

## 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](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 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>Aikido club.</b>                         | Adult martial art classes in St Bees, Mon., Tues. & Thu each week. See <a href="http://www.westcumbriaaikido">www.westcumbriaaikido</a> or contact Adrian on 07951 999 192.                            |
| <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.<br>Beavers 6 - 8 yrs. Thursday 5.00 - 6.15 pm in New College Hall   |
| <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. <a href="mailto:Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk">Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk</a> 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 - <a href="mailto:lee535877@aol.com">lee535877@aol.com</a>  |
| <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 - 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: 07897 535100 or <a href="http://www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk">www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk</a> .                                 |
| <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, |
| <b>Garden Society</b>                       | Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 07742 440919). Flower Show is   |

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <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 <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>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 <a href="mailto:pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk">pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk</a> , 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 - <a href="mailto:r.e.rendell@gmail.com">r.e.rendell@gmail.com</a> , 07977 096426. |
| <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 <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>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. Email <a href="mailto:running@triers.co.uk">running@triers.co.uk</a> 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 Kathy Nesbit via PC Sec. Jane Donaldson. See above for Parish Council contact details.  |
| <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. See <a href="http://www.St-Bees-WI-Facebook">www.St-Bees-WI-Facebook</a> pages or contact any member.   |

## Calendar for June 2024

|    |                              |                      |   |
|----|------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 2  | Sunday                       | 10.30 a.m.           | Holy Communion                                |
| 8  | Saturday                     |                      | <b>Magazine Copy Date</b>                     |
| 9  | Sunday                       | 10.30 a.m.           | Morning Worship                               |
|    |                              | Postponed until July | Festival Choral Evensong & Buffet Tea, Priory |
| 10 | Monday                       | 7.30 p.m.            | W.I.- Village Hall                            |
| 11 | Tuesday                      | 2.00 p.m.            | Over 60s - Hodgetts Club                      |
|    |                              | 7.00 p.m.            | PCC Meeting                                   |
| 15 | Saturday                     | 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.     | Green Week Swap, Adams Rec                    |
| 16 | Sunday                       | 10.30 a.m.           | Morning Worship                               |
| 17 | Monday until Tuesday 25 June |                      | “Rest under the Stars” installation, Priory   |
|    |                              | 6.30 p.m.            | Parish Council, Village Hall                  |
| 22 | Saturday                     | 7.30 p.m.            | Wine & Poetry Evening, Priory                 |
| 23 | Sunday                       | 10.30 a.m.           | Morning Worship                               |
| 26 | Wednesday                    | 12.30 p.m.           | Over 60s, The Brewery Tap                     |
|    |                              | 7.30 p.m.            | Organ Recital, Priory                         |
| 28 | Friday                       | 4.30-6.00 p.m.       | Friday Fun & Activities, Priory               |
| 29 | Saturday                     | 12.30-8.00 p.m.      | VSA - Bees Bash, St Bees School Field         |
| 30 | Sunday                       | 10.30 a.m.           | Holy Communion                                |

### Editor – June 2024

The **July/August 2024** issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Jack Hale, Abbey House, St Bees**, who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Saturday, 8 June 2024** please.

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

Tel: 01946 822409

## St Bees News

June 2024

A couple of weeks ago we were treated to an incredible sight when the aurora borealis, more commonly known as the Northern Lights, lit up the skies. Excited onlookers shared pictures of the lights on social media, I was away that night and missed the whole thing, and was amazed to see all the incredible images on St Bees News and Views Facebook page when I returned home. The dazzling lights are caused by charged particles from the sun colliding with the Earth's atmosphere. Scientists tell us that the conditions leading to this event may well return again so maybe I'll get to see them another time?

Unusual and awe inspiring events such as the Northern Lights mean different things to different people. For some, it's an opportunity to study a scientific phenomenon, for others it's the chance to take a stunning photo or create a work of art, some may experience a moment of wonder and sense that they've glimpsed something majestic and divine. When I was teaching we called this a “Learning Style”, we appreciated that children (and adults) learn and engage with the world in various ways and we tried to design lessons that created opportunities for everyone to engage, whether it be visually, aurally, analytically or kinaesthetically.

