

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

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

DTP & Final Editing - Ian & Rosalie McAndrew

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St Bees News

May 2023



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.
Arts Society	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.
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.
Scouts, Beavers	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.
Cubs	8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.
Choir	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).
Churchwardens	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Currently Tom Kelly + 3 vacancies.
Councillor	Local councillor for Cumberland Council for Egremont North and St Bees is Graham Minshaw. Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk Tel -07840 844424
Electoral Roll	is the list of all church members qualified to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. E.R. forms are available in church
Fair Trade	Fair trade food and craft items and catalogues available from Deb Lee, who can deliver. Tel 823470 - lee535877@aol.com
Finance	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.
First Responders	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497
Football Association	Contacts - Seniors Tony Barnett 590640. Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.
Freemasons	St Bega Lodge meet 7:00 p.m. On 2nd Wed of each month, Village Hall. Details: 01946 64275 or www.cumbwestmasons.co.uk.
Friends of the Priory	assists in the conservation of the Priory and encourages interest in its historical and architectural heritage. Contact R McAndrew or Norman Killip, Treasurer, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 01946 825468). Flower Show is held on the 3rd Saturday in August.
Garden Society	

History Group	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from Chris Robson 822468.
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.
Over 60's Club	meets in Hodgett's Club on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month: 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Details - Gill Richardson Tel. 822394.
Parish Council	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Couderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, email pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk, who will answer queries on civil parish matters.
Parochial Church Council	meets 10 times a year. Elections are held in March at the A.P.C.M. Its task is to spearhead the mission and ministry of the church in the Parish. PCC Secretary - r.e.rendell@gmail.com, 07977 096426.
Playgroup (Toddler Group)	meets every Wednesday in term time only, from 9.30 - 11.00 a.m. in New College Hall, St Bees Priory. Details from glitznglam1610@yahoo.com
Pop-in Cafe	Every Thursday from 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon - Pop-in Cafe in New College Hall. Everyone welcome - Coffee and homemade cakes.
Pre-School	meets in the new building next to the Village School, All day, 5 days a week. For children of 2 years upwards. Contact on 823880.
Priory Singers	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (01946) 825307.
Priory Web Site	The Priory web site has up to date information on the ministry team, church services and activities. See http://www.stbeespriory.org.uk
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.
Seagalls	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
St Bees Triers	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm & 7pm. Email running@triers.uk Tel. 823497 Web www.triers.co.uk
Village School Association	Organising events for the pupils and community, raising funds for the school. : stbees.vsa@gmail.com or @stbeesvsa Facebook or Instagram
Village Hall	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
Village in Bloom	Details from Eileen B Todd, 14 Main Street. St Bees. (Tel 822522).
Village Web Site	Information for inclusion should be sent to Ian McAndrew (822326) or imcandrew@stbees.org.uk Address is http://www.stbees.org.uk
Women's Institute	meets 2nd Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. usually in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Roxanne Benson Tel 823137.

Calendar for May

6	Saturday	11.00 a.m.	Coronation streamed live, wine & buffet, Priory.
		7.30 p.m.	The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon, Village Hall
7	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion, followed by Priory Fairtrade Stall
		3.00-5.00 p.m.	Coronation Street Tea Party, Crosshill
8	Monday	4.00 p.m.	Hymns & Pimms, Priory
9	Tuesday	2.00 p.m.	Over 60s Coronation Tea, Village Hall
		7.00 p.m.	PCC Meeting, NCH
11	Friday	7.00 p.m.	Friends Concert, Egremont Town Band, Priory
12	Saturday	10.00 a.m.	Amnesty Walk for Life, Meet at Whitehaven Market Place
		7.30 p.m.	Eurovision Final Party, Village Hall
14	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
		2.00-4.00 p.m.	St Bees Green Future, Clothes Swap, Adams Rec.
15	Monday	6.30 p.m.	Parish Council meeting, Village Hall
		7.30 p.m.	W.I. Yoga Exercise with May, Seacote Hotel.
21	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion. Dedication by Bishop James of 900 th Anniversary Banner
22	Monday	7.00 p.m.	Rangers, New College Hall
		7.00 p.m.	Cards night, Village Hall
23	Tuesday	10.30 a.m.	Over 60s Coffee Morning, Oddfellows' Arms
24	Wednesday	7.00 p.m.	Friends of the Priory AGM, NCH
26	Friday	4.30-6.00 p.m.	Friday Fun & Activities, Priory
28	Sunday	9.00 a.m.	Story Service
		10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
29	Monday	2.00 - 3.30p.m.	Beach Clean (Meet at Lifeboat Station)

