# Grasmere Parish Magazine



April - May 2023

#### 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 by each item and the views expressed are those of the author. The Magazine is produced by St Oswald's PCC on behalf of the community and the Editors and PCC reserve the right to use their discretion in finalising the content. View the website <a href="https://oswaldparish.news">https://oswaldparish.news</a> for our policy and copyright notices.

#### **Copy Date**

Copy date for the June-July magazine is 18th May

Please email your copy to the Editors at: editor@oswaldparish.news

Copy should be submitted in Word usually in Calibri 11pt A5 size

Past editions are available on our website: https://oswaldparish.news

#### Advertising in the Magazine

Yearly rates for single column ads up to 2" in the back pages. We can also take half-page ads in the main pages of individual issues. Colour printing is an option. If you would like to advertise, please contact the Editors.

The Editors are Ann and David Jackman. Apologies in advance for any errors or omissions.

#### From the Vicarage:

#### Christ is Risen!...

#### and not just because I say so

There was a time when calling someone 'discriminating' was to pay them a compliment. In other words, we commended such people for having good judgement. Nowadays, being discriminating has taken on a different and largely negative meaning. The same is true of the word 'indoctrinate'. Once upon a time it simply meant 'to teach or instruct'; whereas now it carries unhelpful overtones of coercion and restricting peoples' freedom of thought.

This change in meaning has had interesting consequences. Because we fear appearing negative, many Christians have, I believe become wary of using the word 'doctrine'. Instead of referring to the truths of the faith, we have come to locate faith in the realm of subjective experience and personal conviction.

The upshot is that when we speak of 'my truth' we have come to assume that the 'truths' of the faith have validity only as far as they appeal or make sense to me. It's just my opinion.

But this is challenged when we come to consider the events of Holy Week and Easter. As the Gospel writers show, the fundamentals of Christian faith are rooted in historical events, not the subjective, wishful thinking of wellmeaning individuals.

So, we might say that what Christians announce is true not because of what has happened inside us but because of what happened outside Jerusalem two thousand years ago. The Gospel writers tell us that in that betrayal, execution and empty tomb, all of history reached its fundamental turning point. This is, as one writer put it, 'the day the revolution began'.

A demonstration of God's love? Yes. A place of forgiveness? Yes. The defeat of evil? Yes. Through all that Christ did on the cross, God's remaking of the world (and us) has begun and Easter calls us to get on board.

Christ is Risen! Happy Easter! David



#### **HOLY WEEK**

#### PALM SUNDAY 2nd April

9.30am Holy Communion & Blessing of Palms St. Mary's Rydal
 11.00am Holy Communion & Blessing of Palms St. Oswald's
 7.00pm Taize Prayer St. Mary's Rydal

#### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

6th April

6.30pm Holy Communion St. Oswald`s

GOOD FRIDAY 7th April

11.00am Prayers at the Cross in St. Oswald's with Procession to Moss Parrock

12.00pm Prayers at the Cross at Moss Parrock & Village Band

EASTER DAY 9th April

9.30am Easter Day Celebration at St. Mary's Rydal

11.00am Easter Day Celebration



Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and all who are in authority under him; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless, we pray, Camilla the Queen Consort, William Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family.

Endue them with your Holy Spirit; enrich them with your heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to your everlasting kingdom;

Gracious God, in company with our King,
we rededicate ourselves to your service.
Take our minds and think through them,
take our lips and speak through them,
take our hearts and set them on fire
with love for you and your kingdom;
that here we may have your peace,
and in the world to come may see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Music Notes**

There is a welcome resumption of musical activities as we move into Spring, with both local choral societies having important concerts.

Keswick Choral Society will be in St John's Church on April 22<sup>nd</sup> with music by Fauré, Elgar and others. Ambleside Choral Society, a week later, will sing works by Beethoven and Rutter. For obvious reasons, both choirs will also include Handel's Coronation Anthem 'Zadok the Priest'.

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 4.00 p.m. Music at Grasmere will come back to life with a fund-raising concert in aid of the organ renovation fund. This will feature alto soloist Victoria Taylor, whose forebears donated the organ in 1923.

The organ is making good progress; Nicholson's have already returned two consignments of pipes which have been cleaned and regulated. The re-assembly of the whole instrument is expected to begin in due course. *Ian Hare* 

#### **QUIET DAY AT RYDAL HALL**

Saturday 1st April 2023 9.30am - 4.00pm

Theme: Consider Him - `Entering into Holy Week`

Leader: Revd David Wilmot

Quiet Days are free of charge but Donations are welcome. Booking is required please. Tea / Coffee provided. You are welcome to bring a Packed Lunch or, alternatively, you may wish to visit our Tea shop. Free Car Parking: permit

available from Reception.

