

GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

DELIVERED TO EVERY HOME IN GRASMERE

December 2015 to January 2016



MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Home Visiting and Communions

For requests for visits to residents in short or long term need please telephone the Rectory.

Please contact the appropriate Church and member of the clergy or minister in case of need and at times of sickness for Home Communion. Any of the churches would be happy to pray for any individual, please simply let any of us know the name of the person to be prayed for and that they are agreeable to being prayed for in public.

Advertising in the Magazine

Yearly rates for 1" single column or 2" single column in the small ads, also rates for whole page b/w or colour in individual issues

Magazine Deadline is the 21st of each month.

Editorial Policy

Please note that the name of the author of each item appears in the magazine. The views expressed are those of the author alone and any issues covered reflect that person's views. Having said this, the magazine is produced by St Oswald's PCC on behalf of the community and therefore the Editors and PCC reserve the right to operate discretion in what is acceptable to be included each month.

[This page intentionally blank]

Discovery

Dear Readers,

When I was a young batchelor I lived for the mountains, and during my working days my thoughts would often fly off to the rock faces of North Wales and Skye and to the high ridges and snowfields of the Alps. I was never an expert climber, no doubt lacking the talent, and the confidence too, perhaps, and my greatest satisfaction came from enjoying the dawning enthusiasm of the youngsters I took with me from schools where I was then teaching.

To see their eyes sparkle and to hear the catch of their breath as they came out over the snowy summit ridge of the Wellenkuppe - a good beginner's mountain that - into the full view of the soaring icy sweep of the Ober Gabelhorn north face, 3500 feet of pure fluted ice and snow, that was a joy indeed!

It is always an exciting experience to be able to share one's discoveries with others. And so now, in my retirement, the high points of my week are my Monday and Thursday morning visits to Langdale and Grasmere schools, to share with the children, through stories, what I have been fortunate enough to have discovered of God, through Jesus Christ, in my life.

For God isn't something some of us believe in, and others don't. He is not a sort of heavenly Loch Ness monster, but Someone whom we can discover in our lives, whom we can come to know, even if the cloud of self-centredness often hides Him from us. And what a difference it makes to our whole outlook on life - and death! - when that discovery comes to us.

One of the troubles is that non-Christians so often have very odd ideas about what Christianity - and Christ - are all about. I used to be a keen competitor in a pub quiz team and it always amazed me how much everyone knew about History, Geography, Science, the Arts and so on. Yet when a Bible question cropped up there was usually almost total ignorance. How on earth can a nationwide poll expect to find out what proportion of the population believe in God when so many don't know anything about Him anyway? How can anyone give a valid opinion on something, or Someone, about which, or whom, they know so little?

So it is the duty, and should be the delight, of every true Christian to want to

find out all they can about God, about Christ, to talk about Him among themselves and to share what they have discovered with any who will listen.

But who is a "true Christian"? Certainly not just someone who is perfect. I once saw a quotation, "The church is not a museum for saints, it's a hospital for sinners." How true that is! As I see it, a Christian is someone who sincerely tries to follow the teaching and the example of Jesus Christ, but doesn't seem to be very good at it! Most of us are like that!

Some years ago a poster appeared outside the Baptist Church in Ambleside. It was a drawing of a red faced, angry looking old man with a Father Christmas beard and a white nightshirt, standing on the edge of a fleecy cloud and hurling thunderbolts down on tiny figures far below. Beside it was written, "Is this your God?" And underneath was added, "Come and meet ours!" Amen to that!

Tony Champion

Pilgrims at Christmas

'Who knocks at my door, so late in the night?'

'We are pilgrims, without shelter, and we want only a place to rest.'

'Go somewhere else and disturb me not again.'

'But the night is very cold. We have come from afar, and we are
very tired.'

'But who are you? I know you not.'

'I am Joseph of Nazareth, a carpenter, and with me is Mary, my wife,
who will be the mother of the Son of God.'

'Then come into my humble home, and welcome! And may the Lord
give shelter to my soul when I leave this world!'

