



Grasmere Parish Magazine

February and March
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

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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.

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**

We have a Father

Many years ago, the comedian Rowan Atkinson remarked that he had to change his act in order to accommodate the growing numbers of people in his audience who had little or no knowledge of the Bible. In short, he found that people were no longer getting the joke.

This, for many of us is a huge shame, not least because we know something of the power that Bible passages can have. For example, I recall talking with a young man who had got himself into a considerable mess and it was marvellous to watch his eyes light up as I told him Jesus' story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15.11-32). Listening to how a wandering soul is embraced by the forgiving heart of God changed his life.

Whenever I read that particular story, I am always impressed by how, at his very lowest ebb, the wayward son 'comes to himself' and says, 'I will get up and go to my Father'. This simple decision to return home is a key moment in the story which, although it was a fairly self-interested move, opened the door to an overwhelming joy and a welcome-home party to end all parties(!).

You may be aware of the distinctive way the election of a new Pope is announced to the people of Rome. Besides the emergence of white smoke from the Vatican rooftop, we hear the traditional cry 'Habemus Papam!' ("We Have a Pope!"). I'm no Latin scholar but I understand these words literally mean 'We have a Father'.

I suggest that this is a very simple and helpful picture to carry with us during this season of Lent: 'We have a Father'. Perhaps there's an invitation here to cease our wandering and return home.

The prophet Isaiah catches the mood beautifully. He speaks of God's grace which never wavers, even in the face of our frequent determination to go our own way:

'For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel:
In returning and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.
But you refused and said, 'No! We will flee upon horses'—
therefore you shall flee!
and, 'We will ride upon swift steeds'—
therefore your pursuers shall be swift!
A thousand shall flee at the threat of one,
at the threat of five you shall flee,
until you are left
like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain,
like a signal on a hill.

Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you;
therefore he will rise up to show mercy to you.
For the Lord is a God of justice;
blessed are all those who wait for him. *Isaiah 30.15-18*

Every blessing, *David*

Through Lent Together 2022

“Our only desire and our one choice should be this: I want and I choose what better leads to the deepening of God's life in me” - St. Ignatius of Loyola, from the beginning of the Spiritual Exercises.

The word LENT comes from an ancient word meaning 'Spring'. This season of the year is given to us as a springtime for our faith: an opportunity to consider prayerfully how we may become more open to the good work which God has begun within us.

At the Ash Wednesday Service we are given the charge: “Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord’s passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy word.”

Ash Wednesday (2nd March)

Beginning Lent Together in Worship at St. Oswald's

10.00am Holy Communion with the imposition of Ashes

Holy Communion at Home

If you would like to host a simple communion service in your home one morning or afternoon during Lent and invite members of the congregation and neighbours to join in, David will be happy to arrange this with you. Tel: 07305 777 113 or email: rev.grasmererydal@hotmail.com

Simply Praying

Finding Friendship with God... *wherever you are*

Wednesday Evenings at Rydal Hall

23rd February to 20th April 2022

What is Simply Praying?

Simply Praying is a pattern of devotion for Lent, giving you an opportunity to reflect on your life using quiet, meditative prayer. It aims to establish some habits to help you gain a deeper sense of God's presence and purpose for you.

Simply Praying is made in the context of our everyday life. Each person in the group commits to 20 minutes reflective prayer each day and the weekly sessions. Including the Introductory evening there are nine sessions.

The prayer is based on Bible passages and you will be shown how to use them in different ways to draw closer to God. There will be handouts for you to refer to for ideas and direction. Simply Praying is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The sessions will be led by the Chaplain of Rydal Hall, David Wilmot who has undertaken the full Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius and is familiar with the material. He will undertake to be available and on call to help, listen and encourage.

What will it be like?

The first session will be on 23rd February at 7.00pm. This will be an introduction and during the week which follows you will be welcome to decide whether the Prayer Adventure is for you at this stage in your life. If it's not for you then it's perfectly acceptable for you to step aside.