Tel: 015394 32050 Email: mail@rydalhall.org





On **2**<sup>nd</sup> **April at 7.00pm at St. Mary's in Rydal**, we shall hold our monthly Taizé Prayer: evening prayer for Christians of all traditions. It is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence around and within us. Mantra songs (such as "Jesus, Remember Me"), prayerful silence and short readings guide the focus of the prayer in a candle-lit environment. The Service lasts about 45 minutes.

Taizé Prayer is named for the ecumenical Christian community formed in Taizé, France, during World War II. Today the Taizé community includes brothers from all Christian denominations including Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox traditions (The Next Service will be on 7<sup>th</sup> May).

#### Sidesman Rota for St Oswald's Church

02-04-23 Sonia and John Rickman

09-04-23 Ann Fawthrop and Pat Taylor

16-04-23 Trevor and Helen Eastes

23-04-23 Ann and David Jackman

30-04-23 Don Perritt and David Dodgson

07-05-23 Sonia and John Rickman

14-05-23 Ann Fawthrop and Pat Taylor

21-05-23 Trevor and Helen Eastes

28-05-23 Ann and David Jackman

04-06-23 Don Perritt and David Dodgson

#### **Sunday Church Services**

Unless otherwise mentioned in the calendar, Church Services are as follows:

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary`s Rydal
11.00am Sunday Celebration at St. Oswald's
Taize Prayer is every first Sunday at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Rydal





Please join us at the St George's Day Parish Meal

**ALL WELCOME** 

23rd April 2023

1PM

The Village Hall

Tickets from Barney's from 1st April
BYOB

**NO CHARGE - DONATIONS WELCOME** 



# **Grasmere Rushbearing 2023**

Following on from the success of last year, we are looking forward to Rush bearing 2023 which will be held on:

#### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>July

We are looking for volunteers to help in both the run up to the event and with the wrapping of bearings. The church will be open for this on **July 6**<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> & the morning of July 8<sup>th</sup>.

As always we appreciate business support. We also would like to encourage businesses to decorate their windows as they have in recent years.

We will have prizes for the best bearings and best pram.

If you want to help in any way or have any questions in the run up to this year's event please do not hesitate to get in touch. More details to follow.

**Grasmere Rushbearing Committee** 

Amy, Charlotte, Will 07435596596 or 01539435070 or will\_clark@hotmail.com

# **Grasmere and Cumbria**Weather: January 2023

With the majority of rainfall sites in Cumbria having over 90% of their final monthly rainfall in the first fourteen days of the month, January, just like December, was the proverbial month of two halves.



Atlantic depressions on a daily basis swept across Cumbria, bringing heavy spells of persistent rain for the first fortnight. Many stations recorded over 50 mm. of rain on the 10th. the wettest day of the month. On the 14th. a deep low with very active fronts crossed Cumbria bringing down trees and blowing over lorries on the M6. This depression, however, proved to be the last of the month and colder, northerly winds became dominant, pushing south across Cumbria. 16.42 inches were recorded in Grasmere up to the 15th. On the 16th we actually saw the sun, although night time temperatures dipped to minus 6 degrees Celsius on the 17th. Frosty days followed with sunshine at times and snow above 800 ft. By the 23rd. a large area of high pressure covered the UK and much of Western Europe, leading to a lengthy spell of quiet weather that persisted until the end of the month. A cold front moved south on the 28th. but pressure quickly built again and the dry, cold weather continued.

Mean temperatures in January were above average with the cold spell in the 3rd. week, being more than balanced by the very mild first half. Rainfall amounts were well above normal, although all this rain fell before the 17th. 32% of the wind frequency was from the south west.

Wettest January day 10th. 76.3mm. (3.0 in.). Jan. rain days 25. Last year 17. Total rain for month 452.6 mm. (17.82 in.). Last year 5.12in.

# February 2023

A dry month. The month began with a north westerly airflow, bringing showers on the first five days. A frost on the 6th. brought



brief sun, but the 7th. became overcast, raw, with drizzle at times. Pressure rose from the 8th. but dark, drizzly days followed, caused by the anticyclonic gloom. These conditions carried on for much of the month until the 23rd. when a cloudless sky brought a shock to the system with welcome sunshine. The wind then veered north east, bringing light showers and brief sunshine until the end of the month. On the night of the 27th. with a barometric pressure of 1028mbs. there was a spectacular display of the aurora borealis, even counties in southern Britain saw it. But here in cloudy Grasmere the pleasure was denied. Overall, in England, it has been the driest first 3 weeks of the month for 30 years. Here it was the driest Feb. for 13 years. The driest Feb. since 1890 was in 1932, when only a meagre 0.11 in. was noted.

Wettest Feb. day 17th. 30.5mm. 1.20 in. Feb. rain days 20. Last year 22. Rain days to date 45. Last year 43. Total for month 113.5 mm. 4.47in. Last year 18.21 in.

Total for year to date 566.1 mm. 22.29in. Last year 23.42 in.

Looking forward to hearing the first cuckoo!!