Traditional

WI News

The Annual General Meeting in November was very well attended - perhaps an additional draw was the wonderful tea provided afterwards by Elaine Webster and Nicole Thorogood! Secretary and former President Ann Fawthrop stood down from office after many years, but will remain on the committee. Other longstanding officers Ella Footit and Nancy Stringer (who has recently moved to Kendal) have stood down from the committee. New member Jill Morrison was immediately elected to the committee, and we look forward to her input with new ideas. After the business meeting, Myra McCraith introduced next year's programme and Jan Perritt invited further contributions to the electronic photobook which catalogues this centenary year. Sue Dixon encouraged members to attend the special Glee Club Christmas concert at Allan Bank on Thursday December 17 at 12 noon, which is free for local people. Tickets are available from members or from the National Trust shop.

The traditional Christmas lunch is at the Rothay Garden Hotel on Thursday December 10. Members and friends should meet at 12 noon for a 12.30 start. After lunch we are looking forward to entertainment by the schoolchildren with music from their Christmas production.

The first meeting of 2016 will take place in the Tithe Barn (adjacent to the Rectory) at 2pm on January 14. Laura Wyatt of Grasmere Gingerbread will talk about the history of this iconic local business and introduce its latest products, with plenty of samples for us to try! New members and visitors are always welcome, £3 including tea and raffle.

On February 16 2016 we will hold our annual "Gather Day" in St Oswald's Church, to raise funds for the Great Northern Air Ambulance. Please bring along your unwanted clothes, bedding, curtains, shoes, bags and ink cartridges. Collection bags will be available in Church.

Myra McCraith

Knit and Nat

December and January dates for your diary

As per our usual method of second Friday afternoon at 2pm and fourth Tuesday at 10am. The group have decided to meet just once in December – Friday 11th

We will revert back to two in January being Friday 8th at 10am and Tuesday 26th at 2pm. Similarly the dates for February should be Friday 12th at 10am and Tuesday 23rd February at 2pm.

We are grateful to the Reading Rooms for hosting each session. **Everyone welcome** to Knit or a different craft, or just Nat should you wish, some of us specialise in this! All we ask is that you bring a mug for your refreshments and 50p towards the heating.

N.B. Many thanks for the donations of wool for our ongoing project this winter of items for Neo Natal wards. If you have any left over wools suitable for baby knitting will be most appreciated. Please contact Christine Batey or Carrie Taylor. May the Festive Season bring you joy and contentment!

Carrie Taylor

Modesty prevented the editors from including this in our earlier editions!

Thank you Kay and Paul. As a resident of Grasmere for nearly 45 years, I have enjoyed reading, relied on the information provided and used the Parish Magazine for a marketing tool for the various things I have been involved in over the years.

It is with sincere gratitude that I publicly thank Kay and Paul Adkins for taking on the editorship of the Parish Magazine. It is a publication that goes way back. There are editions in the Armitt library that go back as far as 1890's. It would hit hard if this was another casualty of the modern 'let someone else do it' we are all guilty of.

So THANKYOU Kay and Paul. Long may you edit well, may you find support when needed, many contributions and advertising requests flow in and print runs need to be extended! *Carrie Taylor.*

Grasmere School – November News

The Year Six Residential in London, over the Remembrance Sunday weekend was very successful. If you'd like to see pictures, please look at our school Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Grasmere-School-906121239437997/?ref=hl

Twelve children and four adults travelled down on the afternoon train and then took the underground to St Paul's, where we were staying at the youth hostel. Once we arrived, we went out to see London! St Paul's Cathedral loomed white and majestic, but we left it behind, to cross The Thames on the Millennium Bridge. The children loved the reflections of the lights in the dark water, and in the glass of all the offices around us. It was past bedtime really... But if there's a world-class art gallery open, in front of you, it seems silly not to go in! We had a wonderful hour wandering around looking at modern art, and then went to bed. Just in case you're wondering, we can verify that the bells of St Paul's are magnificently loud, and that they do ring the hour, quarter, half and three quarters... all night! Only two of us know this! Everyone else slept a blissful solid sleep.

