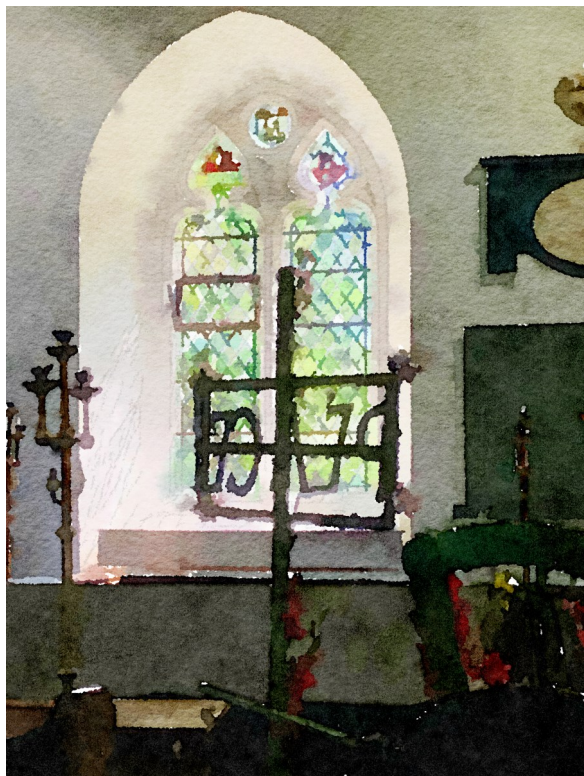


# Grasmere Parish Magazine



August-September  
2025

# A Letter from The Vicarage

Psalm 121 - I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

Dear Friends,



On any given day in Grasmere, we are surrounded by what the psalmist once saw when he lifted his eyes to the hills—shadows shifting across Helm Crag, cloud gathering over Silver How, sunlight spilling like gold down Greenhead Gill. These aren't just backdrops to our lives. They are, in a real sense, companions—anchoring us in a landscape that feels older, wiser, and somehow closer to the eternal.

The Bible, too, is full of mountains. The team at The Bible Project recently explored how mountains in Scripture are not just geographical features, but deeply symbolic places—places where heaven and earth meet, where God speaks, and where people are changed. From Eden's high garden, to Sinai's thunder, to the quiet power of Jesus praying on a hillside, the mountains are where we meet God—and often, where God meets us.

That struck me recently whilst running above Alcock Tarn after rain. The climb was slower than I liked. The path unclear in places. But at the top, just as the clouds broke, everything opened up—and with it came a stillness that felt more than physical. In that moment I was reminded of a quote from the Bible Project, "mountains in Scripture are not escape routes—they are invitations to encounter God." And encounter, as we know, changes us.

But of course, no one lives on the mountaintop. The Bible reminds us that even Jesus came down after his transfiguration. The valleys—where people are hurting, hoping, healing—are where most of life happens. The mountain reveals, but the valley redeems.

So this summer, as walkers pass through and we share this landscape with many, I invite you to see our hills not only as beauty, but as signposts—reminders of the God who meets us in high and low places alike.

May the paths you walk this month—whether steep or level—bring you a fresh sense of God’s nearness.

And may we, as a community, become a place where others too can lift their eyes and find help—not just from the hills, but from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. Peace,     Lawrence

## SERVICES IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2025

### August

Sun 3rd 11:00am - Holy Communion Led by Rev Canon Susi Wood

Sun 10th - 11:00am - Open Church

Sun 17th - 11:00am - Holy Communion Led by Rev George Wrigley

Sun 24th - Open Church

Sun 31st - Holy Communion. Rev Lawrence Basham

### September

Tuesday 2nd - 11:00am Holy Communion

Thursday 4th - Silent half hour

Sunday 7th - Open Church

Tuesday 9th - 11:00am Holy Communion

Thursday 11th - 14:30 Silent half hour

Sunday 14th - 11:00am Holy Communion

Tuesday 16th - 11:00am Holy Communion

Thursday 18th - 14:30 Silent half hour

Sunday 21st - 11:00am Open Church

Tuesday 23rd - 11:00am Holy Communion

Thursday 25th - 14:30 Silent half hour

Sunday 28th - 11:00am Holy Communion

Tuesday 30th - 11:00am Holy Communion



# Grasmere Rushbearing

Grasmere Rushbearing, held on July 12<sup>th</sup>, one of the hottest days of the year with temperatures soaring into the 30s.

The festival evoked memories of the Rushbearings of childhood, meeting the high standards we aimed for. Amidst the joyful chaos, children enjoyed ice cream and gingerbread and received medals for their participation. (If we missed anyone, please get in touch).



Rushmaidens Emily Sanderson, Beth Finch, Emme Abbott, Darcy Metcalfe, Esme Gledhill-Mason and Georgie Hughes had the starring role. They were kindly rewarded with an afternoon tea at the Rothay Garden Hotel.

