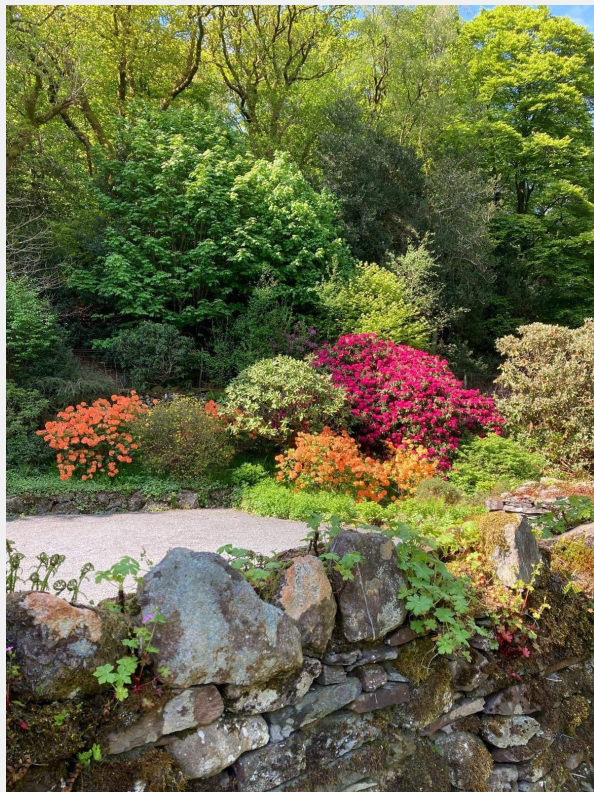


# **Grasmere Parish Magazine**



**June-July 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](http://oswaldparish.news)

### **Copy Date**

Copy date for the August -September 2024 magazine is **18th July**. Please email copy to **[editor@oswaldparish.news](mailto: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](http://oswaldparish.news)**

### **Advertising in the Magazine**

To advertise in the magazine please contact the Editors:

**Ann and David Jackman - [editor@oswaldparish.news](mailto:editor@oswaldparish.news)**

Apologies in advance for any errors or omissions.

## From St Oswald's

You may be aware that the Rector of St Oswald's has moved to a new parish - Rev David Wilmot is now the Vicar of St Paul's Grange and we wish him well in his new role.

In the intervening months the Rural Deacon will oversee St Oswald's with the churchwardens taking day to day responsibility for the church.

The period when a minister has left the parish, but a new appointment has yet to be made, is called an Interregnum. It means that we must actively seek a new minister. As with David, the new Rector will work not only with Grasmere Parish but also St Mary's Rydal and Rydal Hall.

The process to secure a new minister involves producing a profile of the benefice detailing what happens in each church, where the incumbent will live and most importantly what qualities the PCC would like the new Rector to have to help the church grow and become an integral part of village and school life.

This first stage has been completed and the advertisement for the new post has been placed in the *Church Times*, and on the Church of England and the Diocesan website. The interviews will take place in mid-June, and it is hoped that the new Rector will be in place by autumn. We are confident that by then the new vicarage will have been completed, ready for the Rector to move into. Willow Bank Rectory has undergone a major refurbishment making it as eco-friendly as possible and the perfect base for a new family to make a home.

We are excited to be appointing a new Rector for our village and hope they will receive a warm welcome when they arrive later this year.

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

[grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com)



*Ann Jackman*

## Music Notes

There are several musical events at St Oswald's in June and July.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June** has been designated "Music Sunday" by the Royal School of Church Music, to which we are affiliated, so we will have some suitable hymns and organ music.

On **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 12.30 p.m.** there will be a Lunchtime Recital given by cellist Deborah Thorne, accompanied on the piano by Alison Gill. Details of their programme will follow in due course.

On **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July** we are expecting a visit by members of the choir of The Queen's College, Oxford University (our church Patron), who intend to sing both at the 11.00 a.m. Eucharist and at 4.00 p.m. for Evensong - a musical treat indeed.

Finally, we are again hosting a concert in the Lake District Summer Music festival. It will be a Brass Ensemble on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 11.00 a.m.

*Ian Hare*

## Parish Church Council

A new PCC was elected on Sunday April 21st. The following will serve for 2024/2025

Churchwardens : Ann Jackman and Gerry Rawcliffe

Treasurer: Richard Beskeen

Secretary: David Dodgson

Deanery Rep: David Jackman

PCC Members: Sonia Rickman, Anne Rawcliffe (Safeguarding), Clare Shabi, Matty Jackman

Co-opted: Helen Bunfield Fabric Project Co-opted: June Maddison Finance

**Contact: [grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com) or 07826663570**

## **Rota for Sidespersons**

2nd June	DAVID JACKMAN
9 <sup>th</sup> June	DON PERRITT & DAVID DODGSON
16 <sup>th</sup> June	PAT TAYLOR
23rd June	DAVID & ANN JACKMAN
30 <sup>th</sup> June	SONIA RICKMAN & ANN JACKMAN
7 <sup>th</sup> July	DAVID DODGSON
14 <sup>th</sup> July	TREVOR & HELEN EASTES
21 <sup>th</sup> July	GERRY & ANNE RAWCLIFFE
28 <sup>th</sup> July	DAVID & ANN JACKMAN