How will it help?

Experience shows that a concentrated period of prayer like this can have tremendous value resulting in a deepening of our prayer and growth in awareness of God's presence and love in our daily living. The sharing of experiences of prayer with others can also be a source of new insight and inspiration.

When and Where?

The sessions will take place at Rydal Hall on Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm and will end by 9.00pm. Tea/Coffee & biscuits will be available.

The first session will be on 23rd February with the final session on 20th April.

Programme

Introduction: 23/02

Week 1: 02/03 Love, Freedom and Purpose (Ash Wednesday)

Week 2: 09/03 Finding God in All Things

Week 3: 15/03 Something's Broken

Week 4: 23/03 Knowing Jesus

Week 5: 30/03 What Do I Really Want?

Week 6: 06/04 The Public Ministry of Jesus

Week 7: 13/04 The Suffering Jesus

Week 8: 20/04 God's Love and Our Response

To find out more please contact the Revd. David Wilmot on 07305 777 113 or chaplain@rydalhall.org

Places will be limited, a waiting list will be available. To reserve a place please contact Rydal Hall (015394) 32050 or mail@rydalhall.org

There is no charge but donations to Rydal Hall to cover the cost of materials will be appreciated. *David*

Music Notes

Despite all the difficulties of the past year, we managed to put on a presentable Carol Service, mustering a balanced octet, with two singers to each part (soprano, alto, tenor and bass), in which one could not but see the hand of providence. Several singers had come from as far afield as Kendal, Keswick and Windermere, for which we are most grateful. It is to be hoped that music will continue to play its part in the life of St Oswald's.

At Kendal Parish Church there is the familiar story of organ renovation awaiting repairs to the tower, but they continue to hold fortnightly organ recitals, with yours truly playing on Friday 18th February at 12.30 p.m. On Sunday 20th March at 4.00 p.m. Keswick Choral Society will sing Choral Evensong in St Andrew's Church, Stonethwaite, Borrowdale, a lovely old church at the end of the valley. And on Saturday 26th March at 7.30 p.m. in St Andrew's, Penrith the Cumbria Rural Choirs' long awaited Wordsworth 250th anniversary concert will include some settings of his poems by local composers. *Ian Hare*

WI News

Our January meeting got 2022 off to a great start with a fascinating talk from Sally Smith about her work training assistance dogs. Sally also brought along her dog Rocky to show some of their techniques. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

At our meeting on February 10th, Ali Alger from St Mary's Hospice will be talking to us about their work and how we can get involved. In 2021 we nominated St Mary's as our charity, and we were responsible for projects which raised an astonishing £20,000 !

Last February, during lockdown, a group of us set up "Team Grasmere stepping for St Mary's", and it's back by popular request in 2022. It was a fantastic fundraiser last year. It costs £9,000 per day to run St Mary's and the challenge is to do 9,000 steps every day in February. Everyone, everywhere is welcome to join in. To take part, please donate £30 to St Mary's via this Just Giving page. Any sponsors can also give via this page. It's not too late to join. www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jacky-godfrey1

Follow our Step Challenge Facebook page. Share your photos, your ups and downs, get fitter, step through February and support our local Hospice. Let's make this a success again in 2022. Please share this with family and friends – thank you.

On 10th March we have our AGM and a social meeting looking at our WI History, campaigns, and future plans. There will, of course be tea and cakes. Annual membership fees will be due, and we will be very happy to welcome new members.

Our "Grasmere WI Wainwright Challenge" is going well. Between us we have already walked half of the 214 Wainwrights. We're well on track to finish them this year.

Our meetings take place on the second Thursday of the month in the Village Hall at 2pm. On the fourth Thursday we meet outside Sam Reads at 2pm for a Ramble, followed by tea and cakes. We are now reopening our membership, and new members are very welcome. *Sue Dixon*

Knit and Nat

January was the 7th anniversary of our small but dedicated band of crafters, meeting in the Reading Rooms. And we thank them for their continued support

of our little group. No longer just knitting, we used our January 2022 sessions to learn crocheting from those who already knew.

