



**Grasmere
Parish Magazine**

December 2021 - January 2022

MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Editorial Policy

Grasmere Parish Magazine is produced bi-monthly by St. Oswald's PCC and is sponsored by Wordsworth Grasmere. The name of the author appears below each item. The views expressed are those of the author 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. Please see the website for our full policy and copyright notice.

Copy Date

Copy date for the **February - March 2022** magazine is **18th January 2022**.

Please email your copy to the editors at: **editor@oswaldparish.news** or send it to Willow Bank, Town End, Grasmere LA22 9SH. You can also upload copy via the website.

Grasmere Parish Magazine online

Past editions of the magazine are available online at:

<https://oswaldparish.news>

You can also use the website to contact the editors or to upload copy.

Advertising in the Magazine

Yearly rates for single column ads up to 2" in the back pages. We can also usually take one or two half-page ads in the main pages of individual issues. Contact the Editors on 0300 1212587 or email: **editor@oswaldparish.news**

When longings become prayer

This year was something of a record for me. I heard my first Christmas Carol in a Coffee shop at the beginning of November. It was just a bit early, I thought. When I asked a member of staff about it, she told me that the next eight weeks of Carols would probably drive her to distraction!

Each year, I find myself making a similar observation. The professionally religious like me attempt (like Canute perhaps) to remind everyone that it's not Christmas ... just yet. First, comes this season of Advent, which has its own gifts to give, not least the capacity to wait.

At its best, Advent is a time to get in touch with our sense of 'longing'. There are many of us whose prayers are just like the prophet Isaiah who pleaded with God: "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence". (Isaiah 64.1) During these days it's time to give voice to the sense of dissatisfaction we feel, that the world and our lives are not as they should be.

In Advent we find ourselves alongside those who not only waited but found their longings met in the coming of Christ, the Saviour; all of which helps us understand more fully what it means for Him to be called 'Prince of Peace' and 'Emmanuel: God is With Us'.

And Advent also helps us to appreciate why Jesus taught us to pray "Thy Kingdom come". When we say the Lord's Prayer, we also acknowledge our sense that things are not as they should be. We understand that although in one sense Christ HAS come, we continue to live with a certain 'not yet'. In other words, the Kingdom, the reign of God HAS come and yet we await its fulfilment.

So, this leaves me with two pieces of encouragement. Firstly, I suppose I like the way Advent tells me that we and God's world are 'a work in progress'. St. Paul tells us "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ". (Philippians 1.6) In other words God also understands our incompleteness but he doesn't leave us to our own devices. Our business is to co-operate with the work of His Spirit.

Secondly, Advent teaches me to turn my longings into prayer. As someone said: 'When we pray, we are at our strongest because we have surrendered the false notion that we are facing a problem as God and instead we are finding the blessing of facing it under God'.

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the people I cannot change,
which is pretty much everyone,
since I'm clearly not you, God.
At least not the last time I checked.

And while you're at it, God,
please give me the courage
to change what I need to change about myself,
which is frankly a lot, since, once again,
I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect.
It's better for me to focus on changing myself
than to worry about changing other people,
who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying,
I can't change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up
whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter
than everyone else in the room,
that no one knows what they're talking about except me,
or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God,
grant me the wisdom
to remember that I'm
not you. Amen

James Martin SJ

A very Happy Christmas. *David & Margaret*

What am I experiencing in my life, as Advent begins?

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. Isa 9:2

Many of us are in an ideal place to begin Advent, but we don't know it. It can be tempting to think that, because we are struggling these days, we can't enter into Advent without a big change in our mood or without distancing ourselves from our real experience. Nothing could be further from the truth. Advent is about letting God come to us. We do the letting and God does the coming. In fact, the whole mystery of our faith is that God is not reluctant to come into an unusual relationship (like Mary and Joseph's) or to be born in the poverty of a

makeshift stable. We are tempted to prepare for Advent by cleaning everything up first – by, in effect, saving ourselves first. Our opening to Advent is to realize we need saving and to accept the saving love of our God.

So, what are we experiencing? That is the first Advent question. If we chew that question, then the Isaiah reading will sound so good to our ears. Are we the people “who walk in darkness” or have “thick clouds” over us? Is the way before us full of valleys and hills? Does it seem like we are in a desert? Are there wild beasts out there who are ready to devour us? Have we been guilty of some things we aren’t proud of? Have we lost touch with who we really want to be? Has our fidelity become a bit shabby? Then, Isaiah proclaims that our God is ready to come and save us. And, none of the things that I see as barriers even matter to God.

