

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 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 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 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

1	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
4	Wednesday	6-8.00 p.m.	My Local Catch: Rockpool Arts, St Bees Beach.
8	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		4.00 p.m.	Children of Abraham Talk, New College Hall
9	Monday	7.30 p.m.	W.I. Puddings and Prosecco, Village Hall
10	Tuesday	7.00 pm	PCC Meeting (after 6.30 p.m. Communion)
14	Saturday	2-4.00 p.m.	Clothes Swap Cumbria, Adams Recreation Ground
		7.30 p.m.	West Cumberland Choral Society Concert, Priory
15	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
			Christian Aid Week begins
16	Monday	6.30 p.m.	Annual Parish Meeting, followed by Parish Council, Village Hall
18	Wednesday	6-8.00 p.m.	My Local Catch: foraging evening, St Bees Beach
		7.00 p.m.	Friends of the Priory Committee Meeting, NCH
20	Friday	7.30 p.m.	Egremont Brass Band, Priory in aid of Friends
22	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
25	Wednesday	7.00 p.m.	Friends of the Priory AGM 2022, Old College Hall
28	Saturday	7.30 p.m.	Kelly Holmes and Al Greenwood, Village Hall
29	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
			Priory exhibition of the Queen's reign opens
31	Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	TaleTrails Children's Walk, meet outside Beach Café

June

1	Wednesday	10.20 a.m.	Well Being Walk, meet at St Bees Station
2	Thursday	6.00 p.m.	Coastal Path Walk, meet outside Beach Cafe
3	Friday	11.30 a.m.	Screening of St Paul's Jubilee Service in Priory
4	Saturday	10.00 a.m.	Leisure cycle and picnic, meet at Fairladies turning circle
5	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Pentecost Holy Communion
		3-5.00 p.m.	Jubilee Street Tea Party, Crosshill

Every Friday at 5.00 p.m., Priory - Village history talk (30 minutes) by Chris Robson & Short organ recital - Frank Bowler

Editor June 2022

The **June 2022** issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Pat McDonnell, Sandyridge, Priory Road St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Sunday 8 May please**.

Email: sandyridge@btinternet.com Tel: 01946 822516

St Bees News

May 2022

I've written in the past of my love of the reality TV show "The Great British Bake Off". There are so many cooking shows on telly that it's hard to imagine that producers could come up with anything new but still they try...the latest being "Is It Cake?" a Netflix game show/cooking competition television series where contestants create cakes that replicate common objects in an effort to trick celebrity judges. Will this programme replace "Bake Off" as my favourite? Probably not but I will sneak a peak at a couple of episodes because cakes masquerading as objects featured large in my childhood.

My mum is incredibly creative and it was often at birthdays that we saw this expressed the most. She baked and decorated cakes, venturing into common object replicas long before it became popular on social media and Netflix. Most memorable cakes were a giant bar of galaxy chocolate (for me) and a pair of Doc Martin boots with liquorice laces (for my sister) She liked to design and produce themed parties too. Most of the time her imaginative designs were gratefully received. There was, however, one themed birthday party where her desire for "everything rainbows" led to green egg mayonnaise and lots of left-over sandwiches but we won't hold that against her.

Sadly, my mum can no longer express her creativity as MS has left her very disabled. I can't imagine how frustrating it must have been for her when she could no longer see well enough to sew or add the fine details to her cake creations. Unable to meet her own standards for perfection she stopped making things. Witnessing the decline of someone we love may lead us to ask many questions of them, ourselves and God. We might wonder, is the creative person that once was, still in there? And if so, how can I enable them to express themselves and experience the joy of creativity?

The late evangelist Billy Graham once said "Creativity comes from God because He is the Creator. Whether you are a painter, seamstress, designer, musician, or something else, we all have some level of creativity since we are all made in the image of God. Your gifts and abilities are unique to you, and they reflect a God just as extraordinary." It might be that you don't think you are creative but me, Billy Graham and dare I say, even God, disagree. You may not be artistic, or tuneful, or articulate but you have the potential to imagine, to design, to build and to dream.