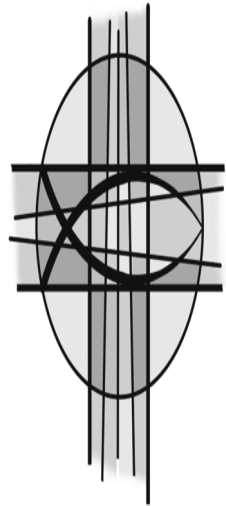
### **Sunday Church Services**

**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**



## **An invitation**

We are going to have some wonderful sessions  
for under 5's and their parents



### **Outdoor Story Sessions**

**Tuesdays June 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30 – 11:30am**

Every week: a story, with craft activities, songs, and physical fun. Plus come and meet....

11<sup>th</sup> June – Zoobidoo - learn all about lots of different animals!

25<sup>th</sup> June – ‘Bees in the trees’ A visit from a beekeeper and bees (in a safe, secure observation hive)

Please spread the word!

We're having a really busy term at school. There is SO much on. We've got a critical thinking skills week before the holiday, which should be very interesting.

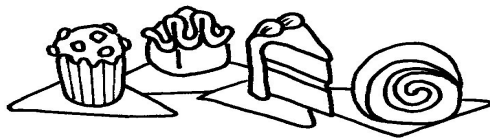
After the holiday we have cycling training, open water swimming, climbing, ghyll scrambling, canoeing, an end of term concert, and some more statutory tests.

Academic learning will be continuing, rigorously, throughout!

**If you would like to be involved in school, do please get in touch: [head@grasmere.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@grasmere.cumbria.sch.uk)**

*Jo 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](mailto:beth.abbott12@gmail.com). 07908 913102**

## **SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS**

As we have no Rector until a new appointment is made we now run a service at St Oswald's which is led by the congregation. It includes hymns, music and reflection. It's open to all (as are all of our services), and there will be a notice on the GVS board outside Barney's to say when it's on

It's usually every other week and lasts just under an hour.

**Do come and join us - we would love to see you!**

If you enjoy a choral service we are hosting The Queen's College, Oxford choir on 21st July at 11am and 4pm

Don't forget Rushbearing on the 13th July led by Rev Laurence Basham and 14th July led by Rev Beverley Locke

*Ann and Gerry, Churchwardens*



Please join us at the  
**Summer Parish Meal**

**ALL WELCOME**

**7th July 2024**

**12.30pm**

**The Village Hall**

**Tickets from Barney's from 9th June**

**BYOB**

**NO CHARGE - DONATIONS WELCOME**



## Grasmere WI

Well, there's a lot going on at Grasmere WI as always! We have got a very exciting and action packed programme. Do come and join in the fun, you will be made very welcome. Just call in at one of our monthly meetings or contact me. You can follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Our website link is <https://grasmerewi.wordpress.com/>

Here are some **brief highlights of our recent activities....**



Our **April** meeting was with the truly inspiring Dr Angela White (The Running Granny), it was an action packed afternoon with the very strong take away message - 'just do it' - so that's what we're doing! We also saw the return of our very popular plant and preserve swap, raising over £200 for St Mary's Hospice which brings our total raised for St Mary's this year alone to over £5,000 - and over £35,000 across the last 4 years!

*Annette McGrath, Jill Morrison and Sue Dixon at the busy plant and preserve swap*

In **May** we were joined by Mark Hatton who gave us a brilliant talk on German Miners in Elizabethan Grasmere, we are now looking forward to exploring the mining sites in and around Grasmere and there's lots of them!



The Art Appreciation Group had a fabulous day at Manchester Art Gallery and enjoyed the guided tour.

The Book/Culture Club had an excellent evening at Theatre by the Lake to see Northanger Abbey after reading Jane Austen's book.

## Looking ahead.....

On **Thursday 13 June 2pm** at Grasmere Village Hall our meeting is with David Brookes from Mitchell's Auctioneers and is all about Antiques and Auctions, it's sure to be a fascinating afternoon.

Also in **June** we are visiting the amazing Holehird Gardens for a behind the scenes tour. We are also celebrating our **105th birthday** with a fabulous party at Allan Bank. We have made it on to the National Trust's website!

On **Sunday 9 June (at 11am and 3pm )** we are very excited to be running 'Crafting with GWI' sessions at Allan Bank as part of the National Trust's Great Big Green Week. Come along and join in, it'll be great fun - we will be making red squirrel mobiles and green hearts from recycled materials.

