

St Bees Priory Church

Rev'd Becky Gibbs, Priest in Charge

01946 822279 or 07460 990631

revbgibbs@outlook.com

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

Associate Priest of St Bees Priory

Rural Dean of Calder

Retired Clergy with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate:

Rev'd Canon Jim Baker MBE and Rev'd Anne Baker (01946 822498)

The Rev'd Canon Dr Trevor Park MBE

Sunday Services in Church

Services every Sunday at 9.00 am, 10.30 am and 6.00 pm

9.00 am BCP Communion except 4th Sunday (Family)

1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays Holy Communion - 10.30 am

2nd and 4th Sundays Morning Worship - 10.30 am

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

Services are also Live Streamed

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

01946 822279 or email enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk

Priory Web Site - <http://www.stbeespriory.org.uk>

Hire of Priory & Halls

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

Booking Officers

Ian & Rosalie McAndrew - 01946 822326 or imcandrew@stbees.org.uk

Priory Secretary - enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk

Magazine production & distribution

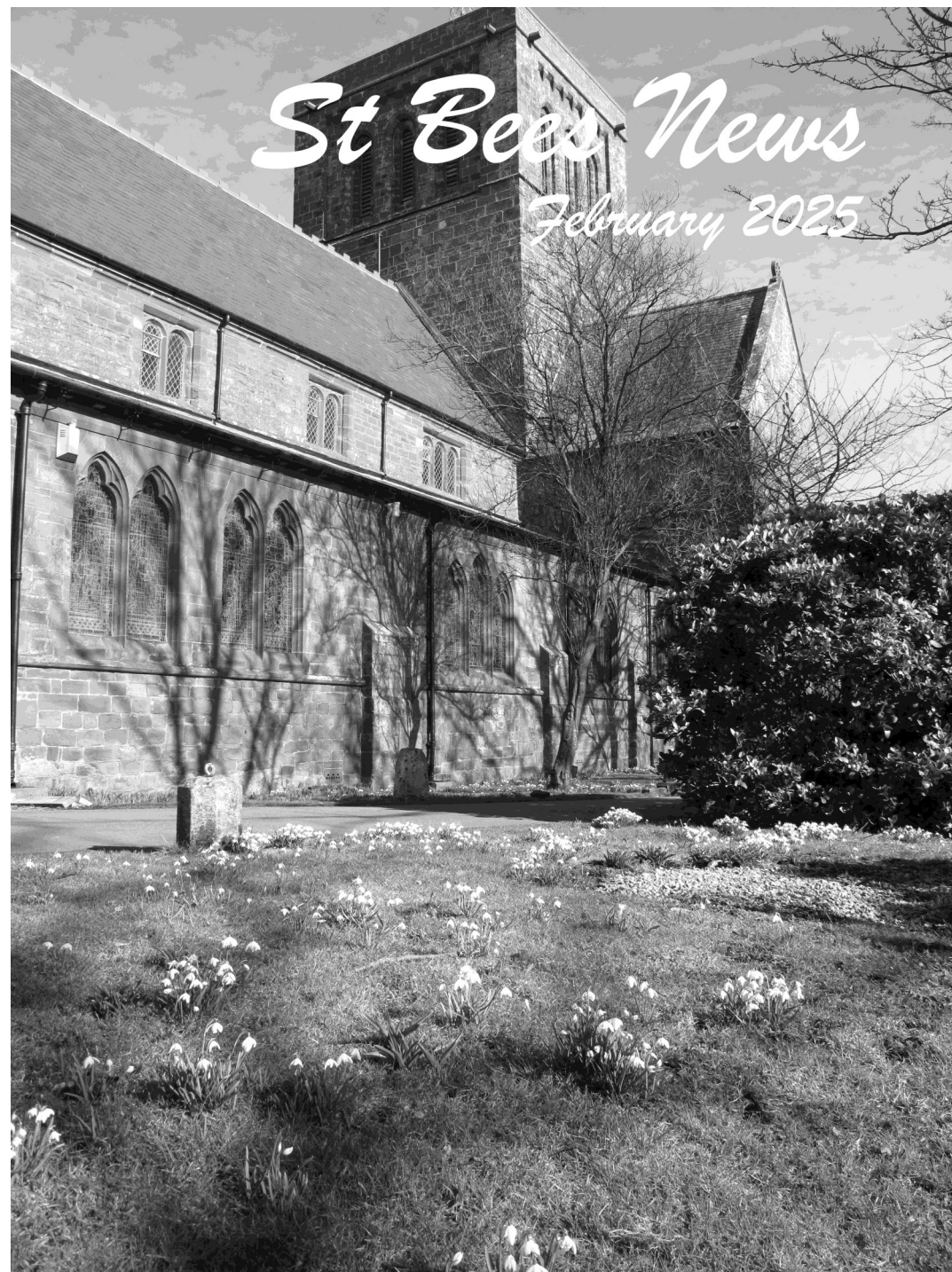
This magazine is free but production costs are about 50p per copy. Contributions from the Parish Council and our advertisers, to whom we are most grateful, pay much of the costs. However this leaves the balance to be paid by the PCC. Donations to the Treasurer or your Magazine Distributor are most welcome.*

Circulation - over 1,000 households in St Bees Parish

* - Treasurer - Gabrielle Kane, 102 Main Street, St Bees, CA27 0AD.

