

GRASMERE PARISH MAGAZINE

October and November
2021



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

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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.

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Struggling to grow

Some years ago, I went to see someone I respected to ask for help with something that was troubling me. They listened carefully to my worries and gave every indication that they understood what I was feeling, but try as I might I couldn't get them to give me any advice. When, finally I suggested that I take a particular course of action they replied, "Well, perhaps". As you might imagine I was a little put out by all of this and it left me somewhat sceptical about what is known in some circles as 'non-directive' counselling.

However, as years have gone by, I have begun to wonder whether this man was exercising a deeper wisdom than I appreciated at the time. There may well be occasions when it is helpful, even important, to be a little more directive than he was but we need to be very careful in assuming that we know what is best for another person.

Perhaps you will know the often-told story from the book *Zorba the Greek*, in which a man watches a caterpillar form a cocoon. As the butterfly begins to emerge, he cannot bear to see it struggling and so he breathes on it to give it warmth and encouragement. However, his interference proves too much for the butterfly who is born too soon and it dies in front of him.

It can be especially hard to sit by and watch the struggles of someone we love - especially our young people, and everything within us urges us to help. Rather than giving advice or taking control of a situation, sometimes the deeper wisdom lies in the willingness just to be present to their moment of change and growth.

In the same way, when we find ourselves asking, "Why doesn't God do something?", one of the answers is to realise that we have a God who is wise enough to know when not to interfere. Some of the struggles we face are indeed good for us. They are part of what help us become more compassionate people... and He is with us.

These words spoken through the Prophet Isaiah have been an encouragement to Christians down the generations: The Lord God says: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour." (Isaiah 43.1-3).

Every blessing, *David*

Harvest Thanksgiving

Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Oswald's will be on Sunday 3rd October. You will be welcome to a service of Holy Communion at 11.00am. Choral Evensong will be at 4.00pm.

Remembering our Loved Ones

Our annual service of Prayers for the Faithful Departed will take place on Sunday 31st October at 11.00am. This year will have a special poignancy in view of the huge number of those whose who have died during the pandemic. If you would like a friend or loved one remembered by name at this service and to light a candle in their memory, please add their name to the list which will be available in church from the middle of October.

Remembrance Sunday

The traditional ceremonies will be observed when we gather at St. Oswald's Church on Sunday 14th November at 10.50am for a service in commemoration of those who died in time of war. ***Please note the earlier starting time.*** This will be followed by wreath laying at the Village War Memorial.



On October 3rd at 7.00pm at St. Mary's in Rydal, we will resume 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.

All Saints and All Souls

What are the origins of All Saints and All Souls Day?

Both the Feast of All Saints and the Feast of All Souls evolved in the life of the Church independently of paganism and Halloween. However, elements of pagan practices were perhaps "baptized" by some cultures or attached themselves to the celebration of All Saints and All Souls.

All Saints. The exact origins of this celebration are uncertain, although, after the legalization of Christianity in 313, a common commemoration of Saints, especially the martyrs, appeared in various areas throughout the Church. The primary reason for establishing a common feast day was because of the desire to honour the great number of martyrs, especially during the persecution of Emperor Diocletian (284-305), the worst and most extensive of the persecutions. Since there were not enough days of the year for a feast day for each martyr and many of them died in groups, a common feast day for all saints, therefore seemed most appropriate.

The designation of November 1st as the Feast of All Saints occurred over time. Pope Gregory III (731-741) dedicated an oratory in the original St. Peter's Basilica in honour of all the saints on Nov. 1 (at least according to some accounts), and this date then became the official date for the celebration of the Feast of All Saints in Rome. St Bede (d. 735) recorded the celebration of All Saints Day on Nov. 1 in England, and such a celebration also existed in Salzburg, Austria.

All Souls. The Church has consistently encouraged the offering of prayers and thanksgiving for the souls of the faithful departed. In the early days of the Church, the names of the faithful departed were posted in Church so that the community would remember them in prayer.

In the 6th century, the Benedictine monasteries held a solemn commemoration of deceased members at Whitsuntide, the days following Pentecost. In Spain, St. Isidore (d. 636) attested to a celebration on the Saturday before the second Sunday before Lent. St. Odilo, the Abbot of Cluny (d. 1048), decreed for all of the Cluniac monasteries that special prayers be offered and the Office of the Dead sung for all of the souls in on November 2nd, the day after All Saints. The Benedictines and Carthusians adopted that same devotion and soon November 2nd was adopted as the Feast of All Souls for the whole Church.