On Sunday morning we worked out how to negotiate the underground network like Londoners. We travelled to St James', and walked to Birdcage Walk to see the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force processing to The Cenotaph. Each of the services had their own marching bands. Then we moved to The Mall to see The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. The sound of the gun carriages and horses was strangely evocative. We thought that this sound would have been familiar to Wellington. As The Cenotaph is extremely busy on Remembrance Sunday, we had positioned ourselves on Horseguards Parade, where we could watch the firing of the guns which mark the beginning of the two minutes silence, and where we participated in the silence and heard The Last Post, and the massed bands playing Nimrod. If you've never been, do... It is an immensely moving experience. The crowds are so mixed, and so respectful. It is our nation remembering, and our nation's population (particularly in London) has such a complex history. Like the opening ceremony for the London Olympics, it embodies the values, diversity and determination which make Britain great.

After leaving Horse Guards Parade we walked up The Mall, following the gun carriages. On the way we saw many sculptures and statues; Clarence House; The Commonwealth Institute; St James Palace and Buckingham Palace. Then

we walked across Green Park to the Asian Sub-Continent Memorial, commemorating the people of those countries who fought alongside Britain in the Second World War. At Hyde Park Corner there were more ceremonies taking place, as this is the site of the Australian and New Zealand war memorials. Wellington Arch and Apsley House (Wellington's home) are also here. The children had learnt about Wellington and the Napoleonic Wars with the Wordsworth Trust earlier this year. Another 2 miles of park walking followed... through Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens, stopping to admire ducks, geese, The Albert Hall and Memorial, The Round Pond, boats on The Serpentine, etc.

As it was the weekend, we thought the children should also have some relaxation! Lunch was eaten extremely quickly when the children saw the delights of the Diana, Princess of Wales, Memorial Playground. Their legs, which had been terribly tired and aching, suddenly recovered. They then spent two hours having a blissful and extremely complicated game of tig. Route planning followed. We worked out a route around Piccadilly and St James. Off we went... fortified by ice-creams (northern children - the others were having hot chocolates).

The underground took us to Picadilly Circus, and Europe's biggest bookshop. Heaven...

After that, we felt the need for a little glamour, so we called in at the Queen's grocers, otherwise known as Fortnum and Masons. A walk around this most affluent of London areas followed. We spotted many "by appointment" signs, The London Library, Chatham House, various clubs, some ancient shops, blue plaques in abundance, and much grandeur.

After all this, the Courtyard of The Royal Academy was a good place to rest. There were some impressive tree sculptures by Ai Weiwei. Then it was pizza time! This was followed by a night-time walk through Trafalgar Square. We persuaded a fire juggler not to pack up and go home, and he performed in style for us, in front of The National Gallery.

From Trafalgar Square we walked down Whitehall to see The Cenotaph. When we stopped to see 10 Downing Street, we met a veteran, who had an inspiring conversation with the children about what was important in life. The children then spent some time reading the messages on the wreathes.

We also noticed Banqueting House, where Charles I lost his head...

Reaching Westminster Bridge, we hunted out Wordsworth's poem, which is engraved on a plaque: "Earth has not anything to show more fair: Dull would he be of soul who could pass by a sight so touching in its majesty." The poem finishes: "Ne're saw I, never felt, a calm so deep," which wasn't true of the particular moment at which we were standing on the bridge... But we thought about dawn, in previous times.

We headed back to bed via Westminster tube.

On Monday morning we explored the East End, starting at Whitechapel Road, where we looked at various stalls and shops selling saris etc. The East London Mosque was very large and looked modern, in comparison with the Brick Lane Mosque, which had previously been used as a church and a synagogue. The oldest continuous business in England is sited on Whitechapel Road - the bell foundry where Big Ben and many of our local church bells were cast. It's fascinating. The frame around the door is the original template for Big Ben. Paul Davies bought us some delicious sweets before we headed for the more gentrified Spitalfields Market area, where the bankers were just coming out for their lunchtime strolls and coffees. This was a walk of massive contrasts.