.DTP & Final Editing - Ian & Rosalie McAndrew

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St Bees Parish A B C

Area Visitor / Good Neighbour Scheme	The parish is divided into 30 small areas each with an official Church Visitor whose task is to welcome and help people in the name of the Priory. Co-ordinator - TBA.	Garden Society	Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 07742 440919). Flower Show is held on 3rd Saturday in August.
Aikido club.	Adult martial art classes in St Bees, Mon., Tues. & Thu each week. See www.westcumbriaaikido or contact Adrian on 07951 999 192.	History Group	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from Chris Robson 822468.
Bellringing	The Priory has a ring of 8 bells. Those interested in ringing or learning to ring, contact D Sim, 18 The Crofts. Practice Wednesdays, 8.00 pm. Sundays, ring at 10.00 a.m.	Judo Club	meets regularly at NCH. Contact sankaikunijudo@gmail.com or Janice (07828 116752) or Pim (07733 291200). Also meeting Pilates, Yoga, Taekwondo and Aikido. All in upper NCH hall.
Scouts, Beavers	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.	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.
Cubs	8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.	Parish Council	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Coulderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, email pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk , who will answer queries on civil parish matters.
Choir	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).	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.
Churchwardens	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Churchwardens are Deb Lee & Gill Barlow (& 2 Vacancies)	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.
Councillor	Local councillor for Cumberland Council for Egremont North and St Bees is Graham Minshaw. Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk Tel -07840 844424	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.
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	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
Fair Trade	Fair trade food and craft items and catalogues available from Deb Lee, who can deliver. Tel 823470 - lee535877@aol.com	Rangers	meet on alternate Mondays from 7.00 – 8.30 p.m. in NCH. Contact calderdivision@gmail.com for info on your nearest unit of Brownies .& Guides. New Rainbows unit starts in Bigrigg on Mondays.
Finance	The Church Treasurer is Gabrielle Kane, 102 Main Street, St Bees, CA27 0AD.who will explain our Christian Giving system.	Seagalls	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
First Responders	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497	St Bees Triers	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm. Email running@triers.co.uk Tel. 823497 Web www.triers.co.uk
Football Association	Contacts - Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.	Village School Association	Organising events for the pupils and community, raising funds for the school. : stbees.vsa@gmail.com or @stbeesvsa Facebook or Instagram
Freemasons	St Bega Lodge meet 7:00 p.m. On 2nd Wed of each month, Village Hall. Details: 07897 535100 or www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk .	Village Hall	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
Friends of the Priory	assists in the conservation of the Priory and encourages interest in its historical and architectural heritage. Contact R McAndrew or Norman Killip, Treasurer, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees,	Village in Bloom	Details from Kathy Nesbit via PC Sec. Jane Donaldson. See above for Parish Council contact details.
		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. See www.St-Bees-WI-Facebook pages or contact any member.

Calendar for February 2025

1	Saturday	2.00 to 4.00pm	Green Future Clothes Swap, Adams Rec. Pavilion
2	Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
6	Thursday	4.30 – 6.00pm	Sixth Form Open Evening, St Bees School, Business Centre
8	Saturday		March Magazine Copydate
9	Sunday	10.30 am	Morning Worship
10	Monday	7.30 pm	WI Meeting, Seacote (Keekle Art Glass)
11	Tuesday	12 - 2.00pm 7.00 pm	Memory & Friendship Café, New College Hall PCC Meeting, NCH
15	Saturday	11.30 a.m.	Fair Trade presentation and lunch, Village Hall
16	Sunday	10.30 am	Holy Communion
17	Monday	6.30 pm	St Bees Council, Village Hall
21	Friday	9.30 am -12	Egremont Farmers Market, Market Hall
23	Sunday	9.00 am 10.30 am	Story Service, Priory Morning Worship
25	Tuesday	12 -2.00pm	Memory & Friendship Café, NCH
28	Friday	9.00 am-12 4.30 to 6pm	St Bees School Food & Drink Festival, Mem. Hall Friday Fun, Priory (New Moons & Lent)

St Bees Village Hall (Hodgetts Club)

Forthcoming events

Sunday April 27th 7.30pm - Cumbrian singer and songwriter: Anne-Marie Sanderson
<https://www.annemariesanderson.com>

Saturday 31s May 7.30pm - Magic Cabaret: the Great Baldini
<https://www.greatbaldini.co.uk/>

For further information on these shows contact Kirkgate Arts: 01900 826448. And look out for some exciting events during Village Hall Week 17-23 March 2025.

