

Grasmere Parish Magazine



August-September
2024

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. The Editors and PCC reserve the right to use their discretion in finalising the content. Our policy and copyright notices are available at oswaldparish.news

Copy Date

Copy date for the **October-November 2024** magazine is **18th September**.

Please email copy to **editor@oswaldparish.news**

Please submit copy in a Word document, using Calibri font with 11pt and in A5 size. Past editions are available on our website: **oswaldparish.news**

Advertising in the Magazine

To advertise in the magazine please contact the Editors:

Ann and David Jackman - editor@oswaldparish.news

Apologies in advance for any errors or omissions.

From St Oswald's - Welcome!

We are delighted to announce that the Reverend Lawrence Basham has been appointed as our new Rector. In addition to his role in Grasmere, Lawrence will be the Parish Vicar for St Mary's, Rydal and the Chaplain to Rydal Hall.

Many of you may know Lawrence from his involvement with Grasmere School, not only as a parent but helping with the sports. If you came to Rushbearing on 13th July you will have seen him as he led the procession and the service in Church.

We look forward to Lawrence's installation on the 5th of November at 7pm in St Oswald's.

Lawrence and his family will live at the new Rectory by the roundabout, which will be ready for them to move into in October.

We will hold a welcome get together once the family are settled and would be pleased to see as many of you as possible there. Details to follow in the Autumn.

Finally, a very big thank you to everyone who helped at Rushbearing. From collecting the rushes, winding the bearings, serving the teas and tidying up the church after the event. Your generous help is greatly appreciated.

Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 29th September followed by Harvest Lunch in the village hall - all are welcome.

If you have any questions please ask the churchwardens, Ann Jackman or Gerry Rawcliffe

Ann Jackman

grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com



Music Notes

- On Saturday 10th August at 7.30 p.m. there will be an organ recital given by Jonathan Bielby MBE. He is an outstanding musician, who served for many years as the Master of the Music at Wakefield Cathedral.
- In retirement he is now looking after the music at Kendal Parish Church.
- Details of his programme will be announced in due course, and admission to his recital will be free, with donations invited towards the music costs and organ maintenance. Interval refreshments will be served, providing an opportunity to socialize, as well as enjoying some uplifting music.
- On Saturday 14th September at 7.30 p.m. there will be a concert entitled The Time Traveller's Pilgrimage, which will be a magnificent musical journey from 850 AD to 1643 told in song. The performers will be Deborah Catterall (mezzo soprano), Gareth Glyn Roberts (tenor) and Hugh Cherry (lute).
- All are welcome to these musical events.

● *Ian Hare*

Books Needed



If you have any spare books please pass them on to St Oswald's, we would be very happy to take them .

The church has a second hand bookshop which raises money for church activities.

Please leave any books you have at the back of the church near the bookstall. Thank you

Sonia Rickman

Rota for Sidespersons

4 th August	SONIA RICKMAN & ANN JACKMAN
11 th August	DON PERRITT & DAVID DODGSON
18 th August	PAT TAYLOR
25 th August	DAVID & ANN JACKMAN
1st Sept	GERRY & ANNE RAWCLIFFE
8 th Sept	SERVICE AT RYDAL
15 th Sept	SONIA RICKMAN & PAT TAYLOR
22 th Sept	DAVID & ANN JACKMAN
29 th Sept	DON PERRITT & DAVID DODGSON

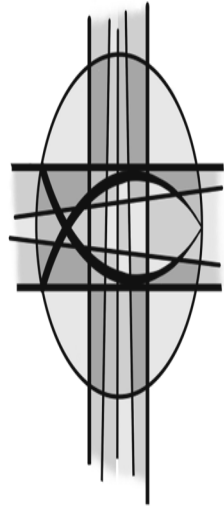
Sunday Church Services

**Weekly Church Services are as follows
unless advertised separately:**

**9.30am Holy Communion at
St. Mary's Rydal**

**11.00am Sunday Celebration at
St. Oswald's Grasmere**

**Taize Prayer is every first Sunday at
7.00pm at St Mary's Rydal**



Grasmere School News July 2024



We have just received the results of our church school inspection (SIAMS). Here is the summary:

Leaders have a deep and considered understanding of the Christian vision and associated values which guides all decisions and actions. Consequently, the words of 'life in all its fullness' are a lived reality.

Ambitious leaders are passionate about the curriculum ensuring it is engaging through its breadth and depth. It is well-planned, well-sequenced and creative. Spontaneous and planned opportunities for spiritual development enhance pupils' spirituality.

