

St Bees Priory Church

The Ministry Team

Retired Clergy with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate:

The Revd David Cox (01946) 821601

The Revd Canon Dr Trevor Park (01946) 821799

Lay Readers

Chris & Charm Robson (01946) 822468

During the interregnum please contact the Churchwardens (see ABC for details) on administrative matters and Rev David Cox on Pastoral concerns

Services

Sundays

9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	(1st, 3rd & 5th - 1662)
10.30 a.m.	Family Service	
6.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	

See Calendar for details of Family Services and Evening Prayer

N.B. This pattern may vary at particular seasons of the year. See magazine calendar.
The sacrament of baptism is administered at the main service and must be arranged well in advance with the Vicar..

Priory Web Site - www.stbeespriory.org.uk

This magazine is free but production costs are about 35p per copy. Contributions from the Parish Council and our advertisers, to whom we are most grateful, pay for about 50% of the costs. However this leaves a substantial sum to be paid for by the PCC. Donations to the Treasurer* or your Magazine Distributor are most welcome.

Circulation - 900 households in St Bees, Sandwith, Rottington, Linethwaite, Coulderton, Middletown, Nethertown.

* - Treasurer - Dr G Burgess, 7 Abbey Farm, St Bees, CA27 0DY.

DTP & Final Editing - Ian McAndrew

Printed by *Printpoint (Cumbria) Ltd.*, (01946) 64305

St Bees News

May 2011



St Bees Parish ABC

Area Visitor / Good Neighbour Scheme	The parish is divided into 30 small areas each with an official Church Visitor whose task is to welcome and help people in the name of the Priory. Co-ordinator - M Westhead (Tel. 822674).	Funeral Director	in the Village is Malcolm Reid (Tel. 822217).
Arts Society	meets every two months on the last Wednesday of the month at the St Bees Management Centre at 8.00 p.m. Details from Dilys Brownrigg (822584) or Alan Hawkins (822330)	Garden Society	Details from Neil Todd, Gosforth (Tel. 019467 25519). Flower Show is held on the 3rd Saturday in August.
Bellringing	The Priory has a ring of 8 bells. Those interested in ringing or learning to ring, contact D Sim, 31 Main Street. Practice Wednesdays, 8.00 p.m. Sundays, ring at 10.00 a.m. and Evensong by arrangement.	Guides	meet in New College Hall on Mondays from 6.15 - 8.00 p.m. For further details please contact Lucy Scott (Tel. 821755).
Bridge Club	meets on Tuesday at 6.45 for 7.00 p.m. & Friday afternoons at 1.45 for 2.00 p.m. in Bigrigg Hall. Mike Brewer (Tel 019467 25835).	Library	is at the Village School (Tel. 822219), Tuesdays from 1.30 - 6.00 p.m. & Fridays from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.
Brownies	meet in New College Hall on Tuesday evenings. Details from Amanda Smith 823933.	Local History	Research on the Priory and the village continues. Details from History Group (Ian McAndrew - Tel. 822326 or Chris Robson Tel. 822468).
Beavers	for boys aged 6 - 8 meet on Thursdays, 5.30 - 6.30 p.m. in the Youth Centre. Details from Dick Beddows (Tel. 823288).	Methodist Church	Sunday Service & Sunday School is at 11.00 a.m. Family Service on the second Sunday.
Cubs & Scouts	Cubs , for boys aged 8 - 10, meet on Thursdays, 6.45 - 8.15 p.m. in the Youth Centre. Details from Ian Howard (Tel. 823626). Scouts meet on Mondays in the Youth Centre. Details from Mike Greene, Fairladies, 102 Main Street (824302).	Over 60's Club	meets in Hodgett's Club on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month: 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Details - Mrs M Brannon Tel. 822541.
Choir	rehearses on Sundays at 9.45 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).	Parish Council	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Couderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, e.mail pc_clerk@stbees.org.uk, who will answer queries on civil parish matters.
Churchwardens	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. They are John Kennedy (Tel. 822297), Rosalie McAndrew (Tel.822326), Derek McGee, & Wendy Mellor.	Parochial Church Council	meets 10 times a year. Elections for 20 members are held in March at the A.P.C.M. Its task is to spearhead the mission and ministry of the church in the Parish. PCC Secretary - H Taylor, Tel. 822255
Cumberland Morris Men	meet on alternate Thursdays in Hodgett's Club. Contact Neil Bettinson, 22 Main Street, for details of these and of the Traditional Mummers.	Pre-School	meets in the new building next to the Village School, 5 mornings a week. For children 2 years 9 months +. Contact Pre-School on 823880.
Electoral Roll	is the list of all church members qualified to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. E.R. forms are available in church, to be returned to the Priory.	Prayer Group	meets on Thursdays from 2.00 - 3.00 p.m. in New College Hall . All denominations welcome.
Finance	The Church Treasurer is Dr Geoff Burgess, 7 Abbey Farm, St Bees, Tel. 824416, who will gladly explain our Christian Giving system.	Priory Fellowship	meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. in New College Hall. Details from Gill Richardson, 822394.
First Responders	provide an immediate Basic Life Support in association with the Cumbria Ambulance Service. Contact Phil Buxton 821176 or Andy Brock 823497.	Priory Singers	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 8.00 p.m. Details from Hugh Turpin (Tel. 828066).
Football Association	Contacts - Seniors Dale Jackson 823631 & Tony Barnett 590640. Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.	St Bees Triers	Triathlon Club meets Seacroft House 7pm Thursday contact Andy Brock (Tel. 823497).
Freemasons	St Bega Lodge meet 7:00 p.m. On 2nd Wed of each month, Village Hall. Details: 01946 64275 or www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk	Sunday School	for ages 3 - 11 meets during Morning Service New College Hall, at 10.30 a.m. Contact - Rosalie McAndrew (822326).
Friends of the Priory	assists in the conservation of the Priory and encourages interest in its historical and architectural heritage. Contact Philip Barratt or Tom Rice, Treasurer, Green Ghyll, Greendykes, Egremont.	Toddler Group	meets every Thursday, in term time only, from 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. in Adams Recreation Centre. Details from Rachel Walker (825823) or Ann James (820957).
		Village School Association	exists to raise funds for the school and to foster links between school and community. Secretary - via School - Tel. 822392.
		Village Hall	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
		Village in Bloom	Details from Eileen B Todd, Chairman, 14 Main Street. St.Bees (Tel 822522).
		Village Web Site	Information for inclusion should be sent to Ian McAndrew (822326) or imcandrew@stbees.org.uk Address is http://www.stbees.org.uk