Peter Bailey







#### A CORONATION CELEBRATION PARTY







#### GRASMERE VILLAGE HALL

TICKET INCLUDES LIVE MUSIC FROM ACROSS
THE DECADES, DANCING & SUPPER
BYO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & GLASSES

# TICKETS £15 AVAILABLE FROM BARNEYS NEWSBOX



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#### What's on at Wordsworth Grasmere

Thank you to all who have visited our new exhibition so far. The exhibition, 'To the Lakes!', explores the experience of visiting the Lakes during the lifetimes of William and Dorothy Wordsworth. The exhibition is open until the end of the year and entry to the exhibition, as well as Dove Cottage and the Museum, is free to Grasmere residents and employees of Grasmere businesses. We are currently open from 10am to 4pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

Join us this Spring for free family fun activities. In Easter week, on 4 April from 10.30am-12.30pm, come and get creative with ways to help wildlife thrive with **Biodiversity and the Wordsworths**.

Celebrate **Earth Day** on 22 April from 10.30am-1.30pm and take part in trails, craft critters, create cyanotypes and make some insect and animal friendly habitats.

On 31 May drop into the Learning Space between 10.30am and 12.30pm for some spring half-term 'Make and Play' family activities. These activities are designed for families with children of all ages.

**Little Wanderers**, our creative play sessions for under 5s, takes place on Friday mornings from 10.15-11.15am. These free sessions are funded by Grasmere School.

Join us from 12-14 May for a three-day **Wood Engraving Course** with Master Wood Engraver Chris Daunt and printmaker and engraver Carole Thirlaway. The course is themed around the works of wood engraver Thomas Bewick and poet William Wordsworth and their relationships with the natural world. Participants will produce a completed wood engraving, spend time sketching in the gardens around Dove Cottage, and draw inspiration from incredible historic objects in the museum and archive. This course is suitable for both beginners and improvers.

On 3 June Wordsworth Grasmere and the Grasmere Village Hall Trustees will present **The Dreamtime Fellrunner**, a performance by poet and fellrunner Dr Julie Carter. This event will take place at Grasmere Village Hall – look out for posters and follow us on social media for booking information nearer to the time.

The next events in 'Go to the poets, they will speak to thee', poetry reading hosted online by Kim Moore, will take place on 19 April and 17 May. Keep an eye on our website and social media for further announcements about the headline poets for both events.

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

For more information and to find out how to book a place at any of these events and groups, please visit **wordsworth.org.uk** 

Hannah Catterall, Events Officer, Wordsworth Grasmere

#### Negotiating a Cultural Landscape

The next in the series will take place on:

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm.

Professor Sally Bushell (Lancaster University) will give a talk on:

'Arthur Ransome and the Lake District as PlaySpace'

The event will take place in the Percival Lecture Theatre (Langdale Building) at the University of Cumbria's Ambleside campus.

Free to attend but tickets must be booked at www.eventbrite.co.uk

# Grasmere Parish Councillors Drop in Session



Following feedback from our first Parish Council drop in session we were pleased how many additional organisations that contribute to village life could join us for our second event on March 4th. As with the first event there was much opportunity to socialise and meet faces new and old.

We were fortunate to have with us Cumbria Housing Trust, Dove Cottage & Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere Church, Grasmere Food Bank, Grasmere Rushbearing, Grasmere Village Society, Grasmere WI, Probus, The Lake District National Park and The National Trust.

Discussion included potholes, flooding, food banks, footpaths, planning, speed limits and the events and groups we are lucky to have in Grasmere.

If you were at the event, thanks for coming to support us, if not it would be great to see you next time. If you are interested in having a table in future please get in touch. We hope many of you enjoyed the morning and think that we can build on this event . So pencil in the diary the  $23^{\rm rd}$  of September 2023 for the next event of this type.

# **Grasmere Village Hall**

Grasmere Village Hall is delighted to be hosting some fabulous events during the next couple of months. The regular Wednesday morning **Warm Spot** Coffee & Chat sessions (10.00-12.30) will continue until the end of April, although there will be no session on 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> April due to the Cumbria Local Arts exhibition.

Wednesday 5 – Sunday 16 April: Exhibition by the Cumbria Local Arts group.

**Sunday 23 April**: Parish Lunch. See separate entry for details. All welcome!

**Wednesday 26 April, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm**: Table-top sale, as part of the regular Wednesday morning Warm Spot Coffee & Chat. Table charge: £10 in aid of Grasmere Rushbearing. If you would like to reserve a table Tel: 015394 35628 or email enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk

**Friday 28 April, 7.00 pm:** Murder Mystery evening! Play a character part and work in a team to solve an intriguing murder mystery. The murderer could even be you! Tickets £15 must be bought in advance. Contact Sharon or Pam or email enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk or tel: 015394 35628 to book and choose your character part.

**Saturday 6 May, 7.30 pm: A Coronation Celebration Party**. Tickets £15, from Barney's Newsbox. Includes live music, dancing and supper. See full page ad.