The procession concluded with an engaging church service led by Rector Lawrence Basham.

Burneside Brass Band, performed brilliantly in the procession and continued playing after the church service. The band included young stars from Grasmere Village and played a variety of songs, including Love Story by Taylor Swift and The Final Countdown.

Tilly Burton won best infant bearing, and Jane McGregor won the prize for the best adult bearing for the harp. Tilly Burton won the shield for best bearing overall. The Rushbearing fell race took place during school earlier in the week, and the winners were as follows:

-

- Under 12 Boys: 1. James, 2. Judah, 3. Oskar
- Under 12 Girls: 1. Emme, 2. Darcy, 3. Ivy
- Under 9 Boys: 1. Francis, 2. Johannes, 3. Sam
- Under 9 Girls: 1. Louise, 2. Verity, 3. Molly

The final task was to draw the raffle, and the star prize—Sunday Lunch for two at Tweedies—was enjoyed by winner Anthony McCluskey the following day.

When events run well they look effortless, but the extensive behind-the-scenes work starts at the beginning of the year. We appreciate what everyone did BUT to ensure the continuation of this tradition, the committee needs more volunteers in any capacity please speak to one of the committee.

Will Clark on behalf of Carrie, Sharon, Lawrence, Ann, Will's Family and everyone who played a part in a special day for Grasmere.

### **Rota for Sidespersons**

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 3rd August     | DAVID & ANN JACKMAN         |
| 10th August    | SONIA RICKMAN & PAT TAYLOR  |
| 17th August    | DON PERRITT & DAVID DODGSON |
| 24th August    | DON PERRITT & DAVID DODGSON |
| 31st August    | TREVOR & HELEN EASTES       |
| 7th September  | DAVID & ANN JACKMAN         |
| 14th September | SONIA RICKMAN & PAT TAYLOR  |
| 21st September | GERRY & ANNE RAWCLIFFE      |
| 28th September | DON PERRITT & DAVID DODGSON |



The summer term was full of excitements.

Sports: We had a triathlon, a fell race, sports day, open water swimming and an expedition following our beck from source to sea.

Creative Arts:

- Art work based on the local area has been created ready for an exhibition.
- Filming has begun as part of our 400th anniversary celebrations.
- We put on a production of Matilda (to great acclaim!).



Our statutory testing results were again excellent. Our children have achieved well above the national average across all the testing points (Y1, Y2, Y4, Y6). Well done to all the children, and well taught, teachers!

The autumn term

We are looking forward to a term of research into the past of our school, amongst all the other activities already planned within the curriculum. We will be filming scenarios based on the Victorian logbooks. If anyone has any props or clothes which we might be able to borrow, we would be very grateful. Please get in touch if you do! [head@grasmere.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@grasmere.cumbria.sch.uk)

We will also be fundraising for a new classroom. Look out for our wonderful Herdy notebook, featuring all the activities of Grasmere School, in sheep form. There is also a raffle, with exceedingly good prizes! (Thank you to all those who have donated prizes!)

## Invitation

We would love to invite you all to the Village Hall on Thursday 11th December, during the day to see our exhibition, and at 6pm for an evening of entertainment which begins with the premiere of our Grasmere School 400 film. We're working with Janine of Gorgeous Media. She made the Grasmere Nativity and Grasmere School's Handy Guide to Cracking the Countryside Code with us, so it will be brilliant, because she is! There will also be storytelling by Dominic Kelly and, of course, we will discover the winners of the raffle.

## Thank you

Thank you SO much to everyone who has helped to make this year a great one for the school. We are so grateful to those of you who have provided us with time, energy, resources, expertise and goodwill. We are the school we are because of the wonderful support given by our energetic and wise community. Thank you!

*Jo Goode, Headteacher*



## **Grasmere and Rydal Parishes Join Together**

We're pleased to share some important and exciting news with you: as of June 1st, the parishes of Grasmere and Rydal have officially joined together to form one new parish — the Parish of Grasmere. This merger is a natural and positive step forward in our shared ministry and mission in the area. With the new parish now established, there will be one Parochial Church Council (PCC) serving the whole community. This allows us to work more closely together, share resources, and support each other in our worship and outreach.

### **Worship in Rydal**

Worship continues most days in the beautiful chapel at Rydal Hall, led by Lawrence Basham and a dedicated team who offer regular services and pastoral care. This has become a valued and vibrant part of parish life, drawing people together in prayer and fellowship throughout the week.

St Mary's, Rydal =will remain open for private prayer and for visitors who wish to enjoy its peace and heritage. In addition, we're delighted to announce that St Mary's will continue to host five special festival services over the coming year:

Harvest Festival – Saturday 5 October 9:30am

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 9 November 9:30am

Christmas Day 25 December 9:30am

Easter Sunday 5 April 9:30am

Pentecost Sunday 24 May 9:30am

We look forward to seeing many of you at these services, and we give thanks for the continued life and witness of our churches in both Grasmere and Rydal. As we begin this new chapter, let us move forward in hope, unity, and faith.