Other customs have developed regarding All Souls. In Mexico, relatives make garlands, wreathes and crosses of real and paper flowers of every colour to place

on the graves of deceased relatives the morning of All Souls. The family will spend the entire day at the cemetery. The pastor will visit the cemetery, preach and offer prayers for the dead and then bless the individual graves. "Skeleton" candy is given to the children.

Similar practices occur in Louisiana. The relatives whitewash and clean the tombstones and prepare garlands, wreathes and crosses of real and paper flowers to decorate them. In the afternoon of All Saints, the priest processes around the cemetery, blessing the graves and reciting the Rosary. Candles are lit near the graves at dusk, one for each member of the deceased. On All Souls Day, Mass is usually offered at the cemetery.

In the Middle Ages, superstitious belief, probably influenced from Celtic paganism, held that the souls in purgatory appeared on All Souls Day as witches, toads, goblins, etc. to persons who committed wrongs against them during their lives on earth. For this reason, some ethnic groups also prepared food offerings to feed and to appease the spirits on this day. These practices are probably remnants of the Celtic Samhain festivities.

Nevertheless, All Souls Day as well as All Saints Day are rooted in Christian belief and arose in this life of the Church through a healthy spirituality, despite some pagan trappings that may have survived and have remained attached to their celebration.

Music Notes

Our patron saint, St. Oswald, was honoured with some of the first singing of the year on Sunday 8th August, when a small choir led the hymns and sang S. S. Wesley's anthem 'Lead me, Lord'. Since then we have been singing hymns every week, mostly with pleasure, and I would be pleased to receive any suggestions or requests for particular favourites which people may have.

Coming up on Sunday 3rd October there will be a Harvest Thanksgiving Evensong at 4.00 p.m., led by the church choir, which will rehearse at 2.30 p.m.

On Sunday 28th November the eleven o'clock service will take the form of Advent Carols, and the Christmas Carol Service will be on Sunday 19th December at 4.00 p.m. For both of these occasions it would be good to have as many singers as possible, and it would be helpful to hear from anyone who would like to join in, or indeed to sing regularly on Sunday mornings. *Ian Hare*

Ian can be contacted on 017684 83886 or ian.c.hare@outlook.com

WI News

In August we met at the Wordsworth Learning Centre for “Grasmere WI Rebooted”, getting to know new members and planning future events. In September we met in the Village Hall with colour consultant Penny Elgar giving us tips, and showing us how to do clever things with scarves. We also congratulated member Vivienne Rees on her 90th birthday, and receiving her BEM. Well deserved !

It was great to meet up again in person and we loved being back in the Hall. Thanks to everyone who made this possible. We hope to go ahead with our monthly hall meetings with no further interruptions - fingers crossed!

We are still working on our contribution to the Dorothy Wordsworth exhibition, and we are also involved with the University of Manchester in developing an app to guide walkers around Dorothy’s walks. It’s very high tech!

Jacky Godfrey and Louise Sykes have challenged our members to walk all 214 Wainwrights between us before the Queen’s Jubilee in June 2022. It’s going well so far with over 50 done in the first few weeks.

On 14th October we welcome Anne Cradock back for an indoor games session. She’s a Boccia coach, so no doubt we’ll be doing that, as well as other sports. Please wear flat shoes and suitable clothing.

Our AGM is on 11th November. Following our official business we’re delighted to welcome Joan Bentley back for a demonstration of Christmas decorations.
Sue Dixon

Knit and Nat

The Knit and Nat meetings for October and November will, as usual, be on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. The dates are: October 12th and 26th, November 9th and 23rd. We meet in the Reading Room between 2pm and 4pm.

The group enjoyed a visit to Allan Bank in July where we were given a guided tour of the house and gardens as well as coffee, cake and biscuits. There was a lot of chatter about memories of Allan Bank and the people who had lived there over the years.

The Woodland scene we have knitted for them has now been delivered and should be in situ for visitors to admire.

I was pleased to note that during breaks from the diving competition in the Olympics Tom Daley kept himself occupied and relaxed with his knitting, producing a simple pouch to hold his gold medal. However, I personally would not find it relaxing to knit a cardigan like the one he produced; he can be seen modelling his creation at www.youtube.com - search for "tom daley cardigan".