In May the church celebrated the day when the early church first received the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Scripture tells us that the sky was alight with flames that didn't burn when they rested on the heads of those who were present and despite being of many nations, they could understand what each other were saying. Amongst all the signs and wonders they were amazed and perplexed, and they asked one another, “What does this mean?” (Acts 2:12)

In the following verses from Acts chapter two the apostle Peter explained the events in the light of the scriptures and his own relationship with Jesus. Peter's explanation is helpful but it is just one response, formed by his personality and learning style. How wonderful would it be to have a breadth of responses from the people that day...artists, poets, musicians and magicians (the scientists of their day)?

This month all are welcome, whatever their learning style, to visit the Priory and explore the “Rest under the Stars” installation on tour from Carlisle Cathedral. We will be hosting this collaborative project between the Cathedral and Prism Arts from Monday 17th to Tuesday 25th June. Local schools will be taking part in Geography and RE workshops exploring themes of Travel, our Locality and Rest. There will be activities for children and families after school too (see our website and Facebook page for more details) All ages are invited to relax on specially designed deckchairs, whilst listening on headphones to a bespoke soundscape and gazing up at canopies created by participants at Prism Arts workshops across the diocese.

This month of June I invite you to be struck by the wonder of this world, it's beauty and it's diversity. May you know the restorative presence of the divine in your mind, body, heart and soul. And, especially if you missed them last time, may you glimpse the beauty of the Northern lights!

*With love from Reverend Becky*  
Support for “Rest Under The Stars” has been gratefully received from Hayward Tod, Cumbria Community Foundation, and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

## *Priory News*

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) Elections** – On 21 April the following were elected to serve as PCC members:- John Kennedy (Chairman of Buildings & Works Committee), Grant Gilmour, Frank Bowler, Norman Killip (Treasurer), Hilary Hemm (Safeguarding Officer), Rosalie McAndrew, Chris Robson, Gill Barlow and Deb Lee who have both been elected as our new churchwardens. PCC secretary is Rebecca Rendell. Sally Kennedy continues as Patron, and Wendy Mellor ex-officio member as our Lay Reader.

**Welcome** to our newly elected churchwardens Deb Lee (Mothers' Union President and Friday Fun leader) and Gill Barlow (Priory chorister).

**Grateful Thanks** to Tom Kelly who is retiring after 3 years as churchwarden and moving south – for his commitment and vital role in planning and admin at the Priory. Best Wishes to Tom & Pippa and family on their move in the summer to pastures new.

Sadly our Electoral Roll Officer Derek McGee passed away at Christmas and is greatly missed.

Election of his successor as Electoral Roll Officer will follow at the May PCC Meeting.

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

**Friends Festival Choral Evensong & Buffet** – The Friends will host Festal Choral Evensong with the Priory Choir - **postponed until July, date to be decided**. Buffet Tea to follow. All welcome to celebrate the Friends Festival Sunday, and all Friends members too!

**'Rest under the Stars' installation** – The Priory is hosting this Carlisle Cathedral exhibition from Monday 17 June to Tuesday 25 June, including morning & afternoon school workshops. It's an amazing Cumbrian Journey encouraging visitors to rest, learn and pray. Come and relax in the deckchairs and view the overhead canopies! We look forward to welcoming children from St Bees Village School to the workshops.

**A Midsummer Evening of Wine & Poetry** – The Friends invite you to a summer evening of seasonal poetry by Chris Robson and readers on Saturday 22 June at 7.30 p.m. in the Priory. All welcome to come and enjoy a delightful evening!

**Organ Recital** will be given by guest organist David Price on Wednesday 26 June at 7.30 p.m. in the Priory. Welcome to David who is the organist and master of the Choristers at Portsmouth Cathedral and all are welcome to attend.

**Friday Fun & Activities** – for 5 to 11 year-olds – happening at the Priory on Friday 28 June from 4.30 to 6.00 p.m. and offering stories & songs, crafts & food.

