

## 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

Printed by Printpoint (01946) 64305



## 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>Garden Society</b>	Details from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 07742 440919). Flower Show is held on 3rd Saturday in August.
<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>History Group</b>	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from 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>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>Scouts, Beavers</b>	1st Beckermet & St Bees Scout Group - Scouts 10.5 - 14.yrs. Monday 6.30 - 8.30. Beavers 6 - 8 yrs. Thursday 5.00 - 6.15 pm in New College Hall 8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.	<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>Cubs</b>	8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.	<b>Parish Council</b>	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Coulderton. 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>Choir</b>	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).	<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>Churchwardens</b>	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Churchwardens are Deb Lee & Gill Barlow (& 2 Vacancies)	<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>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>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>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>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>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>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>Finance</b>	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.	<b>Seagalls</b>	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Judith 07772523742
<b>First Responders</b>	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497	<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>Football Association</b>	Contacts - Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.	<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 Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
<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>Village Hall</b>	Management Committee administers Hodgett's Club. For details and booking contact Phil or Valerie Turpin (Tel 823772).
<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>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-pages">www.St-Bees-WI-Facebook-pages</a> or contact any member.

## Calendar for November 2024

Till 3 Nov.	10.00 a.m.- 4.00 p.m.	Local Artists Display, Railway Museum
3 Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	4.00 p.m.	Remembering Service for Loved Ones, Priory
7 Thursday	7.00 p.m.	St Bega's Day Vigil, Priory
	7.00 p.m.	Seagalls, Seacote.
8 Friday	3.00 - 6.00 p.m.	Multi-Charity Christmas Gift Sale, OCH
9 Saturday	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Multi-Charity Christmas Gift Sale, OCH
10 Sunday	10.15 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday wreath laying
	10.45 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday Service, Priory
Sunday	11.30 a.m.-1.30 p.m.	Multi-Charity Christmas Gift Sale, OCH
12 Tuesday	2.00 p.m.	Over 60s, Talk in Hodgett's Club
	7.00 p.m.	PCC meeting, NCH
17 Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
18 Monday	6.30 p.m.	PC meeting, Village Hall
23 Saturday	3.00 p.m.	Afternoon Tea Concert, Village Hall
24 Sunday	9.00 a.m.	Story Service, Priory
	10.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
	6.00 p.m.	Service for 30th Anniversary of Women's Ordination
26 Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Over 60s, Trip to Carlisle
30 Saturday	5.00 p.m.	Family Film Night, Priory

## Calendar for December 2024

1 Sunday	2-4 p.m.	Toy Swap, St Bees Village Hall
7 Saturday	9-12 noon	Assembly of Christmas trees for festival
8 Sunday	2-5 p.m.	Christmas Fair, St Bees Priory

## New magazine distributor required

A new magazine distributor is required for Rottington as from New Year as Eleanor Crichton is standing down after many years. Please contact Ian McAndrew if you are able to offer help as a distributor.

## Editor – December 2024

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

Email : [sandyridge@btinternet.com](mailto:sandyridge@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01946 822516

## St Bees News

## November 2024

My favourite window in St Bees Priory is in the vestry, sadly rather hidden from public view. It depicts our patron saint, Bega, standing in a small boat, arms outstretched in blessing as she sails onto St Bees beach. There is a photo of the window on the Priory website and facebook page, if you are eight foot tall you can see it in person but if you're shorter please do get in touch for a closer look.

Another of my favourite windows is at the east end of St Mary and St Michaels, Egremont. It was given in 1992 by Robert Wilson, a long-standing member of the congregation, in memory of his mother and as a tribute to women in ministry. The design, "Blessing the Earth" by the renowned artist Christine Boyce, features a haloed Christ with his arms raised in blessing. Below are various images of women, reaching outward and upward from the centre of the rose.

It is a wonderful thing to be reminded at both churches of the validity of women's ministry. 2024 marks thirty years since the CofE began ordaining women to the priesthood. On the 24th November at 6pm we will be hosting a very special service celebrating this anniversary at the Priory. All are welcome to come along to the service and stay for refreshments afterwards. It is important to acknowledge that there is much more work to do if all women are to be truly free to serve God and flourish as human beings. There are many who are not in favour of women's ordination, both locally and abroad; differences of opinion over this and other matters, continue to lead to tension in the CofE.

