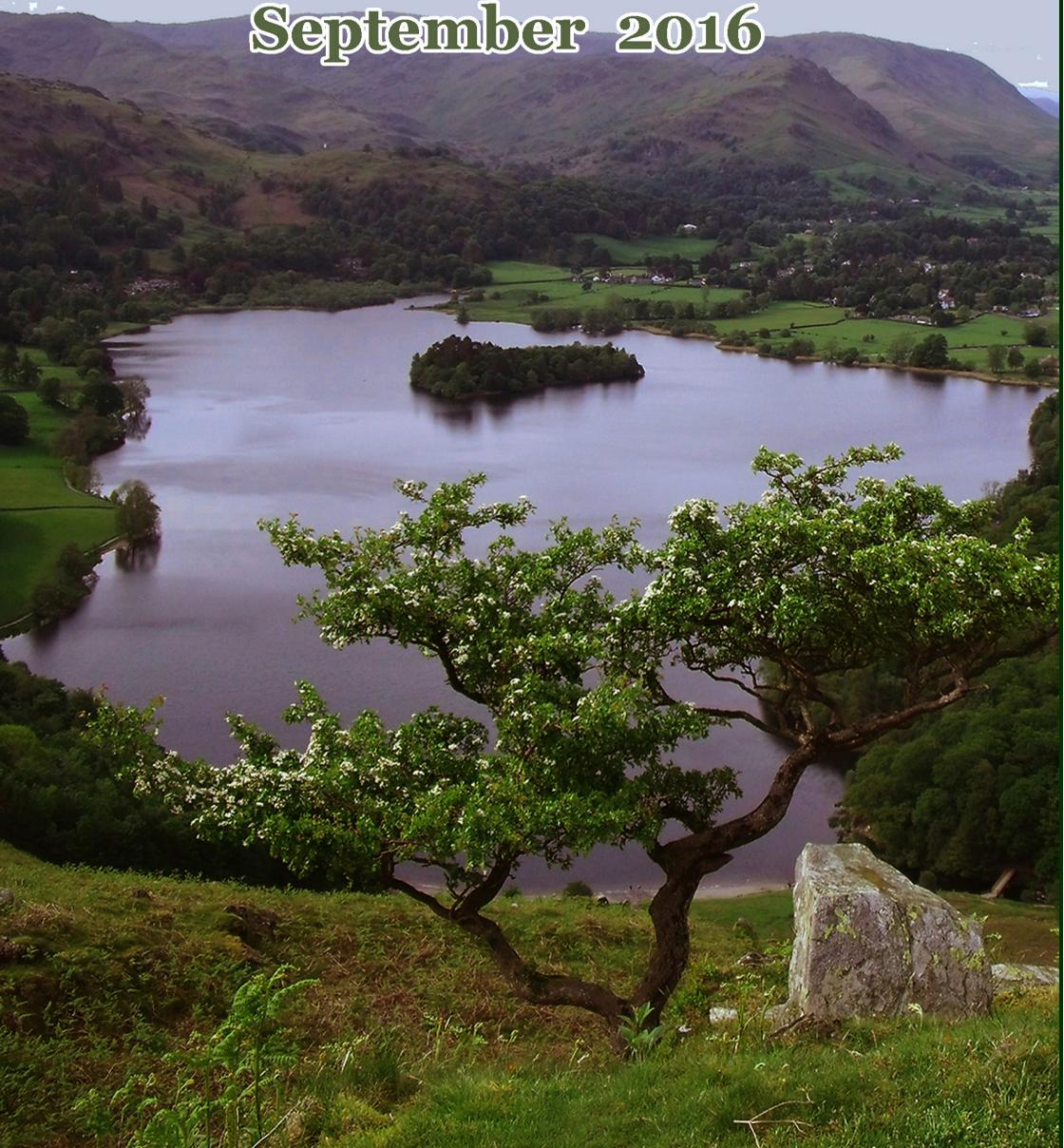


GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

DELIVERED TO EVERY HOME IN GRASMERE

September 2016



MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Editorial Policy

The name of the author appears below each item. 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.