The afternoon began with a fascinating tour of the Palace of Westminster. There is a great new Education Centre (we had serious building envy), where we had a workshop about the history of the relationship between "Crown and Parliament".

And then it was time to go home... London was "awesome", the children said! All of them were superb - interested and courteous. We are so thankful to our fantastic volunteers, Paul, Adam and Jonathan. We're also extremely grateful to Parliament, The Kelsick Foundation and our great governors for funding this visit.

I'm already looking forward to next year...

Dates for your Diary

Our **Infant Nativity** is on **Thursday 17th December at 2pm**

Our **Juniors** are performing **"When Before turned into After"**
(The shepherds' story through 2000 years of music and poetry) on
Thursday 17th December at 6:30pm

Jo Goode

Grasmere Book Group

November's village book group gathering delved into the world of poetry, looking at a range of contemporary Scottish poems selected by Dr. Polly Atkin. The group's annual foray into poetry is now something of a tradition.

Readings and conversation were lively. Robin Robertson's poem 'At Roane Head' prompted discussion of the Scots myths of the 'selkie,' William Letford's poems from *Bevel* relocated us to the physical world of the roofer-poet hitting "the wrong nail" and Valerie Gillies' poem 'To Edinburgh' led many to think of the city's stone, wynds and cuts. Past visitors to Grasmere were read, notably the Scots Makar (National poet of Scotland) Liz Lochhead's very seasonal "In the Mid-Midwinter" with its startling lines on how "*the light comes back / the light always comes back*". Also notable was Jen Hadfield's meditation on a hedgehog which resembles a "very small Hell's Angel", setting us to consider our own hibernation...

December's book group returns to fiction with a seasonal read: J. Jefferson Farjeon's *Mystery in White: A Christmas Crime Story* (originally published in 1937 but reprinted in 2014 as part of the British Library's new 'Crime Classics' series). The meeting is on Thursday 10th December at 8pm in the Dale Lodge Hotel Residents' Lounge.

The first meeting of 2016 will be on Thursday 14th January (8pm at Dale Lodge), where we will discuss suggestions for next year's book group reads. All are welcome. If you would like any more information about the group, or you have an idea for a future read, please email dr.will.smith@me.com
Will and Polly

Grasmere Broadband Update.

Most of Grasmere can now order faster broadband. Subscribers who have telephone lines directly connected to the exchange are now able to take advantage of a new fibre connection that went live in early September. You will not automatically get faster broadband, you need to order it from your Internet Service Provider.

More details of how to order can be found on the Connecting Cumbria website: www.connectingcumbria.org.uk/how-do-i-get-it

The speed you will get will depend upon the distance you are from either the exchange (if you are directly connected to it), or to Grasmere's single cabinet, near Pye Lane.

The exchange is situated on the road up to Allen Bank and if you are close to it, ie. in the vicinity of Sam Read's / Red Lion once you move over to your new service, you should receive around 70-75Mb/s download speeds, and about 15Mb/s upload speed. For those further away these speeds will drop. ie. in and around Dove Cottage can expect 25-30Mb/s download speeds.

There is a lot of information on the Connecting Cumbria website, for more details on speeds and Grasmere specific issues, please refer to our own website: www.Grasmere.tv

Grasmere now also has access to some better Mobile Data services. I'm still gathering information on this, but 3 Mobile have significantly improved the data access you can get in Grasmere and along the A590 from Grasmere to Kendal. In the centre of the village I am getting a 20Mb/s downlink via 3's mobile data network and a 2.5Mb/s uplink. This gives some potential short terms solutions to properties on Red Bank, or White Moss, where the 3 Mobile data signal is quite strong, with speeds around 20-25Mb/s. 3's Mobile Data tariffs include an "all you can eat data" one. EE has also implemented 4G services in Grasmere and beyond. Shop around, it is a competitive and changing market.

If you have any information on other mobile data services in Grasmere, please let me know.