Editor – March 2025

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

Email:payne.croeso@btinternet.com Tel:01946 822637

St Bees News

February 2025

By the time you read this the Vicarage Christmas tree will have been stripped of it's decorations and be sadly lying, ready for disposal, in the vicarage community walled garden. But today, as I write this, on the 19th January the Christmas tree still stands resplendent, fully lit and gloriously decked, needles miraculously hanging on for dear life. The tree and I are defiantly facing January, the freezing mornings and the damp days, pretending it's still Christmas. Well not quite pretending, according to church tradition, the season of Christmas and Epiphany lasts from the 24th December right through until the 2nd February. So don't worry if like me your decs are still up, whether it's because you need a bit of Christmas joy right now, or simply that you haven't got around to taking them down yet, the Vicar says it's OK!

To join in with me following the tradition the decorations will have to come down by the 2nd February because that's when a new season in the Church begins, on Candlemas, the day the church remembers the presentation of the infant Jesus in the temple. (You can read more about this in the centre page of this magazine) The story of the Presentation can be e found in Luke chapter two...moved by the Spirit, the Prophet Simeon enters the temple and after receiving the infant Jesus in his arms says...

“My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

When Simeon spoke these words two thousand years ago his world was being torn apart by violence and oppression, for many people the world was a dark and dangerous place. Sadly, the days we live in are in some ways similar. I think that's why I want to hang on to my Christmas tree for just a bit longer, it re minds me of the joy and hope that we celebrated just a couple of weeks ago, it's a brightly lit bridge to take me through to the day when we remember again “a light for revelation to all nations”.

The 2nd February is also “Groundhog day”; a tradition observed regionally in the United States and Canada on 2nd February every year. It comes from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day and sees its shadow, it will retreat to its den and winter will go on for six more weeks; if it does not see its shadow, spring will arrive early. Right now I've had enough of winter and if I were superstitious I'd be willing the groundhog to fix his gaze firmly in the non-shadow direction. Instead, I will turn off the Christmas lights, pack away the decorations and take down the tree. I will remind myself that I, like Simeon, believe in the salvation that God gave to the nations, I believe that Jesus is that light and salvation, and that His light still shines for us today, even in the darkest places of our world.

Today, in the Vicarage, it's still Christmas, by the time you read this, a new season will have begun. Whether spring comes early or winter drags on, may we know the light of love in our lives and strengthened by that light, share it with all we meet this February.

With love from Reverend Becky

Priory News

Christmas Services in the Priory – were beautiful and well-attended ceremonies with wonderful choral carols, inspiring us and lifting spirits in troubled times. Special thanks go to our clergy Rev Becky, Rev Richard Lee and our ministry team and lay leader Wendy Mellor, organist Frank Bowler and the full Priory choir. All was much appreciated by the congregation and those viewing on livestream.

The Christingle & Crib Service was held on Christmas Eve and much enjoyed by all the many families there. Thankyou to everyone for the generous collection of £286.11 to the Children’s Society. Huge thanks to volunteers and the Friday Fun team of leaders and families helping make up the Christingles, and to Deb Lee and Rev Becky for organising the busy work of preparing 150 Christingles! Thanks to many who donated oranges and sweets.

Christmas Tree Festival Service – Held with the Blessing of the trees and celebrated with the lively accompaniment of the Priory Orchestra. Many grateful thanks to their conductor Alison Birchall, and to Frank Bowler and the full family orchestra. Many thanks also to the Friday Fun team of leaders & children presenting the delightful Nativity Drama produced by Deb Lee, with Corinne and Gemma assisting and taking charge in Deb’s unexpected absence on the day!

Christmas Tree Festival Fair – Sincere Thanks to Sarah George for masterminding the Festival - not only the setting-up of the trees but also organising the Craft Fair, the refreshments team and the ongoing entertainment by the Egremont Town Band. An amazing total of £917.30 was raised in donations and contributions – to be shared between the Priory and St Bees RNLI. Thanks to you, one and all!

Sincere Thanks to all who decorated the Priory so beautifully for Christmas– to the strongarm team of Jack Hale, Colin Wadey, Pete & Natalie Seex, and David Hope installing the Priory Tree and helping to decorate. More Thanks to them for dismantling the tree before Epiphany! Thanks too to Pat Crichton for the gorgeous flower-arrangements; to Rosalie for the Advent Ring; and to Rev Becky for the Crib scene in the stable.

Special Thanks to our high-level engineers – to Jack Hale and Bill Nunnerley hoisting the illuminated cross onto the belfry tower – a dazzling light shining over the village, thankfully impervious to storms! Thanks too to Doug Sim for floodlighting the Priory for the festive season, in place until Candlemas – a beacon welcoming all on dark nights!

Christmas Gifts under the Priory Tree – Thankyou everyone for your kind and thoughtful gifts to our senior St Beghians locally and to those distributing them.