A culture of love permeates throughout the school which is modelled effectively by staff. A deep rooted sense of acceptance is lived out through caring relationships. Consequently, pupils and adults are known, loved and valued as the unique person they are.

Collective worship is an invitational and inspirational time to gather as one. It provides meaningful moments for stillness and reflection, together with joyful singing which is enhanced through the use of sign language. Therefore, it provides a special time for the spiritual flourishing of pupils and adults.

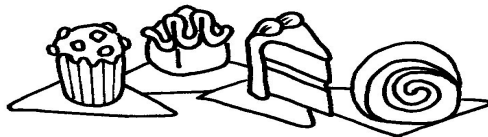
Pupils have a high sense of personal responsibility for the world they live in. They seek to actively challenge injustice through opportunities to be agents of change.

A SIAMS inspection is very much about ethos, and we found ourselves talking about what we believe, and why we do what we do. It's a useful exercise, explaining ourselves to those outside our school, and reflecting on what they say in response. 'A culture of love' – that's what we're trying to create, in every little interaction. I'm so glad that's what the inspector saw.

Have a wonderful summer break!

Johanna Goode, Headteacher

A Shout Out for Baking Help



The 172nd Grasmere Sports will be held on Sunday 25th August.

Friends of Grasmere School (FroGS) have been offered a great opportunity to run a cake and refreshment stall on the day to raise valuable funds to help support the school. We really need help to make this a success. We are looking for bakers to bring cakes, biscuits and all nature of sweet things for us to sell.

We will willingly help fund the cost of ingredients but would welcome the help and support from anybody who can spare the time.

If you are able to help in any way please contact Beth Abbott
beth.abbott12@gmail.com. 07908 913102

Grasmere Village Society

Summer is here although you could be forgiven for wondering when the weather is going to match the season. Luckily there was a fine day for Rushbearing in July and thanks to the hard work of the Rushbearing committee it was another splendid occasion. The society was pleased to have a bearing in the procession and we made a generous donation to the cause.

The Society extends a very warm welcome to the newly appointed vicar, Lawrence Basham, and his family and hope that they settle in to the village successfully. The official installation is 5th November.

It is still not too late to join or renew membership to the Society and any additional voluntary contributions are always welcome and help us maintain and improve the village amenities. Applications may be done quickly and easily online at <https://forms.microsoft.com/r/CvmdUw3H8P> or contact our membership secretary at simonhey4gmail.com (015394 35067).

You may have noticed that a number of Neighbourhood Watch road signs have been fitted at the main entries to the village. The Grasmere Watch has attracted quite a lot of members and you may join at no cost on the web-site <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/> Once registered you will automatically be added to the Grasmere Watch. You can elect to receive news and updates from various resources. There are free window and wheelie bin stickers available and you may contact our coordinator at simonhey4@gmail.com (015394 35067).



Whether you live in Grasmere or are visiting us please enjoy this beautiful place, take your time to savour the village and remember to smile.

Next committee meeting is on Tuesday August 13th at 7.30pm.

Nick McCraith (Chairman)

Grasmere WI

Happy birthday 105th birthday to us! We had an amazing celebratory afternoon at Allan Bank with a fabulous afternoon tea, music and games and to top it off. The Red Arrows did a fly past just for us!

Grasmere WI was born in June 1919 in the kitchen at Winterseeds, Grasmere when the Badley sisters started this amazing group. We have so much to thank the Badley sisters for and we are sure they would be very proud of what GWI has become and all we do.



GWI committee members celebrating our 105th birthday at the Allan Bank in June.

We now have nearly 80 members, 5 Westmorland County Show trophies, we have raised over £35,000 for St Mary's Hospice, ticked off the 214 Wainwrights and almost 200 Lake District tarns, we have a really exciting and action packed monthly programme. We are a great group of truly inspiring women, always learning and having lots of fun - GWI is thriving. A huge thank you to all at GWI for carrying on the Badley sisters' legacy in such fine style.

Our **June** meeting was with David Brookes from Mitchell's Auctioneers, Cockermouth. Such a fascinating afternoon all about Antiques and Auctions. We're hooked and we're now planning a visit to a Mitchell's auction sometime soon. We had a great fun afternoon at our **July** meeting doing Boccia with Katie Gatt, such a laugh and it turns out we're all really competitive - surprise, surprise! Also in **June** we had an amazing behind the scenes tour of Holehird Gardens led by GWI member Hayley Davidson. We started weekly GWI Strong Kettlebell sessions with Libby Dixon and at Art Club we had a fantastic Linocut session at Allan Bank led by Ann Jackman.