Calendar for May

1	2nd Sunday of Easter	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30 a.m. Family Communion 6.00 p.m. Evensong (BCP)
5	Thursday	10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon Pop-in Café - N.C.H.
6	Friday	6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. "First Friday" (for 12-16 yr old) N.C.H.
7	Saturday	4.30 p.m. Youth Concert & Teas, Priory
8	3rd Sunday of Easter	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion 10.30 a.m. Morning Worship 6.00 p.m. Evening Prayer (BCP) Magazine Copy Date
9	Monday	7.30 p.m. PCC Meeting – Lady Chapel
12	Thursday	10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon Pop-in Café - N.C.H.
14	Saturday	10.00 a.m. Amnesty Walk for Life, Whitehaven to St Bees
15	4th Sunday of Easter	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 6.00 p.m. Evening Prayer (BCP)
16 to 22		Christian Aid Week
17	Tuesday	7.30 p.m. Priory Fellowship - N.C.H.
19	Thursday	10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon Pop-in Café - N.C.H.
21	Saturday	10.00 a.m. Thanksgiving Service, Priory 4.00 p.m. Proms on the Crease, St Bees School
22	5th Sunday of Easter	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion 10.30 a.m. Family Service 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
24	Tuesday	10.30 a.m. Over 60s Coffee Morning
25	Wednesday	7.00 p.m. Friends of the Priory AGM - NCH
26	Thursday	10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon Pop-in Café - N.C.H.
29	6th Sunday of Easter	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 6.00 p.m. Evening Prayer (BCP)

May Editor

The June 2011 issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Anthony Payne, Croeso, 93a Main Street, St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions not later than **Sunday 8 May** please.

Email: payne.croeso@btinternet.com. **Tel. 01946 822637**

A true faith and a sure hope

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live . . .' These are the opening words of the Funeral Service. They are comforting and reassuring words to be hearing in the presence of death. One of the prayers in that service tells of the "true faith and sure hope" which we have in Jesus Christ. The resurrection of Jesus which we recently celebrated at Easter is our guarantee that this no empty hope.

His resurrection is the bedrock on which the Christian Faith stands. That was the view of St Paul, a one-time persecutor of Jewish Christians who became the Church's foremost missionary. In his 1st Letter to the congregation in Corinth, written about 20 years after Jesus' death and resurrection, he named some of the eye-witnesses to the Risen Lord (including himself) and then stressed the centrality and truth of this miraculous event: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished . . . but the fact is Christ has been raised from the dead." Paul was so absolutely certain of this that he eventually gave his life for his faith in the crucified and risen Lord Jesus.

