

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 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.
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. Email running@triers.co.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 October

Calendar for November

4	Saturday	5 – 7.00 pm	Priory Family Film Night
5	Sunday	4.00 pm	Remembering Service for Loved Ones
7	Tuesday	12.15 pm 2.00 pm	Memory Café, NCH Over 60s, Village Hall
10	Friday	3.00 to 6.00 pm	Multi-Charity Sale, Old College Hall
11	Saturday	10.00 am to 6.00 pm	Multi-Charity Sale, Old College Hall
11	Saturday	7.00 pm	Fundraising bingo, Oddfellows Arms
12	Sunday	10.15 am	Remembrance parade and wreath laying
12	Sunday	10.45 am	Remembrance Service
12	Sunday	11.30 am to 1.30 pm	Multi-Charity Sale, Old College Hall
13	Monday	7.30 pm	WI, Seacote Hotel
14	Tuesday	7.00 pm	PCC Meeting, NCH
18	Saturday	2.00 to 4.00 pm	Clothes Swap, Adams Recreation Ground
18	Saturday	5.00 pm	Family Fun Beetle Drive, Village Hall
21	Tuesday	12.15 pm	Memory Café, NCH
22	Wednesday	10.30 am	Over 60s trip
25	Saturday		Global Activism Day for Women facing Domestic Violence, Priory
26	Sunday	2.00 to 3.30 pm	Beach Clean, meet at St Bees Lifeboat Station

Calendar for December

1	Friday	7.30 pm	West Cumberland Choral Society Concert, Priory
2	Saturday	7.30 pm	Dracula in Space, Village Hall
10	Sunday	2.00 to 5.00 pm	St Bees Priory Christmas Fair, Priory, OCH & NCH
16	Saturday	7.30 pm	Strictly Come Dancing Final, Village Hall

Editor – December 2023 - January 2024 Magazine

The December/January issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Pat McDonnell, Sandyridge, Priory Road, St Bees**, who would appreciate contributions not later than **Wednesday 8 November** please.

Email– sandyridge@btinternet.com Tel 01946 822516

St Bees News

War and Remembrance

October for some provoked thoughts of Harvest and abundance and so for many November ushers in reflections of remembrance, whether that be in the moving Feast of All Saints and All Souls, or the Nation's day of Remembrance on and after the 11th of November.

The impact of mortality affects us all, the Village Church Yard speaks of the mortality we all share and the two Village War Memorials of the cost of conflict in two World Wars and subsequent. Wars that have usually disproportionately taken the life of the young and innocent. Other things impact on us much more haphazardly, potholes if you are a cyclist, no buses if you are a visitor and you think the bus stops are a sign of a service, Outrigg flooding if you drive a small car, bicycle, or motorbike or if you are a visitor and you don't see the flood in time. So in some ways we can, as local residents avoid some of the impacts and imperfections of this world. So many of us must have been shocked and stunned by the news coverage of the latest War to impact us via the TV and Radio. Ukraine is forgotten and the Holy Land is now the new story of violence with which to attract both the local and the national populations to watch yet another unfolding horror.

Our own Archdeacon the Venerable Stewart Fyfe recently managed to escape from that conflict and is thankfully home with his family and has written a brilliant personal reflection on his experience of war, violence, and suffering. The things many Remember in St Bees in November he experienced personally under fire in Israel in October. Copies of his reflection are available on his Facebook page and from the back of the Priory. Christian Aid has produced some excellent material to enable outsiders to the Holy Land conflict to begin to understand some of the issues.

Remembrance Sunday was often criticised as a glorification of War. It was not felt as such by myself, having spent some 30 years as an RAF Chaplain or anyone who had been in a war. They did not glory in it rather they remembered with pride the service of those who did not return, asking themselves how they themselves survived and trying not to let the act of remembrance overwhelm them with such a sense of survivor's guilt that their own wellbeing was endangered. The Christian Eucharist – the Act of Remembrance isn't an act of glorified nostalgia of what did happen, rather it makes it all really present again – and as such gives everyone a choice about how we behave and act in response to such events as individuals or a nation.