June

3	Saturday	3.00-5.00 p.m.	NSPCC Strawberry Tea, Village Hall
4	Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		4.00 p.m.	Friends Choral Evensong & Buffet, Priory

Editor – June 2023 magazine

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

Email– sandyridge@btinternet.com Tel 01946 822516

St Bees News

May 2023

Well done St Bees you certainly are getting into the Coronation Experience. Contemporary coverage on a big screen in the Priory on the Saturday, with cake! Then a great Street Party on the Sunday again with more cake - getting a real Community celebration of the Coronation - splendid! With Hymns and Pimms on the Monday for Volunteer Day!

Getting it right is important, many years ago while Chaplain of St Clement Dane's in London we hosted the RAF Dental Branch Celebration of their Foundation, we chose the First Hymn - yes you guessed it - "Crown him with many Crowns" - the Dentists loved it.

Coronation is a word derived from the Latin "Corona" literally a crown - initially worn by the Emperors to denote their authority and power and making a big claim to divine status!

Of course the Coronation of King Charles is only a part of the Service and we should all note that it is founded in commitment and service under God. The King will promise to serve his people, he will then be anointed affirming the holiness of lifelong service to the Nation and only then will he be clothed in special semi priestly robes and Crowned and enthroned as King. It should be noted that all of the regalia no matter how glorious in terms of value, art, significance and sheer beauty and workmanship all carry Christian symbolism

At their head. King Charles makes no claim to divinity but reminds us all of our community calling to support and serve one another in the Lord's name.

For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

The Rev'd Canon Richard Lee

Rural Dean Calder.

07841398088

Priory News

Lent Lunches in March and April raised a fantastic total of £920 from five lunches which were well-attended and supported - to be shared between NSPCC (St Bees branch) and Disasters Emergency Committee Appeal for Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief. Grateful thanks to all involved in the success of the lunches – our hosts, their teams and generous guests. Thank you all for your wonderful support. The food and friendship was much appreciated and two great causes benefitted. Of course our Lent lunches are not frugal but they are very popular!

Annual Parish Church Meeting Review – Sincere thanks to all with responsibility for the ministry, administration and maintenance of the Priory, its halls, grounds and churchyards over the past year – for their dedication to its life, work and mission. The PCC wish to thank our Vicar, Ministry team and churchwardens; secretaries and treasurer; committees and office-bearers. Also the church choir and organist, bellringers, embroidery group, and sidesmen and women at services. Thanks too to our cleaners and caretaker, and flower-arrangers, and the Holy Mowers squad. Special thanks to the Friends of the Priory, and the revived Priory Singers.

Not forgetting magazine editors and distributors without whom this publication would not be produced or delivered! Let's remember the behind-the-scenes stalwarts who keep the church functioning. Many thanks to one and all.

What's On at the Priory in May:

Coronation Televised Service – On Saturday 6th May at the estimated time of 11.00 a.m. a televised service for the Coronation of King Charles III will be streamed live in the Priory from Westminster Abbey. Wine and buffet will be served afterwards in church. All are welcome. Please sign up on the list in church or email if you plan to attend the buffet, to assist with catering arrangements.

Dedication by Bishop James of the 900 Years Anniversary Banner: It is joyfully announced that the Banner has been completed and that Bishop James will visit the Priory on Sunday 21 May at morning service to preside over our worship and dedicate the 900th Anniversary Banner created by the Embroidery Group over three years of beautiful and meticulous work.

A Friends of the Priory Concert by Egremont Town Band will be held on Friday 12th May at 7.00 p.m. in the Priory. Refreshments will be served. All are most welcome.

