

## 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

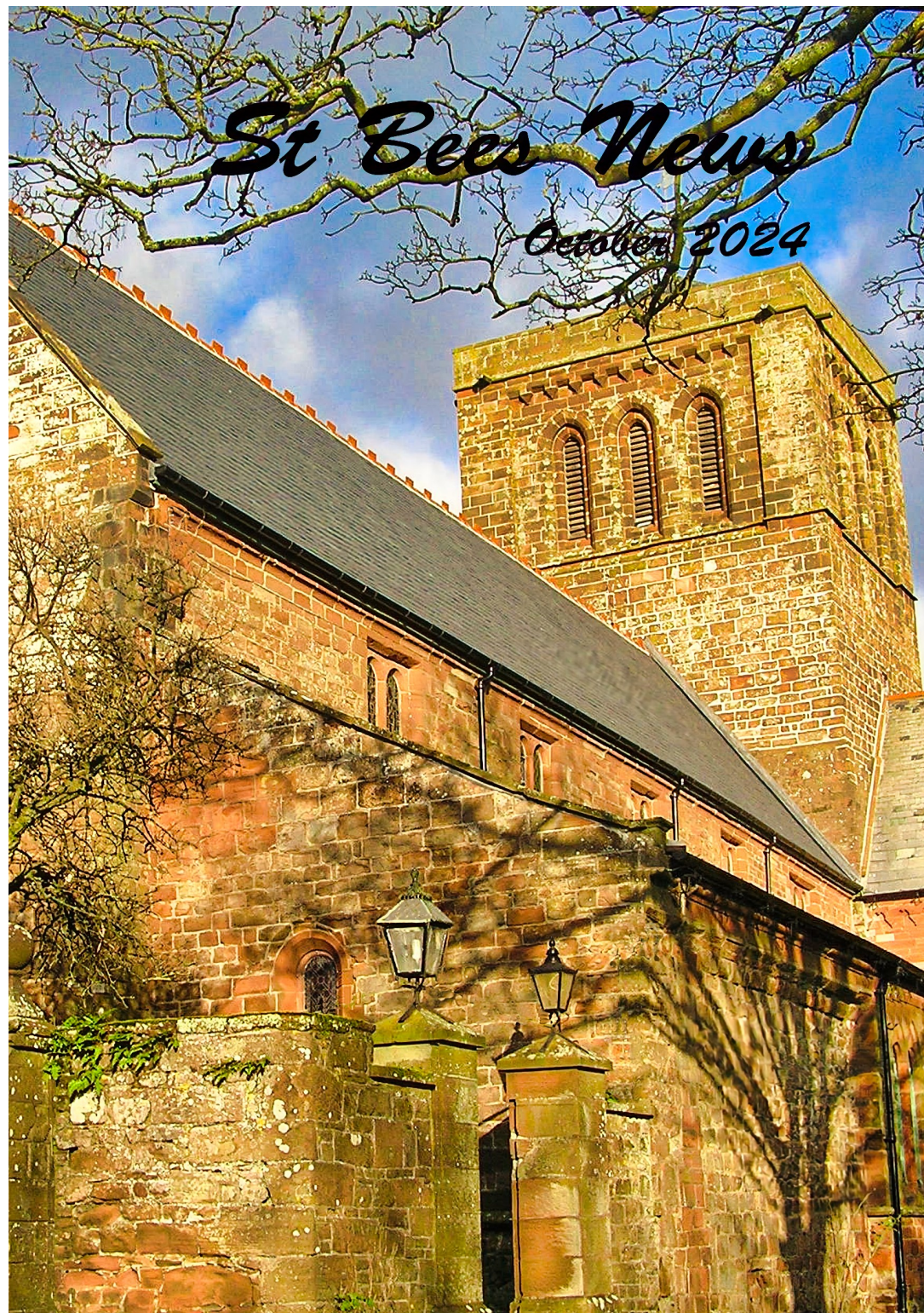
*This magazine is free but production costs are about 50p per copy. Contributions from the Parish Council and our advertisers, to whom we are most grateful, pay much of the costs. However this leaves the balance to be paid by the PCC. Donations to the Treasurer\* or your Magazine Distributor are most welcome.*