Copy Date

Copy date for the October magazine is **19th September 2016**. Please note, we are moving the regular copy date forwards slightly, as the previous regime did not always allow enough time for the printers.

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

Grasmere Parish Magazine online

Recent editions of the magazine are now available online at:
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You can also use the website to contact the editors or to upload copy.

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 on 07010 724095 or email to: parishmag@willow-bank.net

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My Christian Journey

From tales of old I am told that my Christian Life started in 1938 with my Christening in Cheshire. The Vicar announced "I christen this boy Simon John" to which my Granny shouted out "That's wrong his name is John." Just before the christening Mother and Father had decided to add Simon, after a distant relative Simon Lord Lovat, whose portrait Father had found a few days before. Lord Lovat's notoriety was that he was the last Scotsman to be hung on Tower Hill. After the explanation the Christening was completed.

My first real memory of Christianity was when I went to my first school in Dean Row, Cheshire. At this village school every morning the children sang the hymn "All things bright and beautiful" after which we had a few prayers and joined in the Lord's Prayer and two lessons each week were Divinity.

At the age of seven I was sent to a preparatory school in Alderley Edge, still in Cheshire. Here we also had a religious start to the day with Hymns and Prayers with Divinity three times a week.

When I left Preparatory School the family moved to Harrogate.

At the age of twelve I was sent to a boarding school at St Bees in Cumbria where we attended chapel every morning and twice on Sundays. Occasionally as a school we would join the villagers at the Priory across the road for Sunday morning service. Bible Studies continued as a regular subject during each week. It was at this school that I was confirmed at the age of 13 by the Bishop of Carlisle.

After school I was called up to do my National Service, so except when on leave, church going became infrequent. Half way through my two year stint in the army my family moved to Grasmere and became regular members of the congregation at St. Oswald's Church in the village.

After completing my service I spent the summer in Grasmere, attending church and working at The Hollins Hotel, and cutting the grass on the sports field.

In the autumn I moved to London to work in hotels, so attending church services became difficult, but as I worked split shifts I did manage to visit many of the London Churches in the afternoons.

After a period working in France then in Switzerland I took up a position in a Harrogate hotel, which was when I met my lovely wife. After our wedding we

went to work in Scarborough, Devon and in County Durham before coming to live in Grasmere.

My wife attended St Oswald's regularly with my family, but still being in the hospitality business I could only attend occasionally. When I did the Rector always said "How nice to see you here John." My reply was always "When two or three are gathered in my name there am I." Needless to say I received numerous different replies which I cannot remember.

As I aged I managed more Sundays off and was able to attend church more frequently.

Now that I have retired I go to church every Sunday whether it be in Grasmere, Malaysia or Thailand.

Christianity and the Church now seems to have taken over more than 50% of our lives.

John Rickman.

Sonnet

Fly, some kind Spirit, fly to Grasmere Vale!
Say that we come, and come by this day's light.
Glad tidings! spread them over field and height.
But, chiefly, let one Cottage hear the tale!
There let a mystery of joy prevail,
The Kitten frolic with a gusty might,
And *Ranger* whine as at a second sight
Of near-approaching good, that will not fail.
And from that Infant's face let joy appear,
Yea, let our Mary's one Companion child, 1
That hath her six weeks' solitude beguiled
With intimations manifold and dear,
While we have wandered over wood and wild,
Smile on its Mother now with bolder cheer!

William Wordsworth

September 25th, 1803

Knit and Nat

The 'Knitters and Natters', along with help from other knitters in the village, have been busy over the last few weeks. We were delighted to be asked by the Grasmere Business Partnership to knit some bunting in preparation for decorating the village for the arrival of the Tour of Britain Cyclists. We have knitted triangles in red white and blue along with yellow jerseys that will be flying around the centre of the village from early September.