Friday Fun & Activities for 5 to 11 year-olds - happening at the Priory on Friday 26th May and offering stories & songs, crafts and 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 of the month – Fairtrade goods will be available, on sale or for order, in church. This month the stall will be open after morning service on Sunday 7th May. Do contact Deb for the stocklist at lee535877@aol.com or on 01946 823470.

Parish Council News

Coronation Celebrations – Preparations are well in hand for the 'Bring and Share' Coronation Tea Party which will take place on Sunday 7th May 3-5 pm. on Cross Hill between Main Street and Finkle Street. Contingency plans are in place should the weather be wet with the party taking place indoors at St Bees School. All are welcome!

Local Government Reorganisation- On 1 April the new Cumberland Council came into being and took over responsibility for all council services previously provided by Copeland Borough Council & Cumbria County Council. The elected councillor representing the St Bees/Egremont North Ward will be Graham Minshaw (email graham.minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk)

Parish Council Election – Parish Council elections are taking place this month. In St Bees there were 11 nominations for the 14 seats so all those nominated have been elected without the need for a poll. There are 3 seats unfilled and the Parish Council will can fill the seats by co-option. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, we would love to hear from you. The Clerk would be happy to provide information on the role of a parish councillor (email pc_clerk@stbees.org.uk or tel 822560).

Annual Parish Meeting- The Annual Parish Meeting took place on 17 April. The Parish Council Chairman, Doug Sim, presented his annual report on the parish council's activities during the year. The full report will be published in a future edition of the parish magazine as well as on the website. The Chairman particularly thanked all those who had contributed to the Parish Council's activities during the year, including all the volunteers from the local community who had helped with Speedwatch, Village in Bloom, website, play area and defibrillator inspections, beach cleans, work on tree planting & open spaces, footpaths etc. Three members of the existing Parish Council did not stand for re-election and the Chairman thanked them all for their contribution, particularly Chris Robson who has decided to stand down after many years service.

Volunteer Role- The Parish Council is looking for a volunteer to be the council's Internal Auditor for the coming year. Harry Strong has very kindly undertaken this role for a number of years and is now stepping down. You don't need to be a qualified accountant but some familiarity with financial systems is required and you must be independent of the council and its members. The Clerk would be very happy to discuss the role informally with anyone who thinks they might be interested in helping in this way.

Beach Road – As you may have noticed, Cumbria Highways have created a gap in the wall alongside Beach Road to improve safety for pedestrians crossing to/from the public footpath to the Beach estate. This was something suggested by the Parish Council and the highways team have done an excellent job.

Next Parish Council Meeting – The annual Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 15 May in the Village Hall. Council meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

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Christian Aid Week 13 – 20 May 2023

Christian Aid Week Collection – This year you will find a Christian Aid envelope inside/ with your parish magazine, for you to fill as wished and return to :- Either to a Priory service or put in the wooden pillar box by the publicity table in church, or hand in/ send to Rosalie McAndrew or at Pop-In Café during May.

More envelopes will be available in church or at St Bees Post Office.

Local Organiser: Mrs R. McAndrew, South Winds, Outrigger Close, St Bees. CA27 OAH

Christian Aid is tackling the effects of disasters and the climate crisis which brings erratic weather. The impact of Cyclone Freddy in Malawi has been devastating – crops destroyed, half a million people displaced and hundreds of lives lost. Christian Aid will be there for months to come, helping to rebuild homes and farms; supporting the pigeon pea project, a drought resistant crop ideal for growing in desert areas of East Africa. The costs of food, fuel and fertiliser have doubled in the last 12 months and agricultural aid to avoid famine is vital.

Confirmation Service for St Bees and Crosslacon parishes will be held on Sunday 28 May at 6.00 pm at St Leonard's Church, Cleator, with Bishop James presiding. Please contact Rev. Becky Gibbs to find out more about confirmation and the Pilgrim Way course.

Hymns and Pimms 4pm in the Priory. Monday 8th May- Volunteer day

To celebrate and say thank you to our wonderful volunteers and carers. If you want to choose a hymn contact Deb or Frank and let us know why it is special. Organised by Calder Deanery MU, with thanks to vicar and organist of St Bees Priory. For more information please contact Deb Lee , cdmudp@gmail.com or 01946 823470.

