

## St Bees Priory Church

Rev'd Becky Gibbs, Priest in Charge

01946 822279 or 07460 990631

revbgibbs@outlook.com

The Rev'd Canon Richard Lee MStJ (07841 398088)

Associate Priest of St Bees Priory

Rural Dean of Calder

### Retired Clergy with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate:

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 Holy Communion - 10.30 am

2nd and 4th Sundays Morning Worship - 10.30 am

6.00 pm Evening Prayer (1st - Evensong, 4th - Communion)

Services are also Live Streamed

For weddings, baptisms, funerals and other religious occasions, please contact

01946 822279 or email [enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:imcandrew@stbees.org.uk)

Priory Secretary - [enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk)

### Magazine production & distribution

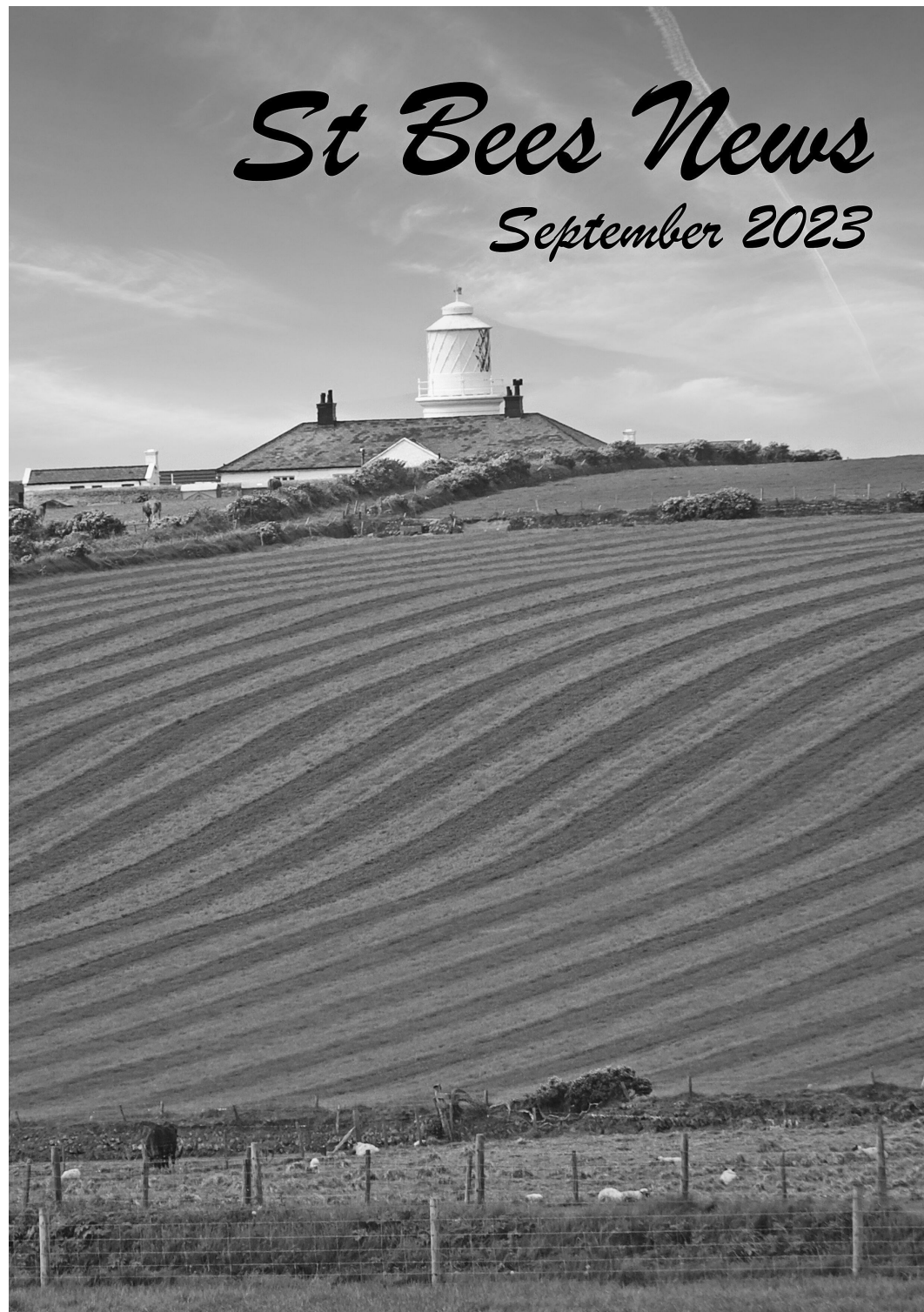
*This magazine is free but production costs are about 50p per copy. Contributions from the Parish Council and our advertisers, to whom we are most grateful, pay much of the costs. However this leaves the balance to be paid by the PCC. Donations to the Treasurer\* or your Magazine Distributor are most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