We will meet in September on Friday the 9th and Tuesday 27th in the Reading Rooms. The dates will, as usual, be 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; join us for all of the time either to knit or to chat over a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.

We have now heard from the Liverpool Women's Hospital; the matron wrote thanking us for the squares.

The remainder of the 'baby' knitting was delivered to Barrow and three of us were surprised and privileged to be asked if we would like to go into the special care baby unit. What a wonderful experience; there were twins and two other babies in the unit along with two mums who seemed pleased to chat to us about their beautiful premature babies. One of the mums explained how lovely it is to have these tiny clothes that actually fit their babies as they have difficulty buying clothes small enough. The nurses were pleased to receive our large bag of knitting and they thought the sets we had put together were a good idea; they would be used as presents at Christmas when Santa calls. After more than half an hour we left having enjoyed our morning and feeling that our contribution was valued.

Christine Batey

WI NEWS

Grasmere WI has a website <http://grasmerewi.btck.co.uk/> and also a Facebook page. Thank you to Sue Dixon for setting these up and uploading photographs. Take a look and Like us!

The next meeting takes place in the Tithe Barn at 2pm on Thursday 15th September, when local First Responder Martin Kenyon will teach members CPR and basic lifesaving skills. Why not come and join us – you never know when you might need to save someone’s life. Visitors and new members are always welcome at our meetings, £3 including tea and raffle.

Members will attend the Westmorland County Show on September 8th, helping set up the WI exhibition tent and acting as stewards.

Macmillan’s annual World’s Biggest Coffee Morning will be held in St Oswald’s Church from 9.30am – 12 noon on Friday 23rd September (a week before the national event). Come and enjoy fresh coffee, home baking and produce, and support this great cancer charity.

In July, Liz Howard-Thornton dressed as a VAD Auxiliary from the Great War to talk about the role played by these volunteer women who changed the nursing profession forever. Liz’s great-grandmother worked in Treport Field Hospital in northern France and perhaps knew Grasmere’s own Nellie Taylor. Liz is a frequent visitor to St Oswald’s, where she leaves flowers in Nellie’s memory. Inspired by her own family history, Liz spoke with great emotion about her quest to help identify the individual stories of the young men whose names appear on war memorials.

At the August meeting this magazine’s co-editor, Kay Adkins, related how she came to leave teaching to become a professional photographer. Kay showed examples of her impressive work, which can be viewed on her website <http://kayadkins.longfurlong.co.uk/>

Myra Mc Craith

GRASMERE WI *invites you to the*

WORLD’S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

in aid of **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**

at **ST OSWALD’S CHURCH**

on **Friday 23rd September 9.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon**

COFFEE TEA BISCUITS CAKES TRAYBAKES PRODUCE TOMBOLA

September Events at the Wordsworth Trust

September is an important month in the events and activities calendar at Dove Cottage as the summer events finish and we look forward to a new programme for the autumn and winter.

The first week sees the final family activities of the school holidays – **Rucksack of Rhymes** and **Silhouettes and Secrets** on Thursday 1st – and the last instalment of **Meet the Gardener** for the summer season on Wednesday 7th. It has been marvellous to hear Sally talk about her work and progress in the garden over the last six months so we look forward to finding out what is happening at the moment and what is coming as we move into autumn.

This month's practical workshop is **Introduction to Calligraphy** with Manny Ling on Saturday 17th. Manny is a world renowned calligrapher, and well known to regular visitors for his work on the Basho exhibition in 2014, so don't miss the opportunity to study closely and learn some of the techniques of a stunning literary art from a master.

Letters and the Lamp: Sir Humphrey Davy concludes the Romantic Encounters series of Saturday afternoon talks on Saturday 24th as Sharon Ruston (Lancaster University) is going to introduce us to the famed scientist's literary work. Remembered today as the inventor of the miner's safety lamp, Davy also wrote poetry and letters throughout his life, many of which document his scientific work and the society of the time. Join us to hear more the letters, due to be published for the first time next year, and discuss some of the topics raised in them.