**Saturday 3 June**: Wordsworth Grasmere and Grasmere Village Hall present "The Dreamtime Fellrunner", a performance by poet & fellrunner Dr Julie Carter. Booking information to follow nearer the time.

Following the popularity of last year's events, we will be bringing you some further entertainment from the Highlights Rural Touring Scheme. Tickets are available from www.highlightsnorth.co.uk These are:

- Sunday 2 April, 7.30 pm: "Happy Place", Forget About the Dog theatre company - a comedy play. Tickets £10.
- Sunday 14 May, 7.30 pm: "The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon", Ragged Edge Productions a comedy with participation. Tickets £10.
- Wednesday 24 May, 10.00 am: "Wings of Wire" wire sculpture workshop. Tickets £45.

## **Grasmere Sports 2023**

As the weather improves, we are looking forward to welcoming events and rallies back to the Sports Field for the season. We are pleased that the recent drainage projects have greatly improved the appearance of the fields and water management in the area.

The Directors are pleased to invite applications for the Pete Bland Bursary – they will be awarding £500 to support local junior fell runners and details can be found on the website www.grasmeresports.com

The Directors also donated a total of £600 to the C&W Wrestling academies at Carlisle, Wabberthwaite and Kendal to support the training of up and coming junior wrestlers.

Plans are now well in place for this year's Sports which will be held on **Sunday 27**<sup>th</sup> **August 2023**. There will be lots for everyone to see and take part in. There will be music from Fat Cat Brass and Badman Soul, bikes for all ages to try out and the traditional elements of fell races, Cumberland and Westmorland wrestling and hound trails. A truly family day out!

After being introduced in 2022, there will again be 'Early-bird' tickets available online from  $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$  to  $\mathbf{30}^{\text{th}}$  June only. Designed for villagers, these 'Early-bird' tickets are great value at £9 for adults and £3 for children.

After  $1^{st}$  July tickets will go to the regular prices of £12 and £5 with a family ticket available for £28, online only till Sat  $26^{th}$  August. Tickets will also be available on the day at £15 and £5.

The Manager can be contacted at manager@grasmeresports.com for any enquiries regarding the Sports.

Deborah Black



#### **Great North Air Ambulance Service Update**

The next clothing collection will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April Please keep clearing, sorting and donating!

You can drop bags in Will's carport or by my garage door anytime, or at Ambleside Parish Centre on April  $4^{\rm th}$  7pm - 9pm and April  $5^{\rm th}$  10am - 12pm

Your donations since last September have now raised over £4250.00

I will be selling toys, children's books, children's clothes at a Tabletop Sale in aid of GNAAS at Grasmere Village Hall April 26<sup>th</sup> 10.00 – 12.30.

Thank you for your continued support. Angela Clark 07548251235

#### **Coffee and Chat**

Our Warm Spot, held in Grasmere Village Hall each Wednesday morning, has given the opportunity for residents and visitors alike, come rain and freezing weather, to get together for some very interesting chit chats.



The Wordsworth Trust organised activities, both the Quill and homemade Ink writing, where one or two lovely poems were created, and the watercolour painting morning were enjoyed and appreciated.

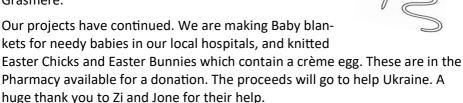
March was supposed to be the last of these Wednesday Mornings, however, we are lucky to be also booked in for two Wednesdays in April 19th and the 26th. On the 26th we are holding a Table Top Sale. Each table (these can be shared) cost £10.00, bring whatever you like and for anything you sell you keep the proceeds. Table charges will go to The Grasmere Rushbearing fund.

Hope to see you on the 19th April. Please contact me to reserve a table.

Sharon Savasi 07957073255

#### **Knit and Nat**

Our Knit and Nat group are still meeting on the Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month in the Reading rooms, Grasmere.



Please join us for a cuppa and a chat from 2pm - 4pm where you will be made most welcome.

Sharon Savasi

# **Support Group**



For People with Dementia, Carers, Families and Friends

**Ambleside Parish Centre** 

**Next Meetings:** 

Tuesday 18th April and Tuesday 16th May
10.00am – 12.00 noon

Come along for a coffee and a chat

Details: 015394 34172 admin@amblesidepc.org.uk

# **Calendar APRIL 2023**

1 2	Saturday PALM SUNDAY	Quiet Day Church Service		Rydal Hall See Page 5
		Happy Place Theatre Production	7.30pm	Village Hall
5	Wednesday	Art Exhibition	Daily until 16 <sup>th</sup>	Village Hall
6	MAUNDY THURSDAY	Church Service		See Page 5
7	GOOD FRIDAY	Church Service Procession to Moss Parrock		See Page 5
9	EASTER SUNDAY	Church service		See Page 5
11	Tuesday	Knit and Nat	2pm	Reading Room
13	Thursday	Grasmere W.I.	2pm	Wordsworth Learning
16	Second Sun. of Easter	Church Service		
19	Wednesday	Coffee and Chat	10am-12	Village Hall Warm Spot
23	Sunday	Church Service Parish Meal	1pm	See Page 5 Village Hall
26	Wednesday	Table Top Sale	10am	Village Hall
28	Friday	Murder Mystery Evening	7.00pm	Village Hall
29	Saturday	Ambleside Choral	7.30pm	St Mary's
30	Third Sunday of Easter	Church Service		See Page 5