So as we Remember conflicts of the past in our Village Memorials perhaps, we are reminded as community by the violence on our screens of why the Peace Makers are indeed Blessed. Stewart Fyfe sums up the Holy Land violence and Nurse Edith Cavell reminds us of hope for the future. Her words before being shot by firing squad (1915), "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness to anyone."

The Rev'd Canon (Group Captain) Richard Lee RAF rtd.

Prory News

Remembrance Sunday 12 November

Wreath-laying at War Memorial and Remembrance Service at the Priory

The service at the Priory will start at 10.45 a.m. A Church Parade of Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, with Ranger Guides, joined by ex-servicemen and RNLI crew members, will assemble at the War Memorial by Beck Edge Garden at 10.15 a.m. for a short wreath-laying ceremony. They will then proceed to the WW1 war memorial by the lychgate and then to church. All are invited to attend.

Multi-Charity Christmas Gift Sale at Remembrance weekend – Friday 10/ Saturday 11/Sunday 12 November. This will go ahead as last year in Old College Hall with sales of Christmas cards and gifts from 10 charities – plus Fairtrade goods, foods and recycled products. Also, Felicity Watson's jams, marmalades and chutneys for sale in aid of West Cumbria Hospice at Home.

Open – Friday 3.00 to 6.00 p.m.; Saturday 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.; Sunday 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Refreshments on Saturday in New College Hall from 10.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Harvest Thanks

Sincere Thanks to all involved for a beautiful and inspiring Harvest festival – to the flower-arrangers, to gardeners and growers of fruit and veg; to church choir and the Village Orchestra with new director Ali Birchall; to bringers of harvest gifts and the Foodbank; and generous bakers and servers at harvest lunch. Special Thanks to the wonderful team of ladies packing and distributing harvest gifts in St Bees and Parish to the sick and housebound. Many thanks to Barbara Hewetson for the pretty posies and to Mary McGee for her lovely flower-arrangements – much appreciated! Thanks to all who decorated the Priory so beautifully for the festival; to the children who created colourful thankyou cards; and to Rev David Cox and Deb Lee with readers for leading the worship and directing our thoughts and prayers this harvest-time, in our world troubled by conflict and climate change.

ST BEES MULTI-CHARITY SALE

OLD COLLEGE HALL
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Friday 10th November 3.00 pm - 6.00 pm
Saturday 11th November 10.00 am - 6.00 pm
Sunday 12th November 11.30 am - 1.30 pm

REFRESHMENTS NEW COLLEGE HALL
Saturday 11th 10.30 - 2.00
ST BEES GREEN FUTURES.

Parish Council News

Donations to local groups – The Parish Council sets aside a small pot of money each year to enable it to give donations to local groups. If any group would like to be considered for a donation, please contact the Clerk (email pc_clerk@stbees.org.uk) with details of your group and the purpose for which a donation is requested. Requests should be received by 12 November to enable grants to be approved at the next Parish Council meeting.

Remembrance Sunday – There will be the usual parade and wreath laying ceremony on Sunday 12 November to mark Remembrance Sunday. The wreaths from the local organisations will be on display in the window of 22 Main Street in the days leading up to Remembrance Sunday. The parade on the Sunday morning will set off from Station car park and process to both war memorials before disbanding so those who wish can attend the service in the Priory.

Santa Parade- the Parish Council is hoping to organise a Santa Parade again this year with Santa's sleigh visiting as many areas of the village as possible before Santa switches on the lights on the Christmas tree on Cross Hill. Watch out for more details of dates/times on Facebook and on the parish noticeboards.

Flooding- there continue to be problems with flooding on the Outrigg to Egremont Road and this is causing considerable inconvenience for residents. Cumberland Council tell us that they are working to find a long term solution to the problem but the Parish Council is pressing for some temporary solution to be found to keep the road open with better signage to warn drivers of the flooding.

