

GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

DELIVERED TO EVERY HOME IN GRASMERE

APRIL 2016



MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Home Visiting and Communions

For requests for visits to residents in short or long term need please telephone 015394 35326

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. Contact the Editors via the website contact page.

Magazine Deadline is the 21st of each month.

Please email your copy to the Editors at: parishmag@willow-bank.net or send it to Willow Bank, Town End, Grasmere LA22 9QY.

Grasmere Parish Magazine online

Recent editions of the magazine are now available online at:
<http://parishmag.willow-bank.net/>

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]

WHERE SIN ABOUNDED

By grace you are saved. *Ephesians 2:5*

Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound. *Romans 5:20*

Ask most people what is the greatest word in the Bible. The answer is, most likely, love. Actually, it isn't, – it's grace. Grace means *undeserved* favour; God's favour shown towards people like you and me; sinners who deserve *nothing* but by grace are given *everything*. Grace is the outreach of God to the furthestmost possible reaches of human lostness. This, Jesus did on the cross. Do you wonder, as he reached that dreadful point, he cried out “*My God, my God why have you forsaken me?*”

The Cross is right at the centre of the Christian message. Speaking about the Cross, Emil Brunner, Professor of Theology in the University of Zurich, writes “*It is only when we see how low God had to stoop that we see how far we have fallen.*”

Wherever you are, however lost you feel, however dark it is, you are not beyond the point where God **can** reach you.

Grace has been called “*God's love in action*”. The Cross was God's love **in action**. We may love someone but when that love goes beyond the call of duty (like dying in their place) that's grace. Love **in action**.

In the Parable of the Prodigal son, the father loved his son and longed for his return. That was love. On the son's return, having run through all his money (correction: his father's money), he is welcomed back home. What's this I hear? An expensive ring put on his finger, a new suit and – if you please – a party...to welcome him back home! Wasn't that a bit over the top? No, it was grace. That story perfectly typifies how God deals with us when we have wronged him but now long to come home.

I have to testify that my own waywardness has never been any match for God's grace: “*Where sin abounded grace did much more abound*” – it outstripped it, thankfully. It isn't threats of punishment that bring me to heel, it's that ‘*over the top*’ grace at Calvary. That's what the hymn-writer, John Newton, called ‘*Amazing Grace*’. Yes, ‘*the furthest most point of human lostness*’. Now, **there's** Grace for you!

Derek Hall

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright as the shining sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

John Newton – a slave trader before his conversion

WI NEWS

Nearly forty people attended the March open meeting to hear raconteur Steve Swithin's talk entitled "Long Days, Late Nights and Hotel Rooms". During a thirty year career in the music business Steve worked with countless British and American bands, as well as comedy legend Mike Harding. With gentle humour and some impressive impersonations, Steve revealed stories of stars' generosity, demands and whims.

On 7th April, Malcolm Thorogood will introduce "Music of the Lakes" by Vaughan Kennedy with a talk in St Oswald's Church at 2pm (tickets £3). Afterwards, from 3-5pm, the WI will offer refreshments and home-made produce in the Tith Barn. Tea and cake will be available for a minimum donation of £2.50. Both of these events are in aid of Marie Curie. If you can't make it to the talk, do still come and have a cuppa between 3-5pm. Every penny raised will help Marie Curie provide care and support for people living with any terminal illness and their families.

The WI meeting on 14th April will be held during an afternoon visit to Holehird. We will leave Grasmere at 1pm, in time to arrive at Holehird for a 1.30pm start. Volunteer Co-ordinator Jodie Van-Rooyen will give a talk about the work involved in running Holehird house and gardens, assisting with the residents, and various opportunities for volunteering there. Members will then have a business meeting and tea, with plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful gardens (weather permitting!). Please contact Ann Fawthrop if you need a lift with one of the other members who has volunteered to drive.

Myra McCraith

Knit and Nat

Our meetings for April will take place in the Reading Rooms on the second Friday and fourth Tuesday: the 8th and the 26th. I am intending putting these dates on the board outside Barney's News Box to keep reminding everyone who is interested in joining us. We meet from 2pm to 4pm and anyone is welcome to join us for all or part of the time either to knit or just for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee, sometimes we even have homemade biscuits! There is no commitment to join the charity knitting just bring along your own projects. As a group we are always interested in trying something new; I have learned to crochet and use a circular knitting needle at our meetings.