These difficulties pale into comparison when laid alongside the challenges that women still face in places where oppression of women is the norm. "16 Days of Action Against Gender Based Violence" is an international campaign from Nov 25th (the United Nations Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to Dec 10th (Human Rights Day) and encourages action and awareness against all forms of violence against women and girls. In honour of St Bega and in support of this campaign, we will be holding a candlelit vigil in the Priory on St Bega's Day, Thurs 7th Nov at 7pm. All are ages and genders are welcome to attend. For information about the campaign see [www.mothersunion.org/what-we-do/policy/16-days-global](http://www.mothersunion.org/what-we-do/policy/16-days-global)

In November we remember and give thanks for our servicemen and women and pray for peace. Our world continues to suffer due to war, and women are particularly vulnerable, "It has probably become more dangerous to be a woman than a soldier in an armed conflict." (Major General Patrick Cammaert, former UN Peacekeeping Commander) This is a sobering thought.

Bega and the women in the Egremont window, Catherine Booth, co-founder of the Salvation Army, Mother Theresa of Calcutta and Florence Nightingale, were women of and for their time. They weren't perfect but they did use their voice to challenge injustice. Let's do the same.

*With love from Reverend Becky*

## *Priory News*

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

**Remembering Service for Loved Ones** – Remembering those we have lost this past year and in previous years, in this week of All Souls Day, the service will be held on Sunday 3 November at 4.00 p.m. Candles will be lit in their memory and their names read out. Do please sign their names on the list at the back of church if you wish them mentioned.

**Special Service for 30th Anniversary of Women's Ordination** – will be held on Sunday 24 November at 6.00 pm in the Priory. All welcome including clergy.

**Family Film Night in aid of Friends of the Priory** will be happening in the Priory on Saturday 30 November at 5.00 p.m. All families and Friends of Priory members and everyone welcome.

Soft drinks and snacks will be available. Please let Rev Becky know if you plan to come!

All children to be accompanied by an adult please. Watch out for Facebook publicity and posters to check what film is being shown.

**Story Service at the Priory** – will be held on Sunday 24 November at 9.00 a.m. for young families. All welcome. Refreshments served.

## *Seagalls*

The Seagalls held their October meeting in the Seacote. Members enjoyed a sandwich and chips buffet prior to our Quiz night. It was lovely to welcome some new faces and hope you enjoyed it.

Our Quizmaster was Jon Mellor who can be depended upon to tax our brains with his general knowledge questions. There were photos of famous people to identify, all things cumbrian and a general mix.

Well done to team 'No Idea' who scored a win and many thanks to Paula and Ina for organising this month.

Thursday 7th November 7pm at the Seacote sees Jenny give us a taster session on healing and meditation/ mindfulness. So for those who missed her successful debut at the Hodgetts we hope you have been able to attend.

Our Christmas Dinner will be held early evening from 5.30pm in the Queens Hotel this year. Please get in touch if you would like to join us. All are welcome we are a friendly group. Contact details are on the back pages.

## *Parish Council News*

**Beach Toilets** – In 2013 the Parish Council took over the management of the beach toilets after Copeland Borough Council decided to close them for financial reasons. It proved difficult to find a company prepared to undertake the cleaning and routine maintenance and Tom Milburn came to the rescue, providing a 7 day a week service to clean and maintain the toilets for almost 12 years. Tom has now decided that the time has come to reduce his commitments and the Parish Council is looking at alternative arrangements to look after the toilets from January 2025. The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to put on record its thanks to Tom for all his work – not only the cleaning, opening & closing of the building every day but also the many minor repairs carried out behind the scenes.

**Remembrance Sunday**- there will be the usual parade and wreath-laying ceremony on Remembrance Sunday (10 November) with the wreaths being on display in the window of 22 Main Street in the days leading up to Remembrance Sunday. The parade will assemble at 10.20am at the entrance to Station car park with the parade starting at 10.30am. Wreaths will be laid at the war memorial at the Station Rd junction and also at the memorial in the churchyard. The ceremony will finish in sufficient time for those who wish to continue to the Priory for the service.

**Donations to local groups** – the Parish Council has a small budget to make donations to local groups. The donations will be agreed at the November Parish Council meeting. If your group wishes to apply for funds for a project/event or to purchase equipment, the deadline is approaching. All that is needed is a short email/letter explaining your request addressed to the Clerk ([pc\\_clerk@stbees.org.uk](mailto:pc_clerk@stbees.org.uk)) by 5 November.