Then, is Advent a passive season? No, we have work to do but it is different from what we first think it is. It starts with understanding what our preparation is. If we haven’t prepared our hearts to be open to asking for salvation, we’ll never shout, beg, plead, “Come, Lord, Jesus!” Our work is to become who we are. Advent is a humble season, a season of self-awareness. To say it another way: before we decorate our homes for Christmas, we have to clear away some of the false masks we might wear. These made-up identities often help us be more “presentable” to others and at times they even fool us. So, when I look in the mirror, which “me” do I see? There is nothing wrong with putting our best foot forward in public and it is quite understandable when we want others to see our best selves. But, before our own consciences and before God, we want to be transparent and real. We want to have no illusion. If there is struggle in my life – and there has to be some struggle in all our lives – then we want to acknowledge that before our God and to let that struggle be the door into Advent’s graces.

How can we have hope and expect God will come to us? The readings of Advent open up a whole series of promises, full of powerful images, that keep reminding us that our God will come to save us. They free our imaginations to see and experience that coming with drama and joy – a banquet with “choice wines and rich, juicy food.” They invite us to imagine when “a time will come for singing.” They give us the opportunity to hope beyond our wildest hopes in the past – “the lion will lie down with the lamb” and “they will prepare for war no more.” They open our hearts to imagine the love of our God embracing us in the coming of one like us, who knows our life and its struggles and offers us the hope of the Spirit’s presence with us every day, in every moment.

What are the key first steps to enter into Advent? We can all slow down. We can all breathe more deeply. We can all begin to trust that this will be a blessed

time. Then, when we let ourselves be who we are, and hear the Scriptures, we can begin to quietly pray, “Come, Lord, Jesus.” We might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead, “Come into my life. I trust you don’t mind if it is still messy. I believe you love me, because I need your love. I don’t fear that you can’t find the way to my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only you can give.” Some of us will want to open our hands on our laps or hold up our arms in the privacy of our rooms and say out loud, “Come, Lord, Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us and give us joy again. Come and unite us and let us experience, each in our own way, a bit of the joy you are offering me now.”

And, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared for the Christmas message with the foundation of faith, with the mystery of Advent’s gift. God wants to be with us. Advent is letting God’s will be done in our hearts and in our everyday lives. *David*



Taizé at St. Mary's Rydal

On December 5th at 7.00pm at St. Mary's in Rydal, we shall hold our monthly Taizé Prayer: evening prayer for Christians of all traditions. It is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence around and within us. Mantra songs (such as, "Jesus, Remember Me"), prayerful silence and short readings guide the focus of the prayer in a candle-lit environment. The Service lasts about 45 minutes.

Taizé Prayer is named for the ecumenical Christian community formed in Taizé, France during World War II. Today the Taizé community includes brothers from all Christian denominations, including Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox traditions.

Music Notes

The Christmas Carol Service by candlelight will take place on Sunday 19th December at 4.00 p.m. Several people have volunteered to sing, and there will be choir practices on Sunday 12th December at 2.00 p.m. and the 19th at 2.30 p.m. Some carols will be sung by the choir alone, but the majority by everyone. We look forward to this opportunity to celebrate the Christmas story in readings and music.

In addition, there are choral concerts in Keswick and Ambleside which should have a wide appeal. Keswick Choral Society have their Festival of Christmas Music and Readings in Crosthwaite Church on Tuesday 14th December at 7.30 p.m., with soprano soloist Samantha Green and organist Mike Town. Tickets are available in advance from Bookends, Keswick price £12, or at the door £15.

Ambleside and District Choral Society are performing Handel's Messiah in the Ambleside Parish Church on Saturday 18th December at 7.30 p.m., with soloists Laurie Ashworth, Anne-Marie Kerr, Adam Crewe and Jonathan Millican, directed by Jolyon Dodgson. Tickets price £14 are available from Fred's Bookshop or choir members. *Ian Hare*

