

A young man with red hair, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt, is seated in a wheelchair. He is holding a large, vibrant bouquet of flowers, including red roses, blue hydrangeas, yellow daisies, and purple flowers. The bouquet is wrapped in green mesh. In the background, several people are visible, including a woman in a denim jacket and a woman in a striped dress. The setting appears to be an outdoor event, possibly a fair or festival, with trees and a building in the distance.

Grasmere Parish Magazine

June - July 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 **August - September 2022** magazine is **18th July 2022**.

Please email your copy to the editors at: **editor@oswaldparish.news** or send it to 16 Benfield, Grasmere, LA22 9RD. 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**

The front cover shows a member of the Rushbearing committee at the 2019 event, the last time the procession took place.

A Late Developer

I've never been much of a fan of slogans – especially religious ones! But I recall seeing someone wearing a T-shirt with the words, “Be Patient; God isn't finished with me yet”, written on the front. This particular slogan has stayed with me and in recent years I've become aware of how from earliest times 'patience' (in particular the patience of God) has been valued and appreciated.

One person who believed himself to be on the receiving end of the Lord's patience was St. Augustine, who was born in Roman North Africa in the fourth century. He had a devout Christian mother and a pagan father; was a notoriously rebellious teenager and embarked on a fairly dissolute life, only to end up a priest, Bishop and world-renowned teacher of the faith!

Looking back on his life he famously spoke of his frustration that so many of his life choices had, it seemed, led him away from the God who was so lovingly and patiently pursuing him. He wrote:

“Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours.”

Time and again I hear people say that they think of themselves as 'seekers': as people in search of God. However, time and again such people find themselves contradicted. That is, they eventually discover that it was not they who were searching for God but God who was patiently in search of them.

I wonder what your experience is? As Augustine shows us, God can do great things through a 'late developer'.

Every Blessing, *David*

Music Notes

After a long silence there are a few musical events coming up in church. The main focal point is the Jubilee weekend when we have a concert on Saturday 4th June at 7.30 p.m. This will feature internationally acclaimed tenor, Ian Honeyman, who has kindly offered to give his services in aid of the Organ Fund. His songs by Schumann and Vaughan Williams will be complemented by some organ music with royal connections.

The next day there will be a special service for Pentecost/Whit Sunday, hopefully with some input from a small choir.

Looking further ahead, on Monday 1st August at 11.00 a.m. the Lake District Summer Music Festival will be hosting a concert by Ewan Miller (oboe) and the Odora Piano Trio.

There has been some comment recently about organ voluntaries, and I can but quote an extract from *Elements of Musick* (1772) by William Tans'ur:

A voluntary "should call in our Spirits, delight our Ears, and recreate our Minds: and to fill our Souls with pure and heavenly Thoughts, that nothing may remain in us but Peace and Tranquility; ... and, as much as possible, give us such a Taste of Heaven, here on Earth..."

Ian Hare.

Changes in the Methodist Ministry

At the end of July Deacon Maggie Patchett will be leaving us, moving to the care of three small rural churches in the Newcastle West District, in the vicinity of Hadrian's Wall. She takes up her new position on 1st September.

The South Lakes Methodist Circuit welcomed Maggie Patchett into her new post in 2017 to serve for five years. It was an unusual appointment. The major part of her time was to work ecumenically amongst the tourist and hospitality sector and to establish a chaplaincy there; the slightly lesser part was to pastor the Methodist churches in Ambleside, Grasmere, Hawkshead and Windermere as part of the circuit team that covers the area down to Ulverston and Grange-over-Sands. The focus of the Order of Deacons is mission, and it is a very fluid concept. As a deacon she would not normally be authorised to conduct services, but she came to us also as a licensed local preacher, and so has exercised this significant ministry among our churches.

The job described in those terms could sound rather formal, but her warm personality, her commitment to support people in all their needs and her dedication to this work soon won her over to us. There have been times of ill health. The response from the hospitality industry has not always been as positive as had been hoped – the management of our hotels and boarding houses has been blighted by the Covid virus and the exodus of many workers back into their home nations. What has been established has been support for individuals which has extended into deep friendship. We are so grateful for what she has been and for what she has done.

Our General Superintendent Minister, the Revd Graham Ransom, based in Ulverston, is also moving after seven years in the circuit, to become Superintendent Minister of the Ryedale Circuit, North Yorkshire. Both Graham and Maggie have served as Directors of Ambleside Parish Centre.