The latest update on our charitable knitting is that we have now collected together 50 squares for the neo natal breast feeding project we will continue to collect until the beginning of May (when Carrie will be back) before sending them off.

One of our regular members, Mary Bower, is busy passing on her skills to the generation of knitters at a lunchtime club at the school. It sounds as if they are progressing well and hoping eventually to knit a glove puppet. Mary was telling us that there are some pictures of one of her sessions with the children on the school Facebook page if anyone is interested.

We are looking forward to welcoming anyone who would like to join us.

Christine Batey

Grasmere Players

Brush up your Shakespeare!!

Don't miss the opportunity to come along to the Tithe Barn on Friday **22nd April** and enjoy yourself. The Players are holding a joyous social evening to celebrate Shakespeare's **400th anniversary**.

It would be useful if you let me or Moira Rowlinson (36307) know your plans beforehand, so that we can get enough food and drink in for the social. Please notice we are celebrating it on Friday evening **22nd April** not on his actual birthday 23rd so as not to clash with other events.

We are also encouraging everyone who'd like to take part in the entertainment to come along and have a go. If you would like suggestions for something to do just get in touch with us and we will help with ideas or contacts with others who want to do something.

But do come along even if all you want is to eat some delicious food and to be entertained by others.

Vivienne Rees

Grasmere School News

Here are some poetic responses to the A591 by our oldest pupils.

If you visit St Oswald's over the holiday, you may notice that our younger juniors were inspired by these poems and adapted their structures when thinking about the war in Syria. If you do visit the children's installation in church, please write a comment in the visitors' book, so that they know what you think. The children are doing a sponsored run/walk to aid refugee children. If you wish to contribute, please drop a donation into school. *Jo Goode*

Mind the gap

Cast your mind back.

To the day of the flood

Biting a chunk out of the road

Remember your life

Changing dramatically

Think back to the calm day

When you had your freedom .

Think back again.

To the fire-lit days of wet weather.

Living a normal life.

Remember seeing the lifeless destruction for the first time.

By Maya McGregor

Mind the Gap

The A591 was the main artery

Carrying the life blood of Cumbria

From the north to the south

On the 5th December

Storm Desmond inflicted major injury

Severing the artery

Causing pain and discomfort

To the surrounding communities

The emergency services responded
But their efforts were inadequate
With many businesses and villages
In intensive care
Although there is a cure
There is not enough money
To fund the treatment
And restore it back to health
By Lottie Hodgson

From the storm's point of view

We come in all shapes and sizes to stop you in your tracks
We plan and plot to make you sink into your own lands
We make it wet with water to make you slip, slide and skid
So puny little humans get brought to their little puny knees
Your army couldn't do it
You haven't done it
You'll never do it
The destruction from a storm is unbeatable for now you see
Just try till you tire, till you fall asleep
Until you realise you can't beat me.

Jack Benson

Mind the Gap

Nothing we do can mop up the torrent,
To try would be life loosing,
To wait would be anxious,
But what can we do?
The water is foamy and dark,
A gill of powerful force,
Soon the water comes feasting on the tarmac,
Creating a jagged trench of silt,
The bubbles rise in the puddles,

The land a sea of destruction,
What has been done cannot be changed,
The road is gone,
gone, gone
The road is gone.

Molly Steels

The Gap

The rain came down
Weakening the earth
Endlessly rebounding
Off the sludgy fellside
The rocks came tumbling
Randomly down the fell
The roaring river of rain
Crushed the road
And all that was left
Was a big craggy gap

By Ed Lilley

Mind the gap

I sing of the road that got washed off its feet
I sing of the ferocious wind that got in between
I sing of the storm that blew up like a firework
I sing of the each and every rain drop that came thundering down
I sing of the tossed upside down walls and fences
I sing of the words that got a response
I sing of the visit that got us publicity
I sing of the devastation that will remain
I sing of the perseverance and resilience of the Grasmereans

By Megan Powell

Saying thank you to Shelagh Griffin

Now she is approaching her 96th birthday, Shelagh has decided it is time to retire from the church choir at St Oswald's in Grasmere. We have been very fortunate to have her singing with the Church for so many years.

She was born at her Godmothers's house, Kelbarrow in Grasmere, which had wonderful views of the lake. She had five sisters and a brother.