**July** sees the GWI Art Appreciation Group visiting galleries in London and GWI members having a tour of Kew Gardens.

At our meeting on **Thursday 11 July 2pm** at the Village Hall we are doing Boccia and having lots of fun and games with Katie Gatt, it'll be an action packed, fun afternoon!

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 visited 141 distinct tarns.

We're going BIG again in the WI Competitions at this year's Westmorland County Show in September (Riot of Colours is this year's theme) and we already have lots of entries lined up across all categories. It's going to be another great Show. Come and join GWI and enter the Show with us, it's a brilliant team effort and great fun.

Finally, a huge thanks to all our members for making Grasmere WI such a vibrant, friendly and fun group.

*Louise Sykes President Grasmere WI*

Tel: 07860 299658 : Email: [clsmailbox@icloud.com](mailto:clsmailbox@icloud.com)

## Grasmere and Cumbria Weather - MARCH



Yet another mild, wet month with frequent rain and limited sunshine. The unsettled weather carried on from February into the beginning of the month. A brilliant red sky on the 1st. gave way to showers, with snow on the tops above 800 ft. An air frost on the morning of the 2nd. was followed by brief sunshine and occasional showers. But clearer weather on the night of the 3rd., enabled a brilliant display of the Aurora Borealis to be seen from Grasmere. Another frost followed on the 4th. with the sun actually putting in an appearance. The second week was drier with brief sunshine and isolated showers brought on a cool easterly. But it soon turned unsettled again with showers and longer spells of rain. This of course due to the jet stream being further south than usual. On a positive note we had the first completely dry day on March 6th. since January 17th. Around Cumbria, farmers in Bewcastle near Brampton, were fed up with continual standing water in the fields. They had 26 days of saturated soils in February and 24 days in March. That's 50 days out of the last 60 when fields were ponding. In Maulds Meaburn, near Penrith, a record low of barometric pressure was recorded of 971.3 mb. on the 28th. It was the lowest ever for March and for the first time pressure did not attain 1030 mb. on at least one day during the month. The Met Office said that March was the 10th. month in a row to be the warmest on record for the time of year, and that it was the wettest March overall for 40 years. Many Met. stations recorded over 140% of the average. Only Seaton near Workington, would finish slightly drier than average at 93%. The county as a whole, trending around the 125% mark. The dominant wind direction for the month was East North Easterly. Monthly sunshine hours. Bewcastle 89.7 hours, Brampton 86.5 hours, Shap 74.3 hours and Ambleside 54.1 hours.

Wettest March day 14th. 39.6mm. 1.56 inches

March rain days (0.2 mm. or more recorded) 26 Last year 22

Total for month 248.6 mm. 9.78 in. Last year 14.93 in.

Rain days (end March) 71 Last year 67

Total for year (end March) 875.7mm. 34.46 inches Last year 37.22 inches.

## APRIL

It was the second wettest April in Grasmere since 1890. Only 1947 was wetter with 12.71 inches being recorded.



April set off on a chilly note, with strong north easterly winds bringing cloudy conditions and heavy showers. Overcast days followed with rain heavy at times, culminating in over 4 inches the first week. Mentioning Bewcastle last month, the 2nd. week here was horrendous too, with yet more heavy rain brought on an active southwesterly. The field in front of Tanner Croft, here in the centre of the village, was yet again flooded with girt dubs o' watter. The soggy conditions attracted six herons over the next few days, foraging in the moisture laden ground. Showers and brief sun followed. Then around the 19th. pressure rose. This anticyclone was only the second one to become established this year since January 12th. This also enabled many people in Cumbria to witness the Northern Lights again for the second time, on the night of the 19th. This was followed by an air frost on the morning of the 20th. Welcome sunny conditions followed, and sitting outside was a pleasure for the first time. The anticyclone was dominant for several days, although a cool north easterly kept the temperature down. We also witnessed the first fine day of the month on the 23rd. the first since March 8th. This brings a grand total of 7 completely dry days in 4 months.

Shap recorded - 6. C. on the morning of the 26th. Here, with the wind chill factor, it felt like 37. F. in the daytime. On a personal note, I would like to express my thanks to Melissa Harwood, who organised a planned visit to my garden, through the charitable Cumbria Gardens Trust. The garden having been flooded on several occasions, I can say with great relief, by chance , to have picked a beautiful, sunny day. So all in all, it has been to date the wettest 18 months in England's recorded history. In terms of sunshine it's been disappointing with around 42% of average, whilst it normally would be around 59%. At least May started on a better note.

Wettest April day 4th. 41.3mm. 1.63 inches April rain days 22 Last year 15

Total for month 303.2mm. 11.94 inches Last year 4.76 inches Rain days to date (end April) 93 Last year 82 Total to date for year (end April)

1178.9mm. 46.40 inches. Last year 41.98 inches *Peter Bailey*

## Grasmere Village Society

*Flaming June* is the usual expression but May has done its best to dazzle us. Colourful displays of rhododendrons, azaleas, cherry and hawthorn to name but a few, and of course the wonderful bluebells. In the sky we have been treated to displays of the Northern Lights and occasionally a large yellow orb has appeared. Needless to say rain has not been far away, but speaking of matters aquatic take a moment to reflect that on June 6<sup>th</sup> it is the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day when in 1944 the Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy as part of the largest seaborne invasion in history.