We shall give thanks for their ministry at a leaving service for the two of them at **Ulverston Methodist Church at 6.00 pm on Sunday 17th July.**

Although Maggie is moving on, the tourism chaplaincy will still be available, providing a listening ear, a shoulder to lean on, someone to turn to, with no other expectations. The new contact information is:

email tourismchaplain@slakesmethodist.org.uk; call or text 07360 921067;

facebook.com/lakeschaplain; www.slakescircuit.org.uk/tourismchaplaincy

John Biggs

Maggie adds her own personal note. It has been my privilege to serve those working in the tourism community over the past 5 years, and I wish you all God's blessing as you continue to provide rest and relaxation for the many visitors here in the South Lakes. May you also find time and space for yourselves!

With love, *Maggie.*

'A Right Royal Do'

An exhibition to celebrate the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
Local stories and memorabilia.

St. Mary's Church, Ambleside 2nd - 4th June 10am - 4pm

Entry free. Refreshments available. *Beverley Lock*

Knit and Nat

Dear people, this is not the time to try to be upbeat and lively, as we mourn the loss of our dear friend and co-founder of Knit and Nat, Christine Batey. She was inspirational to many a child and adult alike with her enthusiasm for detail and life in general.

Knit and Nat restarts in June with our regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in the Reading Rooms. Those dates will be June 14th and 28th, and July 12th and 26th – please join us between 2 and 4 pm for a cuppa and chat, bring your latest craft and creation with you and enjoy the company of like-minded people. 50p is all we ask to go towards the upkeep of the Reading Rooms and the heating costs which are scarily high at present!

With this very short message I leave you with a virtual hug and wish you well on your own journey. *Carrie Taylor*

Dementia Support Group

Dementia is a devastating illness both for sufferers and those around them, be they family or friends who want to help. There are many different forms of dementia and therefore everyone's experience can be different. The main association for most people is loss of memory which can lead to frustration, loneliness, and feelings of isolation and loss both for the sufferers and those caring for them.

To be with others experiencing the problems associated with living with dementia can be helpful. Experiences can be shared, solutions discussed and support offered. Those of us supporting this group have personal experience of caring for relatives and others living with dementia as well as supporting carers. As a group we want to respond to the need of people living with dementia, their families and carers in Ambleside and the surrounding areas. At present we aim to offer support through a coffee and a chat as well as activities and events aimed at signposting to organisations that can offer further help and support. Any other ideas are very welcome.

The next meetings are **Tuesdays 21st June and 19th July 10am – 12 noon at Ambleside Parish Centre.**

So, if you are living with dementia or helping someone who is, please come and talk to us and tell us how you would like us to support you. *Ruth Yates*

WI News

We've had a very busy time lately. In April Karen Hanks gave us an entertaining talk about her work with the Riding for the Disabled Association, bringing along saddles and equipment. In May Dr Julie Carter, rock climber, fell runner and poet was inspirational in her talk on Myths and Mysteries in mountain sport.

We've been to the Theatre by the Lake for a meal and show, and we've been on the Windermere Steamers for a boat ride and walk. Several members sang at Ambleside Choral Society's Spring Concert, and lots of members came along in the audience. It was a great evening.

We've recently started a members' Art group which is proving very popular. We're also planning our entries for the WI Competitions in the Westmorland Show in September.

We continue ticking off the Wainwrights. By the time you read this we will have done a joint walk up Rannerdale Knotts with Coniston WI, and we will have about 50 left to complete before our final group walk up Helm Crag on 1st September.

Our meeting on 9th June sees the return of Anne Cradock to lead us in fun and games – outside if weather permits. We've invited members of our local WIs to join us. Please wear flat shoes and suitable clothes. It'll be a great afternoon!

On 14th July Judge Kirsteen Keyden is talking on "Dealing with the victim of Crime."

Our membership is now open and we are delighted to have welcomed several new members. Now the Covid situation has eased we are also welcoming visitors and guests, at a charge of £5, which will be deducted from the membership fee if you decide to join us. Our meetings are on the dates above, 2pm in the Village Hall. Come and give us a try! You'll be made very welcome. *Sue Dixon*

David Perrem RIP

The family would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards and flowers on the passing of David. Any donations would be most welcome, going to St. John's Hospice in Lancaster. *Amanda Perrem*

[News of David's passing came just after our last edition had gone to print. We apologise for the delay in including this item. Eds.]

