

St Bees Priory Church

Rev'd Becky Gibbs, Priest in Charge

(01946 822279 or 07460 990631)

revbgibbs@outlook.com

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 David Cox

The Rev'd Canon Dr Trevor Park MBE

The Rev'd Richard Lee - 07841 398088

Sunday Services

Due to Covid 19 services are suspended until further notice

10.30 a.m. Live Stream service

See www.stbeespriory.org.uk for details

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.*

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

DTP & Final Editing - Ian & Rosalie McAndrew

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St Bees News
July August 2020

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 - M Westhead (822674).	History Group	works towards improving knowledge of local history. Lectures arranged periodically. Details from Chris Robson 822468.
Arts Society	meets every two months on the last Wednesday of the month at 8.00 p.m. Venue to be arranged. Details from Dilys Brownrigg (822584) or Chris Robson 822468.	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.
Bellringing	The Priory has a ring of 8 bells. Those interested in ringing or learning to ring, contact D Sim, 31 Main Street. Practice Wednesdays, 8.00 pm. Sundays, ring at 10.00 a.m.	Parish Council	The Clerk to the Council is Mrs Jane Donaldson, East House, Coulderton. Tel. (01946) 822560, e.mail pc-clerk@stbees.org.uk, who will answer queries on civil parish matters.
Brownies	Brownies meet on Tuesdays. Further details can be obtained from Leanne Cherry, contact 07805154408.	Parochial Church Council	meets 10 times a year. Elections for 20 members 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 - Jon Mellor, jonmell@hotmail.co.uk
Cubs, Scouts, Beavers	Cubs for children aged 8 - 10, meet on Thursdays, 6.30 - 8pm. Beavers meet on Thursdays (term time) from 5.00 - 6.00 pm. Details from Graham Young. They meet in CCF Hut, St Bees School. Scouts meet at Egremont.	Playgroup (Toddler Group)	meets every Wednesday in term time only, from 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. in New College Hall, St Bees Priory. Details from Amy Linton - Email - amyinton1983@gmail.com
Choir	rehearses on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. Details from Frank Bowler, the Organist (Tel. 825307).	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.
Churchwardens	are leading lay Church members who will be pleased to help and advise on church matters. Rosalie McAndrew (822326), Malcolm Lightfoot, Wendy Mellor, & Derek McGee	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.
Councillors	Copeland - Cllr Jeffrey Hailes- 01946 814819, 7.00 to 9.00 p.m Monday to Friday. Cumbria - Cllr Chris Whiteside, 01946 67575 or 07798667678. E-mail chris.whiteside@cumbria.gov.uk	Prayer Group	meets on Thursdays from 1.45 - 3.15 p.m. in New College Hall . All denominations welcome.
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	Priory Singers	rehearse in Old College Hall, Mondays at 8.00 p.m. Details from Frank Bowler. (Temp). (01946) 825307. <i>Not meeting at present.</i>
Finance	The Church Treasurer is Norman Killip, Honeybee House, Seamill Lane, St Bees, who will explain our Christian Giving system.	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
First Responders	provide Basic Life Support in association with the Ambulance Service. Contact Andy Brock 823497	Seagalls	meets first Tuesday of month at 7.30pm in the Seacote Hotel. Contact Lynne Smith - Tel. 822285 - or Judith 07772523742
Football Association	Contacts - Seniors Tony Barnett 590640. Juniors (U-12) - Alec Morton 823992 & Alastair Billson.	St Bees Triers	Friendly running club for all abilities. Every Thursday 6pm & 7pm. Email running@triers.uk Tel. 823497 Web www.triers.co.uk
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 .	St Bees Youth Group	meets 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at 7.00 p.m. in New College Hall. All youngsters of secondary school age are welcome. Contact organisers on 07518 394297.
Friends of the Priory	assists in the conservation of the Priory and encourages interest in its historical and architectural heritage. Contact Philip Barratt or Tom Rice, Treasurer, Green Ghyll, Greendykes, Egremont.	Sunday Club	Children's activities and toys are available in the Baptistry. Contact – R McAndrew (822326),
Garden Society	Dtails from Mark Hewertson, (Tel. 01946 825468). Flower Show is held on the 3rd Saturday in August.	Village School Association	exists to raise funds for the school and to foster links between school and community. Secretary - via School - Tel. 822392.
Guides	meet on Tuesdays from 7.00 – 8.30 p.m. Further details can be obtained from Amanda Smith or email stbeesguides@yahoo.com	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 New College Hall (see program). Contact Roxanne Benson Tel 823137.

Seamill Lane.

Doug Millington doug@millington.plus.com

Ann Millington 01946 822588 / 07711567106ann.claverham@yahoo.co.uk

Pippa Kelly 01946 822525 pippa1.kelly@gmail.com

Coulderton, Middletown & Nethertown.

Councillor Jeffrey Hailes 0774 7231687jeffrey.hailes@copeland.gov.uk

Jane Donaldson 01946 822560 jld1051@btinternet.com

Ian MacPherson 01946 823245 backofthesofa@btinternet.com

Catherine MacPherson 01946 823245 moominmac@btinternet.com

Eric Burton (Chairman of Lakeland View residents association) 822152/07926 636063
email e.burton@talktalk.net

Non-area specific, St Bees village.