## *Parish Council News*

**Election of Chairman** – the May meeting is the time when the Parish Council elects its Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year. At the meeting on 20 May Doug Sim was re-elected as Chairman and Eric Taylor as Vice-Chairman for 2024/25.

**Outrigg Flooding**- Martyn Taylor, the Area Highways Manager, attended the May Parish Council meeting to explain progress with plans for resolving the ongoing flooding problems on the Outrigg road. The road had been reopened recently as the owner of the adjacent land had allowed the water to be drained onto his land. Work on the permanent solution to the drainage problem was now expected to begin on 3 June and it was hoped to be finished by late July. The road would need to be closed again for a few days to complete the work.

**Potholes** – A number of potholes have been filled in over the last month. However, it is important to continue to report potholes using the Highways online reporting system ([cumberland.gov.uk](http://cumberland.gov.uk)) which allows photographs to be uploaded and, if reported whilst at the pothole, allows the exact location to be logged. The more reports, the greater attention is likely to be paid!

**Public Space Protection Order** – Cumberland Council's consultation on a new Public Space Protection Order has ended. The play areas at the beach and on Outrigg will be designated as areas where dogs are not allowed with some other areas such as the grassed area at the main beach being designated as areas where dogs must be kept on leads.

**Beach Clean** – The next beach clean will be on Sat 8 June from 6.30- 7.30pm. Meet up by the beach clean station to pick up equipment.

**Environmental Questionnaire** – The Parish Council's Climate Change Working Group has devised a questionnaire to seek residents' views on possible projects. Thank you to everyone who has already completed our questionnaire. If you have not already done so, the short questionnaire is available via this link: <https://forms.gle/BHh6eubCqPyRXJ2v9>

Or via this QR code:



Please complete the questionnaire by 15th June.

If you know anyone who needs a paper copy, these can be provided - please contact Amy Linton ([amylinton1983@gmail.com](mailto:amylinton1983@gmail.com) or 01946 447614).

**Next meeting**- the next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 17 June at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. All welcome!

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## From the Priory Registers

### Holy Baptism

28 April Elijah, Esther and Joseph Buglass St Bees

5 May Grace Austin St Bees

### Christian Funeral

8 May Annie Mary Simon Formerly of Seacroft Drive, St Bees

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

## Priory Flower Rota in June

|         |                 |         |                  |
|---------|-----------------|---------|------------------|
| 2 June  | Elaine Lamb     | 9 June  | Gill Burgess     |
| 16 June | Laura Edlington | 23 June | Gill Richardson  |
| 30 June | Flower Fund     | 7 July  | Barwise/Hewetson |

## Florence Arts

New - Our new exhibition by 3 emerging artists opens on 6 June , and our café , gallery and shop are open to the public from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm on Fridays, 11.00 am to 3.00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

Exciting new workshops coming up during the summer, deliveries by talented Cumbrian artists.

Contact [Florence@florenceartscentre.com](mailto:Florence@florenceartscentre.com) for further information or if you wish to attend the exhibition launch.

## Lowes Court Gallery

Open competition on the theme of West Cumbria , inviting participants to create a design for a postcard - picturesque, featuring landscape or tourist attractions, or humorous.

Size should be 5" x 7", landscape or portrait orientation.

You may submit up to three entries. Any medium.

Deliver your postcards to the gallery in an envelope with your name and details on the envelope before the end of July.

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## Whatever's made Harry join the Army?

That question would have been in many St. Bees minds at the end of the 1890s. There seemed no obvious answer, for Harry Nankivel had grown up in the village contentedly enough, and now had work on Fairladies Farm as secure as anyone in those days. Also he was much involved with the Priory's quite renowned Choir, where he was the senior tenor, and where too he had nominal charge of the younger boys.

And now at eighteen years old Harry was serving Queen and Country. This was the time of the Boer War, and soon Harry would be in South Africa, with the Royal Lancashires, then engaged in the battle for the Tugela Heights. The Relief of Ladysmith followed soon after. In St. Bees, incidentally, we might mark such successes by celebrations of our own perhaps with a procession through flag-bedecked Main Street, with banners and streamers and some form of marching band at the front.