We take our freedom for granted but the war memorial in Broadgate Meadow is a sober reminder that even small communities like Grasmere paid a terrible price.

The GVS has now installed the Vivienne Rees memorial bench on Broadgate Meadow and has replaced the two picnic table and bench sets near the park entrance. Our thanks to the council for the actual installations.

We have also finally achieved some tree planting on Moss Parrock with two cherry blossom trees. Thanks to Simon Hey for all his hard work in bringing this to fruition and also to Ella Footit who has sponsored both trees in memory of her late husband, Gordon.

Many of you will have noticed that the bus shelter opposite the Daffodil hotel is presently out of commission. Graham Magennis noted problems when he was replacing some roof slates and a structural survey has confirmed this. We are at present awaiting estimates for the repairs required, whilst also considering a complete rebuild in stone, similar to the other shelters in the village. Any thoughts on this would be gratefully received.

The GVS, together with SCRT (South Cumbria Rivers Trust), are trying to control the 3 invasive species in our area: Skunk Cabbage, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam. The Balsam is the one that we can control by pulling but the other two need either chemical treatment or digging very deep!



Balsam

Skunk Cabbage

Japanese Knotweed

In Grasmere, at the beginning of the waterways leading on to Rydal, Windermere and onwards, we have formed a very small group who, over the past five years, are trying to lessen if not eradicate the Balsam altogether in and around the village.

The plant itself is quite easy to pull as its roots are very shallow. We then take the roots off the stem and stamp on them. The flower with its seeds is bagged and burnt.

If there is anyone who fancies assisting us please contact me or Sharon Savasi, our lead on invasive species- the more the merrier! We start at the end of June through to when the seeds explode in September, just half a day, once or twice a week. Thank you.

Enjoy these summer months and if you are a visitor to Grasmere we wish you a very warm welcome. Help us to nurture this very special place. The society always appreciates new members. If you would like to join us please contact myself or Simon Hey, our membership secretary at [simonhey4@gmail.com](mailto:simonhey4@gmail.com)

*Nick McCraith (Chairman)*

## Grasmere Village Hall

The Hall has now entered a new era as Jeff Cowton, who has done an excellent job of leading the Trustees for many years, has stepped down as Chair. He is replaced by Sam Dixon who has lots of energy and ideas for taking us forward. We are fortunate that Jeff will remain as a Trustee so we can benefit from his wealth of experience – thank you Jeff!

We regretfully announce that Stephen Dodd has stepped down as a Trustee after eight years of service. Stephen has served under three Chairs and has put in countless hours of work looking after the Hall. We'd like to say a big thank you for his commitment to making it a better place and wish him well for the future.

Now that the weather is turning warmer, the weekly Warm Spot Coffee & Chat sessions on a Wednesday are taking a break but will return on 11 September. A big thank you to everyone who supported us over the winter and brought their generous donations, company and chat!



Earlier in May the stand-up comedian Patrick Monahan (left) presented his hilarious show 'Exclusively', which went down a storm. Patrick hopes to return to Grasmere at a future date, so if you didn't see this show make sure you catch it next time!

**Thu 6, Fri 7 & Sat 8 June:** Grasmere Players will be performing their summer play 'Night Must Fall' thriller by Emyln Williams. Tickets £10 on sale from [www.grasmereplayers.com](http://www.grasmereplayers.com) or Barney's Newsbox.



**Thursday 20 June:** The Hall will be hosting 'Froggnal and Fox – 'A Life in Song'.

"Dive into a showbiz world full of glamour, optimism, rivalry and acceptance. Two fading performers showcase their singing and playing talents accompanied by their bemused and cynical pianist. Featuring favourite songs by songwriters such as Cole Porter, the Gershwins Stephen Sondheim and Noel Coward, this raucous, cabaret-style show is **not to be missed**." Doors 7pm, start 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available or BYO.

Tickets £12 available from [www.highlightsnorth.co.uk](http://www.highlightsnorth.co.uk) or contact us on 015394 35628 or [enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk)

**Saturday 29 June: 'Poetry Out Loud' - an evening of poetry reading** with Samantha Turner and Rick Pilkington, two of Britain's newest upcoming poets. Doors 7pm, start 7.30pm. Tickets £10. 50% of the ticket sales are coming to Grasmere Village Hall, so please support this event! Tickets are available online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/grasmere-village-hall-co-ltd/> or with cash at Sam Read Bookshop, or call the Hall on 015394 35628.