In **July** we threw ourselves into Rushbearing, we loved it, from helping with the winding of the rushes to joining the parade and going along to the service. We're privileged and proud to support such a fantastic village tradition. Looking forward to next year already! Our Art Appreciation Group enjoyed the Adam Fenton preview at Heaton Cooper, we are so lucky to have such an outstanding art gallery in our village.



The GWI banner Rushbearing

On a sad note, we were very sorry that our dear member and friend Melissa Harwood passed away this month. Melissa was a very active member and keen participant in many of our events, and will be very sadly missed.

Our meeting on **Thursday 8 August** is at the Learning Centre at Wordsworth Grasmere and is all about our 150 plus entries (and counting!) into this year's Westmorland County Show. We are really looking forward to this year's Show taking place on **Wednesday 11 & Thursday 12 September**.

Due to the Show, our September meeting is a week later than usual on **Thursday 19 September 2pm** at Grasmere Village Hall and is with Lorna Kelly telling us all about growing up in Rhodesia. It'll be a fascinating afternoon and there'll be brilliant tea and cake as always. Also in September our Art Appreciation Group is tripping off to Fairfield Mill. Our monthly Book / Culture Club at Allan Bank is a huge success, with a packed attendance and lively discussion each month in Wordsworth's study. We also have our very popular monthly rambles and Art Group meetings. Our Lakes and Tarns challenge continues, with members continuing to tick off visits to our wonderful Lakeland tarns. We have had a bumper few weeks. We have now ticked off visits to 196 distinct tarns and are very close to our final target of 214 different tarn visits.

Louise Sykes, President

Grasmere Rushbearing 2024

Back in the early years of St Oswald's church, the earth floor was covered in rushes. Every summer it would be swept out, and new rushes laid down. From that, to this...

'Our Rushbearing features maypoles and rush maidens, banners and bearings, gingerbread, and a fell race. This year Reverend Lawrence Basham led the



service, and we were delighted to welcome him as our future Rector. The church was full of happy laughter, and that feeling of a community coming together. 'It is a unique thing, Grasmere Rushbearing, made of lots of contrasts - the stillness and quiet of the two days making bearings, the physicality of cutting rushes by the lake (Thanks to Jonny Perrem), the preparation of the (Ulverston) band and their outfits, and (Grasmere) gingerbread baking and marshals. And then the gentle procession, wending its way through tourists and baffled stationary traffic, singing, and chatting. It is such a very old thing, and yet it felt absolutely right to still be doing it today'.

From the school post on Facebook, the picture above captures how the village tradition of Rushbearing allows families to have a proper opportunity to celebrate with the wider community

These words sum up what the day is about, why the committee work so hard and why it continues. It was hard work, but it was worth it. We had a fantastic turn out both to observe and to process and raised £172.43 from collection buckets on the street. Fortunately, the weather stayed dry.

There are too many individuals and organisations/companies to thank here but we have written to everyone personally. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Grasmere Village Society and Grasmere Co-op for giving generous financial donations.

Once the Church service was over the children enjoyed sports (in Tweedies Garden) ice cream and the Fell race. All young participants received a commemorative medal. Ulverston band played outside in the church yard after the service

We need people to come forward and volunteer to build on the success of this year. Please contact us on Facebook or will_clark@hotmail.com 015394-35070

Fell race winners:

- James McAleese 1st Boy (won junior boys):
- Ted McAleese 2nd Boy (won primary boys)
- Sam Bamforth 3rd Boy
- Lewis McKim 4th Boy
- Freya Hodgson-Jones 1st Girl (won secondary trophy)

Winners of the Prizes for the Best Bearings

- Joy Fripp The Crown - Adult prize
- Jack Perrem Best Infant bearing
- Shaun Mason Best Pram
- Grace Priddle Best Junior bearing





Please join us at the
Harvest Lunch

ALL WELCOME

29th September 2024

12.30pm

The Village Hall

Tickets from Barney's from 1st September

BYOB

NO CHARGE - DONATIONS WELCOME

Grasmere Village Hall

It has been a busy time for the Hall: in June the Grasmere Players performed their play 'Night Must Fall', the Hall hosted musical evening 'Frognal and Fox – A Life in Song' and the community enjoyed a midsummer take-away night with the KatVandu Nepalese food truck. Coming up, the Lake Artists Society will be holding their annual summer exhibition in the Hall from 28th July to 4th Sept, 10.30-4.30 daily. Hopefully many of you will be able to visit and enjoy.

You'll be pleased to know that the weekly Warm Spot Coffee & Chat sessions will be returning from Wednesday 11th September at 10.00 to 12.30. Everyone is welcome to come along.