*Lawrence*



# MUSIC NOTES

Musical events coming up in August and September, which you are invited to attend. Grateful thanks are offered to all who support these events in any way, thereby helping to welcome all to our lovely church. *Ian Hare*

## **Monday 4th August at 11.00 a.m.**

Lake District Music Summer Festival

Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo: Music for Flute and Accordion

## **Thursday 14th August at 7.00 p.m.**

Stuart Dodgson (Trumpet) and Ian Hare (Organ)

## **Sunday 17th August at 11.00 a.m.**

Sung Eucharist and at 4.00 p.m. Choral Evensong

Members of the Choir of The Queen's College, Oxford

## **Thursday 4th September at 7.00 p.m.**

Celebrity Organ Recital by Dr David Hill, CBE

(Former Director of Music, St John's College, Cambridge)

# Grasmere and Cumbria Weather

## MAY



The dry, warm conditions of March and April continued well into May. This resulted in the warmest and sunniest Spring on record, and also the sixth driest Spring here since 1929. What May will be remembered for here in Grasmere were the 22 mainly hot, virtually cloudless days from April 28th. until May 19th. which produced an absolute drought. The definition of an absolute drought is a period of at least 15 consecutive days, to none of which is credited 0.2 mm. or more of rain. This definition was introduced in 1887, 3 years before the rainfall records were established here. An Azores anticyclone was responsible for all the hot, dry weather. It was caused by a kink in the jet stream, which formed the shape of a Greek omega, keeping all the low pressure systems at bay.

Most areas enjoyed day after day of unbroken sunshine and temps. of 70.F. Sebergham recorded the warmest temperature of the month on the 12th. hitting 80.F. Thunder was recorded here on the 19th. with hail showers. From the 23rd. the weather finally began to change, with rain, cloudy skies and lower temperatures. Further weather fronts arrived from the west on the 26th. and 27th.. Of course, it was ironic that during the warmest and sunniest Spring on record, all three bank holidays were cool and unsettled. The month ended with a very wet spell of weather. Mean maximum temps. in May were well above average, with daytime anomalies approaching 3.C. Night temps. were close to normal and frost was widespread on certain nights. Reservoir stocks were significantly lower than the av. of 94%. Thirlmere and Haweswater combined were at 49% storage at the beginning of June, well below the average. At Brampton, May 2025, will be remembered for an exceptionally long, dry spell which began in April and lasted until May 23rd., an impressive run of 31 consecutive dry days here in Cumbria, making a personal record since their rainfall readings began. Figures for May in Grasmere.

Wettest May Day 28th. 42.5mm. ( 1.67 inches)

May rain days 10 Last year 14

Total for month 159.1 mm. 6.27 inches Last year 6.79 inches

Rain days to date 64 Last year 107

Total for year to date (end May) 665.1mm. (26.21 inches) Last year 53.19

## JUNE

The glorious Spring weather became a distant memory. From the beginning cyclonic conditions were in control bringing “girt” heavy showers, very few sunny spells, and more general rain at times. Obviously, it has to make up the shortfall. With the dominant jet stream now in control, it also brought dust hundreds of miles away from Canada, due to out of control Canadian wild fires. Humidity increased on the 11th. bringing a hot, sultry day and the month’s first fine day. The humid conditions continued and on the early morning of the 13th. an electrical storm hit Grasmere, with a spectacular display with thunder and lightning and over two inches of rain deposited. As mentioned in previous reports, if you want to know how far away the thunder is, count the seconds between the thunder and lightning, each second represents 300 metres, with just over 1600 metres in a mile. Thunder was again recorded on the 14th. at 9.15 am. Towering cumulonimbus clouds unleashed hailstones from a great height, and 30,000 lightning strikes were recorded in the UK. Incidentally, the UK’s largest hailstone on record fell in the West Sussex town of Horsham on Sept.5th. 1958. It was the size of a tennis ball, and weighed 142 grams, over a third of a pound. Several hot, muggy days followed, with temperatures in the high seventies. Doing any physical work was strenuous, with the biting clegs not helping. On the eve of the Summer solstice, the heavens opened again, bringing further heavy rain. The last week of the month continued to be very unsettled, with dominant south westerlies, (“ the muck hole”) in full control. Grasmere has had its fourth wettest June since records began in 1890. The other three wettest years as follows. 1938 12.47 in. 1948 12.58 in. 2012 14.62 in.

Weather to date: Wettest June day 13th. 52.2 mm. 2.06 inches.

Total for month 300.0 mm. 11.81 in. Av. 4.78 inches Last year 4.36 inches

June rain days 22. Last year 20. Rain days to date (end June) 86 Last year 120.