Circulation - over 1,000 households in St Bees Parish

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

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## St Bees Parish A B C

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Area Visitor / Good Neighbour Scheme</b> | The parish is divided into 30 small areas each with an official Church Visitor whose task is to welcome and help people in the name of the Priory. Co-ordinator - TBA.                                                                     | <b>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>Arts Society</b>                         | meets every two months on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. Venue to be arranged. Details from Dilys Brownrigg (822584) or Chris Robson 822468.                                                                                 | <b>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>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>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>Scouts, Beavers</b>                      | 1st Beckermert & St Bees Scout Group - Scouts 10.5 - 14.yrs. Monday 6.30 - 8.30.<br>Beavers 6 - 8 yrs. Thursday 5.00 - 6.15 pm in New College Hall                                                                                         | <b>Parish Council</b>             | The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Couderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, email <a href="mailto:pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk">pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk</a> , who will answer queries on civil parish matters.                            |
| <b>Cubs</b>                                 | 8 - 10.5 yrs. Haile Village Hall, Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30 pm.                                                                                                                                                                               | <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>Choir</b>                                | rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).                                                                                                                                                   | <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>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>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>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>Priory Singers</b>             | rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (01946) 825307.                                                                                                                                                      |
| <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                                                                 |
| <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, held on the 3rd Saturday in August. | <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 October 2024

|    |           |                               |                                                                                                                          |
|----|-----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Tuesday   | 10.00 am<br>6.00—8.00 pm      | Over 60s Visit to Keswick<br>Knit and Natter, Queens Hotel                                                               |
| 5  | Saturday  | 7.30 pm                       | Arts Out West:<br>The Whirligig of Time, Village Hall<br>Village Scarecrow VSA Trail (5th & 6th)                         |
| 6  | Sunday    | 10.30 am<br>2.00 - 4.00 pm    | Holy Communion, Priory<br>VSA Refreshments and Games, School Hall                                                        |
| 8  | Tuesday   | 12.00 noon<br>7.00 pm         | Memory & Friendship Cafe, New College Hall<br>PCC meeting, NCH                                                           |
| 12 | Saturday  | Morning                       | Harvest decoration, Priory                                                                                               |
| 13 | Sunday    | 10.30 am                      | Harvest Festival, Priory & Harvest Lunch                                                                                 |
| 14 | Monday    | 9.30 am<br>2.00 pm<br>7.30 pm | Packaging of Harvest Festival Gifts, Priory<br>Distribution of Gifts<br>WI “Congo - Adventure & Survival”, Seacote Hotel |
| 15 | Tuesday   | 2.00 pm                       | Over 60s Musical afternoon, Hodgetts                                                                                     |
| 16 | Wednesday | 7.00 pm                       | Friends Committee meeting, NCH                                                                                           |
| 20 | Sunday    | 10.30 am                      | Holy Communion, Priory                                                                                                   |
| 21 | Monday    | 6.30 pm                       | Parish Council, Village Hall                                                                                             |
| 22 | Tuesday   | 12.00 noon<br>7.30 pm         | Memory & Friendship Cafe, New College Hall<br>Local History talk, Saints & Vikings, NCH                                  |
| 25 | Friday    | 4.30—6.00 pm                  | Friday Fun: “Light”, Priory                                                                                              |
| 27 | Sunday    | 10.30am<br>9.00 am            | Morning Worship, Priory<br>Story Service                                                                                 |
| 29 | Tuesday   | 2.00 pm                       | Over 60s Talk, Air Ambulance, Hodgetts                                                                                   |

### Editor – October 2024

The November 2024 issue of St Bees News will be edited by **Amy Linton, Overbeck, Seamill Lane, St Bees** who would appreciate all contributions **not later than Tuesday, 8 October 2024** please.