# **Calendar MAY 2023**

1	Monday	Bank Holiday		
6	Saturday	CORONATION		Celebrations to be confirmed
		<b>Coronation Party</b>	7.30pm	Village Hall
7	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Church Service		See Page 5
9	Tuesday	Knit and Nat	2pm	Reading Room
11	Thursday	W.I.	2pm	Wordsworth Learning Centre
14	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Church Service		See Page 5
	pm	The Mystery of Blue Moon Saloon	7.30pm	Village Hall
21	Seventh Sun- day of Easter	Church Service		See Page 5
		Concert	4pm	St Oswald's
23	Tuesday	Knit and Nat	2pm	Reading Room
24	Wednesday	Wings of Wire	10am	Village Hall
28	Pentecost Sunday	Church Service		See Page 5
3 JUNE	Saturday	GRASMERE GALLOP		

# **Grasmere Village Society**

In the last issue I said that I was looking forward to the snowdrops and daffodils that herald Spring. What I hadn't bargained for was the snow, torrential rain and freezing temperatures that accompanied them. This is why we love Grasmere so much and no major disasters befell us, although we now have the village emergency plan in place to cover such an eventuality.

The Society held a very successful and well attended AGM and cheese and wine party in the Village Hall on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The healthy numbers may be a reflection of the latter part of the evening, but in any case a good time was had by all.

We are always keen to increase the membership and if you would like to join or are not sure about your membership status please contact the secretary, Simon Hey.

Grasmere now has a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, set up on the back of the Grasmere Emergency Plan. The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme provides free indemnity insurance for any persons acting as volunteers under the Emergency Plan and brings many other benefits to the community. I would like to invite everyone to join the Scheme (it is free to join) and this can be done online using the following link:

https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/scheme/170049/grasmere-neighbourhood-watch.

If there are any questions or difficulties with this, please contact Simon Hey who is the Grasmere coordinator (simonhey4@gmail.com; 015394 35067; mob 07785 920316).

Nick McCraith (Chairman)





### Allan Bank

With Spring on the horizon, we are getting ready for our 'Easter Adventures' festival and we hope you will be able to join us.

The house and gardens have been well rested over winter and we are now looking forward to our beautiful spring daffodils, crocuses, and the sweeping bluebells adding a touch of colour to the grounds. Our tea and coffee are available, and we will always have a spot with a view for a picnic!

Easter trail and activities will be on 7<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> of April, with daily Easter Bonnet parades happening throughout the week.

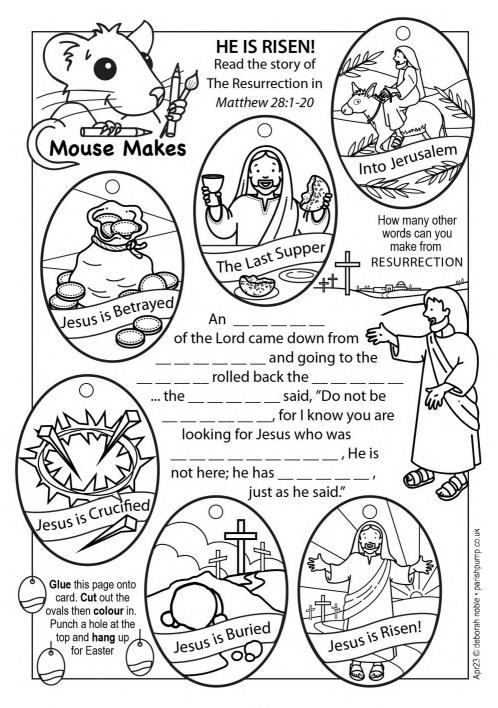
On the 13<sup>th</sup> April we have performances throughout the day by the Furness Morris Dancers, who will be dancing and performing the traditional Easter Pace Egg Play of Cumbria. If you are looking for some crafting inspiration, we have plenty of activities for all ages, ranging from Easter Bonnets and card making to wild art.

If you enjoy listening to Harp Music we have regular performances by Harps North West. Join us on the 28th April and the 30th May from 11am,

On May 12th and 21st we are running a Lino Cut workshop, Please check the National Trust website for more details:https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/lake-district/allan-bank-and-grasmere

Don't forget that if you live in Grasmere you are entitled to free house and gardens entry; simply bring proof of your address when you come to visit and we will provide you with a pass. We look forward to welcoming you!