**Mid-July to early September: The Lake Artists Society** will be in the Hall with their annual summer exhibition.

Plenty more events are planned for later in the year, including a French-style evening. Fool's Gold (who gave us a Victorian-themed show last year) will be returning with a Christmas show on Saturday 14 December, and a New Year's Eve party is in the pipeline. As always, we're grateful for all your support, especially as we are now getting closer to our target funds for new audio-visual equipment, so we can provide better facilities for all users of the Hall.

On Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 December, the Christmas Fair will be back in the Hall this year 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.




**Easyfundraising:** We're excited to announce that the Hall is 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, ranging from your weekly food shop at Tesco, booking a holiday with Booking.com, shopping on Amazon, to taking out insurance on Compare the Market.

Sign up here: <http://efraising.org/rWHiZTgHZI>

**Social media:** To keep up to date with events, please follow us on our social media sites. We appreciate your feedback about our events:

 @GrasmereVillageHall

 @grasmerevillagehall

*Pam Moreland*



## Grasmere Book Group

April's book group discussed Helen Rebanks' memoir *The Farmer's Wife*, published in paperback this spring by Faber and Faber. Helen lives in Matteredale with farmer-author husband James and this is Helen's perspective on contemporary farm life, food and her family history. Whilst there was some skepticism in the group on another book reflecting on the Rebanks' everyday farm life, and potentially mundane details, many found it relatable, amusing and surprisingly honest about difficulties and challenges. Structured loosely around a day on the farm, and Helen's joy in food, there was praise for the clarity of the basic recipes which are woven into Helen's writing. With many thinking it could have been written as either a more conventional memoir or a cookbook, the combination of the two felt unique. Eleanor Crow's illustrations of the Rebanks' farmhouse and animals were also enjoyed.

May's meeting was on EM Ward's *Forest Silver*, a novel which has recently been republished by the British Library. Edith Marjorie Ward lived in Grasmere between the 1910s and 1950s. At the time of her death in March 1955 she had published many Lakeland-set novels, featuring book covers painted by William Heaton Cooper, and was well-known in the village and beyond. She bequeathed her house, Crag Foot, to the Rector and churchwardens of the parish. First published in 1941, *Forest Silver* depicts village life unsettled by the arrival of evacuees during the Second World War. Will's ex-library copy from Cumberland shows it had lots of readers, particularly striking as the novel itself claims "nowt good comes ower t'Raise". From the opening scene where invalid Richard arrives in Rydal on a wet day in war time and casually causes traffic mayhem by walking in the road, to Bainriggs and Back o'Lake, the group could visualize where the action takes place (apt for a novelist whose first career was as an academic geographer). Blackouts remind us of the perils of the time, whilst Grasmere Island becomes a sanctuary for Richard. The eccentric cast of characters, including young landowner Corys de Bainrigg and briefly homeless Old John, the plot, and the comedy of the novel all resonated with the group with a rare note of approval for a book's ending too.

Upcoming meetings: JUNE 13th – RF Kuang, *Yellowface* (2023);  
JULY 11th – Robin Jenkins, *The Cone-Gatherers* (1955)

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

## Front Cover

Thank you to Anne Rawcliffe for her photograph of Melissa's wonderful garden full of azaleas.

The deadline for the next photograph is **July 18th 2024**  
for the August -September edition.

## 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. We also liaise with other Red Squirrel groups and national organisations, and regularly give educational talks.

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. Of note are the Forest Side Hotel, who have supported us for several years, and are now making their own “Lost Little Squirrel” beer, and the Grasmere Brewery who donate 10p for every pint of pale ale sold - drinking Grasmere beer really helps squirrels!

Other supporters include Jon Davidson, who sells squirrel cards, and Sam Reads Booksellers who sell postcards, with proceeds going to our group. If you are interested in being involved or have fundraising ideas, please contact us - we are delighted that Ann Fielding has recently joined our team.



We always enjoy hearing about Grasmere Red sightings and receiving photos. Please email them to [grasmereredsquirls@gmail.com](mailto:grasmereredsquirls@gmail.com), so we can share them on our social media sites



@GrasmereReds



@grasmereredsquirls



@GrasmereRed

*Sam Dixon*

**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: [grasmerersg@gmail.com](mailto:grasmerersg@gmail.com)**

### **KNIT and NAT**

We hold our Knit and Nat sessions on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 2- 4pm in the Reading rooms. In the last Parish Magazine I told you we had a project to “dress teddies” on behalf of Molly, Christine Batey’s Daughter. They will be sold to raise funds for St. Mary’s Hospice. We have been busy!



We still knit baby blankets for premature babies and deliver these to hospitals and also knit for the Christmas Shoe Boxes. There is another plea coming to us from “ Mission Europe” to help in the support of Storehouse Moldova. More information later. Last meeting we had a fantastic introduction from our three clever crochet teachers, they even brought printed sheets to further explain “how to” when we practice at home. If you are interested, I can now do a chain, single and double crochet!!!. If I can, so can anyone. It’s fun. See you all at the Reading Rooms where the kettle will be on-you’ll be very welcome! Many thanks to all our knitters.

