



April 2026

St Oswald's Parish Church, Dean Directory

Ministry Team:

Clergy: Canon Jane Charman

Lay Minister: Michael Bonner

Parochial Church Council:

Clergy Canon Jane Charman

Lay Chair Clare Chittenden

Churchwarden: Clare Chittenden (Safeguarding) 01946 861089

Secretary Tracey Wood

Treasurer & Deanery Synod Rep. Michael Bonner

Elected: Sheila Eynon Eleanor Gate

Fiona Hammond

Enquiries regarding Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals please contact
Grasmoor Mission Community Administrator, GMC Office,
South Street Community Hall, South Street, Cockermouth, CA13 9RU
- Tel: 017687 75742 - Email: gmcoffice@grasmoormc.church

anyone requiring a home visit (occasional or regular) should contact the
Churchwarden, Clare Chittenden on 01946 861089
who will be happy to make the arrangements.

Verger: Clare Chittenden 01946 861089

Honorary Treasurer: Michael Bonner 01900 605536

Church Flowers: Eleanor Gate 01900 872568

Magazine Editor: Kevin Tolchard 07540 620811

Email : Kevin.DeanParishnews@Gmail.com

Services and activities

St Oswald's Church is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and welcomes all who wish to visit. **Our Sunday morning services are at 10.00 a.m.** – on the 1st Sunday of each month we have a traditional Book of Common Prayer said Holy Communion, the 2nd a Common Worship Morning Prayer with hymns & refreshments, the 3rd a short said Celtic Morning Prayer & the 4th a full Common Worship Holy Communion with hymns & refreshments.

More information about our Church including Services can be found at www.achurchnearyou.com/dean-st-oswald and on Facebook.

Editor's Letter

Dear Readers,

Hello April! The days are brighter, the flowers are waking up, and our parish is buzzing with springtime excitement. There's a fresh energy in the air, and it's the perfect time to come together and enjoy all the wonderful events happening this month—Easter celebrations, friendly gatherings, and opportunities to simply share a smile with your neighbour & don't forget to start making your own scarecrow for next month's Dean Arts & Scarecrow Festival – have a look at the packed programme.

Thank you to everyone who adds their own sparkle to parish life, whether you're volunteering, attending events, or just popping in for a chat. Your enthusiasm makes our community feel warm and welcoming, and we couldn't do it without you.

If you have any fun stories, news, or snapshots from around the parish, please send them our way—we love sharing your moments!

Wishing you a happy, sunny, and laughter-filled April.

Cheers,
Kevin
Editor, Dean Parish News

VACANCY

DEAN PARISH COUNCIL

FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Closing date 15th April 2026

Applications are invited to fill one casual vacancy on Dean Parish Council, to be decided by co-option at the next meeting on Monday 11th May 2026.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please apply in writing to the Parish Clerk:

Rev'd Judith Morgan MA

Riverlea, 30 Queens Avenue, Seaton, Workington, CA14 1DL

Or by email: clerk@deanparishcouncil.com

Church News

Easter in St Oswald's Church, Dean in 2026

It seems no time much since we were packing the Church on Christmas Eve 2025 with our Christingle Service – the real start of Christmas for so many – just a couple of handfuls of weeks for us – but for the baby whose birth we celebrated back then it was a human lifetime – 33 years – the first 30 of them at home, learning his trade as a carpenter, followed by 3 years of ministry – letting the people he met know where they stood with God, their creator!

And when these things are said at this time of year, there comes back the answer “So what – that was a couple of thousand years ago – the world has moved on”. Yet strangely, although when Jesus was executed after that mockery of a trial his followers were scattered, and he was left with just a handful of friends he could trust – less than a dozen, on the Easter weekend this year more than 2 billion followers all around the world will be celebrating his unlikely victory all those years ago. And, as they have been doing for the last 850 years, people of Dean will be joining in with that celebration – **on Good Friday – 3rd of April in Church from 12 noon till 1 o'clock we will be surveying the Wondrous Cross, and on Easter Day – 5th April in Church at 10 a.m. we will be joining the risen Jesus and his followers all around the world today to celebrate his victory over evil and sin.**


As always, the door of St Oswald's is open to all.

Michael Bonner – Lay Minister, St Oswald's, Dean

Members of our congregation are delighted that St. Oswald's Church now has 2 handrails to assist access up the two steps to the Chancel. We were fortunate that Alan Dawson agreed to design and make them, they are beautiful and have received several compliments.