Friday Fun for 5-11year olds 4.30-6pm last Friday of the Month

April 28th will focus on the coronation and what it means to be a King

May 26th we will play with wind! Come and join us for some fun, songs and crafts

From the Priory Registers

Christian Funeral

31st March Anne Ross, 34 Abbeyvale, St Bees
May God's Blessing be upon you and your family.

Priory Flower Rota

May 7 Kay Steele 16 Elizabeth Cotes
21 Sally Kennedy 28 The Atkinson Family

June 4 Elaine Lamb **Supervisor Rosalie McAndrew**

Many Thanks to Pat Crichton for the beautiful Easter flower arrangements, and to Barbara Hewetson and family, including Claire and little Millie, for the lovely Easter Garden.

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Squire on account of his abundance of money and lack of wit". A later letter tells of dismissing a student who had absconded. The student's purpose made it worse, for he was heading for Gretna Green with his landlady's run-away daughter.

This page cannot do justice to RP's literary works. His published sermons amounted to hundreds; there was a quantity of verse, and an acclaimed four-volume 'Life' based on a nearby, saintly clergyman. From RP's diaries we learn of much that was important to him – as, the start of the Penny Post, and his friend Wordsworth's death; and his planning with Lord Lonsdale for what was to become our Coach Road.

To finish, here is RP enjoying himself. *"Up at half past 7 and off on horseback at half past 8 to join a party ascending Scawfell the view of mountains all tumbling in confusion was indescribably grand. A rough descent through Mickledore ... found that a basket of provisions we had laid in a hedge had been stolen .."*

Bob Jopling, Village History Group

Village School News

Cross Country Event

Attending schools included, Gosforth, Orgill, Montreal and Thornhill. The Year 3 and 4 race set off first, tackling two laps of the lower playing fields (just over 1 mile). The Year 5 and 6 race set off shortly afterwards and they too ran two laps of the playing fields, but then endured the extra challenge of a tough, hilly loop around a paddock field behind the school (2 miles in total).

All competitors received a medal and certificate for participating and medals and certificates were also awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd children in all age categories and for both genders. A team prize was also awarded on the day in both races too. Thank you to all participating schools who allowed the event to be such a success and we hope to see you all again next year.

I would like to say a huge thank you to St Bees School for their support with organising and administering this event and for allowing us to use their extensive grounds. I am already looking forward to next year, which is set to be bigger and better!

Mr Lloyd, Year 3 Class Teacher PE Subject Leader, St Bees Village School



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Cumberland Councillor for
Egremont North and St Bees

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Friends of the Priory

The Priory Concert by Egremont Town Band will be held on Friday 12 May at 7.00 pm when we look forward to welcoming the senior and junior bands back to the Priory. All welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served. A retiring collection will be taken for the Friends funds.

We are pleased to report that the Tanzania Hospital talk by Dr Claire Summers raised £95 for funds.

Please note:- the Friends AGM will take place on Wednesday 24 May at 7.00 pm in New College hall. New members are most welcome to join us.

Apologies for postponing the Pond-dipping event in Priory Paddock with Neil Bettinson & members, but the pondlife had not yet appeared in early April. Postponed to Sunday 23 April, when spring may have sprung!

Amnesty International

The Amnesty Annual Walk for Life will be held on Saturday 13 May – along the Coastal Way from Whitehaven to St Bees (and return if wished!) Meet at the Market Place in Whitehaven at 10.00 am to walk the 6 miles to St Bees Beach (or 12 miles there and back). Refreshments provided at the Lighthouse en route, and at St Bees Beach carpark (tea/coffee & cakes!)

Sponsor forms available from R. McAndrew (822326) or Alan Alexander (810444). Do join the walkers and be sponsored or sponsor others. Do come and enjoy a dramatic clifftop walk and make use of our freedom here in aid of prisoners of conscience overseas who have none.

WI News

I Hope you all enjoyed the Easter Break, we did have some lovely bright Spring weather for some of the time which was very welcome. Our April meeting was a week later than usual to allow for the Easter Break, we welcomed Val Marshall who is a Modern Celebrant based in Cumbria. Val told our Group about the role of a Modern Celebrant, celebrating family occasions like Weddings, and the lives of loved ones on their final journey.