**Rewilding of Beach Rd Verge** – the verge has now been sown with yellow rattle and several different varieties of wild flowers have been planted along the verge to replace the original plants which were damaged when fibre optic cables were laid. Thank you to the community volunteers and the pupils from St Bees School who helped with the planting and to Viberoptix who provided the funding and assisted with the planting.

**Christmas is coming**- the Parish Council is once again planning to provide a large Christmas tree for the village and an 18 foot Norway Spruce has been ordered. It is also hoped to organise the now traditional Santa Parade – more details will be available via the Parish Council's Facebook page and village noticeboards.

**Next meeting**-. The next meeting will be on Monday 18 November at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. The Parish Council is always keen to hear the views of residents and there is a slot on every agenda for members of the public to raise items which they would like the Parish Council to consider.

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## From the Priory Registers

### Christian Marriage

28 September Megan Taylor and Aaron Tedham

St Bees and Aberdeen

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



### HELPING ANIMALS IN NEED IN OUR CARE & COMMUNITY

How the Charity can help you

- Rehoming
- Guidance and support
- Trap-Neuter-Return of ferals
- Peppa's Pot Campaign

How you can support animals in need & get involved

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## Remembrance Sunday 10 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 Remembrance weekend in Old College Hall

Friday 8 November 3.00 to 6.00 p.m.

Saturday 9 November 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Sunday 10 November 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

This will go ahead as last year with sales of Christmas cards and gifts from 12 charities - more than ever- plus Fairtrade goods, foods and recycled products.

Refreshments will be served in New College Hall from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in aid of Christian Aid (with Remembrance poems).

Do come and start your Christmas shopping here to benefit many good causes!

**ST BEES  
MULTI-CHARITY SALE**

**OLD COLLEGE HALL  
ST. BEES PRIORY**

Friday 8th November 3.00 pm -6.00 pm  
Saturday 9th November 10.00 am – 6.00 pm  
Sunday 10th November 11.30 am – 1.30 pm

**REFRESHMENTS NEW COLLEGE HALL  
Saturday 9th 10.30 -12.30  
Christian Aid**

## 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 the church choir and Priory Orchestra with their director Ali Birchall; to bringers of harvest gifts and goods for the Foodbank; and last but by no means least the bakers and servers of the Harvest Lunch!

Special Thanks to the wonderful team of packers and distributors of harvest gifts sent out to the sick and elderly in the parish – you are stars!

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(Continued from page 17)

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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.

## News from the Village School

The school has been very busy this half term and in particular it has been a pleasure to see our older pupils supporting our younger pupils. This has been seen with our Y6 pupils leading games with younger pupils, children enjoying playing together at play-time, and our Year 5 pupils accompanied our Reception children on a trip to the Priory.

St Bees Scarecrow Trail - It was lovely to see so many in the school hall for the Scarecrow Trail, enjoying some refreshments and autumn crafts. Thank you for the kind donations of cakes and your support for the event. Also, a big thank you to the VSA for organising such a successful event.

### September 2025 Reception places available

We have held a series of open days and evenings to welcome prospective families to school who have children who are due to start Reception class in September 2025. We are offering out of school time tours on **Thursday 7th November 5.30pm - 6.30pm**. Come and see the exciting opportunities that St Bees Village School can offer your child. To book a place, please email the school office on [admin@stbeesvillage.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stbeesvillage.cumbria.sch.uk) with your name and preferred time slot. Tours at other times can also be arranged if the above times aren't convenient.

Please share with friends or family members who you think may be interested.

### Trips and Visits

We have had several classes going out on trips this term. Year 3 visited Florence Arts Centre, Year 2 had a trip to Ravenglass Railway and our Reception and Pre-school children visited Stepney Farm at Calderbridge where they harvested their own pumpkins, explored the spooktacular Halloween Barn and met some of the farm's residents!

Thank you for your continued support.