Parish Council News

Application for holiday pods on Nethertown Road –we are aware that there has been much interest in this planning application. The application was due to be considered by Cumberland Council’s Planning Committee on 8 January with Committee members visiting the site on 6 January. However, the icy weather prevented the site meeting taking place and, when the application came before the Committee on 8 January, it was decided to defer a decision until a site visit could be arranged. Unfortunately, this meant that Parish Council representatives and a member of the public had a wasted day in travelling to Carlisle but the Parish Council will be presenting its case when the application comes before the Planning Committee in February.

Precept 2025/26 – the Parish Council approved its budget for 2025/26 at its meeting in December. The precept was set at £64,000 which reflects the increased costs of maintaining the beach toilets and increase in National Insurance whilst still enabling the Parish Council to continue to undertake various community projects and support local groups.

Groynes & Shoreline Management –the Parish Council has requested a copy of the full specialist report commissioned by CBC in 2022 and has invited an officer of Cumberland Council to come to the February PC meeting for a discussion.

Solar Panels – the Parish Council has taken a policy decision to support the use of solar panels in all new housing developments. The council will lobby our MP to support the case for including solar panels in the Future Homes Standard to be published shortly and will press Cumberland Council to include solar panels in their local planning policies.

Bega Flats – We understand that work is almost complete to convert the four small units into two larger homes (one two bedrooomed & one three bedrooomed). Both properties will be rented out by Eden Housing Association. As the properties are no longer flats, we understand that they will be renamed Blackthorn Cottage & Juniper Cottage.

Station Sign – the large traditional St Bees sign which has been mounted on the wall at the station has had to be removed and is now in safe keeping at the railway museum. It is hoped to renovate the sign in due course with a view to finding a new location for it close to the station.

Litter bin – it has been decided to replace the wall mounted litter bin on the Post Office wall after the old bin was damaged by a vehicle. It will be placed in a slightly different position to avoid causing inconvenience to neighbours.

Christmas tree- we would like to thank everyone who helped with putting up and taking down the Christmas tree and also the local resident who allowed us to connect the lights to his supply. A donation is being made to a local charity of his choice.

Next meeting- The next meeting will be on Monday 17 February at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

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Hartleys Beach Shop and Café, sadly, is now closed.

The owners of the building are looking for new tenants and we are holding the space here equally hopefully!

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News from the Village School

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We were delighted with how the children returned to school following the much needed Christmas break– they have been settled and hardworking and it has been a pleasure to visit classes and see the excellent work being completed.

We have lots planned for the coming term with our new activity clubs already started (and they are all full!) These clubs are incredibly popular and change half termly so that all the children get a chance to take part at some stage.

We also have trips and residential in the pipeline for the Spring and Summer term, together with sporting events and I'm sure our super VSA team have lots planned for us to look forward to!

As we move through the term, we will have much more to report on.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kate Davis, Headteacher

Village School Association

Happy New Year, Happy New Term!

Here we go, heading quickly towards the longer, warmer days, a perfect time for planning, planning, planning...

Alongside Easter fun, PreLoved uniform sales and summer events, we're looking at new ideas, new events for the school, the children, the community. We'll be reaching out to our families, community with specific ways you may be able to help nearer the time. Our Facebook page @stbeesvsa is updated regularly!

We are still a small squad of just 5 busy mums, but we've been lucky to have been joined by a bunch of Class reps, more parents so hoping that'll help us with the tasks ahead.

Our January AGM was a great opportunity to say hello, to share your ideas, however, if you missed that, our inbox will always welcome your feedback, ideas... please do drop us a message, via our @stbeesvsa Facebook and Instagram pages or to stbees.vsa@gmail.com.

And we'll have news soon on what we're aiming to do with funds raised too, following the success of the playground games, Christmas treats and discos.

Thanks again for your support, and are looking forward to seeing you all through 2025.

P.S. If you haven't signed up yet, one easy way to help us is to grab one or two weekly lottery tickets, by signing up to "Your School Lottery". Search for St Bees Village Primary School. We have a weekly winner and a % goes back to the school.

Jaime Lowrey

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W.I.

Our First meeting of the New Year, held on January 13th, members brought their Favourite Toy/Book or Game from their childhood. This was an evening of Nostalgia, a real trip down memory Lane for all of us, heart -warming stories attached to toys, books, photos and cards, which are still much treasured possessions, recalled in detail, by our members, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, this was followed by refreshments and Raffle, we also had a good catch up after the festive season!

Our Next meeting is on Monday February 10th, 7.30pm at the Seacote Hotel. We are welcoming Ralph Mitchell who will be talking about his craft Enterprise 'Keekle Art Glass'. This will be something new for St Bees WI as we haven't had a Glass Artist talk to our group before, there will also be the opportunity to make a purchase on the evening if you so wish, (small/medium glass items/jewellery etc).

All are welcome to attend, Visitors £4 including tea/Coffee, If you would like to become a WI member, we are a friendly group of ladies, it would be lovely to welcome new members at the start of the year, so, if you are new to the village or have been here a long time and want to make new friends from across St Bees Village, or re-acquaint with old ones, just turn up on the night, look forward to seeing you there.