When the 2nd World War came along, she and her younger sister worked as land Army Girls together. Milking cows made playing the violin somewhat more difficult as Shelagh played the violin and sang and taught music. She taught in preparatory schools. She has been involved with music all her life.

Since her retirement she has been involved with village and Church life. We all send her a big thank you. Her lovely smile is always welcome. *Kay Adkins*



Thanks

Sonia Rickman would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, cards and flowers received after her recent stay at the Freeman Hospital.

Grasmere Book Group

A select band of readers gathered for the March meeting of the village book group. This month's read was a Canadian modern classic, Robertson Davies' *Tempest-Tost* (1951). Davies is now little known in the UK, but has previously been shortlisted for the Booker Prize.

The book is a satire of a small-town amateur dramatic production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and met with a warm response. No aspersions were cast about any similarities to politics or persons of this parish. Set in the fictional town of Salterton, *Tempest-Tost* follows the trials and tribulations of the Salterton Little Theatre as they attempt to put on a radical new version of *The Tempest*... out of doors! Such a thing having never been known in the town, province, nor even Canada, before. Covering unfortunate incidents with horses, love trysts, illegal brewing and a swarm of bibliophilic clergymen (devouring a dead man's library), the book had much to amuse all. For those eager to know more of Salterton's pleasant ways, *Tempest-Tost* is the first of a trilogy.

Our next meeting on Thursday April 14th will discuss Georges Simenon, *Maigret in New York* (1947). All are welcome at the Dale Lodge Residents' Lounge at 8pm. This is bound to be a timely read given the new television adaptations of Simenon's works. For those reading ahead, we'll be tackling James Rebanks, *The Shepherd's Life* (2015) on May 12th.
Polly and Will

Grasmere History Group

On Tuesday 5th April at 7.30 in the Jerwood Centre, Kay Adkins will introduce us to life in Grasmere in the mid nineteenth century as described by Wordsworth's niece, Sarah Hutchinson, in her extensive diaries. Kay created an glimpse of this world in the recent exhibition *Shepherds to Char-a-bancs* – come along to hear about Grasmere life in Sarah's own words.

On the 3rd May, Malcolm Thorogood will talk about the history and work he is doing on the Wyke. This talk will give an insight into the makeup and restoration of one of the oldest buildings in the valley. Everyone is welcome, there is no charge!

Jeff Cowton

April at the Wordsworth Trust

Easter marks the start of our Spring & Summer events programme and the first event of the season takes place on Easter Monday 28th March. **In the Footsteps of Wordsworth** is a steamer boat ride and guided walk around Ullswater led by volunteers from the National Park Authority and will take in Aira Force, Gowbarrow Park and Glenridding. No need to book, just meet us at 9.40am at the Ullswater Information Centre. The same route will be repeated on Sunday 10th and Saturday 16th April.

There are plenty of family activities during the Easter holidays for children of all ages and their parents and carers. Regular events **Rucksack of Rhymes**, **Tales for Tots** and **Terrific Treks on Tuesdays** will run alongside themed art and craft sessions –celebrate all things daffodil related in **I wandered lonely as a cloud** on Thursday 31st March and Wordsworth's 246th birthday at **William's Birthday** on Thursday 7th April. Our Education team will also be presenting family activities and an introduction to Romanticism talk at Brockhole on Wednesday 30th March and 6th April for visitors as part of our partnership with LDNPA.

During the month we are also looking forward to 3 events presented by 3 familiar local faces: Sally Hall, Arthur Kincaid and Jeff Cowton. Sally will be giving a guided tour of Dove Cottage garden and fascinating insight into the work she does caring for it in **Meet the Gardener** on Wednesday 6th at 11am. Arthur will be taking about the relationship between Romantic writers and Quakers in **Romantics & Quakers** on Saturday 9th at 4pm. Jeff will be leading a workshop on manuscript handling and care titled **A Day with Wordsworth's Manuscripts** on Saturday 23 from 10am to 4pm. Please check our current brochure or our website for full information.

Don't forget that our new exhibition **Wordsworth Country: Lakes, Mountains and Waterfalls** is now open and free to Grasmere residents; come along any day in April between 9.30am and 5.30pm. We would love to know your thoughts on it.

Alice Carthy, Events Manager, Wordsworth Trust

Grasmere Village Society

Annual Dinner: 3rd March

This was a great success, in spite of the problems which were caused by the flooding of the Daffodil hotel, which had been the original venue. The Wordsworth hotel was unable to offer us the same date but agreed to fulfil the same menu as people had already sent in their choices. The change of date affected the numbers to some extent as some people were now unable to attend but it was a very sociable and lively event; in fact someone commented that it was the best GVS dinner they had attended. Certainly the food and the service were excellent.

