

## 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.*

Circulation - over 1,000 households in St Bees Parish

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

DTP & Final Editing - Ian & Rosalie McAndrew

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# St Bees News

June 2023



## 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>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>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>Scouts, Beavers</b>	1st Beckermert & 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>Cubs</b>	8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.
<b>Choir</b>	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).
<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>Councillor</b>	Local councillor for Cumberland Council for Egremont North and St Bees is Graham Minshaw. Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk Tel -07840 844424
<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>Fair Trade</b>	Fair trade food and craft items and catalogues available from Deb Lee, who can deliver. Tel 823470 - lee535877@aol.com
<b>Finance</b>	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.
<b>First Responders</b>	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497
<b>Football Association</b>	Contacts - Seniors Tony Barnett 590640. Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.
<b>Freemasons</b>	St Bega Lodge meet 7:00 p.m. On 2nd Wed of each month, Village Hall. Details: 01946 64275 or www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk.
<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>Garden Society</b>	

<b>History Group</b>	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from Chris Robson 822468.
<b>Judo Club</b>	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.
<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>Parish Council</b>	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.
<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 - r.e.rendell@gmail.com, 07977 096426.
<b>Playgroup (Toddler Group)</b>	meets every Wednesday in term time only, from 9.30 - 11.00 a.m. in New College Hall, St Bees Priory. Details from glitznglam1610@yahoo.com
<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>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>Priory Singers</b>	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (01946) 825307.
<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>Rangers</b>	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.
<b>Seagalls</b>	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
<b>St Bees Triers</b>	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm & 7pm. Email running@triers.uk Tel. 823497 Web <a href="http://www.triers.co.uk">www.triers.co.uk</a>
<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
<b>Village Hall</b>	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
<b>Village in Bloom</b>	Details from Eileen B Todd, 14 Main Street. St Bees. (Tel 822522).
<b>Village Web Site</b>	Information for inclusion should be sent to Ian McAndrew (822326) or imcandrew@stbees.org.uk 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 June

3	Saturday	3.00 p.m.- 5.00 p.m.	NSPCC Strawberry Tea, Village Hall
4	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Service followed by Priory Fair-Trade Stall
		4.00 p.m.	Trinity Sunday Festival Choral Evensong
6	Tuesday	7.00 p.m.	Seagalls, Quiz, Seacote Hotel
8	Thursday		<b>Magazine Copy Date</b>
10 - 24	All day		Labyrinth at Priory & School visits
11	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
13	Tuesday	7.00 p.m.	PCC Meeting, NCH
16	Friday	6.30 p.m.	Beach Clean, meet Lifeboat Station
17	Saturday	6.30 p.m.	Great Big Green Family Quiz, Village Hall
18	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
19	Monday	6.30 p.m.	Parish Council, Village Hall
20	Tuesday	10.30 a.m.	Over 60s trip to Keswick
24	Saturday	3.00 - 5.00 p.m.	Amnesty Tea, WinderGate, Frizington
25	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
29	Thursday	7.00 p.m.	Deanery Synod, Priory
30	Friday	10.00 a.m.– 12 noon	Cumbria Wildlife Trust Walk, Clints Quarry
		4.30 p.m.- 6.00 p.m.	Friday Fun & Activities, Priory
<b>July</b>			
1	Saturday	12.30 - 8.00 p.m.	Bees Bash, St Bees School field

### Editor – July/August 2023 Magazine

The July/August issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Jack Hale, Abbey House, St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Thursday 8 June 2023** please.

Email: [jack.hale@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:jack.hale@newcastle.ac.uk)

Tel: 01946 822409

## St Bees News

June 2023

A few weeks ago I went with Phil and friends on a Retreat to the Island of Iona, off the Scottish coast. During our stay we walked, swam and worshipped. The days followed a monastic rhythm and we had jobs to do, chopping vegetables, laying the tables and cleaning the bathrooms. Our spiritual leader for the week was John Bell, hymn writer, worship leader and teacher of Celtic spirituality. In his series of talks he reminded us that spirituality and later Christianity arrived in the Scottish isles, as it did in Cumbria, many years before the Benedictines and the founding of Abbeys like the one on Iona and Priors like ours. There is evidence of Celtic Christianity both on Iona and in the grounds of St Bees Priory and of course our local legend tells of St Bega arriving three hundred years before the first stone of the Priory was laid.

