

# GRASMERE

## PARISH MAGAZINE

March 2017



Delivered to every home in the village

# MAGAZINE INFORMATION

## Editorial Policy

Grasmere Parish Magazine is produced monthly by St. Oswald's PCC and is edited by Paul and Kay Adkins. 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 the 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 March magazine is **18th March 2017**.

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

## Grasmere Parish Magazine online

Recent editions of the magazine are now available online at:

<http://parishmag.willow-bank.net/>

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](mailto:parishmag@willow-bank.net)

## Still Seeking?

[*Foreword*: I asked Laurence to write the Parish Magazine leading article. Please read it carefully because it makes the point that we are wrong to assume that everybody sat in church is a converted, born again Christian. Some are still on their journey to faith and are *seeking*. Maybe you are such a one. We all need to be "Honest to God" and face up to where we stand in reference to Jesus Christ. By coming to church we, like Paul, have set our feet on the Damascus road. And we all know what happened to him! *Derek Hall*]

I was born in London a few years before WWII, one of five siblings. Our parents were both founders, in 1925, of the first English Waldorf School in London, a system of co-education created by Rudolf Steiner of Austria and based very much on Christian principles but without any strong adherence to any specific denomination. I, moreover, had the good fortune to be given two remarkable Godfathers, both dedicated and, eventually, illustrious Christian men.

In the light of this you might well have supposed that, in my youth, I was a strong believer and supporter of the Christian faith. I certainly, in my childhood, enjoyed the ritualistic aspects of church services, church music and its performance and, in later years, the regular opportunity for reflection and meditation and pause for thought which these gatherings provided. But I must confess that I could not understand, or therefore believe, many aspects of church worship which seemed to me altogether too theoretical to have real substance. I still I have considerable difficulty with aspects of the Church of England Creed, for example, so find myself unable to recite it with conviction. So my "faith" as such was in my teens and later merely skin deep and throughout my working life my church attendances were few and far between, a familiar story in this day and age.

I believe my parents had high hopes that I might follow an academic career and I was fortunate, for a short period, to go to Christ Church College, Oxford, to read History. But this was a failure; I was not cut out for academia and left Oxford after a year to take up, instead, a three year training course in land management at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester in order to follow a career as a Land Agent. That training, followed by some 40 years practice as a Land Agent, including 36 years with the National Trust helped open my eyes to the wonders of the world we live in as I became more and

more involved with many different aspects of great landscapes and buildings and nature. Each day, when we wake, these miracles confront us and repeat the question “Who made all this and how is it sustained in spite of harmful human interference and who guided the human spirit to build upon it all with great cathedrals, churches, parkland and gardens, mountains and seas, music, art and literature?”

These and other questions have interested me more and more since my retirement 20 years ago following which I have become a much more regular churchgoer, grateful for the stimulus and opportunity the services provide to contemplate these concerns. The Iona Creed (the words in which I prefer to those of the Church of England version) states that it is God who is the

“Maker and sustainer of life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.”

I do not feel able to accept that statement; I do believe in a spiritual world but not in a “God” as such. So I suppose I am searching for some form of “Maker and sustainer of life” but in no great hurry to find this. I will, meanwhile, persevere in my quest, mindful of the Iona prayer of penitence which reads

“O hidden mystery, Sun behind all suns, Soul behind all souls, In everything we touch, In everyone we meet, Your presence is round us, And we give thanks.

But when we have not touched, but trampled you in creation, when we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but rejected you in the poor, forgive us and hear now our cry.”

Perhaps one day my cry will be heard and I will find and recognise a “Creator”, but meanwhile I am content to soldier on as before in awe and gratitude and thankfulness for the wonders of this world of ours.

*Laurence Harwood*

## WI NEWS

At the time of writing, WI members are busy preparing for our Gather Day in aid of the Great Northern Air Ambulance. We hope to raise £1000 again this year. Thank you to everyone who supports this annual fundraising event. A full report will appear in the April Parish Magazine.