*Sharon and the team.*

## GRASMERE CALENDAR - JUNE

2	<b>Sunday Celebration</b>	St Oswald's	11am
9	<b>Sunday Celebration Communion</b> The Big Green Week	St Oswald's Grasmere Allan Bank	11am  11am-1pm 3pm-5pm
11	Story Sessions with Zoobi- doo For Under 5's and their parents	School	9.30-11.30am
	Knit and Nat	Reading Rooms	2 -4pm
13	Composting Workshop Grasmere W.I.	Allan Bank Village Hall	11am 2pm
16	<b>Sunday Celebration</b>	St Oswald's	11am
	Lichen Walk and Talk	Allan Bank	11am & 2pm
18	Story Sessions	School	9.30-11.30am
20	Frogna and Fox A Life In Song	Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm
22	Deborah Thorne Cellist	St Oswald's	12.30pm
23	<b>Sunday Celebration Communion</b>	St Oswald's	11am
25	Story Sessions Bees In The Trees Knit and Nat	School  Reading Rooms	9.30-11.30am  2 -4pm
29	Poetry Out Loud -An even- ing of poetry reading	Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm
30	<b>Sunday Celebration Communion &amp; Baptism</b>	St Oswald's	11am

# CALENDAR JULY

2	Story Sessions	School	9.30-11.30am
7	<b>Sunday Celebration Parish Meal</b>	St Oswald's Village Hall	11am 12.30pm
9	Story Sessions Knit and Nat	School Reading Rooms	9.30-11.30am 2-4pm
11	W.I. Katie Gatt	Village Hall	2pm
13	<b>RUSHBEARING</b>	School Church	3pm
14	<b>Sunday Celebration- Communion</b>	St Oswald's	11am
16	Story Sessions	School	9.30-11.30am
21	<b>The Queens College Oxford Morning worship &amp; Evensong</b>	St Oswald's	11am 3pm
23	Knit and Nat	Reading Rooms	2-4pm
28	<b>Sunday Celebration</b>	St Oswald's	11am
29	LDSM Brass Ensemble	St Oswald's	11am

If you have an event, which is open to all the village, that you would like to place in the calendar please let us know. *Editors*

# wordsworth

## GRASMERE

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



Join us on Saturday 20 July for **The Literary Arboretum**, a day of free in-person events celebrating our relationship with trees in art, literature and culture, from the Romantic period 200 years ago through to the modern day. Listen to fascinating talks from Professor Fiona Stafford and Dr Penny Bradshaw, head out on a guided walk, or take a writing workshop with Polly Atkin – and, most importantly, spend time enjoying nature and the outdoors! Visit our website to find out more about the individual events and book free tickets.

On Thursday 11 July it is the final of our three online **Tree Talks**, this time on the theme of ‘landmark’ and ancient trees in literature and culture. The speakers include Professor Helen Parish, Professor Paul Westover and Tony Kirkham, who is the Retired Head of Arboretum, Gardens & Horticultural Services at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.



**Little Wanderers**, our creative play sessions for under 5s, take place every Friday morning in the Woodland. Free for Grasmere families.

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 26 June with Imtiaz Dharker. **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 to book, please visit **words-worth.org.uk**

*Hannah Catterall, Events Officer*

# SWIFTS

Is anyone willing to follow our lovely Grasmere Swifts? They should have arrived by the time you read this! I will no longer be able to count and submit figures of swifts and their observed nest sites in Grasmere as I have moved house to the Coniston area where I will hopefully continue.

The swifts are only here for a few months, May to July and it doesn't take a lot of time, just an evening's stroll when it's dry. If anyone is interested please email or phone me on 07763 465 034 or [Janecooper77@live.co.uk](mailto:Janecooper77@live.co.uk)

Thank you

*Jane Cooper*



## The Farming Year - Shearing and Haymaking

*We have been following Matthew and Emma at Brimmer Head Farm in Grasmere through the long winter months and into spring lambing. In June and July, now the better weather is upon us, there is a change of focus to shearing, sheep-dipping and making hay.*

Fell sheep are clipped in July but sheep kept in the valley are dealt with in June. A professional shearer can shear a sheep in about fifty to sixty seconds, but amateurs would take up to a minute and a half! The sheep are also dipped to protect them against parasites such as mites, blowfly, ticks and lice. The wool used to be sold but the price of wool is just so low now that it is hardly worth the time and effort of most farmers to collect and package it up. One new market opening up is turning wool into compost and also it can be used as loft insulation.

At the same time of year, the grass is cut for hay of which there is only one crop per year, so it's precious to us. Between 200-250 bales of hay are needed to get us through the winter months but, of course, it depends on how long winter lasts and how harsh it is.

The timing of cutting has to be right as the hay has to be made 'when the sun shines!' It has to be as dry as possible. The bales are wrapped in black plastic which causes the grass to ferment a bit making it tasty, especially for the cows.