Anyone who helped us in 2018 to knit poppies will be pleased to hear they will, hopefully, be on display again in church for the Remembrance Day services.

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. *Christine Batey*

History Group

It is too long since we last met - I have missed our Tuesday evenings in the Jerwood Reading Room.

As a step back towards meeting again, there will be a talk by Kevin Grice on the history of the Hollens on October 5th, 7.30pm, on Zoom. The talk will be based on a report created by Kevin and others.

During 2020/21, volunteers from the Archaeology Volunteer Network of the Lake District National Park undertook research at the request of the National Trust into the history of the Hollins estate, Grasmere, the location of the Lake District office of the North region of the Trust. Amongst other things, the Trust wished to know when and why Alcock Tarn was dammed and by whom; it also sought an explanation for a carriage drive, constructed near the house called Wood Close, which appears to lead up the fellside. The research involved several site visits, a topographical survey of some of the water supply system for the estate and a desk study.

I have read the report and its findings were a real surprise. I had heard that the track to the tarn was created as an accessible route for Mrs Alcock. The truth is very different.

Please let me know by email to j.cowton@wordsworth.org.uk if you'd like to join us for the evening. I hope you can join us! *Jeff Cowton*

School News

It is so good to be able to mix again within the school. The younger children learn so much from watching the older ones, and the older ones develop maturity and a sense of responsibility through mixing with the younger children. We are also enjoying being able to go out on educational visits again. Class 4 (Years 5 and 6) visited the National Holocaust Centre last week, near Sherwood Forest. We go each year, as they run a thought-provoking, moving workshop, which helps primary age children to understand the importance of tolerance. When children leave our school they often describe it as the most powerful thing they have done whilst at Grasmere School.

The other classes have also been out and about. Class 3 are learning about stone-age Britain, and took their maths measuring skills to Castlerigg Stone Circle. It is an awesome place to ponder on what life was like many thousands of years ago. Classes 1 and 2 have been collecting blackberries and making crumble.

It all feels a lot like normal! We still have lots of Covid related precautions in place, and are aware of significant outbreaks in some other schools already. But with a vaccinated staff, well ventilated classrooms and lots of outdoor learning, we are hoping to be able to keep things running smoothly this term.

This means that we can, under certain circumstances, welcome regular volunteers back into school. If you would like to re-join us, or you are newly interested in spending time in a highly motivating and life-affirming environment, please email me on head@grasmere.cumbria.sch.uk. If we have interested people I will initially run a zoom meeting to describe the volunteering opportunities available. *Jo Goode Head Teacher*

Allan Bank

Many visitors enjoyed the Summer Sports at Allan Bank, whether it was trying their hand at a coconut shy, egg-and-spoon races or playing croquet and badminton on the lawn. It has been great to welcome local residents too. We are also thrilled to see so many red squirrels at the moment, they are busy hiding food away for the winter as well as chasing each other around the woodland. If you would like to see them at Allan Bank we are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday while we are off peak outside of school holidays.

In October half term we will be offering a Pumpkin Trail for £2 each. This will run

from 19th to 31st October, 10am to 4pm, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. There will also be the opportunity to carve a pumpkin (£3 each) ready for Halloween on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th October. In the garden and woodlands we will have fungi guides that can distinguish the variety of mushrooms and toadstools around.

In the art room, there will be chalk and charcoal available to draw your own portrait based on the 'Three Big Heads', as well as a chalk leaf activity. Autumn craft bags can be purchased for £2 in the Growing Support Room.

We are really excited to announce that we have funding to renovate the Billiard Room and are hoping that the work will start soon.

We would also like to thank the Grasmere Knit and Nat group for their colourful array of knitted animals that they kindly created for us.

Do remember a free garden pass for local residents can be obtained with proof of address. (Visits during normal opening times and admits the bearer only).

For further details please check our website:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/allan-bank-and-grasmere>

Katriona Field Welcome Manager Allan Bank

Time for an Autumn Clear Out?

WINDERMERE TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE

➤ would appreciate donations of ➤

Chisels - Planes - Hammers - Vices - Saws - Spanners - Wrenches
Files - Drills - Screwdrivers - Power tools and Sewing machines, etc

Our local group provides reconditioned tools for community projects in Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Your unwanted tools can enable families to support themselves and provide education for their children.