One day your eyes and hands may no longer be able to express your creative potential. This is a sobering thought. Don't let your desire for perfect inhibit your creative potential. No-one need ever see what you make, hear your songs, watch your choreography. The poem or the painting need only shared between you and your Creator. You may find that no-one will eat your dyed green egg sandwiches...but if you like them, what does it matter?

With love from Rev'd Becky

Priory News

Lent Lunches in March/April raised a fantastic total of £760 from five lunches, restarted after a 2-year gap – to be shared between NSPCC (St Bees branch) and Save the Children. Grateful thanks to all involved in the success of the lunches – our hosts, their teams and generous guests. Thank you all for your support. The food and friendship was much appreciated and two great causes benefitted.

Annual Review & Thanks - Sincere Thanks to all with responsibility for the ministry, administration and maintenance of the Priory, its halls, grounds and churchyards over the past challenging year – for their dedication to its continued life and work despite pandemic restrictions. The PCC wish to thank our Vicar, Ministry team and churchwardens; secretaries and treasurer; committees and office-bearers; church choir and organist; bellringers; embroidery group; and prayer group; and sidesmen and women at services. Also cleaners and caretaker, and flower-arrangers; and the Holy Mowers squad. Not forgetting magazine editors and distributors without whom this publication would not be produced or delivered! Let's remember the behind-the-scenes stalwarts who keep the church functioning. Many thanks to one and all.

Thanksgiving - On Friday 3rd June at 11.30am A televised Service of Thanksgiving for Her Majesty The Queen's reign will be streamed live in St Bees Priory from St Paul's Cathedral. Wine & canapés will be served afterwards at about 12.30 pm. All are welcome.

Please email enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk to let us know you are coming so we can cater appropriately.

From the Priory Registers

Holy Matrimony

12 April Robert Schofield & Lucy Bushby Low Marple

Christian Burial

22 April Annie Hamilton Southam 3 Bega Flats, St Bees

Deepest Sympathy is extended to Annie's family on their sad loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with Audrey & Reg Davidson, and Jack & Christine Southam and their families. Annie was dearly loved by so many in St Bees and will be sadly missed.

Priory Flower Rota for May/June

1 May	Dilys Brownrigg	8 May Kay Steele
15 May	Elizabeth Cotes	22 May Sally Kennedy
29 May	Rosalie McAndrew	1 June Elaine Lamb

Parish Council News

Consultation on changes to parking restrictions: The Parish Council has submitted its comments on proposals from CCC for changes to parking restrictions in three areas of the village. The Parish Council has supported the proposal for a 'no parking restriction' across the Main St/Sea Mill Lane junction to ensure that the junction is not obstructed by parked vehicles. However, the Parish Council has opposed the proposal to change the time limited parking in Main Street to a disc zone. The Parish Council believes that this would offer no advantages to the village and instead has proposed that the time limited restriction should be removed altogether with the school entrance remaining as a 'no parking' area. The Parish Council has also opposed any additional parking restrictions in Finkle Street which would only exacerbate parking issues on the Crofts and other areas and has suggested that there should instead be better enforcement of the existing restrictions. This is a preliminary consultation and we hope that the views of the Parish Council and residents who responded individually will be taken into account before any decisions are made.

Beach Toilets - the ladies & gents toilets have been deep-cleaned and volunteers from the Parish Council have repainted the doors and gates in readiness for the start of the summer season. Expenditure has also been approved to refurbish the disabled toilet so that the facilities will be in as good a state as possible for the coming season.

Cumberland Council elections – the elections for the new Cumberland Council will take place on Thursday 5 May. This is one of the two new unitary authorities in Cumbria which will replace the existing County Council and the six district councils. Cumberland Council will cover the areas of Copeland Borough Council, Allerdale Borough Council and Carlisle City Council, with Westmorland and Furness Council covering the south and east of the county. Cumberland Council will have 46 councillors in total and St Bees falls within the Egremont North/St Bees ward. For the first year the new council will exist in shadow form to allow it to appoint staff, plan its budget and set out its policies before it takes over provision of services on 1 April 2023. Until that date services will continue to be delivered by the County Council and Copeland Borough Council. The new shadow authority has its own web-site www.cumberland.gov.uk where you can find information on the elections and the candidates.