Email : [amylinton1983@gmail.com](mailto:amylinton1983@gmail.com)

Tel: 01946 447614

## St Bees News

October 2024

This year we decided to grow pumpkins in the Vicarage Community Walled Garden. I've been excited to see how they've progressed throughout September, shoots curling their way out of the confines of their beds across the grass, rapidly expanding squashes, carefully protected from the mud earth on sheets of slate, slowing turning orange. At the end of October we plan to harvest our cultivated treasures and leave them on the produce stall, waiting for families to give them a new home, transformed into lanterns, or even a pie! If I were fruit or veg I think I'd rather like to be a pumpkin, enjoying the quiet garden in the autumn sun, then at the end of my days, a symbol of light in the darkness and a joy to children with a wide toothy grin to ward off scary spirits!

When I welcome visitors to the Priory I often take them on a tour of the Walled Garden. I am proud of what our little team of gardeners has achieved in the last seven years. I love the moment when I open the gate to the hidden space within and my guests gasp at the site of health and life before them. It's beautiful in the autumn sunshine, strawberry plants spill out of their raised beds and the last of the sweet peas fill the air with their heady scent. Every year the garden transforms a little more, through hard work yes, but also somehow by itself, from its old bramble forest to a walled box of delights! I can't help feeling that as we cultivate and feed the garden to health it heals itself, attracting pollinators and positivity.

I wonder if the Church is similar? When do local church congregations experience long term health and growth? Is it when they run large campaigns to encourage people back to church or when churches are healthy to start with? In the natural world, health leads to growth. Maybe church families are a bit like gardens? Ven Morris Rodham, an advisor for the Church of England, put this point across really convincingly in his work on “Healthy Growing Churches”.

Morris identifies eight essential qualities for healthy growing churches and the first two are empowering leadership and gift-oriented Ministry. When these two qualities are present communities thrive because everyone contributes in a way that fits for them. We might call this our “S.H.A.P.E”...Spiritual Gifts, Heart's Desire, Abilities, Personality and Experience. In November several churches are grouping together to run the SHAPE course, an opportunity for each of us to reflect on God's call to serve him in all the various spheres of life – our workplace, our family, church, voluntary activities and leisure pursuits. Check out the centre pages of this magazine for more details.

At Harvest time we give thanks for all the delicious food on offer and we remember the people who grew our vegetables and raised livestock, milked cows and cared for the land. In church services we gather and turn our attention to God, creator, redeemer and sustainer, giving thanks and praise for the blessings we have received. Whether you feel you are a grinning pumpkin or a determined pineapple, may you know how special you are in God's walled garden this October.

With love from Reverend Becky

## *Priory News*

**Priory Harvest Festival with Choir & Village Orchestra** - on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am. Please come and join us for a good sing of harvest hymns, presentation of Harvest gifts, and Bring & Share Harvest Lunch after the service. All welcome!

If you have a favourite gardening tool, bring it along (as long as it's not the lawn-mower!) Even though it's not been the best summer ever, let's celebrate what we have all achieved! Please sign up for culinary contributions for Harvest Lunch – on the list at back of the church. Thank you!

**Harvest Gifts** of fruit & flowers, veg & groceries, may be brought to church on Saturday morning, 12<sup>th</sup> October to decorate the Priory, or on Sunday to present at the Thanksgiving service. Everyone is welcome to bring gifts to the Sunday service, to be distributed on Monday to those in hospital or Care Homes, and to the sick and housebound in the parish. Many thanks.

**Foodbank Collection at Harvest Festival** – Please bring items for the Foodbank as usual – tins, jars, large packets, and non-perishable foods, to be left in the Baptistry near the back of church. These will be collected later by the North Lakes Foodbank.

**Bishop's Harvest Appeal** – Bishop Rob is initiating a new 3-year cycle of fundraising for the Appeal with 2 projects – a Christian Aid project in West Africa in Burkina Faso training farmers in the production of organic fertiliser Biochar to boost harvests, and a Church Mission Society scheme in Argentina, (a link diocese with Carlisle) with training deacons to serve indigenous congregations. Gift-Aid envelopes will be available in church.