The first event in the autumn series will take place on Sunday 11th and it is the first of a new series of workshops looking at how poetry can help us make sense of the world. Following on from the very successful **Life, Loss and Literature** sessions last spring, Lucy Crispin will be joined by Dove Cottage's Senior Guide Hazel Clarke to lead **'What Wordsworth Knew': words, wisdom and the art of living well**. This first session will focus on the people around us, particularly family and friends, and will give us the opportunity to enjoy a range of great writing, share our own thoughts and eat some delicious homemade cake.

The autumn and winter events programme is officially launched on 1st September, when the new brochure will be distributed and event

information will be made available on our website. There are lots of interesting and thought-provoking talks, readings and family activities coming up and we hope to see you at one of them soon. As always, please call us on 015394 35544 or visit our website for more details and booking information.
Alice Carthy, Events Manager, Wordsworth Trust

Grasmere Book Group

August's book group continued an inadvertent post-referendum focus on the entirely safe, politically neutral topic of Paris. This month the discussion surrounded French fiction and a selection of short stories all set in and around Paris. Helen Constantine's edited collection *Paris Tales* freshly translates a wealth of short fiction which all reflects, in some way, the French capital. Constantine's introduction notes that these are as much stories about Paris as they are 'about Parisians and the places they live in'.

Personal association with Paris seemed to influence how the stories resonated with the group. Some felt that the stories selected were less 'about' Paris whilst others found the stories awoke 'flashes' of past experiences. The stories themselves seemed less likely to celebrate the city than we might have imagined, although the everyday theatre of parks, gardens and street life drew many of us in.

What surprised the group was the wealth of short fiction Constantine had to draw upon. Representing the work of twenty-one authors *Paris Tales* presents a broad array of writers including writing from the late 1840s to the present day. Alongside Guy de Maupassant, Honoré de Balzac and Émile Zola are the less familiar names of contemporary writers such as Anna Galvalda or Vincent Ravalec. With such diversity, the styles on display also varied widely, which prompted us to wonder if it was more satisfying to read a single-authored collection. Nevertheless, the book itself had more than enough to occupy us. We found the grainy black and white photographs, maps and author notes in the book's layout highly immersive. Although all would probably benefit from being read in-situ. A book group field trip perhaps...?

Our next meeting is on Thursday Sept. 8th at 8pm in the Dale Lodge Hotel, where we will be discussing an American novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston (1937). As ever, copies are available from Sam Read's Bookshop in Grasmere. For those thinking ahead for our October group, our book will be Karin Altenberg's *Island of Wings* (2011), a novel set on St. Kilda in the 1830s. All welcome! *Polly and Will*

GRASMERE SCHOOL NEWS



The end of a particularly dramatic school year for Grasmere School, what with a prime minister and a Prince to name but two.

The school year ended with school performance of 'Arthur the True Story' which was the final performance for Year 6 pupils, delivered with gusto and enjoyed by all, both participants and audience.

Editors.

Martin Campbell

We would like to mark the sudden passing of the photographer Martin Campbell whose funeral service filled the church in July. He was the chairman of governors and previously a governor for several years at Grasmere School.

He produced a wonderful Grasmere website which kept us all up to date at a very difficult time during the flooding earlier this year.

He was also very involved with the Calvert Trust

He was indeed a brilliant photographer and videographer, and will be much missed.

Martin had a lovely very big smile. Jo Goode said he wasn't interested in presenting an image how it was supposed to be, Martin showed us our school as it was and was proud of what we actually were. She loved that in his photography as well.

Editors.

Stephen Mott writes:

I am writing to thank the choir and congregation for their very generous leaving gift and best wishes. I shall certainly be spending the money on some field equipment in addition to a nest box camera to help me with my bird watching. There is a possibility I shall be starting a part-time PhD at Durham University on an ornithological topic and so this equipment will help.

