

St Bees Priory Church

Rev'd Becky Gibbs, Priest in Charge

01946 822279 or 07460 990631

revbgibbs@outlook.com

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

The Rev'd Richard Lee MStJ, Rural Dean Calder (07841 398088)

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

* - 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 - 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 Philip Barratt or Tom Rice, Treasurer, Green Ghyll, Greendykes, Egremont.
Garden Society	Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 01946 825468). Flower Show is held on the 3rd Saturday in August.

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 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 - Jon Mellor, jonmell@hotmail.co.uk
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 Amy Linton - Email - amylinton1983@gmail.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 8.00 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (Temp). (01946) 825307. <i>Not meeting at present.</i>
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.co.uk/groups .
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 November 2021

Calendar for November 2021

5	Friday	7 – 8.30 p.m.	Youth Club, NCH
6	Saturday	1.45 p.m.	Wedding - Elisa Forster & Gareth Sheppard
7	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.00 p.m.	Evensong
			Boxes of Hope deadline at Priory
8	Monday	7.30 p.m.	WI, Seacote Hotel
12	Friday	3.00 - 6.00 p.m.	Multi-charity Christmas Fair, OCH
13	Saturday	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	Multi-charity Christmas Fair
		10 – 11.30 a.m.	Beach clean, meet Lifeboat Station
14	Sunday	11.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Multi-charity Christmas Fair
		9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
		10.15 a.m.	Wreath Laying at War Memorial
		10.45 a.m.	Remembrance Service
		6.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
15	Monday	6.30 p.m.	Parish Council, Village Hall
19	Friday	9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Egremont Farmers Market, Market Hall
		7 – 8.30 p.m.	Youth Club, NCH
21	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		6.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
22	Monday	7.00 p.m.	CPR Training, NCH
27	Saturday	11 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.	Florence Arts Centre – Meet the makers
		12 .00 - 1.00 p.m,	Event for UN Women's Equality and Protection from Violence, Priory
28	Sunday	9.00 a.m.	Story Service
		10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		4.00 p.m.	Advent Carol Service
		6.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer

Priory Flower Rota for November

7	Flower Fund	14	Remembrance Poppies
21	Flower Fund	28	Advent – No Flowers – Advent Ring

Note – Wedding on Saturday 6 November.

Grateful thanks to all our flower-arrangers and to donors to the Flower Fund – and to all generous donors of beautiful flowers for the Harvest Festival!

Editor – November 2021 Magazine

The **December 2021** issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Jon Mellor, Cross Hill House, St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Monday 8 November** please.

Email: jonmell@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01946 824936.

St Bees News

November 2021

From 1939-1945 St Bees village was home to the “Mill Hill Boys”; two hundred and fifty evacuee students from London. They came with their teachers and school staff and made their home here, some even stayed on after their evacuation ended. St Bees must have seemed a world away from London for them, the open fields, fells and coastline so different from the busyness of a big city. Whilst their school in Mill Hill was used as a Military Hospital, the boarding houses of St Bees provided a place of refuge to youngsters and staff. Many of the Mill Hill boys have fond memories of their time in St Bees, a memorial to two of them, the founders of the “Old Millhillians Association” can be found in the Priory Paddock.

Over a thousand years before those boys arrived by train on an early autumn evening, another traveller seeking refuge arrived on our shores. According to legend, Bega, an Irish princess fleeing from a forced marriage, sailed alone to our coast across stormy seas seeking sanctuary. The village and Priory Church was named in her honour and each year we give thanks for her courage and her faith in a service of prayer on the eve of St Bega's Day, 7th November.

St Bees has a long and varied history of welcoming refugees. This welcome is no less needed today. In recent months the plight of those escaping the Taliban in Afghanistan has been in our headlines and on our hearts. St Bees Priory Church Council has taken a first step in responding to this desperate need by joining the “Welcome Churches Network”- a group of churches that have offered to be welcoming communities for refugees seeking to build a life here in the UK. As part of this network the Priory will be signposted to any refugees given accommodation in our locality. We look forward to welcoming them.