Can we be equally sure? I believe we can. The evidence for us is of two kinds: experiential and historical – just as it had been for Paul. Personal experience in prayer, worship and life is what probably persuades most people – they have experienced Jesus' life-changing presence and power in their own life. A famous 19th century preacher put it like this: 'There are men [and women] in whom the resurrection begun makes the resurrection

credible. In them the Spirit of the Risen Saviour works already . . . They have risen above the narrowness of life, and all that is petty and mean. They have risen above fear. They have risen above self. In the NT that is called the spiritual resurrection, a being "risen with Christ"; and the man in whom all that is working has got something more blessed than external evidence to rest upon. He has the witness in himself; he has not seen and yet he has believed; he believes in a resurrection because he has the resurrection in himself.'

We do also have good, external, historical evidence. It is obvious that something momentous must have caused the Christian Church to come into being in the 1st century. Likewise, something caused the Gospels (a new literary *genre*) and the Letters which make up the NT to be written – for which, incidentally, there is a huge amount of manuscript evidence from the first three centuries. It would have required an extraordinary intervention by God to cause Jews for whom the Sabbath was their God-given day of rest to change it to Sunday (i.e. the day the women found the tomb empty and the day on which the first of the many appearances of the Risen Lord took place). In each case, the only plausible explanation is the Resurrection of Jesus. His death and his victory over death are central to our understanding of the Church's two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion which date from the very beginning of the Church. Disciples who had gone into hiding for fear that they too might be arrested and executed like Jesus became fearless missionaries

Priory News

Thanksgiving Service for St Bees School on Speech Day will be held on Saturday 21 May at 10.00 a.m. in the Priory. Do join the School in this valedictory service before midterm.

PCC Meeting Please note that the first meeting of the newly appointed Parochial Church Council will be held on Monday 9 May, not 2 May, due to the May Day Bank Holiday. This meeting will be held in the Lady Chapel, preceded by Holy Communion at 7.00 p.m.

Sincere Thanks from the Priory PCC and congregation to Helen Taylor for her dedicated work as PCC Secretary for the past 11 years – for documenting meetings, keeping track of correspondence and liaising with the Vicar and others over agendas - and much more! Thankyou too Helen for organising parish matters during two interregna (interregnums?)

Welcome to 3 new members of the PCC, Mrs Sue Davidson, Mr Simon Walker and Mr John Kyffin. Their support and commitment to the life and work of the Priory will be much valued.

Christian Aid Week runs from 16th to 22nd May this year, aiming to bring life and health to the destitute through many

projects. The charity works in over 60 countries, helping people, regardless of race or creed, to tackle poverty and injustice. Please give generously to the Door-to-Door Collection. Also, please Gift-Aid your donation, if possible.

Lent Lunches in March and April raised a fantastic total of £783, to be shared between NSPCC (local branch) and Handicap International, working to supply war and disaster victims with prosthetic limbs. Sincere Thanks go to all involved in the success of the lunches – hosts and their teams, helpers and guests for their support and generosity. New College Hall proved an attractive and accessible venue for everyone.

Ladies Priory Fellowship will meet in New College Hall on Tuesday 17 May at 7.30 p.m. for a presentation by Charm Robson on her “Marathon in Uganda” - a fascinating story. Do come!

Special Thanks to new magazine distributors who have kindly offered to deliver mags in their areas: Mr Ron Fowler in Nethertown and Mrs Liz Walker in Sandwith central. Your help is much appreciated by the mag editors and the recipients.

Continued from page 1

proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, raised by God from the dead. That conviction and the presence of Christ's Spirit in them is what powered the rapid expansion of the Christian Church.

We really do have good grounds for our confidence!

Trevor Park

Fairladies Barn Guest House

Main Street, St Bees
Family run Guest House
Fully Licenced
Beer Garden to the rear
Small parties catered for by
arrangement
Tel. (01946) 822718
E-mail - info@fairladiesbarn.co.uk

Lamberlea Pond & Garden

Centre, Nethertown
Aquariums and Tropical Fish
Coldwater Fish, Pond Plants & Pumps
Shrubs, Trees, Alpines
Roses, Heathers, Herbs
Tel 01946 820536
www.lamberlea.co.uk

in a remarkable transformation of New College Hall, now equipped with a new kitchen. Thanks to all who helped & to Trevor Park who had the idea.

Priory Pop-In Centre – As a direct result of this renovation the Social Committee with the support of many others launched the Priory Pop-In Centre, now a weekly social event operating with 4 teams of volunteers who bake the most delicious cakes!

Fundraising - Lent Lunches (£547 for NSPCC & Haiti Disaster Appeal); Harvest Appeal (£100 for Farms in Zululand & Afghanistan); Multi-Charity Gift sale (£2300 for 12 charities); Nativity Play & Christingle (£154 for Children's Society); Carol-Singing in St Bees (£368 for SHELTER for the Homeless); Magazine Christmas Greetings (£479 for Priory - £349 & Children's Society - £130).

