

St Bees Priory Church

Rev'd Becky Gibbs, Priest in Charge

01946 822279 or 07460 990631

revbgibbs@outlook.com

The Rev'd Richard Lee MStJ (07841 398088)

Associate Priest of St Bees Priory

Rural Dean of Calder

Retired Clergy with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate:

The Rev'd Jim Marshall (01946 64259)

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 Morning Worship - 10.30 am

2nd and 4th Sundays Holy Communion - 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 - 950 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 News

June 2022

*The Queen's
Platinum Jubilee
2022*

Photo courtesy of Mike McKenzie

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 - M Westhead (822674).
Arts Society	meets every two months on the last Wednesday of the month at 8.00 p.m. Venue to be arranged. Details from Dilys Brownrigg (822584) or Chris Robson 822468.
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 pm. Sundays, ring at 10.00 a.m.
Brownies	Brownies meet on Tuesdays. Further details can be obtained from Leanne Cherry, contact 07805154408.
Cubs, Scouts, Beavers	Cubs for children aged 8 - 10, meet on Thursdays, 6.30 - 8pm. Beavers meet on Thursdays (term time) from 5.00 - 6.00 pm. Details from Graham Young. They meet in CCF Hut, St Bees School. Scouts meet at Egremont.
Choir	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).
Churchwardens	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Rosalie McAndrew (822326), Malcolm Lightfoot, Wendy Mellor, & Tom Kelly.
Councillors	Copeland - Cllr Jeffrey Hailes- 01946 814819, 7.00 to 9.00 p.m Monday to Friday. Cumbria - Cllr Chris Whiteside, 01946 67575 or 07798667678. E-mail chris.whiteside@cumbria.gov.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
Fair Trade	Fair trade food and craft items and catalogues available from Deb Lee, who can deliver. Tel 823470 - lee535877 @aol.com
Finance	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.
First Responders	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497
Football Association	Contacts - Seniors Tony Barnett 590640. Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.
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 .
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, Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 01946 825468). Flower Show is held on the 3rd Saturday in August.
Garden Society	

Guides	meet on Tuesdays from 7.00 – 8.30 p.m. Further details can be obtained from Amanda Smith or email stbeesguides@yahoo.com
History Group	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from 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.
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.
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.
Playgroup (Toddler Group)	meets every Wednesday in term time only, from 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. in New College Hall, St Bees Priory. Details from Katy Privilege, - Email - katyprivilege_89@outlook.com
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.
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.
Prayer Group	meets on Thursdays from 1.45 - 3.15 p.m. in New College Hall . All denominations welcome.
Priory Singers	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (01946) 825307.
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
Seagalls	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
St Bees Triers	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm & 7pm. Email running@triers.uk Tel. 823497 Web www.triers.co.uk
St Bees Youth Group	meets 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at 7.00 p.m. in New College Hall. All youngsters of secondary school age are welcome. See Priory website for details. www.stbeespriory.org.uk
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, 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
Women's Institute	meets 2nd Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. usually in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Roxanne Benson Tel 823137.

Calendar for May/June

28	Saturday	7.30 p.m.	Arts out West Show, Village Hall
29	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
29 May to 5 June Platinum Jubilee Exhibition in the Priory			
31	Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Tale Trail Children's Walk – meet Beach Café
1	Wednesday	10.20 a.m.	Ramblers Walk Abbey Wood - meet St Bees Station
		12.30 pm	Jubilee Organ Recital, Priory
2	Thursday	6.00 p.m.	Evening Family Walk to Nethertown - meet Beach Café
3	Friday	10.00 a.m.	Jubilee Beach Clean - meet St Bees Lifeboat Station
		11.30 a.m.	Televised Service of Thanksgiving, Priory
4	Saturday	11.00 a.m.	Leisure Cycle & Picnic - Fairladies turning circle
5	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.	Jubilee Street Party – Cross Hill
8	Wednesday		Magazine copy date
10	Friday		Seagalls Afternoon – Bass Lake Station
11	Saturday	11.00 a.m.	Sealife Watch & Survey
12	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		4.00 p.m.	Friends Choral Evensong & Buffet- Priory
13	Monday	2.30 p.m.	St Bees W.I. Afternoon Tea – Stonehouse Farm
14	Tuesday	7.00 p.m.	PCC Meeting, NCH
19	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
20	Monday	6.30 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
26	Sunday	9.00 a.m.	Story Service – Priory
		10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Photo of Queen Elizabeth on her visit to Whitehaven - with permission from Mike Mackenzie, Whitehaven News. (Blurring of background by St Bees News editor!!).