With Omicron taking its toll throughout Grasmere it was decided to suspend the group, with a review at the end of January. So watch the space at Barneys for any updates.

In 2021 we helped to send 1,100 Christmas boxes abroad. We always hope the recipients enjoy our work. Other projects included clown puppets, blankets for neo nats at St Jimmy's Leeds, padded hearts for the bereavement of spouses at Lancaster hospital, in pairs – one goes with the bereaved, the other with those who pass on.

As with the first lockdown, if the suspension of our meetings continues for any length of time we will go back to Zooming our meetings, which are the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Dates for the next two months are February 8th and 22nd, and March 8th and 22nd.

Each meeting starts at 2pm – it is a drop in session; anyone and everyone are welcome to join us. If in doubt, a lateral flow test before coming would be welcome, as we don't want to go home with anything extra! We ask for 50p donation towards the heating costs, for which you will be treated to a cuppa and something to nibble on!

Our thoughts, love and prayers go with our founder Christine Batey at this time.

For more information or if you have any donations of wool please contact me -
Carrie Taylor

Magazine Distribution

After many years Barbara Hebson has decided to retire from distributing the Magazine on the Benfield round.

Our grateful thanks go to Barbara. Also thanks to Don Perritt who has kindly volunteered to take over. *Editors*

Grasmere Book Group

For the final book group meeting of 2021 we read a selection of classic ghost stories published by the British Library under the title *Chill Tidings: Dark Tales of the Christmas Season*. The anthology spans from late Victorian tales to the mid twentieth-century, featuring well-known writers like Jerome K. Jerome, Elizabeth Bowen and L. P. Hartley and less-familiar figures like Charlotte Riddell, A. M. Burrage and Rosemary Timperley. The stories ranged from comedy to horror and a similar array of opinions were prompted by the book. One member found the actual ghost encounters too fleeting and would have liked the ghosts to be more fleshed out, whilst another member found it hard to be invested as they didn't believe in ghosts. Not everyone who enjoyed the stories professed to believe in ghosts but as we were on Zoom all of us were disembodied.

Our January meeting was a well-attended celebration of books we love, books we liked the look of and books we'd had recommended to us. A library full of possible reading was discussed, and based on suggestions put to the group we've settled on the following tempting books for the year ahead:

Feb 10th - Nimsdai Purja, *Beyond Possible*

Mar 10th - Richard Osmond, *The Thursday Murder Club*

April 14th - Nan Shepherd, *The Living Mountain*

May 12th - Damon Galgut, *The Promise*

Jun 9th - Delia Owens, *Where the Crawdads Sing*

Jul 14th - Madeleine Miller, *The Song of Achilles*

Aug 11th - Ray Bradbury, *Golden Apples of the Sun*

Sep 8th - Tan Twan Eng, *The Garden of Evening Mists*

Oct 14th - Graphic Novel - TBC to tie in with Lakes Comics Festival

Nov 10th - Tove Jansson, *True Deceiver*

Dec 8th – Various Authors, *Murder on a Winter's Night* ed. Cecily Gayford

Book group meets online at 8pm on the second Thursday of every month. If you'd like to join us for a meeting, do email and we can send you a Zoom link. All are welcome, feel free to join in if and when it suits. Members often join from Easedale and Ottawa to Hawkshead and Kendal.

All book group books are available from Sam Read's at 10% discount off the RRP. We look forward to another year of bookish conversation!

Polly and Will

Wordsworth Grasmere

We reopened to the public on 25th January after a brief period of closure during the new year. Our opening times remain 10am- 4pm, Tuesday to Saturday. 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 online talks continue to take place. On 24th February our guest speaker is **Lucy Newlyn**, discussing her books *All in Each Other* and *Vital Stream* in conversation with Samantha Frank. In March (date to be confirmed – please check the website) **Michelle Levy** will be exploring the Greens tragedy and Dorothy Wordsworth's lesser-known Grasmere writings.