I wish you well in the your future endeavours especially through the very difficult times ahead of you without a rector and organist.

Many thanks again,
Stephen Mott, organist May 2011- June 2016

Boxes of Hope

We are a Cumbria based charity committed to providing help to children and families who are living in poverty in Eastern Europe.

Our main project is the Christmas shoebox campaign. Children and adults alike love to fill a shoebox – it is a simple and fun thing to do, doesn't have to cost a lot of money, and it really does make a difference to a child who has none of the basics we take for granted. Many of them have never in their lives had a gift.

Please do start looking for empty shoeboxes and shoebox bargains such as toys, games, fun items, hygiene and stationery items, warm hat scarf, gloves, socks or sweets.

The campaign runs from Nov 1st – 12th and more information will be released later in the Autumn.

Boxes of Hope www.boxesofhopecumbria.co.uk

Grasmere Village Society

Plans for work by United Utilities

The state of drains and sewers in Grasmere has long been a concern and late last year I spoke with Deborah Marsh, Third Party Adviser for United Utilities about their plans for CCTV and relining work on the sewerage and drainage network in the Grasmere area. Work began in the autumn but they had to demobilise due to bad weather. It is now their intention to remobilise to complete this work.

The scope of work at present is as follows: they hope to complete some CCTV surveys and sewer cleaning on the network in the Grasmere area around Stock Lane, Swan Lane, Pye Lane and the A591 at the Travellers Rest. This work will be undertaken out of hours between 6pm and 11pm Mon to Fri and where there is work in the Highway there will be traffic management in place. The surveys will take place during week commencing Monday 8th August 2016 and expected to take 5 days to complete.

They will also be carrying out some manhole repairs and relining a section of the sewer in fields behind Holly Cottages and Goody Bridge, during this work a temporary above ground pipe will be in place which will be removed once the work is completed.

Disruption will be kept to a minimum and a targeted letter drop is planned to customers.

Proposals for improvements to the play areas in Broadgate

One of the schemes which was suggested as a result of our requests for ideas for GVS projects for the coming year was to upgrade the facilities for both young and old in Broadgate meadow. This was something which the GVS and others like parish councillor Ella Footit and Liz Harrison have been interested in for several years and we now need to co-ordinate our efforts so that we get the best results for our community. The SLDC officers responsible for Parks and Open Spaces are now looking at all possible sources of funding and drawing up plans for the future. We'd welcome any suggestions which you have for ways to help us make the best use of our wonderful park. It should not only improve the health and fitness of young and old, it should also be an exciting, fun project

Next meeting of GVS committee

The committee next meets on Tuesday, 6th September. Any suggestions or comments are always gratefully received

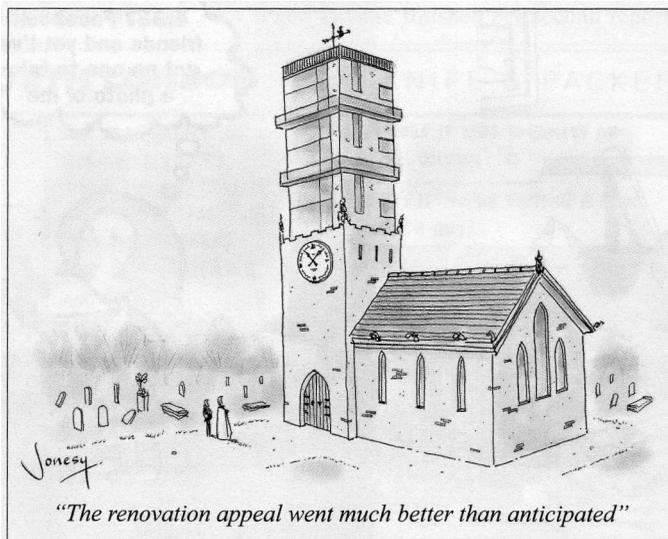
Vivienne Rees

Grasmere Fellowship

The Fellowship gets under way next month. A couple of details still need fixing but we hope to have a varied programme for your enjoyment. As our opening service is very close to issue date for the October magazine I would like to give you plenty of notice that the service will be taken by the Ven Penny Driver, our archdeacon.