Martin Campbell
Grasmere broadband initiative

Grasmere Players

The Christmas Reading will be on **Monday 21st December 7.30 for 8pm** in Grasmere Hall. Mulled wine and mince pies.

Admission free – everyone is welcome.

There will be a collection for charity

GRASMERE PLAYERS PRESENT

CINDERELLA

In Grasmere Hall

Thursday 17th – Saturday 19th December 7.30pm

Matinee Saturday 2.30pm

Tickets £8 (£3 children) from Barney's Newsbox
Or see us at our stall at Grasmere Welcomes Christmas!

Grasmere Residents' Afternoon in Dove Cottage

We invite Grasmere residents to join us in Dove Cottage for roaring fires, mulled wine, mince pies and carols by candlelight for our annual celebration to mark the arrival of William and Dorothy Wordsworth at their new home on 20 December 1799.

Dove Cottage Sunday 20 December 2.30 - 5.00 pm. Free

Wordsworth Trust

OPEN FORUM

A series of evening discussion meetings on topics of current interest and open to everyone

'The Current Refugee Crisis' Tim Farron MP

7.30 pm Thursday 10th December at St Mary's Church, Ambleside

EVERYONE WELCOME

Tea & coffee provided.

No booking required or charge to attend.

Contact Rev Nick Hallam for further details

Bishop blesses new hydro scheme

Space constraints prevented us from including this in our last issue.

A new two million pound hydro-electric project at the diocese's Rydal Hall retreat centre was officially opened and blessed on 20th October.

The Bishop of Carlisle led prayers and read a Psalm at the new turbine house prior to officially turning on the new system. The electricity generated will provide on-site power to the hall with the excess fed into the grid to power up to 400 homes.

The diocese has worked in partnership with Kendal companies Ellergreen Hydro and Gilbert, Gilkes and Gordon.

Film crews from BBC Look North and ITV Border also attended with reports appearing later about the Rydal Hall hydro scheme and a second nearby hydro scheme at Scandale Beck scheme which the Diocese is also a partner in.

Diocese of Carlisle.

Grasmere Fellowship December/January Events

Events are at 2-30 in the Tythe Barn.

December 3rd: Don Bastow “From Four Lance Corporals to ‘Brand Vienna’” Don tells the tale of National Service as an MP in Vienna.

January 21st: Dr David Shotton “Seeing the Invisible” David takes us into the world of the very small and shows what modern microscopy can do. (This replaces Nick McCraith’s talk which will now take place in February.)

Fellowship Lunch will take place on **January 12th** at the **Rothay Garden** and not the Grand as advertised in our leaflet. Menus and details will be available at the December meeting. If you have not received one and would like to come please contact Gordon Footit or any committee member.

David Dodgson

Music at Allan Bank

Come and enjoy Festive Music at Allan Bank!

Saturday 5 December 1.30 pm *Piano Duets*

Saturday 12 December 1.30 pm *Take 4 Jazz Saxophone Quartet*

Saturday 19 December 2.00 pm *Grasmere Glee*

Normal admission charges apply.

Thursday 17 December 12.00 - 1.30 pm - Allan Bank hosts an open house event for Grasmere residents -

Carols around the Tree with Grasmere Glee.

Free admission by ticket only,
available from Barneys Newsagent or Hilary

Refreshments available for sale. Normal parking restrictions apply, i.e. Blue Badge holders only.

Hilary Beskeen

Grasmere Village Society

Grasmere Emergency Plan meeting

The meeting organised by GVS in October was very interesting but not very well attended. The problem is that most of us only think of emergencies when they are actually upon us. Memories of the last floods are nearly 5 years old.

We were very lucky recently that the recent amber warnings came to nothing here but this won't always happen. There was a period when the Rydal road was closed. I checked that the flood shed at the back of the Hall was open. Supplies of sand bags were low and I shall be getting them renewed. The grit bin next to the shed is, however empty, and I hope to have that filled up for emergencies. It is very important to remember that these supplies are **strictly for emergencies**. They are generally kept locked so that people do not take them unless they really need them. This is where the people, like Andrew Leech and Brian Taylor who volunteered to open the shed or the grit bin in an emergency are so useful. Brian Rollitt is also valuable e.g. in volunteering to use the Grasmere path gritter.