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

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## St Bees Parish A B C

<b>Area Visitor / Good Neighbour Scheme</b>	The parish is divided into 30 small areas each with an official Church Visitor whose task is to welcome and help people in the name of the Priory. Co-ordinator - TBA.	<b>History Group</b>	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from Chris Robson 822468.
<b>Arts Society</b>	meets every two months on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. Venue to be arranged. Details from Dilys Brownrigg (822584) or Chris Robson 822468.	<b>Judo Club</b>	meets regularly at NCH. Contact <a href="mailto:sankaikunijudo@gmail.com">sankaikunijudo@gmail.com</a> or Janice (07828 116752) or Pim (07733 291200). Also meeting Pilates, Yoga, Taekwondo and Aikido. All in upper NCH hall.
<b>Bellringing</b>	The Priory has a ring of 8 bells. Those interested in ringing or learning to ring, contact D Sim, 18 The Crofts. Practice Wednesdays, 8.00 pm. Sundays, ring at 10.00 a.m.	<b>Over 60's Club</b>	meets in Hodgett's Club on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month: 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Details - Gill Richardson Tel. 822394.
<b>Scouts, Beavers</b>	1st Beckermet & St Bees Scout Group - Scouts 10.5 - 14.yrs. Monday 6.30 - 8.30. Beavers 6 - 8 yrs. Thursday 5.00 - 6.15 pm in New College Hall 8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.	<b>Parish Council</b>	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Couderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, email <a href="mailto:pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk">pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk</a> , who will answer queries on civil parish matters.
<b>Cubs</b>	8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.	<b>Parochial Church Council</b>	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 - <a href="mailto:r.e.rendell@gmail.com">r.e.rendell@gmail.com</a> , 07977 096426.
<b>Choir</b>	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).	<b>Pop-in Cafe</b>	Every Thursday from 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon - Pop-in Cafe in New College Hall. Everyone welcome - Coffee and homemade cakes.
<b>Churchwardens</b>	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Currently Tom Kelly + 3 vacancies.	<b>Pre-School</b>	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.
<b>Councillor</b>	Local councillor for Cumberland Council for Egremont North and St Bees is Graham Minshaw. <a href="mailto:Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk">Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk</a> Tel -07840 844424	<b>Priory Singers</b>	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (01946) 825307.
<b>Electoral Roll</b>	is the list of all church members qualified to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. E.R. forms are available in church	<b>Priory Web Site</b>	The Priory web site has up to date information on the ministry team, church services and activities. See <a href="http://www.stbeespriory.org.uk">http://www.stbeespriory.org.uk</a>
<b>Fair Trade</b>	Fair trade food and craft items and catalogues available from Deb Lee, who can deliver. Tel 823470 - <a href="mailto:lee535877@aol.com">lee535877@aol.com</a>	<b>Rangers</b>	meet on alternate Mondays from 7.00 – 8.30 p.m. in NCH. Contact <a href="mailto:calderdivision@gmail.com">calderdivision@gmail.com</a> for info on your nearest unit of Brownies .& Guides. New Rainbows unit starts in Bigrigg on Mondays.
<b>Finance</b>	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.	<b>Seagalls</b>	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
<b>First Responders</b>	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497	<b>St Bees Triers</b>	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm & 7pm. Email <a href="mailto:running@triers.uk">running@triers.uk</a> Tel. 823497 Web <a href="http://www.triers.co.uk">www.triers.co.uk</a>
<b>Football Association</b>	Contacts - Seniors Tony Barnett 590640. Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.	<b>Village School Association</b>	Organising events for the pupils and community, raising funds for the school. : <a href="mailto:stbees.vsa@gmail.com">stbees.vsa@gmail.com</a> or @stbeesvsa Facebook or Instagram Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
<b>Freemasons</b>	St Bega Lodge meet 7:00 p.m. On 2nd Wed of each month, Village Hall. Details: 01946 64275 or <a href="http://www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk">www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk</a> .	<b>Village Hall</b>	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
<b>Friends of the Priory</b>	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.	<b>Village in Bloom</b>	Details from Eileen B Todd, 14 Main Street. St Bees. (Tel 822522).
<b>Garden Society</b>		<b>Village Web Site</b>	Information for inclusion should be sent to Ian McAndrew (822326) or <a href="mailto:imcandrew@stbees.org.uk">imcandrew@stbees.org.uk</a> Address is <a href="http://www.stbees.org.uk">http://www.stbees.org.uk</a>
		<b>Women's Institute</b>	meets 2nd Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. usually in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Roxanne Benson Tel 823137.

## Calendar for September

1	Friday	7.30 pm	Cumbria Opera Masterclass - Joan Rodgers, Priory
2 – 17	for 2 weeks		EVAN Art Studios & Art Trail, St Bees & Egremont
3	Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		6.00 pm	Evensong
6	Wednesday	7.30 pm	Celtish Folk Concert Duo, Priory
		7.00 pm	Friends of the Priory Committee, NCH
10	Sunday	10.30 am	Morning Worship
		7.00 pm	Rev. Becky Gibbs' Licensing, Egremont Parish Church
11	Monday	7.30 pm	St Bees W.I. meeting, Seacote Hotel
		7.30 pm	Priory Singers restarts, Old College hall
12	Tuesday	2.00 pm	Over 60s Club restarts, Hodgetts
		7.00 pm	PCC meeting, NCH
15	Friday	7.30 pm	Friends' Talk by Chris Ward, NCH
16	Saturday	4.00 - 5.00 pm	Beach Clean, Meet at Lifeboat Station
17	Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.30 pm	'Arts Out West' Concert (Long Road Home) Village Hall
18	Monday	6.30 pm	St Bees Parish Council, Village Hall
19	Tuesday	10.30 am	Ladies Bible Study, Fairhavens, Seamill Lane
20	Wednesday	10.30-3pm	Pollinator Planting, Beach Road
23	Saturday	10.30-3pm	Pollinator Planting, Beach Road
24	Sunday	9.00 am	Story Service for young families, Priory
		10.30 am	Morning Worship
25	Monday	7 – 9 pm	Solar Made Easy presentation, NCH
29	Friday	4.30 -6pm	Friday Fun for children, Priory