The Welcome Churches network website says that “Christians are called to love and welcome the stranger”. This is simple to say but not so simple to do. To truly welcome someone who is different to myself sometimes involves an internal wrestling match between my faith and my prejudice. Faith wins the fight when I ask myself “What would Jesus do?” It's then that I'm reminded that if a church isn't welcoming then it isn't really a church at all.

This November the Priory extends a welcome to all, those with faith and those with none at all, to remember all those who have suffered as a result of war and to give thanks for those we have loved and lost.

Thanks to the website of Mill Hill School for the reminder of these words from John Wesley to close.

A Rule for Life

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

With love from Becky

Priory News

Remembrance Sunday

Wreath-laying followed by Remembrance service at the Priory

The service at the Priory will start at 10.45 a.m. and before that a Church Parade of Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, and Guides and Brownies, joined by ex-servicemen and RNLI crew members, will meet at the War Memorial by Beck Edge Garden at 10.15 a.m. for a short wreath-laying ceremony led by Rev Richard Lee. They will then proceed to the WW1 war memorial by the lychgate and to church. All are invited to attend.

Multi-Charities Christmas Fair at Remembrance weekend – Friday 12 to Sunday 14 November. This will go ahead as last year in Old College Hall with sales of cards/gifts from 10 different charities plus Fairtrade goods, foods and recycled products. Open Friday 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.; Saturday 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.; and Sunday 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Also, Felicity Watson's jams, marmalades and chutneys for sale in aid of Hospice at Home.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal – Please bring your filled Boxes of Hope for Romania to the Priory by Sunday 7 November at the latest – in time to be collected and delivered to the local depot. You may certainly donate extra items – hat and gloves, socks, toiletries, pens and notepad, etc. Thank you for your kind gifts. Just remember to check your leaflet for the list of suitable gifts and soft toys/ little car/ball and fill in the donation form. Thank you! **Note deadline!**

Please note – a minimum £2 donation to cover transport to be included in the box (cash or cheque). Contact Rosalie McAndrew or Noreen Woolaghan for further details. It's great to hear that Noreen's daughter Ceri who is one of the local organisers will be going out to Romania this year with the delivery trucks, to help with the handover of shoeboxes to the families in need.

What's On at the Priory in November

St Bees Youth Club – meeting in New College Hall on 2 Fridays this month on 5 and 19 November from 7.00 to 8.30 p.m. for crafts, games, snacks and social chat with your friends.

Advent Carol Service – to be held in the Priory at 4.00 p.m. on Sunday 28 November. Refreshments served. All welcome. Readings and Advent carols with the Priory choir.

Friends of the Priory – Friends Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 November at 7.00 p.m. in New College Hall to plan their future events. Many thanks to everyone who supported the Priory Organ Recital by Frank Bowler in October – a most enjoyable occasion.

Advent Course 'Living in Love & Faith' – inviting you to a 5-week Mission Community course on Tuesdays starting on Monday 8 November to 7 December at St John's in the Hall, Cleator Moor. Exploring the questions of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage in today's world, and how they fit with the Good News of Christ? And how does our church live in love and faith together? At 7.00 p.m.

Parish Council

Parking – There have been times recently when bin collections and deliveries have been missed because vehicles parking along Seacroft Drive and in the entrance to Outrigg Close have made it impossible for large vehicles to reach properties. We would ask drivers to park considerably and leave room around the roads and junctions within the estate to ensure large vehicles can access properties.

The limited amount of off street parking in the village is a concern to everyone. Parish Council is continuing to progress the project to create additional off-street parking on land next to the existing station car park. Outline designs and ecological appraisal are being commissioned to provide the detail necessary for an outline planning application.

Litter bins – It has become apparent that litter bins in the village are being used for household rubbish which should instead be put out for the usual refuse collections. It would be helpful if those renting out property in the village could make sure that blue bags are available together with information on the timing of refuse collections.

