

GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

DELIVERED TO EVERY HOME IN GRASMERE

MAY 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.]

MY JOURNEY OF FAITH

Like most young children in the 1940s I was sent to Sunday School on a regular basis, although I can never remember either of my parents attending a place of worship. My mother was an Anglican and my father a Methodist, but I had been baptised in the Anglican Church. However due to several house moves in my early years I attended Sunday School at whichever church happened to be the nearest, and even went to a Salvation Army Mission on a few occasions, until I realised the Bonnet and Tambourine were not part of the deal and I really wanted both!

In 1957 it was decided, I think by my mother, that I should be confirmed into the Anglican Church. This took place in Beverley Minster, East Yorkshire by the then Bishop of Hull. I was then expected to attend 8am communion on an empty stomach at least once a month. Needless to say the novelty soon wore off and for the rest of my teenage years I rarely attended Church. In 1961 a major trauma occurred in my life and I went to talk with Canon Taite the then Rector of St Oswalds, who drew me back into church with his kindness and understanding. Again it was obvious I did not understand the true meaning of faith as I gradually felt the need to attend less and less. Some ten years ago I felt the urge to re-evaluate the things that were important to me in life, and my faith was one of them. I still find it hard to explain but I know in my heart of hearts it is there. The sense of peace and belonging when I enter a church be it Grasmere or any other church I visit on my travels is something I find fulfilling.

So it took that major trauma in my life to get my Faith Journey really started. I started questioning where my life was leading. This life, the life I've got now, is this it then? Is what I've got the end of my life or is there more? There was more - it was letting God into my life.

Ella Footit

To the Cuckoo

O blithe new-comer! I have heard,
I hear thee and rejoice:
Oh Cuckoo! shall I call thee Bird,
Or but a wondering Voice?

While I am lying on the grass,
I hear thy restless shout:
From hill to hill it seems to pass,
About, and all about!

To me, no Babbler with a tale
Of sunshine and of flowers.
Thou tellest, Cuckoo! in the vale
Of visionary hours.

Thrice welcome, darling of the Spring!
Even yet thou art to me
No Bird but an invisible Thing -
A voice, a mystery.

The same whom in my school-boy days
I listen'd to that Cry
Which made me look a thousand ways:
In bush, and tree, and sky.

To seek thee did I often rove
Through woods and on the green,
And thou wert still a hope, a love,
Still long'd for, never seen!

And I can listen to thee yet -
Can lie upon the plain
And listen, till I do beget
That golden time again.

Oh blessed Bird! the earth we pace
Again appears to be
An unsubstantial, faery place;
That is fit home for Thee!

William Wordsworth

WI NEWS

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Marie Curie fundraising events on 7th April. Malcolm Thorogood's talk introducing "Music of the Lakes" by Vaughan Kennedy, together with the WI tea afterwards, made a total of £830.

On a beautiful April day 16 members visited the Leonard Cheshire home at Holehird. Volunteer Co-ordinator Jodie Van-Rooyen's talk started with the background of this decorated war hero who completed 100 flying missions and was the UK's observer at Nagasaki. Whilst his wife, Sue Ryder's charity helps people with end of life care, Leonard Cheshire set up a charity to help disabled adults. Holehird now accommodates 29 disabled, mostly younger, severely disabled adults with complex needs. Volunteers support the residents in working towards achieving Cheshire's ethos: to live independently, contribute economically and participate in society. Volunteers are always needed to help in a variety of ways: to give one-off talks on any interesting topic; to help with hobbies or crafts; to play music or perform; to befriend individual residents (painting nails or doing make-up is a real pick-me-up), to fundraise and to publicise the work of the organisation. After a short business meeting and a delicious tea provided by Jan Perritt and Margaret Holden, there was plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful gardens, which are completely separate from the house and managed by a different organisation altogether.

On 21st April President Pay Taylor and friends enjoyed a fabulous Pamper Day at Kendal College Beauty School. A full body massage, facial, manicure and pedicure and a delicious three course lunch – all for the bargain price of £50. Ladies, if you haven't yet tried it, you're missing a treat!

The next meeting takes place in the Tithe Barn at 2pm on Thursday 12th May, when Federation Officer Margaret Hodgins will go through the resolutions to go forward to this year's AGM. Visitors and non-members are always welcome, £3 including tea and raffle.