**Distribution of Harvest Gifts** will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October from 2.00pm onwards. Area Visitors and volunteers are requested to contact Rosalie McAndrew or Barbara Hewetson if you can help. The sorting and packing, and making up bunches of flowers will be done on Monday morning from 9.30 am – lots of helpers welcome!

**Decoration of the Priory** – Flower-arrangers and other helpers are invited to turn up on Saturday morning from 9.00am to lend a hand with flower arrangements or decorating windowsills with fruits and veg. Do please bring flowers with you!



## *Parish Council News*

**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, now is the time to let us know. 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.

**Road Closures** – this year has seen an exceptional number of road closures due to the ongoing work to install fibre optic cables as well as other utility and maintenance work. The Parish Council is aware of the inconvenience to residents and the frustration caused by confusing diversion signs and signs left behind after work is finished. The Parish Council is taking up with Highways the adequacy of diversion information on their website and is asking to be kept informed of road works outside our parish boundary which affect routes to Whitehaven, Egremont, Sellafield etc. If anyone is aware of signs left in place long after work is finished, please inform Highways via the hotline 0300 373 3736 or via the online reporting system on the Cumberland Council website. The Parish Council will continue to post information on our Facebook page and details of road works and road closures across the wider area can be found on the Cumberland Council website.

**Rewilding of Beach Rd Verge** – plug plants have been ordered to replant the verge with native wild flowers in the next few weeks after some of the original plants were damaged when fibre optic cables were laid. We are grateful for the support received from the Planting for Pollinators Project and Viberoptix.

**Villages by the Sea**- St Bees is to feature in an episode of Villages by the Sea with archaeologist Ben Robinson. Filming has just taken place around the village and the programme is expected to be shown on BBC2 in November.

**Valley Link Cycle Track** – the High Court has now quashed the planning approval for the proposed new mine. However, the Parish Council remains committed to the project to create a cycle route to link St Bees and Whitehaven and is continuing discussions with Cumberland Council and other partners to gain support for the project and identify a possible route.

**Next meeting-** The next meeting will be on Monday 21 October 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

Holy Baptism

4 August Frankie Connor Fleatham Gardens, St Bees May God's Blessing be upon you and your families.

Priory Flower Rota for October

6 Noreen Woolaghan 13 Harvest volunteers & Pat Crichton 20 Mary McGee 27 Susan Glaister 3 November Flower Fund

Thanks to all those who create flower arrangements or donate to the Flower Fund.



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## RNLI News

### St Bees RNLI paged to assist paddleboarders

Just after 2:00pm our volunteers were paged to go to the assistance of two paddle boarders. Due to an offshore wind they were struggling to get back ashore. A member of the public went to help them and they managed to get ashore before we launched. After checking they were all ok everyone was stood down. The paddle boarders were wearing personal floatation devices and had a mobile phone with them.

### St Bees RNLI Search for missing person

During our regular Tuesday night training exercise, whilst out at sea we were tasked by Belfast Coastguard to assist in the search for a missing person.

The crew joined a multi agency search of the St. Bees coast, carrying out extensive search patterns and liaising with police and coastguard teams.

The crew stood down after being informed that the person had been found safe and well.

Remember, if you are in trouble or concerned about anything at sea, always dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard

### RNLI Bicentenary Scroll Comes to St. Bees

The scroll, which began its journey at Westminster Abbey on the 4th March 2024, the RNLI's 200th birthday, is being passed through lifeboat stations, lifeguard units and fundraising branches around the UK and Ireland and being signed by representatives at each location on its route.

The scroll, which bears the RNLI One Crew Pledge, is held in a bespoke case made with the same materials used to build our lifeboats and the spindle was made using a flagpole from Ramsey lifeboat station that dates back to the early 1890's.

