

St Bees Priory Church

Rev'd Becky Gibbs, Priest in Charge
01946 822279 or 07460 990631
revbgibbs@outlook.com

The Rev'd Canon Richard Lee MStJ (07841 398088)
Associate Priest of St Bees Priory
Rural Dean of Calder

Retired Clergy with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate:

Rev'd Canon Jim Baker MBE and Rev'd Anne Baker (01946 822498)
The Rev'd Canon Dr Trevor Park MBE

Sunday Services in Church

Services every Sunday at 9.00 am, 10.30 am and 6.00 pm
9.00 am BCP Communion except 4th Sunday (Family)
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays Holy Communion - 10.30 am
2nd and 4th Sundays Morning Worship - 10.30 am
6.00 pm Evening Prayer (1st - Evensong, 4th - Communion)
Services are also Live Streamed

For weddings, baptisms, funerals and other religious occasions, please contact
01946 822279 or email enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk
Priory Web Site - <http://www.stbeespriory.org.uk>

Hire of Priory & Halls

The church, Old College and New College halls are all available for hire for meetings, functions, lectures, concerts and recitals, etc. Contact booking officers for details.

Booking Officers

Ian & Rosalie McAndrew - 01946 822326 or imcandrew@stbees.org.uk
Priory Secretary - enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk

Magazine production & distribution

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

Circulation - over 1,000 households in St Bees Parish

* - Treasurer - Norman Killip, Honeybee House Seamill Lane, St Bees, CA27 0BD.

DTP & Final Editing - Ian & Rosalie McAndrew

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St Bees Parish A B C

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 - TBA.	History Group	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from Chris Robson 822468.
Aikido club.	Adult martial art classes in St Bees, Mon., Tues. & Thu each week. See www.westcumbriaaikido or contact Adrian on 07951 999 192.	Judo Club	meets regularly at NCH. Contact sankaikunijudo@gmail.com or Janice (07828 116752) or Pim (07733 291200). Also meeting Pilates, Yoga, Taekwondo and Aikido. All in upper NCH hall.
Arts Society	meets every two months on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. Venue to be arranged. Details from Dilys Brownrigg (822584) or Chris Robson 822468.	Over 60's Club	meets in Hodgett's Club on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month: 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Details - Gill Richardson Tel. 822394.
Bellringing	The Priory has a ring of 8 bells. Those interested in ringing or learning to ring, contact D Sim, 18 The Crofts. Practice Wednesdays, 8.00 pm. Sundays, ring at 10.00 a.m.	Parish Council	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Couderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, email pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk , who will answer queries on civil parish matters.
Scouts, Beavers	1st Beckermert & St Bees Scout Group - Scouts 10.5 - 14.yrs. Monday 6.30 - 8.30. Beavers 6 - 8 yrs. Thursday 5.00 - 6.15 pm in New College Hall	Parochial Church Council	meets 10 times a year. Elections 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 - r.e.rendell@gmail.com , 07977 096426.
Cubs	8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.	Pop-in Cafe	Every Thursday from 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon - Pop-in Cafe in New College Hall. Everyone welcome - Coffee and homemade cakes.
Choir	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).	Pre-School	meets in the new building next to the Village School, All day, 5 days a week. For children of 2 years upwards. Contact on 823880.
Churchwardens	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Currently Tom Kelly + 3 vacancies.	Priory Singers	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (01946) 825307.
Councillor	Local councillor for Cumberland Council for Egremont North and St Bees is Graham Minshaw. Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk Tel -07840 844424	Priory Web Site	The Priory web site has up to date information on the ministry team, church services and activities. See http://www.stbeespriory.org.uk
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	Rangers	meet on alternate Mondays from 7.00 – 8.30 p.m. in NCH. Contact calderdivision@gmail.com for info on your nearest unit of Brownies .& Guides. New Rainbows unit starts in Bigrigg on Mondays.
Fair Trade	Fair trade food and craft items and catalogues available from Deb Lee, who can deliver. Tel 823470 - lee535877@aol.com	Seagalls	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
Finance	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.	St Bees Triers	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm. Email running@triers.co.uk Tel. 823497 Web www.triers.co.uk
First Responders	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497	Village School Association	Organising events for the pupils and community, raising funds for the school. : stbees.vsa@gmail.com or @stbeesvsa Facebook or Instagram
Football Association	Contacts - Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.	Village Hall	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
Freemasons	St Bega Lodge meet 7:00 p.m. On 2nd Wed of each month, Village Hall. Details: 07897 535100 or www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk .	Village in Bloom	Details from Kathy Nesbit via PC Sec. Jane Donaldson. See above for Parish Council contact details.
Friends of the Priory	assists in the conservation of the Priory and encourages interest in its historical and architectural heritage. Contact R McAndrew or Norman Killip, Treasurer, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees,	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
Garden Society	Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 07742 440919). Flower Show is	Women's Institute	meets 2nd Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. usually in the Seacote Hotel. See www.St-Bees-WI-Facebook-pages or contact any member.