In one of his talks, John Bell reminded us of the importance of “threes” in early spirituality and Celtic Christianity. The Triskele or Triple Spiral is said to be the oldest symbol of spirituality. Its name comes from the Greek words “Tri” and “Skelos” which means “three legs”. Made up of three joining spirals, this ancient symbol has been said to symbolise the celestial, physical, and spiritual worlds, birth, death, and rebirth as well as the unity of mental, physical, and spiritual self. For the Celtic Christians, the symbol is used to represent the Holy Trinity. In May, Christians of all denominations gave thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. June begins with Trinity Sunday, a day when church ministers all over the world try to explain the unexplainable, how God can be one and three at the same time. Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I’m tempted to say that it’s just like Man City winning the treble; Champions League, Premier League and FA Cup but I suspect that this might irritate both football fans and the heresy police!

Joking aside, the triple spiral is said to symbolize the whole process of always moving toward a state of profound enlightenment and understanding; a spiritual process aided often in the past by the use of a labyrinth; an ancient symbol that represents a journey to our own spiritual centre. In June a special labyrinth will be taking up residence in the Priory. Made from interlocking tiles decorated by children in schools across our Diocese, the Carlisle Cathedral Labyrinth will be in St Bees and open to schools and visitors from the 10th-24th June. There is no single meaning of either triple spiral or labyrinth and both are interpreted in a variety of ways by the Celts themselves. For me, the triple spiral and the Holy Trinity feel cyclical rather than linear, each point or person looking toward the next, revering and honouring each other. Even the labyrinth isn’t truly linear, for although we make a journey to the centre, to enlightenment or even revelation, there is another journey to come, unless you want to sit in the middle of a labyrinth forever!

May your past be a pleasant memory,  
your future filled with delight and mystery,  
Your now a glorious moment,  
that fills your life with deep contentment. (A Celtic Blessing)

With love from Becky

## *Priory News*

**Coronation Weekend** – Many thanks to all who contributed to the wonderful Coronation celebration in the Priory over 3 days – to Rev Becky and team setting up the televised viewing on Saturday; to Sally Kennedy and bakers for the royal buffet; to Frank Bowler & church choir on Sunday for their music and amazing rendition of the coronation anthem ‘Zadok the priest’; and to Deb Lee and team organising the ‘Hymns & Pimms’ afternoon on Monday, and the Calder Deanery Mothers Union for their support. Extra Thanks also to Chris Robson for his coronation history exhibition, to Pat Crichton for her splendid flower arrangement with regalia, and to Mabel (Helen Kennedy’s mum) for lending her 1953 Coronation hand-painted headscarf to the decorations. Thankyou all for being there!

**Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM) Elections** – On 9 April the following were elected to serve as PCC members:- Tom Kelly (churchwarden), John Kennedy, Grant Gilmour, Deb Lee, Frank Bowler, Norman Killip (Treasurer), Hilary Hemm, Rosalie McAndrew, Chris Robson; new councillors Gill Barlow and Emma-Jane Taylor; John Haile (patron). PCC secretary Rebecca Rendell.

Malcolm Lightfoot has retired from the PCC – sincere thanks to him for his commitment as churchwarden and his planning & supervision role during the pandemic. He will continue as a member of the Buildings & Works committee and as organiser of the Holy Mowers squad.

Sadly member Anne Ross passed away in March and is greatly missed.

Other officers appointed:- Deanery Synod Rep – R. McAndrew; Electoral Roll officer – Derek McGee;

Safeguarding Officer – H. Hemm. Wendy Mellor is our Lay Reader in training.

Grateful thanks to all for their commitment to the life and work of the Priory church.

## *What’s On at the Priory in June*

**Friends of the Priory Choral Evensong** - On Sunday 4 June, Trinity Sunday, the Friends will host Choral Evensong with the Priory choir at 4.00 p.m. with buffet tea to follow. All welcome to celebrate the Friends Festival Sunday, and all Friends members too!

**Coming to the Priory June 12th to 25th** - Schools Labyrinth to celebrate 900 years of Carlisle Cathedral, represented in a floormat/carpet showing scenes of ‘Journey & Rest’. This will be visited by various local schools who have booked a session to explore the Labyrinth.

**Friday Fun & Activities** for 5 to 11-year-olds – happening at the Priory on Friday 30th June and offering stories & songs, crafts & food. Primary school-age children very welcome. 4.30 to 6.00 p.m.