In March we celebrated Mothering Sunday and welcomed a class of Dean school children into Church for Experience Easter and later the whole school for their own end of Spring term service.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Vestry meeting will be held in Church at 7.00pm on **Monday May 11th**. At these meetings attendees have an opportunity to hear a report of the work of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during the past year and to elect the PCC and Churchwardens for the next year.



Invasive Non-Native Species in the Marron Catchment

Tuesday 14th April 7:30pm
Ullock Village Hall, Ullock, CA14 4TP

INNS are animals or plants that have been introduced and now pose a threat to the environment, people or economy.

Learn more about how West Cumbria Rivers Trust are working with local communities to tackle INNS such as Himalayan balsam and American mink, which are both invading the River Marron.

A presentation by West Cumbria Rivers Trust INNS Project Officer Izzie Mullin, followed by Q&A and discussion about how you can get involved in caring for our rivers.

Free of charge - all welcome!

2026 Dean Parish Scarecrow Festival

Competition Entry Form.

1st Prize £50, 2nd £20, 3rd £10.

Your scarecrow should be sited so that it can be viewed from the road for judging i.e. in your front garden or field next to the road. Other places will be allocated if you have nowhere suitable of your own.

The scarecrow should be in position by **Friday 1st May** and remain there until the evening of **Monday 4th May**. Individual and group entries welcome.

Name _____

Address _____

Entry Fee £2.00

Please return your completed form by **Thursday 23rd April** to Carol Thomas or Sybil Worsley with cash or email to: - kandca.thomas@branthwaitemill.com, entry fee can be paid by banks transfer to: -

Account name: Dean Parish Festival

Sort code: 40-47-20

Acc. no: 41449532

HSBC .

Please use you name as the reference.

Each entry will be given a number once all the entries are in and a map of the scarecrow trail with the entries marked will be available for £1.00.

It is anticipated that the entries will be judged by people walking round the villages and posting their judging forms in the boxes provided.



Dean Scarecrow and Arts Festival

Friday 1st May -Monday 4th May 2026

Following our last meeting we are now well on with all the arrangements for the forthcoming Dean Arts and Scarecrow Festival. This is the penultimate Parish News before May 1st, and the May edition will only be delivered at the end of April, so we are putting most of the information about the arrangements in now...

Following last month's edition, we have recruited many volunteers, but we need many more. Please see below for details:

- **Help with teas** in Dean (most volunteers are needed for Dean), Ullock, Dean School and Deanscales on a rota basis.
If there is a group of friends who would like to work together this can be arranged or you can volunteer as an individual. This will involve working in the kitchen or serving tea.
- **Baking Cakes & Traybakes** (please leave these uncut so we can cut them to the same size), soup etc.
- Help with **putting up signage** prior to the start of the event.
- Help **delivering posters** /putting up posters prior to the event.
- **Drive a minibus**, we need two more people.
- **Marshalls** for three days for Dean where at the Marquee and the carparks (weather permitting).
- Show field Marshalls.
- **Selling programmes**, selling raffle tickets at various venues.
- Help to **set up and dismantle** after the event in the marquee.
- **Rubbish collector** and tip run- ad hoc.

The list is almost endless and there are jobs for anyone who wants one. You can give as little time or as much as much as you want. We can't manage without volunteers.

To Volunteer please contact Carol Thomas on 01900 603073 or Sybil Worsley on 07775750774



Scarecrows:

The entry forms are included in this magazine (page 7). Please Enter a scarecrow and take part - remember it won't be a scarecrow festival if we don't have them!

If you want to enter and you don't have a place, we can provide one! Contact Carol Thomas on 01900 603073 for further information about entries.

Ticket Only Events

Lastly, we have two special big events over the weekend, and they are **ticket only**. We are advertising this locally now so that locals can have the first option of tickets so please order them from Carol.

Friday 1st May at 7.30pm

Spectrum

Live band with Dean and District bar in the main Marquee

Saturday 2nd May 7.30pm

Romany Magic

A brilliant magic show suitable for all the family followed by a Disco in the main Marquee with Dean and District bar.

Tickets online or available from Carol Thomas on 01900603073 Price £12.00 for adults and over 16's, free under 16

Please see the programme for all the other events which you can attend. We look forward to seeing you all very soon and please put your scarecrow entries in and volunteer! Thank you.