Calendar for July/August 2024

July

5	Friday		St Bees School closes for the Summer
6	Saturday	5.00pm	Concert, St Bees Village Orchestra, Priory Church
6-7	Saturday - Sunday		St Bees Triers 24 hour Challenge 2024
7	Sunday	Cancelled	Choral Evensong cancelled
8	Monday	6.30pm	WI event at the Seacote Hotel
9	Tuesday	2.00 pm	Over 60s Talk on Tradecraft, Village Hall,
		7.00 pm	PCC Meeting, New College Hall
13	Saturday	2:00pm	Piano Recital by Jill Crosland, Priory Church
		7:30pm	'Allo! 'Allo! What happened after D-Day, Village Hall. D-Day anniversary celebration, Village hall
15	Monday	6.30 pm	Parish Council meeting, Village Hall
19	Friday		Village School closes for the Summer
23	Tuesday	2.00 pm	Over 60s host Moor Row, Village Hall
26	Friday	4:30 - 6:00pm	Friday Fun Silly Sports day, Priory
27	Saturday	10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Seafest and Beach Art, St Bees Beach
28	Sunday	10.30 am	Confirmation Service, Priory

August

17	Saturday	1.00 - 4.30 pm	Garden Society Annual Show St Bees School Sports Hall.
21 to 24	Wednesday - Saturday		Quilts in the Priory: a celebration of quilting.
31	Wednesday	2:00 - 5:00pm:	"Our Amazing Planet" day with tea party, Priory.

Sunday Services at 10.30 am

July 7	Holy Communion	July 14	Morning Worship
July 21	Holy Communion	July 28	Confirmation
August 4	Holy Communion	August 1	Morning Worship
August 18	Holy Communion	August 25	Morning Worship

Editor – June 2024

The **September 2024** issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Anthony Payne, 83A Main Street, St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Thursday 8th August** please.

Email:payne.croeso@btinternet.com

Tel:01946 822637

St Bees News

July - August 2024

When I was three years old my dad taught me to say "The Workers!" when he asked "Who owns the rights to the means of production?" Once Clause 4 of the Labour Party Constitution, but not since Blair's government, this was a key feature of my dad's socialist beliefs. Unfortunately, it was in direct opposition to my maternal grandparents more conservative views. I remember heated debates around the table at meals with my grandparents, this was during the Thatcher era, my grandparents worshipped the ground she walked on, my dad was not a fan.

These days debates around the dining table continue and across the generations our politics differ. Sometimes still heated but they are always respectful. I have spent all my life in the company of people who I disagree with, sometimes passionately; in my home and in my work places. I have learnt that difference of opinion is healthy and honest. We are made more whole when we listen with love even when we don't like what we hear. Often it makes us more certain of our beliefs, occasionally we change our minds. By the time you read this the General Election will either be very close or will have taken place. The Church of England produced a useful little booklet with prayers for the twenty one days before election day. It reminded us that to vote is to have a say in the future but in 2019 1 in 3 of those eligible did not vote. The author goes on to say "Across the political spectrum, we believe that those who offer themselves for public office need and deserve our support and our prayer." 1 Timothy 2 v 1-4 "urges us to pray for those who make difficult decisions on our behalf, who shoulder great burdens and, who we pray will carry out their duty with integrity and compassion".

Jeremiah calls us to pray for the "shalom" of our land. (Ch 29v 4-7) "Shalom means peace, stability, prosperity and rest. Shalom will depend on wise leadership so we pray for all candidates who are standing. We must all accept differences and try to understand them so we are asked to pray "for all party leaders that they may speak and act in ways that build up rather than undermine".

"We are creatures of curiosity and education feeds our deep desire to learn, to explore, to create and to discover. We pray for wisdom and compassion to those who teach, strength for those who lead our schools and guidance to those who set policy so that everyone can flourish and everyone belong."

"Our government is led by real people with their own joys and struggles who offer their gifts in public service. Let us pray for them and care for them. We pray for both the government and the opposition in the coming days...Grant to the nation unity, peace and concord." Christian Aid has also put together some useful resources with which you can challenge your new MP in relation to Putting Peace first as well as achieving Debt and Climate justice. You can find out more at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns>. Or just google Christian Aid general election resources!

Whatever the outcome of this General Election may we know kindness in disappointment, patience in disagreement, curiosity in ignorance and love in difference. In Jesus' name. Amen.

With love from Reverend Becky

Priory News for July/August

Christian Aid Collection in May – Sincere thanks to all donors in the parish to Christian Aid Week, raising vital funds for those suffering extreme poverty in Africa, particularly in Burundi. Thanks to our C.A. rep Deb Lee who organised the collection this year, taking over from Rosalie McAndrew who has been responsible for this for about 40 years! In the past over 30 volunteer collectors tirelessly covered the areas of the parish door-to-door. Nowadays many donors give online or use the QR code.

What's On at the Priory in July/August

Friends Choral Evensong & Buffet Tea – has been cancelled due to fewer choristes being available. Sincere apologies from the Friends and choir.

Priory Orchestra Summer Concert – on Saturday 6 July at 5.00 pm in the Priory. Come and enjoy their concert with their conductor Ali Birchall and the family orchestra for “A Night at the Movies”. Donations welcome.