Don't forget the important events coming soon. Holker Garden Festival 3rd-5th June (volunteer stewards required) and the supper dance with a live band on Saturday 11th June to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Tickets include a fish'n'chip supper and cost just £10. Available now from Barney's Newsbox.
Myra McCraith

Knit and Nat

Our meetings for May will take place in the Reading Rooms on the second Friday and fourth Tuesday: the 13th and the 24th. The dates are posted on the board outside Barney's News Box as a reminder for anyone who is interested in joining us. We meet from 2pm to 4pm, do come for all or part of the time either to knit or just for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee. There is no commitment to join the charity knitting, just bring along your own projects. There are some experienced knitters and 'crocheters' at our meetings who would be happy to help if you are struggling with a project; we are probably more fun than trying to use YouTube!

Our contributions for the neonatal units at Barrow and Liverpool are continuing to mount; I expect we will be delivering them by mid-May. We would be pleased to receive any more baby clothes, blankets or squares either at one of our meetings or they could be dropped off at my house.

We are busy gathering together a selection patterns for the 'shoebox knitting'; we will have these available at our meetings for anyone to take. The organisers welcome hats, scarves and gloves as well as knitted toys, glove puppets, purses and pencil cases.

We look forward to welcoming anyone who would like to join us.

Christine Batey

Marie Curie Event (7th April 2016)

Thank you so much to all who helped to make this such a successful and enjoyable afternoon.

Thank you especially to Malcolm Thorogood, who organised a splendid musical event which raised £408. Thank you WI who organised and ran the tea party, which made £422 including donations. Thank you to all the bakers. I've never seen so much delicious cake! Thank you to Sonya who allowed us to use the Rectory. It gave the tea a more homely feel.

I was able to send Marie Curie a cheque for 830 pounds so well done everybody.

Joan Lagoe.

School News May

Queen Elizabeth II's birthday



We had a lovely party in church for Queen Elizabeth's birthday. John Howarth played the piano for us; we all joined in with The National Anthem and Happy Birthday. Then we just enjoyed his playing, whilst we ate. Karen and Rob of Greens Cafe made us a delicious and spectacularly beautiful feast. I'm sure that The Queen would have really enjoyed it, if she could have come. We will send her a photo, with the birthday cards made by the children.

Calling all bakers!!

The Fred Whitton Challenge is starting from Grasmere again this year, on Sunday 8th May. They have kindly given us permission to run a stall selling teas, coffees and cakes again this year. Last year this was our major fundraiser. We raised nearly £3000! That is a lot of cake... If you could help us by baking traybakes to sell, we would be very grateful. We also need volunteers to make teas / coffees and sell cakes, between 6am and 6pm! Please contact school if you can help. Traybakes can be delivered to school on Saturday 7th May in the evening (6-8pm) or to the Grasmere Sports ground on Sunday morning.

Jo Goode

Grasmere Book Group

April's book group read was a new translation of Georges Simenon's *Maigret in New York* (1947). In yet more evidence that the group have their collective fingers on the pulse, this followed neatly on from a new TV adaptation of Simenon's detective over the Easter holidays. Responses to the book were mixed: some enjoyed it, but many found themselves a bit lost in the plot. Many wondered if book 27 was the most logical place to begin, a criticism all too keenly felt by the well-meaning bookseller who chose this particular Maigret book (the one originally suggested in our January meeting being currently unavailable). In that unidentified person's defence, the book did offer a good chance to see a French detective as a fish out of water. Floundering in New York's underworld, Maigret is angry with American food, the language, and the absence of bell cords in hotel rooms.

For all those present, this was their first encounter with Maigret in book-form, although some recalled the TV appearances from the 1960s and the early 1990s. Many of us admitted to enjoying crime drama but very rarely reading crime fiction. Reading the book prompted us to ponder on the various reasons we read crime fiction. Plot? Character? Place? A poignant gaze into the mid-distance left us appearing deep in thought. Perhaps at some point we would work out who dunnit.

Next month sees the group flock to the pages of James Rebanks *The Shepherd's Life* (2015). The group will meet at the Dale Lodge Residents Lounge at 8pm on May 12th and all are welcome! For those with an eye to the summer, June's book is Anthony Doerr's *All The Light We Cannot See* (2014).
Polly and Will

Churchwarden's Notes

Penny and I had a lovely afternoon showing Prince Charles around our Church.

Thank you to Nikki Steele and the young children for their Birthday cards displayed in Church amongst the flowers in celebration of The Queen's 90th Birthday.