## A Family Farm



Jane and Robert Powell



The Powell family

Like many farms in the Lake District, Brimmer Head is a family farm. Matthew and Emma run the farm alongside Matthew's parents, Robert and Jane, who, in turn, took over the farm from Philip and Anne, Robert's parents.

Farming has changed since they started at Brimmer Head. As with many jobs there is a lot more paper work! Robert and Matthew tend to do most of the day to day running of the farm, getting in extra help when needed, such as when gathering and clipping takes place. There is a wonderful link with the past as that the breeds of sheep have stayed the same. Brimmer Head farmhouse was built in 1693 and is Grade 1 listed. It is set in a wonderful location surrounded by pasture and with the fells as its backdrop. Living on a farm can look idyllic to the bystander but farms are usually cold and draughty. Living there has definitely improved in the winter now that central heating has been installed. The previous storage heaters having never kept the house warm.

As a family run farm lots of time is spent together and although days can be spent out at the agricultural shows, farming life never really stops, so holidays can rarely be taken all together. In other ways change is brought about by increased visitor numbers, not only because there are many more dogs, which if not controlled can worry sheep, but also increased traffic makes driving tractors around quite interesting in high season. What does the future hold? There is greater pressure to grow trees and we worry that the balance will tip too far towards tourism and not farming.

# Grasmere Rushbearing 2024



Following on from the success of last year we are looking forward very much to Rushbearing 2024 which will be held on:

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

We are looking for volunteers to help, both in the run up to the event and with the winding of the bearings. The church will be open for this on July 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and the morning of July 13<sup>th</sup>.

As always, we would appreciate any business support. There will be prizes for the best bearings and the best decorated pram.

We would appreciate any help you might be able to offer so if you could spare a few hours in the next few weeks or have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. There will be more details to follow.

Thank you

Grasmere Rushbearing Committee

07435596596

01539435070

[will\\_clark@hotmail.com](mailto:will_clark@hotmail.com)

## Recording Rushbearing

I'm an award-winning social documentary filmmaker/photographer in Cumbria, capturing portraits and landscapes on photographic film to preserve as a contemporary archive of our local heritage.

I am aiming to document this year's Rushbearing capturing the preparations and the event itself. I'm interested in filming and photographing those who go out and collect the rushes, singers/musicians, the Rushbearing hymn, those making the bearings, the Rush maidens, the role of the Gingerbread Shop and everyone else who gets involved.



Any images I take I can share with you all. If you would like to be involved and share your stories of the past with me please feel free to contact me directly: Thank you, Juliet

Honorary Teacher at The University of Cumbria

Tel: 07547 677 820 Email: [julietklottrup.com](mailto:julietklottrup.com) [www.Julietklottrup.com](http://www.Julietklottrup.com)



# 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](http://www.grasmeresports.com) REGISTER FOR ALL EVENTS ON THE DAY



# ALLAN BANK

You can get involved with Great Big Green Week, the UK's biggest celebration of community events to tackle climate change and protect nature. Drop-in activities, suitable for all ages.

Free daily activities include:

Letters to Tomorrow - write a letter to a loved one with your hopes and fears for the future and what needs to happen today to make that future a reality. Post it in our green letter box in the house and we'll put them on display at the end of Green Big Green Week.

Help a Plant Grow - visit Allan Bank's plant station in the garden loggia to plant a seed to take away and grow at home. All equipment provided.

**Sunday 9 June, 11-1pm & 3-5pm Community Craftivism**

**Tuesday 11 June 12-4pm Sustainable Woodland Management**

**Wednesday 12 June 12-2pm Climate Action Conversations**

**Thursday 13 June, 11am Composting workshop**

**Sunday 16 June, 11am & 2pm Climate Coffee & Lichen Walk & Talk**

Come along to a place that inspired conservation in the Lake District and beyond. For more information about each event call Allan Bank 35143 or look out for the posters around the village.

*Chris Barnes Welcome Manager*

## Fathers' Day, a time to celebrate male role models



In the UK, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day. It's a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to a restaurant, to watch a favourite sport, or simply just share some time together.

How do these special days ever get started, anyway?

Father's Day began because back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, USA, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother.

Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day - a permanent, national holiday.

*Parish Pump*

## **Ambleside & District Art Society**

### **Celebrate 50 years.**

The Ambleside and District Art Society are celebrating 50 years. As part of our celebrations we will be holding an Art Trail. 27 local businesses will be exhibiting work by ADAS members in their shop windows from the 27th July until the 10th August.