A Lunchtime Piano Recital by renowned classical pianist Jill Crosland will be held in the Priory at 2.00 pm on Saturday 13 July. All welcome to attend.

Do visit her website at concerts@jillcrosland.com

Festival of Quilts & Quilting – will be open at the Priory for 4 days from Wednesday 21st to Saturday 24th August. All welcome to come and visit.

Friday Fun sessions this summer – Family Sports day on Friday 26 July, 4.30 to 6.00pm

“Our Amazing Planet” Day on Saturday 31 August from 2 to 5.00pm. with a lovely Tea Party, courtesy of our Mothers’ Union and Pop in bakers extraordinaire! Many of you enjoyed it last year (despite the weather!) and we look forward to seeing you again.

For more info contact debleestbees@outlook.com or tel. 823470

Sellafield heritage discovery is on display in St Bees Railway Museum thanks to Sellafield Ltd.

Peter Rooke, retired civil engineer, has displayed the name plate of a former British Rail loco known as “Calder Hall Power Station” at the museum. It was donated by Sellafield Ltd, having been unearthed by the Heritage Team

British Rail began ferrying coal to power stations, then switched to taking spent nuclear fuel flasks to Sellafield. Peter says “Cumbria's industrial history is an interesting part of the history of the local railway network..

Parish Council News

Outrigg Flooding –The Area Highways Manager has confirmed that work to resolve the flooding problem is going according to plan. Work is currently taking place on private land so may not be immediately obvious but the work is scheduled to be completed before the end of July. It will be necessary for the road to be closed for a few days in mid-July to allow the final stage of the work to be completed but this should provide a long term solution to the flooding problems.

Highways Issues – the Parish Council is continuing to work with Highways officers on the issues of pedestrian safety on Abbey Road where there are sections with no pavements. Concerns have also been raised about traffic safety on the B5345 near the entrance to Abbey Vale. Traffic speeds up as it leaves the village and vehicles are often exceeding 30mph as they enter the village from the Whitehaven direction. The junction is not easily seen and visibility is poor for drivers exiting Abbey Vale. The Parish Council will be working with Highways and the local police to find ways to improve safety in this area. The Parish Council would like to see the 30mph limit in the village replaced with a 20mph limit and will be pressing Highways to consider the re-introduction of a 20mph limit.

Rewilding of Beach Rd Verge – plans to create an area of wildflowers along a section of the verge to attract pollinating insects is continuing. The project is supported by Cumbria Wildlife Trust’s Planting for Pollinators Project. The work to install fibre optic cables did result in some damage to the verge but, with help from Viberoptix, more plants will be put in once the area is cut back later in the summer.

Donations – The Parish Council has recently given a donation of £300 to Cumbria North Girl Guiding to help with costs of a visit to Canada over the summer, which several young people from our area will be attending. The Parish Council has a small budget to make donations to local groups. This is normally distributed in November so if your organisation/group is interested in applying, we would love to hear from you in the autumn.

Annual Accounts – the Parish Council’s annual accounts for 2023/24 are now with the external auditor. A copy can be found on the website (www.stbees.org.uk) together with details of the right to view the accounts.

Next meeting- The next meeting will be on Monday 15 July at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. The Parish Council does not meet during August, although business will be continuing in the background. The September meeting will take place on Monday 16 September. The Parish Council is always keen to hear the views of residents and there is a slot on every agenda for members of the public to raise items which they would like the Parish Council to consider, so why not come along?

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From the Priory Registers

Holy Baptism

19 May	Rupert Cooper	Manor Cottage, St Bees
2 June	Milo James Cooper	Beck Green, Egremont

Christian Marriage

18 May	Kristian Dempster to Melanie Park	30 The Crofts, St Bees
15 June	Gary Eccles to Katie Fowler	1 Abbots Way, St Bees

Christian Funeral and Burial

13 June	Alan Todd	14 Main Street, St Bees
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May God's Blessing be upon you all and your families.

Deepest Sympathy is extended to the family and friends mourning the sad loss of Sandy Mackenzie of Seaforth, Nethertown Road, St Bees who died on 9th June in hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with his dear wife Anne and his beloved family – Alistair, Elspeth and Peter – and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Sandy was a wonderful gentleman endowed with great wit and wisdom, faith and compassion. He was well-known in St Bees and locally as a devoted church member and chorister, with many interests and commitments to local organisations, such as U3A, the Cornerstone Bookshop, the Friends of St Bees Priory and St Bees Arts Society. He was a meticulous and much appreciated Treasurer and auditor to various committees and groups. He will be greatly missed and always remembered by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

Sincere Sympathy is extended to the family and friends in mourning for the grievous loss of Thelma Jopling who died peacefully at Bethshan Care Home – dearly loved and remembered always by all in the parish and further afield. Thelma was known to many locally as a dedicated teacher and Guide leader, formerly in Cambridge and latterly in St Bees district. She encouraged and inspired all her young people, whether in sewing workshops and classes or in Girl Guide camps. She was a devoted member of the St Bees Embroidery Group, assisting in the creation of the beautiful Millennium Wallhanging in the Priory. She took great pride and joy in her family and doting grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with her dear husband Bob and her local family Liz and Doug Sim with Jenny and Will, and all her loved ones.