**Priory Fairtrade Stall** with Deb Lee in church on first Sunday 4th June after main service at 11.30 am. Do contact Deb for the stocklist/orders at [lee535877@aol.com](mailto:lee535877@aol.com) or on 01946 823470.

## *Parish Council News*

**Coronation Celebrations** – The Coronation Party on Sunday 7 May was a great success with a large number of residents gathering to share food and conversation on Cross Hill. The Coronation cake, baked by Gill Burgess and iced by Pam Argyle, was cut by Bob Jopling. The event would not have been possible without the hard work of volunteers who put up bunting, moved furniture and helped to prepare and serve refreshments. Thank you to all those who helped with the event and made it such a success.

**Coronation Seat** -The Parish Council has agreed to buy a new seat to commemorate the King’s coronation. The new seat will be sited in Priory Paddock and will have a suitable inscription.

**Annual Parish Council Meeting** – the meeting on 15 May was the first meeting since the recent elections. Doug Sim was re-elected as Chairman and Eric Taylor as Vice Chairman for the coming year. There are still three seats which were not filled at the election and the Parish Council can now fill these seats by co-option. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, or would like to volunteer help in any other way, we would love to hear from you. The Clerk or Chairman would be happy to provide information on the role of a parish councillor (email [pc\\_clerk@stbees.org.uk](mailto:pc_clerk@stbees.org.uk))

**Pedestrian Safety** – the Parish Council has agreed to put forward a request to Cumberland Council to look at measures to improve the safety of pedestrians on Main Street. The proposal is for a new pavement outside 13 & 14 Main Street where there is currently no pavement and pedestrians have to walk into the road. Vehicles often park on the double yellow lines at that point, making the situation even more dangerous.

**Rewilding Project** – the proposed rewilding of the verge alongside the wall on Beach Road is moving ahead with help from the former County Council Environment Funding, supported by Cumbria Wildlife Trust’s Planting for Pollinators Project.

**Beach Clean** - The next organised beach clean will be on Monday 29th May, 2.00 - 3.30 pm, meeting at the Lifeboat Station. Supervised children are very welcome to join in. Litter pickers and gloves are available to borrow. Thank you for your help to keep St Bees beach clean.

**Next Parish Council Meeting** – The annual Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 19 June in the Village Hall. Council meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

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## *From the Priory Registers*

### **Holy Baptism**

30 April Jude Jackson St Bees

### **Christian Funeral**

2 May Ursula Margaret Rowlands 21 Main Street, St Bees

9 May Elizabeth Drennan Farquhar 25 Seacroft Drive, St Bees

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

**Our deepest sympathy** is extended to the family, friends and neighbours of Ursula Rowlands who died quite suddenly on 20 April at her home in the village. She was a well-known and much-loved lady who was such a good friend to so many people in the community. She will be remembered for her wit and wisdom, her caring and cheerful nature, and her great delight in conversations with family and friends. She loved her garden, with its flowers and wildlife, and doted on her pets, dogs and cats, who shared her home and gave her much pleasure. We keep her family in our thoughts and prayers, thinking of Deb & Frank, Meghan & Malcolm, Chris, John and James and their families.

### **Love & Prayers**

Warmest Wishes and prayers for healing and comfort go out to those in hospital – to Sue Davidson, Kenny Hooks, Kath Duguid, and Joyce McCarron. Best wishes also to Chris Davidson (Chuck) in nursing care at East Croft Mansion Home near High Harrington. You are remembered in our Priory prayers. May God bless you all.

4 June Elaine Lamb11 Gill Burgess

18 Laura Edlington (Branford) 25 Gill Richardson

2 July Barwise/Hewetson family Supervisor for June – Barbara Hewetson

Sincere Thanks to Pat Crichton and to Dilys Brownrigg for the beautiful Coronation flowers, and to all who donate to the Flower Fund.

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## News from the Village School

We are continuing to develop our grounds around school and the children have all taken part in the planting of trees, together with the Woodland Trust who have been to help us with Phase 2 of our outdoor project. We have started planting our range of hedging plants and trees on the school grounds which include hawthorn, blackberry, hazelnut, elderberry and elderflower etc. We are very excited about this project and the benefits it will bring to our children and our curriculum.