Wednesday 16th October: Needle Felted Herdwick Sheep workshop. Suitable for all levels; all materials and equipment included. 1.00 – 4.00 pm, tickets £35 on sale soon at www.highlightsnorth.co.uk or contact the Hall on 015394 35628 or enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk

Plenty more events are planned for later in the year, including "The Plot Thickens", a mystery play on 21th November and "Polaris", a children's show on 13th December. Fool's Gold will be bringing us a Christmas show on 14th December, and a New Year's Eve party is planned. If anyone is willing and able to help – in any way – on New Year's Eve, please let the Trustees know.

The Christmas Fair will be back in the Hall this year on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December, featuring Father Christmas in his Grotto and the Grand Christmas Raffle draw – so don't miss it! Stalls are booking up quickly but there is still some space. If you would like to take (or share) a table, please get in touch.

We have been raising funds throughout this year for our new **audio-visual system** which will replace the portable projector and white sheet currently in use. We aim to provide a state-of-the-art system which will be available for use by community groups and individual hirers, facilitating high-quality presentations for talks, courses, conferences and parties. We plan to arrange cinema nights, quizzes, etc. We might even come together as a community to watch the match the next time England get to a final!

We are delighted that we have been successful in two recent applications for grant funding from Westmorland & Furness Council (£5000) and from the Fibrus Community Fund, Cumbria (£2000), and we are awaiting decisions from two further applications. Watch this space for further news of our fundraising progress – we hope to share more good news in the next newsletter. Thank you to everyone who generously donated to our last Christmas raffle, supported our recent events, or made individual donations – they are hugely appreciated!



Don't forget that the Hall has now registered with Easyfundraising, a fantastic online platform that enables you to raise free donations with every purchase you make. There are over 8,000 participating retailers, Sign up here: <http://efraising.org/rWHiZTgHZI>

As a charity, the Trustees are tasked with running and maintaining the Village Hall for the benefit of the inhabitants of Grasmere, and providing facilities for recreation and leisure time use, whilst ensuring the health and safety of all users. To this end, we are obliged to raise funds through a range of means, including donations, hiring out the hall, fundraising events, grants, and through hiring out parking spaces on yearly permits. Over the past year, the Trustees have been reviewing the income generated from the car park and, following much debate and consideration, we have made the decision to instigate charging for the car park via an Automatic Number Plate Recognition system and the RingGo app.

Current car park permit holders will be able to continue using the car park until September, but after this time, parking will be chargeable at the same rates as the Broadgate Meadow car park. The good news for local residents is that the first 30 minutes' parking will be free of charge, so you will be able to leave your car at the hall while you pop to the chemist or the Co-op without being charged. This much-needed income will allow us to carry out further work: vital fire and health & safety improvements, new front doors with an electronic entry system, roof and gutter repairs, redecoration of the hall interior - to name but a few! It's a long and very costly list!

Pam Moreland

ALLAN BANK

Make the most of summer with fun outdoor and indoor creative activities at Allan Bank. The gardens and woodland grounds offer space for children to play and get close to nature.

The whole family can get involved in traditional games such as croquet, bean bag throw and hoopla. Indoors you can get creative with nature inspired craft activities in the art room, read a book from the second hand book shop, play a board game or play a tune on the piano!

Glimpse into the past through a display of holiday watercolours and photographs from the Rawnsleys who once lived in the house. You can have a go at painting your own watercolour in the art room.

Bring a picnic to eat on the lawn or indoors while you enjoy views over Grasmere.

Look out for The Lakes Art Society courses which are advertised on our website.

Chris Barnes, Welcome Manager



wordsworth

GRASMERE



We are currently open 7 days a week, 10am-5pm. From September we will be open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm. Entry to Dove Cottage, the Museum and exhibitions is free to Grasmere residents and employees of Grasmere businesses.

In Wordsworth's time, Claude Mirrors were used widely to contemplate and draw landscape. Available in different shapes and sizes, mirrors were carried by artists, poets and tourists in their discovery of the Lakes. Canadian artists Alex McKay and Dr Suzanne Matheson have collaborated on a project to design and install a contemporary Claude mirror at Wordsworth Grasmere (<https://wordsworth.org.uk/webcam/>) alongside a set of handheld Claude mirrors to use in artistic workshops.

If you visit us in early August you will be able to enjoy flash talks and workshops exploring the history and use of Claude mirrors; visit our website for dates and times as these will repeat on different days. Alex and Suzanne will also be leading longer creative sessions with Grasmere WI and visiting conference delegates.

On Monday 5 August children aged 6+ can learn to **Paint Like a Georgian Artist** with Alex and Suzanne and spend time in the Sensory Garden creating a watercolour painting using a Claude mirror. These family workshops are free and take place at 10.30am and 2.00pm.