For further details see our Facebook page www.St-Bees-WI-facebook or any WI Member.

St Bees Green Future

St Bees Swap Together - We were successful in our application for a Community Climate Grant to run St Bees Swap Together, a series of free swap events during 2025. As well as our quarterly clothes swaps, we are planning to hold a seed swap alongside a meal in the autumn, and swap events during Great Big Green Week in June and Second Hand September.

We're asking for ideas for the theme of these two swap events to encourage participation, so if you have any suggestions, please let us know. St Bees Swap Together is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and is part of Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership's ambitious emission reduction programme to make Cumbria carbon neutral by 2037.

Clothes swap - Our next clothes swap is on Saturday 1 February, 2 - 4pm, at Adams Recreation Ground. All clothes and accessories in good condition are welcome, but please limit donations to around ten items per person. You are welcome to take part if you don't have any items to bring along. We'll also have refreshments available.

Thermal imaging - We have completed 20 thermal imaging surveys so far and will continue to offer these into March. If you would like a free thermal imaging survey of the inside of your home to help you identify cold spots, please contact stbeesgreenfuture@gmail.com.

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Lunga experiences hazards

Hello. Lunga here.

First, Happy New Year. I hope you had a lovely Christmas with presents. By the time you read this I shall be four years old – so I suppose my brothers and sisters will be as well. That will mean more presents (perhaps?).

Well, one day I was happily sniffing along a wall when BANG – my head had hit something VERY hard. I jumped back and looked up. It was a very tall silver pole with a light on top. My head did not hurt too much as I had a lot of hair on top then. Mammy has since taken me to the hairdresser so I must take care now. Another time more sniffs and WHAM there was a wire basket low down on the wall that hit my head – how inconsiderate of whoever put it there!

When we went to the caravan one morning the ground was hard and white. Mammy nearly fell over. When we got to the speed hump my legs slipped everywhere – good job I'm not a spider as I might not have got eight legs over the black ice. We went very carefully. And another day mammy opened the door, and everything was white. That was soft to walk on and fun to run in and dig up to smell what was underneath. Then BANG, CRASH, WALLOP – after breakfast came the snow ploughs to clear the white world off the road so that the cars did not slide about.

Brambles are another hazard when sniffing a hedge as they stick in my coat. If I can't pull free, I bite the branch off and then mammy helps with the piece still on my coat. Later on the snowy day I came across a scary thing. It had a big white body and a white head but no legs. It's arms were stick-like and it had eyes and seemed to be smoking a pipe. It was very still but had to be approached with care just in case. Mammy patted it and then I went right up to it. Still it did not move and I could break bits off by scratching it with my paws. Did you build a snowman?

Do take care when you are out and about as you never know what you might bump into!! That's all for now.

Bye from Lunga and his mammy Claire Summers

Welcome and Thanks

Welcome to Gabrielle Kane of St Bees who has been appointed as new PCC Treasurer as from January 2025.

Sincere thanks from the Church Council to Norman Killip, retiring from his role as Treasurer after 5 years of dedicated meticulous commitment..

Adams Recreation Ground

The Adams Recreation Ground, just off Beach Road, is owned and operated by a charitable trust. All the trustees are volunteers. The purposes of the trust are to provide sporting and recreational opportunities for the local community. The grounds and pavilion currently provide the base for St Bees FC, St Bees Triers, the Little Learners Nursery Beach School and Meditation and Healing events run by Jenny Prince. We are always looking to broaden our range of users so if you think we can help, please get in touch.

There have been several developments in recent years which include refurbishment of the main hall, extensive native species tree planting, development of a wildflower meadow and the installation of a disability access path from the pavilion down to pitch level. Grant funding for these and other projects have been provided by Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Cumbria Community Forest, Copeland Community Development and Cumbria County Council. Additionally, there is now the option during the day for “honesty box” car parking near the beach. Overnight parking is with permission only and is subject to an annual fee. Please support us as all funds are ploughed back into improving the facilities for us all to enjoy.

There are also projects underway, including the installation of two EV charging points, outdoor gym equipment, flora and fauna information boards and a bike repair station. Just before Christmas, a few hardy souls planted a 50m length of mixed native species hedgerow, funded by the Lake District Foundation. There’s a 550m distance marked route around part of the site which takes you past lots of the areas that have been planted, so if you want to burn off some of the holiday calories, or just spend some time in a lovely corner of the village, we hope to see you down there.

If you’d like to get involved in helping in any way, large or small, please get in touch. Contact Michael on 07951 200226

Grassroots

Advance Notice - Priory Pancake Day is planned for Shrove Tuesday 4th March in New College Hall. You are invited to a Pancake Party from 12 noon to 2.00 pm. Savoury or sweet pancakes will be served with a choice of fillings! All Welcome.

Also Advance Notice – Lenten Lunches are planned for Saturdays in March/April. In New College Hall from 12.00 noon till 1.30 p.m.