Station car park- the Parish Council is continuing to work with Network Rail and Cumberland Council to progress plans to extend the station car park. A survey is currently being undertaken of the use of the car park to gather evidence of the need for more off-street parking.

Electric scooters – there have been reports of electric scooters being ridden on public footpaths. Motorised vehicles such as scooters are not allowed on public footpaths, although mobility scooters are permitted.

Congratulations - to the Friends of Priory Paddock who have received an RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' award for their work in maintaining the Paddock as a wildlife area. Well deserved recognition of their hard work!

Next Parish Council Meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 20 November at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. Council meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Why not come along and see the PC in action? We still have vacancies for three parish councillors!

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What's On at the Priory in November

Remembering Service for Loved Ones – Remembering those we have lost this past year, in this week of All Souls Day, the service will be held on Sunday 5 November at 4.00 p.m. Candles will be lit in their memory and their names read out.

Friends of the Priory Family Film Night – in the Priory on Saturday 4 November from 5.00 – 7.00 p.m. Drinks and snacks will be available. Please let Rev Becky know if you plan to come! All children should be accompanied by an adult please. Everyone welcome. Watch out for Facebook publicity and posters to check what film is being shown.

West Cumberland Choral Society Concert – Friday 1 December at 7.30 p.m. – advance notice!

A special Christmas concert with the Choral Society and their new director Margie Simper. All welcome. Refreshments served. See posters for further details in November.

Global Activism Day for UK Women facing Domestic Violence – on Saturday 25 November. Organised by Cumbria Mothers Union, Women out West and other groups. Deb Lee, the President of Carlisle Mothers Union, will lead the session at the Priory, to remember the 1 in 3 women in the world who experience gender-based violence.

Mothers' Union Caravan Project

Time to Change (West Cumbria) and Carlisle Diocese Mothers' Union are working with Seacote Park, St Bees to provide families in West Cumbria, who are desperately in need of a break away from it all, a free holiday. The holidays are called Away From it All (AFIA). You can find out more at:

<https://carlislediocesemothersunion.org.uk/stories/our-away-from-it-all-caravan-is-go/>

Memory & Friendship Café in New College Hall

Fortnightly on Tuesdays starting on 7 November at 12.15 to 1.45 p.m. £2 charge includes cake and coffee. Social group supporting memory issues through chat, games, singing and reminiscence activities. Contact Rev Becky Gibbs.

From the Priory Registers

Holy Baptism

1 October Florence Gidney-Craigen

Christian Funeral

10 October Brenda Edwards 13 Seaview, Sea Mill Lane, St Bees

19 October Chris Davidson (Chuck) East Grange Care Home, Harrington (formerly of St Bees)

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

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Remembering continued

respected – especially so as his own son had died on that dreadful first day of the Somme battle. What Mr. Kenworthy wanted was a much more striking design, and a position for it overlooking the railway, which he reasoned had provided for many who would fall, their last glimpse of village and home.

So while the ‘official’ plan went ahead, so too did Mr. Kenworthy. His St. George would command the view near the railway, as he had wanted, the whole expense being his. Before long our quarry-master Tom McKay (only just released himself from Army service) would select a suitable block of St. Bees red sandstone from his Fleswick quarry, and it would be on its way to Liverpool for sculpting. Meanwhile the McKays dressed suitable stone for the platform which Saint and Dragon would share.

Is there anything significant about Mr. Kenworthy’s choice of message for his monument? It bears the words ‘To Awaken Remembrance’. With so much else in the village to keep memories fresh, he can hardly have thought the Dead at risk of being forgotten. Or as some wondered: was he perhaps implying the other memorial inadequate?

In the History Corner in the Priory there is a more detailed account of these matters, researched by Chris Robson several several years ago.

Bob Jopling, Village History Group

Christmas Greetings

Christmas Greetings - The centre spread of the December magazine will again feature the Christmas Greetings. If you would like to be included please send your greetings and donation (minimum £10) to Ian and Rosalie McAndrew (822326) or leave in the Post Office (Greeting and cash/cheque in an envelope please). **These must be received no later than Tuesday 14 November.** Proceeds will be split between St Bees Priory and the Children’s Society unless requested otherwise. Cheques should be made out to St Bees Priory or the Children’s Society.