Representatives from all aspects of our station were selected to sign on behalf of the whole crew.. Signing the scroll, we had:

Ray Wilkinson - Branch President

Christine Wrigley - Ladies Guild

Alastair Graham - Helm

Joe Raymond - Training Officer LPO & Crew

Colin Wadey - Launch Authority & LPO

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## Harry Nankivell – The Final Chapter

Vi

Sadly, Bob Jopling died before he was able to complete the final chapter of his mini-biography of Harry Nankivell. The story is finished by Doug Sim based on Bob's research notes....

Bob's last chapter saw Harry setting off for a new life in Australia, where he arrived sometime in 1911-12. He found work as a clerk in Broken Hill, the mining boomtown in South Australia. There he met and married in 1912 another Nankivell – a distant relative, Eva Mary, whom he had probably met through a church choir. They soon moved to Adelaide and had two children; a daughter Daisy, and a son, Garnet.

From the outbreak of World War 1, Australia strongly supported the war effort. Harry felt his seven years British Army experience would be useful and enlisted in 1915. He became a sergeant instructor, first in Australia and then posted to a training base in England in 1917, which meant leaving his family behind. However, by January 1918 his battalion had suffered serious losses on the Somme, so he was sent to France to rejoin them. This meant exposure to all the horrors of trench warfare. His unit had a break from the trenches in March, but due to a big German offensive Harry was quickly back in the thick of the fighting. He remained unhurt, but all but one of his section was killed.

By now his old malaria, probably contracted in Africa, came back to plague him, so he was sent to convalesce on the coast. But in August he was back in the trenches for the Battle of Amiens, when all five Australian infantry divisions attacked together for the first time. This was a major turning point in the war, and the Germans were on the run until the armistice of 11<sup>th</sup> November. However, Harry was badly wounded by shellfire on 3rd September, and died the following day; only 10 weeks before the end of hostilities. Sadly, his wife's brother, who had been fighting in the same area, went to visit him a week later: only to be told he had been killed. He visited and tended Harry's grave at Daours, which is now in a Commonwealth War Graves cemetery.

In his last letter to his wife Eva, Harry had said;

*"I am looking forward to the time when we can all go down to the beach again...take every possible care of your dear self and our darling chicks till I return..."*

But the story does not end there. It was a 2008 posting on the St Bees forum by Peter Nankivell, Garnet's son and Harry's grandson, that sparked the correspondence between Bob and Peter. Peter decided to make a pilgrimage in 2011, with two cousins. They stayed with Bob and Thelma to see Harry's haunts in St Bees, and travelled to Daours in France to see Harry's grave. Sadly, tragedy struck. Shortly after visiting the grave Peter suffered a massive heart attack, and despite the best efforts of the French Air Ambulance, he died. Whether the emotion of finally paying his respects to his grandfather played a part is impossible to tell. His body was repatriated to Australia, amidst great shock in the Nankivell and Jopling families.

## Advertising Space

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## 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 & Christmas Fair 2024***

This year, the Priory will once again be hosting a Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Fair; both events will follow the same format as previous years. More details of how to enter the Tree Festival will follow in the November issue of the St Bees News but, in the meantime, here are the dates for your diary:

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 9-12 noon- setting up of the Christmas Trees in the Priory.

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 2-5pm - Christmas Fair including:

\*The official opening of the Tree Festival

\* Craft and gift stalls (tables £10 each)

\* Carols from Egremont Town Band

\* Raffle

\* Refreshments

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Trees dismantled and winner announced (2-3pm)

If you have any queries, or wish to reserve a table at the Christmas Fair to sell your wares, please email or message Sarah George for more information:

sarahgeorge.bees@gmail.com or 07793 754803

### ***Over 60's***

On October 1st we are having a trip to Keswick with sandwich and chips at Craigs Coffee House. The bus will leave the Odd Fellows at 10am usual pick ups. This trip is open to non members. On 15th October we are having a musical afternoon in Hodgets club. On 29th October we are having a talk about the Air Ambulance also in Hodgets club.

### ***Tuesday night social knit and natter***

We will start again for winter on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 6pm-8pm, in The Queens Hotel. All welcome. Bring along your own handicraft project to do, share patterns, skills and natter away! For more information, contact Barbara 07580045882.