“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 23rd February our featured poet is **Jeremy Dixon**, reading from his collection *A Voice Coming from Then*. On 23rd March our featured poet is **Parwana Fayyaz**, reading from her collection *Forty Names*.

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

Little Wanderers, our creative play sessions for under 5s, takes place on Friday mornings. Email education@wordsworth.org.uk for more information and to book. Sessions are free for Grasmere families.

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

Oh yes they did...

Congratulations to Grasmere Players for lifting the spirits of the Village with their performances of Red Riding Hood in January. A strong cast supported Ruby Pumpernickel (Paul Davies) as she cavorted her way through another unlikely Graslakken-based tale from Anne Miller. Special mention must go to Matty Jackman who heroically combined the roles of actor, musician and Director. We're already looking forward to next year's pantomime. *Editors*

Allan Bank

February at Allan Bank will be a busy time for the property. While we are closed until the middle of the month, there is lots to do to get the house and grounds ready for reopening.

Inside, several of the rooms are being repainted, ready for reopening for the first time since before the pandemic. We're also looking forward to a new artist coming in, Hideyuki Sobue, who will be replacing the Three Big Heads with his own original art exhibit.

Outside, we're thrilled that the billiard room is being fully renovated. This will include the restoration of the stained-glass windows and the outside being completely repainted. The work will mostly be completed by the end of March, and the remainder when the weather is better in May.

Allan Bank reopens on the 12th February. 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 welcoming you back!

Elaine Reed Welcome and Service Assistant

Grasmere Village Society

2022 is upon us and already galloping along. Congratulations to those involved in the Christmas Fair and also the Christmas tree, on Moss Parrock. Both were successful endeavours and helped to promote and showcase the village.

This year we have already been active. Andy Astle has met with our National Trust Ranger Neil Winder to discuss improving the footpaths and gates to Butharlyp How, and the Easedale Road footpath, in order to allow disabled people and pram users better access. The Trust also has ambitious plans to transform Butharlyp woods with a clearing and replanting scheme so that the area will become more scenic and user friendly. The society will fully support this with volunteer labour and if you are interested in helping then please contact any Society committee member.

The bench in memory of Shelagh Griffin has been installed on Broadgate Meadow. It is on the right as you enter through the main gates. Please pause and rest there, admiring the view and remembering Shelagh.

A Dark Skies Cumbria event is being held again on Saturday 26th February from 8pm and is being promoted as Ambleside and Grasmere Big Switch Off. This year it has been arranged that the streetlights in Grasmere will also be turned off and businesses and residential properties are encouraged to limit outdoor lighting. Please take time to enjoy the stars on the night and take time to reflect (it will not be cloudy or raining!)

The Society had planned to have a display at the Village Hall open day to provide information on a proposed Grasmere Emergency Plan, to be followed up by a public meeting at the hall with presentations from the Environment Agency and South Lakeland District Council. The open day was postponed due to concerns over the spread of the Omicron variant. However, it is proposed that these events will be held at some time in the future. In the meantime, if anyone is interested in offering their help in the event of an emergency occurring (to include flooding), please contact Simon Hey for more information at simonhey4@gmail.com or 015394 35061. There are various roles which may be of interest to you.

It is that time of year when membership renewal is due and Will Clark would love to hear from you (will_clark@hotmail.com). Members who are able to volunteer for various activities (litter picking for example) are invaluable but so are the funds that your membership generates. We try to take care of every penny donated and spend funds to benefit the village and its residents and visitors. As an example, the two village defibrillators each cost on average £100 per annum to maintain. I'm sure you will agree that if a single life is saved this is money well spent. You do not have to live in Grasmere to be a member but if you love the Lakes and care for Grasmere then please join us. Membership remains at only £1, but additional voluntary donations are extremely welcome.