Save the cost and time of sending cards - why not send your Christmas message to all your friends in St Bees via the magazine.

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St Bees Priory Christmas Tree Festival- December 2023

This year, the Priory Christmas Tree Festival will take place from Sunday 10 December - Tuesday 2 January. Throughout this period, we want to light up the Priory with beautifully decorated trees and would like to invite any organisation within the village, family groups, friendship groups, pubs, hotels, shops, schools etc to provide and decorate a tree. If you're interested, this is what you need to do:

- Decide on a theme for your tree.
- Make/ buy decorations for your tree (please use battery operated lights).
- Make/ buy your tree (real or artificial and no taller than 5 ft).
- Tree assembling in church will take place any time between 2-5 p.m. on Saturday 9 December. Bring your tree, stand, decorations and lights to church and you will be given a place to assemble it, along with your entry number.
- Pay £10 cash to enter the Tree Festival (this will be collected from each group on assembly day). All proceeds from entry fees this year will be shared between the Mothers' Union Caravan Project* and St Bees Priory.
- Anyone visiting the Tree Festival can place the number of their favourite tree in a voting box which will be placed at the back of church. The winning tree will receive £50.
- Taking down of trees will take place any time between 2-3 p.m. on Tuesday 2 January; the winner will be announced at 2.30 p.m. on that day.
- To confirm your entry and enable us to have an idea of numbers, please email Sarah George at: sarahgeorge.bees@gmail.com, message or phone: 07793 754803. The closing date for entries is Friday 17 November.
- *What is Mothers' Union Caravan Project - see Page 4.*

St Bees Priory Christmas Fair - Sunday 10 December

To mark the official opening of the Christmas Tree Festival, on Sunday 10 December we are once again holding a Christmas Fair at the Priory between 2-5 p.m. There will be Christmas fun for all the family including:

- In Church - a first look at all the fabulous trees and carols from Egremont Town Band.
- In New College Hall - refreshments (tea, coffee, juice and cakes).
- In Old College Hall- gift and craft stalls- a great opportunity to buy some Crafty Christmas presents! Stalls this year include: Real Haven Scents, Fairtrade, Body Shop, Tropics, photographic gifts, handknitted goods, art prints, pet accessories, Scentsy and a wide variety of handcrafted jewellery and gifts.

I am delighted to say that we are full to capacity for the fair as all available tables have now been reserved. All profits from the Christmas Fair (excluding craft stall holders) will also be shared between The Mothers' Union Caravan Project and St Bees Priory.

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Remembering

A lovely Spring afternoon one hundred and two years ago saw the Dedication of our first War Memorial.

Villagers assembled at the Priory were enjoined to see that the Memorial *'be kept and cherished by the generations yet unborn'*. In this I think we might claim to have succeeded. And still around Armistice Day, somewhere within the village, there is silence as the twenty-six engraved names are solemnly proclaimed.

Visitors to our village are sometimes puzzled that our war Dead have two Memorials: the 'official' one at the Priory lychgate, shown on this month's front cover, and St. George and the Dragon near the Station. Indeed there are more than these two, if the brasses in the Priory are included, and the stone tablet now beside what used to be the Memorial Window. Until the thirties this tablet stood in the window upon a silken Union Flag, with flowers provided by the families of the Lost. When I look at the tablet now, I cannot help feeling for William McNeal (our Verger, stone mason and occasional chimney-sweep) whose task it was to engrave the names of so many he would have known. And in time there would have been that of his own youngest son, William Scott, McNeal, killed in the War's final month.



The Priory preserves another reminder of those times. It is a list of all from Sandwith Council School who went to the War, and it tells what became of each of them. For many years it had a place of honour in the school, and to Sandwith's credit it found a way into safe hands when the school finally closed.