We next hear of Harry on garrison duty in Malta. Next came Tibet. Then there was a two-year attachment to the British Tibetan Mission, a body set up to counteract Russian influence in the East (does this sound familiar?). It was protected largely by British and Indian troops. Perhaps that is why Harry was sent to Calcutta for his last years of service.

Many years later, in letters received by a long-retired Vicar of St. Bees, I came across:

"I have known Private Nankivel for the last two years, during which I have been Chaplain here at Fort William. He is a member of my Choir, and I know him well. I have much pleasure, on his departure for England, in giving him this letter, in which I desire to testify to his honesty and uprightness; he is hard-working and thoroughly trustworthy ...."

Experience was not Harry's only gain from his army years. They gave him the opportunity to improve his education. On transfer to the Reserve he held a Second Class Certificate of Education – of the four classes only a First would have been higher.

.So, back in St. Bees Harry returns to Fairladies, and takes up again his Choir responsibilities. Before long, as had been the case before...his help was sought whenever some form of popular entertainment was planned.

And now, for Harry, life would take another drastic, unexpected – and I fear, unwelcome - turn. For anyone who has persevered thus far, I hope to have the chance to explain in a later issue of this magazine.

Bob Jopling, Village History Group



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## Priory Paddock Wildflower Garden

Priory Paddock is now in full bloom. The dainty spring flowers are now over and the summer flowers are at their best.

There's an audio guide to help you identify the plants, which you can listen to on your mobile phone. You'll hear Neil Bettinson giving a commentary on a 10 minute walk through the paddock, and a picture appears of each plant he mentions. And it's updated each month, so you should be able to find every plant described.

You get this guide by scanning the "QR code" here (it's also on a placard on both gates into the Paddock). If you don't know how to scan, ask a grandchild, or you can phone me on 01946 822409 for less expert advice.

Jack Hale

## Letter from Michelle

Excerpt of letter from Michelle, who is sponsored by the Priory. She is a local nurse who has been working in the Muinge Hospital, Zambia for many years

Dear Friends,

Since my last letter I have had a change of role, I am taking a break from anaesthesia as we have plenty of help at the moment and I am back working on the children's ward. I am really enjoying working with children again and also not having to do on call at night.

The ward has been busy recently with lots of admissions in particular we have had a lot of children with malnutrition. When a child has reached their target weight, they are given a new outfit. This is to try and encourage families to stay on the ward for the often long time it takes to help with malnutrition.

We are anticipating that the number of malnutrition cases will only increase in the coming year as the rains, which should just be finishing, have been very poor. They started well so people who planted crops early have something to harvest but for those who planted later their maize has not grown. This is a country wide problem.

When I go out for a bike ride, I cycle past fields of stunted and failed maize crops. It is like we are already well in to the dry season, with dusty dirt roads and paths that are so sandy I have to get off and push.

Thank you for your continued interest in the work here at Muinge.

Love Michelle



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## Cheers to Margo!

Margaret Thompson has been landlady of the Oddfellows Arms for 24 years.

When she retired in May - it could close for good. Many people take the Oddies for granted and some will be lost without it. Monthly folk nights, blues and acoustic nights, Choppy's famous quiz, Labour Party meetings, weekly knit and natterers', the cyclists, and all the other little clubs and cults and covens that found a (free) welcome in the back room. Then there are all the children's birthday parties, Halloween games, Egg Dumping, Santa's visit, coffee mornings - for one wedding party I even stage-set the dining room into an Irish church with stained glass windows. The darts team defected and were replaced by a piano, Covid killed the dominoes, but Charity Bingo could still fill the place. Catering is but a memory, the all day Sunday lunches, buffets for all events, the office parties two or three a day in December, and of course Margo's legendary steak pie and gravy.

Despite her mobility problems Margo struggled to keep it going, perhaps for too long. Many musical careers have started or ended at the Oddies and regular performer Jimmy Blue's signature song sums up my feelings - *I LOVE THIS BAR!*

*John Stott, an Odd Fellow and proud of it.*

## Karen James

We would like to inform you that Karen James will be leaving the Village School at half term and after a short break, taking her expertise elsewhere.