Total to date (end June) 965.1 mm. 38.02 inches Last year 57.55 inches

*Peter Bailey*

# wordsworth

## GRASMERE

In August we are open 7 days a week, 10am-5pm, and in September we are open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm.

Entry to Dove Cottage, the Museum, exhibition and grounds is free to Grasmere residents and workers.

The Time Lab: Exploring a Living Prelude

Inspired by William Wordsworth's explorations of memory in his great poem *The Prelude*, our exhibition 'The Time Lab: Exploring a Living Prelude' brings together your stories and Wordsworth's verses and transforms them into a continually changing, interactive artwork.



Artist and guest curator Stacey Joy Rossouw uses drawing, sound and collaborative workshops to explore how our personal memories resonate through time, inviting us to re-think our relationship with history, memory, and nature.



Step into Stacey's studio laboratory and contribute your own 'spot of time' to the exhibition. 'The Time Lab' runs through to 1 November and will look different every time you visit. There will be tie-in creative workshops and events – visit our website to book.

## Families

Join us this summer in crafting your very own magical memory book at Make and Play: The Time Lab and get messy with ink and paint! This free drop-in workshop takes place on **5 August** from 10.30am-12.30pm and is suitable for families with children of all ages.

You'll also find us at Cumbrian libraries throughout the summer. We are in Kendal and Ambleside on **26 August** – please book directly with your local library.

Little Wanderers, our creative play sessions for under 5s, takes place every Thursday morning in the Woodland during term time. Free for families living in Grasmere.

## Events

Come along to St Oswald's Church on **23 September** for our annual poetry reading from Simon Armitage, the UK Poet Laureate.

On **13 September** Environmental Poet of the Year Ben Verinder will be here in Grasmere reading from his award-winning collection *How to Save a River*, which celebrates those who protect and restore rivers in the Lake District and all around the world.

Our next online 'Go to the poets' event is on **10 September** with David Morley, who will be reading from his new collection *Passion*. Drawing on Romany language, storytelling and the speech of birds, he invites us to reflect on the ways in which humans and nature are entwined.

Discover Poetry with Polly Atkin and Dove Cottage Poets, our poetry reading and writing groups, continue to take place on Zoom and as a hybrid meeting respectively.

For more information and to book, please visit [wordsworth.org.uk](http://wordsworth.org.uk)

*Hannah Catterall, Events Officer, Wordsworth Grasmere*

## Grasmere WI

Our **June** meeting saw a packed Grasmere Village Hall with Dave and Angie Walsh talking about The Royal Navy and their successful naval careers. Such an inspiring presentation, by the end of the afternoon we were all ready to sign up!

Also in **June** our GWI Garden Group had a brilliant head gardener tour at Lowther Castle with a few cafe stops of course! Our Craft Group had a Blooming Fibres workshop at Allan Bank making amazing displays with seasonal summer flowers and our GWI Rock Group (geology) was out in Borrowdale again led by GWI member and geologist expert Dr Annette McGrath.

*GWI Rock Group (geology!) members enjoying a field trip in Borrowdale*



In **July** our meeting was a great fun, gin-themed afternoon with the excellent Shed One Gin. Also in **July** we enjoyed being part of Grasmere Rushbearing including doing lots of rush winding. The GWI Garden Group had a fantastic tour of Edinburgh Botanical Gardens and a great day out in Edinburgh.



**The Grasmere WI Cumbria Way Challenge** is well and truly underway with monthly team walks ticking off the different stages. We are now at Peter House Farm, just 54 miles to go!

*GWI members out on their Cumbria Way Challenge*

## Looking ahead.....

Our **August** meeting is on **Thursday 14 August 2pm at Holehird** with a guided tour by Holehird volunteer and GWI member Hayley Davidson, followed by a GWI Gardeners' Question Time and tea and cakes, of course.

Also in **August** we are throwing pots at a brilliant pottery workshop in Keswick and our GWI Book and Culture Group are going to Theatre by the Lake to see *Pride and Prejudice* with a pre-theatre dinner.

At our **September** meeting on **Thursday 18 September 2pm** at the Village Hall we have an exciting afternoon lined up with David Nightingale (Community Action Nepal) and his presentation "High in the Himalaya".

As always, we are looking forward to a very busy and active Westmorland County Show for GWI on **Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 September**, such an exciting few days at GWI.

In addition to all of this, here's a few of our other extra regular activities. Our monthly Book / Culture Group at Allan Bank is a huge success, with a packed attendance and lively discussion in Wordsworth's study. We also have our very popular monthly rambles, fabulous practical Art Group sessions, weekly GWI Strong kettlebell classes with our local personal trainer Libby Dixon (we're getting stronger every week!), weekly GWI Badminton, GWI Crochet and GWI Craft Groups and the list goes on!

So proud of this action packed programme and this amazing group. A huge thanks to all our members for making Grasmere WI such a vibrant, friendly and fun group.