Heritage & History - The St Bees Heritage Centre project was finally completed in June to unanimous admiration of a splendid and most professional exhibition. Heartfelt congratulations go to the graphic designers, our local historians, skilled joiner Alan Armstrong, project manager Ian McAndrew with Chris Robson and John Kennedy, plus Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd. A pageant of local historic characters & a dramatic presentation was held to celebrate its formal opening. Chris has established a weekly lecture on the Priory at the Seacote Hotel in the summer.

Registers - Twelve months' figures since the last APCM show:- 9 Baptisms, 4 Confirmations, 5 Weddings and 1 Dedication of Marriage, and 7 Funerals.

We record the sad loss of several faithful worshippers at the Priory:- Dora Moffat, Rachel Cox, Graham Brightman and Margaret Mossop. We cherish their memory and give thanks for their lives.

Farewells :to church members who have moved away: Irene Palmer, Jane Maddison, John & Bridget Rowlands and John & Jill Scurr. Best Wishes to our "silver seniors" who have moved to Care Homes: Freda Wylie, Muriel Summers and Margaret Lorimer. We remember them with great affection.

Thanks - Sincere thanks to our Area Visitors and many others who visit the sick and elderly, in hospital or Care Homes, through the year, and the magazine distributors who keep the parish informed and in touch with community and church news.

The PCC wishes to thank all groups and individuals giving support and commitment to the life and work of the Priory.

R.McAndrew, Churchwarden

Churchwarden's Report - Social and Pastoral

Ministry - It has been a hectic year of changes and challenges but the Ministry Team have organised Priory worship with efficiency and sensitivity during the interregnum. The commitment of Rev. David Cox, Canon Trevor Park and Chris & Charm Robson is greatly appreciated.

In July 2010 Tim Taylor was ordained deacon and is now serving his curacy in Egremont. We also held a farewell service for Lars and Claire wishing them well in their new careers. In the autumn the churchwardens and PCC members held meetings with the Archdeacon and the Headmaster of the School to produce a realistic job description and contract for the dual post of Vicar and Chaplain. We are delighted to know that Rev Clifford Swartz, associate rector of Christ Church in New York, has been appointed as Priest-in-Charge and Chaplain. He will be moving here in August to be licensed in September and we look forward to welcoming him and his wife Katie and the family.

Youth - The regular attendance of many families at Sunday School, with their friends too, is good news. Parents enjoy helping on the leaders' rota and also sharing in special Family services, such as the Christingle, Mothering Sunday and Harvest Festival. It's encouraging to have the Brownies and Guides joining in the festivals too.

A new venture for the teenagers, First Friday, has been initiated by Canon Trevor Park, inviting them to share a meal and meet a guest speaker, to talk about their life and faith.

Another venture proposed by the Worship Committee to introduce a monthly Family service is now happening and being developed. All-Age worship needs planning but does bring surprises and joy!

Arts & Music - In the past year various musical and cultural events were held in the Priory and New College Hall, raising funds for church or charities, and publicity too:-

Concerts included Anna Bushby & organists on a July "Summer Evening"; the Extreme Cellists Trio who started their Coast-to-Coast Walk at the Priory; and the 40-strong West Cumberland Choral Society gave us "The Messiah" to great acclaim

Friends of the Priory produced a programme of interesting events: lectures by Chris Robson on Toys from Junk; Phil Barratt on Onions; John Knewstubb on Japanese; & Dr Trevor Park on St Petersburg.

An organ recital by Frank Bowler and two occasions with the Priory Singers in June and at the Christmas Concert of carols and readings, both well-attended and very popular.

The Millennium Play, revised by Jill Hudson & Gus Kennedy and performed by St Bees people with pupils of both schools, was a triumph enjoyed by 300 spectators over 3 evenings. It was a great success – with memorable folk music and striking costumes.

The **Christmas Art Exhibition** of paintings and textiles by local artists, organised by Arts Society members, attracted much interest and raising £800 for Priory funds.

The contribution of the Priory Church Choir & organist is much appreciated by us all.