## October

1	Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		12.30 pm	Baptism
2	Monday	11am-4pm	Safeguarding session, NCH

## Editor – September 2023 Magazine

The September issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Jon Mellor, Cross Hill House, St Bees** who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Friday 8 September 2023** please.

**Email : jonmell@hotmail.com Tel. 01946 824936**

## St Bees News

## September 2023

The old expression, “Just like riding a bike,” is often used to describe something that becomes second nature and should be easy to do. I have never found riding a bike to be that easy so this expression is a little bit lost on me. Whilst we were on holiday in Amsterdam this summer, Phil, Josh and I hired bikes for a day. The cycling was pretty easy, the roads are ideal for bikes; flat and with dedicated cycle lanes. Despite this I still struggled. This was in part because the gears were unfamiliar. There were just three speeds, set by a turn of the handlebars, but I couldn't remember which way to turn for more or less resistance. Fortunately I quickly came up with a way to remember. If I turned the handlebar AWAY it made it EASY. If I turned it TOWARD it made it HARDER. Strangely, I remember the number of letters in a word quicker than I do a concept. If I can match a word to a concept with the same number of letters then I find it easier to remember. I remember tides in a similar way LOW means the sea is FAR away, HIGH means the sea is NEAR.

Some of you are thinking, “Wow! That's genius” others of you are thinking “How has she survived this long?” The truth is I've always been a bit slow to “grasp new concepts” according to school reports, driving instructors and a scuba diving coach (see vicar's letter July/August 2019 for a reminder of my diving misadventures) Despite this, I'm generally willing to try new things, and if I struggle I generally find a creative solution. This September, many of our young people will be starting a new term in a new school or studying new and unfamiliar subjects. It's an exciting time but also a slightly daunting one. It may take a while for them to figure out where all the classrooms are and how to get from A to B or they may be shy and nervous about making new friends.

Many adults will be starting a new thing to this September. I've been part-time Priest here in St Bees and part-time in Crosslacon parish for the last six years. On 10th September my role will change and I will move from Crosslacon to Egremont, remaining part-time in St Bees. I've been fortunate to work alongside Reverend Nicki, an excellent Priest and faithful friend in Crosslacon, and the congregation of St Leonards, where I've led services every other week, are a truly lovely bunch. It's now time for me to lead the Benefice of Egremont and Haile, a big change for me, with four more churches in my care. I'm grateful for this opportunity to learn and grow alongside the ministry team and parishioners in Egremont but if I'm honest, I'm a little bit daunted by what might lie ahead. Maybe some you are feeling similar this Autumn? Maybe you are facing a change or are taking on a greater responsibility?

At these times of new starts, new terms, new responsibilities, it can be tempting to focus on the things we can't do rather than the things we can; to be stifled by fear, rather than excited by possibility. This September I am going to make these words from the Bible in 1 John 4 my mantra “There is no fear in love”. I invite you to do same. And if you need a reminder when paralysing FEAR comes to mind remember that LOVE also has four letters—a creative solution is often just a round the corner.

With love from Reverend Becky

## *Priory News*

**New dual post for Rev Becky Gibbs** – The Bishop of Carlisle has appointed the Rev. Becky Gibbs, priest-in-charge of the benefice of St Bees, to the additional post of priest-in-charge of Egremont with Haile. She will hold both posts, but relinquish her ministry at St Leonard's Cleator in Crosslacon benefice. The Licensing Service will be held on Sunday 10 September at 7.00 pm at Egremont parish church. Bishop Rob Saner-Haigh of Penrith officiate. Congratulations to Rev Becky on her appointment.

### *What's On at the Priory in September*

**Cumbria Opera Group Masterclass & Conversation with Joan Rodgers** – Friday 1st September 7.30 pm. Joan will lead a masterclass with three Cumbrian student singers. All welcome. Tickets/admission £15 adult; £12 concession (retired); £5 under-21s. Refreshments served.

**Celtish Christian Folk Duo Concert** – on Wednesday 6 September at 7.30 pm with Nigel Cameron & Julie Cameron-Hall with vocal and instrumental music. Donations welcomed.

**Friends of the Priory Talk** – For the first event of the autumn term you are invited to a presentation by St Bees artist and photographer Chris Ward on 'Is Photography Art?' To be held in New College Hall on Friday 15 September at 7.30 pm. Refreshments too.

**Sincere Thanks** to all who have sent in generous donations to the Priory this summer, for the parish magazine or to the Organ Fund, or Flower Fund. All much appreciated.