If you can help, please contact Richard Beskeen on 35131
or 07907 565643

More information can be found at www.tfsr.org

News from Wordsworth Grasmere

The fells are turning purple and gold and there's woodsmoke in the air: autumn is finally here. We have plenty of news, from a new exhibition to family fun to special events. Don't forget that admission to Dove Cottage and the Museum is free for Grasmere residents and employees of Grasmere businesses. You can now book your tickets online in advance.

Our new special exhibition **Dorothy: Writer, Sister, Friend** opens on 23rd October. This exhibition celebrates Dorothy Wordsworth's 250th birthday and tells Dorothy's story through her own words through her original manuscripts, alongside accounts from people who knew her, people who've read her, and people who've come to know Dorothy anew. Celebrate the new exhibition in a **free online event** with us on 27th October, when we will invite some of the fantastic creative people involved to speak to us about their contributions, including Grasmere WI.

We have several fun family events and activities happening over October half-term. On 26th October get creative and notice Nature in a fun **journaling workshop**. On 27th and 28th October listen to spooky stories and have fun with Halloween crafts with **Twilight Tales in Dove Cottage**. There are also free family fun activities during half-term week: **Sensory Stories** on 26th October, **Woodland Wanders** on 27th October and **Wonderful Weather** on 28th October.

On 17th November we have invited Philippa Harrison, author of *Mountain Republic: A Lake District Parish* and Professor Simon Bainbridge author of *British Romanticism: The Literary Cultures of Climbing, 1770-1836* to discuss their new books and more in **The Lake Poets: Hill Farming, Mountaineering and Politics**.

Tune in on 9th November for **Simon Armitage: A Night at the Museum**: a one-of-a-kind, online only performance from the Poet Laureate in the heart of our new Museum, against a stunning backdrop of William Wordsworth's own words. Book through the Wordsworth Grasmere website.

"Go to the poets, they will speak to thee" is a contemporary poetry reading and open mic series hosted by poet Kim Moore. Each event speaks to a different theme in Wordsworth's writing. On 13th October our featured poet is **Tishani Doshi** reading from *A God at the Door*, which explores the redemptive and revolutionary possibilities of poetry. On 24th November our featured poet is **Katharine Towers** reading from *Oak*, an imaginative look at the life-cycle of the oak and its role in ecology and mythology.

Discover Poetry with Polly Atkin and **Dove Cottage Poets**, our monthly poetry reading and writing groups, continue to take place on Zoom. Grasmere History Group will also meet on Zoom on 5th October for a talk by Kevin Grice on **The History of the Hollens** and on 2nd November for a talk by Charlotte Davies and Julia Parks on **The Sankey Family Photographic Project**.

Detailed information and booking can be found on our website, wordsworth.org.uk *Hannah Catterall, Events Officer, Wordsworth Grasmere*

Keswick Choral Society

After 18 months without meeting, Keswick Choral Society is delighted to announce that the new season's rehearsals started in September.

Like many other organisations, members can't wait to get back to singing together. We are looking forward to presenting the popular annual **Festival of Christmas Music**, which will be on **Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 7.30 pm at Crosthwaite Church**. As usual it will include carols for the audience to join in.

The Spring concert is to be in May 2022 in St John's Church, Keswick. The programme for this will include Mozart's "Coronation Mass", the Poulenc "Gloria", and "Springtime in Lakeland" by the Society's Musical Director, Ian Hare. This new work was a commission intended for performance in 2019 in commemoration of Wordsworth's 250th anniversary but sadly the première had to be postponed.

It is intended that rehearsals will initially be held at 7pm in the Rawnsley Halls, returning to the Crosthwaite Parish Rooms in due course. Rehearsal dates are posted on the "Members Information" page of the Society's website www.keswickchoralsociety.org.uk. Alternatively, contact the Membership Secretary, Joyce Berry, on 01931 714828.

New members are always welcome: the health benefits of singing are well-known! *Anna Blackburn Press and Publicity Secretary*

Grasmere Village Society

Many congratulations to our President, Vivienne Rees, who received the British Empire Medal from the Lord Lieutenant of the county, Claire Hensman, in a ceremony in the Village Hall on September 14th. The medal is awarded for hands on, meritorious service to the local community and was awarded by the Queen for Vivienne's services over several decades. It was a double celebration as Vivienne was also celebrating her ninetieth birthday.

The September committee meeting was preceded by a presentation by Neil Winder, the National Trust area ranger for Grasmere and Great Langdale. Neil spoke with enthusiasm about the work that the NT is doing on Grasmere island, and also the tree planting plan for Allan Bank which is being partially funded by a contribution from the society. Hopefully Neil will involve us in some actual planting.