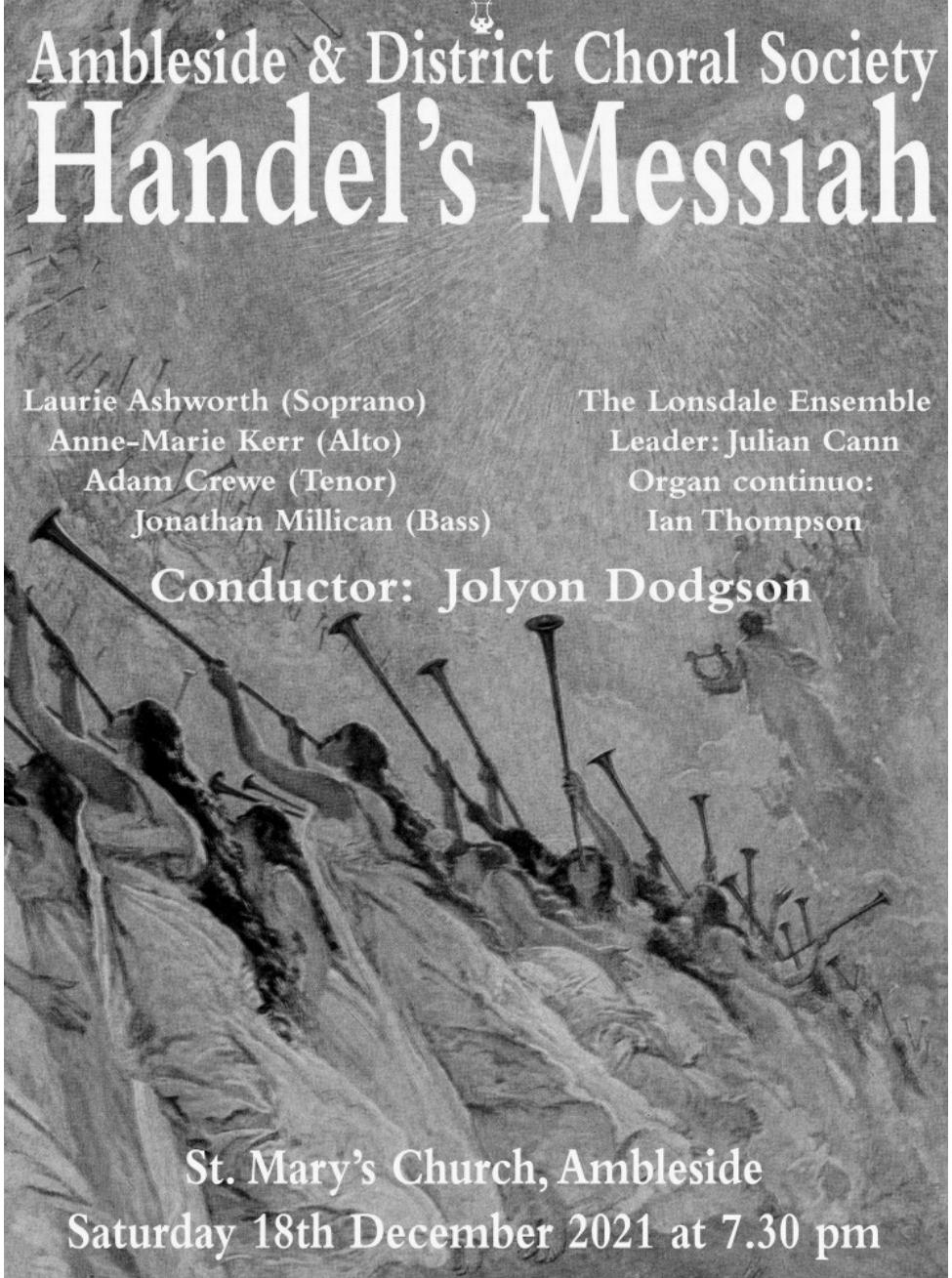
Christmas Carols on Moss Parrock

4.00pm Christmas Eve with Grasmere Village Band

Following such a happy occasion last year we shall again hold an open-air Carol Service at Moss Parrock on Christmas Eve at 4.00 pm.

We hope you and your family and friends will find this short service (approx. 30 mins) a welcome opportunity to Celebrate the Birth of Christ in song.

- We are asked to care for one another, respecting social distancing Guidance.
- Service sheets will be available. They will also be accessible via the Grasmere Facebook Hub and St. Oswald's Website: stoswaldsgrasmere.uk
- As well as being prepared for the elements(!) you may find it helpful to bring a torch or lantern to see by.



Ambleside & District Choral Society
Handel's Messiah

Laurie Ashworth (Soprano)

Anne-Marie Kerr (Alto)

Adam Crewe (Tenor)

Jonathan Millican (Bass)

The Lonsdale Ensemble

Leader: Julian Cann

Organ continuo:

Ian Thompson

Conductor: Jolyon Dodgson

St. Mary's Church, Ambleside

Saturday 18th December 2021 at 7.30 pm

Tickets: £14 from choir members, Fred's Bookshop or at the door

WI News

In October we completed our contribution to the Dorothy Wordsworth 250th birthday exhibition at Wordsworth Grasmere. Thanks to the many members who contributed to this. We are proud of our “Women of Grasmere” display and thoroughly enjoyed working on it.

We welcomed Anne Cradock back in October with an afternoon of activities. In November it was lovely to have Joan Bentley with us again demonstrating Christmas flower arrangements .

We have a busy social calendar in December, with members going to parties at other local WIs, attending a literary lunch at the Belsfield, Carols in Kendal Parish Church , and our own Christmas lunch at Tweedies on 9th December.

On 13th January Sally Smith will be talking to us about working with assistance dogs. The meeting is in the Village Hall. Sally will be bringing a dog along to the meeting.