## Advertising Space

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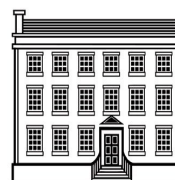
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[www.stonehousefarm.net](http://www.stonehousefarm.net)

## Local Councillor Cumberland Council Cllr Graham Minshaw

Cumberland Councillor for  
Egremont North and St Bees  
[Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Graham.Minshaw@cumberland.gov.uk)  
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## St Bees Priory Christmas Tree Festival - December 2024

This year, the Priory Christmas Tree Festival will take place from Sunday 8 December 2024 - Thursday 2 January 2025. 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 9-12 noon on Saturday 7 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 St Bees RNLI (to mark 200 years of the RNLI saving lives at sea) 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 Thursday 2nd 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 15 November.

## Priory Paddock wins top RHS and Cumbria in Bloom prizes

The county horticultural society "Cumbria in Bloom" holds the annual assessment of local parks, gardens and other similar spaces, as part of the national scheme run by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). This year the Friends of Priory Paddock entered the "It's Your Neighbourhood" category and were awarded an "Outstanding" rating for their efforts, which is the top rating for the RHS.

Priory Paddock itself was entered in the "Woodland Copse" category and this year received the RHS "Gold" award for sites of this type. Priory Paddock was also awarded the prize for the best entry in the "Woodland Copse" category in Cumbria. As well as the certificates the trophy is a fine silver plate, displayed in the window of 22 Main Street.

To visit Priory Paddock walk along Dandy Walk below the church (between the playing field and the Glebe Field). The entrance is through the gate on the right. Take your mobile phone and scan the QR code on the gate to get an audiovisual commentary on the plants you'll see. It's updated regularly so it will tell you what you're looking at as you walk around.

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<https://www.stbeesschool.co.uk/sports-and-facilities/swimming-pool/>



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**Remembering**

*(Reprinted from the late Bob Jopling's article in the November 2023 St Bees News)*

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. Collingwood 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. Collingwood, his opinion would be 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.

(Continued on page 20)

## *St Bees School News*

### **A Lost Book Finds Its Way Home to St Bees School, Over a Century Later**

St Bees School has recently been reunited with a significant piece of its history—a book entitled "Poetry of Byron" that belonged to one of its former students, Leonard Ewbank, who tragically lost his life during World War I. The book's journey back to the school has unearthed the story of Ewbank, a young man who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

The discovery was made in Carmarthenshire by a gentleman visiting his parents. While looking through their collection, he came across the book with an inscription that read "Leonard Ewbank, School House, St Bees, 25/9/11." Intrigued, he traced its origins and learned of Leonard's connection to St Bees School, where he studied before attending Queen's College, Oxford.

The book was formally returned to St Bees School where Headmaster Mr Andrew Keep expressed his gratitude, highlighting how Leonard Ewbank's story continues to inspire current students. He praised the return of the book as a tangible link to the school's past and a tribute to the character of a former student whose life was marked by courage and integrity.

Leonard Ewbank's journey was one of determination. Despite poor eyesight, he was commissioned into the 15th Border Regiment during the Great War but sadly lost his life in 1916 in Ypres. His name is commemorated at St Bees School on the Roll of Honour, remembered as "an Englishman, brave, honest and loyal."

The return of this century-old book is a touching reminder of the enduring bond between St Bees School, its students and their families. It brings Leonard Ewbank's story to life once more, preserving his legacy not just in history but in the physical form of this cherished volume that has finally come home.

## **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 Thursday 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.

## *St Bees Priory Christmas Fair - Sunday 8 December*

- To mark the official opening of the Christmas Tree Festival, on Sunday 8th December we are once again holding a Christmas Fair at the Priory between 2-5 pm. There will be Christmas fun for all the family including:
- In Church - a first look at all the fabulous trees (vote for your favourite!) carols from Egremont Town Band and delicious refreshments (tea, coffee, juice and homemade cakes!)
- In Old College Hall - gift and craft stalls - a great opportunity to buy some fabulous Christmas presents whilst also supporting local small businesses! Stalls this year include: Fairtrade; Tropics Skincare; handknitted goods; art prints and illustrations; leather accessories; Christian books and cards; wax melts; homemade jams and chutneys; sewing and resin crafts; Christmas door wreaths/florals and a wide variety of handcrafted jewellery and gifts.
- There will also be a raffle in Old College Hall - any donations for prizes would be greatly appreciated. They can either be collected (contact Sarah George- see details above) or delivered to 2 Monks Hill, Abbey Road.
- 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 stall holders) will also be shared between St Bees RNLI and St Bees Priory.