### ***Holy Mowers***

The Holy Mower team would like to thank the "Anonymous Donor" for donating a new mower to help keep the Priory grounds in beautiful condition.

### ***Lesley Rutherford***

Lesley would like to say: "Many thanks to all who contributed in so many ways to the success of the Quilt Exhibition in August. We raised £750 for the Alzheimers Society, which was a wonderful amount."

## **Advertising Space**

Would you like to help the Parish magazine and your business?

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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/>



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***Village School Association***

We're back to school and September began with a promise of an Indian summer - a welcome treat after a cooler, breezier summer break. But now, with the autumn chill setting in, what better way to brighten up St Bees by celebrating the season with a village Scarecrow Trail!

Yes, the St Bees Scarecrow Trail is back again on Saturday and Sunday 5th and 6th October 2024.

By the time you're reading this, we're hoping to our community will busy putting their window, garden or plant pot displays together.

Scarecrow Trail maps will available to buy over the weekend, from the Post Office.

We will be finishing off that weekend by welcoming you all to the Village School Hall for refreshments, crafts and games, where prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places! 2pm to 4pm on Sunday 6th.

We'd love to see a colourful display throughout the village, and we hope you all join us in supporting the event.

Please follow our Facebook page for updates and further information. [@stbeesvsa](https://www.facebook.com/stbeesvsa)

Other news:

School Lottery: We're partnered with \*Your School Lottery\* as a fun and easy way for all to support fundraising for the Village School. Anyone can join.

Tickets cost just £1 per week, and we have a guaranteed winner each Saturday. You'll be entered into the monthly, national prize draw too, which for September was a £1000 Sainsbury's voucher. The school receives 40% of the proceeds.

Search for "St Bees Village Primary School" at [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk).

We'd love to double our supporter numbers, so don't delay, sign up today.

As always, we can be contacted at [stbees.vsa@gmail.com](mailto:stbees.vsa@gmail.com) or [@stbeesvsa](https://www.facebook.com/stbeesvsa) On Facebook/ Instagram. We're currently looking for more volunteers to help our small, but dedicated squad of 5. If you think you can help with any of our events, in any way (ideas, planning, time) please get in touch.

## ***St Bees School News***

It has been a pleasure to have the children back in school at the start of September and welcome some new families to our setting as well. We have also welcomed 2 new members of staff: Mrs Winter has joined the office team and Mr Pearce is our new Year 5 teacher.

The children have come back brilliantly and quickly settled back into our school routines. We have a School Council whose role is to work with myself, sharing the pupils' voice and ideas to help make our school the best place it can be. The priority for this term is gaining feedback on the new school meal provider we are using. Following an introductory assembly, pupils delivered speeches to their classes and peers voted for who they felt would make the best candidates to represent their class. A boy and girl from each class have been democratically elected and I very much look forward to working with them over the year in this important role.

A new role has also been introduced this year at St Bees in the form of House Captains: a boy and a girl from Year 6 have been elected for each house. The children already compete in houses (red, yellow, blue, green) for our annual Sports Day so we wanted to raise the profile of this system throughout the year. Children will have the chance to earn house points for their houses and we look forward to starting some inter-house competitions as the year progresses.

We are also celebrating success in the sporting arena as we have been awarded the Bronze School Games Mark which recognises our commitment to offering high quality PE and sporting opportunities to our pupils. Some of the opportunities last year included outdoor adventurous activities, such as rock climbing and fell waling, watersports, working with specialist sports coaches and competing against other local schools in sports such as cricket and football.

We are excited for the term and year ahead as we embark on a new academic year; thank you for your continued support of our village school.

*Mrs Kate Davis, Headteacher*

## ***Friends of the Priory Report to PCC September meeting***

The Friends have enjoyed a successful series of summer events, raising vital funds. Recently the Choral Evensong by the Herdwyck Consort arranged by Canon Richard Lee produced £152. Also thanks to Chris Robson for organising the Poetry & Wine Evening, and planning the Furness History Group visit, and for his Open Garden event at Fernbank – all well supported.