We have a great programme planned for members in 2022. We currently have over 50 members, so at present our meetings are open to members only. We plan to review this in spring, when hopefully Covid cases will be down and we can welcome guests again. *Sue Dixon (President)*

Knit and Nat

The Knit and Nat meetings for December will be on the 14th and the 28th and in January on 11th and 25th. We meet in the Reading Room between 2pm and 4pm.

The poppies knitted in 2018 were used again this year to decorate the church both inside and out, an attractive display over the arch at the front gate of the church was much admired. The post box at the Swan was given a makeover with an attractive poppy top. It's good to know that after all the hard work from many knitters they are still brightening the village for Remembrance week.

The group have decided that at the two January meetings as well as our normal activities we will be offering crocheting ‘masterclasses’. One of the members from Windermere who is an experienced, skilful crafter will help anyone who is interested in learning. I will be joining in the lesson because despite several attempts to teach myself from a book I have never mastered it. There will be more news on my progress (or not) in the February magazine.

Remember, if you are free on the second or fourth Tuesday in the month do join us at any of our meetings, there are no requirements; you could simply come and have a chat and a cup of tea.

Finally, we wish everyone a Happy Christmas and all good wishes for the New Year. *Christine Batey*

Lakeland Housing Trust

Grasmere residents may be aware of the building development that has been ongoing in Helm Close, off Easedale Road. Two cottages are being built on land that was bequeathed to the Lakeland Housing Trust in 2010 (at the same time as the adjacent Crag Foot Cottage). The building works should be completed by early December and the cottages advertised for rent early in 2022.

Lakeland Housing Trust (LHT) provides low cost rented housing which helps keep our villages alive and allows local people to continue living in the heart of the Lake District. This issue has become even more acute today because of the relentless increase in second homes and holiday lets. Local people, particularly the young, simply cannot afford to buy or rent at prevailing prices. The sense of community is being lost and the situation is getting worse

The Trust was established in 1937 to help address the lack of affordable housing in the area. The charity has grown over recent years and now has more than fifty properties. They are distributed across the Lakes, including Ambleside, Coniston, Grasmere, Hawkshead, Langdale, Sawrey, Troutbeck and (soon) Broughton-in-Furness. Most have been bequeathed to the Trust, some have been built on land donated to the Trust and others have been purchased by the Trust as a result of legacies. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of those who have helped in this way. People who have decided to bequeath their homes to the Trust have done so in the knowledge that their properties will always be lived in by locals in need and that their generosity will help preserve a sense of community.

Our portfolio of properties is professionally managed by H&H Land and Estates. All our Trustees remain actively involved and all believe passionately in helping local people to continue living and working in the Lakes.

Further information can be found at: thelakelandhousingtrust.co.uk or by contacting us on 01539 721375 or via kendal@hhlandestates.co.uk

Malcolm Tillyer QPM, Chairman Lakeland Housing Trust

Events at Wordsworth Grasmere

Wordsworth Grasmere has moved into winter hours. We are now open from 10.00am to 4.00pm, with last entry to the cottage being at 3pm. We are open Tuesday to Saturday from 2nd November to 23rd December, and then from 28th December to 1st January.

Don't forget that admission to Dove Cottage, the Museum and exhibitions is **free for Grasmere residents and employees of Grasmere businesses**. You can now book your tickets online in advance.

Our new special exhibition in celebration of Dorothy Wordsworth's 250th birthday, **Dorothy: Writer, Sister, Friend** is now open. We are particularly delighted to showcase the thoughtful, creative and inspiring responses of the Grasmere Women's Institute, who explored and compared their own experiences as women of Grasmere, alongside Dorothy's. We would like to thank the Grasmere Women's Institute for bringing a wonderful energy, enthusiasm, and skill to the exhibition. We encourage everyone to visit.

The exhibition is filled with Dorothy's original manuscripts, including journals, letters and travel writings. Amongst these is Dorothy's narrative of the Greens of Grasmere; a story you may be familiar with. On 19th March 1808, George and Sarah Green, residents of Blindtarn Cottage, died in a blizzard when returning home over the fells from Langdale. As Dorothy noted, 'They had left a daughter, eleven years of age, with the care of five children younger than herself'. Eager to help the younger orphans, Dorothy wrote a narrative of the tragedy to encourage people to subscribe to a fund set up by the members of the Grasmere community.

We have plenty of family fun planned over the festive season. On 22nd December try some **Georgian Christmas crafts**, decorate gingerbread and learn a traditional Cumbrian step dance. On 10th and 17th December join us for **Little Wanderers**, our regular early-years sessions designed to encourage your little ones to be creative and playful. Our Little Wanderers sessions are FREE this winter for Grasmere families.

'Go to the poets, they will speak to thee' is an online contemporary poetry reading and open mic series hosted by poet Kim Moore. On 15th December our guest poet is **Jonathan Edwards**, who won the Costa Book Award for Poetry in 2014 for his collection *My Family and Other Superheroes*. **Discover Poetry** with

Polly Atkin and **Dove Cottage Poets**, our monthly poetry reading and writing groups, continue to take place on Zoom.