Priory Flower Rota in July/August

7 July	Barwise/Hewetson family	14 July	Eleanor Haile
21 July	Margaret Westhead	28 July	Ruth Edgar
4 August	Joan Edgar	11 August	Bone/Maudsley family
18 August	Mary Branford	25 August	Claire Summers
1 st September	Jane Tyson	8 September	Pat McDonnell

Many Thanks to all flower-arrangers and donors for their support.

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News from the Village School

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Governors - We currently have vacancies for co-opted Governors in school (non-parent/staff). Being a governor is a rewarding role which can play a vital part in helping the school meet the needs of the children and the community it serves. A governor is an unpaid position and it requires you to set aside time to prepare for meetings, visit the school or undertake and update training. If you or anyone you know has experience of education, finance, human resources, health & safety or legal and would be interested in joining our governing board, please contact us to find out more about what is involved.

We also have a vacancy for the Clerk to our governing body. Applicants need the ability to take accurate minutes, be IT literate, possess good record keeping and organisational skills. This is a part-time, paid role. Anyone interested in applying for either of the above roles should contact the school at admin@stbeesvillage.cumbria.sch.uk.

Vandalism - You may have noticed that unfortunately our car park barrier was vandalised on the evening of Friday 31st May at around 8:30pm. We have footage on our CCTV of 6 teenage boys deliberately entering the school grounds and damaging the barrier. This has been reported to the police who are investigating the matter. If anyone has information about the incident, please do let us know by calling 01946 822392.

I can't quite believe that we are coming towards the end of another academic year, and for me personally the end of my first two terms here as Headteacher at St Bees Village School. It has been a pleasure and a privilege leading such a wonderful school and getting to know names and faces in the local community; I'd like to thank you all for the warm welcome and support that I have received since starting in January.

A reminder that school closes on Friday, 19th July at 1.30pm and will re-open Wednesday, 4th September. Wishing you all a lovely Summer

Kate Davis

Village School Association

If you haven't heard already, the VSA have been rallying with the other committee volunteers to put on the community fun day out: The Bees Bash (**Saturday 29th June**). We volunteers have been working together for the last few months, rallying stalls, bands, attractions and raffle prizes in order to put on the best family fun day out so far. It will have been and gone by the time you read this magazine, but we want you to know we all appreciate the donations and attendance, and we hope to have raised much needed funds for the VSA and other local charities.

The VSA will soon be on a much needed summer break, but from the start of the new school year we'll continue with the community events. There'll be the Scarecrow Trail, an autumn Pre-Loved event and new: Christmas Wreath making! Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for VSA news/events: [@stbeesvsa](https://www.facebook.com/stbeesvsa).

If there are any newbies to the village school in September, we'd happily welcome more volunteers into the group – you can be involved as much or as little as you like. Drop us a note at stbees.vsa@gmail.com, or message our Facebook page. *Jaime Lowrey*

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Just one thing

Michael Mosley, who sadly died suddenly last month, wrote a book called "*Just one thing: how simple changes can transform your life*". Last month we celebrated Big Green Week. This was an opportunity to do "*just one thing*" to help transform the world!

The "*just one thing*" is to change something you eat regularly to a FairTrade item. Lets start with **tea**: we Brits drink over 100 million cups every day! Large estates "monocrop" to maximise profits but this damages the natural environment, resulting in erosion and the stripping back of nutrients from the soil. Monocrop tea plantations are frequently treated with large quantities of pesticide. FairTrade tea comes from small-holders who grow multiple crops on their land. This has the twin benefits of increasing soil health and biodiversity, and giving farmers an additional income stream. **You can buy Fair Traded tea from most supermarkets.**

How about chocolate? When you buy **Divine** chocolate you are supporting the 100,000 cocoa farmers in Ghana, who not only grow the finest quality cocoa but co-own the Divine Chocolate Company. Their stake in Divine Chocolate is a first in the FairTrade world. Think what a difference you would make if your "*just one thing*" was buying fair trade chocolate. Many supermarkets stock Divine and Lidl has just introduced its own FairTrade brand!

Coming up roses! Amazingly **FairTrade roses** from Kenya have a lower environmental impact than those grown in Holland (even when transported by air 3x better, or by ship 20x better!). One billion FairTrade flower stems are sold each year, with workers in 2022 earning more than €7.5 million in FairTrade Premium to invest in improving their lives and communities. You can buy Fair trade roses from ASDA.

Please do "*just one thing*" this summer. **Choose to swap to a Fair trade product**, whether it's the above, or coffee, bananas, cosmetics or olive oil, it will enable producers to have secure and sustainable livelihoods and help them protect the planet through biodiversity, less use of pesticides, tree planting and water sustainability. **You can help transform the world!**

Friday Fun: Silly Sports Day

On Friday 26th July at 4:30pm on the Old Boys School field (or if very wet, the Priory) and enjoy the activities and a party tea.

The sports will be suitable for all ages: welly hoying, balloon tennis, etc. We hope that whole families will come and join us.