After the service she will give a talk **“Has the Church a Future?”** So make sure the following date is in your diary.

October 6th Fellowship Opening Service 2.30 St Oswald’s Penny Driver
David Dodgson



With acknowledgments to Private Eye

Open letter from Archdeacon Penny Driver

Dear Readers,

I thought you may value an update on the situation in regard to the Rectory and the appointment of the new vicar.

The Mission and pastoral Committee and Diocesan Board of Finance has somewhat reluctantly agreed that the Rectory, beautiful as it is, is unsuitable for continued use as the vicarage for a number of reasons, including:

* The River Rothay adjoins the rectory grounds, which are consequently affected by periodic flooding. In December 2015 the flood levels reached a point where they entered one door sill. With increasing frequency and severity of the floods it is anticipated that worse events may arise in the future.

* The house is a substantial, listed, period building. The listed status restricts potential improvements and even with substantial investment it would remain inherently difficult to heat and expensive to maintain.

* The building has 6/7 bedrooms on the first floor but, despite its proportions, a shortage of rooms on the ground floor. With only two substantial reception rooms it lacks a room suitable for an incumbent's study whilst retaining adequate family space.

* With the anticipated appointment of a part time, or house for duty, priest in charge to the benefice it is thought that the impracticality of adequately heating the house at any reasonable cost, and the prospect of caring for it, will provide a significant impediment to being able to find a priest prepared to consider the appointment.

We have decided that a more modest, and more easily maintainable, house might better suit a priest considering part time post as vicar for Grasmere and Rydal. However the decision to sell the house is not just ours to make and we have to consult with the PCC's of Grasmere and Rydal, and the patrons of the parish who are The Queen's College Oxford. This process will begin in the next few weeks.

I know that many may not like this decision, but it is my task as archdeacon to find you the best priest we can for your parishes and house them appropriately. My hope and prayer would be that the rectory is bought by someone who has the resources to restore it to its former glory.

As soon as the decision about the house is made than we can begin to advertise for a priest and hopefully have one in place by the end of the year.

If you want to make any comments about this proposal please make your views known to any member of the Parochial Church Councils before their meeting on Wednesday 14th September 2016.

Penny Driver, Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness

Church Matters

We would like to share with the Grasmere Community a few of the matters we are dealing with in connection with St. Oswald's Church.

The church is at the heart of the village and as a Grade 1 listed building is important as a visitor attraction as well as a place of worship.

Church Tower Restoration

The existing render on the church tower is in very poor condition. We have applied to the Diocese of Carlisle to remove all the tower render and to re-render according to conservation practice. At the same time, repairs will be carried out to the tower roof, ramparts etc. It is also intended to re-gild the clock faces and automate the clock-winding mechanism.

Understandably this is going to be an expensive project and it will be sometime before we know the full cost of the work involved.

We will begin to raise money for this work and are also looking into available grants to help fund the project.

Fundraising

To help with the fundraising for these projects we intend to have a range of fundraising activities in the village including a display in the church tower to explain the proposed repair work needed.

We hope you will be able to join in with these future activities as they arise.

Bell Ringing

We are pleased to say that we would like to bring back bell ringing to the village. We do need more people to come forward who would be interested in taking part in this traditional activity and we intend to organise an "Open Session" in the near future where you can come along and have a go!