Raffle tickets available at the event and online, numerous prizes, too many to list here

Dean Arts & Scarecrow
Festival 1-4 May Raffle

Name

Address

Telephone

All counterfoils, monies and unsold tickets
to be returned to the promoter by
Monday 4th May 2026

£75 voucher for Washington Central Hotel
£50 voucher for The Royal Yew
Lake District Well-Being - Soundbath x 2
Afternoon tea for 2 at Armathwaite Hall
Shills Hamper
Voucher for Keswick Climbing Wall
Voucher for Lakeland Hauntings Ghost walk
2 Parkway Cinema tickets
£25 voucher for Kirkstile Inn
2 tickets for Theatre by the Lake
Keswick Launch- family ticket
Derwent pastel pencils tin
2 tour tickets for Jennings Brewery
plus lots more, full list of prizes at event

Promoter: Carol Anne Thomas, Branthwaite Mill, Branthwaite, Workington, CA14 4SZ
Registered under the Gambling Act 2005 with Cumberland Council, Licence No. SL0310
Printed by www.raffleticketsdirect.co.uk

Dean Arts &
Scarecrow
Festival 1-4 May



Draw: Kirkstile Community Centre,
Dean on Tues 5th May 2026 at 7:30pm

Tickets £1 each

Dean Arts and Scarecrow Festival 2026 raffle prizes:

1. Dobies Charitable Trust - £75 voucher for Washington Central Hotel
2. The Royal Yew - £50 voucher
3. Lake District Well-Being - voucher for 2, group sound bath
4. Afternoon tea for 2 at Armathwaite Hall
5. Cumberland Pencil Company – large tin of colouring pencils
6. Shills – Hamper & Box of chocolates & Case of 3 bottles of wine
7. Kirkstile Inn – £25 voucher 8. Theatre by the Lake - 2 theatre tickets
9. Keswick Launch Company- Family voucher for round trip, up to 2 adults and 3 children
10. The Ritz Cinema - 4 guest passes
11. Parkway Cinema – 2 complimentary tickets
12. Keswick Climbing Wall – voucher for 1 hr climbing session
13. Lakeland Hauntings – voucher for 2 for Lakeland Hauntings Ghost Walk, Keswick
14. Jennings Brewery - 2 tour tickets
15. Large and small Stanley insulated mugs and Cool bag
16. Aspava restaurant - £20 voucher 17. Hampers from Tesco & Morrisons
18. Chambers Joinery - wine and chocolates 19. Harrisons butchers- Voucher for 2kg chicken
20. Cockermonth Art and Craft Shop - £15 token 21. New Bookshop - £10 voucher
22. Sainsbury's - bottle of Prosecco 23. Allison's chemist – OS map work top saver
24. Toy Shop, Cockermonth - £10 voucher 25. Lidl- Box of Swizzles sweets
26. Holmen- Bottle of Whisky & Bottle of Gin
27. Holmen- Box of Maltesers, Quality Street, Wine Gums, Fruit pastilles, Celebrations



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SATURDAY 18TH APRIL 2026

KIRKSTILE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DEAN

DOORS 7PM • MUSIC STARTS 7:30PM

BAR OPEN ALL NIGHT

TICKETS: £10 | SCAN FOR TICKETS

Text: 07780868148

Ring: 01900 603073



SCAN FOR TICKETS

DEAN WI UPDATE

Our first meeting of 2026 took place on February 17th when we had a very engaging talk by Hilary Stitt, physiotherapist. Hilary gave us some very useful tips on how to keep active and even had us participating in a few exercises.

On March 17th we are having Marc Goodwin, the Whitehaven town crier, which should prove very interesting. **April 21st is a Herdy Talk** by Diane Hannah from the firm Herdy and May 19th is a beauty demonstration by Tropics representative Angela Price.

Our membership is gradually increasing and apart from our regular meetings there are various other activities on offer.

The new selection of books to be read by the book club begin in April and one of our members will be reviewing the current book in this magazine. Our two darts teams will soon be participating in the County WI darts competition. We wish them luck.

If you would like to try one of our meetings you would be most welcome. We meet in the Kirkstile Community Centre, Dean, at 7.30 p.m., third Tuesday each month.