## *Mothers Union*

You are all welcome to come to Carlisle Cathedral on 30<sup>th</sup> November for a Eucharist at Midday.

Deb has been Diocesan President for 3 years and at the end of each 3 year period we hold a celebratory service. Some of you will remember the packed Priory with Bishop James at the service to mark the start of the 3 years.

Refreshments will be available in the Cathedral from 11.00 am. There will also be a "souls of their shoes" exhibition as we will keep the 3 minutes silence to remember the victims of Domestic Abuse (1 in 3 women).

It is also a chance to celebrate the many things your local Mother's Union does, provide holidays, makes gifts of love for hospitals, refuges, hospices and prisons, support families in many ways and prays daily at midday.

Deb will have to stand down as Diocesan President as she has been elected as a Trustee to the Worldwide board of the central charity, representing York Province. Please do come along and celebrate with us.

Lifts might be available or you can take the 9.00 am train.

## ***Village School Association***

### **Scarecrow Trail News**

Just a few weeks ago, St Bees was filled with some amazing scarecrow creations, from the beach estate, all the way up Outrigg, and back down Sea Mill Lane. We were blessed with a couple of bright, autumnal days, and plenty of residents and visitors were spotted on the search for the scarecrows. We had 16 displays registered with us in the end and we in the VSA are extremely grateful for each and every one of them. Without you, there would have been no trail.

With the sale of the maps and the community event in the school hall on the Sunday, where many, many cakes were consumed, over £300 was raised. So, many thanks are due to... the creative households, the Post Office for selling our maps, all of you who bought a map and everyone who came along to the event. Congratulations were due to the creators of the Up, SpongeBob and Flowerpot men displays! And lastly, one final big thank you to our small but dedicated VSA Committee and class reps who helped plan, rally and execute the whole event.

With all your wonderful support, we are now able to purchase the kids some new playground games and start looking into some new projects, including some Christmas surprises. The children will be delighted!

### **Other upcoming events**

Christmas Wreath Making, 28 November.

Online preloved uniform sale, November.

### **Class Reps**

This year, to help bolster and support the VSA Committee, we're asking families of kids in the school to join a team of Class Reps. Duties include sharing messages, news, etc. with class mates, help with requests for supplies, prizes and event volunteers. We have a few classes yet to cover. If you're interested, please email us.

### **Volunteering**

You don't have to be on the VSA Committee or a Class Rep to support us. We will always welcome ideas, organising skills and your time. Big events like the Bees Bash required a lot of planning, requests for resources and volunteers on the day, and this next year we have some bigger plans. Again, get in touch if you think you can help in any way. And there's always Your School Lottery and Easy Fundraising - two easy ways to help support us, from the comfort of your sofa!

Like and follow our Facebook and Instagram @stbeesvsa pages, or email us at stbees.vsa@gmail.com.

***Museum Hosts Local Artists Display*** - Further to the article in the September edition, this is just a reminder that the West Cumberland Railway Museum (opposite the Post Office) will be hosting its annual end of season Local Artists Display. This will be from Wednesday 30 October to and including Sunday 3 November, 10 till 4. As usual, entry will be free and I understand that at least some of the exhibits will be offered for sale. Maybe something for Christmas?

**Over 60s** - On 12 November in Hodgett's Club we have a talk from the artist Natalie Burns. On 26 November we are planning a trip to Carlisle. This trip is open to non-members - come and do your Christmas shopping. The bus leaves the Oddfellows at 10 a.m. with usual pick-ups.

**St Bees Green Future** - Toy Swap - Are you planning to sort through your children's toys ahead of Christmas? Would you like to save money on some new toys? If so, join in our toy swap on Sunday 1 December, 2-4 pm, in the Village Hall! You're welcome to bring along toys in good condition, jigsaws and games with all their pieces and unwanted children's craft kits. Just bring your items along to the start of the event, browse and choose some toys take away. It's free to take part. We'll also be serving refreshments for a small donation to St Bees Green Future. See you there!

**St Bees Village Hall** - To celebrate St Bees Village Hall joining the Fairtrade Community, the Village Hall Management Committee invites you all to come along and enjoy An Afternoon Tea Concert at the Village Hall on Saturday 23 November at 3.00 p.m.

Come along and enjoy some light entertainment while you drink your tea and eat your scone. We will have the Hodgett's Singers who will delight you with Irving Berlin's 'Dancing Cheek,' 'Let's Face the Music and Dance,' 'Dancing Cheek to Cheek' and others.