West Cumbria Rivers Trust (WCRT) is part of the national network of river trusts which have played an ever increasing role in delivering the environmental improvements throughout the country. Year 5 were visited by WCRT to talk about the features of a river, a rivers journey and why rivers are important to us. This was followed up by a visit to Braithwaite where they identified the features of the river in reality, explored river wildlife and features of erosion.

Y6 have started their Bright Stars project this term. Bright Stars is an exciting eight-week programme designed to introduce children in primary schools across Cumbria to leadership, entrepreneurship and the world of business whilst raising money for charity, winning funds for their school and having fun along the way. This year, our campaign is focused on Healthy bodies/Healthy minds' and bringing fun into school.

We had a lovely day celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III in school. We started the day with a special Philosophy for Children (P4C) assembly based around a children's book and the theme continued in class during the morning. We had a picnic lunch on the field followed by an afternoon of fun and games. The children were dressed in red, white and blue or regally dressed as kings and queens. To mark this auspicious occasion, we are planning to purchase a commemorative bench for children to use in our outdoor area. We feel this would reflect the ethos of the learning environment which King Charles so passionately embraces.

St Bees Bash is going ahead again this year and will be held on St Bees School grounds on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July. As part of the day there will be a fancy-dress parade and all children and parents are invited to take part if they wish. School staff and the VSA will be organising and manning stalls at the event which will also have a variety of family-oriented activities and events on offer. If anyone is available to help out on the day or in preparation for the day please contact the VSA via school.

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June Half term holiday

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June Back to school

Thank you for your continued support.

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**Local Councillor  
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Cllr Graham Minshaw**

**Cumberland Councillor for  
Egremont North and St Bees**

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## Great Big Green Week

**Great Big Beach Clean** - 6.30 p.m. on Friday 16 June, meeting at St Bees Lifeboat Station. Litter pickers and gloves are available to borrow. Thank you for your help to keep St Bees beach clean.

**Great Big Green Family Quiz** - 6.30 p.m. on Saturday 17 June at St Bees Village Hall. Bring your family along to our green quiz. There is a prize for the winning team! Entry is free, but donations to St Bees Green Future are welcome. There is also a raffle and the bar will be open for drinks. We look forward to seeing you there!

**During Great Big Green Week**, St Bees Green Future are sharing easy steps to help you save energy and money. Have you tried the following? Approximate annual savings are shown in brackets and are from the Energy Saving Trust.

Don't use standby for your devices (£65)

Turn lights off when you leave a room (£25)

Wash your clothes at 30 degrees (£17 – compared to 40 degrees)

Avoid using your tumble dryer where possible (£70)

Take a 4-minute shower (£95 - compared to the average of a 7.5 minute shower)

Swap one bath a week for a shower (£20)

Don't overfill your kettle (£13)

Use your dishwasher once a week less (£17)

Save money when cooking by using your microwave, slow cooker or airfryer instead of your oven. Use lids with pans, steam and cook multiple items in the same pan.

Draught proof around your doors and windows, as well as open chimneys when not in use (£125) - Cumbria Action for Sustainability offers free advice and help with draught proofing via their Cold to Cosy Homes scheme, with a wide range of criteria for health problems, vulnerabilities and income criteria.

Insulate your hot water cylinder (£70)

Turn down your thermostat by one degree, which can save up to 10% on your heating bills. You could wear an extra layer if you turn your thermostat down.

We would love to hear your favourite tips for saving money on your energy bills - please share them

with us via [stbeesgreenfuture@gmail.com](mailto:stbeesgreenfuture@gmail.com)

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attention to detail. Every design is interpreted in an impressive variety of stitches and yarns, each one just right. Many of these stitches and techniques are not easy. Fortunately Dorothy was a patient teacher, always looking for the opportunity to pass on her skills. This patience often extended to secretly unpicking and re-working less than perfect work between sessions.

After Pam Argyle joined the group, her design background brought a new dimension to the projects undertaken, and her leadership became invaluable after Dorothy became ill and unable to be as actively involved as she wanted.

In 2019, work began on our latest and final project, an embroidered panel to celebrate 900 years of worship at the Priory. It has taken dedicated work by several people over the last four years, and it is wonderful to see it displayed so beautifully in the Priory....and a relief!

This group has been a source of pleasure and friendship, of the sharing of skills and expertise, and more than a few surprises. (Who knew that preparing our careful stitching for display might involve painting it with wallpaper paste and the judicious use of a hammer, casually produced from Dorothy's handbag?)

