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CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO:

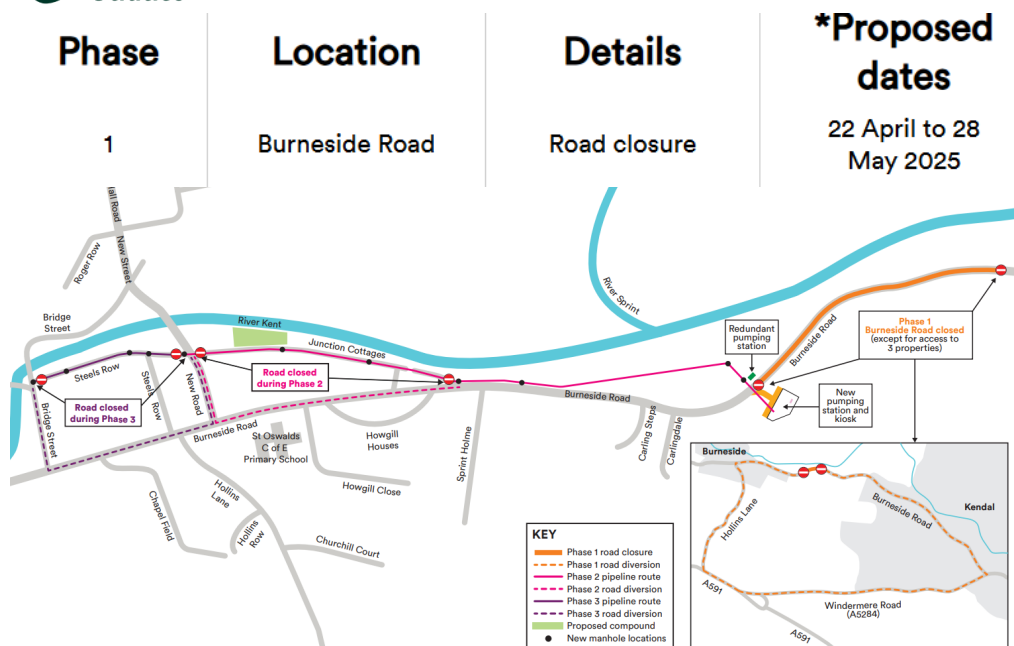
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### Meeting dates for 2025 7pm St.Oswald's Church Meeting Room

- 6th May  
 \* Annual Parish Assembly & Annual Council Meeting\*
- 3rd June
- 29th July
- 2nd September
- 7th October
- 2nd December  
 \*Precept Meeting\*



### Water for the North West



It always feels like something of a triumph to me to finally arrive in May. We've survived the cold and dark hours of the winter, trudged through the gloom and deprivation of Lent and are finally facing some days that promise lighter evenings and possibilities of sunshine and time to relax and play with family and friends. For me, I guess that feeling is heightened by the sheer joy of getting up before the crack of dawn on May 1<sup>st</sup> and meeting a group of equally crazy friends on a local hill or mountain top and singing and Morris dancing as the sun rises. This moment is often full of pure joy. A simple celebration of being alive and appreciating the many gifts we have been given and the earth we share. For me, it's a time when I thank God for friendship, for the gifts of music and dancing and for his wonderful creation. The others who share that special moment with me all have their own reasons for being there and together we are a very thankful and excited bunch despite the 4am wakeup call! This year we do this for the first time without one of our number who died last November. That moment will be tinged with sadness and grief as we remember our loss, but we will dance and sing harder to honour her memory.

I've been conscious a lot lately that 'in the midst of life we are in death' (Book of Common Prayer, funeral service) a phrase that acknowledges the inherent connection between life and death, reminding us that death is always a presence, even while we are living. It's been my privilege lately to conduct quite a few funerals and to walk with families as they grieve the loss of their loved ones. We've said goodbye to some huge characters around the Beacon Team in the last few months. In this Easter season we can hold onto the hope that Jesus conquered even that ultimate finality of death by rising to new life and going ahead of us to prepare a place for us in heaven. The promise of the Christian faith is that through faith in Christ we will have the hope of heaven and a life beyond death.

So, on May 1<sup>st</sup> I will be up at 4am and dancing on a hill somewhere in the Kendal area as the sun peeps out over the horizon. We will be celebrating life in all its fulness and I will be giving thanks to God for the many blessings he has given me. Apologies if you awake to the sound of distant, jingling bells and a joyful song on the breeze...

Happy May!