### *Farewell & Thanks to Rev'd Jim & Sheila Marshall*

In September Rev'd Jim and Sheila will be leaving Sandwith and St Bees parish and moving to pastures new in Ireland, to be nearer their family. They have been in this area for 35 years, Jim in teaching and ministry, Sheila in nursing. They will be greatly missed, having been involved in the loving and tender care of many of us.

There will be a presentation and farewell on Sunday 27th August after the 10.30 morning service.

### *September Sunday services at the Priory:-*

Holy Communion - 10.30 am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays led by Rev. Becky Gibbs

Morning Worship - 10.30 am - 2nd & 4th Sundays - Lay Leaders & Rev David Cox

9.00 am Communion and 6.00pm Evening Prayer services – Sung Evensong at 6.00 pm on 1st Sunday;

Holy Communion (BCP) at 6.00 pm on 4th Sunday

Story Service for young families – at 9.00 am on 4th Sunday – 24 Sept.

Friday Fun session for youngsters – at 4.30 to 6.00 pm on last Friday of the month 29 Sept.

## *Parish Council News*

**Passionate about nature?** -Would you like to help identify the key plants and animals found in our parish? We are looking for volunteers to help create a wildlife map for the parish. No prior experience is necessary! The completed wildlife map will be a useful resource for reference and it will help to identify future nature-based projects.

If you would like to find out more, please come along to an informal meeting at 6.30pm on Tuesday 3rd October in New College Hall. If you can't attend the meeting, but would like further details, please contact Amy Linton ([amylinton1983@gmail.com](mailto:amylinton1983@gmail.com)).

**Whitehaven & Coastal Community Panel** – Cumberland Council has set up a number of Community Panels across the former Copeland, Allerdale & Carlisle area and St Bees is part of the area covered by the Whitehaven & Coastal Panel. The Panel itself will be made up of the elected ward councillors for the area and it will liaise with a network of local partners and residents to ensure effective investment. Each Panel has an amount of funding available but can also support projects with lobbying, signposting and leveraging further help. The Panel has produced a questionnaire to identify the issues which are most important to local residents. The questionnaire is available via the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/F5SXn3Gpam>

This is an opportunity for St Bees residents to have a say and we would encourage everyone to take part and flag up the local issues which matter most.

**Beach Clean**-The next beach clean, which coincides with World Cleanup Day, is on Saturday 16th September from 4 till 5pm. Please meet at St Bees Lifeboat Station. Litter pickers and gloves are available to borrow. Thank you for your help to keep St Bees beach clean

**Sign near the level crossing** – For some time the Parish Council has been trying to get the large sign by the level crossing replaced, as it still shows the symbol for the petrol station which closed some years ago. Cumberland Council has now agreed to install a new sign with improved signage of the Priory and beach.

**Information boards** – The new village maps at the station and outside the Post Office are now in place. New interpretation boards will shortly be installed at Priory Paddock and other locations.

**Next Parish Council Meeting** – The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 18 September at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. Council meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Why not come along and see the PC in action?

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## ***From the Priory Registers***

### ***Holy Baptism***

30 July Vinnie Todd Rickerby Moor Row

### ***Holy Matrimony***

15 July Liberty Joy Allen to Charles Harvey Lee London

22 July Victoria Georgia Kay to Aaron McGlennon Abbeyvale, St Bees

29 July Rowan Catherine Marguerite Mellor to Conor Cresswell Southampton

### ***Christian Funeral***

23 June Philip Blagdon Young 4 Vale View, St Bees

10 July Sue Davidson Overend, Nethertown Road, St Bees

### ***At Distington Crematorium***

24 July David Captain Maudsley 17 Chapel Street, Bigrigg

May God's blessing be with you all and your families.

### ***Deepest Sympathy***

Deepest Sympathy is extended to the family, friends and neighbours mourning the sad loss of Sue Davidson who died in hospital after some months of illness, very bravely borne. We keep in our prayers her husband Chuck, who she so lovingly cared for over recent years, her son Christopher and his wife Vicky, and all her family.

Sincere Sympathy is offered to the family and friends of Captain David Maudsley of Bigrigg, devoted husband of Val, much loved dad of Hilary, Vicky and Nick, proud granda and adored great-granda. He died peacefully at home after a short illness. Dave was much loved and respected by all who knew him – always remembered and treasured. We keep you all in our Priory prayers.

### ***Ladies' Bible Study group***

We are a small group meeting on Tuesday mornings 10am for 10:30 starting with a cuppa. We study the Bible usually with the help of a reference book, to be held on Tuesdays 19 September at 10.30 a.m. at Fairhavens Please contact Susan after the 10:30 service or [suestrifles@gmail.com](mailto:suestrifles@gmail.com) for details.

### ***Priory Flower Rota for September***

Sept. 3 Jane Tyson Sept. 10 Pat McDonnell

Sept. 17 Norma Blair Sept. 24 Flower Fund

Thankyou to all on the flower rota for kind donations and beautiful flower-arrangements.

If anyone would like to offer flowers or a donation for September flowers – as there's a space due to the passing of Dorothy Smith, please see Rosalie McAndrew.

Notice:- Harvest Festival Sunday will be on 8th October this year.

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## Once Upon a Time ...