Funds have been allocated to two projects – ‘ring-fenced’ for the Sleeping Child Garden fencing; and for specialist DNA research into St Bees Man & St Bees Lady.

The Friends Committee are appealing for a new secretary, since Ruth Edgar has stepped down. Many thanks to Ruth for all her sterling work.

## ***Social Events In The Priory***

We occasionally have refreshments after special services or concerts in the church.

If you would be interested in getting involved in either "setting up" or baking for these events, your help would be greatly appreciated.

For further information, please contact Gill Burgess 07947925252

## ***Local History Talk***

A Talk will be given by archaeologist Steve Dickinson of Cocker mouth on Early Christian Monasticism, St Bridget and Viking Incursions and Settlement in Copeland. This will be held on Tuesday 22 October at 7.30pm in New College Hall. Do come and discover!

The Talk is entitled ‘St Bega, St Bridget and the Vikings in Copeland’. All Welcome.

## ***St Bees Community Garden is twinned***

What does this mean? It means that farmers in Africa will be taught how to farm better, but sustainably and without the use of chemicals. The scheme also provides livestock management advice.

What is the scheme called? Ripple Effect: you can find out more about what they are managing to achieve on their website.

As every gardener, dealing with aphids, knows, little things can make a big difference! Perhaps you would like to twin your garden and help African families cope with the challenges of climate change, for which they bear little responsibility.

## ***Amazing Planet***

A good time was had by all (aged 1-80yrs!) at the “Amazing Planet” event. The weather was perfect for outdoor activities so we got our nature and lichen trails done this year and completed the bug hotel. The activities were based around land, water air and space, with planes flying all over the place! Did you know that there are 3 types of lichen, crusty, leafy and shrubby? One gravestone had all 3! A huge thanks you to all the helpers and bakers. If you couldn't make it this year, we hope you had a lovely day too and hope to welcome you next year!

## *A Letter from Michelle*

Email: michelle.proctor@sim.org Mobile and WhatsApp: +260 977719486  
<https://sim.co.uk/>

As you know on a Friday I work from home and what I do varies from week to week. Sometimes I find myself doing things that are more unusual and not what I saw myself doing when I came to Zambia as a children's nurse.

This was the case when a few Fridays back, when nearly everyone else was at work, I found myself with the keys to several houses accompanying the local vet to vaccinate all our pets against rabies. Neither the vet nor the vet assistant was keen to hold the animals so that was my job. Several cats who had been kept inside so they could be found easily were less than happy at being locked in and even less amused to be then held down and given an injection. One dog and seven cats later the mission was accomplished and amazingly I was scratch and bite free!

It was a fun morning but the importance of it was reinforced when a week later a little girl was admitted to the hospital. Having been bitten by a dog a few days before, she had been taken to the local rural health centre where she was given wound care and a tetanus injection and advised to come to Mukinge for the post exposure anti-rabies vaccine. Sadly, due to distance and transport difficulties her family chose not to come to the hospital, and she developed full blown rabies which is always fatal.

This is the second time in my career that I have helped care for a child with rabies and I can honestly say it is one of the hardest things I have had to do. Not only is it a horrible way to die: there is also the knowledge that it is totally preventable. Despite being preventable there are an estimated 59,000 deaths globally every year from rabies and 150 in Zambia.

I continue to work on the children's ward, which has been extra busy recently. There are 27 physical beds on the ward but for the last few weeks we have regularly had over 30 children and sometimes over 40. This means mattresses are pulled out of the linen cupboard and squeezed between beds. The increased number of patients is due to the ever-growing population here in Kasempa.

Frequent goodbyes are a part of life here, but some are harder than others and that will be the case with Jessica, as it was saying goodbye to my friends, Jeff and Rose Shaffers, last month. I have known the Shaffers since 1994 when they first came to Zambia, watched their children grow up and had many adventures together. Before they left, we had one last trip together with other friends, to Kafue National Park. Getting there should have taken 6 hours but turned into a 13 hour adventure. First there was the long wait while they replaced a gasket in the engine on the pontoon to cross the river Lunga. Zambia continues to be effected by the poor rains of last rainy season and resulting drought. As the next rainy season gets closer we are praying that it will be a good one with plenty of rain to fill up the rivers and dams. Daily power outages, water shortages and very dry and dusty roads are the norm for now.