Michelle

### St.OSWALD'S CHURCH, MAY SERVICES

- 4<sup>th</sup> 4pm Evening worship
- 11<sup>th</sup> 11am Holy Communion
- 18<sup>th</sup> 11am Morning worship followed by the  
 Annual Parochial church meeting, all welcome
- 25<sup>th</sup> 11am Holy Communion



## Weekly Evening Prayer at St. Oswald's Church

Every Tuesday @ 5.30pm in the Chapel



Book of Common Prayer  
Communion in the Lady Chapel  
every Wednesday 9.30am

**PRINTED NEWSLETTERS :** You can find printed copies of the monthly newsletter in the village shop (in the plastic folder on the wall as you walk through the door) and also in Swards Bakery Shop and the Church corridor.



The community fridge is still available for use in the church corridor, same entrance as the Post Office.

Please use it to leave any spare foods and take what you need.

Perishables can be safely stored here, especially as the weather gets warmer.

It is for everyone. Leave what you can, take what you need. Avoid waste. Share.

# St. Oswald's Church PLANT SALE

**SATURDAY  
JUNE 7th  
10-12**



**GARDEN & INDOOR PLANTS  
REFRESHMENTS  
CAKE STALL**

**with Music from Members of the  
Kendal Concert Band**

Please save any house/ garden plants, seedlings, cuttings, spare vegetable plants, garden related gifts, etc for the sale.

All donations gratefully received.



### CHURCH GROUNDS TIDYING

If anybody feels like helping to keep the Churchyard tidy please give Liz a ring on 01539 726550 or email [lizbingham@talktalk.net](mailto:lizbingham@talktalk.net)

Maybe you have the odd hour to spare one evening or an afternoon free. There is always something to do— weeding, path clearing, sweeping, general tidying and removing rubbish.

Any help would be welcome.



### May 2025 Events Celebrations & Special Days

**May Day 1st May** May Day is an ancient pagan spring festival, traditionally celebrated across Europe with maypole dancing and the crowning with a floral crown of a May Queen.

**World Laughter Day 3rd May** The celebration of World Laughter Day is a positive manifestation for World Peace and it builds up a global friendship through laughter.

**Star Wars Day 4th May** A pun on the date 4th May inspired the phrase May The Fourth Be With You. So this day is now known as Star Wars Day.

**May Day Bank Holiday 5th May** Held on the Monday closest to May Day

**Screen-Free Week 5th May to 11th May** Annual event to encourage us to unplug from digital entertainment and spend all that free time playing, reading, daydreaming, creating, exploring, and connecting with family and friends.

**World Asthma Day 6th May** An annual event organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma with a goal to improve asthma awareness and care around the world.

**VE Day 80 8th May** VE Day 80 is the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day which marked the end of the war in Europe and WWII as a whole on 8th May 1945.



**Europe Day 9th May** A day celebrating peace and unity in Europe. It is celebrated by displaying the Flag of Europe and commemorates the founding of the Council of Europe.

**National Doughnut Week 10th May to 18th May** National Doughnut Week is a fundraising event in aid of The Children's Trust (for children with brain injury) organised by the baking industry.



**International Nurses Day 12th May** Held on the birthday of Florence Nightingale to mark the contributions that nurses make to society. It is a day to recognise the important role of nurses around the world.

**Eurovision Song Contest 13th May to 17th May** Eurovision is an annual international celebration of music. The 69th Eurovision Song Contest will be held in Basel, Switzerland.

**International Day of Families 15th May** A UN designated day to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase the knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.

**National Children's Day UK 18th May** National Children's Day UK is all about the importance of a healthy childhood and protecting the rights and freedoms of children so that they can grow into happy, healthy adults.

**World Bee Day 20th May** The purpose of World Bee Day is to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators, the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development.



**International Tea Day 21st May** A UN designated day to take action to promote the sustainable production and consumption of tea

**World Turtle Day 23rd May** The aim of World Turtle Day is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.

**Geek Pride Day 25th May** Geek Pride Day is a fun worldwide celebration of geekiness and nerdism. So if you are wildly enthusiastic about something today is the day to tell all your friends about it!

**May Half Term 26th May to 30th May** Schools in the UK break up for a week, but do check with your school for individual date variations.

**Late Spring Bank Holiday 26th May** The late spring Bank Holiday, held on the last Monday in May, was originally known as Whit Monday. The Whitsun weekend was traditionally a time for fairs, Morris dancing and parades with brass bands.

**National Biscuit Day 29th May** A celebration of this tasty treat, whether you regard it as a sweet snack to go with a cup of tea, or a savoury addition to a meal.