Initiatives - New College Hall Renovation – a dozen dedicated volunteers giving freely of their time and talents, and generous donations from other parishioners resulted

OddfellowsArms

92a Main Street
St Bees

Sunday Lunches - 12 - 4.00
Steak night - Thursday
Small parties by arrangement
Tel. (01946) 822317

*Would you like to advertise
your business here?*

*This space is currently
available.*

Contact Ian McAndrew for details
01946 822326
imcandrew@stbees.org.uk

The Manor House

Main Street
St Bees

Home Cooked meals 7 days a
week, including traditional
Sunday Lunch
Tel. (01946) 820587

Syke House

**Boarding Kennels
St Bees**

Tel. (01946) 820489
**Plenty of hugs and walks
while in our care!**

The Albert Hotel

1 Finkle Street, St Bees
Free House

B&B Accommodation available
Home made Sunday Lunches & Evening
Meal
Small Parties welcome
Dining Room always open
01946 822345

Good Companions

Café and Restaurant

**Seaview Nurseries,
Nethertown by Egremont**
Tel 01946 823324
**Refreshments & excellent food
Meals or snacks**

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

10 April Amelia May Hughes, 10 Priory Road, St Bees

Leah Elaina McCluskey-Towl, Chapelton, Sheffield

(family at 8 Seacroft Drive)

Isla Rose Reid

7 Solway Rise

Flower Rota - May

1 Mrs D Brownrigg

8 Mrs K Steele

15 Mrs E Butler

22 Mrs E Cotes

29 Mrs G Richardson

Parish Council Elections

Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest in the elections for the parish council. We actually had 14 nominations for the 13 seats for St Bees Ward and 1 nomination for the seat for Rottington Ward but due to one nomination being withdrawn we now have an uncontested election.

The 14 councillors elected are - Barbara Hewetson (Rottington Ward), Neil Bettinson, Chris Davidson, Grant Gilmour, John Haile, Ian Hill, Karen James, Gus Kennedy, Tom Kelly, Doug Millington, Sean Moules, Chris Robson, Doug Sim, Harry Strong (St Bees Ward).

The new council will take up office after the borough council elections on 5 May. The referendum on the parliamentary alternative vote system will also take place on 5 May.

Seacote Hotel, St Bees

Headlands Restaurant

6.00 - 9 p.m. - Sunday Lunch from 12.00
 1 Course £6.95, 2 Courses £7.95 , 3 Courses £8.95
 Reduced prices for children
 Bar Meals daily from 12.00 to 9.00 p.m.
 Live Entertainment Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday
 Weddings – Christenings - Conferences
Tel: (01946) 822300
www.seacote.com - email: anne@seacote.com

Ian Shackley

5 Abbots Way, St Bees
 Carpet & Vinyl fitting
 Painting & Decorating

(01946) 823050 after 5:00 p.m.

StamperLloyd

BATHROOMS TILES & ACCESSORIES

01946 591384

For a quality bathroom without compromise visit
StamperLloyd Bathrooms
 Latest planning and design system,
 and quality installation service
**Unit 5a, Sneckyeat Industrial Estate,
 Hensingham, Whitehaven.**

**Showroom open
 Monday to Friday
 9 am to 5 pm
 Saturday
 9 am to 4 pm**

We look forward to seeing you!

R Napier & Son

14 St Bridget's Lane, Egremont
 High Class Family Butcher
 Finest quality meat
 Pork sausage a specialty
 01946 822151

Hartleys

Beach Shop and Café
 Refreshments and meals
 served daily
 Shop stocks a wide range of
 groceries and other goods
 And of course the full range of our
 famous ice creams

East Road Garage

East Road, Egremont
 Ford Dealers
 Tel. (01946) 820266
 Fax. (01946) 823980



E Moorhouse & Son Suppliers of St Bees Red Sandstone

Tel. (01946) 811152

Abi Beauty therapy



Mobile - 07582 442602

manicure - pedicure - facials - makeup
 waxing - eyebrow & lash tint

St Bees Post Office

Main Street, St Bees
 Newsagent, groceries,
 Off-licence, gifts, etc.
 Car Tax & Lottery
 Tel. (01946) 822343

Priory Publicity

The History Group held a promotional meeting in April to encourage visitors to St Bees Priory. The photo shows a few of the invited guests representing tourism, education and local government viewing the displays in the Priory.

Photo - Jim Davis



Margaret Owen Mossop 1916–2011

Margaret and her sister Eileen grew up at Rookery Farm in Rottington but later settled in Beckermets. Known to Priory folk as “Betsey and Bobsey” they were both dedicated to the work and worship of both churches in St Bees and Beckermets. Margaret's baking and craftwork skills came to the fore, as she set about fundraising for the Priory carpet and more recently for the roof restoration. She also created and donated much of the white linen for the Priory altar.

Margaret was an independent and resourceful lady, quiet but firm, efficient and meticulous. She was secretary of the original Eskdale Outward Bound Centre involved in its inauguration. She helped out at the Beckermets Post Office, was a founder member of Beckermets Women's Institute and latterly a loyal volunteer at Lowes Court Gallery. She loved her arts and crafts, being well-known for her prize-winning cakes and crafts exhibited at the Gosforth Show. She and Eileen were renowned for their delicious catering and hospitality to friends and parishioners.