Editor – July/August 2022 Magazine

The **July/August** issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Jack Hale, Abbey House, St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Wednesday 8 June** please.

Email: jack.hale@newcastle.ac.uk Tel. 01946822409

St Bees News

June 2022

“June is Bustin’ Out All Over”, the opening line from Rogers and Hammerstein’s Carousel lends the theme to this lovely month named after Juno the Roman Goddess of marriage, women’s health and earth’s fertility and growth. There is indeed a great deal of growth and change propelling us into June. For those of us who have gardens – its not the month to relax – turn your back for a moment – or go for a short break and the weeds have gone berserk, the lawn is 6 inches higher than when you left for that break and the local wildlife has either dug all your plants up or eaten the best bits. Perhaps, our Motto for June should be borrowed from Scouting – “Be Prepared”.

Are you prepared to celebrate her Majesty’s Platinum Jubilee? In a world so full of short termism’s and shifting standards in public service her Majesty’s sense of duty and commitment to service is exemplary – no matter the challenge she has remained steadfast in her determination to – ‘carry on’.

Being Prepared also refers to challenges in life – many in villages/towns close by cannot recall June 2 without reflecting on the loss of loved ones and their own feelings that day when violence stalked our streets. Be prepared to meet others for this month is not bursting with joy and fun.

Being Prepared for change – as many new marriages begin this month – its is still one of the most popular times for marriage and that really does demand change and adaption to new relationships both in terms of joys and demands and family life.

Writing in St Bees, in May does not give me any insight as to what might be going on in the World in June – but I feel the bottom line is Ukraine will not get any better quickly and could get worse – so best we remain ‘Prepared’ to help and support the victims of that tragedy in any way we can.

Being Prepared is reflected in the Church Calendar too (yes there is a specific church calendar of festivals, commemorations readings and prayers). June sees the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost (Whit Sunday). The Church being reminded that it would have to embrace change and challenge if it wanted to reach the whole world. If one is given the gift of speaking in other languages it probably means that you will have to meet and greet and be with others who do not share your culture, background, or expectations. Equally, how do you communicate with, the Blind, the Deaf, - or even simply with young people do you need a new language to engage with the growth that may well be ‘bustin’ out all over’ Let’s embrace and ‘Be Prepared’ for the challenges and joys June will no doubt bring.

Rev'd Richard Lee

Priory News

The Platinum Jubilee celebrations at the Priory will feature a televised filming of the Thanksgiving service for her Majesty the Queen's reign from St Paul's Cathedral on Friday 3 June starting at 11.30 a.m for all to attend and finishing at 12.30 – followed by wine & canapes! The churches have special dispensation to show a televised broadcast on this occasion.

Exhibition & Display in the Priory - An Exhibition covering village/parish and national aspects of the seven decades of Her Majesty's reign will be presented by seven local organisations during Jubilee week - Sunday 29 May to Sunday 5 June inclusive. Various other illuminations and decorations will appear around the church and grounds!

Priory Services during Rev'd Becky's absence – Communion services will be led by the Ministry team, while Morning Worship will be taken by the lay leaders group.

Please email the parish administrator Emma Mason at enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk if you have any clerical or business queries; or contact a clergy member or churchwarden or PCC member with any concerns – specifically Rev Richard Lee; Sally Kennedy; Wendy Mellor; Rosalie McAndrew, Malcolm Lightfoot, Tom Kelly.