Mrs James has been a welcoming face to visitors of the school, and a welcoming voice on the telephone for 32 years at St Bees Village School; to be dedicated to one establishment for over 3 decades is to be commended. She has also brought expertise in finance and the business side of running a school which 4 Headteachers have benefitted from. I know that Mrs James is known to several generations of families within our school community and that she will have played a part in your memories of school life at our village school. I would like to thank Mrs James for her hard work, dedication and commitment for wanting the very best for our school and the children who attend it. I would also like to thank her for her support in helping me settle in as Headteacher here at St Bees. We will look forward to seeing Mrs James in and around our village, and hope that she will visit us regularly but perhaps not with her real bees!

She will always be a welcome friend in our school.

*Mrs K Davis*



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available EVERY DAY at  
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the up-to-date timetable.

## ***Grassroots***

**Over 60s** On Tuesday, June 11th we are hoping to have Mr Donald Brownrigg for a talk and slides about the St Bees Calendar he produces, this will take place in Hodgetts club at 2.00 p.m.

On Wednesday June 26th, please note change of day, we are meeting at The Brewery Tap 12.30 p.m. for sandwiches and chips.

**St Bees Green Future** is holding a book, game, jigsaw and plant swap at Adams Recreation Ground from 2-4 pm on Saturday 15 June. Bring along your items to swap to the start of the event and see what you can find to take home with you. Refreshments available. Everyone welcome! This event is part of the UK's Great Big Green Week, with swapping the theme for this year.

**Wine and Poetry for a Summer Evening.** On Saturday June 22, 7.30 p.m. St Bees Priory. It is hoped that individuals will come to read poems that have special meaning for them. It is suggested that "The Nations Favourite Poems" is the best poetry book to use. All welcome.

**Barbara and Norman Stephenson** sincerely thanks all friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy received following the passing of Barbara's mother, Annie Simon on 23 April 2024 and to all who attended the Priory service.

## ***St Bees School Hosts Inaugural Sports Awards Ceremony***

St Bees School celebrated the achievements of its budding athletes and sports enthusiasts at its first-ever Sports Awards Ceremony on Friday, 19th April. The event marked a significant milestone for the school, as it pledged to make the awards an annual tradition to honour outstanding sporting achievements.

Among the esteemed guests was Carl Short, a renowned figure in football circles, known for his illustrious career that began at Carlisle United and saw him make significant contributions at Luton Town, where he played a pivotal role in developing their academy into a powerhouse.

The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the presentation of awards, where exceptional talent and dedication were recognised across various sporting disciplines.

Each award category witnessed fierce competition, reflecting the impressive depth of sporting talent within the St Bees School community. The recipients of these awards demonstrated not only exceptional skill but also a commitment to excellence and sportsmanship.

The success of the inaugural St Bees School Sports Awards Ceremony has set a high benchmark for future editions, promising even greater celebrations of sporting achievements in the years to come. With a vibrant sports culture and a dedicated community rallying behind them, the students of St Bees School are poised to reach new heights in their athletic endeavours.

## ***St Bees Seagalls***

It was a pleasure to welcome some members of Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team to our May meeting. For those of you who haven't yet watched their Channel 5 series then it really is worth a watch. A mixture of fell walking and emergency care, both humans and animals where necessary.

Chad, aided by Lee and Baza gave a very informative presentation starting with the history of mountain rescue in the area and how it has evolved into its present day format. The teamwork was evident even on the night as Chad was supported in giving his first presentation by Lee and Baza chipping in where necessary.

Prospective mountain rescue volunteers are interviewed then spend a year as a probationer before becoming a fully qualified member. The casualty carers receive specialised training in reducing fractures to maintain blood supply to limbs and are also qualified to give strong analgesia normally only administered by doctors, nurses and paramedics. Despite one casualty having had a heart attack on top of the fell, Lee told the story of how the casualty had been airlifted to Blackpool and had stents put in before they even managed to get back to base.

They explained their use of Drones, which have also succeeded in the return of loved ones who had gone missing and sadly passed away to their families, and how improved phone signals are aiding emergency calls but in turn seeing the demands on the service increase year on year.