On 15 and 28 August drop in from 10.30am-12.30pm for free family **Summer Make and Play** sessions. Join us to create a range of summer crafts and take part in trails and play activities.

Little Wanderers. Our creative play sessions for under 5s takes place every Friday morning in the Woodland. After a break in August the next session will be on Friday 6 September. Free for Grasmere families.

On Tuesday 10 September join us at St Oswald's Church for **An Evening with Simon Armitage**. There will be a pop-up bar and bookstall, as well as a book signing after the poetry reading.

The next event in **'Go to the poets, they will speak to thee'**, our online poetry reading series hosted by Kim Moore, takes place on Wednesday 18 September with Katrina Naomi.

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

For more information and how to book, please visit [wordsworth.org.uk/event-directory/](https://www.wordsworth.org.uk/event-directory/)

Hannah Catterall, Events Officer

CALENDAR - AUGUST

4	Sunday Celebration - Open Church	St Oswald's	11am
5	Paint Like A Georgian	Wordsworth Grasmere	10.30am & 2.3-pm
8	Grasmere WI	Wprdsworth Learning Centre	2pm
	Grasmere Book Group	Zoom	8pm
10	Jonathan Bielby Organ Recital	St Oswald's	7.30pm
11	Sunday Celebration - Communion	St Oswald's	12am
13	GVS Committee Meeting		7.30pm
15	Summer Make and Play	Wordsworth Grasmere	10.30pm - 12.30pm
18	Sunday Celebration - Open Church	St Oswald's	11am
25	Sunday Celebration - Communion	St Oswald's Grasmere	11am
	Grasmere Show	Sports Field	
28	Summer Make and Play	Wordsworth Grasmere	10.30pm - 12.30pm

CALENDAR SEPTEMBER

1	Sunday Celebration Open Church	St Oswald's	11am
4	Art Society Final Day	Village Hall	10.30am-4.30pm
8	Sunday Celebration-Communion	Rydal	9.30am
10	An Evening with Simon Armitage	St Oswald's	
11	Westmorland Show	Crooklands	All Day
12	Warm Spot Westmorland Show	Village Hall Crooklands	10.30am All Day
	Grasmere Book Group	Zoom	8pm
14	Time Traveller's Pilgrimage	Sr Oswald's	7.30pm
15	Sunday Celebration-Open Church	St Oswald's	11am
18	First Responders AGM	Pippin Cottage	7.30pm
19	WI Meeting	Village Hall	2pm
22	Sunday Celebration-Communion	St Oswald's	11am
29	HARVEST FESTIVAL & HARVEST LUNCH	St Oswald's Village hall	11am 12.30pm

Grasmere and Cumbria Weather -

MAY

May brought an unusual combination of warmth and rain to finish off what has been a mild and very wet Spring. The month started sunny and warm at first, but became cooler and more unsettled on the 4th., as low pressure edged up from the south. Pressure built strongly on the 7th., as warm air was drawn west from the near continent, with temps. peaking on the 11th. widely exceeding 72.F. Cumbria's warmest was Scotby, east Carlisle, with a high of 80.F.

On the morning of the 10th., here in Grasmere and north Cumbria, there was the best display of the Aurora Borealis for 20 years. Judging by the photos, it was a sight to behold. On the 13th., temps. dropped, as a cold front moved east with heavy rain. The next week was also unsettled with rain at times. High pressure again arrived on the 19th. to the 21st. Then on the 22nd. a very slow moving depression deepened rapidly, bringing an exceptionally wet day across Cumbria, with every weather station recording the 22nd. as its wettest day of the month.

Indeed, the Met. Office have stated that provisionally the 22nd. was the wettest Spring day on record for northern England and some stations experienced record breaking amounts of rainfall. This saw a large number of sites record more than a months worth of rain in one day. Whilst the Met. Office are currently quoting Honister as having the greatest 124.0 mm. (4.88 in.) 24 hr. fall in the U.K., the honour goes to Braithwaite Force Crag Mine with 150.9 mm. (5.91 in.) But when this total is matched with Honister's monthly total of 242.1 mm. (9.53 in.), the highest total in Cumbria for May, the event on the 22nd. begins to show its significance.

As the low pressure system moved slowly north, there were reports of extensive flooding in Carlisle and in the Eden Valley, households were cut off by rapidly rising rivers. This unsettled theme continued until the months end, but fortunately no problems arose here in Grasmere. At Coniston, 11mm. (0.43 in.) fell in 14 minutes on the 19th. Mean temperatures in May were well above average, despite the cloud and rain, with night temperatures some 3.5.C. above normal. Strangely, at Maulds Meaburn near Penrith, the lowest temperature of the month was recorded as 4.0.C., and is the highest yet recorded for May as the nights were frost free.