Annual subscriptions were due this meeting (April). Excellent value for money, 11 WI meetings per annum, and 8 issues of WI Life Magazine. Thank you to all those who have re-newed their membership and all those who continue to support St Bees WI Group.

Our next meeting, will again be a week later than normal to allow for the celebrations and Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III. This meeting will be at 7.30 p.m. on Monday May 15th at the Seacote Hotel St Bees, when we are welcoming May, Yoga Exercise, followed by Raffle and refreshments. I hope you can all join us, new members and visitors most welcome, just turn up on the night. Further details from our Facebook Page www.St-Bees-WI-facebook or contact Roxanne 823137. Roxanne

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Canon Parkinson again

Last month's history page had our Vicar and College Principal, the Revd. Richard Parkinson (RP *in this article*), packed off to London for the 1851 Great Exhibition. It would be good to know what he thought of it, but nothing he said on the subject has come down through the years to us.

What has survived, however, is a cache of over a hundred letters between RP and his friends. Though many are very personal, it is not always clear for what purpose they were saved. But having stayed untouched and forgotten until a fortuitous attic-clearance a few years ago, they now they give us something of a glimpse of RP's life in mid-Victorian St. Bees.

From his early days here, RP seems to have had trouble with Church officials. His Churchwardens he soon found *"rude and insolent"*. One dispute was over the number of cows allowed to graze the graveyard. RP wanted none at all, saying that if only one were permitted, some farmers (Foxes?) would soon have more cows grazing there than there were gravestones. How the matter ended is not clear.

On another occasion RP was to have his Clerk's help with an important funeral. He and the Clerk were to be at the Church gate at 4p.m. to meet the coffin. The Clerk was there in good time, but when the coffin arrived it had to be carried past him, because by then he was drunk and fast asleep, against a memorial stone.

From the pulpit, drunkenness was one of RP's favourite themes. He preached too about Sabbath Observance, and especially against farm work on Sundays. But he realised his words were wasted, for his verdict more than once was *"listened to, but not acted on"*.

The Parkinsons lived here in comfortable style. There were five live-in servants at the Vicarage. Of them we read *"my wife has hired her own maid, for 11 guineas, and a housemaid for 6 guineas, finding her own tea and sugar"*. And then a year later *"hired new manservant at 16 guineas with livery, or 11 without"*. On occasion RP acted generously, giving *"a fat cow"* to the village poor at at least one Christmas, and for his fiftieth birthday throwing a party for local children, with tea, cake and magic lantern. But a note from this period reminds us of the general situation *"...walked to town today, the mob parading the streets asking for bread"*.

Despite RP's affluence, we find him sometimes complaining of the ills of the age. Some might be familiar to us, as when builders took twice as long as they had promised to do a job at the Vicarage, and then expected to charge twice as much. And there were the Law's delays: when JP became engaged to Catherine Hartley of Gillfoot, the couple planned to set up home in 'Khandella' in High House Road. But the formalities dragged on and on, thanks in RP's opinion, to the dilatory ways of one Wilkinson, solicitor.

Of course in addition to his duties as Vicar, RP was much occupied with the growing Theological College. At the beginning he found it *"going on swimmingly"*, and in his time as Principal some four hundred students trained for the Church. But not all who sought a College place were accepted: RP writes of *"refusing one young Gloucestershire"*
Continued P16.

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St Bees School

Summer term has arrived at St Bees School and there is so much to look forward to! From our annual Speech Day, to Sports Day, DofE Expeditions, Year 10 work experience, numerous boarding activities, Founders' Day, hosting the Bees Bash, and many, many more activities up our sleeves - we know it's going to be a great term.

Within a Secondary School, the Summer Term is always met with mixed feelings. Summer is in the air – and as the sun shines and daffodils bloom, the nicer weather means more outdoor activities. However, it is also the time of the ever-important exams – and the reason we're all here at school in the first place! As exams begin to loom and our students commence their study leave – many culminating in their national IGCSE and A Level exams, we wish them all huge success.