Love Michelle

## *Arts Out West at the Village Hall*

The next Arts out West show coming to the Village Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.30 pm is entitled "The Whirligig of Time"

Those in the village who at sometime in their school or college years studied Shakespeare's play 'Twelfth Night' probably recognise the phrase spoken by Feste: 'and thus the whirligig of time brings in its revenges'. It means (for those who may have forgotten) 'you reap what you sow'.

This one man show is basically about how Malvolio ( he of the cross gartered yellow stockings, who was unmercifully teased and harassed by Sir Toby, Sir Andrew and the maid Maria) took his revenge on the trio.

The show is just down from the Edinburgh Fringe, where Robin Leetham as Malvolio gave a spectacular and scintillating performance. We can look forward to a compelling and entertaining evening.

Tickets: £12.50 ( £6 (u18), £25 ( family) from Claire Hale ( 07740717481)

## *WI News*

In September, we welcomed the Artist Natalie Burns, who spoke about her teaching background and how she became an artist and her work. Much of Natalie's Art is of Local Buildings which all of us were familiar with, also, some obscure ones, perhaps not so familiar. Natalie has exhibited in Lowes court Gallery, Egremont , South West Scotland, Kirkcubright Tolbooth, and she also exhibits in Gosforth Eskdale and Allonby, We had the opportunity to view many original paintings of Churches, Houses of all types and significant buildings from across Cumbria, and further afield, and had the opportunity to purchase postcard versions of the art work; this was followed by Refreshments and a raffle. This was a most enjoyable evening, and huge thanks to Natalie who is a very interesting and engaging person.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday October 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at the Seacote Hotel, we are welcoming Chris Robson who will be giving a talk 'Adventure and Survival in the Congo', not to be missed! All welcome, new members just turn up on the night, visitors fee is £4 including refreshments, plus raffle. Please see our Facebook page for further information [www.St-Bees-WI-facebook](http://www.St-Bees-WI-facebook) or any WI member.

## *New Handrail up to graveyard*

*Sincere thanks* to the generous donor of a new splendid metal handrail for the slope from Priory up to new burial area in the churchyard.

 Follow Daily

# Introducing SHAPE

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 Follow Daily

*From Gill Barlow and Deb Lee...* We are settling into our roles as Churchwardens and are very grateful for all the support we have received and look forward to playing our part in "making Christ known" in our community. We have agreed to do a summary of the PCC meetings for each month, to ensure that everyone knows what we are trying to achieve and what challenges we are facing. The PCC members are elected at the Annual Parish Meeting, which will be on Sunday May 11th next year. Please do think about joining us and chat to others who you think might enrich the PCC. It is not an onerous task but one that is a rewarding part of our service in God's Kingdom.

St Bees PCC (Parochial Church Council) meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month (except in August and December) at 7pm in New College Hall. If you wish to come along and see what we do you are very welcome. Just send an email to Becky at revbgibbs@outlook.com.

## Care Deeply

On October the 13th the Priory looks forward to celebrating Harvest with our community. Not many of us in UK are farmers these days but harvest is important as it reminds us to give thanks for those who work so hard to provide for the things we need. It also wonderful to celebrate the wonderful produce that folk grow and be thankful for it.

In Carlisle Diocese we have a Bishop's Harvest Appeal that focuses on 2 projects over 3 years. For the next 3 years we will support a project to train indigenous ministers in Northern Argentina and in Burkino Faso providing land and agricultural training to displaced families. As we celebrate our bounty please consider supporting the Appeal. You can find out more at <https://www.carlisediocese.org.uk/harvestappeal/>

# A Fair Share

The Bishop of Carlisle's Harvest Appeal 2024