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Bob's Jottings

Harry Nankivel again.

If you have been following Harry's story through the most recent magazines, please be assured its end is coming soon.

We last saw Harry as a returning soldier, back in St Bees after nearly nine years away. Two years had gone to opposing the Boers in South Africa; before that had been long postings to Tibet and then India, where the Empire still had major interests to protect. During his absence from St Bees much had been happening here: the returning Harry would have noticed the beginnings of a new optimism and confidence about the future. Modern and superior houses were replacing some that had been tumbledown or derelict, and thanks to the new Parish Council the worst parts of Main Street were being resurfaced, and its lighting and footpaths improved.

Another change significant to the village had followed the closure of the Theological College. Households, which had formerly provided lodgings for students, now needed fresh sources of income. One such household was at what we now number as 44 Main Street. The husband there had gone abroad in the distant past, leaving his wife totally abandoned. Harry may have known this lady through the Priory Choir, which then had a ladies' section, and having nowhere of his own in the village he was pleased to take her spare room as lodger. This arrangement served the needs of both of them, and looked like lasting happily for years.

Then its ending was unfortunate. When word spread around the village that a baby was coming to number 44, there were doubtless many ready to assume it to be Harry's. Whatever the truth of the matter, Harry's reputation in the village mattered to him, and he could see only problems ahead. He conferred with his father and his two brothers (all three now Church of England clergymen) and each gave him the same counsel. He must leave St Bees and everything it held for him, and start his life afresh in some place totally different.

By the month's end he had boarded ship for Australia.

Bob Jopling, Village History Group



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St Bees RNLI attended Buckingham Palace garden party

His Majesty the King granted permission for a garden party at Buckingham Palace in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). It was held on Thursday 23rd May by HRH the Princess Royal, accompanied by Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence and HRH the Duke of Kent.

The Duke of Kent has been President of the RNLI since 1969, during which time volunteer lifeboat crews and beach lifeguards have saved more than 51,000 lives. Sir Tim Laurence is also a Vice President of the lifesaving charity and former Deputy Chair.

The garden party brought together around 2,500 long-serving RNLI volunteers, staff and their families and featured an Atlantic 85 inshore lifeboat in the palace grounds. Among those attending were lifeboat crew, lifeguards, water safety volunteers, fundraisers and recent recipients of meritorious service awards and honours in the King's Birthday and New Year Honours Lists.

Alastair Graham and Ian Wrigley (40 years' service) and Chris Evans (20 years' service) travelled to Buckingham Palace to represent St Bees RNLI. Ian and Alastair are currently volunteer Helms and Chris has had various roles at St Bees including Helm and launch vehicle driver. Chris Evans said "It was a great honour and a surprise to get invited to Buckingham Palace. It was a great opportunity to meet other volunteers from around the UK and Ireland including our colleagues at Workington RNLI, and a wonderful experience for Ian, Alastair and me".

Seagalls

No need to venture far to enjoy a lovely afternoon tea. The Seagalls June meet-up was for afternoon tea at Stonehouse Farm. Twenty two of us were treated to a traditional afternoon tea of sandwiches and home baked cakes made by Jo.

The dining room has some fantastic murals of the beach and Tomlin and the sun came out eventually making it very pleasant, especially for those of us sat in the conservatory area. It's great to have speakers, but nothing is better than to sit around catching up with everyone and getting to know new members.

Special thanks to Jean aka Nanna, who managed to make sure we were all fed, watered and topped up with tea.

We will be venturing out on the train this month, weather (or should we say trains) permitting. August is a holiday month. Please get in touch if you want to join us: contact details are on the back page. You will be very welcome.

St Bees WI

At our June meeting we welcomed Ann Baker who told us the story of how she became a vicar: a very interesting talk which was enjoyed by all our ladies. Thanks to all our members who made delicious cakes to share and those who did the washing up.

Our next event is a get together at the Seacote Hotel on Monday 8th July at the earlier time of 6.30pm, with sandwiches and chips provided for WI Members.

We will break as usual for the summer and resume on Monday 9th September 7.30pm at the Seacote Hotel, when we are welcoming the Artist Natalie Burns.

Everyone is welcome. Why not become a member and join our lovely group of ladies. Just turn up on the night. Non-members £4 including refreshments, plus raffle. For further information see www.St-Bees-WI-facebook or any WI Member. Take care and Enjoy the Summer!

Lunga's adventure

Hello. Lunga here. The day started normally. A walk and then my food. Mammy had her food. She then began to pack food into a box. Even food and water were packed for me. Where were we going? We got in the car. Wrong way for the caravan. We went past the turning for my hotel and on down narrow lanes to a car park.

We walked back up the road a little and mammy had to lift me over a style as, tut tut, there was no provision for dogs! We were beside a pleasant stream. There was a circular stone structure. Mammy said it was a fox trap. It didn't work as I couldn't smell foxes! Then up very steeply on rocks. Mammy kept encouraging me from behind. She lifted me up one very big step. We were still by the stream, so I had a drink. I took care as all that tumbling water is a bit frightening.