Come and join in the fun, you'll be made very welcome. Please do get in contact, my details are below.

*Louise Sykes*

*President Grasmere WI*

*T: 07860 299658*

*E: [clsmailbox@icloud.com](mailto:clsmailbox@icloud.com)*

## Grasmere Village Society

The July heatwave lasted just long enough for us to enjoy a dry, sunny day for the annual Rushbearing. Thanks to all those who helped to organise this and to those who participated including maidens, bearers, marshals and of course, the spectators. The church service following the procession was a fitting celebration and the school children learned how to throw a party for the Prodigal Son!

Sharon Savasi and her team of Himalayan Balsam Bashers have been tirelessly working over the past several years to eradicate the non-native Himalayan Balsam from the village surroundings. They are working with the South Cumbrian Rivers Trust to provide a non-tolerant zone between Grasmere and Kendal. We need some more volunteers please over the next several weeks and if you would like to help please contact Sharon Savasi at [savasi@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:savasi@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 015394 35458 or 07957 073255.



The bus shelter opposite the Daffodil Hotel has now been made structurally safe and the roof has been replaced. Work to the windows and redecoration are pending.

GVS membership subscriptions and donations enable the Society to undertake maintenance and improvement works around the village, for which the committee is most grateful. If you would like to support such projects you can become a GVS member with this link or contact our membership secretary Simon Hey at [simonhey4@gmail.com](mailto:simonhey4@gmail.com) (015394 35067; mob. 07785 920316: <https://forms.office.com/r/3EEMvCJFnE>).

You can also follow GVS initiatives and updates on our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/grasmerevillagesociety>.



GVS has developed the Grasmere Emergency Resilience Plan for the village in the event of environmental emergencies arising. The village hall is the primary emergency refuge centre.

There is also a Grasmere First Responder group for medical emergencies and we are appealing for more volunteer First Responders. Becoming a First Responder is a rewarding experience and you will have the skills



NWAS  
First Responder

to potentially save a life. It also gives you the opportunity to enhance your interpersonal skills and job prospects. No previous experience is needed and full training is provided by North West Ambulance Service. You can choose when you wish to be available for call outs and first responder assistance is only requested when an ambulance has also been sent to the patient.

If you are interested in becoming a First Responder then please contact Trevor and Helen Eastes at [trevorheleneastes@gmail.com](mailto:trevorheleneastes@gmail.com)

*Nick McCraith (Chairman)*

### *Knit and Nat*

Knit and Nat continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month in the Reading rooms from 2-4pm. The kettle is always on and we enjoy new friends and old friends dropping in and saying hello.

Recently Amanda Ashton moved house, although still maintaining her links with Grasmere; she donated a lovely amount of wool. From Cotton to DK to Chunky and a delightful variety of colours. Please come and take some. We are so grateful to her.

Many Ladies in the village help us to provide the premature baby's units with blankets. We are grateful also for hats, scarves and toys for the shoe boxes, needed more than ever this year!

Don't forget the WI County Show in September has a category for a dressed Teddy or Doll..... keep knitting.....

Contact me if you would like some wool dropped off at your homes.

*Sharon Savasi*

## CALENDAR - August

|    |   |              |         |
|----|---|--------------|---------|
| 2  | <b>Lakes Artist Society</b>                   | Village Hall | All day |
| 3  | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Open Church</b>    | St Oswald's  | 11am    |
| 4  | <b>LDSM Flute and Accor-<br/>dion Concert</b> | St Oswald's  | 11am    |
| 10 | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Open Church</b>    | St Oswald's  | 11am    |
| 14 | <b>WI</b>                                     | Holehird     | 2pm     |
|    | <b>Stuart Dodgson Concert</b>                 | St Oswald's  | 7pm     |
| 17 | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Holy Communion</b> | St Oswald's  | 11am    |
| 24 | <b>Grasmere Show</b>                          | Sports Field | All Day |
|    | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Open Church</b>    | St Oswald's  | 11am    |
| 31 | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Holy Communion</b> | St Oswald's  | 11am    |

## CALENDAR - September

|       |  |                       |                   |
|-------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 4     | <b>Organ Recital</b>   | St Oswald's           | 7pm               |
| 7     | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Open Church</b>                       | St Oswald's           | 11am              |
| 10/11 | <b>Westmorland Show</b>  | Crooklands,<br>Kendal | All Day           |
| 14    | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Open Church</b>                       | St Oswald's           | 11am              |
| 18    | <b>WI</b>  | Village Hall          | 2pm               |
| 20    | <b>Voulez Vous<br/>Abba Tribute Band</b>                         | Village Hall          | 7pm               |
| 21    | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Holy Communion</b>                    | St Oswald's           | 11am              |
| 23    | <b>Simon Armitage,<br/>The Poet Laureate,<br/>Poetry Reading</b> | St Oswald's           | 7pm for<br>7.30pm |
| 28    | <b>Sunday Celebration:<br/>Open Church</b>                       | St Oswald's           | 11am              |

**Knit and Nat Every month 2nd and 4th Tuesday in the Reading Room  
2pm**

**Tuesday Holy Communion at 11am**

**Thursday Silent Half Hour 2.30pm**

## Grasmere Village Hall

Our big news of the Summer is that we have launched the Hall's new Audio Visual system with two community events. In June the film maker Terry Abraham gave a talk & showed excerpts from his film "Cumbrian Red: Saving Our Red Squirrels" on the new big screen.