Annual Parish Meeting – The annual Parish Meeting is a meeting of electors of the parish which takes place between 1 March & 1 June each year. It provides an opportunity for local residents to hear about the Parish Council's plans and to raise any issues of concern. The meeting this year will take place on Monday 16 May 2022 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall and all are welcome to attend. The Parish Council meeting will follow immediately afterwards.

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Christian Aid Week 15 – 21 May 2022

Christian Aid Week collection – This year you will find a Christian Aid envelope in your parish magazine, for you to fill as wished and either return at a Priory service, or put in the wooden pillar box by the publicity table in church; or send/hand to St Bees organiser Rosalie McAndrew or a church officer, during the month of May. More envelopes will be available in church.

Organiser:- Mrs . McAndrew, South Winds, Outrigger Close, St Bees. CA27OAH

This year Christian Aid is calling for climate justice. The combined effects of the pandemic, conflict and drought have robbed many families in the Third World of their ability to provide for their children. And 7,000 miles away from Zimbabwe, the war in Ukraine will drive up the prices of food such as wheat and cooking oil, that Ukraine and Russia produce. Vulnerable families will be pushed deeper into hunger and poverty. Your donations to Christian Aid will provide water taps and irrigation for their farms, seeds that are drought-resistant, training and teaching agricultural skills to the working mothers, and help turn their dry dusty fields into green gardens of produce. Do please consider gift-aiding your donation on the red Christian Aid envelope, adding 25% more to your gift. Thank you!

Friends of the Priory

The Friends of the Priory have two events planned for May :-

An Illustrated Lecture by Canon Dr Trevor Park on his newly published book ‘ Children of Abraham’ - Sunday 8 May at 4.00 p.m. in New College hall. A free copy is available to all attending. Refreshments will be served afterwards. See Trevor’s item .

A Priory Concert by Egremont Brass Band will be held on Friday 20 May at 7.30 p.m. – all welcome. Refreshments will be served and a retiring collection taken for the Friends funds. The Friends are delighted to welcome the Band back to the Priory after 2 years’ .

Many Thanks from the Friends Treasurer Norman Killip for your subscriptions and donations. Also special thanks to Philip Barratt for his talk on the chemical elements in food - counting not only calories in our diet but chemicals too!

Friends Committee Meeting – Wednesday 18 May at 7.00 p.m., in New College Hall.

Friends AGM 2022 – Wednesday 25 May at 7.00 p.m. in Old College Hall

West Cumberland Choral Society Concert

Saturday 14 May at 7.30 pm at he Priory. Tickets £7.50; Students £3.00. Under 18s free,. Choruses from the Operas. Proceeds to DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Fund.

Pop-In Centre Venue – Please note that this will be held in the Priory on Thursday 5 May, as New College Hall will be in use as the Polling Station for St Bees.

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St Bees School

As the Summer Term begins, Mr Silk reflects back on some of the exciting and amazing events, fundraisers and activities that have taken place over the term.

“It has been a long term, but as we near its end I am very confident in heralding its success.

It has not been without its challenges and despite, perhaps because of, the reduction of government regulations, COVID-19 has been more challenging for a number of reasons, not least because we have had far more COVID-related absence than at any other time during the pandemic. This has made life tough for students and teachers alike and I would like to commend them all on keeping their calm and doing their very best to carry on as normal; with the stresses of exam preparation and all the other pressures young people face this has not been easy, but they have persevered all the same.

There have been many highlights this term, not least having our first team sport fixtures since the school reopened and in all 3 cases with St Bees securing victories. We have enjoyed a number of Inter-House events, including in football, swimming and, most spectacularly, in singing. The next musical performance, with COVID being less prohibitive, will be in front of parents. We have also seen a number of Primary schools visit, often with our students entertaining them in some way or other, including in the recently held Science and Book Fairs. Our students have shown real leadership, confidence and character in helping out with these events.

Wainwright hikes have also taken place, although somewhat curtailed by unfortunate weather in the second half of term. I am glad to report that we have some great walks planned for next term. Trips to Old Trafford for the football, kayaking and go-karting are just some of the activities enjoyed by boarders and they have an excellent list of weekend events to look forward to next term.