Northern Lights over Grasmere

The dominant wind direction was east north east. Sunshine data- Bewcastle 164.3 hours. Brampton 140.1. Ambleside 130.3

Here in Grasmere. Wettest May Day 22nd. 79.9mm. (3.15 in.) May rain days 14. Last year 11. Total for month 172.4mm. (6.79 in) Last year 1.71 in. Av. 4.74 in. Rain days to date (end of May) 107. Last year 103. Total for year to date (end May) 1351.3 mm. 53.19in. Last year 46.68in.

JUNE

The meteorological Spring (March, April and May) was the warmest in 140 years. The average temperature was 48.9.F. (9.37.C.) beating the previous high of 9.12.C. in 2017. The UK also had the wettest Spring since 1986, the 6th. wettest on record. An average of 12 inches fell across the country, a third more than usual. June got off to a very chilly start.

Figures show that in every month this year, temperature records have been set, but this first month of our current summer has rarely touched the seasonal averages. This was due to the fact that the UK. was caught between low pressure off to the east over Scandinavia and high pressure stuck over the south west. This meant that a cold north westerly straight from the Arctic, dominated our weather for the first fortnight. Temperatures were 2.C. below average here. Unlike May, it was the coldest start to June for 5 years, and also the first summer without a hosepipe ban for 3 years.

The unsettled start brought heavy showers at times, some brief sunny spells, cold north easterlies and cumulonimbus clouds on the 10th. with heavy hail showers. However, with pressure rising and the jet stream moving north, brought welcome warmth from the 19th. Sunny days followed with hot sunshine.

The balmy weather that followed was short lived and low pressure returned before the month's end with cloud, showers and longer periods of rain. But it was a drier than average June and we surprisingly enjoyed more sunshine than usual. But here in Grasmere, we have experienced only 24 completely dry days in 6 months. Some stunning photographs of noctilucent clouds were taken here in Cumbria on the evening of June 1st. These are the highest clouds above the stratosphere, 53 miles high. They appear as milky waves of colour, high in the sky on midsummer nights. Their name derives from the Latin for "night shining".

The Met. Office measures sunshine using either the Campbell - Stokes recorder invented in the 19th. century, or modern sunshine sensors. The C.S. recorder, which is being phased out, was a glass sphere to focus the sun's direct radiation on a graduated card. The Met Office says the method can significantly overestimate sunshine duration on cloudy days. CS recorders are still in use at many of the 140 manual climate stations it operates. Here's hoping we haven't seen the last of summer.

Wettest June day 13th. 35.1 mm. (1.38 in.) June rain days 20 Last year 13
Total for month 110.6mm. 4.36 in. Last year 3.63 in. Av. 4.78 in. Rain days to date (end June) 120. Last year 116. Total for year to date (end June) 1461.9 mm. 57.55 in. Last year 50.31 in.

Peter Bailey.

The Farming Year - Showtime!

Shows are a big part of farming life and there are plenty around to attend. From Brimmer Head we usually go to around six, ranging from the large ones like the Westmorland Show through to local shows in the villages like Patterdale and Hawkshead.

Last year, we were the Best in Show at the Cartmel Show and won the Champion Herdwick at the Kentmere Show!

It's good to go knowing what the judges are looking for...

With the Herdwicks the judges want the white to be in the right places and the wool to be a good colour. A Herdwick's legs need to be strong, and the judge will look to make sure both back and front meet this criteria. Of course, it takes effort to get the sheep up to show standard and the whole family are needed to get them ready. Yet, there is also time to enjoy the other parts of the show and Emma is keen to enter her jam for judging!

When the show comes closer to home in Rydal we still show the sheep but we also help with setting the show up and packing it away when it is all over. Some people enjoy sheepdog trialling, but we have never become involved in this and that also goes for the wrestling. Cumberland wrestling is a really big part of the shows across the county but somehow after a long day working the beer tent is more of an attraction!



Matthew Powell, Brimmer Head Farm

Grasmere First Responders



The first responders are having their AGM on **Wednesday 18th September** at **7.30pm** at Pippin Cottage (opposite Rothay Garden Hotel).

The group is very small and in urgent need of new responders and new committee members / trustees. Our current chairman, Nigel Prickett, is wanting to retire and there is no one to step into his shoes.