What's On at the Priory in June

Friends Choral Evensong & Tea – will be held on Sunday 12 June at 4.00 p.m in the Priory with the church choir and celebrated by Revd's Jim & Anne Baker. All welcome to attend and enjoy the service and buffet tea afterwards.

Story Service on Sunday 26 June – will be held at 9.00 a.m in the Priory and led by the parents team.

Organ Recital by Frank Bowler during Jubilee week – Wednesday 1s June at 12.30 pm.

Love & Prayers for strength and healing go out to Rev. Becky Gibbs who is recovering at home after her operation. Becky will be on sick leave for the month of June, returning to her duties in July. We also send best wishes to those who have been in hospital - Ken Richardson and Julie Banks – and remember them in our prayers.

Priory Donations to the Ukraine Appeal – Grateful thanks to all who donated, many with gift-aid, to the Christian Aid Emergency Appeal for Ukraine in March/April raising a wonderful total of £475.05. Special thanks to Frank Bowler whose Holy Week organ recital raised £95.05 included in that total. Also Tom Kelly reports that eleven vanloads of goods from St Bees (Independent School and Priory) and Cleator Moor were sent out to Szczecin in Poland with essential healthcare aid - thanks to local packers and drivers, and generous donors of baby food, medical packs and toiletries and much more.

Parish Council News

Cumberland Council elections – the elections for the new Cumberland Council took place on Thursday 5 May. Graham Minshaw was elected to represent Egremont North/St Bees. The new Cumberland Council will exist in shadow form until 1 April 2023 and councillors will spend the first year setting a budget, appointing officers and planning for delivery of services. Until 1 April 2023 (known as Vesting Day) all services will continue to be provided by the existing Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council and our existing ward councillors, Jeff Hailes (CBC) and Chris Whiteside (CCC) will remain the points of contact for queries/questions.

Changes to recycling collections – from October this year CBC will begin to introduce a new system for kerbside recycling. The existing recycling boxes and cardboard recycling bag will be replaced by two wheeled bins. The bin with a red lid will be for metal, plastic and glass with the blue lidded bin being used for paper and cardboard. This will reduce the sorting which householders need to do and the bins will be more weatherproof. CBC is aware that some properties may not have room to store the bins and will contact householders affected to find alternatives. CBC is holding a series of roadshows around the area to explain the new system and staff will be on hand to answer questions. If you missed the event in St Bees Village Hall on 25 May, there will also be events in Egremont Market Hall on 29 June (4-7pm), Mirehouse Community Centre on 14 July (4-7pm) and Whitehaven Market Place on 9 July (10am -3pm). An information leaflet with Questions & Answers can be found on the CBC website.

Bank Holiday Refuse Collections – CBC has announced that refuse collections will take place as usual over the bank holidays in June and August.

Heritage Trail – the Parish Council has designed a new interpretation board highlighting points of interest in the village. The new board is now in place at Stonehouse Garden. It is planned to have similar boards at the beach and by the Priory to encourage visitors to explore the area. A new sign has also been designed to replace the outdated tourist sign by the level crossing which it is hoped CCC will install.

Beach Toilets – the refurbishment of the disabled toilet at the beach has been completed in readiness for the summer season. The donation boxes which were recently installed have already contributed over £100 to help with the costs of maintaining the toilets.

Parish Council Meeting –. The June Parish Council meeting will take place on MONDAY 20 JUNE at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

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Rosalie McAndrew & Wendy Mellor

Rosalie and Wendy stood down as church wardens at the last APCM in April. Between them they had given over 50 years of service to the parish church of St Bees and its parishioners. They were presented with gifts from a grateful congregation on the 1st May with wine and cake to follow. They have faithfully and with love and commitment carried out their duties as church wardens.