When I look through papers left to us by long-gone villagers, I am often impressed by their tales of people who once upon a time they thought interesting. Two such might be the sisters Susie and Peggy Watson, who in Victorian times shared a cottage by the entrance to Gas House Lane. The pair were probably the village's busiest washer-women, taking in laundry from the School and some of the largest houses. Susie, who we are told was a 'l'a'al bunchabout body', carried all the water they would need up from the Wellfield, before beginning to tackle all the washing. Peggy, tall and thin, and dressed and shod strikingly, was responsible for the ironing. Though barely literate, Peggy took great pride in her unchanging 'library', comprised always of the same three uplifting books: the Bible, a Pilgrim's Progress, and a History of England.

We know of Susie and Peggy through a memoir left by village farmer John Sewell. He died in 1852. A detail he was too delicate to mention is that together the two sisters brought up a son who had been born to one of them out of wedlock. The child seems to have enjoyed support from the father (a Whitehaven farmer), being sent to the Public School and later becoming a schoolmaster himself, and a pioneer of educational reform.

John Sewell is also the prime source of much that we know of Frederick Kitchin (pictured). Fred was a longstanding member of the Church Choir, and as a keen sportsman was often called upon for the village cricket team. Something of an eccentric, he tried even in old age, and whatever the weather, to take a daily dip in the sea. Mrs. Rothery of Marsh House kept a spare set of his clothes there in case of need.

Another of Fred's eccentricities centred on the idle village lads who habitually congregated in the evenings around the railway station. He would accost them with good advice, doubtless well-meant, and then treat them to passages of Latin verse, rounded off with tunes on his penny-whistle.

From another source we learn of the narrow escape of a local slaughter-man. For as long as many could remember, animals for slaughter were driven through Main Street to a shed by the ancient Pinfold at the foot of Outrigg. A maddened animal (of course a bull according to the story) turned on the slaughterman, whose assistant slammed the door shut with slaughterman and rampaging bull inside. The slaughterman managed to get on to a roof beam (he always said he had no idea how), and had to cling there until the village policeman was fetched, and found someone with a gun to silence the animal.

I wonder what state Main Street would have been in after animals had been herded through? Of course it was surfaced then only with ashes from the houses, and shillies from the beach. But we know now that as late as the 1860s a local farmer was contracted "to water the roads". Eventually the village purchased its own horse-drawn water-cart.

*Bob Jopling, Village History Group*

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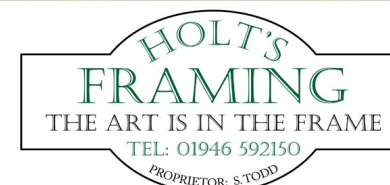
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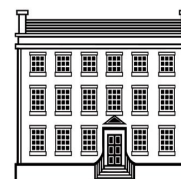
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## *The Sandwith School Charity*

Founded in 1977 with funds resulting from the sale of the Sandwith School, the Trust exists to: a) Promote the education of persons under the age of 25 years who reside in the Parish of Sandwith and Rottington. and/or b) Promote Religious Instruction of such persons in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of England. The Trust is administered by the following committee members. Rev. Becky Gibbs – Chairperson, Mrs. Christine Buchanan- Trustee., Mrs. Wendy Skillicorn-Trustee. Mrs. Rena Gilmour - Treasurer. Mr. Grant Gilmour - Secretary. Over the past 10 years the Trust has made awards of over £22,000 to applicants meeting the criteria. The Trustees encourage applications from the stipulated area of Sandwith and Rottington. These could be for books, studying materials, Information Technology and other learning devices in pursuance of education or Religious Instruction. The Trust does not finance travel to and from the place of education, but is prepared to consider costs associated with the provision of uniforms. The Trust meets twice per year, usually around March and October, so applications on the basis of one per year, will be considered at these meetings. Application forms can be obtained on request from the St Bees Vicarage via enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk. Grant Gilmour, Secretary to the Trust.

## *WI News*

I hope you are continuing to enjoy the summer, despite the weather being somewhat unseasonal! Our next meeting is Monday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm at the Seacote Hotel. Our Guest speaker is Lesley Connolly from Carlisle, who will be telling us all about her jewellery business. Lesley will also bring a selection of costume jewellery for sale, something for every taste and pocket: please do not miss the opportunity to meet Lesley, she will tell us all about the materials she uses in her jewellery, sourced from all over the world, which is very interesting. If you are looking for an unusual gift, early Christmas shopping or treating yourself or a loved one do join us. Non-members £4 including refreshments and raffle, also, new members welcome at any time, just turn up on the night. Details from Roxanne 823137 or our Facebook page [www.St-Bees-WI-facebook](http://www.St-Bees-WI-facebook).

## *Tribute to Sue Davidson*

Much loved and well-known in St Bees, Sue was involved in many aspects of life here, in village and church. She had concern and compassion for others, shown in her tireless work as a member of NSPCC, the W.I. and Flower Club; at the Priory she was a keen bellringer, Embroidery Group stitcher, organiser of the Shoebox Appeal, and committee member of Egremont Churches Together. In her earlier career she was a talented dress-maker and clothes designer, always with a flair for fashion and elegance. She was a devoted wife to Chris, caring for him at home in recent years, and a dear mother and wonderful granma to Paige and Amber. Sue lived life to the full and was a delightful friend and neighbour. Sadly missed but never forgotten.