Local Plan – The Parish Council has submitted its response to the proposed changes to the draft Local Plan. The Parish Council has welcomed the decision to remove the Scalebarrow site as a possible site for housing development and has objected to the proposed inclusion of a new site south of Fairladies. The Parish Council's view is that the elevated position of the site would mean that new development would have an unacceptable visual impact and the village infrastructure (roads, drains & services) are not able to cope with further expansion of the village.

CPR Training – Would you know what to do in the case of a cardiac arrest and how to use one of the three defibrillators available in the village? Our local First Responders have offered to provide a free training session for anyone interested. The session will take place on the evening of Monday 22 November in New College Hall. If you would like to book a place, please contact Amy Linton email amylinton1983@gmail.com If there is sufficient demand, further sessions will be organised.

GDF – The Copeland GDF Working Group has recommended that two areas within Copeland should be considered as possible sites for a geological disposal facility, one in mid-Copeland (Beckermest, Gosforth, Seascale area), the other in the south (Millom and Haverigg). If Copeland Borough Council accepts the recommendations, community partnerships will be established in each of the areas to involve the local communities as part of the next stage in the process. Although St Bees is not within the proposed mid-Copeland area, the Parish Council will continue to maintain an interest in the process.

Next Meeting – The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 15 November at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are always welcome to attend meetings.

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St Bees Priory Christmas Tree Festival - December 2021

As part of our 900 + years celebrations, we are planning a Christmas Tree Festival to be held in the Priory from Sunday 12 December 2021- Sunday 2 January 2022. We want to adorn the church with beautiful, decorated trees throughout this period and would like to invite any organisation within the village, family groups, friendship groups, pubs, hotels, shops, schools etc to provide and decorate a tree. If you're interested, this is what you need to do:

- Decide on a theme for your tree.
- Make/buy decorations for your tree (and also please provide battery operated lights).
- Make/buy your tree (real or artificial) - no taller than 150cm in height (you will need to provide a stand too).
- Tree assembling will take place at any time between 2-5 p.m. on Sunday 12 December. Bring your tree, stand, decorations and lights to the Priory and you will be given a place to assemble and display it, along with your entry number.
- Pay £10 (cash please!) to enter the Tree Festival (this will be collected from each group on assembly day). All proceeds from entry fees will be shared between the RNLI and St Bees Priory.
- Anyone visiting the Priory during the Tree Festival can place the number of their favourite tree in a voting box, which will be placed at the back of church. The winning tree will win £50!
- Taking down of trees will take place at any time between 2-5 p.m. on Sunday 2 January; the winner will also be announced in church at 2.30 p.m. on that day. Of course, it's not about the winning, but the taking part and what a great way it would be to advertise your business, charity or other organisation within the village; the £50 might also be an added incentive!

This will be a fabulous chance to be creative and make the Priory look extra special for its 900th + Christmas- there are loads of ideas on the internet if you need inspiration! We do need to know how many trees to expect, so please could you email Sarah George at sarahgeorge.bees@gmail.com or phone on 07793 754803 by Wednesday 10th November to confirm your entry. Let's light up the Priory in style this Christmas!

St Bega's Day Service on Zoom

There will be a service of evening prayer on the eve of St Bega's Day on Zoom on Saturday 6th November at 4pm. Please contact Reverend Becky for a zoom invite.

From the Priory Registers

Holy Baptism

3 October Olivia Louise Williams Orchard House, High House Rd.

Holy Matrimony

9 October Ross James Cooper and
Grace Sian Joanne Seeney Manor Cottage, St Bees

May God's blessing be upon you and your families.

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Another glimpse of Joe dates from the beginning of our golf course. It was started in 1929, a successor to the earlier course off the Low Road. Much of the landscaping was done at weekends by boys from the Public School, aided by some of the masters. Having worked all one Saturday beside the Head, Joe was (almost) complimentary:

"...he'd have made a bloody good navvy, that Mr. Bell - if he hadn't been ruined by Education".