Alia Cruz Welcome Manager



#### **Grasmere Book Group**

Our first book of 2023 was Monica Dickens' semi-autobiographical novel *My Turn to Make the Tea*, originally published in 1951. Set just after the second world war, it's the story of a young woman nicknamed Poppy who is attempting to make it as a junior reporter on a regional newspaper, the Downingham Post. Many felt the book was of its time and that not much happened, but for others that was the joy of it. Great detail about court proceedings, and work on 'the BD and Ms' or Birth, Death and Marriage announcements provides some gentle comedy but there are darker and grittier moments too.

In March we read Elizabeth Strout's fifth novel, the Booker longlisted *My Name is Lucy Barton* (2016). The first book in a sequence featuring the character Lucy Barton, some had read later books or titles in her parallel series featuring Olive Kitteridge. Again, the group were divided, but not unhappily. Different ideas about the novel made for brilliant conversations about what we look for in a book. Recollections of Lucy convalescing in a New York hospital, and reconnecting with her mother made sad reading for some, but others saw parallels to life and traces of hope. There was also strong praise for reading a short, well-paced novel that was, crucially, well presented and well typeset. Top marks to the publisher, Penguin.

Our next meetings and books are:

APRIL 13<sup>th</sup> – Lee Schofield, Wild Fell (2022)

MAY 11<sup>th</sup> – Arkady Martine, A Memory Called Empire (2019)

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 and do feel free to join in. Members often join in from Easedale to Ottawa and from Hawkshead to Kendal.

A reminder, all book group books are available from Sam Read's at 10% discount off the r.r.p.

Polly and Will - dr.will.smith@me.com

# **Grasmere Red Squirrels**

Reds: Unfortunately, we had a case of squirrelpox at Brackenfell on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February. PLEASE BE VIGILANT AND EXAMINE THE FACES OF REDS AND WHETHER THEY APPEAR LETHARGIC - REPORT ANY REDS SUSPECTED OF POX TO US IMMEDIATELY. Overall our population of reds is doing well in most areas of Grasmere. This year there has been activity right in the centre of the village with reds building a drey on the Riverside walk and they have been active in Butherlyp How.

Greys: 2023 has started extremely badly with record numbers of greys arriving in January and February, mostly over Red Bank. Added to that they have brought squirrelpox to the reds. IF YOU SEE A GREY (or a sickly looking red) ANYWHERE AROUND GRASMERE PLEASE <u>TELL US IMMEDIATELY</u> with an exact description of the location and the time it was seen — Don't leave it till tomorrow!

Text our 2 Rangers: David Birkett on 07775 904236 or Text Stuart Dickson 07980 893459, Phone Trevor Cooper on 015394 35502, Jane Cooper 35589 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.

We can accept online donations by Debit and Credit cards via our Paypal account https://www.paypal.com/donate/?

hosted\_button\_id=NMWH9FQLN77MQ and our PayPal Giving Fund can accept payments from your Paypal account https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/4390415

There are collection boxes in the village shops and we can accept Direct bank transfers. Do send your red squirrel stories and photos to Sam Dixon at Grasmereredsquirrels@gmail.com or message her via Facebook Messenger. Follow us on Social Media: Facebook @GrasmereReds; Instagram @grasmereredsquirrels Twitter @GrasmereRed

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

Stewart Sutcliffe Grasmere Red Squirrel Group Charity number 1197379

#### **Grasmere WI News**

Our speaker in February was Trevor Cooper. His excellent illustrated talk about Grasmere Red Squirrels was very popular.

In March our speaker was Lisa Bennett, a remarkable woman, Chair of Westmorland Agricultural Society. We were interested to hear of the wide range of activities they provide in addition to the famous County Show. Impressive!

We also held our AGM. Sue Dixon retired as President after over 4 years, and Louise Sykes was elected as our new President. Diane Adams is our new Secretary, Mel Miles remains as Treasurer. Lin Allen, Mary Bass, Jane Caven, Jennifer Hardisty, Myra McCraith, Jill Morrison and Pat Taylor were re-elected to the Committee, joined by Sue Dixon and new Committee members, Jacky Godfrey and Angela Oldfield.

Our Speaker on 13 April is Eileen Jones. Her topic is "How Parkrun changed our Lives" Eileen's second Parkrun book has just been published. She's an excellent speaker and author!

We're also holding our plant swap at the April meeting. Bring plants to swap, or just buy some. There will be a small charge for plants towards our St Mary's Hospice fund (we've raised over £27,000 since February 2021!) We have a special fundraiser for St Mary's on 4 May- see page 30

At our 11 May meeting Vicky Robinson's topic is "Wings to Fly: The story of the Theatre by the Lake"

NB: April and May meetings are at The Learning Space at the Wordsworth Trust (not Village Hall) 2pm as usual.

There's lots happening with our events and outings programme. In March we enjoyed a Boat and Walk Day on Windermere. In May we have a day out in Edinburgh by train. In June we have a trip to Hawkshead Relish, and In August we're off to Southport Flower Show.