There have been a number of charitable initiatives launched by the students this term as well. The two principal ones were the Red Nose Day, which had its denouement with the Dunk the Teacher event, and the Ukraine Appeal.

For me the fundraising for Ukraine was the highlight of the term. It was the School Council's idea, so therefore student led. It involved all our community getting behind 3 of our students and supporting them and their country in their time of need and it was uplifting to see our school come together as one family for the benefit of those less fortunate than us. We collected about 40 cubic metres of donations in kind (bandages and medicaments, sanitary items and toiletries, food, bedding, clothing and baby products) and raised over £1,000 to donate to the Ukraine.

With many more community events, fundraising activities, on top of our public examinations coming up, we look forward to a busy and successful Summer Term when our campus really is at its best.

Robin Silk, St Bees School Headmaster

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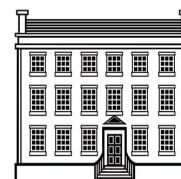


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Fair Trade Fortnight

Following the Fair Trade Fortnight events at Egremont Farmers' Market and St Bees Priory, we received the following letter from the charity, Traidcraft Exchange.

Thank you so much for supporting Traidcraft Exchange! We know how much effort goes into creating a fantastic event and we are truly grateful for all your hard work – it really does make a difference.

The amazing £359.00 raised at a Fairtrade Fortnight Farmers Market event in Egremont and St. Bees Priory Church will help fight for a fairer world over the coming year – be that campaigning for a new human rights law or running development programmes in Africa and South Asia. We will continue to battle for climate and trade justice; for a world where everyone earns a fair income for their work and can create a strong future for themselves and their family. Everyone who attended your event has helped make this work possible – so please pass on a massive thank you from all of us here at Traidcraft Exchange.

With warmest wishes,

Karen

A huge thank you

Over the last financial year many of you have been changing lives through trade by buying nearly £12,000 worth of Traidcraft food and crafts at the Farmers' Market, churches, coffee mornings etc. Traidcraft believes that Justice in Trade is a way to counter the imbalance in power between the farmers, producers and artisans in low-income countries and the buyers in well off countries. Justice in trade is also a way for individuals to work their way out of poverty.

Traidcraft believes in Social Justice and are actively and noisily passionate about equality across all areas, including: gender, religion, opportunity, regardless of background, heritage, or experience. We should treat our producer neighbours as we would them to treat us.

Traidcraft believes in Environmental Justice. Being worried about the killer effects climate change is having they support farmers in counteracting the impacts of climate change and train farmers and artisans in production methods that are kind to the earth.

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A huge thank you! Deb 823470 lee535877@aol.com



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St Bees Hotel

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*** The CELLAR OPENING will take place on Friday the 27th. INSTANT, A DINNER will be provided, when Mr. B will be glad to see as many of his Friends present as can conveniently attend. Tickets at the Bar of the St. Bees Hotel.

The notice above appeared in the ‘Cumberland Pacquet’ in April 1849. Nearly sixteen months had passed since the attempt to destroy by fire and gunpowder the building which we now call ‘Grindal’. As explained in last month’s magazine, it had been built to be the ‘St. Bees Royal Hotel’.

The James Brindle who was opening it already owned the Seacote Hotel, and farmed some 65 acres nearby. He would move into the Royal himself, with his wife and six children. There seems to have been a living-in staff of four, one of whom was the gardener. Some twenty bedrooms for guests were on two floors, and there were four coffee or drawing-rooms, a spacious dining room, and a saloon measuring thirty-five feet by seventeen. Staff rooms were in the attic.

These years after the coming of the Railway were good ones for St. Bees. The holiday trade was growing; prosperous families were coming to live here from less salubrious places; the Grammar School was expanding, rebuilding, and doing well. The Royal Hotel’s future looked assured.

But then 1888 brought change. I hope to say something about this next month.

Bob Jopling, Village History Group

St Bees Priory Jubilee Celebration & Exhibition.

Seven Tables for each decade of the Queen’s reign. 1952 to 59 - Mothers Union. 1960’s - WI.. 1970’s - RNLI. 1980’s - Seagalls, 1990’s - Embroiderers. 2000 to 2009 - Village School. 2010 to 2022 - St Bees Senior School.