Bob Jopling, St Bees History Group

Harvest thanks

Sincere thanks to all involved for a beautiful and inspiring Harvest Festival – to the flower arrangers ; to gardeners and growers of fruit & veg; to church choir and village orchestra for their delightful music; to bringers of goods for harvest gifts and the Foodbank; and to Colin Wadey baking mini-breads and rolls for the gifts. Special thanks to Frank Bowler conducting the choral anthem and to Alison Morris leading the orchestra in Vivaldi's Summer Storm to round off the service. Over £275 was donated and gift-aided to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal. Much appreciated by all.



Supporting the Global Day Against gender based Violence

Saturday 27th November at 12midday, in St Bees Priory, with refreshments, finishing with a National 3minutes silence at 1.03. Why 1 in 3? Almost one in three women aged 16-59 will experience domestic abuse in her. On average, two women a week are killed by a current or former partner in England and Wales and 3 million children live in a household where an adult has experienced domestic abuse. It cannot go on. Come and join us to protest at this, learn more, understand the resources available or just pray!

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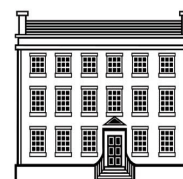


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Fifty Years Ago - Trevor Park

I was instituted to the living of St Bees in July 1971 by Bishop Cyril Bulley, and took on a second (unpaid) role as Chaplain and Head of RE at St Bees School. I came as a relatively inexperienced parish priest but found I had four church wardens who were more skilled in the ways of church life than I was, and they supported and guided me throughout my time as Vicar. These were John Kennedy and John Warbrick (newcomers to St Bees) and Billy Cottam and William Temple who were representative of the old farming and village community. The PCC was a highly professional body which included in its membership Sellafield scientists, staff from the School (Philip Barrett and Chris Robson), and two lawyers (Graham McKay who was Treasurer and John Todd who later became a Reader). No young priest coming to his first living could have been more blessed, not least because there was already a strong, all-age congregation with many young families and a good Sunday School led by Ann Irving. There was an impressive musical tradition thanks to Ted Robertson, the Priory organist, and to Brian Howard at the School, each of whom had trained a large choir to a high standard.

I had been advised to give myself six months to get the measure of the Parish and the School before making any changes, but I suggested the first one at Harvest: have the traditional Harvest Supper in the Priory straight after Evensong. Not everyone was happy at the idea of eating a meal in church or of re-arranging the pews to be able to do so, but it went ahead and was a great success thanks to Mary Cottam and Sally Kennedy and their team of co-workers. They produced a two course, top-notch meal to the standard of a good restaurant: white table linen, silver candlesticks, fine crockery and cutlery (borrowed from the Seacote Hotel), followed by half an hour's communal hymn singing. A tradition was born that evening which lasted for decades.

From later changes and new initiatives, all supported by the PCC, I recall three in particular. An eight day evangelistic parish mission led by Michael Green, Principal of St John's Theological College, aided by an excellent team of his students. Michael was a brilliant communicator and probably the best Evangelist in the C of E at that time. And later we had a mission in the School, led by a friend from my student days, John Gladwyn who was a Tutor at Durham University and a future bishop – he too came with a small band of students. Both those initiatives resulted in many changed lives: newly converted Christians and lifelong faithful followers of Christ who were strengthened in their faith. All that was then built on by Tom Smail, Director of the Fountain Trust, who led a memorable teaching weekend on the Person and work of the Holy Spirit.

Another lasting fruit of the 70s in the Parish and School (Philip Bryan succeeded me in 1977) was the number of young people who went on to be ordained: Malcolm MacNaughton who is now Bishop of Repton, Paul Maybury now a Residentiary Canon of Bradford Cathedral, Steve Mansfield now an Incumbent and Hon Canon in Chester Diocese, Canon Andrew Todd now a Director of Studies in the Church in Wales, Dr Tarjei Park now retired in London, and Canon Alison Kennedy now Precentor at Chelmsford Cathedral. Many more went on to find their Christian vocation as teachers, medics, scientists, engineers and much else.