Tea will be served in our new china tea service, which will be available for all our hirers to use in the future. A Fairtrade stall will be open for anyone who wants to purchase their goods.

Tickets £12 per person. Contact: Claire Hale 07740717481 or Val Turpin 07857008462.

***St Bees WI News*** - Hi everyone, our October meeting we welcomed Chris Robson who gave us a very interesting talk on his own experience of 'Adventure and Survival in the Congo'. Many thanks to Chris for bringing to life the African Nation of Uganda through original cine film of the expedition in 1963, and his amazing tale of being lost and alone for 7 days without food, eventually being found and returned to his family.

Our November meeting will on Monday 11th at the Seacote Hotel 7.30pm, Christmas flower arranging by Alvina Quayle. For Further details, Please see our Facebook page:- [www.St-Bees-WI-facebook](http://www.St-Bees-WI-facebook) or any WI Member.



On Remembrance Day everyone in Britain is asked to remember the sacrifices made by others during times of war. The special day is also known as Remembrance Sunday because it falls on the second Sunday of November.

World War I ended on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, in 1918. The first day of remembrance took place one year later, on November 11, 1919. It was called Armistice Day (an armistice is a peace agreement). After World War II it was renamed Remembrance Day to include everyone who had died in both world wars. Today, people remember those who died in all wars.

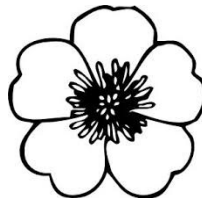
The Cenotaph in London is a stone monument that is the focus of the nation's Remembrance Day events. Its name means "empty tomb." It was built to commemorate the ending of World War I. It was unveiled in 1920. A simple inscription on the stone reads "The Glorious Dead." Many other cities, towns, and even villages now have cenotaphs to commemorate the local people who died in wars.

On November 7, 1919, King George V announced that a two-minute silence should be observed, "so that, in perfect stillness, the thoughts of everyone may be concentrated on reverent remembrance of the glorious dead." The two-minute silence is observed by the nation every year at 11 am on Remembrance Day.

Poppies are delicate red flowers with tissue-like petals that grow wild in fields and hedgerows. In 1915 a Canadian doctor named John McCrae wrote a poem called "In Flanders Fields," about the poppies that grew in battlefields where men had died. Today poppies have become a symbol for the loss of life and suffering during war. Paper poppies are made by disabled ex-servicemen and servicewomen. They are sold in the lead-up to Remembrance Day to raise money to help British people who served their nation.

People in Australia, Canada, France, and the United States also honour veterans on a day in November. Canada and Australia also call the day Remembrance Day. It is Armistice Day in France and Veterans Day in the United States.

[www.kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Remembrance-Day](http://www.kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Remembrance-Day)



**Its Fairing up in St Bees and Egremont!**

A **HUGE thank you** to everyone who supported the 3 events to raise enough to sponsor a producer group for a year. As Egremont already has a Tanzanian link we are going to sponsor a group of Tanzanian Cashew farmers (A co-operative of 7 women and 1 man). We will receive updates on their progress and challenges over the year.

Also, **Egremont has renewed its Fair trade status** and we are progressing with **St Bees, the village Hall recently agreeing to move to fair trade refreshments**, where possible and **using BioD cleaning products**. BioD are one of ethical consumers "best buys". **If you want refills** for these, please let me know. If you want to buy ethical cleaning products in the Supermarket, EcoLeaf are also a best buy. Sadly Ecover have been taken over by a large conglomerate and have now fallen out of ethical consumers' recommended products.

Finally, our new MP, Josh Macallister, was invited to the Farmers' Market AGM. He has agreed to support a "**Cumbria local and Fair**" project which will support our own farmers as well as those in low income countries, both of whom share many similar challenges. Watch this space! And please contact Deb if you want to be **actively involved in developing "Cumbria local and Fair"**.