Thank you also to the flower ladies for their beautiful display of flower arrangements.

12th June 2016 Canon Cameron Butland returns to St. Oswald's Church to help us celebrate The Queens Official Birthday at 4pm. Tea and Cakes will be served after the service.

Sonia

May at the Wordsworth Trust

The summer events programme is as busy and varied as ever this month with walks, talks and poetry readings. National Park Authority volunteers will again be leading **In the Footsteps of Wordsworth** on Saturday 14 May, meet at the Ullswater Information Centre in Glenridding at 9.40am for a steamer boat ride up to the Aira Force pier and a walk back along the lake shore. There is also the opportunity to explore **Wordsworth's Hawkshead** on Tuesday 17 May at 10.30am. All walks are free to join but car parking charges apply.

Our Romantic Encounter talk for the month is **Christabel, Kubla Khan, The Pains of Sleep** on Saturday 14 May. Jeff Cowton and Simon Bainbridge will be discussing the composition and significance of these three poems, published together in May 1816. The 200th anniversary of spooky gothic favourite *Christabel* is also being celebrated in our Museums at Night event '**Christabel**' by **Candlelight** on Friday 13 May. Catherine Kay will read the poem by candlelight in Dove Cottage, recreating the evening as the Wordsworths sat listening to Coleridge recite it two centuries ago – a rare opportunity not to be missed.

There are three poetry readings taking place in May. We are pleased to welcome back The Poetry Business with their **Writing School Extravaganza** on Sunday 8 May, a unique opportunity to hear fourteen contemporary poets in just 90 minutes. The **Pavilion Poets**, authors of books published as part of Liverpool University Press' contemporary series, will similarly bring fresh new voices and works to Grasmere on Saturday 28 May. If you prefer classic poetry Arthur Kincaid is presenting a reading of personal favourites, including Shakespeare, Blake and Browning, at the Kelsick Centre on Saturday 20 May. All proceeds from **Making A Poet Out Of A Man** are kindly being donated to The Wordsworth Trust and tickets can be booked with us.

Three regular events will also take place as normal: **Meet the Gardener** with Sally Hall on Wednesday 4 May, **Dove Cottage Poets** on Thursday 5 May and ***the difference to me...: Life, Loss and Literature*** on Sunday 14 May. Additionally, we will also be hosting a **Crewel Work Embroidery** workshop with textiles expert Phillipa Turnbull on Saturday 21 May - all materials will be included to produce a beautiful image of a design inspired by Wordsworth.

As always, please call us on 015394 35544 or visit our website for more details and booking information. We hope to see you soon.

Alice Carthy, Events Manager, Wordsworth Trust

Grasmere History Group

I am delighted to say that Ian Jones has accepted our invitation to talk to us on Monday 13th June on "A Magic Lantern Tour of the Lake District" - from Victorian glass plate negatives.

I have seen some of these – especially the Grasmere pictures – and they have incredible detail. This is a talk not to be missed.

Neither is the talk on 3rd May – Malcolm Thorogood will be talking about the history and restoration of the Wyke.

Both events at the Jerwood Centre starting 7.30pm.

Much to look forward to.

Jeff Cowton Curator & Head of Learning Wordsworth Trust

Ambleside and District Choral Society

May Concert

Monteverdi: Mass

Britten: Rejoice in the Lamb

Schutz: The Pharisee and the Publican

Stanford: Songs of the Fleet

Soloists: Julie Leavett, Anne-Marie Kerr, Stephen Newlove and Jonathan Millican

Conductor: Jolyon Dodgson

St Mary's Church Ambleside

Saturday 7 May at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets: £10 including glass of wine, from choir members or at the door.

Grasmere Village Society

GVS Annual General Meeting 14th April

40 members came along to what proved to be a very enjoyable AGM. The highlight of the evening was Stewart Sutcliffe's illustrated talk on the red squirrels. This underlined how lucky we are to have such a dedicated bunch of squirrel helpers. Looking at the map of Britain we are one of the few places where the red squirrels are not just clinging on, but actually expanding their territory.

The chairman's annual report was also full of good news. The society has already arranged with the First Responders to purchase a new defibrillator for the village. This will be available outside the Buffs' club. The new ones have clear instructions for use by the general public but in addition the GVS is hoping to arrange for some familiarisation sessions within the village.