Our last Grasmere Residents' Day was in 2019 and we are delighted to open our doors to you on 21st December this year! Things will still be a little different, but we can promise you poetry, good cheer, and plenty of refreshments. Plans are still afoot but look out for posters around the village, as well as updates on our website and social media.

Once, in a 1787 letter, a much younger Dorothy asked her dear friend Jane to 'cast a melancholy thought upon your friend Dorothy' on 'Christmas-day which is (you know) my birth-day'. We hope you will join us this year in casting a (far from melancholy!) thought upon Dorothy on her 250th birthday and look forward to welcoming you here at Wordsworth Grasmere.

Thank you to everyone who attended our online event celebrating our new exhibition. It was a pleasure to welcome all our wonderful speakers to talk about their work, including Grasmere WI and Pamela Woof. We have plenty more brilliant events and activities planned for 2022, and we can't wait to share them with you.

All our events and workshops need to be booked in advance on our website, **wordsworth.org.uk** *Hannah Catterall, Events Officer, Wordsworth Grasmere*

Come work with us -

The new developments on site have opened up a number of exciting opportunities to come and work with us at Wordsworth Grasmere. Current vacancies include:

Museum and Office Cleaner

£9.50 an hour – 20 hours per week, permanent

Trainee Café Manager

£20,000 to £22,000 per annum – sociable hours, 37.5 per week, permanent

Sales and Marketing Coordinator

£20,000 to £22,000 per annum – 37.5 hours per week, permanent

*If you're looking for a new challenge, right on your doorstep, then we'd love to hear from you. Find out more at **www.wordsworth.org.uk/job-opportunities***

Grasmere Village Society

Paul Truelove RIP

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Paul Truelove. Paul was a friend to many in the village and was a hard working and longstanding member of the Society. He will be greatly missed.

Village News

Winter seems to be truly upon us now judging by the weather and daylight, or lack of it, but there is still plenty going on and the village remains busy with visitors. The Buffs organised a very successful fireworks display which was co-sponsored by the Society. A large audience assembled at the Reading Rooms to enjoy fireworks, bonfires, burgers and liquid refreshment.

David Wilmot led a very well attended Service of Remembrance at the war memorial and a wreath was laid on behalf of the Society. The bench in memory of Shelagh Griffin has been ordered and will be sited on Broadgate Meadow to face the war memorial and Stone Arthur.

Flood Alerts

Bearing in mind the recent prolonged heavy rainfall, there is a free text and phone message service giving notification of flood alerts. Registration for this service can be made online at www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings or by phoning 0345 988 1188 or 0345 602 6340 for the hard of hearing. A Grasmere Flood Watch Facebook page has been set up and this includes various guides and information on flooding. For anyone not using Facebook, this can be viewed at: www.facebook.com/groups/grasmerefloodwatch/. We are waiting for the Environment Agency to post a Factsheet on their services to all properties in Cumbria, however there is plenty of information in the Guides on the above Facebook pages.

GVS committee is in the process of preparing a Grasmere Emergency Plan and resurrecting the Flood Action Group, and is looking for anyone interested in offering their help. This is not expected to be onerous or time consuming, but you would be contributing towards a resource to put in place a co-ordinated response from the community in the event of flooding and other emergencies. We are not looking for any commitment at this stage, but anyone who may be interested in finding out more, please contact Simon Hey to register your interest. GVS will then arrange a meeting to which you will be invited, when it will be explained what is proposed and identify areas in which you may wish to become involved. Similarly, we are looking for potential resources from individuals, businesses and the farming community which we can call upon in the event of an

emergency; for example machinery, transportation which is resilient to flood water and any particular skills and expertise. Simon can be contacted by email on simonhey4@gmail.com or 015394 35067.

We are currently feeding back to the various authorities the situation in Grasmere following flood warnings. Please contact Simon where you notice flooding incidents, preferably by email, with location, times, and photographs. These can also be posted on the Grasmere Flood Watch Facebook Group. Thank you.

Wishing everyone good health and happiness for Christmas and the New Year,
Nick McCraith (Chairman)

The Christmas Readings



*A Celebration of all things Festive
in Poetry and Prose*

Grasmere Village Hall Monday 20th December 7.30pm

No admission charge but there will be a collection for charity during the evening.

Complimentary mulled wine and mince pies - Everyone welcome!