A brown spaniel passed us. He must have known the way and we followed him. It then got easier and at the top mammy sat me on a little bit brick tower (a trigg point she said). A man took our photo and I smiled. We walked on to another hill, and it was very windy. My ears blew about. Then we sat out of the wind for the food in the box and a welcome rest. Mammy took my picture beside a pile of iron and a pile of stones at the top. We then went on down to a little hill. Then it was steeply down by another welcome stream, though mammy had water for me as well. Mammy let me walk down on my own except near some sheep. There was then a track that took us back to the car. We walked beside a lake, and I went in carefully after a stick because there were waves on the lake.

I had a snooze on the way home. Mammy said we had been up Great Borne, Starling Dodd and Little Dodd and walked beside an Ennerdale Water. Anyway it was a great day and I had a good sleep Zzzzzz.....

Bye for now. Lunga and his mammy Claire summers.

Grassroots

St Bees Priory Orchestra

The Orchestra under conductor Ali Birchall will perform its summer concert in the Priory Church at 5 o'clock on the evening of Saturday 6th July.

Music includes the Suite from "Peer Gynt" by Grieg, Walzer nr. 2 by Shostakovich and highlights from Jurassic Park and the Pirates of the Caribbean.

St Bees Village Hall Summer Show

'Allo! Allo! What happened after D-Day

The date is the 13th July 1944, just a few weeks after D-Day. The setting is the small Normandy village of St Abeille sur Mer, south of Le Portblanc. In the evening the inhabitants are gathering in their local bar; Le Bistro des Oddies. There is a lot of fighting going on around St Lo, just a short distance away, and there are road blocks and pot holes everywhere. Come and find out what happened that evening.

Saturday 13th July at 7.30pm in the Village Hall (Hodgetts Club)

Tickets £5 from Claire Hale 07740717481

Choral Evensong - Apologies Cancelled

There will no longer be a choral evensong (Book of Common Prayer) on Sunday 7th July at 4:00pm due Regrettably due to fewer choristers being available. .

NSPCC

Many thanks to everyone who made the Strawberry Tea on 1st June such a success, at which we raised just under £500.

Quilts at The Priory

Are you a quilter? St Bees Priory will be holding a "Celebration of Quilting" from 21st to 24th August, in aid of a dementia charity. We would love to include your quilt(s), traditional or contemporary, hand stitched or machined.

Please contact Lesley Rutherford, 07703 486 074 for more details.

Over 60s

On 9th July we will be having a talk by Deb Lee about TradeCraft. There will also be a stall where you can buy TradeCraft products.

On 23rd July we are hosting a visit from Moor Row over 60s club with food and entertainment.

Both these events will be in Hodgetts Club (Village Hall) 2pm start. There is no club in August. We restart in September.

Garden Show

St Bees & District Garden Society Annual Show is to be held on Saturday 17th August in St Bees School Sports Hall - Time 1.00 - 4.30 pm..

We are looking for anyone willing to help us by making cakes, buns, tray bakes, chocolate crispies, shortbread, biscuits etc for the refreshments table.

We shall also require volunteers on the day to help serve tea and coffee.

If you are available and able to help in any way, please contact Corinne on 07527 890378 or email corinne_stbees@hotmail.co.uk. Any contribution of help would be greatly appreciated.

Graphic Arts: One Tree A Rainbow Seeds/Seedpods Wildlife
Insect on a flower St.Bees from above
Extra class this year - Aurora

Flower arrangement - Unusual container

Age 4 and under: Face on a paper plate Hand print

Age 5 to 9 inclusive: Collage - Drawing/Painting - A flowerDecorated/Painted pebble
Face on a paper plate - Fruit and or Vegetable creature

Age 10 to 16 inclusive: Flower arrangement in a jam jar
Decorated plant pot. Max pot size 6" (15.2cm)
2 Decorated Weetabix
Photo of My Pet

Seafest - 27 July, St Bees Beach & Sand Sculpture

Our annual festival of the sea, SeaFest, is running on Saturday 27th of July, 10 am till 4.00 pm at St Bees. The day promises to be an action-packed family-friendly festival celebrating the Irish Sea and its marine wildlife, featuring the famous annual sand sculpture competition, sea-themed games and competitions, arts & crafts activities, beach yoga and meditation, rockpool rambles, guided birdwatching and dolphin surveys, theatre performances and much more.

The full schedule will be released closer to the time, but make sure to save the date and book your pitch for the sand sculpture competition on the Cumbria Wildlife Trust website. See you on the shore!"

Amber Gould, Marine Officer – Restoration and Engagement







Thornhill Mission Church **FREE** Health & Wellbeing Sessions

Join us for the **Happy Healthy Neighbours** community engagement programme at **Thornhill Mission Church!** This 5-week programme is designed to help you live well and connect with your community.