St Bees Priory Christmas Tree Festival 2024

The results of the St Bees Priory Church Christmas Tree Festival are in! Just over 530 votes were counted and the results are as follows:

- 1st- Mellow Velo Cyclists
- 2nd- Marianne Postlethwaite
- 3rd- Carl Sharpe Roofing

The 1st prize winners have received their much deserved £50 prize money.

A huge thank you to all who contributed in any way to both the Tree Festival and the Christmas Fair. The current total raised from both events for St Bees RNLi and St Bees Priory Church stands at £917.30 which they will share; a fantastic amount of money raised for these two worthy causes.

It’s never too soon to get planning for the next Tree Festival in December 2025 and the plan is to keep the same format as previous years. Provisional dates for 2025 are:

Saturday 6th December- trees up,

Sunday 7th December- Christmas Fair/launch of the Tree Festival

(all dates to be confirmed nearer the time.)

Any feedback is always welcome- please contact Sarah George with any comments/ideas for future events by email: sarahgeorge.bees@gmail.com or phone: 07793 754803.

I wish you all the best for the year ahead and look forward to lighting up the Priory again in December!

Obituary - Margaret Ann Alderson - 1983 - 2024

Margaret was born in Tonbridge, Kent and died on on the 13th December at West Cumberland Hospital aged 86, only child of Ella and Syd Baker.

Margaret was a vibrant, friendly and energetic person. She was deputy head girl at Tonbridge Grammer school and May Queen at Whitelands College where she loved dancing and did her teacher training! When she married Barry she moved to Cleator Moor and then to Nethertown in 1967 where they built Lamberlea Pond and Garden Centre.

Margaret taught at Orgill infants and was a Rotarian, NSPCC and Ladies NFU committee member, active in The Blind Society, a Red Hatter and flower arranger at Egremont Methodist Church. She was creative, enjoying painting, sugar craft and pottery. She loved being with her friends and family, and was very close to her grandchildren

Margaret was passionate about gardening and she continued to live at Lamberlea with her son, John and his family until she died.

St Bees School

Exciting Events at St Bees School: A Warm Invitation to the Local Community

At St Bees School, we believe in fostering strong connections with our local community, and we are always delighted to open our doors for events that bring us all together. We have several occasions coming up that we would love for you to be a part of.

Chinese New Year Celebration – Wednesday 29th January, 4:15pm – 5:30pm

To kick things off, we are excited to invite you to our Chinese New Year celebration on Wednesday 29th January at 4:15pm in the school's Memorial Hall. We start with a lively show - 'The story of Nian' from our Year 8 drama students. The celebration will then feature a traditional Chinese dance, followed by a sing-along performance from our Chinese students. Audience participation will be encouraged. Afterward, we will have a variety of activities for all ages to enjoy, including paper lantern making, Chinese blue and white porcelain experience – plate design, and a chopstick challenge. Also, a spring roll making demonstration and tasting, plus delicious traditional New Year snacks available for purchase from our business enterprise students. This event is not only a celebration of the New Year but also a reflection of our school's strong connections to Chinese culture.

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 6th February, 4:30pm - 6:00pm

On Thursday 6th February, we will be hosting our Sixth Form Open Evening from 4:30-6:00pm in the school's Whitelaw Building (also known as the BMC). We are eager to enrol local students into our Sixth Form, where we can boast small class sizes, a diverse international peer group, and impressive academic results. During the evening, each A level subject teacher will have a stall to give students the opportunity to explore their options and learn more about the subjects they are interested in. Mrs Johnstone will also give a presentation about the Sixth Form experience at St Bees, and we will be offering guided tours of the campus. If you are interested in learning more about what St Bees Sixth Form can offer, we highly encourage you to attend this event.

International Food and Drink Festival – Friday 28th February 9:00am - 12:00pm

As part of International Languages Week, don't miss our first-ever International Food and Drink Festival on Friday 28th February, from 9:00am to 12:00pm in the Memorial Hall. This event will celebrate the rich diversity of global cuisine, with food stalls offering a wide range of delicious dishes from Bulgaria, Romania, France, Italy, Ukraine, China, Spain, and many more. If you are passionate about food and would like to share your nation's culinary specialties, we still have space available for stalls, and they are completely free of charge! If you are interested in participating, please contact Mrs Bettinson at zoe.bettinson@stbeesschool.co.uk.

Additionally, as part of our language celebrations, we invite members of the community to join us in school on Wednesday 26th February 1:45pm – 2:15pm for a fun and interactive language lesson hosted by our language leader students. The sessions will cover French, German, Ukrainian, Chinese, Bulgarian, Japanese and Norwegian, offering a great opportunity to experience new languages. We would love to have you join us for this engaging and educational experience.

Together, we can celebrate culture, community, and learning at St Bees School.

Friends of the Priory Events

Our first event of the new term will be a Talk by Peter Rooke of the St Bees Railway Museum on – 'The Coming of the Railways to Whitehaven' including St Bees and the Corkickle Tunnel.

Happening on Friday 7th March at 7.30 pm in New College Hall. All welcome.