At the February meeting, GNAA Liaison Officer Kerrie Steel gave an illustrated talk to WI members and friends about the work of the helicopter services in our area. The teams now also carry blood for trauma patients. GNAA requires approximately £5 million per year, all funded by donations. 79p of every £1 raised is spent directly on the emergency service. Last year almost £7 million raised funded more than 1,000 missions by 3 helicopters. The vote of thanks was given by Christine Batey, who had benefitted personally from GNAA's urgent response.

The next meeting is on Thursday 9th March, when popular speaker Janet Smith makes a return visit to Grasmere to talk about the Cavendish Ladies of Holker. Janet has an encyclopaedic knowledge of everything relating to Holker Hall. She speaks with great enthusiasm and has some wonderful slides. Come and join us in the Tith Barn at 2pm for an entertaining afternoon and delicious tea. Non-members and visitors are most welcome (£3).

*Myra Mccraith*

*Footnote: As we go to press, we learn that the provisional total raised so far for the Air Ambulance is £785. Well done! Eds.*

## Knit and Nat

Our March meetings will be on Friday the 10th and Tuesday the 28th in the Reading Room. Each meeting will start at 2pm and finish by 4pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for the afternoon or any part of it, to knit, crochet, chat, bring any other crafty project you are working on or just have a cuppa.

We have worked hard with the twizzle muffs and at the last count have knitted about 30 giving some to people who requested them for friends or family. They are all quite unique and when they are collected together make a colourful display. We would like to thank those people who gave us bits and pieces to use as decoration.

Several knitting magazines are 'doing the rounds' amongst the group. I have been enjoying reading the regular monthly article about Knit and Nat( Natter) groups around the country; despite these groups being so diverse there are interestingly striking similarities between them and ourselves. It seems to me that the types of group projects undertaken are broadly the same: baby clothes, shoe box knits, blankets, twizzle muffs and craft stall items along with the members own knitting.

In our group we are continuing to keep busy with ongoing projects, for anyone who is interested, using our donated wool; these include: breast squares, neo- natal hats, cardigans and blankets, hats scarves and gloves and soft toys for the shoe boxes and some knitted toys for the new Mother and Toddler group.

*Christine Batey*

## **Grasmere Fellowship**

Another season is drawing to a close with the ever fascinating AGM in sight.

Before that, on March 2nd local GP Dr Paul Davies will give a talk entitled "A Most Peculiar Practice". We leave the content to your imagination.

For our final meeting on March 23rd Keith Coates will be reminiscing about life in Grasmere in the 40s and 50s in a talk entitled "Growing up in Grasmere". Note that this meeting is being held one week later than advertised.

Before Keith's talk there will be a short AGM. Don't let this put you off what promises to be a fascinating talk. Tea that day is a Jacob's Join so contributions are much appreciated.

Both meetings will be at the usual time of 2.30 in the Tithe Barn and of course non-members are very welcome

*David Dodgson*

## **March Events at the Wordsworth Trust**

March brings many joys – longer days, Spring flowers, the hope of warmer weather – and at Dove Cottage, excitement for the for the season ahead as we move into summer opening hours and release our April – October programme.

Lucy Crispin will be exploring how wonderful words can nourish our soul and spirit in Making the world go round: an exploration of passions, pains and poetry on Sunday 12 March. Lucy creates and leads really fascinating sessions on the ways in which poetry can help us better understand the world around us, they are very friendly and informal and the discussion is accompanied by tea and cake.

Pamela Woof's current series of literature classes on The Prelude 1805 draws to a close on Wednesday 15th March, with the sixth and final session. As well as reading some more of the book, there will also be some time to share and reflect on the journey taken through Wordsworth's great autobiography in the last six months.

The relationship between the writings of Wordsworth and Seamus Heaney will be explored by Professor Fiona Stafford (Somerville College, Oxford) in 'Spring within the centre': Heaney and Wordsworth on Saturday 18th. Heaney had a unique and special understanding of Wordsworth's writing and we were very privileged to have welcomed him to Grasmere on many occasions. Don't miss the opportunity to hear more about their connection from an excellent expert speaker.