Deb Lee [cdmudp@gmail.com](mailto:cdmudp@gmail.com)

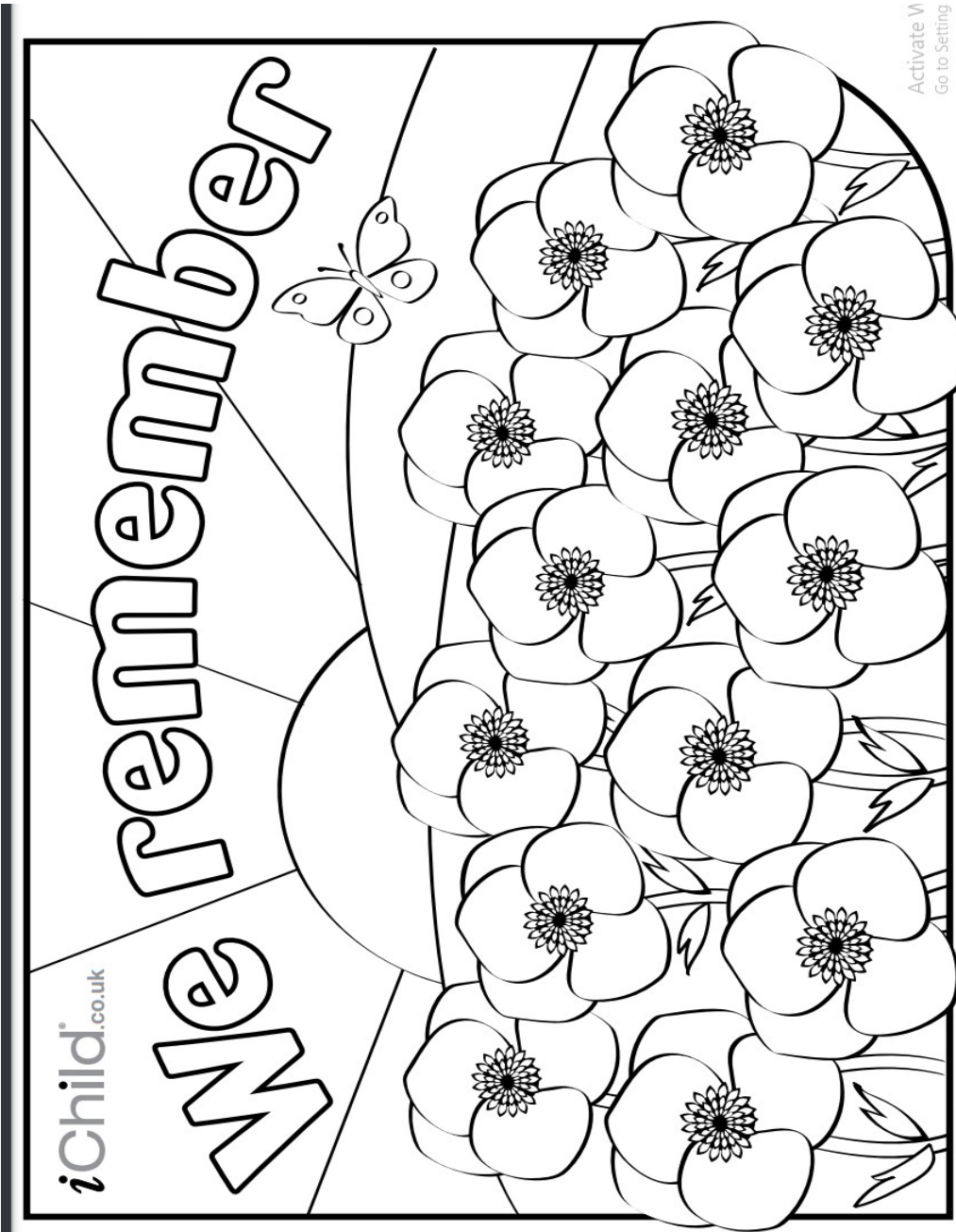


Several hundred children will be following the star this month in St Bees as well as Egremont, Cleator, Cleator Moor and Frizington! They will experience 6 of the key elements of the Christmas story in storytelling and craft along with 6 beautiful tableaux, ending with Jesus, the gift to the world.

In St Bees Priory the dates will be **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November and Monday/Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of December**. At Egremont the schools are visiting 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> November. There will be both a morning and afternoon session lasting an hour and a quarter. **We are looking for helpers** to read bible passages or stories. Please let Deb or Becky know if you can help on any of these dates (or sign the sheet at the back of church.) I am sure it will be an amazing experience to be part of. You can follow the star too!


*(Please note: all volunteers at children's events are safely recruited)*





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