The chairman praised work of committee members. The long list of special responsibilities includes maintaining and repairing the many public seats, the four bus shelters, the war memorial, Sykes meadow and the Fountain. At the last committee meeting, Sharon Savasi brought along Jen Aldous, an expert on alien species, to explain some of the current problems. New Zealand pygmy weed, for instance, has completely engulfed White Moss tarn.

This is one of the cases where cooperation with the community is absolutely vital. It is important for everyone to appreciate that digging up or removing invasive plants can actually make matters worse. Even the tiniest fragment can quickly grow again if it is missed, and disposing of the plants removed can spread them unless they are completely destroyed. Chemical means have to be employed by trained and licensed experts.

Community Help. The community can best help by reporting any sighting of fresh outbreaks and by volunteering to take part in work parties, for instance to pull out Himalayan balsam before it spreads its seeds.

There was a good response to the call for volunteers for the litter work party which was arranged for the weekend after the AGM. This was followed by a letter from Paul Truelove in this week's Gazette lamenting the rules which make it difficult to dispose of litter at the Ambleside Waste Works.

We followed this up with another example of GVS work: – **lobbying**. The size of the GVS membership and our close connection to the community

means our voice counts. We spend money and time facilitating community meetings to gather opinions, to inform and to rally support. This was particularly important after the serious problems caused by flooding.

Ironically in October we had organised a Community Emergency meeting after a car fire revealed problems with water hydrants in the village. We aimed at setting up a Grasmere Emergency Group and a telephone tree to spread news quickly in emergencies. The floods came before the arrangements were in place. Luckily I could use the old Flood Action Group's structure and the sandbag supply shed it had set up.

The community is now in a better position as Nick McCraith, who agreed to chair the emergency group, has organised at least 2 contacts in all 13 of the areas of the valley identified in the First Responders' map.

Our energetic secretary, Mary Bass, writes dozens of letters for us putting pressure on councils, organisations like United Utilities, and the national government, to ensure they take notice of the problems suffered by rural communities like our own. We do not give up easily. We are still pressing for action on the dangerous area of the A591 and northern access to the village near the Swan Hotel and Benfield.

Planning is one of our priorities, led by Paul Truelove.

One recent success was the removal of United Utilities intrusive upland fence. We opposed the plans for urban type commercialized Hub at White Moss and were rewarded when the National Park Authority turned down the original plans and also a second, almost identical plan. Our representations will be used as evidence at the Lowther Estates appeal hearing which is due to happen soon.

Co-operation with others is essential in all we do. We have contacts with the new Flood Action Group, the Grasmere Business Partnership, as well as the Buffs, the First Responders, the WI. A very happy example of this is the planning for the celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday on 11th June. We all look forward to a real Fun Day.

The first meeting of the new committee is on Tuesday **17th May** at 8.00pm in the Reading Rooms. Please send any comments on issues for the committee to Mary Bass or myself.

Vivienne Rees, on behalf of GVS committee

Rector of Grasmere

You may be wondering what is happening about the appointment of a new Rector for Grasmere. Well, the good news is that a new vicar will be appointed (we couldn't take that for granted!) and they will cover Grasmere, Rydal and Rydal Hall, as Cameron did.

The Church's selection processes normally takes a year and so we will be advertising in July, with the new incumbent starting in September or October, depending on whether they have children starting a new term. The PCC is currently producing an outline plan for the church in which we are emphasising how can engage fully in the wider community and especially with young people. These plans, together with an introduction to the parish, will be available to applicants and help us, along with Rydal and Rydal Hall, in choosing the new Rector.

The Diocese of Carlisle, as well as the patron of St Oswald's - Queen's College, Oxford University - also have a role in the appointment.

We will keep you updated when we have any news.

David Jackman, PCC Chair

Food Bank

The Church supports the Trussel Trust food bank in Windermere.

May we gently remind the village about contributions which have dwindled of late. Sadly the need has not dwindled at all. They need us to carry on supporting. We will have the box available by the coffee table after the church service on Sunday, and at other times the labelled box is kept under the bench under the tower.

Tins of fish, meat, fruit, cereals, tinned rice pudding, tea, coffee or cocoa, honey, jam, bovril, plus non food items such as bars of soap, washing powder or liquid, baby wipes, nappies, sanitary items, loo rolls are all welcome.

Everything **MUST** be in date or unfortunately cannot be accepted. Please ask Kay or Paul if in doubt.