Grasmere Village Hall

In Grasmere Village Hall we have an amazing building with great potential for us as individuals and as a community. It has changed much in recent times - no longer do we need to sit huddled in our coats for events in the winter months! The main room is clean and warm with a refurbished floor; there is full access to the main rooms, which include a modern, well-equipped kitchen and fully accessible toilet. Wifi is also available. It is used on a regular basis – by Grasmere WI, Fellowship, Badminton, Pilates, and of course as a vaccination centre; children’s parties are planned, and Grasmere Players are staging a pantomime in the New Year. People who haven’t been to the hall for some time are pleasantly surprised by the changes. There are plans for further improvements – the refurbishment of

the male toilets, a new website and online booking system, and improved door access are next on the list.

The hall is owned and managed by a registered charity primarily for the benefit of those of us living locally. Vivienne Rees is President, Jeff Cowton is chair; four new trustees have recently joined. Our wish as volunteer trustees – the reason why we serve – is to see people using and gaining enjoyment from the building. Next year, for example, we plan to host touring performances by Highlights Rural Touring Scheme (HRTS). The officer from HRTS was amazed by the building and what it offers when she recently came to check it out. If you wish to enquire about booking the hall, please email enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk.

The trustees invite you to visit the hall for an Open Day on **22nd January 11am to 3pm**. It is a chance for you to see the hall and the recent changes, as well as to discuss other changes that may be desirable. We plan to offer tours of the building (if you haven't seen them, there are many rooms behind the stage area), and to give an opportunity to meet the trustees to discuss ways in which the hall could be used for things you'd like to do as individuals or groups. It will also be a chance to start collecting stories of past times – if you have photos of past occasions, please bring them along. Of course, there will be refreshments too!

There must be many ways the hall can benefit those of us living locally – let's discuss them on 22nd January. *Jeff Cowton, Chair*

Food Bank Update – *Spreading Christmas Cheer*

A big thank you once again to everyone for your continued support for the Grasmere Community Food Bank. As always we are really grateful both for cash and food donations. Thanks as always to Grasmere Co-op and Pharmacy for their continued support.

We are starting to get into the festive spirit & want to ensure no one misses out this Christmas. If you are going to donate please do so with this in mind - we would like it if you could donate something that you yourself would enjoy this Christmas.

We have plenty of tinned essentials soup, beans, pasta, rice etc.

If you are in need of a helping hand or if you are aware of anyone that does please reach out to us in total confidence. Please leave your phone number in the box at the Pharmacy or contact 07435 596596. *Will, Nicola & Vicky*

Grasmere Business Partnership



Christmas Fair

Village Hall 18th -19th December 10.00am - 5.00pm

Produce Stalls - Santa's Grotto - Crafts and Games

Prizes - Refreshments - Music

Grasmere Fellowship

It is nice to back and functioning and to see some of you again. Not all our previous members have returned as yet but we hope to see you again in the near future.

Our final talk for this year on December 2nd will be from Ant Waugh, whom many of you will know from the Garden Centre. He will be talking about his work with overseas relief agencies.

We start the New Year with our annual lunch at the Wordsworth on January 4th at 1.00 pm. Note that this is a different date to that published on our programme as the hotel will be closed on the original date. Menus are now available so please come along even if you have not got round to joining yet.

Our talk on January 20th will be from Graham Kilner who has been researching all the farms donated to the National Trust by Beatrix Potter and has recently brought out a book on the subject.

Talks and tea will be in the Village Hall at 2.30. Subscription remains at £10 and is still the best buy. Non-members are welcome at £2 per meeting. See you there,
David Dodgson

Allan Bank

Christmas at Allan Bank is set to be a festive affair... Inside the house we hope to have seasonal music playing, a cosy fire and lots of Christmas decorations to make it feel merry.

There will be Christmas craft bags for £2 in the Growing Support Room, as well as free Christmas-themed activities in the Art Room.

Outdoors, we will be offering a "Percy the Park Keeper" Winter trail for £2 to keep the little ones warm round the garden. The red squirrels will hopefully be out and about, just as they've been delighting us with their antics this Autumn.

We'll be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11am-3 pm, from 3rd-5th, 10th-12th and 17th-19th December, and then from the 27th-31st between Christmas and New Year.

Do remember that free garden passes for local residents can be issued with proof of address. For further details of all our events please check our website: nationaltrust.org.uk/allan-bank-and-grasmere . We look forward to seeing you!

Elaine Reed Welcome and Service Assistant Allan Bank

RED RIDING HOOD THE PANTO

"What big eyes you have"

"All the better for seeing..."

Performances:

Thurs 13th Jan - 7:30PM

Fri 14th Jan - 7:30PM

Sat 15th Jan - 2:30PM & 7:30PM

2022

Tickets: Adults £10 | Juniors £5

Tickets sold at Barney's Newsbox -

015394 35627

Enquiries Tel. Anne Miller -

015394 36743

**Thank you to the Grasmere
Co-op for supporting
this production.**

Grasmere Players

Christmas Flowers in St Oswald's Church



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

As in previous years we will be decorating the church with cyclamens that have proved very popular and have survived the cold weather! If you would like to dedicate a plant please fill in the slip below and return to the Church by 21st December.