Events at Wordsworth Grasmere

If you visit from 7th June – 17th July you will be able to see our new community exhibition **Romantic Ridiculous Portraits**, which explores the funny side of the lives and works of Romantic period writers and artists. Don't forget that admission to Dove Cottage, the Museum and exhibitions is free for Grasmere residents and employees of Grasmere businesses.

Our online talks continue to take place. On 8th June Andy McInnes and Rita Dashwood explore the silly side of Romanticism, discuss alternative approaches to representing the lives and works of Romantic-period writers and artists, and uncover the absurd as they take a close-up look at objects from the Wordsworth Trust's collection, with **Ridiculous Romantics**. On 7th July Jessica Fay and Dean Hines discuss Lady Beaumont's friendship with Dorothy Wordsworth, explore the encouragement she gave to Dorothy as a writer, and consider some of the painters and paintings that the Beaumonts discussed with the Wordsworths in **Dorothy among the Painters**.

'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 29th June **Eric Ngalle Charles** reads from *Homelands*, in which he writes about his early life in Cameroon, being sent to Moscow by human traffickers, and finding a new home in Wales. On 27th July **Clare Shaw** reads from *Towards a General Theory of Love*, which explores the experience of love and its absence.

On 11th June writer Karen Lloyd leads **Gardens, Mosses and Manuscripts**, an early summer creative writing workshop, taking initial inspiration from leading women writers on the natural world, including Dorothy Wordsworth, Karen McCarthy Woolf, Robin Wall Kimmerer and Kathleen Jamie.

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, take 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*

Grasmere Rushbearing 2022



We're back! And no longer a virtual event! We will be holding the traditional Rushbearing on **Saturday 9th July**.

Plans are underway to make this year's Rushbearing a wonderful event. The key dates are:

Thursday 7th and Friday 8th July - All day from 9.30 am - Preparation

Winding of rushes and preparation of bearings in St Oswald's Church.

If you are free on these days come along and learn how to wind and bind the rushes and dress the bearings. It's great fun!

Morning of Saturday 9th July - 9.30 am - Final preparations

Final preparations and finishing of bearings in the church, again please come and join in, many hands make light work.

Saturday 9th July - The Procession

2pm Please collect your bearing from the church and head down to the school grounds.

2.30pm Congregate in the school grounds ready for Ulveston town band to strike up the march. We process through the village, finishing with a short service in St Oswald's conducted by Rev. David Wilmot.

After the service the children will be handed a piece the delicious Grasmere Rushbearing Gingerbread as they leave church and make their way down to the sports pavilion for their tea, face painting and games.

Ulveston town band will also be doing a concert for us after the service.

Please book your child's tea using the QR code provided.



Prizes to be won!

Best infant bearing - Best junior bearing - Best adult bearing
Best dressed pram/buggy

Best window display (windows to be decorated from Wednesday 6th July)

Everyone is invited to join in and keep Grasmere tradition alive and celebrate as a community! If you would like to be involved, lend a hand or have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Rushbearing team:

Will Clark 35070 will_clark@hotmail.com

Charlotte Ellwood charlotteellwood@gmail.com

Amy Burton 35501 amyj.burton@icloud.com

We hope to see you there!

Grasmere Village Society

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated in the village on Sunday June 5th with a picnic on the park (Broadgate Meadow) commencing at 12 noon with a barbecue, beer tent and children's sports and at 2.30pm entertainment and cream teas in the village hall. There will be no entrance charges and a great time will be had by all. This is a joint venture between the GVS, Buffs, WI and the business community, with special thanks due to the Village Hall trustees who are providing the use of our splendid village hall.

A very successful litter pick was held during April. Andy Astle organised the Grasmere Wombles so that all areas of the village were covered, in particular the lake foreshore and the A591 up Dunmail Raise. Thank you and well done to all involved.

The long awaited speed indicator will soon be appearing! Posts have been installed at 4 locations around the village and the indicator is expected to arrive shortly. Thanks to Simon Hey who has worked very hard to bring this to fruition. Hopefully traffic will respond and slow down where appropriate. We already have the most beautiful village so let's also make it the safest!

The village emergency plan is taking shape but more volunteers are always welcome, either with equipment that could be used in an emergency situation or just as a willing pair of hands. Please contact any committee member if you can help.