Margaret was a surprisingly sprightly and indomitable lady for her 92 years, amazing many when she set off on an adventurous trip to her old wartime base at Blair Atholl Castle near Stirling. There, on being offered a guided tour, she reversed roles and proceeded to give the duke her tour of the Castle in the 1940s, when her school (she was school secretary) was evacuated to Blair Atholl.

Margaret was a remarkable lady who based her life on her Christian faith and remained undaunted by setbacks or problems. She will long be remembered with great affection and admiration.

The St Bees Study Group

A group of us have just completed a study of Dante's epic poem *The Divine Comedy* which we could not have done without the aid of our two fantastic professors: William Cook and Ronald Herzman, who week after week never let us down. As the dark nights set in we travelled with Dante, the pilgrim, down into the dark depths of the *Inferno* meeting different sinners along the way, some of whom we could identify with and at times experiencing the same weather conditions especially when it was very windy or very icy! We then climbed up the terraces of Mount Purgatory where we contemplated the origins of sin. From there we journeyed through *Paradise* toward the Trinity, where it got brighter and brighter each week just as we too came out of the darkness of winter into the lightness of spring.

We have enjoyed meeting people from the ancient world, as well as being introduced to the religious and political figures of Dante's own time. These would not have meant very much to us had it not been for the professors and the excellent notes by the translator of the poem Mark Musa. However that does not mean that it lacks meaning for today's audience as the professors say: 'The *Commedia's* central metaphor of a journey from bondage to freedom is a clue to why and how it can mean so much too so many.'

Our thanks to Maureen and Philip Barratt for their hospitality each week, for a delightful glass of wine; a good chat – on Dante, of course!

Jane King

St Bees School News

School starts again on Monday 2 May (Bank Holiday) where pupils will be in lessons as normal.

This is also our next Open Day where families are welcome to come and have a look at the School in action from 11:00am. For further information about Open Day, please call Jane Hawley on 01946 828010.

Speech Day this year is Saturday 21 May for parents and pupils at the School and will be followed at 4:00pm by 'Proms on the Crease'. This event is being organised by the St. Bees School Family Association and is an opportunity for the whole village to come together and celebrate the talents of our young people and local groups.

Tickets will be available after Easter from the Village School and St. Bees School.

Graham R Wood,

C.Eng. M.I.StructE

Have a structural problem?

Looking to extend?

Surveys, Drawings, Calculations,

Submissions for Planning and/or

Building Control

For a free initial consultation contact

01946822446 or 07881821668

Sereno

Now open at St Bees Hair Salon

Main St, St Bees

Garra Rufa Fish Pedicures

Swedish Body Massage

Indian Head Massage

Tel: 01946 822426

ST BEES SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL

St Bees School is open to the public, including midterm, and is operating a holiday timetable as well.

All welcome - young and old.

Enjoy a relaxing swim in comfortable surroundings.

Sessions

Families, adults only, & ladies only

Swimming lessons, fitness training & holiday courses

Mornings and afternoons

For further information contact

Mrs Julie Andersen on

01946 823459.



Izaro Boiler

A rare sight was spotted by Bailey on 21 March down at St Bees beach! The Izaro ran aground and broke up on St Bees beach in 1907. Not much remains of her now and her anchor can be seen mounted on the Coast to Coast stone by the Lifeboat Station. Although the Izaro boiler can often be seen at low tide, such extreme exposure of it and the remains of the hull only appear less than once a year. Extreme tides occur when not



only do the sun, moon and earth line up to maximise the tidal range, but when in addition, every 400 days or so, the moon is at its closest to earth. The next time this will happen is 2 May 2012 so you have plenty of time to get your camera ready!

Brockbanks

Solicitors

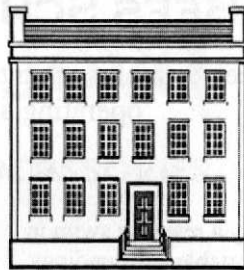
44 Duke Street, Whitehaven,
Cumbria, CA28 7NR

Whitehaven 01946 692194
Cockermouth 01900 827222
Maryport 01900 813488
Workington 01900 603563

Also Keswick as Oglethorpe & Broatch
01768 772125

- * Accident/Personal Injury Claims
- * Employment Law
- * Commercial and Domestic Conveyancing
- * Crime and Motoring
- * Family Matters

Our dedicated team of professionals offer a wide range of legal services, and we are proud to have served our local communities for over 200 years.



www.brockbanks.co.uk

bt@brockbanks.co.uk

- * Wills, Probate and Administration
- * Landlord & Tenant
- * HIPs
- * Matrimonial
- * Legal Aid

Parish Council

Calling all Villagers!!!