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## Great turn out for St Bees Beach Events

Despite the very windy conditions and the threat of rain a record number of people came down to the beach for the annual **West Cumbria Wildlife Trust's Festival of the Sea** and **St Bees RNLI's Open Day**.

The poor weather and a possibility of rain did not put off the large number of people who visited the lifeboat station. The RNLI Ladies Guild were handing out teas and coffee from cups kindly donated by Hartley Beach Café. They were also giving out badges, stickers and leaflets on how to have fun and stay safe by the sea. The tombola proved very popular and longtime RNLI supporter Rob Foster was on duty selling raffle tickets.

St Bees RNLI volunteer crew were kept very busy throughout the day showing many people their lifeboat and tractor. They also gave tours around the lifeboat station where everyone got a chance to see firsthand what happens when the pagers go off.

Stormy Stan the RNLI mascot came down to take part in the fun and have a look at some of the great sandcastles. He was kept that busy he had to have a rest in some of the deckchairs.

Dick Beddows, St Bees RNLI Operations Manager, said: 'It was lovely to see so many people down at the beach enjoying a great family day out and learning a little of how the RNLI at St Bees operates. We would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the event, and look forward to welcoming them back again next year'.

## Priory Singers

We meet on Monday evenings at 7:30 in Old College Hall from 11th September, when we'll start on some new music. We're quite a jolly bunch who sing for pleasure, not for high art, though it does come out pretty well mostly. Oh - and there's always a contingent going to the Queen's Hotel for more merriment afterwards.

Contact Frank Bowler on 01946 825307 if you'd like to join us. Don't worry if you're not too confident on reading music - you'll be with experienced singers who will pull you along.



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## St Bees Swimming Pool



General swim sessions are now available EVERY DAY at St Bees School pool. Check out our website to find the up-to-date timetable.

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

## *A busy weekend for St Bees RNLi volunteers*

Following three call-outs before the weekend and a very busy open day on Saturday, the volunteers at St Bees RNLi were paged again on Sunday at 12:15pm to help a woman with a suspected broken ankle at Fleswick Bay.

Just after midday on Sunday St Bees RNLi volunteers were again called into service after a woman had fallen and injured her ankle at Fleswick Bay just North of St Bees.

St Bees Inshore Lifeboat 'Joy Morris MBE' launched into a very choppy Irish sea with four crew, two of whom were RNLi Casualty Care trained, to assist the local Coastguard Rescue Teams. When the volunteers arrived and met their colleagues from the Coastguard they agreed the best thing was a helicopter evacuation. As this was being arranged two of the RNLi crew made their way ashore so they could use their training to help with pain relief and make the casualty comfortable. After the helicopter 'Rescue 199' from Prestwick had safely winched the woman on board all units were stood down. As more rocks were now exposed by the falling tide, it was too risky for the two RNLi volunteers to rejoin their two colleagues back on the Inshore Lifeboat. It was felt the best course of action was for them to get a lift back with the Coastguard to Whitehaven Harbour and board the lifeboat from there.

Dick Beddows, St Bees RNLi Operations Manager, said: 'This was a very tricky operation that required a lot of care to avoid the casualty suffering any more pain. I would like to thank everyone involved who did a great job in very difficult conditions. This is yet another good example of the local search and rescue teams working well together for a positive outcome'.

### *Three shouts in 24 hours*

St Bees RNLi were first tasked by Belfast Coastguard at 8.10pm to assist with the search of a local missing person.

The following afternoon at 1.14pm, the crew were paged again to reports of a young person in the water near Whitehaven Harbour. Workington RNLi also launched both lifeboats and were soon on scene to assist if needed.

Soon after the crew had recovered and washed down the lifeboat, they were paged again at 1.53pm by Belfast Coastguard to assist Whitehaven Coastguard locate two persons last seen below the cliffs near Whitehaven. This launch was particularly special as it was the first shout for one of the station's recently passed-out helmets.

The lifeboat carried out a thorough search below the cliffs until they were stood down by Belfast Coastguard at 2.55pm.



## *Grassroots*

**Over 60s Club** - Gill Richardson reports that the September meeting will be in Hodgetts in Finkle Street on Tuesday 12th at 2.00 pm. Programme for meetings to be arranged.

**See the 'Titanic Honour & Glory' Exhibition at the Beacon** in Whitehaven – runs until Sunday 17 September. Voted one of the top five exhibitions in the UK, this reveals the story of the tragic liner through original artefacts from the Titanic and her sister ships, and props from the 1997 James Cameron film. Opening hours – Tues to Saturday 10 am to 4.30 pm; Sunday 11am to 4 pm.

### *Our Amazing People - Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> 5pm @ Hodgetts*

Following on from the very successful "our Amazing Planet" We are hosting **Our Amazing People** in Hodgetts, exploring different cultures in food and activities. Food from Indonesia, Malaysia, Malawi and much more: not forgetting the Scottish Haggis! Activities will include Indonesian dancing, a chance to try playing the harp as well as a quiz, raffle and displays.