Members of the group have come and gone; as we put the final stitches in this panel, there was a huge sense of satisfaction, but we will miss our Friday afternoons in New College Hall. Will the Priory Embroiderers have a new life, to carry on for another twenty years? It would be lovely to think so!

## St Bees School

St Bees School are on the lookout for families to open their homes to international students.

St Bees School is growing at an astronomical rate and with over 130 students expected in September, over 40 of whom are from overseas, the independent boarding school, is looking for local families to open their homes for one week or a full term.

Beginning in September, these 'homestay' families will be asked to provide half board during the week (breakfast and supper) and full board at the weekend and in return, will both learn and inspire individuals from another culture and country.

Becoming a homestay family for St Bees School is a chance to make a difference to a young person's life, and your own, in way of experiencing new cultures, becoming inspired and creating lifelong memories.

All homestay families would receive £200/week per child to cover food and activities for the week.

For more information, please get in touch with Ceara by emailing [ceara.fisher@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:ceara.fisher@stbeesschool.co.uk).

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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/>



## Seagalls

The Seagalls have had an eventful couple of months. Our April meeting at the Seacote Hotel proved to be a lot of fun learning how to dance.

Olivia 'Liv' and her friends from West Coast Dance were our teachers and from what we can gather enjoyed it just as much as we did. So if you see any locals up dancing and giving a polished performance of Beyonce's Single Ladies then you know why.

Liv started her dance school earlier this year at the age of 19. It has been a huge success based at St. Peters Community Centre, Kells and caters for aged 18months to adults. Her aim is to provide a happy and safe environment in which children upwards can learn to dance, gain confidence and make friends.

She has just held a charity fundraiser, in order to provide funds supporting families with costs for costumes and travelling to competitions etc., and linked up with local charities to run events. You can find West Coast dance on Facebook or [westcoastdance2@outlook.com](mailto:westcoastdance2@outlook.com)

We held our May Coronation celebration locally at Stonehouse Farm. Jo and family giving us a warm welcome and providing a fantastic afternoon tea for 24 of us. The food was wonderful as was the service and we all enjoyed the catch up. Jo has B's Bakes and also does takeaway afternoon tea, catering for parties, birthday cakes and cupcakes (07564936754) also on FB

Well done to two local talented young women running successful businesses.

We are holding a Pub Quiz on June 6th at the Seacote and in July a trip to Cartmel Races.

As always all welcome. If you would like to join us contact details are at the back of the magazine.

## WI News

Hello Ladies,

I hope you all enjoyed the Coronation Celebrations of King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla. For the majority of people who have never seen a Coronation before, it was quite mesmerising! Westminster Abbey was full of Kings and Queens, Dignitaries Celebrities, The Armed Forces, and many charitable organisations were represented, just incredible! The following nights Coronation Concert was also fabulous, a weekend we will all remember for a very long time.

Our last meeting, was a Yoga Session with May, which was very relaxing, exercises in a seated position, great for those with mobility/health issues. This was followed by raffle and refreshments. Our next meeting is a lunchtime meal at the Graduate Restaurant Workington College. This has still to be finalised, and members will be contacted very soon regarding the date/time/menu choices. Further information [www.St-Bees-WI-facebook](http://www.St-Bees-WI-facebook) or contact Roxanne 823137.

## Friends of the Priory events

Festival Choral Evensong on Trinity Sunday 4th June at 4.00 p.m. in the Priory, followed by Buffet Tea. All are welcome to attend the service and celebration.

Many thanks to Egremont Town Band for a superb Maytime concert in the priory – a wonderful variety of melodies entertained us. Well done to all, especially the soloists!

The Friends enjoyed a successful pond-dipping adventure in Priory Paddock in April, discovering a fascinating array of pondlife, including juvenile newts. Thankyou to all who visited and stayed dry mostly - one lad discovered that the water was deeper than his boots! Thanks to Neil Bettinson for his expertise and demos, equipped with the Friends' nets, trays and magnifiers.

## Grassroots

**NSPCC Strawberry Tea** - on Saturday 3 June from 3.00 – 5.00p.m. at St Bees Village Hall. £6.50p per person. Tickets / details from Lesley Rutherford 824109.