Tuesday 21st March is World Poetry Day and we are all looking forward to celebrating with one of our fabulous Pop-up Poetry Cafés. Drop in for a cup of tea and a slice of homemade cake, accompanied by a little poetry and a friendly conversation about your favourite poems. It is a very relaxed and informal afternoon and all are welcome to join us.

Finally, we welcome our next Poet in Residence to give a lunchtime reading at Dove Cottage Tea Rooms on Thursday 30th. He will read a selection of his own writing along with the Dove Cottage Poets and then lead a creative writing workshop after lunch. You are welcome to attend either the reading or workshop or both, it will be an inspiring insight into contemporary poetry.

As always, please visit our website or contact us on 015394 35544 for more information about any events or activities. *Alice Carthy Events Officer*

## **Grasmere Book Group**

February saw us reading a novel that shines a light on the world of Eyam, a Derbyshire village, during the plague year of 1666. Geraldine Brooks' *Year of Wonders* (2001) is based on the real-life events of the plague-hit village, imagining how the community decided upon and coped with voluntary quarantine. The book sparked some great discussions. Prime concerns were how faithful historical fiction could be, the novel's variety of themes and sub-plots and understanding the actions of a cast of characters. On this last point, a similar issue faced some who overheard the book group's conversation. With some voices candidly addressing the novel's depiction of passion in a constrained society, the group was deemed to be a gathering of 'progressive women'. Moreover, the incongruous presence of this particular gentleman caused further confusion. That said, there was broad consensus that Brooks' writing was enjoyable and so was the book group.

March's book group reading will be a novel of the American South, Carson McCullers' *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* (1940). All readers are welcome to join us on March 9th at 8pm in the Dale Lodge Residents' Lounge. If you're considering reading further ahead, April's book will be Raymond Briggs' *Notes from the Sofa* (2015).

*Will Smith*

## **Grasmere History Group**

The History Group does not have any meetings in March, but please note two future dates for your diaries.

**11th April** 7.30pm Fiona Martin 'Unique Everyday Folk. The Dixons of Grasmere and Hawkshead'. Fiona Martin is descendant of Mary Dixon, first custodian of Dove Cottage, appointed in 1891

**9th May** 7pm. A visit to the Jerwood Centre by members of the Duddon Valley History Society. The Society has been exploring Wordsworth's links to their valley, and are working with an artist to stage an exhibition in the Wordsworth Museum (opening 8th April). Grasmere residents are invited to come along to meet them and hear about their work.

*Jeff Cowton*



## Grasmere School News

### Scientific Thinking? Food for thought...

Alive? Dead? Never been alive?

Children aged 5 -7 need to be able to wrestle confidently with this topic, in the new curriculum. And very interesting it is too.

Eg 'Dead' – A chair is made out of wood from a tree which is no longer alive. We know that it is no longer alive because it is not re-producing, breathing, eating, excreting etc. 'Excreting' is always a popular discussion topic with 5 year olds.

We moved onto thinking about 'a book'. 'Never been alive' was the general consensus. I was just wondering about how to introduce the origin of paper without losing half the class when one girl said – "A book is alive because as soon as you start to read, the story comes alive in your mind."

Aha... Figurative thinking? Or is it scientific thinking? The science of how the mind works is arguably one of the most exciting areas of current scientific exploration.

Arbitrary distinctions are so hard to work with. As any parent whose children have gradually studied science at a higher and higher level knows, they come home every year and say "Well, apparently all that 'stuff' I learnt for SATs / GCSE / A level is actually wrong – the real truth is..." Arbitrary agreements are made by assessing/examining bodies about how much, conceptually, children are able to understand at different ages. Then they unpick it all at the next stage, and re-learn the new, more complex, 'truth'.

This is, of course, convenient for assessment, but unfortunately out of kilter with children's rather random development.

On the morning on which I was discussing whether a book was alive, I was also surprised to realize that one child didn't know that wood (the chair) had come from a tree. And yet another child was pondering about oil (great excitement – dead things from millions of years ago come through the diesel pump at the garage and swirl about in our cars). She thought that as coal is also a 'fuel', it may be made of dead things too. Hoorah! I do hope that she does a PhD in something fascinating... Perhaps she will invent wind-powered

cars (Two current fixations in Class 4: 1. Cars with wind turbines – once they start they will never stop, because they'll self-generate the necessary wind. 2. Cars with sails - how could we lay out motorways for tacking?).