Louise Richardson

louiserichardson5@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 01900 601231

Spring is here!
Come join us at the

**kirkstile
community
centre
Easter
Bingo**

**Friday 27th March
6:30pm start**

Bring your family and friends!

Entry - Adult £1 kids 50p

£1 per book

raffle £1 per strip

BINGO- RAFFLE- PRIZES



Starting Monday,
March 2nd
9am - 10:45am

DEAN DUCKLINGS PLAYGROUP IS BACK

Term
Time



0-5yrs

£2

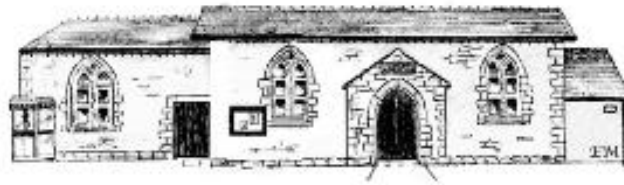
Join us for a play, snack and story
time. New faces always welcome.

Dean C of E Primary School,
CA14 4TH



Follow Dean Ducklings Playgroup for all of our news





ULLOCK VILLAGE HALL

The Mystery of the Pirate Lagoon

A comic radio play presented live on stage

Sponsored by Arts Out West

If you are one of the many who enjoyed the hilarious "Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon" then here's a chance for another good laugh to lift those winter blues

**This daft and entertaining show gives you the chance to release your inner pirate, make the sound effects and take part in scenes in a special edition of the play.
(Or just sit back and enjoy!)**

Saturday 18th April at 7 30pm

Tickets: £12 adults £6 children include refreshments

Margaret 01948 861458

Helen 07786 016670

Easy-Breezy Gardening Tips for April

Spring into the Season with a Smile

- **Get your garden ready:** Give your flower beds a quick tidy-up, sweep away the weeds, and mix in some compost—your plants will thank you!
- **Sow some fun:** Pop hardy annuals like sunflowers and poppies straight into the soil, and try your hand at tasty veggies such as carrots and lettuce.
- **Feed and pamper:** Show your roses and shrubs some love with a sprinkle of fertilizer and a cosy layer of mulch to keep them happy and hydrated.
- **Snip and shape:** After spring-flowering shrubs finish their show, give them a gentle trim—it's like a haircut for your garden!
- **Protect your plant babies:** Watch out for those sneaky late frosts and wrap your tender seedlings in cloches or fleece blankets if chilly nights arrive.
- **Lawn care begins:** If the grass is dry, fire up your mower and start trimming—just keep the blades set high to ease into the season.
- **Bye-bye, bugs:** Keep an eye out for slugs and snails around young plants and try friendly, natural ways to tell them to move along.

April brings longer days and a burst of new life—so get outside, enjoy the fresh air, and let your garden shine!



Solway View Promenade Café – Maryport

When Kevin & I started taking Chewy to Maryport beach (when the tide is out!) for a long walk we bemoaned the fact that there were no refreshments along that huge promenade. Well - bemoan no longer- a cafe has appeared!

The Solway View Promenade Cafe opened in autumn 2025 & is run by the team from Redby Coffee in Maryport.

It's in a great position- fabulous views of the Solway Firth (duh - that will be the reason for the name!), loads of free parking, play area & skateboard park next to it, easy access for all customers & great exploration opportunities on the beach (check the tide times first!) & hillsides for children & dogs. Excellent long, flat, traffic free promenade for walking, running & cycling.

First impression of the Cafe is that it's very clean, with friendly staff & a welcoming atmosphere. It's family friendly with a good children's menu & dog friendly with plenty water bowls around.

When we went on a Monday morning. Kevin wasn't patient enough to wait for the cheese scones coming out the oven, so we shared a cherry flapjack. The coffees were good. Other customers were having cooked items which looked & smelled lovely. They serve breakfast until 11.30am, hot & cold lunches 11.30 - 2.30pm & cakes & ice creams all day. There is plenty outdoor seating and the toilets are inside.

It's a great place to get refreshments after getting your dose of healthy fresh air & a great stop for exploring the Maryport marina and harbour.

Open Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm
Saturday & Sunday 8am - 4pm

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Our Villages Notice Board

Pub Quiz
Every Wednesday 8.30pm
@ the Royal Yew

Lunch Club in UVH
on 9th April at 12-30pm
Soup, bread cheese and
biscuits & cake. £3.
Chat, Friendship & Quiz

Art Club in UVH
Fridays @ 10.00 am
New members welcome

Thursday Club In UVH
On 30th April 2pm - 4pm
Beetle Drive
Tea & bingo.
Everybody welcome!