It would take the writing of a book to tell of all the love and commitment these two ladies have given to the people of St Bees as teachers, pastoral and community workers. They have been involved in many aspects of church and village life. With stepping down as wardens they will not cease to be at the heart of the village and the priory. Rosalie will still be the one who sends the greetings and the sympathy cards to those who need them as well as keeping the church tidy, the magazine rolling out each month, the Friends of the Priory functioning and so on! Wendy will continue on her journey to becoming a lay reader, a pop in leader, and a village hall supporter. Long may they do so. For all they have done as wardens and for all they continue to do, and be, we are thankful and grateful. God bless them both.

Christian Burial

5 May	William Townson	7 Priory Road, St Bees
9 May	Winifred Elaine Lamb	Monkway, Kells

May God bless you and your families

Priory Flower Rota for June

5 June	Elaine Lamb	12 June	Gill Burgess
19 June	Laura Edlington (Branford)	26 June	Gill Richardson
3 July	Barwise/Hewetson family		

Thank you to all kind donors on the rota – giving/arranging flowers or giving to the Flower Fund. Please contact Rosalie McAndrew (01946 822326) if you wish to donate and need help or advice.

Sincere thanks

After his tragic death, the wife and children of Ashley Todd, Lingmell, Abbey Road, would like to express their sincere thanks for the overwhelming love and support received from friends and neighbours. Ashley enjoyed living in St Bees for eighteen years.

Kate, Adeena and Myla have truly appreciated the heartfelt wishes from the village during this devastating time. After his funeral on 3rd May, 2022, a remembrance plaque was placed by Ashley's family in his name at Hilltop Stables, Scalebarrow, St Bees.

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St Bees School at the Greater China Awards

Earlier this year, St Bees School was revealed as a finalist for the 2022 Greater China Awards in the 'Education Links' category. On Friday 29th April, Mr Gribble and Mrs Jung headed to The Lowry, Salford Quays, to represent St Bees at the awards ceremony held by the Department for International Trade North West.

The Greater China Awards "celebrate the successes of North West businesses trading with mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan in bi-lateral trade or investment, education and community sectors".

The 'Education Links' award "celebrates UK success and innovation for organisations working with Greater China (mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan). It is open to organisations in the North West of England who can demonstrate sustained export to Greater China for at least three years and the positive impact this has had on the UK economy".

As a finalist, we were recognised as having successful education partnerships with Greater China, as well as showcasing British innovation and sharing our knowledge, training and expertise.

St Bees were up against some big names in education and while Liverpool John Moores University scooped the top award, we were celebrated by being named in second place and receiving a beautiful trophy, too!

We are extremely proud to have our work in China recognised at such a prestigious awards ceremony. As a small independent school in West Cumbria, to be named alongside the likes of Liverpool John Moores University is very exciting.

Opportunities like this are vital for St Bees to grow once again and getting our name recognised for all our hard work is a huge bonus, especially across the wider North West area.

We are proud of our unique fusion curriculum, which includes our very own Maths curriculum written in collaboration with Durham University, and Chinese as a foreign language. We are waiting for the world to completely open up to allow travel to our sister schools in China and we can't wait to expand our work in the country even more.

Our free-flow vision of our UK students spending terms at a time over in St Bees Dongguan, Huizhou and Shijiazhuang and Chinese students studying here in Cumbria will only open more doors for us...so watch this space!

We would like to say a huge thank you to the Department for International Trade North West for selecting St Bees, firstly as finalists and then worthy of second place.

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Grassroots

West Cumberland Railway Museum will be opening during Jubilee Week from Wednesday 1st June to Saturday 4th June, from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. You are most welcome to investigate the railway memorabilia in Peter Rooke's museum – at 24 Main Street across from the Post Office.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust – My Local Catch: Seawatch Survey – Saturday 11 June from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Meet at St Bees main beach car park to look out for dolphins and other sealife and help record data. Booking required at www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/ events.