The society, courtesy of Andy Astle, has decided to set up a dedicated Facebook page, so that members can be better informed of the plans and decisions of the committee and also make suggestions and critiques.

Shelagh Griffin left a generous legacy to the GVS and we have decided to purchase a bench, dedicated to her memory. The site has still to be decided and if anyone has thoughts about this please contact myself or any committee member. The bench will be bought from general funds, keeping Shelagh's legacy intact for a suitable future project.

The Environment Agency has launched a new flood warning service for the River Rothay at Grasmere. Simon Hey will be the point of contact with the Environment Agency for this. The aim is to provide a minimum lead time of 30 minutes before onset of flooding, longer if the river level is rising more slowly. Anyone within the flood warning areas should receive information on how to register for this service through the post, however you can register for this free service by phoning 0345 988 1188 (0345 602 6340 for the hard of hearing) or by signing up at: www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings. Residents are invited to report any flood incidents or near misses, with timings, to the Environment Agency in order to improve the service. The telephone number for the Floodline is 0345 988 1188, or the Incident Communication Service 0800 80 70 60.

Simon has also been in contact with United Utilities regarding flooding and overflow of sewage during heavy rainfall. United Utilities say that they are monitoring the situation and the more often that problems are reported to them, the more likely it is that they will take action to resolve this ongoing issue. Issues can be reported to United Utilities on 03456 723723 (this is not a premium

number), or on their website www.unitedutilities.com and entering “feedback” in the search field.

Simon will start up a Facebook page where problems and comments can also be entered. Please keep posts relevant to this subject as the page will be referred to United Utilities in due course. Simon’s email is simonhey4@gmail.com, or for those with no online access, you can contact him on 015394 35067 or 07785 920316.

I am pleased to welcome some new members to the society but we still have a few pre-pandemic members who have not renewed their membership. We would love to have you back. Please contact Will Clark or any committee member for joining details.

The next committee meeting is on Tuesday October 12th at 8pm in the Reading Rooms. *Nick McCraith (Chairman)*



It was a pleasure to help coordinate Vivienne's Investiture to give her a day to remember, with Mrs Claire Hensman the Lord Lieutenant presenting the award and Mrs Diana Matthews her deputy reading out the citation to a well social distanced gathering of some 60 people, who toasted Vivienne after

short speeches from Nick McCraith (GVS) and Jeff Cowton (History Group), and enjoying a special afternoon tea prepared by those who wished to thank Vivienne for all her work for the village.

On coming to Grasmere in the 1960's Vivienne immersed herself in all things Grasmere, raising two children, becoming school governor at both Grasmere and the Lakes School. As a founder member of the Village Society she made sure the village stayed true to its own by helping the Rothay Hotel become the Wordsworth! She served as Parish Councillor on many panels including planning, bringing the issue of affordable housing to the fore with the building of Broadgate Orchard and Greenhead Fold. She was a keen participant of the Grasmere Players with many memorable performances including the medium in Blithe Spirit.

Vivienne will attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace when the pandemic restrictions are lifted. Carrie Taylor

Grasmere Sports

We have had another strange year, with a small overflow car-park being provided for visitors to the village, which has been very well used, and we are now hosting events postponed from earlier in the year. Although the Sports could not go ahead, we are already planning for a super event in 2022, with the emphasis on sports and activities for all the family.

Groundsman / Caretaker:

Following the recent retirement of their Groundsman the Sports Committee are looking for an enthusiastic person or persons to look after the Sports Field and Pavilion on Stock Lane, starting in the new year.

They are looking for someone to maintain the grounds, hand over keys and support events on the field, liaise with contractors and perform small jobs around the grounds. They also need someone to clean and look after the interior of the building. These roles could be combined or maybe performed by a partnership – we are open to suggestions. Hours are flexible, but will involve more work during the growing season and around events.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the Sports Manager, Deborah Black, on 07977 542853 or manager@grasmeresports.com . We will be pleased to discuss the role(s) and explain how the recruitment will be carried out.

Deborah Black Manager Grasmere Sports

Grasmere Players

All the events take place in **Grasmere Hall** and commence at **7.30pm** Everyone is welcome.