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

Westmorland Gazette Community Correspondent

After twelve years in this role I feel it is time to hand over to another willing volunteer. The position involves sending in an email report the weekend before publication, giving information about anything of interest in the local Grasmere community regarding recent or upcoming events. A style guide is provided by the Gazette. If you think this might appeal to you as a would-be reporter, please contact me. Thank you. *Myra McCraith*

Grasmere Fellowship

It was a pleasure to meet up for lunch at the Wordsworth after what seems a very long time and now it is time to reveal the final speakers for this year's session.

Feb 3rd Raymond Whittaker: Looking for Sarah

Sarah Losh built an exquisite Italianate Church in the Cumbrian Village of Wreay in memory of her sister. Learn all about Sarah, her church and how to pronounce the village name!

Feb 17th Esther Rutter: This Golden Fleece - a history of wool and knitting

Some of you will remember Esther from her time at the Wordsworth Trust. We have dedicated this talk to the memory of Mary Bower who was a long standing member of the Fellowship and gave us a generous donation. We looked for a subject that was dear to Mary's heart and Esther seemed to be the obvious choice. We would like to extend an invitation to all Knit and Nat members.

March 3rd Anthony Robinson: Bluebird Memories

Anthony, who was awarded the MBE for his work with Coniston Mountain Rescue, acted as a timekeeper for some of Campbell's record attempts. We may hear the latest news on the sorry saga of the restored Bluebird.

March 17th - AGM.

I know we have had one AGM already but this one is to get us back to our timetable and should just be a formality. The good news is that we will be entertained afterwards by David Wilmot who will recall his Spanish Pilgrimage.

If anyone has any suggestions of speakers or topics they would like to hear please get in touch.

All talks will be at 2.30 in the Village Hall. If you have not got around to joining yet we would love to see you and take your £2 on the day. *David Dodgson*

Grasmere Community Foodbank

It is almost 4 years since Grasmere Community Foodbank was born. We saw an increased demand for help during the early days of the pandemic and thanks to your help and generosity we could meet that need. In the last couple of months, however, we have had fewer requests for support and therefore we have passed some of our surplus stock onto Ambleside Parish Centre Food Bank. In light of this we will, for now, scale back our collections in Grasmere and signpost any requests for support to Ambleside. Grasmere Pharmacy and the Co-op are happy

to keep the collection points in place and any future donations will be taken through to Ambleside.

We are very conscious that with increased fuel and heating costs we may see more calls for help in the coming months. If you are in need of support, or if you know of anyone who is struggling financially, please let us know. The service is totally confidential. Please don't struggle in silence - we will continue to be here to help.

As always thank you to our partners and to all of you who donate so generously on a regular basis. *Will Clark 07435 596596*

Grasmere Christmas Fair 2021

A word to describe how I feel: Proud. Proud of all the Grasmereians who helped - young and old - erecting the tree with lights and reindeer - to the fabulous grotto and the special man himself visiting - for donating/loaning the abundance of christmas decorations, assembling the hall - for running the fantastic stalls, both inside and out! - for advertising the event and the astonishing generosity of Grasmere businesses - for the raffle prizes where we raised £400 towards Grasmere Red Squirrels and £400 for the local Mountain Rescue. To volunteers in all shapes and sizes and the entertainers - Grasmere Brass Quartet and the Glee Club. And last but not least those who came and supported us over the weekend. A magnificent success all round. Thank you all.

We are hoping to hold another Christmas Fair this year, and are open to suggestions. Maybe a little earlier in December was one we were asked to consider. Please contact us or stop and have a chat.