Each plant will have a label with your dedication printed on it and you are most welcome to collect the plant from church after Sunday 9th January. Thank you for supporting the church in this way.

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

*Minimum donation of £8.00 per plant please.
Cheques payable to "Grasmere PCC" or cash.*

Name:

Tel No:

Please return to Sonia at St. Oswald's Church or leave in the Church letterbox by 21st December.

Thank you.

Grasmere Sports

Last year I was elected Chair of Grasmere Sports Committee Limited (GSCL), owners of the Sports Field. I would like to let the Grasmere community know a bit more about the Committee and its work.

150 years ago Grasmere Sports, an annual event dedicated to Lake District sports, was held on privately owned land. Land was later purchased to ensure the event's future.

Its purposes are to

1. Hold annual Sports Days comprising healthy competitive outdoor activity in the Lake District tradition which is entertaining for spectators, including Cumberland and Westmorland Wrestling, fell racing, hound trailing, mountain biking and competitions for children and young people.
2. Maintain the tradition, continuity and community of Grasmere Sports.
3. Provide excellent facilities for those using the field and buildings.

GSCL is a private limited company with an issued share capital. It was set up in 1925 when companies for public benefit, charitable companies etc. were not obvious options, but the Committee operates for the public benefit even if it doesn't have that official status. Each Director owns one share to the value of £1. Dividends have never been paid and Directors themselves are unpaid. Shares must be transferred on the retirement or death of a Director at a value of £1 as specified in the Articles. If the Company were for some reason wound up, the Directors are bound by the Articles to put any funds realised towards activities of a similar nature in this area.

The fact is that, although the Company makes money, it exists to continue its activities, which should be entirely Sports-, Grasmere- and Lake District- related. In fact, Sports Days have lost considerable sums for several years, but the Directors see other activities as ways of subsidising those losses.

The Committee has allowed caravanning and other events on the property, bringing revenue to support running costs. More recently some land was leased for public car parking, securing future finances and relieving traffic pressure on the local community.

Communication is one of the most important tasks. I can be contacted at any time through the website www.grasmeresports.com or via manager@grasmeresports.com.

John Hibbert Chair Grasmere Sports Committee Limited

CALENDAR

November 2021

28 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's

Advent Carol Service

December 2021

2 Thu 14:00 Zoom

Dove Cottage Poets

2 Thu 14:30 Village Hall

Fellowship

5 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's

Advent 2 - Sunday Celebration

5 Sun 19:00 St. Mary's Rydal

Taizé Prayer

9 Thu Tweedies

WI Christmas lunch

9 Thu 20:00 Zoom

Book Group

10 Fri 10:15 WT Learn. Space

Little Wanderers

12 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's

Advent 3 - Sunday Celebration

14 Tue 14:00 Reading Rooms

Knit & Nat

14 Tue 19:30 Crosthwaite Kes'ck Festival of Christmas Music

15 Wed 19:30 Zoom

Jonathan Edwards

16 Thu 19:30 Zoom

Discover Poetry

17 Fri 10:15 WT Learn. Space

Little Wanderers

18 Sat 10:00 Village Hall

Christmas Fair

18 Sat 19:30 Ambleside Church Messiah

19 Sun 10:00 Village Hall

Christmas Fair

19 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's

Advent 4 - Sunday Celebration

19 Sun 16:00 St. Oswald's

Christmas Carol Service

20 Mon 19:30 Village Hall

Christmas Readings

21 Tue Dove Cottage

Grasmere Residents' day

22 Wed 10:30 WT Learn. Space

Family Fun: Christmas Crafts

14:00

Family Fun: Christmas Crafts

24 Fri 16:00 Moss Parrock

Christmas Carols

24 Fri 23:00 St. Oswald's

Midnight Mass

25 Sat	11:00	St. Oswald's	Christmas Day Celebration
26 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Christmas 1 - Sunday Celebration
28 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat

January 2022

2 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Christmas 2 - Sunday Celebration
4 Tue	13:00	Wordsworth Hotel	Fellowship lunch
9 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany Sunday
11 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
13 Thu	14:00	Village Hall	WI
13 Thu	19:30	Village Hall	Red Riding Hood
14 Fri	19:30	Village Hall	Red Riding Hood
15 Sat	14:30	Village Hall	Red Riding Hood
	19:30	Village Hall	Red Riding Hood
16 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 2 - Sunday Celebration
20 Thu	14:30	Village Hall	Fellowship
22 Sat	11:00	Village Hall	Open day 11am - 3 pm
23 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 3 - Sunday Celebration
25 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
30 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 4 - Sunday Celebration

February 2022

6 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 5 - Sunday Celebration
6 Sun	19:00	St. Mary's Rydal	Taizé Prayer



My energy supplier recently went under and the new tariff I've been put on is far more than I used to pay. I've heard energy prices are set to rise further. What help can I get to help save some money this winter?