If you were not able to attend the recent Emergency Plan meeting but would like to volunteer to help in an emergency, either by providing services or joining the telephone tree to keep people informed, please contact Nick McCraith or myself so you can be added to the list.

GVS Winter newsletter

We are hoping to circulate this during the Christmas period. This will confirm the dates of two important events for your new diaries. One is that of the annual dinner, which is planned for Thursday 10th March at the Daffodil hotel. The other is the society's AGM. It is intended that this should be on Thursday 14th April. Thanks to David Dodgson, who will again be the editor of the newsletter, for his hard work.

There will also be a reminder that annual subscriptions to the Society become due at the end of our financial year, which is 31st December. Subscriptions remain at the very modest sum of £1 for adult members and 50p for juniors.

Our membership secretary, Tony Lawrence has been very successful in building up our numbers in the last few years and at present we have about 300 members, slightly lower than last year.

Why join the Grasmere Village Society?

It has always been our intention to keep the cost of joining the village society low so that no one should be denied the chance of joining. If you are lucky enough to have some spare cash you can give a donation in addition to your subscription.

The generosity of many members means that our funds are sufficient for us to carry out valuable work such as dealing with invasive species like Japanese knotweed or regularly maintaining public seats. We also carry out a special project each year. This year we hope to buy at least one defibrillator, costing about £2,000, to be easily accessed by the public in an emergency. Members give time as well as money for community efforts such as litter picking or bashing down Himalayan balsam. Another valuable gift is providing information and suggesting ways to help the community. Governments, whether local or national, are not all-wise! A rural area like ours can often suffer from a failure to understand our particular circumstances. Think about the threat to our local pharmacy. We need to keep alert and be prepared to join together to put on pressure.

It is vital that GVS represents the whole community. If there aren't many of your friends or neighbours in the GVS that is all the more reason YOU should join it. We don't want it to represent only one age group or type of person. We need more young people and people who are prepared to make a difference.

Next meeting of GVS committee

The next meetings are **8th December** and then **5th January**. Please do think about the issues raised in this article and get in touch. Any other ideas e.g. for work parties or for special projects, are always gratefully received.

Vivienne Rees

Weather - October 2015

High pressure dominated October for much of the month, although the last ten days became more unsettled.

October began with periods of warm sunshine and temperatures into the high 60's, a welcome extension to summer. However, on the 6th an active south easterly front brought rain, heavy at times, with increased humidity.

The wind then veered north east, and with it, cooler conditions, with sunshine by day and slight frosts on several nights. Winds from the easterly half of the compass, especially north easterlies, occur less frequently in October than in any other month of the year. This is because normally, Atlantic depressions are usually dominant, bringing south westerlies with lots of moisture. Short easterly spells are not uncommon in October, but to dominate for much of the month is very rare. There have only been 6 in the last 100 years, 1920 1922 1939 1946 1960 and 1993. The character of these easterly Octobers vary a lot, depending on whether the barometric pressure is high or low. If high, the weather is dry and often warm and sunny. However, onshore breezes can bring cloud and mist to eastern counties. If low, there is often a huge contrast between the southern parts of the UK, which are relentlessly dull and wet, with western Scotland, sheltered by the Highlands, remaining dry and sunny. Statistically, even our prevailing south westerly wind is never a dead cert: 35% of our winds are southwesterlies, with southeasterlies and northwesterlies each accounting for 20% of the total and northeasterlies taking up the remaining 25%. Here, by the 19th of the month, Summer seemed to have slipped away, milder conditions brought rain, mainly in the form of showers, although there were brief sunny spells. However, the remainder of the month from the 27th was overcast with periods of rain.