In St. Bees a village Memorial was proposed soon after the Armistice. As earlier issues of this magazine have outlined, there was a lack of common ground over both its design and its siting. The design for the 'official' monument came from Mr. W.G. Collinswood of the Lakes Artists' Society, whose idea it was to echo the style of the ancient cross-shaft which had stood in the Western part of the graveyard since near-Viking times. Some thought such a design unimpressive, and the site there lacking in prominence. When the families of the Dead were asked to choose between this and today's roadside site, the latter was preferred by a margin of just one. (I am not sure how many realised then that a new lychgate would shortly come and dominate the spot).

Alternative ideas came from our resident 'gentleman-artist', (his term) John Dalzell Kenworthy. As eminent in Arts circles as Mr. Collinswood, his opinion would be *Continued on page 20.*

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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/>

Extract from letter from Michelle Proctor

The Nurses Training College is a big part of our hospital with over 600 students enrolled. As part of their education, they have a weekly Bible Study. Most of our students will be posted to other hospital when they graduate and our hope is that they go not just as excellent nurses but as believing nurses who will make a difference where ever they are posted

Patients come to us not only from the surrounding area but from other places across Zambia. Often, they come in need of treatment that they cannot afford to access where they are from. Although we do have some minimal charges here, we never turn anyone away due to lack of funds. Everyone no matter their means or station in life is able to access the same care at Mukinge.

Recently I have been spending more of my time in the hospital caring for the premature babies in our NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). It has been a welcome break and change of pace from the busy days, and often nights, doing anaesthesia. I love caring for these little ones and getting to know their mums. Some are newborn babies that were delivered on time but need some extra help from birth or soon after. Most of them however are premature babies needing support to survive. They vary from being just a few weeks early and weighing around 1.5 kg to being 12 weeks early and weighing 800g. These very premature babies are fragile and without specialised care, such as ventilation, high tech monitoring and drugs to help the lungs mature, their chances of survival are poor. However, time and time again I am amazed by their will to live and how much can be done with what we have (keeping them warm, tube feeds, basic respiratory support, and antibiotics to fight any infections they get). These babies are our little miracles. They are frequently with us for two or more months and the ups and downs are hard emotionally on their mums. Often these mums are away from home and any other children they may have. They may have to rely on others to feed and care for their children and also, depending on the time of year, to plant or harvest their maize crops for the coming year. It is a difficult time for them and walking through it with these mums is an opportunity for us to show the love and care of our God.



Michelle is a St Bees lady who has spent her working life at Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia. She sends periodic letters to friends and supporters.

Grassroots

Beach Clean – the next beach clean organised by St Bees Parish Council is on Sunday 26 November, meeting at 2pm at St Bees Lifeboat Station. Gloves and litter pickers are available to borrow. Thank you for your help to keep St Bees beach clean.

Brian, Allan, Julie and family of the late Brenda Edwards, would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their help and support, messages, cards, flowers and donations. We would also like to thank Eaves funeral services for all their help, support and care in looking after Brenda, Rev'd Becky Gibbs for conducting a lovely service and The Seacote Hotel for their hospitality. Thank you all.

George Brooks, formerly of Ammerland on Nethertown Road, lived in St Bees for around 35 years and took part in the Garden Society when he was able to do so. He died peacefully on Tuesday 10 October at East Croft Grange.

Oddfellows Arms – 11 November - 7 p.m. - Eyes Down! We invite one and all to our annual fundraising bingo for Copeland's Time to Share Childrens Bereavement Services. Everyone is very welcome, the more the merrier. If you would like to make a donation and/or contribute a prize, please leave with Margaret in the pub after 7 p.m.

St Bees Local Artworks - Further to the notice in the September magazine I'd had several budding artists contact me to say they wish to participate. However, if you missed that, here's a reminder – it's going to be in the West Cumberland Railway Museum, Tuesday 31 October to and including Saturday 4 November, 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. each day. Can you please email petergrooke@btinternet.com if you haven't yet registered your interest. Also, I'll be looking for artworks to be delivered to the museum on Sunday 22 October, after 10 a.m., or at a push on the opening day, Tuesday 31. All remaining artworks can be collected on Saturday 4 November after 3.30 p.m.