Thursday 30th September: Cumbria Cavalcade - a celebration of all things Cumbrian in prose , poetry and song. (There will be a nominal charge of £ 2.50 to cover expenses)

Friday 1st October: A.G.M. Come along and have your say. We're looking for enthusiastic people to fill a multitude of roles. Experience not necessary.

Wednesday 6th October: Pantomime Meeting - For everyone interested in being involved in any capacity. We'll need actors, musicians, designers, costume makers, builders, painters, stage management, light and sound engineers, front

of house personnel etc. etc. Again enthusiasm is more important than experience.

Monday 20th December: The Christmas Readings Christmas starts here with complimentary mulled wine and mince pies (Admission free but there will be a collection for charity)

Thursday 13th - Saturday 15th January 2022: Red Riding Hood Performances.
Anne Miller



Paul Davies and Paul Nelson in Treasure Island

Rydal Hall Vacancies

Rydal Hall, Carlisle Diocese's Christian retreat and conference centre near Ambleside, is looking to fill various vacancies. At time of going to press these include Housekeepers, a Receptionist and General Assistants.

Further details on the Rydal Hall website www.rydalhall.org or on enquiry to hr@rydalhall.org

Grasmere Red Squirrel News

Reds: Overall our reds are doing well this year with kits from second litters appearing regularly. There have been sightings from all over the area including Helmside, Tatteroles wood above Winterseeds and the central village even after the visitors are back.

We do the annual population census in September so do tell us how many reds you have seen in a specific location both the number seen simultaneously and additional individuals you can identify.

Greys: Unfortunately, Grasmere is currently experiencing the largest influx of greys that we have had for many years. Lots of people are reporting that they are seeing greys all around Grasmere and particularly in the northern part of the village where the greys don't usually get to.

This highlights the constant effort that has been put in by the Group to keep Grasmere clear of greys. This is the only way to keep the reds as the greys pass on squirrelpox to the reds which results in a horrible death. There have been two cases of reds with squirrelpox in the last few weeks just a few miles away from our area.

IF YOU SEE A GREY (or a sickly looking red) ANYWHERE AROUND GRASMERE PLEASE TELL US IMMEDIATELY with an exact description of the location and the time it was seen – don't leave it till tomorrow!

- Text David Birkett or Stuart Dickson,
- Phone Trevor Cooper, Jane Cooper or Stewart Sutcliffe 35263 and 07817 326524.
- If still no response email grasmerersg@gmail.com and we'll pick it up when we look at the photos from the cameras.

Facebook: Thanks to our latest volunteer, Sam Dixon, we now have our own online presence: @GrasmereReds. Sam has worked very hard to create the page and we are grateful for all her work. Send your squirrel stories and photos to Sam or message her via Facebook Messenger.

Posters & Flyers: To encourage people visiting Grasmere to donate to the conservation of our red squirrels we have created a poster and flyers.

The flyers can be used at retail outlets, hotels, B&Bs, holiday lets, cafes, etc. The posters can be placed in public places, shared accommodation, or shop windows. Please get in touch with Jane Cooper.

Funding: We now have several ways to accept donations:

- We can accept online donations by Debit and Credit cards via our Paypal account.
- Direct bank transfers can be made to our bank account.
- We have registered with #easyfundraising . Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate for FREE when you to shop with them. Help us raise more by signing up at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/. Supporting Grasmere Red Squirrels doesn't have to cost you anything!
- There are collection boxes at: Sam Reads, Heaton Cooper, Regatta, Post Office, Mountain Warehouse, Trespass, Garden Centre, Glenthorne Guest House, Daffodil Hotel and more places are taking them.

How you can help us: We are pleased to hear from anyone who wants to sponsor the group, help monitoring local woodlands, advice on purchasing their own equipment or are willing to have a poster, flyers or collecting box in your hotel or business. By contributing to the group you are helping the Red Squirrels to survive. All contributions are most welcome – thank you.

Many thanks to everyone who has contacted us with local sightings – especially greys! – they are really helpful.

If you would like to receive our newsletters please email grasmerersg@gmail.com . Please inform us if you change your email address.

Stewart Sutcliffe, Grasmere Red Squirrel Group

Food Bank Update

A big thank you once again to everyone for your continued support for Grasmere Community Food Bank. As always we are really grateful for both cash and food donations.

We have recently had more support than requests so we are well stocked as we head into the winter. Any surplus beyond this will be donated initially to Ambleside Parish Centre and then the West Coast.

We are always there to offer a helping hand so if you are in need, or are aware of anyone that is please reach out to us in total confidence. You can leave your phone number in the box at the Pharmacy or contact 07435 596596.