Session Highlights

- » FREE Chair Based Exercise Session for all ages and abilities
- » FREE exercise bands & balls available for attendees to take home
- » Enjoy free tea and coffee afterwards and catch up with new and old friends
- » Receive a free Happy Healthy Neighbour guide to keep
- » Meet Reverend Becky Gibbs or another member of the clergy for any questions or support

To book your spot, contact either:

- Exercise & Community Engagement Coordinator, Molly: 07535538257 / midcopeland@icanwellbeing.co.uk
- Reverend, Becky Gibbs: 019468 22279 / revbgibbs@outlook.com

Location: Thornhill Mission Church, Egremont, CA20 2RS

Cost: FREE

Topics Covered

- Coping Strategies
- Volunteering
- Healthy Eating
- Staying Active
- Meaningful Connections

By attending this programme, you are supporting the longevity of Thornhill Mission Church and its mission to bring communities together.

Dates Every Wednesday

3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st

throughout July 2024

10:30-11:30

midcopeland@icanwellbeing.co.uk

icanwellbeing.co.uk/
ican-health-fitness-mid-copeland

Gardens are wonderful places, and the **Community Garden in the Vicarage walled garden** is no exception. In the Priory we aspire, among other things, to “Tread Gently” and to “Care Deeply”. The community gardeners put that into practice. We sow, nurture and harvest vegetables and flowers and we do so without using any chemicals or noxious treatments. We try to share the produce (and indeed, the garden) with the whole community and hopefully many of you will have seen and maybe used produce from our stand at the end of the vicarage drive. We keep around half of the plot wild to encourage wildlife. Obviously the gardeners give their time and effort to produce the veg and flowers. But we get so much back in return: companionship, exercise, a real sense of peace as we work away or just sit for a few moments and enjoy the scene. For me there’s a real spirituality about gardening too. And it’s amazing how many problems get solved while you garden! It’s wonderfully therapeutic.

So while we’re thinking about treading gently, caring deeply and making St Bees a greener village, do remember the Community Garden. It is there for everyone, whether you fancy coming to work with us or just to pop in and have a look, a chat or a rest on our lovely bench. We’re there most Saturday mornings from 10.30 – 12.30. Come in, have a peep through the gate!

STOP THE PRESS! Our Amazing Planet! Friday Fun and Community Garden joint event on Saturday 31st August from 2-5pm. More details below! *Hilary Hemm*

Our Amazing planet !

Saturday 31st August 2-5pm in St Bees Priory and Grounds

A repeat of the highly successful afternoon of Fun for all the Family

Come along and:

Enjoy a tea in the Vicarage Garden (from 3pm), Visit the Community walled Garden

Learn how to protect our planet better, Visit the Priory Paddock and go pond dipping

Make things to take home, Play games, Do a treasure hunt

Do lots more things!

Have fun!

For more information contact

Amy Linton amylinton1983@gmail.com or

Deb lee535877@aol.com 823470



PARISH ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY



Due to family commitments Emma-Jane has resigned from her post as Parish Administrator. I'd like to take this opportunity to **thank Emma-Jane** for her skill, enthusiasm and commitment to the church and to this role this past 15 months and to wish her well.

The Parish Administrator role will be vacant from the 1st July. In summary the role is to deliver, for the Parish Priest and the Parish, a high-quality support service in all areas of general administration ensuring confidentiality and sensitivity at all times.

If you think you might have the skills to support the church in this way, or would like to find out more, please contact Rev Becky for a role description, person specification and application form. This is a paid position for 8-10 hours per week.

Closing date is Thursday 1st August.

Email address - enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk

PCC TREASURER VACANCY

Norman Killip, PCC Treasurer, will soon have completed his five year tenure and will be resigning by the end of 2024. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Norman for his skill and quiet determination—we have benefited hugely from his diligent approach.

In summary the role of PCC Treasurer is to carry out the accounting activities of the church including the payment of expenditures, the maintenance of the financial records and the periodic reporting of the church's financial status.

If you think you might have the skills to support the church in this way, or would like to find out more, please contact Rev Becky for a role description, person specification and application form. This is a voluntary role.

Only those legally allowed to be a Charity Trustee (see Charity Commission website - <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/>) ie over 18 and not disqualified because of bankruptcy or criminal convictions for financial wrongdoing need apply.

ST BEES PARISH COUNCIL

List of councillors May 2023 - April 2024

Doug Sim (<i>Chairman</i>)	18 The Crofts, St Bees CA27 0BH
Eric Taylor (<i>Vice Chairman</i>)	21 Fairladies, St Bees CA27 0AR
Pam Argyle	34 Main St., St Bees CA27 0AA
Neil Bettinson	22 Main St., St Bees CA27 0AA
Grant Gilmour	Grenville, 47 The Crofts, St Bees CA27 0BH
Nicholas Graham	17 Fairladies, St Bees CA27 0AR
Claire Hale	Abbey House, St Bees CA27 0DR
Andras Kaldos	5 Hillside, St Bees CA27 0AP
Amy Linton	Overbeck, Sea Mill Lane, St Bees CA27 0BD
Jon Mellor	Cross Hill House, Cross Hill St Bees CA27 0BL
Doug Millington	Sea View House, Sea Mill Lane, St Bees CA27 0BD
Jane Donaldson (<i>Clerk</i>)	East House, Coulderton, Egremont, CA22 2UR

St Bees Parish Council

Chairman's Report for the year to 1st April 2024

Cumberland Council

Cumberland Council became fully operative on 1st April 2023. Since then Cllr Graham Minshaw has attended PC meetings as our ward councillor to gather information about village issues and brief us on activities of the new council. Cumberland Council is the only tier of government now between the Parish and Westminster, and we are starting to see the benefits of consolidating the former Copeland and Cumbria Councils' activities in Cumberland Council.