Do you live in St Bees? Do you like planning and organising things? Good with ideas? Perhaps you've done some fundraising in the past? Or maybe you could spare a couple of hours on a one-off basis to help out at an event?

If any of the above apply to you, we would love to hear from you, as we're setting up a new Village Events Group.

Our aim is to organise a few fun events, open to everyone, through the course of the year. This year we're planning a Fireworks display (similar to last years), hopefully a Santa's Sleigh at Christmas, and with some help, a sandcastle competition at the beach and maybe a village scarecrow festival. Next year we would also like to hold a village Street Party to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee weekend on 2-5 June 2012. We also have some projects in the early planning stages, like improving the play equipment in the beach front play park and residents parking permits for the beach car park.

If these events or projects sound like the sort of thing you might enjoy, and might like to play a small or large part in helping with, or if you have some good ideas for other events and projects you would like to see in the village then please phone Sean on 825015 or email me at seanmoules@hotmail.com for more information or an informal chat."

Sean Moules

Love and prayers

Our love and prayers for healing and comfort go out to all who are ill at home or in hospital. We remember especially those recuperating from operations.

We remember Olaug Park, Audrey Broughton, Betty Robertson, Margaret Lorimer, Scott Woods, Dennis Howells, Jenny Crooks, Fred Singleton.

Our thoughts are with you all.



Stonehouse Farm

Friendly family run B&B located in a large modernised Georgian farmhouse in the centre of St Bees

Tel. 01946 822224

csmith@stonehousefarm.net

www.stonehousefarm.net

Easy Drive

Friendly, female driving instructor based in St Bees

(01946) 821176

Milburns Solicitors

25/26 Church Street
WHITEHAVEN
01946 694818
www.milburns.org

you don't have to go
out
of the area for
**specialist
legal advice**
Milburns have the
local solution

**Need specialist advice?
Get in touch!**

The Friends of St Bees Priory

The Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 25th May at 7.00 p.m. in NCH

There will be Festival Choral Evensong in The Priory at 4.00 p.m. on Sunday 19th June.

This will be followed by tea in NCH.

We are grateful to *The Egremont Town Brass Band* which entertained us in The Priory on March 10th. The band is now one of real competence and provided a varied programme of music which was enjoyed by all present. The event raised more money for The Friends' funds.

For any who missed the concert, the band has produced a CD available from John Knewstubb.



St Bees Calendar

This year we went to colour, or to be more precise, black & white images, hand-tinted. The cost of printing increased, so a price of £6 each had to be asked. I am pleased to report that we again made a profit of £750. Therefore, The Priory, Village in Bloom and St Bees Methodist Church will each receive £250.

Many thanks to all who helped sell and who purchased the calendars. Our sponsors this year were Carol Stainton and her daughter Tracey, Alan and Amanda (St Bees Post Office), Mark and Sue (The Queens Hotel), Tommy Biglands, Brian and Brenda Edwards, Peter and Gill Graham, Maureen and Mike (Fleatham House), Richard and Margaret Stout, Bob and Marlene Napier, Hartley's Ice Cream, Joanne and Dominic (Manor House), Geoff and Kay Steele, Seacote Park St Bees, Anne and David Hope, John and Hillary Booth, Margaret (Oddfellows), Peter and Annette Brownrigg, Neil and Gaye Bettinson, John and Eleanor Haile, and Louisa (Platform 9). A big thank to you all. Also a big Thank you to Dougie Sim for the captions.

As we all know, costs and VAT have all gone up this year so if anybody wishes to be a sponsor of next year's calendar, for the sum of £25, or if you have any old pictures of St Bees, please let me know. The 12th issue is already in the process of production.

Donald Brownrigg . Telephone 822584.

St Bees Joinery

*Quality joinery undertaken by a skilled
local craftsman with many years'
experience*

Call Alan Armstrong for a free estimate

Tel. 01946 822107 or 07811 324171

Email – alan@stbeesjoinery.co.uk

www.stbeesjoinery.co.uk

R & L Services

Light removals or single items

Local or long distance

01946 822532 or

0779 141 6279

Contact James or Amanda

Complementary Therapies

Local therapist Carolyn Nixon BSc., MICHT

*Relaxing, Rebalancing &
Rejuvenating Treatments*

Reflexology, Aromatherapy

Indian Head Massage

0771 9921564 or 01946 821497

www.cntherapies.co.uk



DAVID BURNETT & CO.