Over the weekend of the 27th and 28th of July there will be an exhibition at The Ambleside Parish Centre displaying work by artists of the past and present day. Please come along and see what the group has to offer. We are always looking for new members. The only criteria is that you live within a ten mile radius. There is also a collaborative painting on the go, look out for this at the health centre later in the year

*Jon Davidson*

### **'Dorothy Wordsworth's Bewilderment'**

This event will take place at the Cumbria University Ambleside campus on

**Tuesday 4th June at 6.30 pm.**

#### About the talk:

In Dorothy Wordsworth's journals, wildness was a combination of geographical features and a certain state of mind: one of be-wilder-ment. How these environmental and imaginative forms of wildness combine to make a distinct ecological imperative will be the focus of this paper. Alongside the journals, the paper will introduce the new Dorothy Wordsworth Walks app, co-created with Wordsworth Grasmere, and explore how reading Wordsworth's writing in place might help us also generate feelings of bewilderment that might just alter how we relate to even the most familiar of places.

Further details about the talk and a link to book a place at the event can be found here:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cultural-landscapes/t-zjlnlrz>

*Penny Bradshaw*



## **We're booking a summer holiday to Spain. What can we do to prepare and protect ourselves from things going wrong?**

The first thing to do is check if your passport is in date. Renewing can take several weeks. This is especially important if you're flying to Europe as EU countries no longer accept passports that are more than ten years old, even if the expiry date is more than ten years from the issue date.

If your flight is delayed for a long time, your airline has to give you access to food and drink vouchers, phone calls and emails, and accommodation if you're delayed overnight. If your flight is cancelled, you have a legal right to a full refund or replacement flight to help you get to your destination. You have a right to claim compensation if your airline delays, loses or damages your checked-in luggage.

Compensation for other things, like a day trip being cancelled, or not being given the standard of room you paid for, depends on whether you booked a package holiday or arranged it independently, so you need to check the details.

Get travel insurance as soon as you book a holiday. You may already have an existing insurance policy. It can cover many of the things mentioned, but also events like medical emergencies. If you need advice, do check the Citizens Advice website, or contact South Lakes Citizens Advice.

***Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice on any aspect of debt, consumer problems, benefits, housing, employment or any other problems. South Lakes Citizens Advice, your local charity, is here for you.***

***How to access:***

***Call 015394 46464 - this is being staffed from 9:30 – 2pm***

- ***Adviceline: 0808 2787 984***
- ***email advice via our submission page on our website***  
**[www.southlakescab.org.uk](http://www.southlakescab.org.uk)**

# Advertising In the Parish Magazine

Would you like to advertise in the magazine?

The magazine is produced bi-monthly and reaches at least 575 homes in Grasmere and is bought by visitors.

The rates for this year are set out below.

The rates are, for 6 issues:

1" single column - £35

2" single column - £70

1/4 page - £110

1/3 page - £150

1/2 page - £200

Whole page - £300

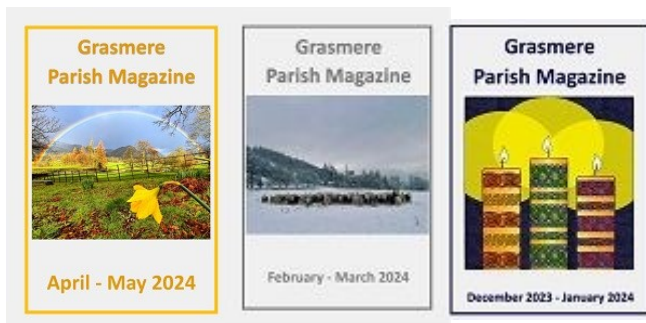
Anything above a 1/3 of a page can be in colour, if requested

Full colour posters £30 per issue

In the first instance please contact either the editor or treasurer.

**editor@oswaldparish.news**

**treasurer.grasmereandrydal@gmail.com**



**Support Group**

**For those with dementia, their carers and friends**

**at**

**Ambleside Parish Centre**

**on**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

**10.30 – 11.30 am**

**Information, Games and Leaflets available**

**Elaine Ravenhall from the Alzheimer Society**

**will also be joining us.**

**More details 015394 34172 [admin@amblesidepc.org.uk](mailto:admin@amblesidepc.org.uk)**

# CONTACTS

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

**Rector:** Vacancy from April 2024

**Church Wardens:** Ann Jackman and Gerry Rawcliffe

07826663590 [grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:grasmerechurchwarden@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Richard Beskeen 015394 35131

[treasurer.grasmereandrydal@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.grasmereandrydal@gmail.com)

**Organist:** Mr Ian Hare MA Mus B 017684 83886

[ian.c.hare@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:Grace.southlakes@gmail.com)

**Roman Catholic Priest:** Fr. Ajish Kumpukkal, Mater Amabilis Church, 015394 33027

**Quaker: Friend In Residence:** Terry Winterton. Glenthorne,

Tel: 015394 35389 [info@glenthorne.org](mailto:info@glenthorne.org)

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

**Central Lakes Mission Community** Rev. John Dixon

015394 36301 [jjcedixon@btinternet.com](mailto: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/](http://www.wordsworth.org.uk/dorothy-wordsworth-walks/)



Dorothy artwork by  
Alex Jakob-Whitworth

Google Play and the Google Play logo are  
trademarks of Google LLC