Melissa Harwood

CALENDAR

September 2016

| | | | |
|--------|-------|------------------|--|
| 1 Thu | 11.00 | Dove Cottage | Rucksack of Rhymes |
| 1 Thu | 14.00 | Dove Cottage | Silhouettes and Secrets |
| 4 Sun | 09.30 | St Mary's, Rydal | St. Mary's Patronal Festival No service at St. Oswald's |
| 6 Tue | 20.00 | Reading Rooms | GVS Committee |
| 7 Wed | 11.00 | Dove Cottage | Meet the Gardener |
| 8 Thu | | | Westmorland County Show |
| 8 Thu | 10.00 | Tithe Barn | Antiques |
| 8 Thu | 20.00 | Dale Lodge | Book Group |
| 9 Fri | 10.00 | Tithe Barn | Antiques |
| 9 Fri | 14.00 | Reading Rooms | Knit & Nat |
| 10 Sat | 10.00 | Tithe Barn | Antiques |
| 11 Sun | 11.00 | St Oswalds | Trinity 16 Matins |
| 11 Sun | 14.00 | Dove Cottage | What Wordsworth knew |
| 13 Tue | 10.00 | Glenthorne | Quaker Local Meeting |
| 14 Wed | 15.00 | Tithe Barn | PCC |
| 15 Thu | | St Oswalds | Battle of Britain day - Union Flag |
| 15 Thu | 14.00 | Tithe Barn | WI |
| 17 Sat | 10.00 | Jerwood Centre | Introduction to Calligraphy |
| 17 Sat | 12.00 | St Oswalds | Wedding vows |
| 17 Sat | 14.00 | St Oswalds | Wedding |
| 18 Sun | 11.00 | St Oswalds | Trinity 17 Holy Communion |
| 21 Wed | 09.00 | Catholic Church | CTIG Outing to York - see below |
| 22 Thu | 10.00 | Tithe Barn | Antiques |
| 23 Fri | 09.30 | St Oswalds | WI Macmillan Coffee Morning |
| 23 Fri | 10.00 | Tithe Barn | Antiques |
| 24 Sat | 16.00 | Jerwood Centre | Sir Humphrey Davy: His Life and Letters |
| 25 Sun | 11.00 | St Oswalds | Trinity 18 Harvest Festival |

| | | | |
|--------|-------|---------------|----------------------|
| 27 Tue | 10.00 | Glenthorne | Quaker Local Meeting |
| 27 Tue | 14.00 | Reading Rooms | Knit & Nat |

October 2016

| | | | |
|-------|-------|------------|---|
| 1 Sat | 19.00 | St Oswalds | Organ Recital - see below |
| 2 Sun | 11.00 | St Oswalds | Trinity 19 Holy Communion - Bishop of Carlisle |

ROTAS FOR ST.OSWALD'S CHURCH

| | Sidesmen / women | <i>Coffee</i> |
|-----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sept 4th | No service at St Oswalds | |
| Sept 11th | Ann Fawthrop Pat Taylor | <i>Shirley Hill</i> |
| Sept 18th | Rosalind de Wesselow Kay Adkins | <i>Tonia Wainwright</i> |
| Sept 25th | June Maddison Bob Allen | <i>Kay Adkins</i> |
| Oct 2nd | John Rickman Trevor Eastes | <i>Ann Fawthrop Pat Taylor</i> |
| Oct 9th | Sonia Rickman Ella Footit | <i>Rosalind de Wesselow</i> |

Church Notices

Parish Outing to York 21st September.

Coach departs from Catholic Church at 9 a.m., returning approx. 9 p.m.

Price approx £16, to be confirmed. Book seats via John Rickman, 35603

Organ Concert in the Church on Saturday 1st October at 7 p.m. by Charles Edmundson and friends in aid of the Church Tower appeal.

Church cleaning every third Thursday at 9.30.

Churchwardens.

Weather June - July 2016

June. The first meteorological day of summer brought nearly a week of virtually cloudless skies and temperatures in the low 70's on brisk north easterly winds. However, in France, Germany and Austria, they endured the worst weather for decades with torrential rain and flooding.

Here though, it became more humid and uncomfortable from the evening of the 6th with thunder being recorded on 3 days. On the afternoon of the 8th the heavens opened and an inch and a quarter fell in just under two hours.