Traffic calming and safety

The volume and speed of post-Covid peak traffic through the village has remained at tolerable levels due to Sellafield dramatically reducing the amount of private car traffic to their site during Covid; though there has been a slight increase towards the end of the year as more people were required to attend their main site. The speed-watch camera group has operated through the summer months; many thanks to those volunteers who perform this worthwhile duty.

Cycle track link to Whitehaven and C2C cycleway

This project concept has huge support locally and would enable a level-access walking and cycle route along the valley bottom to Whitehaven and the national cycle network. Little progress has been made in the year, as there are still route uncertainties influenced by the proposed coal mine rail-loading facility.

Station travel hub

Our station car park extension plan, which would yield about 25 new parking spaces in the centre of the village, plus land for public off-street electric car charging, is making progress with stakeholders. These include Cumberland Council, Sellafield Ltd, and Network Rail. As we now have the offer of a 50-year lease for the existing car park, and agreement on the use of the adjacent land from Cumberland Council, work is proceeding to the design and costing stage.

Community projects

The parish council once again organised the Christmas tree on Cross Hill and the Santa parade followed by switching on of the tree lights. The village was toured by Santa with an escort peloton of cycling elves, and a large number of villagers turned out to watch. Money was collected for the RNLI.

The “Light District” and Village profile

The audio-visual light show in the Priory “Space: God, The Universe And Everything” attracted nearly 2,000 people over the two nights it was shown. It was good to see something of this quality coming to the west. It was facilitated by Cumbria Tourism partnering with the Parish Council and the Priory and managed by Cumberland Council. The idea sprang out of contacts made at our meetings with Network Rail and the Community Rail Partnership, and is part of our policy of raising the profile of the village.

Tree planting and Priory Paddock

We have been planting trees since 1973 - ‘Plant a tree in seventy-three’ and we are still planting and maintaining trees around the parish on marginal area and land we manage. Work is also continuing on maintaining and improving the Priory Paddock wildlife area, which now has an information board and signing from the main road.

Interpretation boards

Following the installation of boards at Stonehouse garden and the beach, an additional board is now sited at the entrance to the Priory. Future sites for 2024-25 include one adjacent to the notice board on the Main Street, and the Dandy Walk.

Beach litter and dog fouling

We are working with Cumberland Council to implement more bird-proof litter bins at the beach, and we have continued the dog dispenser system. We continue to supply dog bags via the five dispensers around the village and have requested Cumberland Council to respray the "pick up after your dog" stencils on pavements and at the seafront.

Outrigg play area

We have been planning a significant upgrade and refurbishment of the Outrigg play area. The equipment has been owned and maintained by the Parish Council since the 1960s, but land ownership by Cumbria CC has made grant funding difficult. We are hopeful that with land ownership changes due to the Changing Lives Multi-Academy Trust taking over the Village School, this situation will improve.

Planning

The parish council is a statutory consultee for planning consent, and we have been monitoring the Planning Inspectorate scrutiny of the Copeland local plan prior to adoption, which should be in June 2024. Part of this involves proposed development areas in St Bees. We have made representations about the unsuitability of village roads for larger scale developments and the need to stay with the village development boundaries to prevent ribbon development along highways. We continue to exercise due diligence on reviewing all plans submitted within the parish.

Footpaths and Seats

We have continued to inspect footpaths in introduce improvements where necessary. A number of walks have been organised, and new walk guides have been published on the web site continue to be popular. It is hoped to improve the kissing gate from the business centre car park to accommodate push-chairs along the track. Initial work is being done on improving the Dandy walk to give it a better surface so that push-chairs can easily be used on it.

Green initiatives and Climate Change

We continue to organise monthly beach cleans, which are well attended. A Climate Change Working Group has been formed, with parish councillors and representatives from the community working together to explore how as a parish we can take further action on climate change.

In September 2023 we held an event with Cumbria Wildlife Trust to plant wildflowers behind the wall on Beach Road, which will provide a habitat for pollinators. The wildflowers were planted by community volunteers and pupils from St Bees Village School.

The Parish Council's Climate Change Working Group has started a project to map the wildlife in the parish. The Climate Change Working Group has also developed a questionnaire to determine interest in possible environmental projects to take forward, which will be shared with residents shortly.

Volunteers and New Councillors

The council attracts a number of volunteers and groups for help with specific tasks such as; play inspections, the web site, tree-planting, defibrillators, footpaths, public area maintenance, Village in Bloom, special events, speed-watch and beach cleaning. We would like to thank all those who have helped; the council is a bigger thing than just monthly meetings.

However, we are running with three vacancies on the council – really the first protracted vacancies since 1895. This is a hands-on council, and whilst we are supported by many volunteers,

Doug Sim, Chairman, April 2024