The group began over 20 years ago with the objective of providing early care for cardiac arrest patients prior to the ambulance arriving. The role is continually expanding and responders are able to more assessments, but their core role is still CPR.

The group is down to 2 active responders with another going through the application process. The committee / trustees are also very low on numbers and currently without a secretary, or anyone to organise us!

If you have committee experience, or are interested in becoming a member of the group in any way, please come along to find out about us. When Nigel stands down, the group is likely to fold, leaving the village without any immediate help should an ambulance be delayed.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the late Roger Maddison. He was our auditor for many years and did a brilliant job checking our accounts. His sense of humour and tact were second to none. If anyone has any auditing skills we would be very grateful if they could pass a keen eye over things for us, just once a year!

There will be wine, beer, tea, coffee and nibbles available and we look forward to seeing you on the 18th September!

Helen Eastes, Treasurer.

Grasmere Book Group



June's meeting tackled a book which seems to have been everywhere over the past year, RF Kuang's *Yellowface* (2023). Just before the group met it was awarded Fiction Book of the Year at the British Book Awards. The novel throws into relief some of the more troubling aspects of the publishing world. When June's much more successful writer friend Athena dies suddenly June appropriates Athena's next novel and with it her ethnicity, reinventing herself as ethnically ambiguous Juniper. Most enjoyed the book although found the narrator hard to spend time with. The book raised some interesting questions about plagiarism, identity and writing and just how realistic the events of *Yellowface* were.

July's meeting was a hybrid event, kindly hosted at Lake View by Ros and Richard Abbott. The month's reading was Robin Jenkins' *The Cone-Gatherers* (1955), a Scottish novel set on a highland estate during the Second World War. Part parable, part psychological thriller, it explores questions of ownership of place, power over others and notions of good and evil. The group had lots to say about the book and although few would say it was enjoyable, most were engaged and drawn into the story. Many commented on the poetic writing of landscape in the novel.

Upcoming meetings: AUGUST 8th – LT Shearer, *The Cat Who Caught a Killer*

SEPTEMBER 12th – Alix E Harrow, *The Ten Thousand Doors of January*

Book group meets online at 8pm on the second Thursday of every month. All are welcome to join... do email us and we can send you a Zoom link. 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 Squirrel Group

Red Squirrels survive around Grasmere because of the hard work, over many years, from our volunteers and rangers in feeding and monitoring, managing the habitat, and resisting the influx of grey squirrels.

Our charitable objects are:

1) To promote the conservation of endangered Red Squirrel populations in their natural habitat in Grasmere, in order that their presence can continue to be enjoyed by the general public and by future generations.

2) To advance the education of the public in the subject of the Red Squirrel, the threats it faces and the need for conservation activity to ensure its survival in Grasmere.

We rely on charitable donations, so if you can, please donate today. We are eligible for Gift Aid.

Scan this QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/3yX6FC5> to donate via PayPal

Bank transfer: Grasmere Red Squirrels | 63002884 | 01-09-75



We are grateful for the partnerships we have with local hotels, businesses, residents and landowners who support our work in various ways. If you are interested in being involved or have fundraising ideas, please contact us. We always enjoy hearing about Grasmere Red sightings and receiving photos. Please email them to grasmereredsquirls@gmail.com, so we can share them on our social media sites

Importantly, do remember to report any sightings of grey squirrels

IMMEDIATELY

using a what3words

location or OS Grid reference:

Text our 2 Rangers - Stuart Dickson 07980 893459 or

David Birkett on 07775 904236, or email:

FRONT COVER

We are still accepting images for the front cover.

David Jackman's picture of the Rushmaidens' hats was chosen this time.

If you would like to submit an autumnal picture for the next edition the deadline is

September 18th 2024

Thank you

Greetings from Grasmere Sports!

We're now in full planning mode for the next Sports day on 25 August, with a brilliant range of Lake District sports and entertainment, some new, some determinedly traditional, for one and all.

We want to preserve the traditions of the Lake District, and that means building interest among the younger generation. We've expanded last year's free family ticket offer for pupils attending Grasmere Primary School, so as to include Langdale Primary School, as well as the teachers from both schools. Tickets available from Sports Manager via the web-site.

Do you know a budding young sports reporter under 14? We're looking for a young creative writer to take the Young Sports Reporter 2024 crown. Short-listed candidates will be given some coaching before the day. The prize will be a rather super instant camera and a trophy. For full details please see the Grasmere Sports website.

How about designing a Cumberland wrestler's vest? There are two categories, for those aged up to 7 years and those aged 8 to 11. Prizes are vouchers for use in the Pete Bland Sports shop. See our website.