Also on Sunday afternoon 4th May in Priory Paddock- Pond-Dipping for all the family!

In May Egremont Town Band Concert – in the Priory on Friday 17 May.

Sincere Sympathy

Sincere Sympathy is extended to Frank & Debbie Bowler on the sad loss of Frank's dear mother Nancy Bowler who died in January after a short illness. Lovingly remembered by her family and friends at the Priory.

Deepest Sympathy is also extended to the family of David Turner who died recently - he was a well-known resident of the Beach estate for over 50 years, but moved away to Sandbach in Cheshire a few years ago to be nearer his family. Thinking of his daughters Linda, Heather and Catherine, and their families at this sad time.

Robert (Bob) Casson, Fairladies

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have given love and support during this very difficult time following Robert's passing.

Heather Richardson

Priory Flower Rota for February

2	Flower Fund	9	Claire Summers
16	Rosalie McAndrew	23	Carole Smith

Many Thanks to all flower-arrangers and donors to the Flower Fund.

Sandwith School Trust

The Sandwith School Trust exists to support students in the Parish of Sandwith and Rottington in furtherance of their education. The Trustees will be meeting again during March 2025 to consider Grant/Award applications by those students who qualify by virtue of their residence. Applications should be made prior to the beginning of March '25. Forms can be obtained from enquiries@stbeespriory.org.uk.

Grant Gilmour. Secretary to the Trust

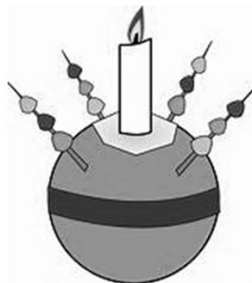
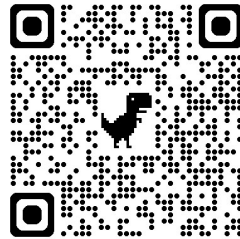
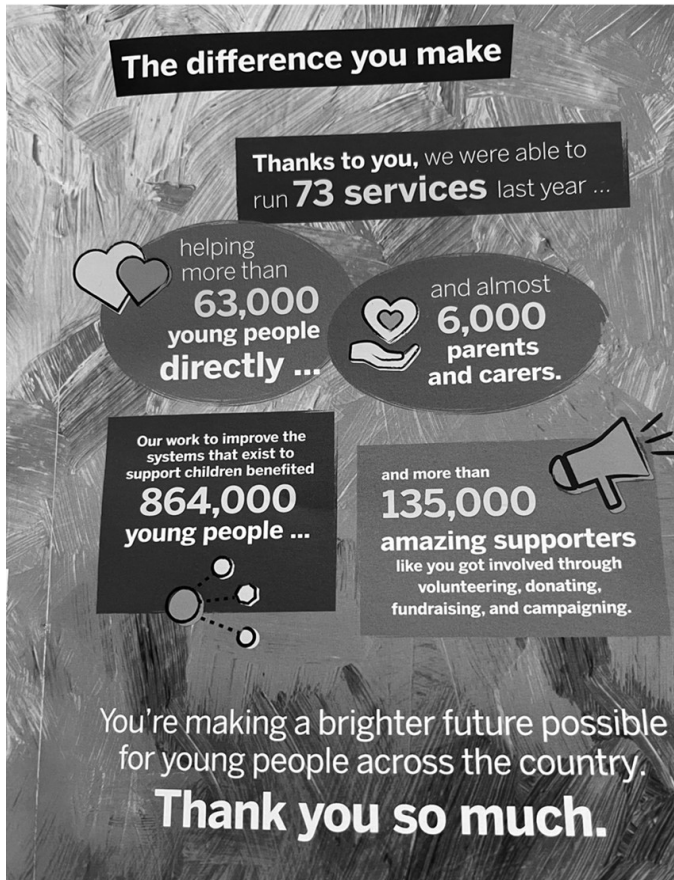
Beach Café

You will have noticed by now that the Beach Shop & Café have closed along with the Hartley's Ice Cream business in Egremont. They will be missed by St Bees residents and visitors too, so thanks to Hartley's for running their business all these years. The owners of the Beach Shop & Café, Thomas Milburn (Property) Ltd, are actively searching for another tenant and hope to have it re-opening soon.

Care Deeply

It was wonderful to see so many of you from our community at our Christingle service. Did you know that Christingle services support the work of the Children's Society, which has been working for over 140 years to protect every childhood. Every day the society sees the difference the right support can make for young people when they are struggling, well being checks, talking therapies or guiding parents. Thank you for making a brighter future possible for young people across the country. You can see some of the numbers of people supported by your generosity in the picture below, or you can access the website via the QR code to find out more.

Deb Lee, Church Warden



Tread Gently

Life is better for these Tanzanian Cashew Farmers because Egremont Farmers', Craft and Fair Trade market is sponsoring them! We are part way through the first year of sponsorship and, with great help from St Bees Pop in team and a raffle raised enough to sponsor them for a further year, plus at least another £200 for Transform Trade! Well done everyone. The sponsorship provides training and support to fight unfair trade laws. Fair trade businesses are proven to transform communities. When they grow, everyone grows!