Sharon Savasi Grasmere Business Partnership Grasmere Village Society

Advent & Christmas

Thank you to all who decorated St. Oswald's so beautifully for Christmas and to all, not least our Village Band, who helped make our Christmas Eve, outdoor Carol Service such a happy occasion. *David*

Thank you everyone who donated for the Christmas Plants. The total number was 63. *Sonia*

CALENDAR

February 2022

3 Thu	14:00	Zoom	Dove Cottage Poets
3 Thu	14:30	Village Hall	Fellowship
4 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
6 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 5 - Sunday Celebration
8 Tue	14:00		Knit & Nat
8 Tue	20:00	Reading Rooms	GVS Committee
10 Thu	14:00	Village Hall	WI
10 Thu	20:00	Zoom	Book Group
11 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
11 Fri	14:00	Amb. Parish Centre	Dementia Awareness afternoon
13 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 6 - Sunday Celebration
15 Tue	10:00	Amb. Parish Centre	Dementia Support Group
17 Thu	14:30	Village Hall	Fellowship
17 Thu	19:30	Zoom	Discover Poetry
18 Fri	12:30	Kendal Church	Organ Recital
20 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Epiphany 7 - Sunday Celebration
22 Tue	14:00		Knit & Nat
23 Wed	19:00	Rydal Hall	Simply Praying
23 Wed	19:30	Zoom	Jeremy Dixon
24 Thu	14:00	Moss Parrock	WI Ramble
24 Thu	19:30	Zoom	Lucy Newlyn
25 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
26 Sat	10:00	Rydal Hall	Lent Quiet Day
26 Sat	20:00	Grasmere	Dark Skies Cumbria
27 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Sunday before Lent - Celebration

March 2022

2 Wed	10:00	St. Oswald's	Ash Wednesday - HC
2 Wed	19:00	Rydal Hall	Simply Praying
3 Thu	14:00	Zoom	Dove Cottage Poets
3 Thu	14:30	Village Hall	Fellowship
5 Sat	19:30	Village Hall	Murder Mystery
6 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Lent 1 - Sunday Celebration
8 Tue	14:00		Knit & Nat
9 Wed	19:00	Rydal Hall	Simply Praying
10 Thu	14:00	Village Hall	WI
10 Thu	20:00	Zoom	Book Group
13 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Lent 2 - Sunday Celebration
16 Wed	19:00	Rydal Hall	Simply Praying
17 Thu	14:30	Village Hall	Fellowship
17 Thu	19:30	Zoom	Discover Poetry
20 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Lent 3 - Sunday Celebration
22 Tue	14:00		Knit & Nat
23 Wed	19:00	Rydal Hall	Simply Praying
23 Wed	19:30	Zoom	Parwana Fayyaz
24 Thu	14:00	Moss Parrock	WI Ramble
26 Sat	19:30	Penrith Church	Cumbria Rural Choirs
27 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Mothering Sunday - Celebration
30 Wed	19:00	Rydal Hall	Simply Praying

April 2022

3 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Lent 5 - Sunday Celebration
	12:15	St. Oswald's	Annual Church Meeting

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday 3rd April at 12.15pm in the Church**. Do come along and hear about all that has been going on in the life of our Parish Church during the past year and of our plans for the future. Copies of the Minutes of last year's meeting, the Reports and Agenda will be available at Church on the preceding Sunday.

Revision of the Electoral Roll

This will take place during February. If you would like your name to be added to the Church Electoral Roll, please complete and return one of the forms available in Church. You do not need to re-register if you were on the Roll last year.

Quiet Day at Rydal Hall

Saturday 26th February. 10.00am- 4.00pm

Theme: 'The Crowds that followed him': Journeying with Jesus in the gospel of Luke.

The day is led by David (Chaplain at Rydal Hall) and is free of charge.

Booking required: contact Rydal Hall (015394 32050) or mail@rydalhall.org.

For lunch you are invited to visit the Tea Shop or bring a packed lunch.

Dementia Awareness events

Ambleside Parish Centre is hosting more Community Dementia Awareness Events following the success of the event we ran last year. These will bring together local providers of support and information including Dignity in Dementia, South Lakes Dementia Community and Cumbria Libraries, as well as social history resources from Cumbria Archives.

We will also be starting a regular support group for those experiencing Dementia, their families, friends and carers.

Dates and times for February are:

Friday 11th February 2.00pm – 4.00pm: Community Dementia Awareness Event.