For me, those years were a golden generation in the history of this parish, and that is thanks very largely to the witness, service and example of so many men and women who lived their faith and thereby inspired younger members of the community to do the same. And that same mission and ministry continues today thanks to the present generation of Christians in this place.

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An Old Village Character

Someone from our past whom I wish I could have known is Joseph William Rothery. Senior readers may remember him, for he lived here till 1954, notably hale and hearty till his death at eighty-nine.

Joe had been born at Allenby Hall Farm in Aspatria. Exactly when he came to St. Bees I do not know, but he lived first at Peckmill, then at Dale Cottage, and then for a long while at Marsh House at the bottom of Seamill Lane. He seems to have been one of those people who were known to, and liked by, everyone.

Over the years Joe had several labouring jobs, all within the village. Finally he was groundsman/caretaker at the golf course. In the summer he



and his wife Mary made extra money by selling refreshments from a hut at the Seacote end of the beach. While Mary served from the hut, Joe gave penny rides to children on his donkey – or on his pony, according to some. Quite possibly there were both, at different times. At the end of the day they would split the takings, Joe carrying the silver home by way of the clifftop, Mary taking the copper along the beach. Or the other way round, sometimes. It seems there could be muggers around, even then.

Joe and Mary brought ten children into the world – five boys and five girls. All but one reached adulthood. Sadly one girl - I think it was Sarah Ann, aged sixteen – died after being kicked by a horse. The eldest son Allen survived the Boer War unscathed, but was badly wounded in World War One. Two others also served in that war, Tom the fourth son being killed at Ypres. He was just nineteen – the T.D. Rothery on our war memorial.

We hear a little of the Rotheries in “St. Bees 1906–1919 - A Recollection”. Fred Chinner had talked to Jackie Walker about his childhood in the village, and she carefully recorded what he said. About Joe Rothery::

“....he was everything in the village ... and he had such a big family, you see. I forget how many there was but there was quite a number of boys and girls and they were characters in their day. Because they were so far away they hadn't time to go home for lunch or anything when they were at school. You see they used to nip over the wall into Mawson's garden and pinch turnips and rhubarb and that and eat them raw because there were no school dinners or anything in those days ...”

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Repair Café

Do you throw broken loved items away wishing you could repair them? Would you like to improve your skills and give a longer life to your items, saving money and the planet?

St Bees Green Future are considering setting up a ‘Repair Café’. Local volunteers with some skills will come together to share and support and teach our neighbours in how to do this yourself.

We are running a poll in the St Bees News and Views group on Facebook if you would like to pop online and register your interest.

And to run this we need helpers!

Do you like tinkering with things to make them work? Do have a skill repairing you would like to share? We are looking for anyone with even the most basic of skills willing to share and educate others in saving items from landfill.

An example of the skills we would like to share are:

Sewing, knitting, clothing repairs, woodwork - gluing/clamping/refinishing (small items), basic electrical/computing, plug rewiring, soldering, basic bicycle maintenance But what do you need help with – anything that is missing on this list, let us know!

If you think of anything you feel we could include, please contact the group by email StBeesGreenFuture@gmail.com

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<https://www.stbeesschool.co.uk/sports-and-facilities/swimming-pool/>

St Bees School

Where has it gone? We are all so busy at St Bees the time has been devoured by the constant stream of lessons, activities and events. It is a long day here, but the students cope with this admirably and their good humour and positivity make the school what it is. What has struck me most, though, despite the multitude of nationalities and equal diversity of backgrounds, is the palpable sense of camaraderie that exists in the school. The family atmosphere is a phenomenon we are proud to promote, and it is certainly a salient feature at St Bees. That was highlighted no more so than this Sunday when a party of 26 participated in the third instalment of our Wainwright Club. 18 students and 8 staff (almost a ¼ of the school) clubbed together to hike through the cold wind up to Scafell Pike and the zenith of England. On the way they laboured to the top of a number of other peaks: Great End, Ill Crag, Broad Crag and Lingmell Fell and there was no whinging, just a quiet determination to complete the walk together and look out for each other on the way. It was made all the more special by the fact we had at least one involved from every year group with Bobby T, the youngest student in the school, representing Year 7.