Also, a "Wimbledon Pimm's & Strawberries" event was held with visitors dropping in throughout the afternoon to watch live tennis on the screen. As part of the event, local councillor Will Clark presented a £5,000 grant cheque from the Westmorland & Furness Locality Board, which has supported the installation of the new AV system. In addition, Cllr. Clark contributed £500 from his Member's Allowance, and the three Grasmere Parish Councillors — Sharon Savasi, Will Clark, and Andy Astle — generously donated £500 each from their Lakes Parish Council allowances toward the project.

Further funding was gratefully received from the Cumbria Community Foundation, The Hadfield Trust, Grasmere Village Society, and The Holroyd Foundation, all of whom contributed to making this vital upgrade possible. The village hall also raised £4,000 through community fundraising events, including the popular Grasmere Christmas Raffle,



which is generously supported each year by many local businesses in the village. An additional £3,000 was received in private donations from individuals in the community. We're incredibly grateful to everyone who has supported this project. The upgraded AV system will benefit our community for years to come - including the exciting launch in the Autumn of community cinema screenings in partnership with Cine North. Some more good news – we are installing a card machine in the Hall car park so users will be able to pay by card or by the RingGo app. Remember that 30 minutes' parking is free!

Looking ahead, the Lake Artists Society will be holding their annual Summer exhibition at the Hall from 2 August to 10 September. The weekly Wednesday morning coffee & chat sessions will recommence in September. We also have some further exciting events planned.

**Saturday 20 September, 7.30 pm:** Voulez Vous ABBA tribute band are returning for another fun evening of music and dance. Tickets £13.50, on sale at [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk)

Musical duo Fool's Gold will be appearing on **3 October**, Highlights Rural Touring Scheme are bringing a fused glass workshop on **23 October** and Steve Watts MBE will be giving a talk & slideshow on **24 October**.



The Hall will be closed for the month of November for internal redecoration. We apologise for the inconvenience this will cause to our regular hirers but we hope you'll understand and enjoy using the Hall all the more when the work is done. We are busy fundraising for our next project: repairing guttering, windows and part of the roof. We are, therefore, hugely grateful for all your support and donations in our efforts to keep the building in order and make it a place everyone enjoys using!

Don't forget to sign up and support us by using 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 food shop at Tesco, booking a holiday with Booking.com to taking out insurance on Compare the Market. Sign up here: <http://efraising.org/rWHiZtGHZl> A big thank you to our existing supporters - you have raised £84 so far!

**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

Email: [enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@grasmerehall.org.uk)

*Pam Moreland*



## Grasmere Book Group

June's book group tackled Hwang Bo-Reum's *Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop* (2024). A Korean novel, translated by Shanna Tan, about a small bookshop, in a quaint neighbourhood in Seoul, where Yeongju and her customers take refuge in the healing power of books (and maybe each other too). Some felt a connection with Toshikazu Kawaguchi's Japanese novel *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* as both books find the magical, uplifting benefits of independent retail. Another member discussed *Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop* in sparkling terms as "lots of friendly chat and coffee and warm stories of families becoming closer and generations helping each other". The characters certainly come to the fore and grow, leaving many finding this a reassuring, escapist read.

A holiday feeling was in the air as a small but perfectly formed group gathered in July to discuss Anne Enright's Women's Prize shortlisted novel *The Wren The Wren* (2023). The novel depicts a mother and daughter's changing relationship, the death of an estranged poet grandfather, controlling romantic relationships and emotional damage. One of the group was surprised by the contemporary nature of the writing in the early stages, and there was a broad feeling that the opening was unrepresentative of the whole of the book which switched perspectives to tell differing generations' side of the story. The fictional poems included in the book resonated strongly as did the flashes of emotional insight in Enright's storytelling. All agreed it was well-written. The next two books scheduled for the group take us into the past on the trail of a mysterious artefact and then into the world of comic art. Upcoming meetings: AUGUST 14th – Alastair Reynolds, *Eversion* (2022) SEPTEMBER 11th – Graphic Novel TBC. To tie-in with the Lakes International Comic Art Festival (LICAF), which is held in Bowness-on-Windermere from Friday 26th – Sunday 28th September.