Congratulations to Will Clark and Vicky Hughes who have recently been re-elected as county councillors and still find time to sit on the GVS committee. Indeed thanks are due to the whole committee who work selflessly behind the scenes to maintain and improve the fabric of the village and more importantly care for the welfare of the people of the village. If you have not yet joined, or rejoined the society, please consider doing so. Your membership is valued and all incoming funds (£1 membership fee plus any voluntary donation) is welcome and will be used entirely for the benefit of the village. *Nick McCraith (Chairman)*

Grasmere Reading Rooms

The Reading Rooms annual membership year begins on 14th June.

2022/3 will be our 20th year and we continue to host Village Society, WI, Knit & Nat and Probus meetings; in addition to being a lively social club offering snooker, pool, darts, dominoes, weekly bingo and live entertainment.

Gavin Clayton



Jubilee Party Celebrations

Sunday June 5th 2022

**12 Noon Picnic in the Park
Buffs Barbecue and Beer Tent**



followed by Children's Sports

**2.30pm Grasmere Village Hall
Sing-along Favourites with the
Jubilee Singers**

**Delicious Cream Teas served
Grasmere Players Comedy Sketch**



Tea Dance with live band



Right Royal Raffle

Guess the first name of Teddy Bear Windsor

**Free Admission but any donations towards the
Grasmere Village Hall will be gratefully received**

For further information contact Sharon Savasi - savasi@hotmail.co.uk

Swifts in Grasmere

By the time you read this, the swifts should be back in the valley for the summer. Such wonderful birds with their acrobatic and dynamic flight.

Please let me know if you hear them screeching or see their wonderful flight around the valley. For ease of identification swifts are all dark birds, without any white on them. They nest inside building walls and roofs, so you can't see the actual nest unlike those of swallows and house martins.

Look out for large groups over the lake particularly at the end of the season, when migrating birds seem to use the Dunmail - Grasmere - Rydal corridor.

For the last couple of years, volunteers have been recording their numbers. Please let me know any sightings by texting 07763 465034.

Pete Martin coordinates volunteers in Ambleside and collates all the records on behalf of Cumbria Bird Club for the surrounding villages and can also be contacted via thorncottage@hotmail.com or on 07816 686166.

They are late arriving this year, first sighting in Ambleside was on Tuesday 10th May and as I write [12th May] I haven't seen any in Grasmere just yet, when in 2021 my first sighting was on the 4th May.

There were 4 confirmed nest sites in the south west facing wall opposite the Daffodil, and suspected nesting in the centre of the village near the Inn at Grasmere (Red Lion). Has anyone seen any other nest sites, ie birds flying straight into a hole in the wall of a building?

This summer look up to the skies! And enjoy! *Jane Cooper Hollens Cottages*

Grasmere Sports 2022

The Committee has been delighted to welcome back events to the field – some for the first time since 2019, and many raising considerable sums for various charities.

Plans are now coming together for a super Sports Day on **Sunday 28th August**. There will be lots to do on the day and we are sure that everyone is looking forward to the return of the iconic fell races, hound trails and wrestling. There will be displays of local interest, Ridgeside Falcons and Little Nipper terrier



racing and the fun Dog Show. Wonder Wheelers are bringing their range of bicycles for everyone to try out. Children will be occupied with the long leap, sprint races and traditional fun races – with lots of prizes and medals on offer. We are even hosting the Wrestling World Championship for Under 10's, hoping to inspire the next generation of wrestlers.

Now is the time to be thinking about planting a wheelbarrow to take part in our inaugural Wheelbarrow Garden competition – the barrows, planting and other decoration are entirely your choice and the barrows will be displayed outside the Craft Marquee on Sports Day. With prizes for the best entries and the honour of being the first Sports Barrow Champion, why not start planning now?

Local residents will be able to purchase advance tickets from 17th to 30th June only, on the website www.grasmeresports.com. These special tickets will be at the heavily discounted price of £9 for adults and £3 for children and are only being promoted in the village. They replace the tickets that were previously on sale in the village to residents and will be limited in number – so make sure you buy early.

From the 1st July the normal online prices of £11 per adult, £5 per child and £28 for a family ticket (2 + 2) will apply. Standard prices, £15 and £5, will apply for tickets bought on the day.