Over 60s - Firstly, apologies for there being no information in the October magazine. On November 7 in Hodgett's club at 2 p.m. we will be having a visit from Sue's Photos. On November 22, which is a Wednesday, we are having a trip to John's Plaice for fish and chips and then on to the Range. The bus leaves the Oddfellows at 10 30 a.m. with usual pickups. This trip is open to non-members. Please contact Gill or Dot to book a seat.

St Bees Green Future

Clothes Swap – whether you want to save money, declutter, update your wardrobe or do your bit for the planet, come along to our next clothes swap on Saturday 18 November from 2 till 4 p.m. at Adams Recreation Ground. Bring along clothes and accessories that are still in good condition to the start of the event. Clothing in all styles, sizes and ages welcome!

Medicine blister pack recycling – Please note that Superdrug pharmacies will no longer accept bulk drop offs of medicine blister packs, so we are now unable to collect these as a community for recycling. However, Aldi has now partnered with TerraCycle to allow individuals to post up to 30 medicine blister packs at a time for recycling using prepaid

St Bees Village Hall

Forthcoming events in St Bees Village Hall (Hodgetts)

Saturday 18 November: Family Fun Beetle Drive - Starts 5.00 p.m., £ 6pp, £3 u/16, Family Ticket £15 (see below *)

Saturday 2 December: Arts Out West present 'Dracula in Space' by Bowjangles - A multifaceted musical comedy sketch group on tour following a successful run at this year's Edinburgh Fringe. Starts 7.30 p.m., tickets £12, £6 u/18, Family £ 25.0

Book online at www.kirkgateartsandheritage.org.uk or contact Claire Hale: 07740717481

Saturday 16 December: Strictly Come Dancing Final - Starts 7.30pm, £6 pp, £ 3 u/ 16, Family £15

* - Tickets Claire Hale: 07740717481 or Val Turpin: 07857008462

St Bees WI

Our October meeting was a very interesting talk by Steve Wilson - 'Baking Its a Chemistry Thing'. Steve talked about the chemical reactions that happen when baking to produce wonderful cakes; we all felt very hungry after watching his presentation!

Monday 13 November 7.30 p.m. at the Seacote Hotel will be Christmas Flower Arranging by Elvina Jenkinson. Festive flower arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening.

Non-members and visitors are welcome to join us; £4 including refreshments. New members also welcome to join us - just turn up on the night. See webpage www.St-Bees-WI-facebook or contact Roxanne on 823137 or any committee member.

Seagalls

It was lovely to see such a good turnout for our October meeting.

The Rev Becky Gibbs arrived to speak to us with a suitcase in tow. We spent a lovely evening where she shared with us her life stories and told us how she became the Vicar of St.Bees. Like all entertaining speakers she knew how to keep our attention. It seems she has a weakness for shoes and the suitcase was full of them, special ones for weddings, christenings and Lent, swimming, gardening etc. The gold glittery trainers were much admired. Thank you Becky.

7th November sees our Cheese/ Grazing platter & Wine evening in the Oddies. If anyone would like to join us please get in touch for a ticket. Our meet ups are in the Seacote Hotel 1st Tuesday of the month 7pm unless a trip out has been organised.

Contact details on the back of the magazine. All are very welcome.

St Bees School

Innovation in Independent Education at St Bees School

At St Bees School, our unique Fusion Curriculum is an innovative collaboration of Eastern and Western teaching methods and education. There are three overarching aspects to the Fusion Curriculum: Fusion Maths, The Global Awareness Programme, and teaching Mandarin as a first foreign language – all underpinned by the fundamental ethos of the school in ensuring all teaching delivers an equal balance of EQ (character) and IQ (academic) focus to develop a child holistically.