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*

# Gardening



Sue Needham, a WI member, sent some wonderful photos of her roses. Not only do they look beautiful but the smell of roses such as Gertrude Jekyll are heady and captivating. Sue's tip for growing such amazing blooms is simply Epsom salts and wood ash from the fire.

# SQUIRRELS

## **Autumn Antics: What Our Beautiful Red Squirrels Are Up To This Season**

As the leaves begin to turn and the air takes on that familiar crispness, one of the UK's most charming woodland residents is busier than ever. Early autumn is a fascinating time for our beautiful red squirrels—and if you're lucky enough to spot one, you'll witness nature's hustle and bustle in full swing.



**Gathering and Hiding:** Right now, red squirrels are laser-focused on one thing: food. With winter approaching, they're hard at work collecting and storing supplies. You might see them darting through the trees or rustling among the leaf litter, gathering nuts, seeds, berries, and fungi. Their favourites? Hazelnuts, beech mast, conifer and pine seeds.

**Staying Fit:** They're also eating more to build up essential fat reserves. Unlike some of their woodland neighbours, red squirrels don't hibernate. Instead, they stay active all winter long.

**A Delicate Balance:** While it's a magical time for red squirrel watchers, it's also a crucial period for their survival. With habitat loss and competition from invasive grey squirrels continuing to threaten their numbers, every acorn cached and every young squirrel that finds safe ground is part of the bigger picture in red squirrel conservation.

So next time you're out on an autumn walk, keep an eye out and you might just spot one of these fiery-tailed treasures dashing past—hard at work, preparing for the season ahead.

IF YOU SEE A GREY or a sickly looking red anywhere around Grasmere  
PLEASE Text: Stuart Dickson 07980 893459, David Birkett 07775 904236,  
Stewart Sutcliffe 07817 326524, Trevor Cooper 07884 404794; or email  
grasmerersg@gmail.com

If you would like to donate, please visit <https://bit.ly/3yX6FC5> to donate  
via PayPal or Bank transfer: Grasmere Red Squirrels | 63002884 | 01-09-75

Follow us on Facebook @GrasmereRed

*Kelly Taylor*



# GRASMERE



LAKELAND SPORTS & SHOW

**SUNDAY 24 AUGUST**

**2025 ATTRACTIONS**  
**DRUM NATION**  
**FAT CAT BRASS BAND**  
**SAM THE SCAM**  
**AVAGO CIRCUS**

- ❖ **Fell Running**
- ❖ **Hound Trails**
- ❖ **Cumberland & Westmorland Wrestling**
- ❖ **Children's Sprint Track, Long Leap & Fun Races**
- ❖ **Trade Stands & Craft Marquee**
- ❖ **Fun Dog Show**

**FREE  
PARKING!**

**GRASMERE SPORTS FIELD - LA22 9SL**

Gates open 9.00am  
Events commence  
at 10.00am

[www.grasmeresports.com](http://www.grasmeresports.com)



**Fully Inclusive - Everybody Welcome**

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## *Village People*

# **Glenthorne**

We continue our series on important organisations in the village that don't usually feature in the parish magazine. Last edition we interviewed Connie from the YHA, this time we cross Easedale Road to meet Terry Winterton at Glenthorne, the Quaker Guest House and conference centre.

Glenthorne, unmistakable in its white and green, welcomes hundreds of visitors every year, and not just Quakers, from all over the world. In 1964 Linton Taylor donated the large house to the Yorkshire and Westmorland Quaker meetings, who run the charity to offer "hospitality, respite and renewal".



The Quaker movement, known as the Religious society of Friends, was started in Cumbria by George Fox, believing "that of God can be found in everyone", spreading quickly, especially on the other side of the Atlantic. Quakerism has had, and continues to have, a significant impact, promoting the human values such as simplicity, truth, equality, and peace notably in education and industry (including Cadbury's, Barclays and Clarks Shoes).

You can visit Swarthmoor Hall near Ulverston and Kendal Quaker tapestry to discover more about the history of Quakers in this area, and Fox's Pulpit, where Fox held huge open air meetings can be found near Sedbergh.

Terry is the Friend in Residence (see contacts inside back cover) and is in Grasmere five days a week. He is very approachable and always happy to meet locals and have a chat.

There are 10 or so staff who run the centre, some living on site or in the village. Some have been at Glenthorne for many years.