Thanks as always to Grasmere Co-op and Pharmacy for their continued support.

Will, Nicola & Vicky

Grasmere Fellowship

After an incredibly long break we hope to resume meetings in the autumn. We are still working on the programme for the second half of the season but have events in place for this year and a provisional booking for the lunch in January. All arrangements are susceptible to government intervention.

The opening service will take place on **October 7th at 2.30 in St Oswald's.**

The remaining meetings will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday afternoons at 2.30 and will include tea as usual.

October 21st Ron Ward of Ambleside Art Society will give a talk:
“The Pre-Raphaelite Muse - Behind the Face”

Ron entertained us a few years ago talking about under appreciated female artists.

November 4th We will hold our postponed AGM from 2020 so that we can approve our constitution. This will be followed by a short talk by myself before the serious business of tea and chat.

November 18th Patricia Howell returns with a talk on a different part of Britain:
“The Chalk Hill Figures of Wessex: White Horses and a Rude Giant”

We will collect subscriptions at the October 21st meeting. Subscriptions are the best value but guests are welcomed at any of our meetings for a small fee!

Hope to see you all there. *David Dodgson*

Carlisle Diocese pilots Burial Mapping Project

The Diocese of Carlisle is leading the way in a national Church of England project to survey 19,000 churchyards, creating a free digital map of every grave and feature in every churchyard in the country.

The ancient church of St Bega on the shores of Bassenthwaite Lake is the first churchyard to be scanned by surveyors using sophisticated laser equipment, as part of the national programme.

A new website will go online next year giving free access to the map which is expected to be of special interest to local community groups, conservationists, and those researching family history.

The Church of England has partnered with Cumbrian-based surveying company Atlantic Geomatics who will use back-pack mounted laser scanners to quickly and accurately map churchyards. They will also photograph all the visible headstones. *Carlisle Diocese Newsletter 3rd September 2021*

At the last Annual Church Meeting, Sonia announced her intention to stand down as Churchwarden. David asked for someone to consider stepping forward to fill this role. Helen writes of her experiences.

Being a Churchwarden

It is now over four years since Sonia persuaded me to become a Churchwarden, an appointment I had previously flatly refused to consider, as I was fearful of the unknown.

However, having wrestled with my conscience, and prayed for help, I accepted the post. I then had plenty of homework to do, learning about the Church and St. Oswald (who was king of Northumbria).

As I slowly learnt more, I realised how lucky I was to live in Grasmere with a church which had such a long and interesting history.

There is of course much more to being a warden, and I have taken on only a few of the many tasks involved, but I enjoy them all. It is a privilege to meet and greet the many people who visit the church whether to say a prayer or just to gaze at the wonderful roof.

As I look back over the past four years and realise how much I have learnt, as the saying goes "You're never too old to learn more", so with God's help I hope to go on just a little longer. *Helen Bunfield.*

Churchwarden's notices

With the cautious approach to re-opening the Church we are not operating the Sidesmen's rotas at present. I will let you know when they re-start.

I would like to thank Christine Batey very much for the Harvest Bread.
Sonia

CALENDAR

September 2021

30 Thu 19:30 Village Hall Cumbria Cavalcade

October 2021

1 Fri 19:30 Village Hall Grasmere Players AGM
3 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's **Harvest Thanksgiving**
16:00 St. Oswald's **Harvest Evensong**
3 Sun 19:00 St. Mary's Rydal Taizé Prayer
5 Tue 19:30 Zoom History Group
6 Wed 19:30 Village Hall Pantomime Meeting
7 Thu 14:00 Zoom Dove Cottage Poets
7 Thu 14:30 St. Oswald's Fellowship Opening Service
10 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's **Trinity 19 - Sunday Celebration**
12 Tue 14:00 Reading Room Knit & Nat
12 Tue 20:00 Reading Room GVS Committee
13 Wed 19:30 Zoom Poet:Tishani Doshi
14 Thu 14:00 Village Hall WI
14 Thu 20:00 Zoom Book Group
17 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's **Trinity 20 - Sunday Celebration**
19 Tue Allan Bank Pumpkin Trail -> 31 Oct
21 Thu 14:30 Village Hall Fellowship
21 Thu 19:30 Zoom Discover Poetry
23 Sat 10:00 Wordsworth Trust Dorothy Wordsworth Exhib. opens
24 Sun 11:00 St. Oswald's **Last in Trinity - Sunday Celebr**
26 Tue 11:00 Sensory Garden Sensory Stories
26 Tue 14:00 Reading Room Knit & Nat
26 Tue 14:00 WT Learning Space Journaling Workshop
27 Wed Allan Bank Carve a Pumpkin