We also have our monthly book group at Allan Bank, our Art Group and our monthly rambles - so much going on!

We have over 50 members, but new members are always very welcome. Subs for the year from April are just £46.

I'd just like to add my personal thanks to the committee and all our lovely members for their support, friendship, enthusiasm and the fun we've shared over my time as President. GWI is in great hands with Louise and the new team . GWI are a wonderful group of Inspiring Women! Sue Dixon



Sue Dixon retiring President welcomes the incoming President Louise Sykes

#### **Postscript**

On behalf of all the members of Grasmere WI, I would like to say a huge thank you to Sue for all her amazing work as President over the past four and a half years.

Sue successfully guided GWI through the pandemic and has been a great driver and supporter behind all our key initiatives and events. Under Sue's leadership and wisdom GWI has thrived.

In the true spirit of the WI, you have been a very inspirational President for us. Thank you Sue!

Louise Sykes

# **LADIES' NIGHT**

THURSDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> MAY.
7 FOR 7.30 pm
THE WORDSWORTH HOTEL



# BURLESQUE, ME AND THE WI WITH LINDSEY BARRELL,

(MISS CHERRY BOMBE)

# **TICKETS £10**

**BUCK'S FIZZ ON ARRIVAL** 

BOTTLE TOMBOLA (DONATIONS WELCOME)
RAFFLE NAME THE BURLESQUE BEAR
PRIZE FOR THE BEST

**BURLESQUE ACCESSORY OR COSTUME** 

Tickets from: myramccraith@aol.com 01539435659 /07759510852

#### **Grasmere Community Food Bank**

Grasmere Community Food Bank is now working with Ambleside Parish Centre Community Food Club to provide much needed support for families within our area. We are extremely grateful to all who donate regularly both at the Co-op and the Pharmacy. In the last few months, we have seen an increased demand as household bills are rising and, to be honest, our stocks are depleting.

**So how might you help?** By continuing to donate food items at Grasmere Coop and Pharmacy. Or by donating money so that we can supplement food parcels with fresh produce and buy store cupboard items. Ambleside Parish Centre is a charity and donations can be made directly to them if anyone would like their bank details.

If you are struggling or feel that you could do with a bit of help please don't feel awkward or embarrassed - just get in touch , either by contacting the lovely Laura Firth at Ambleside Parish Centre or by calling Will or myself. Every enquiry is confidential. We are here to help; we are here for everyone. Thank you to all our supporters who make a difference week on week.

Angela Clark 07548251235 Will Clark 07435595596 Laura Firth

34172

#### **Ambleside and District Choral Society**

The Choral Society have chosen the impressive Beethoven Mass in C as the major work for its concert on



#### Saturday April 29th at 7.30pm, in Ambleside Parish Church.

This will be conducted by its Musical Director, Marco Giudici with soloists Rachel Little, Sarah Jillian Cox, Christopher Steele and Paul InIm Thurn, and the twenty-strong Lonsdale Ensemble.

By complete contrast, John Rutter's suite of traditional English folk-song settings, 'A Sprig of Thyme', captures glimpses of life in times past, from the joys of springtime to the poignancy of lost love. However, no concert now could end without Georg Frederic Handel's popular and uplifting Coronation Anthem, 'Zadok the Priest', as we join in celebration of our new King.

Tickets £15 (under 21s £7) including a glass of wine, children under 12 free Tickets on the door or from Fred's Bookshop, Ambleside, or Choir members



#### LAKES PARISH COUNCIL

Lakes Parish Council is back! Continuing working 'behind the scenes' during a long Covid break, we are now back contributing to local newsletters on a bi-annual basis. We have been very

busy in the interim dealing with major local government reorganisation, a new website, welcoming new co-opted members, scrutinising hundreds of planning applications and much more all of which has involved us in many meetings.

From the 1st of April 2023, South Lakeland Council and Cumbria County Council will no longer exist, instead, they are being replaced by a new Unitary Council called Westmorland and Furness. We will be celebrating the King's Coronation by gifting an engraved 'golden' coin to all the children in primary school within Lakes Parish. The Council will also be donating £200 per Ward to any association organising a celebration of this historic event.

We are working hard to obtain representation on the new group called 'Love Windermere' that is managed by the Environment Agency. Lakes PC considers it vital that the local voice is heard.

If you want to get updates straight to your inbox about events, road closures and weather warnings subscribe to www.lakesparish.co.uk

On our website, you can also find your local Ward Councillors, Agendas, Minutes and much more. The Council Office has moved from the Ambleside Library to Low Nook, University of Cumbria, Ambleside Campus, Rydal Road. Please contact to Clerk to arrange a face-to-face or digital meeting. E-mail: clerk@lakesparish.co.uk Tel: 015394 30350 or Mobile: 07442382067.