One of the standout features is our pioneering Fusion Maths Curriculum. Developed in collaboration with the Mathematics Department at Durham University, this curriculum allows students to delve into Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 content during their first two years at the school.

The second strand of the Fusion concept covers the bespoke “Global Awareness Programme” – akin to a debating programme.

Each week, students are given international topics to debate, going through a cycle of investigation, research, preparation, presentation and delivery. All students participate, increasing their public speaking skills from day one.

The wider Fusion Curriculum is a distinctive aspect of St Bees School. With the establishment of three St Bees Schools in China, an educational framework was devised to facilitate seamless learning between the schools. This ensures that students can transition between the original St Bees School in Cumbria and the three sites in China without missing any course content.

Chinese language plays a significant role in the Fusion Curriculum. Students not only learn Mandarin as a foreign language but also gain insights into Chinese culture upon joining the school.

The one-of-a-kind Fusion Curriculum at St Bees School is a testament to the collaborative efforts of Durham University, dedicated staff, and students. It not only demonstrates the feasibility of a fusion education but also proves its effectiveness in practice.

You can find out more about our Fusion Curriculum at St Bees School by visiting our website: www.stbeesschool.co.uk

The Northern nations, along with Japan have done most to cause climate change but the impact is most heavily borne by the likes of Tonga, Fiji, Samoa and Namibia. This is not only rising temperatures and rising sea levels causing whole communities to have to move but the economic impact is massive causing at least a 5% reduction in GDP. A punishment for a crime they did not commit.

Australia is one of the biggest per capita emitters and UK is 8th, with France not far behind. Namibia might feel aggrieved at the 96-0 scoreboard against France but perhaps more aggrieved that the tournament was supported by Total Energies who are contributing to the slow destruction of their country's opportunities.

I am sure Samoa and Fiji will have been buoyed by their wins against Chile and Australia but they have to return home to rising sea levels that not only mean their families have often had to move but the salt water is contaminating water supplies and ruining agriculture. The fish are disappearing in the warmer seas. 70% of the Samoan population live in low lying areas. They have seen some of their neighbouring islands disappear completely.

Then there is the damage from the tropical storms. These have cost Fiji 5% of its GDP (The same % as the UK's total spend on education). According to a World Bank study, the damage from storms and floods in Fiji, is expected to increase by much more than 50% if emissions do not fall rapidly.

You can make a difference! The UN suggests the following:

- 1: Spread the word that Climate change matters, by delaying our response we are causing harm and death now
- 2: Transform your transport
- 3: Rein in your own power use
- 4: Shop local and buy sustainable as much as possible
- 5: Try not to waste food: I have a great recipe for over ripe bananas, if you want it!
- 6: Dress (climate) smart: Fast fashion accounts for 8-10 per cent of global carbon emissions – more than all international flights and maritime shipping combined.
- 7: Check what your investments are supporting, your security might be harming others. Then we can back to A world in Union. Come on England/Ireland/Wales! (sorry Scotland you had a tough group!)

Deb Lee Ecochurch Lead for St Bees Priory



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

No more 1 in 3!

No more what 1 of 3? One in three women, who, globally, will experience some form of gender-based violence. Although domestic abuse is not restricted to women, women and girls are particularly at risk.

The UN women launched the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.



It starts on November 25th and finishes on World Human Rights Day.

On November 25th St Bees Priory will hold a No more 1 in 3 event. There will be a "Souls of our Shoes" exhibition with quotes from survivors. At 1pm we will pause for a 3 minutes silence, while the bell is tolled, every other participant's face will be covered to demonstrate the hidden nature of Domestic Abuse. We will be joined by the Cockermouth Soroptimists and finish with a bring your own lunch.

The event is part of the Mothers' Union's three-pronged approach to social injustice: prayer, enabling, and campaigning.

If you cannot attend you might like to use the resources available at www.mothersunion.org/resources/16-days-of-activism. On this page is a link to a powerful poem by Michael Kaufman, written for 1991 White Ribbon Campaign.