The cost of energy is very high at the moment and it's causing many people to worry. Normally we would suggest switching to a better deal, but the situation is very difficult at the moment and there aren't a lot of good deals out there. However, there are still other small ways you can keep your bills down.

Little everyday things can help, such as making sure televisions and other electronic devices are switched off and not left on standby; washing clothes on a lower temperature; and only filling the kettle with the water you need.

Turning down your main thermostat by 1 degree can save you around £60 on your energy bill. And by spending one minute less in the shower each day, a family of four could save £75 a year on energy and water bills. The Government's Simple Energy Advice website has more tips like this.

Another way of cutting costs in the long-run is to invest in good insulation if you can afford to. If you're renting, ask your landlord to do this.

You may be able to get financial support to help insulate your home under the Energy Company Obligation scheme. Contact your energy supplier for more information. If you're in a household that's not connected to the gas grid you may also be able to receive help under the Home Upgrade Grant scheme through your local authority.

There's some financial support available for paying your energy bills, depending on your situation. For example, if you're a pensioner with a low income or receive Universal Credit or other means-tested benefits, you may be entitled to the Warm Home Discount. This gives you £140 a year to go towards your bills. Check the Government website to find out if you can claim it.

The Government recently announced a £500m fund to support households this winter so keep a look out for announcements about how this could help you. Remember you can always call South Lakes Citizens Advice on 015394 46464 for free advice about your energy costs and staying warm this winter.

Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice on any aspect of debt, consumer, benefits, housing, employment or any other problems.

Call 015394 46464 - this is being staffed from 9:30 – 2pm

Adviceline: 0808 2787 984

email advice via our website www.southlakescab.org.uk

Help to Claim (Universal Support): 0800 144 8 444

Contactless Giving Update



Members of the Diocesan Stewardship Team and National Church Giving Team have been out and about providing support for a contactless giving scheme which is being piloted in the Diocese.

Analysis has shown that more than £30,000 has been raised across the diocese from the 110 contactless units which were introduced in May 2021. The devices were provided free and the associated service charges are being waived for the first year. Nearly half of all Anglican churches in the county now have a contactless device.

Carlisle Diocese eNews 12 November, 2021

One of these units is installed in Grasmere Church. At a recent PCC meeting it was reported that the unit has collected over £800.

CONTACTS

St Oswald's Parish Church **Church Stile, Grasmere LA22 9SW**

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. David Wilmot
St. Mary's Vicarage, Ambleside Road, Windermere LA23 1BA
Tel: 07305 777113 email: rev.grasmererydal@hotmail.com

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals - please contact David

Wardens: Mrs Sonia Rickman, Tel: 015394 35603
email: sonia.rickman@yahoo.com

Mrs Helen Bunfield

Treasurer: Mr John Rickman

Organist: Mr Ian Hare MA MusB 017684 83886 ian.c.hare@outlook.com

Church Website: stoswaldsgrasmere.uk

Other church contacts

Rydal St. Mary's Churchwarden Pam Coates 015394 32449

Methodist Minister: Deacon Maggie Patchett, 1 Applerigg,
Patterdale Road, Windermere LA23 1EW Tel: 015394 42971
Email: deaconmaggie@slakesmethodist.org.uk.

Roman Catholic Priest:

Father Darren Carden, Our Lady's Church, Lake Road, Windermere,
LA23 2EQ. Tel: 015394 33027

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

URC Minister:

The Revd. Martyn Coe, Carver Church, Windermere, LA23 2BY
Tel: 01539 533223

Central Lakes Mission Community

Rev. Beverley Lock 33205 reverend.beverley@gmail.com
Rev. John Dixon 36301 jjcedixon@btinternet.com



Dorothy Wordsworth.

Dorothy: Writer, Sister, Friend

Dorothy Wordsworth was born 250 years ago on the 25 December 1771.

Dorothy was more than William's sister. She was a writer, friend, collaborator, aunt, pioneering walker, local philanthropist, inspiring gardener, and – perhaps most famously – author of the Grasmere journal. This is Dorothy's story: one of an extraordinary woman told in her own words from original manuscripts.

Open Tuesday to Saturday now until 23 December, and 28 December - 1 January. The exhibition continues after a short break until summer 2022.

Grasmere residents may visit for free: pre-book tickets at wordsworth.org.uk

An opportunity to see a fascinating selection of Dorothy's original handwritten manuscripts and learn about the people and places that shaped Dorothy's life.

Exhibition includes creative responses of people who are exploring her life from a variety of perspectives, including work by Grasmere WI.



Credit: Female Friendship by SC