These are the days when I'm glad that I don't have a head-cold. Or a different job! There is nothing more interesting than being with a group of children who are curious about the universe and happily burbling their theories. But in science I find that it never develops as I thought it might. It is so easy to tell children that they are wrong, when what we actually mean is "That is not the answer I was expecting, or one which will get you the mark in the SAT test". Think deeper, think wider...

How early do we close down this wide-ranging curiosity? How quickly do we want to explain to them that there are required answers? Not wise, complex, deep answers – just required ones.

You may be aware of the discussion about England's rating as measured by PISA scores. It may be right to be worried, and I agree with the emphasis on high level literacy and maths skills. Certainly we need to ensure that our education system is excellent, given the current world climate. But I do also worry that we may be losing confidence in our country's admittedly unusual education system. Creativity and innovation have been a strength of our education system. Stifle the originality and expression too early, and we may well find that we have lost a lot more than we've gained. Of course children need to be able to articulate their originality. Of course they need to be able to measure and manipulate data dexterously. But they must also be taught to think, and encouraged to develop creative, original responses.

How would you answer the 6 year old child who says "A book is alive because as soon as you start to read, the story comes alive in your mind"?

Answers on an email, please. I'd love your help!

*Jo Goode*

## **Grasmere Church Update**

We are delighted to announce that The Revd Gillian Henwood has been appointed as Priest in Charge for Grasmere and Rydal, starting in June. Gill lives in Hawkshead and has until recently been Rector of Ribchester in the Blackburn Diocese.

The service of licensing will be on 24th June at 2pm in St Oswald's. The Bishop of Carlisle, the Rt Revd James Newcome will be officiating.

I am sure we all look forward to welcoming Gill into our community.

*David Jackman Chair, Grasmere PCC*

## **Music Notes**

On Sunday 2nd April at 4.00 p.m. there will be an organ recital in St Oswald's Church given by Ian Hare. The aim of this recital will be both to celebrate his recent appointment as Director of Music there, and also to launch a new CD recording of 'Organs of the Lake District'.

The programme will focus upon themes of thanksgiving and Passiontide, as well as including some items from the recording. CDs will be available on sale, price £10, with all profits donated to church funds. The recording includes music by composers with Cumbrian connections, such as Somervell, Armstrong Gibbs and Adrian Self, played on the organs of Crosthwaite, Grasmere and Patterdale Churches and Lancaster RC Cathedral.

Admission to the concert will be by programme, price £5.00 at the door, and refreshments will be served in church afterwards.

*Ian Hare*

## **Dr Audrey Hazelden**

Dr Audrey died peacefully in Kendal Care Home on 16 January, aged 94. Before she moved away, first to Windermere and finally into care, she had been a resident in Grasmere for something like 30 years, and was a valued colleague of three successive Rectors, Richard Bevan (1979-82), Keith Wood (1982-94) and Bob Wilkinson (1995-2003).

Audrey was brought up in Kent, trained as a doctor in London during the blitz (a bomb blast damaged her hearing for the rest of her life), and after various appointments she became Medical Officer of Health in Barrow. A deeply spiritual person, she was a Third Order Franciscan for many years. In her Grasmere days she was a Reader, Sacristan, organiser of the Church book stall, collector of Church car park fees and member of the PCC and Deanery and Diocesan Synods.

She had many and varied interest whilst off duty; she helped several young people at University, was a skilled tapestry embroiderer, an enthusiastic fell walker, enjoyed foreign travel and was an Advanced Motorist. In everything she did, she was a humble servant of Jesus Christ.

At her funeral service the officiating priest (another Franciscan) said how well the last line of Psalm 23 as printed in her order of service summed up her life of dedication to the Church; "I shall dwell in the House of the Lord my whole life long". She did, and she will. In the words of Jesus himself "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter into the joy of your Lord".