The vice chairman, as well as the chairman, had devised brain teasing quizzes which provoked a great deal of hilarity and revealed the depths of knowledge possessed by members of our society.

GVS Rush Bearing

The GVS committee would like to thank all those who took on the challenge of providing a village bearing. We were impressed by the standard of the entries and had great difficulty in making the final choice between the two entries submitted by members of the Prickett family. Eventually Christine Prickett's entry was unanimously declared the winner.

Christine's design uses the GVS initials as a framework to be bound with rushes and has a banner of Helm Crag to drape behind as a backcloth. This gives an opportunity for other members of the community to take part in creating a truly village banner. We would be delighted if people would volunteer to take part in making the framework or the banner. This could be done by embroidery or painting or even a photograph on material.

Christine has decided to donate her £25 prize to the Grasmere Rushbearing fund. Like all of us she is determined that, after all the problems with the flooding and the closure of the A591, this year's ceremony will be the best ever.

If you would like to help with the bearing, please do contact myself or one of the GVS committee. *Vivienne Rees (chairman)*

Grasmere Flood Forum

6th April 3.00 to 7.00pm in Grasmere Village Hall

The **Grasmere Flood Action** group has met with Heather Shepherd, the leader of the National Flood Forum. We have been helping to build up a clearer picture of what happened and the actions to be taken to improve Grasmere's situation.

The **Grasmere Flood Forum on 6th April** is another opportunity for you to give an account of the issues which affected you and to find out more about the help available. The more information we have, the better we can plan how to improve matters in the future. All suggestions for helping to reduce risk will be welcome. We need as much information as possible to use in our meetings with the different agencies who are responsible for dealing with the problem of flooding.

Grasmere Business Partnership

The GBP has been working hard in cooperation with our MP, the County, District and parish councils and other organisations to get the A591 open as soon as possible. We have also been working to spread the word that Grasmere is open for business. Through our efforts the numbers of Grasmere businesses on the Explore Lakeland website has increased tenfold and a dedicated Grasmere website will be up and running soon.

All sorts of other initiatives, including improved signage to and within the village and publicity for events, both old and newly created, are aimed at reviving the local economy. Like everyone else we are looking forward to the jollifications being planned for the re-opening of the A591! And to the 11th June, when Tim Farron is hoping to bring his family along to join in our Fun day.

The Partnership has an open meeting at 6.00pm the first Wednesday of every month 6 April at the Reading Rooms. Everyone is invited to give their views and influence what happens.

Next GVS committee meeting 12 April

AGM 14 April

CALENDAR

April 2016

1 Fri	13.00	St. Oswald's	Wedding
2 Sat	12.00	St. Oswald's	Wedding
3 Sun	00.00	St. Oswald's	Easter 2 Mattins
5 Tue	00.00	Wordsworth Trust	Terrific trek on Tuesday
5 Tue	19.30	Wordsworth Trust	History Group - Sarah Hutchinson
6 Wed	00.00	Dove Cottage	Meet the Gardener
6 Wed	00.00	Brockhole	Wordsworth Wednesday
6 Wed	15.00	Village Hall	Grasmere Flood Forum
7 Thu	00.00	Wordsworth Trust	Tales for Tots
7 Thu	00.00	Wordsworth Trust	Wordsworth Birthday Celebration
7 Thu	00.00	St. Oswald's	Music of the Lakes
8 Fri	00.00	Reading Rooms	Knit and Nat
9 Sat	16.00	Wordsworth Trust	Romantics and Quakers
10 Sun	09.40	Ullswater	Walk: A Host of Golden Daffodils
10 Sun	00.00	St. Oswald's	Easter 3 Holy Communion
10 Sun	00.00	Wordsworth Trust	The difference to me: Life, loss and literature
12 Tue	00.00		Blessing for UK Tours
12 Tue			GVS Committe
14 Thu	13.30	Holehird	Women's Institute
14 Thu	00.00	Dale Lodge	Book Group
14 Thu			GVS AGM
16 Sat	09.40	Ullswater	Walk: A Host of Golden Daffodils
17 Sun	00.00	St. Oswald's	Easter 4 Holy Communion Annual Parish Meeting after the service
21 Thu		St. Oswald's	HM Queen Elizabeth II Birthday School lunch in Church