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| 27 Wed | 14:00 | Dove Cott | Woodland Wanders |
| 27 Wed | 16:00 | Dove Cottage | Twilight Tales |
| 27 Wed | 19:30 | Zoom | D. Wordsworth Exhibition Event |
| 28 Thu | | Allan Bank | Carve a Pumpkin |
| 28 Thu | 11:00 | WT Learning Space | Wonderful Weather |
| 28 Thu | 16:00 | Dove Cottage | Twilight Tales |
| 31 Sun | 11:00 | St. Oswald's | All Saints - Sunday Celebration |

November 2021

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| 2 Tue | 17:30 | Zoom | History Group |
| 4 Thu | 14:00 | Zoom | Dove Cottage Poets |
| 4 Thu | 14:30 | Village Hall | Fellowship |
| 7 Sun | 11:00 | St. Oswald's | 3rd before Advent - Sunday Celebr |
| 7 Sun | 19:00 | St. Mary's Rydal | Taizé Prayer |
| 9 Tue | 14:00 | Reading Room | Knit & Nat |
| 9 Tue | 19:00 | YouTube | Simon Armitage |
| 11 Thu | 14:00 | Village Hall | WI |
| 11 Thu | 20:00 | Zoom | Book Group |
| 14 Sun | 10:50 | St. Oswald's | Remembrance Sunday - note time |
| 14 Sun | 12:15 | War Memorial | Wreath Laying |
| 17 Wed | 19:30 | Zoom | The Lake Poets |
| 18 Thu | 14:30 | Village Hall | Fellowship |
| 18 Thu | 19:30 | Zoom | Discover Poetry |
| 21 Sun | 11:00 | St. Oswald's | Christ the King - Sunday Celebr |
| 23 Tue | 14:00 | Reading Room | Knit & Nat |
| 24 Wed | 19:30 | Zoom | Poet: Katharine Towers |
| 28 Sun | 11:00 | St. Oswald's | Advent Carol Service |

December 2021

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| 5 Sun | 11:00 | St. Oswald's | Advent 2 - Sunday Celebration |
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My Universal Credit is going to be cut by £20 a week. I struggle to get by as it is and I'm really worried that I'll get into serious debt. I'm already behind on some of my bills. What can I do to avoid things getting worse?

You're not alone in this - there is support available.

Firstly, depending on your situation, you might be able to ask to have your Universal Credit paid differently - these are called 'alternative payment arrangements'. This might be an option if you're in rent arrears, among other reasons. To apply for an alternative payment arrangement, call the Universal Credit helpline on: 0800 328 5644.

If you're behind on some of your bills, the first step is to make a list of how much you owe and add up how much you need to pay each month.

You now need to prioritise your debts. We have advice on our website to help you do this. Some bills can cause you more problems than others if you don't pay them. Rent or mortgage arrears, energy bills and council tax are your priority debts as there can be serious consequences if you don't pay them.

Be sure to get in touch with the organisations you owe money to. Not everyone feels confident to do this, but they might be able to help by letting you pay smaller amounts or taking a break from payments. Many organisations have put in place protections for people who've struggled to pay their bills during the pandemic.

The government-backed Breathing Space scheme could also give you extra time. If you're eligible, you could get 60 days where your creditors can't contact you, take action to make you pay, or add interest and charges to your debt. You'll need to get advice from a debt adviser first - they'll check all your debts to see if they're covered by the scheme.

Finally, it's always a good idea to have a budget - take a look at the budgeting tool on our website and make sure you're getting all the income you're entitled to.

Everyone's circumstances are different, particularly when it comes to managing personal finances. If you need more specific support or don't feel able to manage your situation alone, call us on 015394 46464.

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

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.

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

wordsworth

GRASMERE

Dove Cottage • Garden-Orchard • Café • Museum • Events



Free admission to Grasmere residents

Uncover Wordsworth's radical and creative life story on a visit to Wordsworth Grasmere.

Be inspired by his words in the very place they were written.

Find out more and book tickets: wordsworth.org.uk

Dove Cottage. Photograph: Gareth Gardner