The event is ticketed at just £2 a head but we hope you will then give donations for the amazing work that Christian Aid does around the world in some of the most dangerous and poverty- stricken places.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, please contact Rosalie McAndrew, Amy Linton or Deb Lee. We hope to see you there!

### *St Bees Village Hall - Sunday 17th Sept: The Long Way Home*

Here you can join local duo Jessie McMeekin and Dave Camlin for an evening of stories and songs exploring the enduring power of place. The 'long way home' takes the form of a journey which uses song and folk tales to explore the links between the nations of England, Wales, Northern Ireland & Scotland. They weave a magical odyssey uniting Cumbria's Neolithic heritage with the landscapes, Celtic myths and legends of North Wales, Ireland and the Isle of Man.

Dave and Jessie create a rich sound world using singing bowls, hang, cello, guitar and bodhran

## ***Calling budding local artists***

Following the very well received art event in The West Cumberland Railway Museum (opposite the Post Office) in each of the last two Octobers, the plan is to repeat the dose again. The plan is to replace some of the local railwayana exhibits with works of art produced by local artists. For visitors, opening days will be Tuesday 31st October to Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 10.00 - 16.00, with free entry for all - and even in these austere times, some free cake! For artists, I'm not charging for exhibiting, you can chose just to display items or try to sell them, and there will be no commission for anything that is sold - now you can't say fairer than that ! And it's art in its broadest sense, last year we had some collages and wood-turning as well as a large variety of painting styles. A number of artistic works have already been sourced but if you'd like yours to be considered for inclusion, please contact [petergrooke@btinternet.com](mailto:petergrooke@btinternet.com) by the 7th October. Last year, we had so many exhibitors, we had to limit the number of items per person but we'll see what level of interest there is this year. So do come along, whether it's to see some historic railway artefacts or maybe some future historic masterpieces !

## ***Planting for Pollinators***

Whether it's the excitement of seeing the first bulbs push through in spring, or the mass of colourful blooms packing borders and verges at the height of summertime, our outdoor spaces can be instantly uplifting with their scent and beauty. They also play a vital role in supporting wildlife and reconnecting fragmented habitats. One especially important group that relies on these areas is our wild pollinators. All these small insects are doing a vital job, helping produce our food and keep our natural ecosystems working. Insect pollinators account for around 85-95% of the UK's insect pollinated fruit and vegetables. However, our wild pollinators are in trouble due to loss of flower-rich habitat, breeding sites and overwintering sites. More than half of the UK bee, butterfly and moth species have declined in the past 50 years. The urge to 'tidy up' the landscape and clear away native 'weeds' like nettle, bramble and scrub means that pollinators have fewer resources available to them than ever before. Cumbria Wildlife Trust, with Cumberland Council, is aiming to reverse that decline in Cumbria. In 2022 the Planting for Pollinators project worked at Adams Recreation Ground and St Bees Priory to increase and improve areas of pollinator habitat. Having secured some more funding we are able to do more. The flower bed by the wall on Beach Road (next to Adams Recreation Ground) has lots of pollinator potential and we have worked with the Parish Council to draw up a list of species to plant in this area to increase the amount of pollen and nectar available for pollinators throughout the year and which will also provide overwintering and nesting habitat. Now, we need your help to get the plug plants in the ground! We will be bringing locally grown wildflower plug plants on Wednesday 20 and Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, between 10.30am – 3pm. We'll have all the tools needed – we just need you to come along and help out. Whether you plant 1 plant or 100, every little helps! No xperience necessary and there may even be cake! For more information please contact [Sophie.badrick@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.badrick@cumberland.gov.uk)

*Amy Linton*

## ***Grassroots***

**Egremont Rangers** recently visited Keswick to take part in the Girlguiding Environment Day along with other groups from across Cumbria. Whilst there, the Rangers took part in activities to help preserve our local environment. The girls learned about helping to protect bees and how to spot an invasive species that is a current threat to our honey bees. They also learned about tree science - being able to work out how old a tree was by measuring it. All Rangers were given the Environment and Wildlife Award badge for taking part in the day. A competition was held to determine which Girlguiding group had the least amount of recyclable waste, and Egremont Rangers came second; their prize was a bird nesting box which they will erect near to St Bees Church and continue to support our local ecosystem.

**St Bees Green Future.** At our meeting in May, St Bees Green Future formed a committee - Amy Linton as chair, Ruth Edgar as secretary and Mary Kipling as treasurer. This will help us to apply for funding in future for projects. Thank you to everyone who attended and ran events during Great Big Green Week. Thanks also to Dixons, KW Creatives, Maryport Aquarium, Morrisons and Whitehaven Sports Centre for donating prizes for our Great Big Green Family Quiz and raffle.

**Solar Made Easy in St Bees** - Property owners in and around St Bees are invited to get involved in the Solar Made Easy project, which can help you install solar panels on your roof.

This initiative is led by Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS) and has been brought to St Bees by St Bees Green Future and community volunteers. CAfS can help you decide whether solar panels are right for your home or business. If so, they will introduce you to two local vetted installers, who will provide you with quotes.

St Bees Green Future and CAfS invite you to join their community information event to launch the project. It is taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> September 7-9 at the New College Hall. There you can meet CAfS, who will explain how the project works, and fire your solar questions at the installers.