If you have something that is typical of a decade and you are prepared to loan it , please contact. Chris Robson. 01946 822468

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Unstable Gravestones identified at the Priory churchyard:

An initial survey of memorial gravestones was done in December 2021 and followed up by the director of Cumbria Headstones who effected remedial work several years ago on other stones. He recommended 22 gravestones needing attention. Cautionary notices have been posted in the churchyard, warning that the stones may be unstable. Hazard tape was also placed on several larger stones. Arrangements are in place to prepare a list of living relatives of the deceased to be contacted via a letter from the vicar. In most cases it's proving difficult to identify any relatives of the deceased. Remedial works are necessary to ensure the safety of the gravestones and the church may be obliged to bear the costs. A list of graves and names recorded of the deceased will be displayed on the noticeboard in church, to assist with research via possible local knowledge. Please contact the graveyard officer Ian McAndrew or the vicar Rev Becky Gibbs if you can help provide any information.

W.I.

Our April Meeting was held on Monday 11th at St Bees Village Hall. We had a Bring and Share buffet, the tables were adorned with fresh spring flowers, and our ladies excelled themselves with beautiful plates of both sweet and savoury food. This was followed by our competition: 'Homemade Easter Bonnet'. We had many lovely examples and it was difficult to decide the best one: our ladies cast their vote, and the winner was Blanche Arch. Well done! We enjoyed tea/coffee and a good crack, which was followed by the raffle. Our Next meeting is Monday May 9th at 7.30 p.m. and again our venue is St Bees Village Hall. We are having a Puddings and Prosecco Evening. Please bring with you a homemade pudding to share. There will be a prize for best presented pudding and a raffle and refreshments. This month's competition is 'A decorated plate'.

The WI are supporting St Bees Priory Jubilee Celebration, the 'Seven Decades of the Queen's Reign'. Our decade is the 1960's. Please hunt out old photographs, magazines, toys, clothing, domestic articles etc, plus a flavour of Local and National 1960's events. Please meet on the morning of the 28th May at the Priory to display our items. The Exhibition opens on the 29th May. Thankyou.

New members and visitors are most welcome to join our lovely group of Ladies. Why not give us a try? You will be made most welcome. Further details www.facebook.com/St-Bees-WI, contact Roxanne 823237.

RNLI

On Saturday 26 March St Bees RNLI volunteers were called to attend an injured casualty about 1.5 miles north of the lifeboat station. The casualty had slipped and injured her ankle on the beach at Fleswick Bay. After making her as comfortable as possible before transferring her to the inshore lifeboat and they made their way back to the station. The casualty and her husband thanked everybody for their help and he posed for a quick team photo, as a reminder of their eventful day, before they headed up to the hospital.

Friends of the Priory - Trevor Park talk

Get a free complimentary copy of a new book when you support Friends of the Priory on May 8th. The renewed violence last year in the Gaza region and reports of increased numbers of Islamophobic and Anti-Semitic attacks in the UK provoked me into updating and publishing a small book I first drafted when I was on study leave in the Holy Land in 1995. I was staying at an Ecumenical Research Centre on the edge of Jerusalem and Bethlehem where we had lectures from Jewish Rabbis and Muslim scholars as well as from Christian ones, biblical archaeologists and people involved in the very thorny issues of peace and justice in Israel/Palestine.

I had set myself the task of researching a short book about the basic beliefs and practices of the three great monotheistic Faiths: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and to do it in as fair, even-handed and accessible a way as I could. Just before leaving for Jerusalem, one of the teenagers in my parish's Young Christians Group had asked me about this very matter following an RE lesson at school on Islam which he had found challenging and confusing. He was one potential reader I had in mind as I wrote.

The Book is called CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM: how Jews, Christians and Muslims respond to God. It is richly illustrated – mostly pictures taken in the Holy Land – and each unit of the book ends with a page of topical discussion material which can be used either in a study group or by the individual reader.

I will be giving a talk about it in aid of Friends of the Priory in New College Hall on Sunday at 4 pm May 8th, and will have 40 copies of the book with me to give away. Do come and support the Friends.