If you want to find out more come to St Bees Village Hall on Saturday 15th March at 11.30, stay for lunch and hear Dominic from Transform Trade tell your more of their exciting work!



Candlemas Day
2nd February

KIDS' CORNER

ROOTS children's Sheet

CANDLEMAS



Use the words to fill in the blanks and complete the sentences.

Jesus Joseph blessed Mary
Anna Temple Simeon God

_____ and _____ went to the _____

with baby _____, _____ blessed him

and _____ praised _____.

Activity time



Draw a picture of yourself as a baby or small child, and then one of yourself as you are now. What has changed?

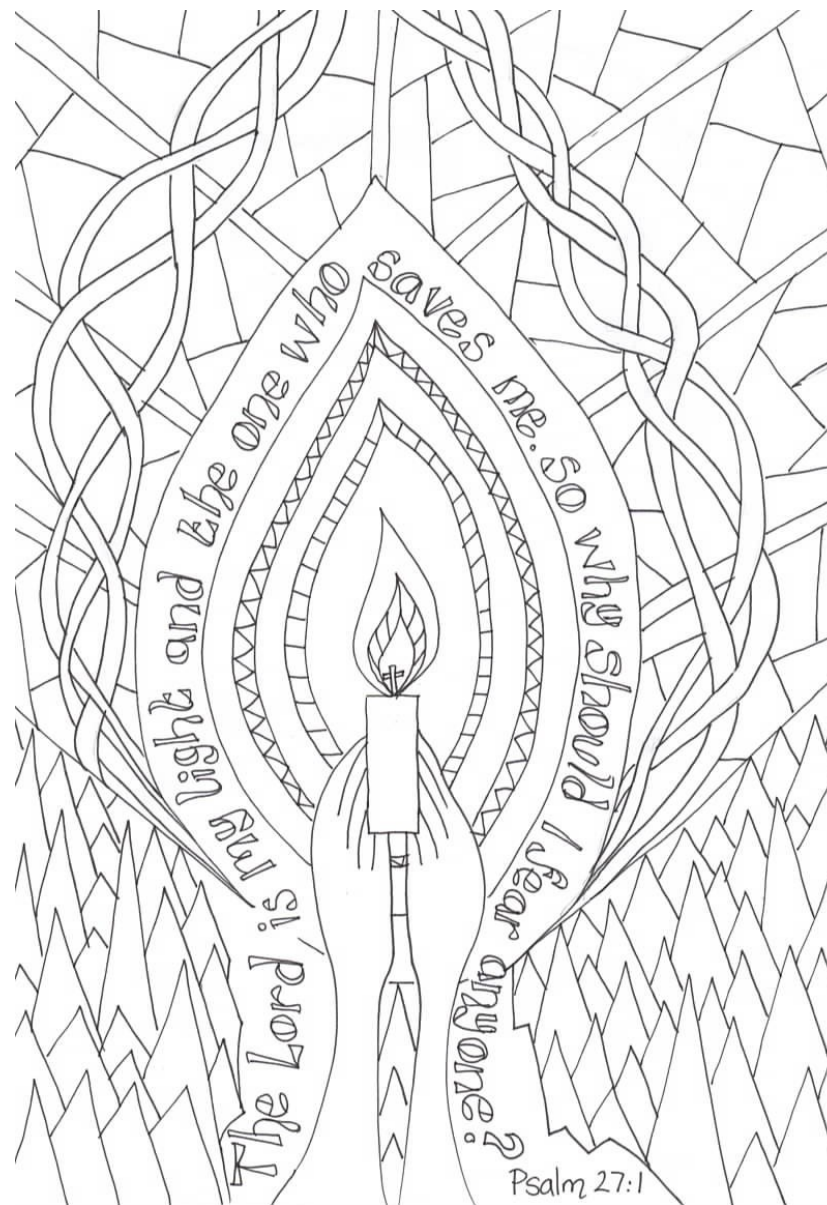
Me as a baby or child

Me today

What is Candlemas?

Forty days after Jesus' birth, Mary and Joseph went to the Temple in Jerusalem for a ritual presentation of their baby to God, as required by Jewish Law. We read about this in Luke 2:22-40. They met a man named Simeon, who described Jesus as a 'light' for all the people of the world. They also met an elderly prophet, Anna, who thanked God for Jesus. Anna recognised Jesus as key to God's plan of salvation for all people. The Christian festival celebrating these events – formally known as 'The Presentation of Christ' – is also called 'Candlemas' because on this day, in the times long before electricity, people would bring candles to church to be blessed in recognition of Jesus the 'light of the world'. On Candlemas night, many people place lit candles in their windows at home.

*From Roots on the Web © Daisy Barnes, Children & Youth • Issue 129
Presentation of Christ/
Candlemas Resources*



<https://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/>