Parent/Carer & Toddler Group – A reminder that the Toddler Group for babies and under-fives meets every Wednesday from 9.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. in New College Hall near the Priory church. Their leader is Katy Privilege who has taken over from Amy Linton, and may be contacted on email – KatyPrivilege_89@outlook.com

Lowes Court Gallery in Egremont has many new products on exhibition and for sale from their local artists. Do visit and view – pastel landscapes of local views by new Egremont artist Emma Hunt; textiles from Any Art Netty of chainmail jewellery (bracelets and necklaces); Jubilee ragrug seatpads; and a royal knitted collection of tea cosies and bunting! Open Mon. to Fri. 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Florence Arts Centre & Events – The Craft Café is open every Saturday morning from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. All welcome to bring craftwork or meet others and learn new skills.

A Stitch in Time - The Seasons in Textiles by Fabricate - The textile group from the Western Fells.

25th June – 24th July at the Centre, Egremont, Open: 11.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m., Wed – Sun.

Meet the Makers Day Sunday 10th July from 11.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. - come and see demonstrations of a range of crafts - along with this exhibition by local artists.

Plenty of free parking, disabled access and FairTrade refreshments are available too.

Jenni Payne 07355 062997 On behalf of Fabricate

Love & Prayers

Deepest sympathy is extended to Colleen Townson and family mourning the sad loss of Bill Townson who died in April. A well known and respected gentleman, he was the manager of Haig Pit for many years. Always remembered.

Sincere sympathy is offered to Jan Wear and family on the death of her husband Billy Wear of Solway Rise, who died recently. Our thoughts are with his family.



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St Bees Hotel

This magazine's History pages have been telling the story of "The St. Bees Royal Hotel" – the building opposite the Station now known to us as "Grindal". Last month we reached 1849, when James Brindle took on the tenancy. He already owned the "Seacote", but had to delay opening the "Royal" for several months after persons unknown had tried to burn it down.

James Brindle kept the "Royal" (or sometimes the "Railway") Hotel for only a few years. By 1857 the Richardson family had the tenancy, and with the sport of hound-trailing then so popular in Cumberland, the hotel became an acknowledged starting point for it. Later two maiden ladies had the Hotel, but I think it was becoming less successful by their time.

However that may be, the Grammar School next door was thriving. It had more boys than ever before, and new buildings and alterations to the old had not solved their space problem. Some boys were being lodged with families in the village, and others were having to go to the Royal for their meals. So perhaps it was natural that when the hotel came on the market the School should buy it.

This they did in 1888, with the Rev. William Hey Alderson appointed Housemaster of Grindal House. His sister served as Matron. Mr. Alderson, we are told, "was a great-hearted man: a friend who could never be replaced". It is clear from the accounts of many Old Boys that they, and many Villagers too, had cause to be grateful to him. His study, always untidy and smelling of tobacco, was on Grindal's second floor, overlooking the Crease and the playing field. Generations of schoolboys attested to the welcome to be found there through all "Sambo's" thirty-four years as Housemaster. (Why "Sambo"? Nobody remembered. But the nickname was as much a part of Mr. Alderson as his monocle and his succession of ancient, battered hats).

Then in 1909 came another fire. It started after midnight in a store-room. The forty-odd boys all escaped, though without most of their possessions. Miss Alderson's piano in her first floor room crashed through to the day-room below; much of the building was gutted. Accounts vary in detail, but agree about Mr. Alderson, who realised that two of the smallest boys were stranded on the top floor. One was persuaded to jump, and was safely caught by Mr. Alderson; when the other dared not follow Mr. Alderson climbed the burning staircase to get to him. His arms and face were burned in the process and he spent the next six weeks in the Sanatorium.

Once again the building was repaired, and by 1910 it was back in service as Grindal House. Very different, perhaps, from the Luxury Hotel envisaged in 1847 by its builder Thomas Tyson, but fulfilling a purpose (which I understand is to continue) as a place for the care of the young.