*Keith Wood*

## **Steve Knight**

I and my parents, Mike and Janet, would like to thank everyone for their support on the sad occasion of Steve's death. I received many condolence cards and messages of sympathy which proved to be a tremendous comfort to me. I also felt very comforted to see so many friends at the funeral, and it really helped knowing that Steve was so well regarded. So many people also offered practical help and assistance which considerably eased my burden at this time. Thank you all so very much,

*Sarah Knight.*

# **Grasmere Village Society**

## **Litter pick**

A very successful GVS litter pick was held on 18th February, organised by Stuart Fawthrop. There was a larger group than ever and it was good to see some new volunteers. I also got the impression that there was less litter in several places, although it is still astonishing to see where some people think it is acceptable to drop their cans, bottles or food packaging when they have finished with them. Who do they imagine is going to clear up after them?

## **Grasmere War Memorial**

We have received the news that the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has decided to add Grasmere War Memorial to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The memorial is now listed at Grade II. It doesn't mean that there will be any great changes and Liz Harrison will continue her splendid work looking after it and its surroundings.

It is great, however, that its importance in both categories is now recognized nationally. W.G. Collingwood's beautiful design, reflecting the Norse crosses found in much of Cumbria, reminds us of our rich cultural heritage. So does the site, on the slope of a rocky outcrop with Neolithic stone markings decorating its crest.

Most important of all is its significance to the community. The annual ceremony at noon on Remembrance Sunday commemorates those who gave their lives in service to their country. My husband Jim thought it important to be there to honour them so two months before he died he insisted on going to the War memorial. We always put out seats for the less able but he stood up whilst the names of the dead were read out.

The GVS began the tradition of meeting together in the Hall, following the noon service. The WI soon helped provide a warming drink and some biscuits so that the community can meet together in comfort. The stairs to the hall used to be a barrier for the less mobile, now a lift makes it easy for all. As well as grants £1,000 was raised at Jim's memorial service to help pay for it.

## **Annual Dinner at the Daffodil Hotel – 9th March**

If you have paid your subscription, still only £1, you should have received an invitation to the dinner and a menu. Don't forget to send in your choices and payment by 1st March.

## **GVS AGM 27th April**

Everyone is invited whether they have joined the society or not. This gives the community another opportunity to meet and chat. That is why there is a welcoming drink when the doors open, half an hour before any business, and why we finish with light refreshments. People can also take the chance to look at any displays and comment on them.

This year there are important changes proposed for the village, so there will be displays about them and also the opportunity to meet and question those involved. By that time we hope to hear if we have got grants for the two Locally Important Projects: Broadgate Meadow Trim Trail (with equipment to help adults keep fit) and the Heating of Grasmere Village Hall. People will be able to see what is proposed and to make their own comments and suggestions for further improvements. The Grasmere Community Emergency Plan will also be covered, with displays of details.

### **Election of the new committee:**

There is an important piece of business although we keep it as short as possible. Please do help us to make it as representative of the whole community as it should be. We don't want to get into a rut and we do want new ideas. We meet 9 times a year in the Reading Room, about once every 6 weeks, never in August and very rarely in December. Do join us, we promise not to bite!

You have to be a paid up resident member to be on the committee or to vote for the committee. But it is only £1.

### **Next meeting of GVS committee: 14th March 2016.**

*Vivienne Rees (chairman)*

## **AMBLESIDE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Dougie Watson of the Rusland Horizons Project will speak on "Wildlife and Woodland at Rusland" on Thursday, March 9th at 7.30pm.  
Percival Lecture Theatre, Ambleside Campus, Rydal Road, Ambleside.