**Over 60s** - On June 6th in the Village Hall we are hoping for a visit from the Salvation Army but this has yet to be confirmed. Our trip to Keswick is on June 20th. The bus leaves The Oddfellows pub at 10.30 a.m. usual pick ups and the trip is open to non-members. If you would like a place on the bus please contact Gill on 822394 or Dot on 822622

**Lowes Court Gallery** in Egremont has many new products on exhibition and for sale from their local artists. The latest artwork and creations are – new knitted items, cowls and bags, from Any Art Netty; a new range of rings and silver pendants; new stock from Moffats Makes – rag rugs and seat pads, upholstered footstools, tweed bags and hats; Wastwater studies by Gareth Harrison plus photos and prints; and Herdy coronation mugs.

This year's competition is based on the theme 'Celebration' for the 50th Anniversary of Lowes Court. Entries please to be sent in by Thursday 15th June. Do visit and view!

**Cumbria Wildlife Trust** – Join us for a wildlife walk at Clints Quarry Nature Reserve on Friday 30 June from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. See a magnificent selection of summer wildflowers. Beware of rocky and uneven ground. Cost £5. Booking required at [www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/events](http://www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/events) All welcome.

**Wanted** - Any old wellies, any condition and any size! tTo be used for the Family Fun event on Saturday 5th August. Give to Deb Lee, Chris Robson or Corinne Burnett.

**Amnesty West Cumbria Garden Party** - The Amnesty Group invite you to an afternoon tea party at the home of member Diana McCormack at 1 Windergate, Frizington, CA26 3QS on Saturday 24 June 3.00 - 5.00 p.m. All welcome to visit her home and garden and enjoy afternoon tea in aid of Amnesty. Tickets £10 from Rosalie McAndrew or Jon Mellor...

## *Perhaps not Real History*

Now and again when I look through old forgotten records, something crops up which I'd like to see saved for all time. But to others it may seem too trivial to bother with – or not the sort of thing 'Real History' should be about.

That St. Bees once had eight 'Special Constables' is certain historical fact. They were appointed at the very outset of World War Two – five from the village, the rest from the Public School.

After a week of evening trainings in Whitehaven, each Constable was issued with a helmet of some sort, and a cape, and a truncheon. So equipped, he was to assist the village policeman, I think P.C. Brogan at this point, – taking a turn in patrolling the village after dark. How effective the Constables were is not clear, but the initial scheme seems not to have lasted long.

In another but perhaps more important way, our Special Constables did serve a useful purpose. At the beginning of the War there was a very real fear that spies, saboteurs and other 'fifth columnists' were entering the country unseen. So our Constables were required to keep watch on our beach from first light each day to eliminate any early morning infiltrator who might try to arrive from the sea. The arrangement reached was that three Constables would spend each night together in the Station Waiting Room, one staying awake to rouse the other two at four o'clock. All three, armed with their truncheons, would then head for the beach.

It is hard to know how seriously people regarded the Constables. Obviously few imagined that with three truncheons they could thwart any mass invasion. But World War One veteran Jack Middleton, soon to become Home Guard sergeant, decided one morning on a prank to test that night's Constables. Creeping into the Waiting Room at four o'clock, Jack found all three Constables sound asleep. He left them to slumber on, while quietly making off with their truncheons. Then he took up their watch on the beach, waiting there until the dis-armed and shamefaced Constables arrived long after their proper time.

It says much for Jack's discretion that the story was kept quiet at the time. It is remembered to this day, however, in the Middletons' family history. If anyone reading of it now is thinking "not really the stuff of history" – well maybe so. But we will hope to have something more substantial for next month's history page.

*Bob Jopling, Village History Group*

## *Priory Embroidery Group*

After the Millennium Hanging was completed in 2000, Dorothy Smith and Irene Palmer gathered together a group of enthusiastic stitchers who wanted to carry on sewing. The Priory Embroidery Group was reformed in 2001, with the aim of preserving some of the Church furnishings and vestments, and carrying out future projects supported by the Furnishing Fund.



Over the next 22 years, the Embroiderers worked on a succession of lovely furnishings, each one an original design, taking inspiration from the Priory itself, its structure and colour, and referencing images from the windows, the floor tiles and even the metalwork on the door. After Irene moved away, the group continued under Dorothy's leadership.

Projects included;

Between 2001 to 2004 refurbishment of the seven High altar kneelers, a cushion for the Bishop's chair, cushion and kneeler for the Prayer chair, and wall seat cushions to be placed beneath the chancel south windows.