In Scotland, on the 1st of October, Aviemore achieved the unprecedented feat of being both the hottest and coldest place in Britain on the same day. In the early hours the temperature was close to freezing at 33.8.F. but later in the day the temperature soared to just under 21°C, 70°F, hotter than Barcelona, Paris and Rome. The Met. Office explained that extreme temperature differences in high up towns like Aviemore and Braemar, can be explained by the very high pressure in the air over the UK. High

pressure causes a temperature inversion at altitude, which means that while you would expect Aviemore to be colder, when there is high pressure, the temperature will rise and go against normal atmospheric conditions. At night when the sun sets, the temperature inversion reverts back to normal and gets colder. One meteorological feat to note. On the 1st of November in Ceredigion, Wales, a record temperature for November in Britain was recorded of 72.3°F, beating Prestatyn's previous record in 1946 of 71.1°F. What followed was the winter of 1946-7, the worst on record. Say no more!

Writing this in mid November, the rain just keeps on falling, reminding me of the unquestionable Westmorland logic: Well, I allus remem'er gaan to Coniston yah morning, when t' hevens oppen'd and saying to a fella called Linnie Dixon, "When's it gaan to stop rainin' Linnie?" And he says "It'll stop rainin' when t'lake finds its level. If it gaas down low in t'Summer, yance it does rain, it usually rains till t'lake finds its own level". And I said, "Well its nut high enuf yit, so it's a bit to ga." And he says, "Aye, well, it will, as soon as it finds its own level, it'll stop!"

Wettest October day: 28th 28.3mm. 1.11 in.

October rain days: 16 Last year 27

Total for month: 137.9mm. 5.43in. Last year 14.03in. Av. 10.10 in.

Rain days to date (end Oct.): 187 Last year 201

Total for year to date (end Oct.) 1665.8 mm. 84.79in. Last year 82.82in.

Peter Bailey

Improve your core and back strength, balance, mobility, strength, body alignment and posture.

Pilates begins again on Monday 4th Jan at Glenthorne, Easedale Road

9.30am - 10.30am Improvers/Advanced

10.30am.11.30am Beginners/Improvers

Please contact Libby Dixon for more information

Christmas Flowers in St Oswald's Church



We would be delighted if you would like to sponsor a plant that will be used to decorate the church over the Christmas period.

As in previous years we will be decorating the church with cyclamens that have proved very popular and have survived the cold weather! If you would like to dedicate a plant for whatever reason please fill in the slip below and return to the Rectory by 15 December.

Each plant will have a label with your dedication printed on it and you are most welcome to collect the plant from church after Sunday 4 January. Thank you for supporting the church in this way.

I/We would like to donate £ for a plant with the following dedication: (max 50 words)

Minimum donation of £8.00 per plant please.

Cheques payable to St. Oswald's PCC or cash.

Name:

Tel No:

Please return to Sonia at The Rectory by 15 December.

Thank you.

Rotas for St Oswald's Church

2015/16	Sides man/woman	Coffee
Dec 6 th	Sonia Rickman & Jonathon Smith	<i>Kay Adkins</i>
Dec 13 th	Bob Allen & June Maddison	<i>Tonia Wainwright</i>
Dec 20 th	John Rickman & Ella Footit	<i>June Maddison</i>
Dec 24 th	18.00 Sonia, June, Roger & John 23.30 John & Roger	
Dec 25 th	John Rickman & Roger Maddison	
Jan 3 rd	Rosalind de Wesselow & Kay Adkins	<i>Helen Bunsfield</i>
Jan 10 th	Pat Taylor & Ann Fawthrop	<i>Shirley Hill</i>
Jan 17 th	Sonia Rickman & Jonathon Smith	<i>Ann Fawthrop</i>
Jan 24 th	Bob Allen & June Maddison	<i>Kay Adkins</i>
Jan 31 st	Kay Adkins & Rosalind de Wesselow	<i>Ann Jackman</i>
Feb 7 th	Ann Fawthrop & Pat Taylor	<i>Rosalind de Wesselow</i>

CHURCH CLEANING

Third Tuesday of every month commencing with 15th December 2015 there will be a voluntary cleaning session in Church from 9.30am.