All in all we really enjoyed hearing their story. A donation of £100 was given to the team to aid their wonderful work.

Our June meeting is for Afternoon Tea at Stonehouse Farm. All welcome as always. Contact - see back page of the News.

## ***WI News***

For our May meeting, which was held in the Village Hall, we welcomed Maurice Steele from Eskdale who presented one of his wonderful Films, this one was 'Cumbria Through the Seasons', which was beautiful. The film accompanied by beautiful music and poetry was well received by our members and followed by refreshments and raffle.

Looking ahead to our next meeting, also be held in the Village Hall, on Monday June 10 at 7.30 p.m. we are welcoming Ann Baker who will be giving a talk on how she became a Vicar.

New members most welcome to join us, just turn up on the night, visitors £4. For further details see our face book page [www.St-Bees-WI-facebook](http://www.St-Bees-WI-facebook) or any WI member.

## ***St Bees RNLI***

### ***Launch to reports of person in the water off Whitehaven Harbour.***

On Wednesday 1 May 2024 at 10.16 p.m. St Bees RNLI were requested to launch by HM Coastguard to locate and assist a person in the water in Whitehaven harbour.

Due to the nature of the shout the crew were summoned on immediate readiness with the lifeboat in the water by 10.30 p.m. With the lifeboat underway, the crew made contact with the Coastguard who briefed them that the first informant had spotted what they thought was torch light from the water and they were concerned that this was a person signalling for help.

Going off this information, the lifeboat crew were tasked to carry out an area search around North Pier at Whitehaven Harbour to quickly locate and assist anyone in need.

By 10.40 p.m. the lifeboat had arrived at Whitehaven, however they were then informed by the Coastguard that the Whitehaven Coastguard Rescue Team who were on scene, had found the source of the light to be a string of lights from fishermen. The lifeboat was then stood down and headed back to the station to be recovered and made ready for the next service by 11.07 p.m.

Dick Beddows, St Bees RNLI Operations Manager says: “A shout for a person in the water is something that is a top priority. Tonight demonstrated that although on this occasion we were not required, the importance of being ready to respond in a professional manner at a moment’s notice to time critical incidents.”

### ***Callout in search for walker.***

At 12.25 p.m. on Tuesday (7 May) volunteers at St Bees RNLI were requested by HM Coastguard to carry out a shoreline search for a possible missing person.

The volunteers at St Bees RNLI launched their inshore lifeboat Joy Morris OBE after a member of the public reported finding a rucksack at the top of St Bees Head near the lighthouse. The owner was unable to be located and it was thought that they may have fallen and injured themselves.

Whitehaven Coastguard Rescue Team asked if St Bees RNLI would carry out a search along the coastline. After an extensive search nothing was found, the volunteers returned to the station at 3.00 p.m. The lifeboat was then refuelled ready for the Tuesday evening training exercise at 6.00 p.m.

The owner was later found safe and well and pleased to be reunited with their rucksack.

Dick Beddows, St Bees RNLI Operations Manager comments: “The member of the public did exactly the right thing by dialling 999 and asking for the Coastguard. We would like to take this opportunity to remind people of the benefit in labelling equipment such as rucksacks, kayaks, paddleboards and inflatables with your name and phone number”.

*Colin Wadey*

## ***St Bees VSA Charity Committee***

Easter Fair, Village Trail, Spring PreLoved events and the upcoming St Bees Bash

Firstly, thank you all for supporting our recent events.

Your kind donations meant our raffle hampers and Lucky Dip game at the Easter Fair were very popular. Everyone enjoyed the cakes with a cuppa - thanks to all who came along. We raised just over £500. Amazing!

The village Easter Trail didn’t disappoint, with 22 displays to find. The weather wasn’t too kind, however, even Humpty survived the wind and rain. Thanks to the creatives in the village for supporting us - we raised about £30, however we’re mostly proud to have organised this for the community and our visitors.

Our recent Spring PreLoved sale... Wow, were we overwhelmed with the donations! We made just over £100 on the day, and over £75 afterwards following online sales of the uniform, toys and fancy dress.