Trevor Park

Lunga's News

Hello. Lunga here. I hope you had a lovely Easter with lots of chocolate. Mammy says I can't have it, but I get treats instead. Have you been to school? I have. It was on a Sunday, so mammy said I went to Sunday school. It was good. There were two other dogs there. They were big, but I didn't have time to be worried. We did lots of exercises that got me lots of lovely treats. Even better, we practised in the garden at home - more treats! I'm on holiday from school now. I hope you enjoy your holidays. I like to see the different flowers come out. I watched the bees who always seem busy. Mammy says stay away as they 'prickle'. Did you like the warm weather? Mammy even wore short trousers. I hope we get some more as I like to lie in the sun. The lambs seem to as well, but they never want to play with me! They just run away - I'm not sure why. I like to watch the birds. Big black ones that peck on windows to say 'good morning', or big white ones overhead. When I go and say 'hello' they go up in the air. I can't - so they always get away! I hope you enjoy your summer. Remember to put your litter in the bin mammy says so that I don't chew too much of it! Many thanks.

Claire Summers, Lunga's mammy

Grassroots

Cumbria Wildlife Trust events at St Bees main beach: Wednesday 4 May 6 to 8 p.m. My Local Catch: Rockpool Arts. Bring paints/pencils for an evening of painting/drawing sea habitats and creatures (some art materials supplied) Wednesday 18 May 6 to 8 p.m. My Local Catch: a foraging evening to explore edible flora and fauna and their sustainability. Recommended donation £3 - £5. Booking in advance please - www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/events

Farewell to the Cere family who for the past six years lived in Herne Cottage, Abbey Road, St Bees. The Cere family, Frederick, Claire, Pauline and Clielia, originally moved from France to St Bees in 2016. Frederick and Claire both worked for ORANO based at Westlakes Science Park, Moor Row, their twelve year old daughter Pauline attended West Lakes Academy and ten year old Clielia attended St Bees junior school. Good luck on your new venture in Japan.

Kilimanjaro success - After undergoing four knee operations within four years, Richard Postlethwaite of Abbey Road never thought it possible, but at the beginning of March made the successful ascent of Kilimanjaro. Richard said it was the most difficult experience of his life, both mentally and physically challenging. He climbed the mountain with less than 50% oxygen and suffered from severe altitude sickness reaching the summit at night on Thursday 10th March. Congratulations, Richard!

Anne Mackenzie - I would like to say a huge thank you to friends who sent beautiful cards, some who brought food and flowers, texts and gifts and especially for the prayers of many friends. I believe prayer is such a power for good and it has made a great difference to me in these recent weeks. The surgeon put on two extra clinics (which meant he worked two weekends) because he wanted to bring my operation forward. When he did operate he felt that it was just in time, as the tumour was already blocking the bowel. All the experts, from the GP to the the colonoscopy and the scans were dealt with urgently and I am so grateful. Thank you to everyone. I feel well again and it is a good feeling! I have been surrounded by loving care and concern, which has made me feel truly humble. Thank you.

Neville Denson - We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have given words of love, hope and encouragement during this very difficult time following Neville's passing. With special thanks to Norman Killip and his wife, Beach Shop staff and the RNLI who were first on the scene.

We are overwhelmed by the love and kindness shown to us and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. What a wonderful community we live in!

Gweneth Denson, Janet and Mandi.

With apologies for omitting this from the April magazine - Final editor

Fridays at 5 continues through May, This is a chance to learn about the history of St Bees. Every Friday at 5pm there will be an illustrated talk in the Priory lasting about 30 minutes explaining about how the village grew from a "cluster of uncouth cottages", why the Priory was built here and who was St Bees Man. There will be a short organ recital afterwards. This is free and all are welcome.

Chris Robson

Grassroots

Help save the planet on May 14th! St Bees Green Future is running a joint event with Clothes Swap Cumbria on Saturday 14th May, 2 p.m. till 4 p.m., at Adams Recreation Ground. Admission £4, with refreshments available. This event is for women's and men's clothing, but we hope to organise separate clothes swaps for children's items too.

Please bring along your preloved clothes and accessories to swap, which is not just an economical way to update your wardrobe, but is good for the environment too. By swapping items you help to keep them out of landfill, save resources and reduce your carbon footprint.