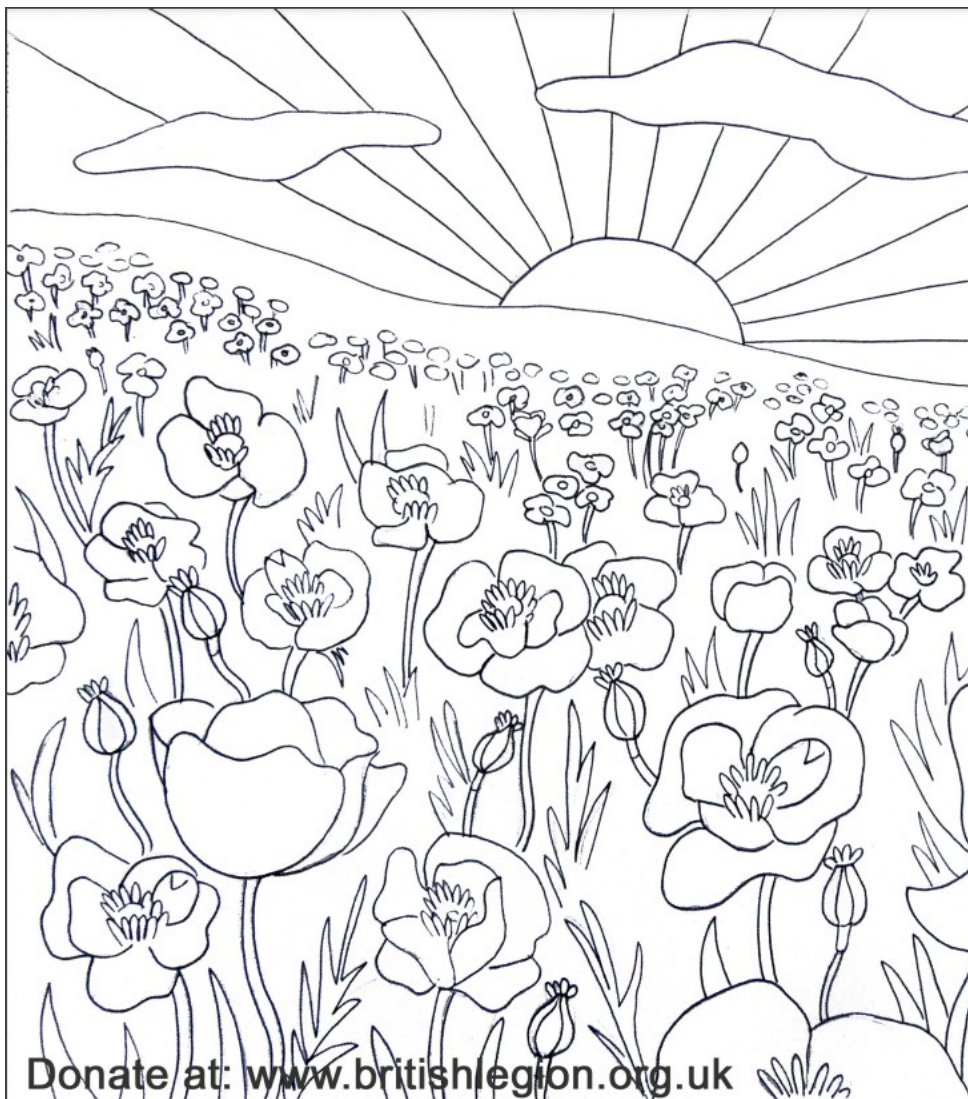


We will strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, seeking to sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The world in Disunion: The Rugby World Cup and Climate Change

At the time of writing the quarter finals of the Rugby World Cup are taking place and I am hoping that the 4 semi finalists will be Northern hemisphere teams! There has been some exciting and surprising matches over the course of the competition. People from around the world in a great sporting spectacle but Christian Aid has uncovered something more unequal than just the results of some of the matches...the inequality of the climate crisis...(continued after children's pages)

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



In Flanders Fields by John McCrae

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields.