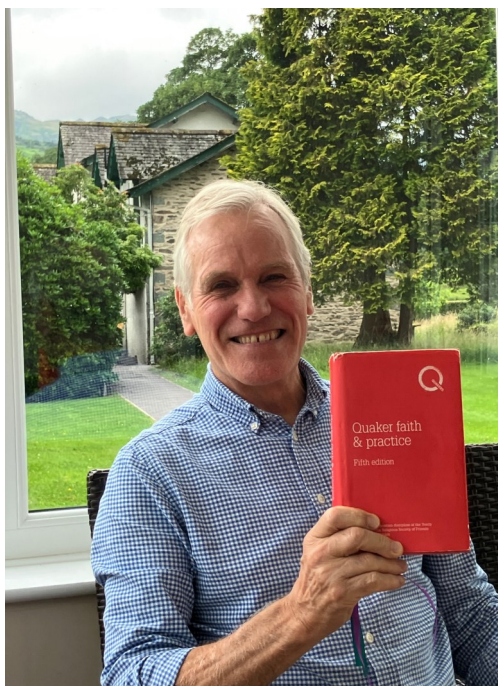
With 26 rooms the centre is another 'home from home' and the annex behind was once the stable block for Allan Bank.

Terry runs a meeting every morning for guests, which are usually held in silence. There are a wide range of courses on offer throughout the year – ranging from painting classes to dancing, literature and a wide range of religious and spiritual topics.

There is an open meeting at 11:30am on the fourth Tuesday of each month to which everyone is welcome.

Terry is particularly proud of the charity work the centre continues to provide with six Welcome Project weekends for asylum seekers and refugees every year supported by donations. Glenthorne also offer a series of bursaries.

Terry sees his role, something like a chaplain, as a "life not a job" – he says, "it is a huge privileged, the best job in the world for a Quaker!"



*Terry Winterton interviewed by David Jackman*



**St John's Hospice**

**CROSS BAY WALK 2025**

**Sunday 17th August**

Join our adventure on the sands of Morecambe Bay and support YOUR local hospice through sponsorship or donation.

Setting off from Annside Promenade and arriving at Grange, the walk is approximately 8.5 miles and takes around 3-4 hours. Open to for everyone aged 10+ plus well behaved dogs are welcome!

**Book your tickets online TODAY:**  
[sjhospice.org.uk/crossbay](http://sjhospice.org.uk/crossbay)  
 or call 01524 551773

Walking the Cross Bay Walk for St John's Hospice means you're walking to support local patients and families - Thank You!

QR code for ticket booking

Many of you will remember David Perrem, who worked in the village at Barneys Newsbox for 38 years.

I am aiming to raise money for St John's Hospice, as this is where David, my father, spent his last days surrounded by family.

If you would like to sponsor me do pop into the shop.  
 Many thanks,

Amanda Perrem



## Bell Ringing

The bells at St Oswald's have been part of village life for centuries. The two oldest date from 1731 and even the youngest was ringing out before Queen Victoria was born.

Traditionally bells are rung for fun, on Sundays, for weddings, funerals, and historic events, but despite committed efforts from Dennis, Graham and John, for some time the bells have not been in regular use.

This is something we are hoping to change.



If you were in Grasmere one Thursday evening in June you may have heard the bells ringing. This was our first "Introduction to Bell Ringing" session, which included a demonstration from Graham and John and a chance to observe the bells turning full circle in the chamber above.

Thanks to support from the existing bell ringing team, Lawrence, members of the PCC and the Diocese, we are planning regular sessions for beginners from this September. This coincides with the one hundredth anniversary of the bells being rehung in 1925.

If you'd like to learn to bell ring, please get in touch, everyone is welcome – it's a rewarding and sociable hobby, and no musical experience is required, we'd love more people to take part.

*Kate O'Donoghue [dizzy\\_01\\_dyer@icloud.com](mailto:dizzy_01_dyer@icloud.com)*

## **Dementia Support Drop In**

**The Ambleside Parish Centre**

**Tuesday 19th August**

**10.30 – 11.30**

Family, carers, friends and people living with dementia all welcome.

We all have experience of caring for family members living with dementia so why not drop in for a coffee and a chat

Advance notice:

Dementia Hub

**Tuesday 16th September**

**Wesley Room, Ambleside Parish Centre, 10.00-12.00**

Charities and groups offering support to those living with dementia and their carers will be present.

More details 015394 34172 barratt573@btinternet.com



***Free, confidential advice and help is available from South Lakes Citizens Advice How to access:***

- ***Call 015394 46464 (9.30am – 2pm, Monday – Friday)***
- ***Drop in sessions at Wainwright's Yard, Kendal, LA9 4DP (10am – 2pm, Tuesday and Thursday)***
- ***Adviceline: 0808 2787 984 (9am - 5pm, Monday – Friday)***
  - ***email advice via the submission page on our website***  
**[www.southlakescab.org.uk](http://www.southlakescab.org.uk)**

# CONTACTS

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

**Rector: Rev Lawrence Basham**

**lawrencebasham@gmail.com 07891001592**

**Church Wardens:** Anne Rawcliffe

**Treasurer:** Gerry Rawcliffe

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, Windermere  
01539 533223

**Central Lakes Mission Community** Rev. John Dixon  
015394 36301 jjcedixon@btinternet.com

# wordsworth

GRASMERE

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Free admission for Grasmere residents  
and employees of Grasmere businesses