For Families and Business

Conveyancing
Matrimonial
Wills & Probate
Personal Injury
Employment

Clifford Court,
Cooper Way, Parkhouse,
Carlisle CA3 0JG
01228 888999

4 Main Street
Cockermouth
Ca13 9LQ
01900 820800

www.bpkcumbria.co.uk
Email: reception@bpcumbria.co.uk

Grassroots

First Friday Our next meeting is on Friday 6th May in NCH from 6 – 7.30p.m. All young people aged 12 – 17 are welcome to this social event. The adult guest this month is Mrs Dorothy Warbrick , a former Social Worker, who will introduce us to some of the complex and sensitive decisions that social workers have to make.

Congratulations to Anna Pitt, daughter of Bob and Helen Pitt, formerly of East Croft, Main Street, who was recently awarded a Doctor of Philosophy from Wolfson College at Oxford University, after working for Professor John Stein on dyslexia in students. Anna went to the village school and then to Wyndham before leaving for Vienna with her parents.

A warm welcome to Adam Bragg who has come to live in Seacroft Drive.

Welcome also to James and Africa Macfadden and their daughters Afriquita and Christina who have moved to 2 West View, Seamill Lane.

Tony Reeve would like to thank all those who sent their condolences and prayers following the sudden death of his mother, Audrey, in March.

St Bees Pre-School will be running the Bric-a-brac stall at the Village Fete on Saturday 25th June and welcome your donations. Please deliver to Pre-School anytime during the week before the fete or contact 823880.

And a very big thank-you to everyone who has supported our fundraising events over the past few months.

The Over-60s coffee morning is to be held in the Oddfellows, Main Street, on Tuesday 24 May at 10.30 a.m. Admission £1.

Methodist News - Grateful thanks to everyone who helped in any way (including donations) to make the grand total of £230 at the Methodist Spring Fair recently.

Sad News We hear that Gill Scurr sadly died at her home in Oxfordshire recently. John and Gill Scurr retired to Abbotts Cottages on Beach Road in 1991 and were Priory members and sidespersons for many years. They left St Bees last autumn to move closer to family at Witney. We offer our deepest sympathy to John and their daughters Julia and Helena.

Diary Date - Blood Transfusion

Blood Transfusion Service sessions are being held locally on the following dates in May.

Tuesday 3 May - Whitehaven, Civic Hall, Lowther Street, Whitehaven.

2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Monday 30 May - As above.

10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Please call 0300 123 23 23 to book an appointment.

NSPCC Swish Party - Thank you to all who attended. We raised the grand total of £461.57.

Advance notice. 2 July, 2.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Children's Day at Fern Bank.

Grassroots

Sincere Sympathy is extended to Tony Reeve of Abbey Farm on the sad loss of his mother Audrey in hospital in March. Audrey had been a regular member of the Priory, of Priory Fellowship and also of the Trefoil Guild .She was still visited by members of these organisations after she became ill and was restricted to the Newlands Care Home in Workington. She will be remembered by all her friends as a remarkably cheerful and patient lady who loved hearing all the news from St Bees.

Many Thanks Rosalie McAndrew would like to thank all the kind friends for their cards, get-well messages and prayers, flowers and tasty gifts, visits and lots of good wishes on her recuperation from the “hip-op”. I'm doing well but it will be a few months before I'm running down Outrigger! Love and thanks from this new improved lady!

Claiming Dates

St Bees Village School Fete	Saturday 25 June, School field & School
Village-in- Bloom Gardens Tour	Sunday 26 June, Village & Eileen's “Dome”
“Murder in the Cathedral” Drama	Wed.6 th and Thurs.7 th July, Priory

Lois Howard's Special Day On Mothering Sunday a presentation was made to Lois Howard on her retirement after nearly 30 years as a Lay Reader at the Priory, receiving a beautiful basket of spring flowers, a card of signatures and book tokens. Many of us remember Lois' art of graphic story-telling and evocative parables. She brought her gift of creative poetry to her role as a preacher, conjuring up in your mind a biblical scene, bringing home its full meaning thro' sounds and sights.

Do you remember the Mothering Sunday dance and drama enacted after the Saturday workshops with her daughter Sarah; or the Brownies waving sunflowers in the pulpit to represent gifts of love; or those wonderful Emmaus Lunches at Vale View, where we exchanged news, views and recipes and were entertained by a local speaker?

Thank you Lois for the many years of memorable occasions you have given us at the Priory, in poetry, and prayer, in song and drama, in words and pictures

Young at Heart

Concert at St Bees Priory on Saturday, 7 May at 4.30 p.m.

with young performers singing a wide programme of music

In aid of church funds.

The concert will also include organ music played by Frank Bowler.

Tea and cakes to be served and there will be a retiring collection for the Priory.