For the second year running the Sports is looking to help shape a young cross country or track runner of the future, through the award of a running bursary established in the name of the late, great Pete Bland.

The Bursary was set up by the Sports in honour of Pete who, as well as being a name synonymous with running in the North, was also the former Fell Race Manager of Grasmere Lakeland Sports and Show. Pete would be familiar to many as the voice of the Guides' Races, providing knowledgeable and timely commentary, using up-to-the-minute information from course stewards, every year. Applications are open until 31 July for young Cumbrians aged under 18 years. Again, see our website.

We are also celebrating the life of Roger Robson who was wrestling manager for Grasmere Sports for many years and passed away in 2021. This year a new cup is being presented to the winner of the under-12 mixed boys and girls wrestling.

If you didn't take advantage of the discounted Early Bird tickets, specially tailored to enable locals to have cheaper tickets, please remember to get some next time. They're available until the end of June each year.

See you at the Sports!

John Hibbert, Chairman of Grasmere Sports, July 2024

GRASMERE

LAKELAND SPORTS & SHOW

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

2024 ATTRACTIONS
FAT CAT BRASS BAND
DIMITRI CIRCUS ACT
WONDER WHEELERS
FACE PAINTING

- ❖ **Fell Running**
- ❖ **Hound Trails**
- ❖ **Cumberland & Westmorland Wrestling**
including U18 Boys 10 stone World Championship
- ❖ **Children's Sprint Track, Long Leap & Fun Races**
- ❖ **Trade Stands & Craft Marquee**
- ❖ **Fun Dog Show**



GRASMERE SPORTS FIELD – LA22 9SL

Gates open 9am - Events start at 10am

On-Day Admission

Adults: £15, Child: £5, Under 5's FREE

Online Advance Tickets

Adults: £12, Child: £5, Under 5's FREE

Family ticket (2+2) £28 (Online Only)

Early Bird Tickets online - 1st-30th June Adults £9, Child £3

Full details from:

FREE PARKING!

www.grasmeresports.com REGISTER FOR ALL EVENTS ON THE DAY



Olympics 1924

We are in the middle of the 2024 Paris Olympics (26 July – 11 August). It was 100 years ago this summer, also at the Paris Olympics, that a young science student at Edinburgh University, Eric Liddell, ran an astonishing race that caught the imagination of millions worldwide.

Liddell had been born in China in 1902, to Scottish missionaries there. Early on, he had made a deep commitment to Jesus Christ, and sensed he was being called to spend his life in serving others. But Liddell was also an outstanding sportsman, playing rugby for Scotland before settling on athletics.

When he was chosen for the Paris Olympics, he expected to run his preferred 100m. But then came the news that the race would be run on a Sunday, and Liddell refused. Quickly, he trained for the 200m and 400m. He took bronze at the 200m, but no one expected much from him at the 400m. Instead, he won, and even broke the world record in the process.

After the Olympics, Liddell felt God calling him to his life's work. He went back to China, to teach in a Christian college. As the Second World War loomed, he sent his wife and children home, but stayed on himself. By 1943 Liddell was confined to a brutal prison camp, where he shone among the fellow prisoners – encouraging them, teaching Bible classes, and praying for both his fellow inmates and the prison wardens. Deeply malnourished, his health failed and in 1945, just months before the war ended, he died, aged only 43.

In 1981 his story was made into the Oscar-winning film *Chariots of Fire*.

CONTACTS

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

Rector: Rev Lawrence Basham appointed from 5th Nov 2024

Church Wardens: Ann Jackman and Gerry Rawcliffe

07826663590 grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com

Treasurer: Richard Beskeen 015394 35131

treasurer.grasmereandrydal@gmail.com

Organist: Mr Ian Hare MA Mus B

017684 83886 ian.c.hare@outlook.com

Church Website: A Church Near You

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. Ajish Kumpukkal, Mater Amabilis Church,

Ambleside 015394 33027

Quaker: Friend In Residence: Terry Winterton, Glenthorne, Grasmere

Tel: 015394 35389 info@glenthorne.org

URC Minister: The Rev. Martyn Coe, Carver Church, Ambleside

01539 533223

Central Lakes Mission Community Rev. John Dixon

015394 36301 jjcedixon@btinternet.com

Dorothy Wordsworth Walks

Explore Grasmere and Rydal
with Dorothy by your side.

This free location-based app
will notify you when you reach
a place linked with Dorothy's
writing.

Scan the QR code
or follow the url to
download the app, and
access interactive route
maps and FAQs.



www.wordsworth.org.uk/dorothy-wordsworth-walks/



Dorothy artwork by
Alex Jakob-Whitworth

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