THANK YOU

The Editors

Grasmere Celebrations for the Queen's 90th Birthday

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 this great occasion.

The events will begin on **Saturday 11th June at 1pm** with a "Picnic in the Park" at Broadgate Meadow.

Bring your own picnic and enjoy complimentary strawberries & cream kindly provided by The Wordsworth Hotel. There will also be a Licensed Bar. Live entertainment will include the Kendal Concert Band, Grasmere Players, Grasmere Glee Club and Children's Sports.

Saturday evening from 7pm-11pm in the Village Hall.

Dance and Live Entertainment with the Harry Graham Show featuring Wendy & Lisa. **Tickets: £10** which includes a **Fish & Chip supper!**

Bring your own drinks! Tickets available at Barney's Newsbox.

Sunday 12th June at 4pm in St. Oswald's Church

A Service of thanksgiving for the Queen's Life.

We will welcome back Cameron Butland who will lead the service. Tea & Cake after the Service.

Melissa Harwood

HRH Prince Charles visits Grasmere

Much excitement as HRH Prince Charles arrived in Grasmere as part of his visit to Cumbria. He spent time talking to the children, locals and visitors lining the streets by the Gingerbread shop.

He took the opportunity to talk to pupils about their work on 'Refugees in Art and Religion', an art installation which has been on display in the church.

See the pictures on the back page, and the video of his visit to the Church at: <https://vimeo.com/160210261>

CALENDAR

May 2016

1 Sun	11.00	St. Oswald's	Rogation Sunday Mattins
1 Sun	12.15	Tithe Barn	Parish lunch
3 Tue	19.30	Wordsworth Trust	History Group - The Wyke
4 Wed	11.00	Dove Cottage	Meet the Gardener
5 Thu		Dove Cottage	Dove Cottage Poets
8 Sun	09.30	St. Mary's Rydal	Sunday after Ascension Eucharist <i>No service at Grasmere</i>
8 Sun		Sports Field	Fred Whitton Challenge
8 Sun	14.00	Jerwood Centre	Poetry Business Writing School Extravaga
8 Sun	14.00	Foyle Room	the difference to me: Life, Loss and Literat
12 Thu	14.00	Tithe Barn	WI
12 Thu	20.00	Dale Lodge	Book Group
13 Fri	14.00	Reading Rooms	Knit and Nat
13 Fri	19.00	Dove Cottage	'Christabel' by Candlelight
14 Sat	09.40	Ullswater	Walk - In the Footsteps of Wordsworth
14 Sat	16.00	Jerwood Centre	Christabel, Kubla Khan, The Pains of Sleep
15 Sun	11.00	St. Oswald's	Whit Sunday Methodist Service
17 Tue	10.30	Hawkshead	Wordsworth's Hawkshead
17 Tue	20.00	Reading Rooms	GVS Committee
20 Fri	19.30	Ambleside	Making a Poet out of a Man
21 Sat	10.00	Jerwood Centre	Crewel Work Embroidery Workshop
21 Sat	13.00	St. Oswald's	Wedding
22 Sun	11.00	St. Oswald's	Trinity Sunday Holy Communion with the Bishop of Penrith
24 Tue	14.00	Reading Rooms	Knit and Nat
27 Fri	13.00	St. Oswald's	Wedding
28 Sat	14.30	Jerwood Centre	Pavilion Poets

29 Sun 11.00 St. Oswald's Trinity 1
Holy Communion

June 2016

3-5 Holker Hall Holker Gardens Festival
 5 Sun 11.00 St. Oswald's Trinity 2
Mattins
 9 Thu 14.00 Tithe Barn WI
 11 Sat 19.00 Village Hall Queen's 90 birthday Supper Dance
 13 Mon 19.30 Jerwood Centre History Group - Magic Lantern Tour of the L

ROTAS FOR ST.OSWALD'S CHURCH

	Sidesmen / women	<i>Coffee</i>
May 1st	John Rickman Ella Footit	<i>Tonia Wainwright</i>
May 8th	Sonia Rickman Jonathon Smith	<i>Pat Taylor</i>
May 15th	Rosalind de Wesselow Kay Adkins	<i>June Maddison</i>
May 22nd	Ann Fawthrop Pat Taylor	<i>Shirley Hill</i>
May 29th	Bob Allen June Maddison	<i>Helen Bunfield</i>
June 5th	John Rickman Trevor Eastes	<i>Ann Jackman</i>

Parish Meal

You are cordially invited to join us for our first **Parish Meal** on **Sunday 1st May** at 12.15 in the Tithe Barn. Please bring a soft drink or a bottle of wine.