Bob Jopling Village History Group

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News From The Village School

After what seems like a very long time, we are extremely pleased to be able to start a number of our usual events this term. We have started our After School Activity clubs which include Football, Multi-skills and Gardening. The gardening club are taking part in a county wide initiative *Get Cumbria Buzzing*. The children are learning about the importance of ‘pollinators’, the insects which may be tiny but their impact is huge. *The Big Plant* is also part of this scheme. The Wildlife Trust have provided us with 200 plants which Pre-School, Mrs Spedding, Mrs James, Mrs Agnew and gardening crew have been busy planting out around the school field, creating a wildflower meadow, and planting fruit bushes and bee/butterfly friendly foliage to encourage our winged friends. Years 3 & 4 also took part in planting on the coastline near the Candlestick in Whitehaven. If anyone in the village has any bee friendly plants which they would like to donate to school, they would be very much appreciated!

Our residential visits are once again taking place this term. Following past successful residential visits, our Year 4 children had the opportunity to take part in a residential activity visit to Manor Adventure in Lockerbie. It is well known that residential courses organised by schools are incredibly valuable as part of the National Curriculum. They offer new and exciting challenges and by living with their peers and working together in a team environment, help develop independence, confidence and an ability to recognise strengths and weaknesses in a constructive way. The children took part in a full programme of activities including Climbing, Abseiling, Fencing, High Ropes, Orienteering and much more. This was for many of them their first time away from home but all coped very well indeed. A great time was had by all and they received much praise for their good behaviour. Years 5 and 6 are very much looking forward to their residential visit to Abernethy Barcaple in Scotland, in July.

As the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee fast approaches, we have a number of celebrations planned to mark this very special occasion including a whole school party on the field with ice cream, treats and lots of fun. The children have also completed self- portraits which are being printed onto commemorative mugs, making a lovely celebration keepsake.

Before the term is out we will also be holding:

Sports Day End of year Summer Play Year 6 Bikability Moving Up day

I’m sure you will agree that it is fantastic that we are finally getting back to normal. Exciting times ahead!

With very best wishes,

Emma Sharp Head teacher

Seven Decades of History and More

Come to the Priory to see how we have lived through all the changes during the Queen’s reign from 1952 to 2022.

Seven village groups will show the seven decades of history with “stations” dotted about the Priory.

Exhibited by the Mothers Union, WI, RNLI, Seagalls, Embroiderers, Village School and St Bees School.

There will also be on show a magnificent display of photographs of villagers taken by Charm Robson in the 1990’s which have not been seen for some time.

All in the Priory from Sunday May 29th to Sunday June 5th - open every day.

In Memory of Annie Southam

We were greatly saddened to hear of the death of Annie, a dearly loved and much admired lady who befriended so many and was devoted to doing good works for local organisations and charities. She was a regular worshipper at the Priory with dear friends Iris North, May Fletcher and Enid Smith. She was also a weekly attendee at Pop-In café with friends Stella Jackson and Iris. She was well-known in the village organising events for the Over 60s Club, countless bingo sessions & raffles for St Bees RNLI, and producing her famous drop scones for church functions, rising at 6 am to bake delicious fresh pancakes!

Annie was a founder member of West Cumbria Hospice at Home – holding the first committee meetings in her house at 33 Main Street until 30 people attended and they outgrew her venue and moved to the Seacote Hotel. Many other selfless tasks for the community were done by Annie without fuss - caring for the Bega Flats garden, delivering parish magazines in her area, supporting community events and inviting her friends along too. Even during the Covid lockdown, Annie would phone round all her friends and neighbours and keep in touch.

She was a remarkable lady who showed such resilience and determination during those tedious three months in hospital recovering from that dreadful car accident. In hospital she made so many new NHS friends as nursing staff and others came to know her and drop in for chats. Everyone was amazed by her courage as she faced her pain and difficulties without complaining.

Her beloved family were her pride and joy and we remember them all in their loss – thinking of Audrey & Reg with grandsons Ian & Neil; Jack & Christine with Stephen & Claire – and her extended family. Annie will be greatly missed in this community but always lovingly remembered.