However, once the exams have finished, and to celebrate the end of a well-earned rest, here at St Bees we are proud of our ever-growing and thriving Activities Week. Activities Week gives students the opportunity to let their hair down, reflect on a fantastic year – and importantly – have fun! Last year, this week included Segwaying, trips to Manchester and Edinburgh – as well as a huge singing workshop and a GIANT game of hide and seek across the entire site. This year... we can't reveal plans just yet – but it will be epic!

We also have a fantastic summer programme ahead – so do keep an eye out for details on how you and your family can be part of the St Bees fun over the summer months.

Nevertheless, as one term starts to come to a close, we are already starting to think about the beginning of the next, here at St Bees.

September 2023 marks five years since the school reopened and we could not be prouder of the progress we have made over this time. If you're interested in joining us for this journey – do get in touch today. With limited numbers of spaces left in Year 7 – it is not too late to get in touch today – just drop us an email on admissions@stbeesschool.co.uk.

Friends Choral Evensong

Choral Evensong with the Priory choir in aid of the Friends of the Priory is planned for Trinity Sunday 4 June at 4.00 p.m in the Priory. Buffet Tea to follow.

Grassroots

Cumbrian Theatre Company Ragged Edge - Saturday 6th May, “The Mystery of the Blue Moon Saloon”, a hilarious, wild western whodunnit. This anarchic evening of chaos and laughter is suitable for audiences of ten years and older. Tickets are £10 with family tickets priced at £22 for a family of four. The entertainment begins at 7.30 p.m., with licensed bar from 7.00 p.m. Please contact Claire Hale chale025@gmail.com for tickets.

Coronation Bring and Share Village Street Party - On Sunday, May 7th, there will be a from 3.00-5.30 p.m. on Crosshill. Everybody is welcome – come and celebrate the Coronation of Charles III.

Over 60s Coronation Tea on Tuesday May 9th the Over 60s will be hosting a Coronation Tea at 2.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Coffee Morning - On Tuesday, May 23rd the Over 60s will be having a coffee morning at the Odd Fellows' Arms, to start at 10.30 a.m. This is a fund raising event and there will be a cake stall and raffle.

Eurovision Night at the Village Hall - On Saturday 13th May, it's Eurovision night at the Village Hall. The final will be live streamed from the Liverpool Centre. Come and support your favourite nation – dress accordingly if you wish! Licensed bar from 7.00 p.m., and a sweepstake on the eventual result. Entry £5 to include light refreshments. Please contact Jon Mellor jonmell@hotmail.co.uk or text 07341230954 to book your table.

Monthly Card Night - On Monday, May 22nd, the Village Hall's monthly cards night begins at 7.00 p.m. All players of all games welcome at £4 per person. Licensed bar all evening.

Strawberry Tea - The NSPCC are hosting a Strawberry Tea on Saturday 3 June, from 3.00 -5.00 p.m., at St Bees Village Hall. Join us for our first event since Covid! £6.50 per person. Tickets and details: Lesley Rutherford 824109

Cancellation - It is with regret that the Summer Serenade Concert as advertised in the April magazine has had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

Welcome to Doug and Liz Sim back to the Crofts after a 34 year exile on Main Street!

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.

St Bees Green Future

Creating a buzz - Cumbria Wildlife Trust and Cumbria County Council have worked to reverse pollinator decline across north and west Cumbria. The Planting for Pollinators project aims to create, improve and connect a mosaic of pollinator-friendly habitats, in turn providing food, shelter and nesting places for the likes of bees, butterflies, wasps and other insects. Pollinator-friendly habitats include hedges, species rich grassland, scrub, deadwood, banks, glades and flower rich gardens. For more information about this project, visit Cumbria Wildlife Trust's website. As part of the Planting for Pollinators project, we received 100 packets of local wildflower seeds and information booklets about pollinator-friendly gardening to distribute. Thank you to everyone who accepted a packet of the wildflower seeds. It would be great to see any photos of you planting the seeds, your wildflowers in bloom or some pollinators enjoying your wildflowers. If you're happy to share these with us to pass on to Cumbria Wildlife Trust, so that they can see evidence of the project in action, please contact stbeesgreenfuture@gmail.com

If you want to choose pollen and nectar-rich plants for your garden, cosmos, fuchsias, lavender, marigolds, nasturtiums, poppies, single dahlias and sunflowers are just a few examples. We still have copies of "Get your garden buzzing" if you would like further information about choosing the best plants for pollinators.