That was certainly a highlight of the term thus far, but equally important has been the seemingly more mundane developments of our first School Student Council and our inaugural Boarding House Student Council. These are representative bodies, promoting the student voice that are here to stay. We have also seen our first Inter-House event of the season, with the running of the Junior Cross Country on a rather bleak October day and our opening round of GAP presentations, with every member of the school taking part. Another stand out event was the MacMillan Coffee Morning when our Year 9 students put all their entrepreneurial skills on display to raise over £500 for cancer research. It was especially good to see so many parents and village residents join us for the morning. The lack of visitors since the Covid pandemic began has undoubtedly diminished the very essence of the school and schooling more generally and we are glad to have you all back.

I am also delighted to see new facilities being brought to bear. Not only are we now using the new drama studio, but we have our first students inducted into and using our gym again. For that we can thank all those who donated old equipment. It is also good to see boarders using our newly refurbished pool and snooker tables. We are a small school, but we will continue to do everything we can to upgrade the facilities and expand the range of options for our young people.

We can now look forward to the second half of term with confidence, and that is even with the diminishing daylight on our long afternoons. There will be plenty to keep the interest and not least more inter-house events, our Bonfire Night celebration on 5 November, to which you are all cordially invited, and the joys of the Advent season, the highlight of which will be our Christmas Dinner and Carol Service on Thursday 9 December. I hope everyone enjoys being together for Half Term and we look forward to welcoming you back, bright and early, on Monday 1 November, beginning the month and second half of term with energy and positivity.

With best wishes for a safe and peaceful Half Term,

Mr Robin Silk

RNLI honour their friend and colleague

On Tuesday 28 September the volunteers at Workington RNLI had the honour of scattering the ashes of St Bees RNLI volunteer Jamie Lockie who died of Motor Neurone Disease (MND) in December 2019.

Friends and family of Jamie, some of whom had travelled down from his native Scotland, were on the promenade at St Bees along with St Bees lifeboat volunteers. The inshore lifeboat launched and stood alongside Workington's ALB during the ceremony which ended with the firing of a white flare. Afterwards family, friends and crew made their way to the water's edge and each left a single rose in the falling tide.



Christmas Greetings

The centre spread of the December magazine will again feature the Christmas Greetings. If you would like to be included please send your greetings and donation (minimum £10) to Ian and Rosalie McAndrew (822326) or leave in the Post Office (Greeting and cash/cheque in an envelope please).

These must be received no later than Thursday 18 November. Proceeds will be split between St Bees Priory and the Children's Society unless requested otherwise. Cheques should be made out to St Bees Priory or the Children's Society. Save the cost and time of sending cards - why not send your Christmas message to all your friends in St Bees via the magazine.

Grassroots

Beach clean – Join St Bees Litter Champions on their next litter pick on Saturday 13 November. Meet at St Bees Lifeboat Station at 10 a.m. Litter pickers and bags provided, but please bring your own gloves. Thank you for your help.

Egremont Farmers Market – Craft and Produce in the Market Hall – Friday 19 November 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Lots of stalls serving crafts and fresh produce. Fairtrade goods too. Do come and support local traders and charities. Refreshments served. New crafty items – Felted & Fleece ‘Happy Herdie Baubles’ now for sale.

Lowes Court Gallery – Prepare for colder weather and look at our new stylish tweed caps, £18; also hooded lined infinity scarves, £21; and handknit Arran jacket and sweaters 100 % wool, £43. See our website [facebook.com/LowesCourtGallery/](https://www.facebook.com/LowesCourtGallery/) or phone 01946 820693.

St Bees Toddler Group – A reminder that we are back meeting in New College Hall on Wednesdays in term-time from 9.30 – 11 a.m. All under 5s and their carers welcome.