Rosalie McAndrew

St Bees WI News

Our May meeting was in Hodgetts, St Bees Village Hall, A Puddings and Prosecco evening. So many wonderful delicious puddings were made by our members and visitors washed down with a chilled glass of Prosecco, what could be nicer on an early summers evening (despite the rain)!! This was followed by the raffle. The best presented pudding was won by Mildred Allsop; our competition 'A Decorated plate' was won by Wendy Mellor. A huge thank you to all our Committee ladies, Members and Visitors who helped organise setting up the room, tidying and washing up afterwards, serving the Prosecco, raffle, meet and greet. It's very much a team effort, and is very much appreciated!

Our next meeting is Monday, June 13th, 2.30 p.m. for 3.00 p.m. start, at Stonehouse Farm, St Bees. Our WI Ladies will be enjoying An Afternoon Tea. New Members and Visitors are welcome to join us; if you are new to the village or been here for some time, why not give the WI a try, you will be made very welcome. Further details www.facebook.com/St-Bees-WI, or contact Roxanne 823137

Seagalls

Firstly, a big thankyou to Maggie for yet another well attended Craft Night at our April meet up. It was very well attended and all had an enjoyable time making Prom Dolls.

On 3rd May we met at the Seacote. Helen from "Helen's Herbs" gave us an informative and interesting talk on planting baskets and containers with both Herbs and Perennials. She also demonstrated planting and tending hanging baskets in order to maximise their life span from spring until the first frosts.

Helen grows and sells plants and herbs, runs workshops, talks and demonstrations on cooking with herbs, growing to cook and many more. See her website on www.helensherbs.co.uk

Thank you Helen for a very informative talk. Thank you to the Seacote for your hospitality.

Our next meeting is for Afternoon Tea on Friday June 10th at the railway carriages Bassenthwaite (Bass Lake Station). The cost is £22 and there are still a couple of places left if anyone is interested. Transport is available from the village.

Our Bi Annual Summer Party will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd July. Tickets and further details available soon.

Platinum Jubilee activity programme – 28 May to 5 June

Saturday 28th May

Arts out West Show in the Village Hall: Kit Holmes and Al Greenwood performing their blues driven music with a soul sensibility. 7.30 p.m. start. Tickets £10

Sunday 29th May to Sunday 5th June

Exhibition & Display - Seven Decades of Her Majesty's Reign: St Bees Priory - call in and see what you can remember.

Tuesday 31st May

TaleTrails Children's Walk to Fleswick Bay (3 hr.): Meet 10.00 a.m. outside the Beach Café. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Dress for weather and wear strong shoes. Bring picnic and fluids

Wednesday 1st June

Ramblers 'Well Being Walk' to Abbey Wood and inauguration of the new Jubilee seats (60-90 mins.) Meet at St Bees Station 10.20am. Dress for Weather and wear strong shoes.

Organ Recital for the Jubilee - in the Priory at 12.30 p.m.. Frank Bowler

Thursday 2nd June

Evening Family Walk along England Coastal Path to Nethertown: (or Coulderton if tired).and back along the road. Under 16s must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Dress for the weather and bring refreshments. Meet at the Beach Café 6.00 p.m.

Friday 3rd June

Jubilee Beach Clean: Meet at 10.00 a.m at St Bees Lifeboat Station. Litter pickers available to borrow, but please bring your own gloves. Thank you for your help to keep St Bees Beach clean.

Friday 3rd June

The televised Service of Thanksgiving for HM Queen's reign, taking place in St Paul's Cathedral, will be streamed live in St Bees Priory. Service starts at 11.30 a.m. Prosecco and canapes afterwards.

Saturday 4th June

Leisure Cycle and picnic at Braystones: (bring your own food). Young children and parents go a short route. Adults and older children take a longer route. Meet at Fairladies turning circle 11.00 a.m. Arrive Braystones around 12.00 noon. (Transport home available for tired children)

Sunday 5th June

Street Tea Party - 'Bring and Share': The party will be held at Cross Hill – the little road that runs from the Manor Public House to Finkle Street. Parking spaces in this area are limited so please leave the car at home. From 3-5 p.m.