Don't forget to have a sort through your wardrobe for our next clothes swap! Come along to Adams Recreation Ground on Sunday 14th May, 2.00-4.00 p.m. All clothes and accessories in good condition are welcome. £4 for unlimited swaps – refreshments included. See you there!

Amy Linton

Rangers at New College Hall

Calling all girls aged 14-17 years. Would you like to make new friends, try new things, and learn new skills? If so, you are welcome to visit Rangers at New College Hall on a Monday evening from 7.00-8.30p.m. during term time. Our meetings are held fortnightly (because we know you are busy with schoolwork). The dates for the coming term are: 24th April, 22nd May, 5th June, 19th June, and 3rd July.

Rangers is part of the Girlguiding movement, but is for older girls. You and the other Rangers will help plan the programme, but the sort of things we might do this term are: cooking (indoors and outdoors), forensic science challenges, designing hi-tech clothing, shelter building, trails and treasure hunts, engineering games, yoga and relaxation, art and design, etc. Once a term we plan a special trip together, and over the last couple of years have done: paddleboarding, Go Ape, ice-skating, Escape Room, and shopping/sight-seeing in London. There are also opportunities to join Ranger trips abroad, e.g. to Canada or Europe.

If you or your parents would like to know more about Rangers, or would like to visit us, please contact Debbie on debbie.m.keighley@gmail.com

Lunga's Scientific Observations

Hello. Lunga here. Have you noticed round here much of the ground slopes. Our drive slopes as well. If I drop a ball, it just rolls down. It even goes down steps on its own. Is it alive? I wait until it has stopped unless I see mammy throw it for me. On the beach if the sand is smooth and the wind is blowing the ball just seems to keep going - that is until it rolls into a rock pool. It stops there and I need to rescue it. If the sand has ridges it seems to stop more easily. Mammy says that is to do with friction. I find it best to wait until the ball has stopped just in case it is really alive. If mammy throws a stick into the sea near high tide, I wait as the sea brings it to me - how kind. I can stand there and control the sea. Am I like king Canute - but no, he couldn't control it so I must be better than him do you think? If mammy throws the ball up it always comes down, unless it lands in a bush (sometimes her aim is not good!). Mammy says it always comes down due to gravity discovered by Mr Newton. If he'd not discovered it the ball might float away so I think it's best to have the gravity. Did you take part in an Easter egg hunt? Gravity would be handy for that as well because if it wasn't there the eggs might have floated away! Have you seen the little lambs? There seems to be a lot about and I don't know where they come from, but none of them will come and play with me and their mummies stamp their feet. I hope you're enjoying this nice spring weather. I like the light mornings and evenings for my walks.

That's all for now.

Lunga and Claire Summers, Lunga's mammy.

1st Beckermat & St Bees Scout Group

Over the last few years, the only part of the 1st St Bees Scout Group still active, were the Beavers. In 2022 it was decided that the 1st Beckermat and 1st St Bees Scout Groups would amalgamate and thus the current Scout Group was formed.

Approximately 10 years ago the old Scout hut (located at the foot of Outrigg) was removed. St Bees School kindly allowed the St Bees Beavers group and the Scouts to meet at one of the huts behind their sports hall..

The 1st year as the 1st Beckermat & St Bees Scout Group has been busy. Highlights include: Group Camp at Ennerdale, Competition Camp at Branthwaite for the Scouts, Archery courses for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

The merger of the two Scout Groups resulted in our numbers becoming stronger than ever, and with the support of St Bees School, we continue to have suitable facilities.

The Group now consists of approximately 40-45 children (between the ages of 6 and 14 yrs) from across the region from Sandwith to Beckermat, and welcomes both boys and girls. The Beavers and Cubs meet on Thursday evenings (in St Bees and Haile respectively). The Scouts meet on Monday evenings at St Bees School.

If your son or daughter is of (or approaching) the suitable age range, please get in touch and we will do our best to accommodate (although there may be a waiting list). Enquiries should be via the Group Scout Leader on 07971 881 735 or brianscouting@gmail.com