The new 4-year term for Councillors is fast approaching. If you think that you have the time and can contribute to your local community then please come and speak to the Clerk in confidence or a serving Councillor and request a nomination pack



The Ranger team for Langdale and Grasmere have been busy with the final tree planting for the season. We have been installing tree cages at Loughrigg and replanting areas where we lost Larch trees to the disease Phytophthora Ramorum.

The Easedale off-road footpath leading to Allan Bank has been upgraded to a Miles without Stiles route and a section through Burtharlyp How has also had improvements made to the footpath surface. This was made possible with funding from the County Council, National Park, and Grasmere Village Society. It will form part of a wider accessible route around the village. There are still a few finishing touches to be made and signage to be added.

The start of our invasives season is upon us where we will be out in the area controlling American Skunk Cabbage, American Raspberry and later in the season Himalayan Balsam. You may see the Ranger boat taking trips over to Grasmere Island where we also keep on top of our invasives, mainly American Raspberry and have been tackling Rhododendron.

We always welcome new volunteers, if you would like to get involved in your local area, please get in contact: Ranger Office: 015394 37623

Laura Whittaker – Area Ranger



#### Friends of Guiding in Ambleside

are looking for a

#### **Treasurer and Secretary**

to join the volunteer team to administrate the meeting hut.

For more information contact Kath Tel 07792861020 or

email:

amblesidefriendsofguiding@hotmail.co.uk

#### **Keswick Choral Spring Concert 2023**

The town's long-established Keswick Choral Society is looking forward to its annual Spring concert, to take place on 22 April.

This year the Society has chosen a programme of popular choral classics.

The forthcoming coronation of King Charles III is to be marked by a performance of "Zadok the Priest", the stirring anthem composed by Handel for the coronation of 1727 and sung at all coronations since.

The very popular "Requiem" by Gabriel Fauré will be particularly welcomed by some as an opportunity to meditate on the difficulties and losses caused by the Covid pandemic, and to consider our recovery from it.

Edward Elgar's vigorous large-scale anthem "Give Unto the Lord" is powerfully expressive and its wide dynamic range will be enhanced by the excellent acoustics of the venue, St John's Church, Ambleside Road, CA12 4DD.

Among the other items, on a lighter note are George Shearing's jazzy "Songs and Sonnets" from Shakespeare.

The singers will be joined by Cumbrian soloists Tracie Penwarden, soprano, and Paul im Thurn, bass. Jordan English, assistant organist at St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, will accompany on piano and organ. The conductor is to be the Society's Musical Director, Ian Hare.

Tickets may be obtained nearer the time from members, Eventbrite, and Bookends on Main Street. These qualify for a discounted price of £12; on the door the ticket price will be £15. A full programme is included.

Further information may be obtained via the Society website www.keswickchoralsociety.org.uk or by email to info@keswickchoralsociety.org.uk or by telephoning the Membership Secretary, Mike Roulson 01931714457



I've been offered a new job. The new company wants me to start as soon as possible but we're really short-staffed where I am now and I don't know how soon I'll be allowed to leave. How should I bring all this up with my boss?

There are set rules about notice periods. First check your contract, if you have one. If you've been in your current job for less than one month, you won't have to give any notice, unless your contract says otherwise. If you don't have a contract, and your employer has no written record of you agreeing to a notice period, but you have been employed for more than a month, you have to give at least one week's notice.

Fixed-term contracts are a bit different, as you won't need to give notice if you intend to leave on the last day of your contract. Leaving before the end of a fixed-term contract usually means giving at least one week's notice, but again check your contract to see if this is different. Although it may be tempting to hand in your resignation as soon as possible, it's worth waiting until your new employer has confirmed your new employment, for example by signing your contract or by giving you a start date. It's then best to give your resignation in writing (email is fine), so that you have a record of the date you told your employer. You can find guidance on how to do this on the Citizens Advice website, where we have a page on handing in your notice.

Don't forget about your holiday days during your notice period. If you have any unused annual leave, speak to your employer about either taking these during the notice period or being paid back for them in your final salary Finally, sometimes people can change their mind about moving jobs or find their circumstances alter. If this happens to you, you should speak to your current employer to see what your options are and if you can stay in your current role. If you face any challenges , you can contact:

South Lakes Citizens Advice, call 015394 46464 - 9:30 - 2pm

#### **CONTACTS**

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

Rector: The Rev. David Wilmot

St. Mary's Vicarage, Ambleside Road, Windermere LA23 1BA

Tel: 07305 777113 rev.grasmererydal@hotmail.com

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals - please contact David

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

and 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: Grace Cauldwell 07341960506 / 01229 583196

Grace.southlakes@gmail.com

Roman Catholic Priest: Fr. Bernard Partington, Mater Amabilis Church,

015394 33027

Quaker - Friend In Residence: Terry Winterton, Glenthorne

Tel: 015394 35389 info@glenthorne.org

URC Minister: The Rev. Martyn Coe, Carver Church 01539 533223

**Central Lakes Mission Community** 

Rev. John Dixon 36301 jjcedixon@btinternet.com