# CALENDAR

## March 2017

1	Wed		St Oswald's	St David's day - Union Flag
2	Thu	14:30	Tithe Barn	Fellowship
5	Sun	11:00	St Oswald's	<b>Lent 1 - Holy Communion</b>
9	Thu	14:00	Tithe Barn	WI
9	Thu		Daffodil Hotel	GVS Dinner
9	Thu	19:30	Ambleside Univ.	Ambleside Natural History Society
9	Thu	20:00	Dale Lodge Hotel	Book Group
10	Fri	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
12	Sun	11:00	St Oswald's	<b>Lent 2. Mattins</b>
12	Sun	14:00	Foyle Room	Lucy Crispin - Making the World go Rou
13	Mon		St Oswald's	Commonwealth day - Union Flag
14	Tue			GVS committee
15	Wed	14:15	Jerwood Centre	The Prelude 1805
17	Fri		St Oswald's	St Patrick's day - Union Flag
18	Sat	11:00	Jerwood Centre	Heaney and Wordsworth: Spring within the
19	Sun	11:00	St Oswald's	<b>Lent 3. Mattins</b>
21	Tue	14:00	Foyle Room	Poetry cafe - World Poetry Day
23	Thu	14:30	Tithe Barn	Fellowship
26	Sun	11:00	St Oswald's	<b>Mothering Sunday - School Children</b>
28	Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
30	Thu	12:00	D. Cott Tea Room	Poet in Residence - David Tait

## April 2017

2	Sun	11:00	St Oswald's	<b>Passion Sunday - Holy Communion</b>
2	Sun	16:00	St Oswald's	Organ Recital

## ROTAS FOR ST.OSWALD'S CHURCH

	Sidesmen / women	Coffee
Mar 5th	June Maddison Bob Allen	<i>Ann Fawthrop</i>
Mar 12th	Rosalind de Wesselow Bob Allen	<i>Helen Bunfield</i>
Mar 19th	Trevor Eastes John Rickman	<i>Kay Adkins</i>
Mar 26th	Sonia and John Rickman	<i>Pat Taylor</i>
Apr 2nd	Ann Fawthrop Pat Taylor	<i>Rosalind de Wesselow</i>

Church Cleaning will be on the third Tuesday of each month at 9.30am

### **Thank you**

Since my fall and stay in hospital both in Lancaster and Kendal I have been quite overwhelmed at the welcome I have received as I try to return to normal activities. I would like to say a very big "Thank you" to everyone for the cards, messages, flowers, food and chocolate I have received. Also to the doctors, nurses and staff at both hospitals, the Health Centre and the carers at home. I received wonderful care and attention from all, and special thanks to the many visitors who have made time to visit me both in hospital and since returning home. I'm sure I could not have received more attention wherever I was.

Thank you all very, very much. *Mary Bower*



## January 2017 Weather

The first few days of January were dominated by a cold northerly wind, interspersed with a few isolated wintry showers. Frost was recorded on several nights, the coldest being the early morning of the 5th when  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$  was recorded. Incidentally, the lowest temperature on the 5th was noted at Benson, Oxfordshire where the mercury dropped to  $-8^{\circ}\text{C}$ . It's a large Thames-side village at the foot of the Chiltern hills situated in a frost pocket and often records the lowest night time temperature in the UK.

On the night of the 5th a large halo appeared around the moon, which brings us to the old weather adage, "the bigger the halo the nearer the rain". True to form, next morning we woke up to persistent heavy drizzle.

Then from the 6th it became mild and unsettled, with misty, murky days until the 10th.

From the 11th until the 14th there was a brief cold snap. A bitterly cold north westerly wind, brought rain, hail, sleet and snow showers to low ground, Fortunately, any lying snow tended to be short lived in the valley bottom.

The second half of January was governed by relatively high pressure. Most days were cloudy and dull with drizzle at times, although the sun did make an appearance on certain days. Frost was recorded on the 21st, 27th and 30th. A maximum day temperature of  $10.1^{\circ}\text{C}$  was noted on the 16th. The wettest day of the month was the 31st when 1.11 inches were recorded.

As you're reading this, February was the final month of the year and will have flown by. Longer days are ahead and Spring is just around the corner. However, February next year is unusual. It's set to pass without a full moon, the first time in 19 years.

Once again I'm indebted to Ian Ferriday, who dutifully carried out the rainfall readings in my absence.

Looking forward to pleasant days ahead.

Wettest January day: 31st. 28.3mm. 1.11 inches

January rain days (more than 0.2 mm.): 22 Last year 26

Total for month: 108.8mm. 4.29in. Last year 15.91in. Average 10.72inches.