21 Thu		St. Oswald's	Queen's birthday - Union Flag
22 Fri		Tithe Barn	Grasmere Players - Shakespeare 400
23 Sat		St. Oswald's	St. George's day - St. George's flag
23 Sat	10.00	Wordsworth Trust	A day with Wordsworth's manuscripts
24 Sun	00.00	St. Oswald's	Easter 5 Holy Communion
24 Sun	16.00	St. Oswald's	Afternoon Praise
26 Tue	00.00	Reading Rooms	Knit and Nat
30 Sat	00.00	St. Oswald's	Wedding

May 2016

1 Sun	00.00	St. Oswald's	Rogation Sunday Mattins
3 Tue	19.30	<i>Check venue</i>	History Group - The Wyke
5 Thu	00.00	Rydal Hall Chapel	Ascension Day Eucharist
5 Thu		St. Oswald's	Ascension day - St. George's flag
8 Sun	09.30	St Mary's, Rydal	Sunday after Ascension Eucharist
12 Thu	00.00	Dale Lodge	Book Group

ROTAS FOR ST.OSWALD'S CHURCH

	Sidesmen/women	Coffee
April 3 rd	Sonia Rickman & Jonathon Smith	<i>June Maddison</i>
April 10 th	Rosalind de Wesselow & Kay Adkins	<i>Helen Bunfield</i>
April 17 th	Ann Fawthrop & Pat Taylor	<i>Ann Jackman</i>
April 24 th	Bob Allen & June Maddison	<i>Shirley Hill</i>
May 1 st	John Rickman & Trevor Eastes	<i>Tonia Wainwright</i>

Church Cleaning takes place every third Tuesday of each month at 9.30am.

February Weather 2016

The beginning of February was unsettled with frequent bouts of heavy rain brought on gale force winds by Storm Henry. The snow on the tops was accompanied by rain and hail showers on low ground for several days. Then Storm Imogen brought further rain and heavy showers on the 7th and 8th. Yet another wet day followed on the 9th with more snow on the tops. On the 10th the wind veered into the east, bringing a welcome, sunny day, the best for weeks, although there was a cold raw wind. A frost then followed with sunny periods and isolated hail showers, with the easterly wind dominant for several days.

When we reached the 12th we had experienced 5 completely fine days out of the last 108. Not a record to be proud of. You can understand why David Renwick quoted, "If God had intended man to live in Britain, he'd have given them gills".

Several more rainy days followed, then it turned colder again with frost until the month's end, dropping to -3°C . on several nights, but with sunny, pleasant spells by day.

On the early morning of the 29th we were treated to a spectacular, brilliant red sky, and one of the true old weather adages springs to mind, "Red sky in the morning, shepherds warning". Sure enough by 3pm the rain had started and 72.6 mm. (2.86 in.) fell that day, the highest daily total since Dec. 5th.

For February, the mean temperature was 0.2°C . above the average, rainfall was 129% of average and sunshine 122% of average.

Wettest Feb. day:	29th 72.6 mm. 2.86in.
Total for month:	323.8mm. 12.75in. av. 7.65 in.
Feb. rain days:	18 Last year 17
Rain days to date (end Feb.):	44 Last year 42
Total rainfall for year to date: (end Feb.)	727.8 mm. 28.66in.
	Last year 28.03 in.

Peter Bailey

Grasmere Celebrations for the Queen's 90th Birthday 11th - 12th June 2016

The Village Society, along with the WI, the Buffs and the Friends of Grasmere are organising a series of events in the village to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

The events will take place on Saturday 11th June beginning with a "Picnic in the Park" at Broadgate Meadow in the afternoon. This will include entertainment and children's events.

In the evening there will be a dance in the Village Hall.

On the following day we will welcome back our former Rector, Cameron Butland, who will conduct a service at St. Oswald's in thanksgiving for the Queen's life.

Full details in next month's magazine.

Melissa Harwood

Ambleside and District Choral Society

Fundraising Coffee Morning

Wednesday 6 April 10.30 –12.30 -

Lucy's on a Plate, Church Street, Ambleside

Cake Stall, Tombola, Raffle, Bric a Brac stall, Children's Competition

Entry on the door £2.50 including coffee and biscuits

Everyone welcome (children free)