To find out more about the project, please visit: [www.cafs.org.uk/solar-made-easy](http://www.cafs.org.uk/solar-made-easy).

You may also want to check out the potential for solar PV on your roof, via the interactive solar PV map of St Bees, and have a read through the solar PV FAQs – you can find the links to both on the CAfS webpage above.

**Evan Artistic Network** is again organising the Open Studios and Art Trail. Between 2nd and 17th September Artists across Cumbria throw open their doors. In our area Nanette Madan and Natalie Burns are at Florence Art Centre, Egremont, on Friday/Saturday/Sunday. 11 to 3. Nanette is also at Lowes Court, Egremont, Tuesday to Saturday 10 to 1.30. Chris Robson is open every day 1 to 5 at Fernbank, High House Rd, St Bees: Garden with zip wire can be visited before winter sets in!



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## Tread Gently

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According to UNICEF, 160million children worldwide are still in child labour. Of these, 70% are working in agriculture and producing our food. This is one of the reasons that buying Fairtrade is SO important. When you buy a Fairtrade product, you can be assured that the only way that children were involved is that they are more likely to be in school and have access to basic health services.

St Bees Green Futures are doing much to ensure that the community plays its part in protecting and enhancing our environment. Did you know that part of the Fairtrade agreement with farmers is to encourage them to do the same. Enabling and rewarding sustainable farming methods, such as capturing rainwater, supporting reforestation, reducing the use of pesticides and fertiliser by using natural methods.

Thank you Fairtrade.

Last month was **BIG GREEN WEEK**. We introduced "Creation Care". This is an opportunity for you to assess your contribution to better care for our amazing planet. It covers 7 areas including your food, possessions, home garden etc and gives you ideas to do even better. Please sign up today at [www.creationcare.org.uk](http://www.creationcare.org.uk)



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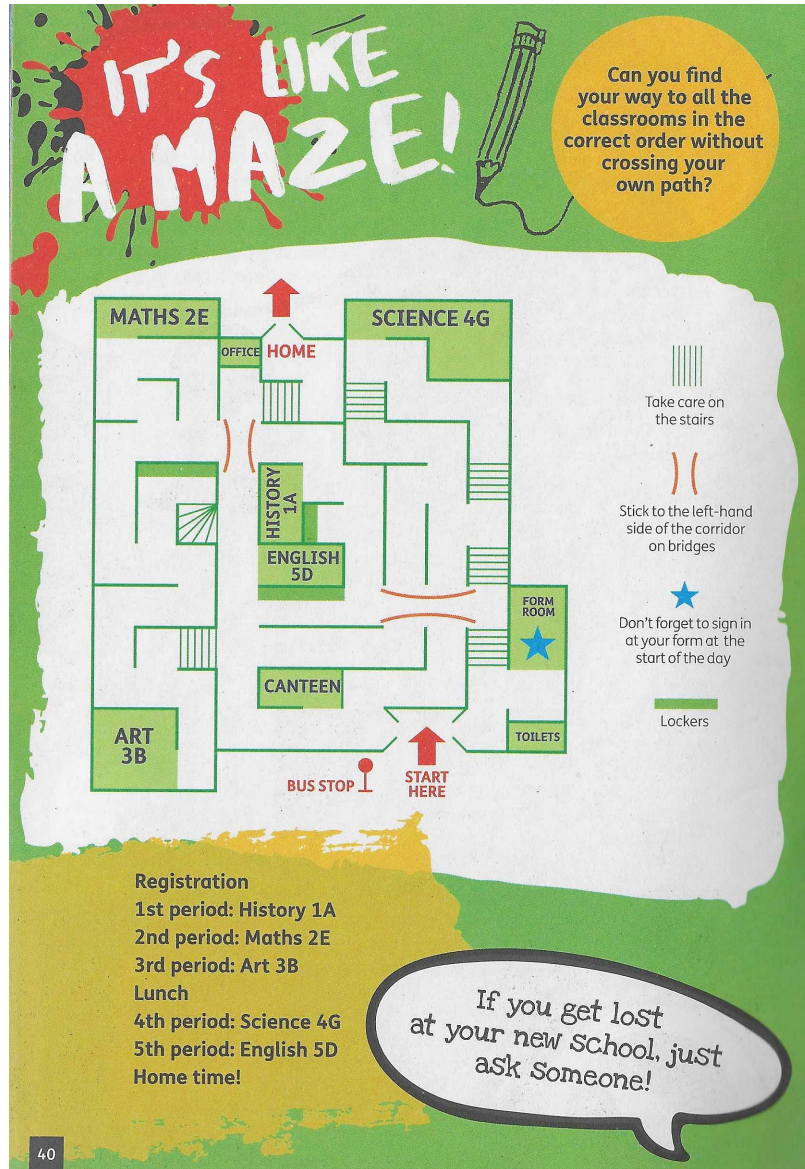
### St Bees Welcomes Children in Church

St Bees welcomes worshippers of all ages. We are all different and can worship God in many and diverse ways. We welcomed many families to celebrate "Our Amazing Planet" in August.

On the last Friday of every month we run activities for those 5yrs- teenage. Everyone is welcome. **The next one is Friday September 29<sup>th</sup> 4.30-6pm in the Priory: Theme is Harvest**



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