Free to attend, come along anytime between 2.00 and 4.00, refreshments available for donation. All welcome.

Tuesday 15th February 10.00am – 12.00pm: Dementia Support Group

Wesley Room, Ambleside Parish Centre. Free to attend, come anytime between 10.00 and 12.00. All welcome. *Ruth Yates/Sophie Bryde*

Murder Mystery at the Village Hall

The Matinée Murder

Join acclaimed mystery maestros Highly Suspect for a hilarious, immersive, and interactive murder mystery, which you – the audience – must solve!

“A Cluedo style escapade complete with groan-worthy puns and dastardly double entendres” – The Scotsman.

Grasmere Village Hall Saturday 5th March at 7.30pm Tickets £10

More information and online booking at: www.highlightsnorth.co.uk

Jeff Cowton

Job opportunities at Ambleside Recreation Ground

Local Applicants Wanted!

Lakes Parish Council is looking for a new applicants for managerial roles, kiosk work, gardening/grounds work and day-to-day running of White Platts Recreation Ground from 1st April – 31st October. If you are interested please email:

clerk@lakesparish.co.uk

Lakes Parish Council



I'm on a low income and I'm worried about school costs - especially buying their school uniforms and shoes, now they are growing so fast! Is there any support out there?

If you're on a low income or unemployed, you might be able to get help with some of the costs of sending your child to school. It's always worth talking to your local education authority to see what support is available.

Free school meals

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically get free school meals. If you have older children you can apply for free school meals if you get certain benefits. If you're on Universal Credit and you applied after 1 April 2018 you would be eligible if you earn less than £7,400 a year without benefits. You can see the full list of eligibility requirements on the Citizens Advice website. To apply for free school meals contact your local authority, you can check the details at Gov.uk by typing your postcode in.

Transport

If your children are aged between five to 16, your local education authority might offer free or lower cost transport if you don't live near school or your child is unable to walk there. Apply to your local education authority for help.

Uniforms and other costs

Your local education authority might also be able to help with some other costs, like uniforms, music lessons or trips and activities. There may also be local charitable schemes to help with these costs. It's worth checking with the school to see if it knows of any. If you live in South Lakeland, contact South Lakes Citizens Advice as they may be able to help with sourcing grants. Schools can sometimes also advise on finding secondhand uniforms.

What's next

If your child is staying in education after year 11, you must tell HMRC's Child Benefit Office if you want to continue receiving child benefit and any extra support for children within means-tested benefits. When your child turns 16, HMRC will send you a letter asking whether your child will stay in education or training. You must reply to this letter to keep getting Child Benefit.

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

To the Cuckoo

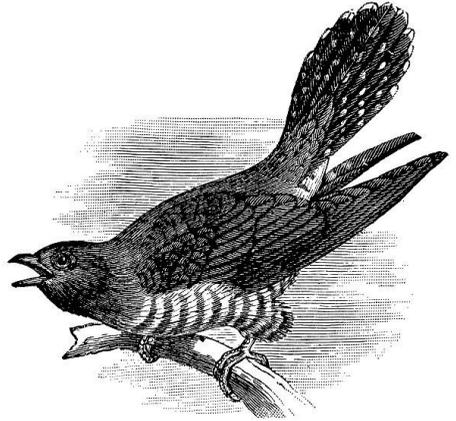
O blithe new-comer! I have heard,
I hear thee and rejoice;
O cuckoo! shall I call thee bird,
Or but a wandering voice?

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

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

Thrice welcome, darling of the spring!
Even yet thou art to me
No bird, but an invisible thing —
A voice, a mystery.

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



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

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

O blessed bird! the earth we pace
Again appears to be
An unsubstantial, faery place
That is fit home for thee!

William Wordsworth 1807

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:

Fr. Bernard Partington, Mater Amabilis Church, Wansfell Road,
Ambleside, LA22 0EG. 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
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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.

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.



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