From the 9th onwards, the weather was generally unsettled, cloudy and wet, with low pressure in charge, and thunder was recorded yet again on the 12th.

This set the scene for the remainder of the month, with rain and thundery showers on most days, and on the night of the 22nd in S.E. England, over 7000 lightning strikes were recorded. Interestingly, S.E. England has a lower annual rainfall than Jerusalem or Beirut.

Here in Cumbria, rainfall was above average and sunshine slightly below average.

Wettest June day 19th 43.2mm 1.70 in.

June rain days 16 Last year 15

Total for month 174.4mm. 6.87in. Last year 3.41 in. Av.4.78in.

Rain days to date (end June) 107 Last year 115

Total to date (end June) 1217.0 mm 62.12in. Last year 55.25in.

A quick look around Cumbria with comparative totals for June: Kirkby Stephen 60.1mm. Sebergham 64.0mm Seaton 64.4mm Carlisle 73.4mm Drumburgh 75.3mm Windermere 162.2mm. Ambleside 164.5mm Coniston 168.1mm. Grasmere 174.4mm. Seathwaite 236.4mm.

July. Low pressure was very much in charge for most of July. Westerly winds brought drizzle and thundery showers, heavy at times. The situation of the jet stream ensured there were no long sunny days for virtually the whole of the month. In fact, only two completely dry days were recorded on the 17th and 29th. The Rushbearing on the 9th was plagued by a steady downpour, which lasted most of the day. Even St. Swithins Day fared no better as three quarters of an inch of rain fell on the 15th. There was a brief hot spell between the 18th and 20th, but the humidity increased and it became quite uncomfortable. The 19th in fact was the hottest day of the year to date,

with temperatures reaching the low 80's. But this triggered a thundery breakdown on the morning of the 20th with vivid lightning strikes and tremendous claps of thunder echoing around the valleys. Over 45000 lightning strikes were noted in Great Britain over 24 hours. Fortunately no flash flooding here in Grasmere occurred. The remainder of the month was mainly unsettled, with sunshine and showers.

Mean maximum temps were slightly below average in the west. Cumbrian rainfall 104% of average and sunshine was 92% of average.

Wettest July day 26th 20.0mm. 0.79in.

July rain days 19 Last year 24

Total for month 154.0mm 6.07in. Last year 7.32in. Av.5.77in.

Rain days to date (end July) 126 Last year 139

Total for year to date (end July) 1371.0mm.68.19in. Last year 62.57in. '

After the last couple of months, Samuel Taylor Coleridge had it summed up perfectly: "Summer has set in with its usual severity".

A quote from Westmorland's past. Local, to a tourist who asked whether it rained here all the time. "Well it donks and it doddles, dozzles bedoes and mebbe it cum a bit of a stickter, but nivver what you might call a gay, girt pell!"

The world's first weather map was published in the Times on April 1st 1875, and it gave the weather for the previous day.

Peter Bailey

Volunteer required for cleaning the Tithe Barn.

Approx. 2 hours every two weeks.

£10 per hour.

Apply to Sonia Rickman, Churchwarden
tel 35603



Too good to be true? Be aware of scams.

If something seems too good to be true, it probably is just that. Citizens Advice estimates that UK consumers lose £5 billion every year to scammers - criminals who play on people's dreams, and their trust, to trick them into handing over money. One in every ten people has been a victim. Don't be the next one - be scam aware, get advice and check before you hand over cash.

There is a huge variety of ways you can be conned out of your money, by mail, phone or online. Bogus agencies offering you a dream partner or job, pensions and investment schemes promising you untold riches, fake tickets, claims that you have won a prize ... they all ask you to hand over money in advance. Some scams pretend to be from your bank or computer operator, asking for passwords.

What can you do about all this? Be scam aware, take your time, check things out. The Citizens Advice website (www.citizensadvice.org.uk) has lots of detailed information on scams.

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.

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