If you are interested in coming along with a stall or trade stand please do get in touch with the Manager, Deborah Black, sportsmanager@grasmeresports.com

Allan Bank

Here at Allan Bank we're looking forward to Summer.

Outside we will have summer games equipment to borrow, for use in the garden. This will include croquet, badminton and boules. The billiard room is still in the process of being renovated and we hope it will be finished in the next few months.

Inside, the upstairs is now fully open, with some rooms newly opened for the first time since the pandemic. These include the map room and an exhibition room for the artwork of Hideyuki Sobue, our mural painter.

Do remember that free house and 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 Manager*

CALENDAR

June 2022

4 Sat	19:30	St. Oswald's	Jubilee Concert
5 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Pentecost - Sunday Celebration
5 Sun	12:00	Broadgate Meadow	Queen's Jubilee Celebration
5 Sun	19:00	Rydal St. Mary	Taizé Prayer
8 Wed	19:30	Zoom	Ridiculous Romantics
9 Thu	14:00	Village Hall	WI
9 Thu	20:00	Zoom	Book Group
10 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
11 Sat	9:30	WT Learning Space	Gardens, Mosses and Manuscripts
12 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity Sunday Celebration
14 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
16 Thu	19:30	Zoom	Discover Poetry
17 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
19 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 1 - Sunday Celebration
21 Tue	10:00	Ambleside P Centre	Dementia Support Group
24 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
26 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 2 - Sunday Celebration
28 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
29 Wed	19:30	Zoom	Eric Ngalle Charles

July 2022

1 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
3 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 3 - Sunday Celebration
7 Thu	9:30	St. Oswald's	Rushbearing preparation - & 8th & 9th - see page 8
7 Thu	14:00	Zoom/Learn. Space	Dove Cottage Poets
7 Thu	19:30	Zoom	Dorothy among the Painters

8 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
9 Sat	14:30	School	Rushbearing Procession
10 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 4 - Sunday Celebration
12 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
14 Thu	14:00	Village Hall	WI
14 Thu	20:00	Zoom	Book Group
15 Fri	10:15	WT Learning Space	Little Wanderers
17 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 5 - Sunday Celebration
17 Sun	18:00	Ulverston	Leaving Service Maggie Patchett
19 Tue	10:00	Ambleside P Centre	Dementia Support Group
21 Thu	19:30	Zoom	Discover Poetry
24 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 6 - Sunday Celebration
26 Tue	14:00	Reading Rooms	Knit & Nat
27 Wed	19:30	Zoom	Clare Shaw
31 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 7 - Sunday Celebration

August 2022

1 Mon	11:00	St. Oswald's	Lake Dist. Summer Music Concert
7 Sun	11:00	St. Oswald's	Trinity 8 - Sunday Celebration

Vacancy - Magazine Editor

Some of you will know that your editors are planning a move to be nearer friends and family in the Cotswolds, so Grasmere Parish Magazine needs someone to take over as editors!

The job involves a few hours work every 2 months. We have an extensive list of magazine contacts so whoever takes over will be up and running in no time.

Please email editor@oswaldparish.news or phone 0300 1212587 for more details.

Paul and Kay Adkins

Thankyou!

Now we are hopefully emerging from the pandemic we are beginning to revisit our Church Rotas. Firstly, thankyou to those who help with the Church Cleaning and the Flowers. Secondly, thankyou to those who have come forward as Sidesmen to say a word of welcome on Sunday mornings. The new rota for June and July is below. Thirdly, if you would like to read one of the Lessons on a Sunday morning please have a word with David - contact information on the inside back page. *David*

ROTAS FOR ST.OSWALD'S CHURCH

	Sidesmen / women
5th Jun	Sonia and John Rickman
12th Jun	Trevor and Helen Eastes
19th Jun	Ann and David Jackman
26th Jun	June Maddison, David Dodgson
3rd Jul	Ann Fawthrop, Pat Taylor
10th Jul	Sonia and John Rickman
17th Jul	Trevor and Helen Eastes
24th Jul	Ann and David Jackman
31st Jul	June Maddison, David Dodgson
7th Aug	Ann Fawthrop, Pat Taylor

Supporting Ukraine

On the 8th May Grasmere held a Bingo night at the Village Hall to raise money for Ukraine.

Locals and Grasmere Businesses came to the call by donating all the Bingo and Tombola prizes, volunteers baked delicious cakes and made ribbons in the Ukraine colours.

