10.00

All profits go part way to helping the Chideock News to pay for the running costs. Please do consider joining if you are new to the village as it is a very worthwhile local cause

Can I remind all 100 Club members that the renewal date for this year is by April the cost is still £12.00 per ticket the more tickets the more chance of winning and the bigger the cheque to help with the running of the Chideock News.

To pay via bank transfer details as follows

TSB. Sort code. 77-50-35

Account no 19265860

Cheques payable to 100 plus club (Chideock News)

As before cash or the cheques could be dropped into my letter box at any time
Anna Dunn - Chideock House, Main Street, Chideock, DT6 6JN. 01297
489242

Wreaths for Weldmar 2025

Dear Supporters, I'm delighted to report that together we raised a whopping £4400 for Weldmar! I'd like to give a very big cheer to my elf team of 35 who

were brilliant, such lovely friends and family happy to volunteer and a huge thank you to David and Jane Warren for the use of their beautiful barn, it's the perfect venue. Wreaths for Weldmar involved two busy days of workshops with 65 people and a third day of making for my orders...90 wreaths were made, and sold. Hooray!

It truly is a joyful occasion and fun, and starts the festive season but it's not always about the wreaths, or about the money raised it's the gathering of folk together and the community spirit at Christmastime that makes this event so very special and Weldmar are very grateful for the support from you all.

Thank you
Pauline Bale

STEP OUTSIDE WITH A NATURE BUDDY

If you've ever wanted to spend more time outdoors but felt unsure about how to start, you're not alone, and help is at hand.

The Nature Buddies Network is a Dorset-wide initiative designed to support people to get outdoors and enjoy nature to improve their health and wellbeing. Whether you're feeling isolated, anxious, or lacking the confidence to get outside alone, Nature Buddies can help.

Managed by Dorset National Landscape in partnership with Volunteer Centre Dorset, and supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project matches trained volunteer Nature Buddies with people who could benefit from FREE, gentle, friendly support to enjoy the outdoors.

Nature Buddies can accompany you on a walk, help you visit local green spaces, support you to try an outdoor activity or even take part in nature-based activities with you at home.

It has been proven that spending time in nature - even just a couple of hours a week - can lift your mood, ease stress, boost your immune system and improve your physical wellbeing. Whether it's a stroll through a local park or simply sitting among trees, let nature be your natural health service.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a Nature Buddy please visit: <https://www.dorset-nl.org.uk/project/nature-buddies-network> to find out more, or call Kate on 01305 228246 / email: kate.townsend@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

CHIDEOCK HALL FILM NIGHT

Tuesday 17th February

7.00pm for 7.30pm



Set a couple of years after the previous film, this last instalment opens in London, where the gentry are enjoying a season full of parties, theatre trips and outings to Ascot.

Meanwhile, back at Downton Abbey, there's a storm in a teacup about the county fair and scandal is afoot. Lady Mary Talbot (Michelle Dockery) is now divorced, and the paparazzi are hounding her.

Otherwise, the tone is breezy and cheery, especially when Dominic West reappears as actor Guy Dexter, with Thomas Barrow (Robert James-Collier) now his 'dresser'. A fitting farewell to the aristocrats and their staff, with an emotional ending.

£5.00 Entry – cash or card payments accepted which includes free Tea/Coffee & Popcorn

Wine by glass or bottle, beer, cider & choc ices on sale during interval.

Chideock Community Café

Held in Chideock Village Hall



FRIDAY 13th February

From 2.30pm until 4.30pm

Come along with friends or meet
some new ones.

Everyone is welcome

Tea/Coffee & Cakes/biscuits available

We look forward to seeing you!!



TRADING STANDARDS ...

The value of Trading Standards

Trading Standards' work helps every one of us. By enforcing nearly 300 laws they keep shopping fair, products safe, and businesses honest.

Recent research from the Chartered Institute of Trading Standards highlights the valuable return on investment that Trading Standards deliver. For every £1 spent on Trading Standards, £11 is saved. That's because problems are prevented before they happen. Trading Standards stop £6.5 billion in losses from goods sold with short measures and help prevent livestock diseases that could cost over £10 billion per outbreak. By ensuring products and food are safe they save the NHS thousands, estimated at around £55,000 for every injury avoided.