For more Information, Please contact amylinton1983@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at this event, which will hopefully be the first swap of many!

Activities in the Parish for Summer Half Term and Jubilee Week end

Saturday 28th May: Arts out West Show in the Village Hall, Kelly Holmes and Al Greenwood. Come along and listen to an enthralling and energetic live music performance of 'blues driven roots with a soul of sensibility'. Tickets £10 and £5 for under 18, £22 for a family ticket, from Claire Hale (07740717481) or online from kirkgatearts.org.uk

Tuesday 31st May: TaleTrails Children's Walk to Fleswick Bay (3 hr) Meet 10 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. Inaugurate the new Jubilee seats (60-90 mins) Meet at St Bees Station 10.20 a.m. Dress for Weather and wear strong shoes.

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.

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 10 a.m.

Sunday 5th June: Street Tea Party - Bring and Share. The party will be held on Crosshill – the little road that runs from the Manor Public House to Finkle Street, from 3-5.00 p.m.

Every day in St Bees Priory: an exhibition of The Queen's Reign in 7 decades. Call in and see what you can remember. From 29th May to 5th June.



Donations are taken to the Ukrainian Association in Szczecin and local refugee camps in the Trzebiez area. The Association is staffed by a mixture of Poles and Ukrainians and is led by Jan Symyk, who has been providing medical and humanitarian aid to the Ukrainian frontline since the Crimean invasion in 2014. It currently

supports many refugees, with several cars bearing refugees turning up while our vans were there. The staff are seasoned experts in getting supplies to the needy in Ukraine and avoiding detection by the Russians when doing so. When our vans turned up the staff immediately and efficiently unpacked it and prepared it for onward transshipment to the Ukraine and within four days it was being distributed in Mariupol.

The remainder of the supplies are provided to the Mayor of Trzebiez for refugees in her locality. She took the van drivers to one of the camps to meet a Professor from Kyiv University and who left her husband behind in the fighting. The anguish in her eyes was heart-breaking and she explained that the refugees do not want to leave Poland but want to stay close to their homeland, so as to return home as soon as humanly possible.

The demonstration of a deep care and support in our local area, across Europe, the world, the UK and especially by the Polish people is humbling, they have opened their homes to the refugees and are treating them and their children like their own. Our community in West Cumbria has provided amazing support and people with little have given what they can.

While we have been told that many of the refugees want to stay in Poland, our community is getting ready to accept them if, as seems likely, this war drags on and Poland and the surrounding countries become overwhelmed by the numbers of people fleeing the Russians.

Nina Albertelli has created a GoFundMe page to fund the transport of supplies to the people who most need it in the Ukraine. Please help by visiting:
<https://gofund.me/558f352e>



A Vision for the Churches in Cumbria The Priory perspective



Speak Boldly

Since September we have been considering how to tread gently, care deeply, follow daily and speak boldly. I think the most challenging of these is "speak boldly". We are quite a shy bunch, and don't want to push our beliefs onto anyone, and so we can be a bit reticent about "speaking boldly". But there's so much more to this part of the vision than just speaking about our faith, it's also about challenging injustice. Carlisle Diocese helpfully includes these two ideas as part of the mission;

- To help Christians speak about Christian viewpoints on the important issues of today.
- To enable more connections with under-represented groups in our churches, and to plant new churches and worshipping communities.

One of the groups that is under-represented in our church community is children and young families. Read on for exciting news of the monthly Story Service, from Rebecca Rendell, one of our regular attenders...

Rev Becky

Follow Daily



We have been joining these Sunday morning Story Services (fourth Sunday in the month) at St. Bees Priory for a little while and our children (aged 4 and 6) have enjoyed the way the stories are told.

A particular favourite for our children was when there was a desert in the church and the person at the end of the story cartwheeled in joy through the sand! Now obviously there wasn't actually a person cartwheeling around flinging sand everywhere, but it shows how the props and the way the stories are told have really brought things to life.

Following each short story, there is then time for some craft activities for the children to create and join with others at the service.