A truck load of Grasmereians turned up to play and made fantastic donations. We had a trouper who not only called but also organised the Tombola. Various other helpers sold tickets, served teas and coffee, took photos, and the Trustees of the Hall gave it free on the night! All in all the joint effort raised £1250.00 !!

Thank you, everyone. *Sharon Savasi*

Ambleside Brownies



Ambleside Brownies continue their 100th birthday celebrations. There will be a Trefoil Trail round Grasmere from mid-June till September. We will be asking shops etc. to display a yellow Trefoil, and the trail sheets will be available for £2 from the Post Office. When a sheet is completed a badge celebrating 100 years of Brownies will be given back, and a prize draw will take place in September.

The trail will be on the Herdy Facebook page and will start in early June after the Jubilee and will run all summer.

Any ex-Leaders or Brownies are invited to an afternoon tea at the Guide Hut on Saturday 24th September from 2pm till 4pm. Anyone wanting to come should contact amblesidebrownies@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 07792 861020. *Kath Travis*



I'm struggling to stay on top of my household bills, my weekly food shop is getting much more expensive and now my energy bill is going up too. I don't know how I'm going to afford all these price rises. What can I do?

First of all, you are not alone in this and there's support to help you. It's always worth checking if there are benefits you don't know you're eligible for, including support with your energy costs and living costs. On the Citizens Advice website there's a benefits calculator, advice on how to reduce living costs and information on other ways to increase your income.

There's also emergency support that you may have access to, such as food bank vouchers or fuel vouchers. You could also contact your local council to see if they could offer support.

If you're struggling to stay on top of bills, it's really important to understand what money you have coming in and going out each month. Citizens Advice has a budgeting tool on its website that can help with this.

And if you're already behind on bills, prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, energy bills and Council Tax first. Not paying these bills has the most serious consequences. You should speak to the person or company you owe money to, to see if they can help you repay your bills sustainably.

We know that times are incredibly tough but please remember, you don't have to face this alone. Contact South Lakes Citizens Advice on 015394 46464 to help you find a way forward.

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 – 12.00***
- Adviceline: 03444 111444***
- email advice via our website www.southlakescab.org.uk***
- Help to Claim (Universal Support): 0800 144 8 444***

Rushbearing

Rushbearing in its present form goes back in Grasmere to the 1840s. The tradition though is much older and probably dates back to pre-Christian festivals.

In pre-Reformation times, the floors of churches were of soil, and rushes were used as a covering. To keep the atmosphere of the church fragrant, fresh rushes were laid on the floor at the Rushbearing on St. Oswald's Day (5th August) and at regular intervals. The church floor was raised and flagged in 1841 and the practical necessity of rushbearing was thus removed. However the ceremonies associated with it live on.

The rushes and reeds are collected from around the village in the days leading up to Rushbearing and a hard-working team bind the rushes tightly round their frames of the Bearings.

The traditional bearings include the Gold Cross, a processional cross decorated with gold flowers which leads the procession; "Levavi Oculos ('I will lift up mine eyes', the first words of Psalm 121, which is sometimes called the Grasmere Psalm!), "Cantate Domino" ('O sing unto the Lord', the opening words of Psalm 98), St. Oswald 642, the date when the Christian King Oswald was killed in battle, the Maypole, and the Serpent, reminding us of Satan bound for all time. Other Traditional Bearings include Harp, Lyre, Prince of Wales Feathers, Celtic Cross, Hoops and Circles (symbols of eternity).

The rush maidens in their green and white dresses carry the linen Rush Sheet with rushes, reeds and flowers sewn onto the linen. The procession is led by Processional Cross, woven with golden flowers, followed by seven of the Traditional Bearings, Choir, Clergy and Churchwardens, next comes St. Oswald's Banner and then the Rush Maidens with the Rush Sheet. Then comes the Band and more colourful home-made bearings.

The floor of the Church is thick with fragrant green rushes. The Bearings are placed near the altar rails and between the archways of the Langdale Aisle and the Church is packed to the doors for the service with its special hymns and prayers.

A painting by Frank Bramley R.A. was purchased for the village in 1913 and hangs in Grasmere Village Hall. It shows the Rush-Maidens carrying their sheet in the Procession. All the figures represented are portraits of Grasmere people.

© Cameron Butland 2013

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

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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

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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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