Florence Arts Centre

handmade@christmas by fabricate - the textile group from the Western Fells: Sue Cosham, Jan Cottam, Ruth Moore, Jenni Payne, Sue Todd, Ruth Waterhouse, Eva Watson-Graham and Emma Wigginton. Unique artisan gifts - please support our local stitching group! Saturday 6 November - Saturday 18 December - Meet the Makers on Saturday 27 November 11 a.m. - 2.30 p.m. - all welcome!
Open 11 - 4 Wednesday - Sunday.

St Bees Multi Charity Sale

12 - 14 November
Old College Hall

Friday 12 November:
3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Saturday 13 November:
10.00 a.m – 6.00 p.m.

Sunday 14 November:
11.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

Including Art Exhibition
(See foot of page 11)



The poster for the St Bees Annual Multi-Charity Sale features a central title in large, colorful letters. Above the title are logos for Lifeboats, Amnesty International, Fairtrade, and the Legion. Below the title is a logo for Oxfam and a cartoon sheep holding a sign that says 'LIVE'. The text below the title specifies the location as Old College Hall, St. Bees Priory, and lists the dates and times for each day: Friday 12th November 3.00 pm - 6.00 pm, Saturday 13th November 10.00 am - 6.00 pm, and Sunday 14th November 11.30 am - 1.00 pm. At the bottom, it states 'WE WILL BE FOLLOWING COVID-19 GUIDANCE.' and lists logos for Traidcraft, Save the Children, Hospice at Home, and RSPB.

Seagalls

The Seagalls thoroughly enjoyed their meeting in September. Casa Romana in Whitehaven always proves a winner and it was a good opportunity to catch up over a meal and a glass of wine whilst providing some custom to the local hospitality industry.

Whitehaven Theatre Group had a great turnout for their production of 'Kinky Boots' and the Solway Hall was packed to the brim. Congratulations to all the performers and backstage crew, who provided a great show with dancing, singing and big laughs for their audience.

Our October meeting sees us head out to Zest and then on to Swain Hairdressing, with our annual 'Cheese and Wine' night to be held in November at the Oddfellows. All are welcome, if you would like to join us!

For contact see phone details in the back of the 'News' or facebook messenger. Guest Speaker meetings are held in the Seacote Hotel at 7 p.m. on the 1st Tuesday of each month, except when trips are planned out and about.

Best wishes,

The 'Galls'

St Bees WI

In October we welcomed Kim Willoughby 'Lakeland Leather Design.' Kim demonstrated how to make a small purse with the help of a volunteer, then talked about her long career in the leather industry, before deciding to set up her own business. Kim has a wealth of experience in the trade. Everything is handmade using the finest leather and her own designs; she has travelled to different tanneries in other countries like Italy, Turkey and India to see how they process leather and make goods. After Kim's interesting talk on the leather industry, members were able to purchase some of her fabulous handmade leather goods, from handbags to purses, wallets to leather bracelets and broaches; there was something for all tastes and pockets.

It was also wonderful to welcome two new members to St Bees WI. All our ladies enjoyed a good cuppa and a natter, followed by the raffle. Our next meeting will be on Monday 8 November, 7.30 p.m. at the Seacote Hotel St Bees. There will be a short AGM. This is an opportunity for any of our members to join the committee; please come forward with your ideas and suggestions and help run your WI! We will also be welcoming our speaker Deb Lee who will be telling us all about the Fairtrade movement and there will be an opportunity to purchase items on the evening. New members most welcome; do join us - just turn up on the night you will be made very welcome. Further details from Roxanne Benson 823137, our Facebook page www.facebook.com/St-Bees-WI also village notice boards.

Calling all artists (again)

In parallel with the Charity Sale on the weekend of November 13th and 14th (Remembrance Sunday) there will be a small Art Exhibition in the New College Hall. Artists are invited to bring paintings and prints on the theme of St Bees...a special place. Pictures can be handed in between 12noon and 2pm on Friday 12th November.

Chris Robson 822468