In 2006, the group were working on projects for the Lady Chapel, including two new long kneelers for the communion rail, and replacement cover for the altar. The embroidered frontispiece on the new altar cover was Dorothy's work.

2009/10 saw the replacement of the various seasonal altar covers with a new, single High Altar cover and Superfrontal. The beautiful superfrontal design and embroidery were solely worked by Dorothy herself. 2009 also saw the start of new cushions for what became the Diamond Jubilee bench seat.

Various other projects were undertaken, including four new offertory bags, eleven embroidered seat pads of different designs for chairs placed around the Priory and cushion for the bench at the back of the church. A new seat cushion was made for the piano stool, along with replacement pulpit falls and burses for the liturgical seasons. Two new Bible bookmarks were stitched, and repairs made to the Mothers Union banner.

In 2018, cushions for the two Vicars seat in the chancel were commissioned by Canon Trevor Park, in memory of his wife Olaug.

All these pieces were designed to have impact from a distance. Closer inspection, though, shows Dorothy's  
*Continued on page 18*







### A warm welcome to visitors

St Bees has always welcomed visitors, since the first days of “the seaside” as a recreation and healthy experience, people from near and far have enjoyed the environs and hospitality of this lovely spot.

As the world has shrunk, the distances people have travelled to visit St Bees have increased and now the Priory visitors book is populated by positive comments from people from all over the world.

As the holiday season ramps up we are starting to see families coming to the caravan park, walkers starting out on (or finishing!) the Coast to Coast walk, cyclists and motor cyclists “on tour” and retirees having a mooch around our ancient buildings.

This is where St Bees demonstrates the warmth of its welcome and tolerance of different cultures and creeds. It is not unusual to see a local assisting a little knot of people who are a little bit lost or engaging in a bit of craic in the pubs and cafes.

This summer, as well as the normal holiday makers and day trippers, we shall see groups of children from China staying in the school accommodation in July and August and in July our Jewish families return again (they love St Bees!)

We look forward to extending a welcome this summer to all that reflects the care, understanding and curiosity that this community has demonstrated for many years.

*Tom Kelly*



In April **Friday Fun** explored what it means to be a king and how Jesus was a different type of King from most worldly kings, a Servant King, a King of Love.

In May we will be thinking about wind and how you can know about things you cannot see.

On June 30<sup>th</sup> we will be considering how we can look after our planet

These meetings are from 4.30-6pm and for any children aged 5-11yrs.



We will not meet on the last Friday in July, instead we will have a **Family Fun half day on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2-5pm**, in conjunction with St Bees green Futures.

*Deb Lee*



We will strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, seeking to sustain and renew the life of the earth.

**Look out for Great Big Green Week 10-18<sup>th</sup> June**

[www.greatbiggreenweek.com](http://www.greatbiggreenweek.com)

**And World Environment Day 5th June**

[www.worldenvironmentday.global](http://www.worldenvironmentday.global)



Christian care for families

Did you know that a wave of prayer travels around the world every day at midday? It is a wonderful thought that the world is brought together in this way. We are one family on this earth. Sadly, like many families we fight! The Mothers' Union works around the world to try and stop violence.

As well as developing your own relationship with God and committing to regular prayer do you want to:

**Strengthen** communities locally and globally?

**Help** the most disadvantaged at home and abroad?

**Advocate** for the rights of families?

**Build** supportive, loving relationships?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, please join the Mothers' Union and be part of a 4million strong community in 84 countries and 1,000 in Cumbria.

**We will be starting a zoom Mothers' Union group on the First Thursday of every month from 19.30-21.00.** Come along and find out what this means. Contact Deb for more information and a zoom invite 01946 823470 [cdmudp@gmail.com](mailto:cdmudp@gmail.com)

Did you know that the Mothers' Union in Cumbria...

- sent a Christmas card to all 350 prisoners in Haverigg prison
- is providing free holidays for those who need one, but cannot afford it, by leasing a caravan at St Bees (with time to change)
- Provides toiletries to our hospitals for those admitted as an emergency.
- Knits hats for fishermen, the homeless and clothes for premature babies
- Works with schools to help with reading and playing board games

I could fill the whole magazine with what the Mothers' Union does but you get a flavour of the variety.

**Together we can help create a world where everyone prospers.**

 Follow Daily **KIDS' CORNER**



Thank you God for all  
the earth. Amen.

What do you love about  
this earth?

Take time out to colour  
and to give thanks for  
the goodness of the  
earth.