Sonia.

Teams4U Christmas Shoebox Appeal

The Coffee Morning which was held recently at The Wordsworth Hotel raised £279 towards our appeal. We would like to thank everyone who supported us in any way.

A total of 1271 boxes began their journey from Hawkshead on the 19th November to children in Belarus.

Ann Dixon and Judith Myers

GRASMERE CHURCH CALENDAR

December 2015

2 nd	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
3 rd	Thurs	14.30	Fellowship in the Tithe Barn
6 th	Advent 2	11.00	Iona Service
9 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
10 th	Thurs	12.00 - 12.30	W.I. Christmas Lunch at Rothay Gardens Hotel
13 th	Advent 3	11.00	Holy Communion CW
		16.00	Service of Lessons &v Carols
16 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
17 th	Thurs	14.00	School Production:- A Midwife's Crisis by classes 1 & 2
		18.30	School Production:- This was the Moment by the juniors.
20 th	Advent 4	11.00	Holy Communion CW
		14.30	Dove Cottage Open Afternoon
23 rd	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
24 th	Christmas Eve	18.00	Candlelight Carols at St. Oswald's Church
		23.30	First Communion of Christmas
25 th	Christmas Day	11.00	Family Christmas Communion with Carols
27 th	Christmas 1	9.30	Eucharist at Rydal Church No services at St. Oswalds Grasmere
30 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP

January 2016

3 rd	Christmas 2	11.00	Matins
6 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
10 th	Baptism of Christ	11.00	Holy Communion CW

12 th	Tues	12.30 - 1300	Fellowship Christmas Lunch Rothay Gardens Hotel
13 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
14 th	Thurs	14.30	W.I. in Tithe Barn
17 th	Epiphany 2	11.00	Holy Communion CW
20 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
21 st	Thurs	14.30	Fellowship in Tithe Barn
24 th	Week of Prayer	11.00	Joint Service at St Oswalds with St Mary's Rydal
27 th	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
30 th	Sat	10.00 - 16.00	Meditation Day in Tithe Barn
31 st	Candlemas	11.00	Holy Communion CW

February 2016

3 rd	Weds	10.30	Holy Communion BCP
4 th	Thurs	14.30	Fellowship in Tithe Barn
7 th	Sunday before Lent	11.00	Matins

***MESSIAH* at Ambleside**

Ambleside and District Choral society will be performing Handel's *Messiah* at St Mary's Church, Ambleside on **Saturday 12th December at 7.30 pm.**

Director: Jolyon Dodgson.

Soloists: Emily Robinson (soprano), Wendy Sharrock (alto), Alex Banfield (tenor) and David Hoult (bass).

With the South Cumbria Ensemble led by Julian Cann.

£10 including refreshments. Children under 12 free. Tickets available from Choir members or at the door.



Better Consumer rights – in time for Christmas!

UK consumers spend on average a whopping £90 billion a month and December must surely be see the biggest spend. More than one in five people in the UK experience problems with goods and services. A quarter of them spend more than four hours trying to sort out these problems, one in ten having to take time off work to do so. The Consumer Rights Act came into force on 1 October 2015 and streamlines eight pieces of legislation into one. This should make life a little easier for shoppers.

Most of the changes were important updates to existing laws. But two new areas of law were also introduced.

- For the first time rights on digital content have been set out in legislation. The Act gives consumers a clear right to the repair or replacement of faulty digital content, such as online film and games, music downloads and e-books. The law here had been unclear and this change has brought us up to date with how digital products have evolved.
- There are now also new, clear rules for what should happen if a service is not provided with reasonable care and skill or as agreed. For example, the business that provided the service must bring it into line with what was agreed with the customer or, if this is not practical, must give some money back.

Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice Bureau on any aspect of debt, consumer problems, benefits, housing, employment and any other problems. We have various outlets across South Lakeland and can also give advice over the phone – telephone 015394 46464 for an appointment and help.