Decorating St. Oswald's church for Easter.
4th April - 9-30am.
Donations and help welcome

... and looking forward ...

KIRKSTILE COMMUNITY CENTRE
Zapatos Rojos -
Saturday 13th June 2026

and please remember – this is your notice board.

Dates for your Diary

April

Good Friday	3 rd	12 noon	An hour before the Cross
Sunday	5 th	10.00 a.m.	Easter Day Holy Communion
Sunday	12 th	10.00 a.m.	BCP Holy Communion
	9 th	12.30 p.m.	Lunch Club in UVH
	18 th	7.30 p.m.	“The Mystery of the Pirate Lagoon” in UVH
Sunday	19 th	10.00 a.m.	Said Celtic Morning Prayer
	21 st	7.30 p.m.	Dean WI in KCC
Sunday	26 th	10.00 a.m.	Parish Communion
	30 th	2.00 p.m.	Thursday Club in OVH

Plus our regular weekly activities

Day	Time	What & Where
Monday	9.30 a.m.	“Dean Ducklings” Playgroup in Dean School
	10.30 a.m.	Art Group in KCC
	10.00 a.m.	Marron Valley Handbells in UVH
	7.00 p.m.	“Sing owt” Choir in UVH
Tuesday	6.00 p.m.	Ballet Classes for adults in UVH
Wednesday	10.30 a.m.	Dean Handbell Ringers in KCC
Thursday	8.00 p.m.	Oswald Singers in Dean School.
Friday	10.00 a.m.	Art Class in UVH

Need help in your neighbourhood?

EMERGENCIES - Dean Civil Parish Community Response Group Members

Dean		Pardshaw	
Tim Chittenden	01946 861089	Val Pallister	01900 823208
Clare Chittenden	01946 861089	Eaglesfield	
Sybil Worsley	01946 861580	David Clarkson	01900 827763
Branthwaite		Jenny White	01900 825994
Keith Thomas	01900 603073	Deanscales	
Ullock		Sarah Edwards	01900 821805
Margaret Trotter	01946 861458		

MEETING PLACES IN THE PARISH

ST OSWALD'S CHURCH

The Church is available for concerts and similar appropriate activities –
Please contact any Churchwarden (page 1) for details

DEAN SCHOOL SPORTS AND ARTS FACILITY

The facility is available for Private Hire, Sports and Arts activities.
We can provide Badminton and Table Tennis equipment and there are facilities
for a wide range of other activities.

Sessions are priced **from** £7/hr for the hall and £3.50/hr for the foyer.

To book please contact Norah in school hours on 01946 861408

KIRKSTILE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DEAN (KCC)

is available for parties, concerts, meetings etc.

Rates are £10 per hour for the whole premises, £5 per hour for the kitchen (small
meeting room).

For more details or to book please contact Sybil Worsley on 01946 861580

ULLOCK VILLAGE HALL (UVH)

is available for parties, concerts, meetings etc.

Rates are £7.50 per hour – For the whole hall

£4 per hour – For the small room (kitchen)

Commercial rates available. For bookings, please contact:

Margaret Trotter 01946 861458 or Jacqui Clarkson 07824 534708

DEAN PARISH NEWS is published monthly by St Oswald's Church
and **delivered free of charge to every home in the Parish.**

It is also on Facebook

It is funded by St Oswald's Church PCC, who gratefully receive contributions
from advertisers, a grant from DEAN PARISH COUNCIL
and donations from parishioners

Articles, notices etc for PARISH NEWS should be sent to the
Editor, Dean Parish News,
by e-mail to Kevin.DeanParishNews@gmail.com

Articles for the May Parish News should be submitted by 15th April

Advertising space is available

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For more details, please contact Michael Bonner on 01900 605536
or at bonnermim@gmail.com

DEAN ARTS & SCARECROW FESTIVAL



MAY | 1 - 4 | 2026



/DEAN ARTS AND SCARECROW FESTIVAL

ORGANISED BY DEAN PARISH FESTIVAL

FOR MORE INFO ON ALL THE EVENTS PLEASE VISIT: WWW.KIRKSTILECOMMUNITYCENTRE.CO.UK

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