And finally, on to our next venture... ‘**BEES BASH**’, on Saturday 29th June, 12.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. We’re proud to announce it’s a FREE event this year. With the school parade and brass band, live music, games, Alpacas and Bee Unique inflatables, you won’t want to miss out!

Follow @stbeesbash on Facebook/Instagram for news and updates!

*Jaime Lowrey*

## ***Priory Paddock News.***

For the first time, last year the Royal Horticultural Society included a category for neighbourhood wildlife sites in their annual “Britain in Bloom” awards, and the Friends of Priory Paddock decided to enter. We were delighted to receive a “Triving” rating at the Cumbria awards. This is the second highest of five ratings, and as our score was only five points short of the “gold” standard we have entered again this year. Every effort is being made to improve the site for both wildlife and the public, with innovations like the new Interpretation Board and the monthly QR code “Guide to the Paddock” for smart phones and even on Youtube!

It was very disappointing then, in April, to find that three large clumps of new spring bulbs had been dug up and taken away just as they were coming into flower. The flowers were unusual and attractive “White Bells” with triangular stems, and had only been planted this winter. It is difficult to imagine the mentality of someone who would deliberately take a bucket and fork to a public garden intending to dig up plants to put in their own garden at home. Do they think they are being clever? This is obviously not just antisocial vandalism, it is plain theft, and the police have been notified.

Hopefully there will be no further instances and the Paddock will be left for everyone to enjoy, including our bees and butterflies!

## The Priory perspective



### Care Deeply

We will listen to our local communities, and respond in loving service, seeking to transform injustice, challenge oppression and pursue peace & reconciliation.



A huge thank you to everyone who gave to our Christian Aid week Appeal to enable people like Aline to escape the cycle of poverty and build a future for herself, her family and her community. 3 intrepid



cyclists did the 70K for May challenge on the last Saturday of Christian Aid week. **You can still use the QR code to donate until the end of June** Your donations, so far, have meant that at least 40 people can be provided with training to help them diversify what they grow, counteract climate change and start up a business!



Well done and Thank you!

### Tread Gently

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

#### Great Big Green Week, 8-16<sup>th</sup> June

Across the country, people are making swaps every day to help create a better tomorrow-swap together for good ☐

From neighbours swapping skills in repair cafes or allotments, to businesses swapping fossil fuels for solar panels, to friends swapping fast fashion for second hand finds – every swap adds up to make a big difference.

You can find out more at <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

Please attend the St Bees clothes swap at Adams recreation ground and help create a better tomorrow!

## The Priory perspective



### Speak Boldly

We will share our faith in Jesus Christ in everyday ways, seeking to connect with everyone, especially those currently unrepresented in our churches. We'll do this in both time-honoured & pioneering ways.

At Friday Fun on June 28<sup>th</sup> (4.30-6pm), we will be exploring water in the bible. Bring your waterproofs- whatever the weather- and you have a chance to shoot a water pistol at the leaders!!



July 26<sup>th</sup> is a Sport's day, we hope that whole families will come and enjoy the activities and party tea.



August sees a return of the very successful "Our amazing Planet". Please note this takes place on a Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> from 2-5pm with a

lovely tea spread, courtesy of our Mothers' Union and Pop in bakers extraordinaire! Many of you thoroughly enjoyed it last year (despite the weather!) and we look forward to seeing you again.

### Follow Daily

We will help each other to follow Jesus more closely, seeking to grow as his disciples in all aspects of life, both corporately and as individuals.

Last month a group of Friday Funnors attended the "Taste of Morland" with other young people 6-14 from around Cumbria. They put on a performance of Goldilocks with one of our members playing the lead role and her younger brother playing the little bear. He was delighted that, being Roald Dahl, little bear gets his revenge at the end, by eating Goldilocks! - ST Bees has talent. There were various outdoor games, including Dam



building and everyone was given an amazing meal on the Saturday night-even apple crumble. The group were taught how to chant and sang the music for a full Choral Evensong before heading home. One member has already signed up for the week long summer camp! We plan to try and take a bigger group next year, so do ask about it.