The next Story Service is on Sunday 22nd May in the Priory at 9am

April 22nd was Earth Day, a moment to reflect on our beautiful world but also to consider change. To change ourselves in order



Tread Gently

to preserve and protect our health, our families, our livelihoods, our environment and our planet. While there is still time to solve the climate crisis, we can choose **both** a prosperous and sustainable future. There is time to restore nature and build a healthy planet for our children and their children, but time is short. **Together, we must build a green and prosperous future. Together, we must tread gently.**

Did you know that the fashion industry is responsible for 10% of all carbon emissions? Textile processing consumes 20% of global wastewater. It pollutes rivers, streams and ground water with high levels of pesticides and harsh chemicals, many of which are carcinogenic. 60% of all clothing is made of polyester and contains microplastics. Washing garments made of polyester and other synthetics accounts for 35% of the ocean's microplastics. Oh dear! That does not sound as though we are treading gently on God's wonderful world. Even worse some of the cheap UK clothing is made in factories with very poor working conditions for those making our garments, and even employing child labour.

Fortunately, there are a few things you can do:

- 1: **"Who made my clothes"**, a project started after the collapse of a building in which 1,138 clothes makers in Bangladesh died and 2,500 were injured. **You can find out more** at <https://www.fashionrevolution.org/about/>
- 2: **Check the items credentials before you buy**, is it organic, has it been produced sustainably or fairly? Some firms are making clothes from bamboo and even seaweed!
- 3: **Recycle old clothes** in charity shops
- 4: **Lobby your MP** to get fairness and sustainability into the fashion industry
You can find out more at https://issuu.com/fashionrevolution/docs/fr_2022_getinvolved_citizens
- 5: **Attend the Clothes Swap Cumbria** at St bees 14th May 2-4pm, Adams recreation ground

Tread gently, so you don't harm those who work in the fashion industry
Tread gently, so your fashion choices does not poison the world!
Tread gently, Act Justly (Micah) its good for everyone and our wonderful planet!

Deb Lee

"Planting for Pollinators" in the Vicarage Community Walled Garden

Building on the success of Get Cumbria Buzzing!, the Planting for Pollinators project will see Cumbria Wildlife Trust and Cumbria County Council working on over 50 sites across north and west Cumbria to create and improve a mosaic of habitats. The work will help pollinators such as bees, butterflies, wasps and other insects to thrive by connecting habits and providing food, shelter and nesting sites.

The Vicarage Community Walled Garden has been granted a small amount of funding for this project and last month Sophie and Tanya from the team visited and shared their expertise with us. Together we planning a maintained wild area in the garden alongside fruit, vegetables and cut flowers for church displays.

Rev Becky



Care Deeply

Last month St Bees Church Warden, Tom Kelly, delivered a van load of donations to a refugee centre in Poland. Since writing the article below he has travelled there a second time.

Nina Albertelli, Nikki Wyatt and Bart Mikolajczyk are fronting a group of people, based in Cleator Moor, to collect and distribute supplies donated by the people of [West Cumbria for the Ukrainian people](#). Bart's expertise and contacts in his Polish homeland are ensuring that all donations are reaching the right people at the right time.



So far four vanloads have been sent to Poland, 456 boxes of supplies (including nine thousand packs of Baby wipes, eleven thousand meals and snacks) plus more than three hundred sleeping bags and twenty three thousand nappies with an overall total value of approximately £33,350. Three more van loads will depart before Easter and these vans are picking up sixty boxes in Durham enroute! Connections have been made with groups in Carlisle, Blackpool, London and all over the UK in a demonstration on humanitarian care and generosity on a national and international scale.

This generosity has included large donations from St Bees, from many individuals and from institutions such as the Priory and St Bees School. Money donated has helped pay for transport and is also very welcome for services such as Trauma care and specialist drugs. St Bees has also provided manpower to help sort and drive the donations the twenty hours across six countries to Poland to deliver them to the Ukrainian people in Poland and the Ukraine.

Ready to leave for Poland (from left to right, Archbishop Stephen, Nina, Bart, Bishop James, Nicki and Tom)



On March 17th the first van left Cleator Moor and it just so happened that our diocesan Bishop, James, and the Archbishop of York, Stephen were in the area. After jogging for a few metres with Gary McKee (another story!) they asked for God's blessing on the vans and their contents before they set off.