Their work preventing dangerous imports brings £35 in savings for every £1 spent. They also give businesses over 22,000 hours of advice each year, helping them grow and thrive. Trading Standards fight scams and doorstep crime, preventing £442 million in losses annually, and tackle fraud worth over £12 billion. These efforts protect our wallets and keep confidence in UK markets strong.

Imagine life without Trading Standards. Every shopper could lose £1,000 a year on unsafe or poor-quality goods. The economy could suffer losses of £12 billion, 20,000 jobs could vanish, and £2.53 billion in public revenue would disappear due to illegal trading. Unsafe electrical goods could cause house fires costing £21,000 each, and unchecked underage sales of alcohol, knives, and vapes would put young people at risk. Even simple things like short measures of goods could cost every person over £100 a year.

As an intelligence led Service, Dorset Council Trading Standards needs your help to protect others, to support businesses, and strengthen our economy. If you buy something that isn't right, agree to work that doesn't live up to expectations, or maybe you're affected by scams, then report it at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer or phone the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133. Trusted advice will be given to help sort out the problem and all information provided will be sent to Dorset Council Trading Standards.

Chideock Parish Magazine 2024

IN	Advertisers	Donations
R & D Tuck	40.00	
Antiques	80.00	
Clock House	168.00	
Chideock Village Trust	160.00	
WrixtonSmyth Creations	40.00	
Chideock Stores	40.00	
Dynamic Dance	40.00	
The George (8)		
West Dorset Forager (320)		
total adverts	568.00	
Donation WI	100.00	
100+ club	100.00	
Total in	1,768.00	
Out : Printing Footprints (4x £245, 1x £190, 6x £210)		2,430.00

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS 2024

At bank 31.12.24	1,307.84	
Receipts	1,768.00	
Payments	2,430.00	
As at bank 31.12.25	<hr/> 645.84	
	3,075.84	3,075.84

Chideock Community Café

Held in Chideock Village Hall



FRIDAY 13th February

From 2.30pm until 4.30pm
Come along with friends or meet
some new ones.

Everyone is welcome

Tea/Coffee & Cakes/biscuits available
We look forward to seeing you!!



Chideock Stores



Proudly serving
our community

Stocking local
produce and well-
recognised brands

Find our opening times
displayed outside the store
and on Google.

Visit the shop at



Symondsbury Estate



Elegant, timeless handcrafted jewellery
from the jurassic coast of Dorset

www.wrixtonsmythcreations.co.uk

[facebook.com/WrixtonSmyth](https://www.facebook.com/WrixtonSmyth) [WrixtonSmythCreations](https://www.instagram.com/wrixtonsmythcreations/)

R & D TUCK THATCHING Ltd

Wheat Reed and Water Reed



Richard & Darren offer a
friendly and personal
service with over 50 years
combined experience



For all your thatching needs ring
(01308) 427989 (01297) 489543
Mobile: 07901 702104 Mobile: 07765 157389
or email: enquiries@tuckthatching.co.uk

www.tuckthatching.co.uk

SHALL WE DANCE?



Chideock Village Hall
Every Monday - 7:30pm

www.dynamic-dance.uk
Call Dee on 07740349393



ANTIQUES WANTED



Vintage furniture, garden statues and urns, paintings and prints,
clocks, linen and lace, chests of drawers, dressers and tables,
jewellery and any other interesting antique and vintage items.

We are well-established and reliable buyers; discretion
guaranteed; based locally on West Road, Bridport.

Telephone

Teresa / Michael

07542 881680 / 07592 383983



WEST DORSET FORAGER

Whole day Coast and Land experience's for the adventurous family and people alike

The days will be based in and around Seatown, Chideock, Lyme Regis and beyond.

- The experience will be muddy, wet and lots of fun!
- You will get to safely hold sea creatures.
- Get up and close with large Lobsters, Crabs and Sharks in their natural environment.
- We will also be taking to the woods in search of Fabulous Fungi.
- Climbing, Rambling and Rooting Around.

Customise your Experience

****Dates of availability are on my website ****

**Contact the 'West Dorset Forager' on
Instagram, Facebook and YouTube
[07875959120](tel:07875959120)**

www.westdorsetforager.co.uk

Let's go Exploring

Fossil hunting ^ Fishing ^ Fungi