*Peter Bailey*

## **Grasmere Mums & Dads**

Are you a parent/carer in the Grasmere area? Why not come along to our warm and friendly playgroup for children of all ages? Join us to play, sing, make crafts and drink lots of tea and coffee!

Every Wednesday, 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Tithe Barn.

For more information, or if you have any toys you would like to donate please contact Jane Moss.

*Beccy Turner*

## **Hawkshead Church Tower Fund**

This winter Hawkshead Parish Church is organising a series of talks on 'Tales from Travels Far and Near' to raise money for Tower repairs.

Venue: Hawkshead Lower Market Hall.

Time: 7.30 pm. Entry £5 per person

Thurs 2 Mar	Cuba: going it alone	Geoff Cooper
Wed 22 Mar	Trekking in Nepal today and 45 years ago	Jim Dobson
Mon 3 April	An ambassador's travels in the Baltic States	Tom Macan



## Avoiding debt if you're out of work

***"I was made redundant last month and I've already started to fall behind on my bills. I'm looking for work, but is there anything I can do so I don't end up in debt?"***

First, check that you've been paid any redundancy money you're entitled to, if you've been in the job two years or more. If this is not clear on your final payslip, contact your employer.

Then look at ways to boost your income. See if you're eligible for benefits like Jobseeker's Allowance with Citizens Advice's benefits calculator ([www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)). You could also check if you can make savings on your bills, for example by switching to a cheaper gas or electricity deal.

Pay your rent or mortgage and council tax bills first as there can be serious consequences for missing payments. Try to negotiate lower repayments on your mortgage or credit cards to give you some breathing space.

For further help managing your money, contact South Lakes Citizens Advice.

***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 03444 111444 for help - please note new number for new enquiries.***

# WHO TO CONTACT

## St Oswald's Parish Church

Rector: Vacancy

Tel: 015394 35326

Website: [www.grasmereandrydal.org.uk](http://www.grasmereandrydal.org.uk)

Wardens: Mrs Sonia Rickman, 015394 35603

Mrs Helen Bunfield

Secretary: Mrs Ann Jackman

Treasurer: Mr John Rickman

Organist: Mr Ian C. Hare MA MusB 017684 83886

## Other church contacts

**Methodist Minister** with pastoral oversight :

The Revd Les Hann, 3 Applerigg, Kendal, LA9 6EA. Tel: 015397 20416.

Email: [peerie\\_les@hotmail.com](mailto:peerie_les@hotmail.com)

**Roman Catholic Priest:**

Father Kevan Dorgan, Our Lady's Church, Lake Road, Windermere,

LA23 2EQ. Tel: 015394 43402

***Mass 9. 30am every Sunday at Mater Amabilis, Ambleside***

**Quaker - Friend In Residence:**

Terry Winterton. Glenthorne Quaker Centre & Guest House, Easedale

Rd, LA22 9QH Tel: 015394 35389 email; [info@glenthorne.org](mailto:info@glenthorne.org)

**URC Minister:**

The Revd. Martyn Coe , Carver Church, Windermere, LA23 2BY

Tel: 01539 533223

## 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.

## *Written in March*

### WHILE RESTING ON THE BRIDGE AT THE FOOT OF BROTHER'S WATER

The cock is crowing,  
The stream is flowing,  
The small birds twitter,  
The lake doth glitter,  
The green field sleeps in the sun;  
The oldest and youngest  
Are at work with the strongest;  
The cattle are grazing,  
Their heads never raising;  
There are forty feeding like one!

Like an army defeated  
The Snow hath retreated,  
And now doth fare ill  
On the top of the bare hill;  
The Plough-boy is whooping—anon—anon:  
There's joy in the mountains;  
There's life in the fountains;  
Small clouds are sailing,  
Blue sky prevailing;  
The rain is over and gone!

*William Wordsworth.*

Composed 16th March 1802. Dorothy Wordsworth's *Journal* entry 16 April 1802 is a very beautiful account of the circumstances of the composition. She leaves Wordsworth sitting on the bridge at Brothers Water, and when she returns she finds him 'writing a poem descriptive of the sights and sounds we saw and heard'.

[From *W. W. The Major Works*, ed. Stephen Gill OUP 2011]