The Churchwardens

March Weather 2016

March 1st marked the start of Spring by the meteorological calendar, but the weather gods seemed to have forgotten. Low pressure dominated the first week of March, with a brisk southerly wind in charge. This brought a real pot-pourri of weather, with rain, hail and sleet showers on low ground with frost on several nights. Snow fell on the higher hills above 800ft. A cloudless, frosty start on the 7th ensured a beautiful sunny day, however snow showers followed and all was white on the morning of the 8th.

Snow is 4 parts air and 1 part water. Somebody once asked how much rain equates to 2 inches of snow? It seems a simple enough question. But the problem is that there are many types of snow and each has a different density. In fact there are about 80 varieties ranging from simple needles, to the classic ornate six sided flake. But as a general rule of thumb, 2 inches of snow amounts to around a quarter of an inch of rain.

The second week of March was cold, with a northerly wind and periods of light drizzle at times.

Then high pressure became established from the 13th to the 23rd, bringing dry, settled weather with long sunny periods, although there was a raw easterly wind. But by then, on March 20th, the Spring equinox had arrived, when the length of day and night draw equal once more.

However, more unsettled weather returned again until the month's end, with heavy rain and hail showers on snow on the tops. It was colder and drier than average for March. It was also generally sunnier than average. The UK temperature difference was significant. A maximum temp, of 55°F was noted in Braemar, Aberdeenshire on the 17th, whilst the minimum recorded was -8.1°C on the 10th at Altnaharra, Sutherland.

Even the confines of a bathroom can be related to the weather. Have you ever wondered why the shower curtain seems to cling to you when showering? It's exactly the same effect as when a low pressure system passes overhead. As the stream of water droplets from the shower head fall, they run into the surrounding air and set it rotating like a Catherine Wheel anti clockwise. A region of relatively low pressure air forms at the centre of this vortex and it is this that causes the air outside the curtain to push inwards, with clammy consequences.

Fed up with all the rain? You could always move to Tiree in the Hebrides. It has more hours of sunshine there than anywhere in Great Britain!

Wettest March day: 26th. 29.8mm. (1.17in.)

March rain days: 17. Last year 22.

Total for month: 116.5mm (4.59in.)

Last year 10.98in. Average 6.92in.

Rainfall for year to date (end March): 844.3mm. 33.25in.

Last year 39.01 in.

Peter Bailey

Grasmere Church Clock

The Churchwardens are looking for a willing volunteer to assist with winding the Clock. Any reasonably fit person could do this, it would involve once per week for around 15 minutes.

Anyone interested please contact the Editors. Thanks.

Malcolm Reekie

Many of you will know Malcolm Reekie and his wife Trish, who sent us this message.

As you all know, we moved to Eamont Bridge almost two years ago but we still have our roots in Grasmere especially Malcolm.

I just want to tell you that unfortunately Malcolm suffered a stroke on Easter Sunday and he was rushed to the Cumberland Infirmary in Carlisle.

The stroke has affected his right side, including his vision. We are facing a lot of hours of physio and therapy to get him back to the Malcolm we all know and love. He has been my absolute rock over the last 3 years, now it's my turn to look after him. We will conquer this.

Also we would like to say thankyou for all the love, care and best wishes you are sending. We will keep you posted. Thankyou.

Trish Reekie.



Free help with debt problems!

Did you know you could get free expert help to deal with debt problems? The Citizens Advice service gives confidential, independent advice on managing money problems and there's no charge at all. Unlike many internet scams, there isn't a catch with Citizens Advice – they are an independent charity and all their advisers are fully trained.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling with debt, then you can get help now. Call 015394 46464, arrange an appointment, and start to learn how you can find the light at the end of the tunnel. The adviser will help you to assess your total financial position, decide which are your priority debts, maximise your income, and negotiate rescheduled payments. Often clients think there is nothing more they can do, but their adviser can suggest options they had never thought of before.

Many people hide their heads in the sand – or don't open the envelopes – and hope it will go away. But facing up to debt, with the help of a friendly expert, is the way to break free.

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

The Archdeacon and the children await HRH Prince Charles



Churchwarden Sonia introduces HRH Prince Charles