Nathan Steele 07479734842richardnathansteele@gmail.com

Adele Rothery 07927667275 adelefrazer@btinternet.com

Calendar for July - August

July

3	Friday		St Bees School Speech Day (Virtual)
14	Tuesday	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting (Virtual)
20	Monday	6.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting (Virtual)

Editor - September 2020 Magazine

The September 2020 issue of St Bees News will be edited by Amy Linton, Overbeck, Seamill Lane, St Bees who would appreciate all contributions not later than Saturday 8 August please.

Email: amyinton1983@gmail.com Tel. No. 01946 447614

St Bees News

July - August 2020

My usual topic for a July letter would be summer holidays. Sadly, we don't have much to say about that this year. Like many of you, our holiday is postponed and we're waiting to see what the next month has to hold before making alternative plans. It won't be the first time my summer plans have been in disarray, although, the last time, the disruption was a bit more welcome.

Thirteen years ago I packed up my classroom at the end of what felt like an endless summer term and went on maternity leave. I was thirty seven weeks pregnant. Confident in the knowledge that first babies are always late Phil and I drove over two hundred miles from our home in Macclesfield to my parent's caravan in Southwold, on the Suffolk coast.

My mum, dad and late Gran were all there to welcome us and we settled for a well-earned rest. The next day I awoke very early to discover that I was in labour. So, after a short visit to the hospital in Great Yarmouth we headed back to Macclesfield, reassured by the midwife that we had plenty of time left. But then the A14 was closed in both directions (as is often the case) and Phil had to navigate from one side of the country to another, avoiding traffic jams and tractors.

Six nerve wracking hours later we were back home and started the long wait for baby to appear on the scene. We would have made ourselves comfortable but (because first babies are always late) we had sent the sofa to be reupholstered and apart from one other chair, that was our only furniture. We had planned for a home birth but twenty hours later I was back in hospital, closer to home this time. Twenty six hours after going into labour in a caravan in Suffolk our son was born.

Thirteen years later he is still a very welcome disruption!

Life throws unexpected turns of events at us all the time. Some are welcome, some are not. For many people summer holidays plans are the least of their worries, with financial difficulties, ill health or family tensions stealing any light and warmth the summer may bring. When life is hard it can be difficult to see how any good can come out of all this pain and struggle.

In times like these I often turn to words spoken by God to the prophet Jeremiah. The prophets were often given a hard time; their messages weren't always popular and frankly, they were seen as a bit weird. What an encouragement it must have been for Jeremiah to hear these words from God;

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

May this alternative July bring you blessing you hadn't anticipated, warmth for your soul, light for your mind and hope in your heart.

With love from Becky

St Bees Priory to re-open for private prayer on Sunday afternoons

We have been closed for several months, but now that the threat of Covid-19 is decreasing, we are pleased to be able to open our doors again for private prayer.

You may find the church not quite as you remember or anticipate it to be. This is because we have used physical boundaries inside the church to keep volunteers and visitors safe. Please note that;

If you have any symptoms of Corona Virus (raised temperature, persistent cough, sudden loss of sense of smell or taste) please go home

Hands must be sanitised upon entrance and exit

Only the central, right aisle is available for seating and a one-way system is in place

It is not possible to visit the history areas or Lady Chapel

The two-metre social distancing rule must be applied at all times

Singing is a transmission risk and is currently not allowed

Those who are vulnerable or shielding need to remember to keep themselves safe and may decide that they should not enter the church building at this time

A short video explaining what to expect can be found on our church website.

Also available on the website are meditations to accompany the “Jesus, our Hope” images by The Benedictine Sisters of Turvey Abbey that you will find amongst the pews. We hope these will aid you in your prayers.

The church will be open from Sunday 21st June, every Sunday, from 2-6pm. The church will be silent from 2-4pm and there will be quiet, recorded church music from 4-6pm.

Please go to www.stbeespriory.org.uk for more details or contact the Reverend Becky Gibbs, on 01946 822279 or email revbgibbs@outlook.com

Priory notes

Deepest Sympathy is extended to Marianne Harrison and her family on the sad and sudden loss of her husband John of Becksides House, Oddfellows Lane, St Bees who died at home, after many years suffering from M.S. He was devotedly cared for by Marianne and his carers at the Cleator Moor Daycare centre. Our thoughts are with his family Matthew, Naomi and Joseph who all attended St Bees School and are away from home, involved in their careers.

Love and Prayers for health and comfort go out to all who are in lockdown or shielding at home, thinking of Annie Southam, Ursula Rowlands, and many others who are bravely soldiering on and awaiting a return to normality, soon!

We remember Mrs Rhoda Bryan in our prayers as she has been in hospital in Belfast for 2 weeks. She is home now but is awaiting investigations.

List of Volunteers (as of 21 June).

Sandwith & Rottington.

Tracey West: info@sandwithvillagegroup.co.uk 01946 823112 / 07739806445

Facebook page: [@sandwithvillagegroup](https://www.facebook.com/sandwithvillagegroup)

Linethwaite, High & Low Walton, High House Road, Finkle Street, The Crofts.

Julie Cox 0774 3267527 jools232@me.com

Grant Gilmour 0771 0030524 grantgilmour@yahoo.com

Donna McMullen. 0785 4575230. donnamcmullen11@btinternet.com

Stephen & Carole Woodman 01946 822375 or 0784 2174871

sandcwoodman@outlook.com

Abbey Vale, Abbey Road, Monks Hill, Holly Mews, Abbey Farm, Scalebarrow and Richmond Crescent to Flatt Houses, Beach Road.

Hilary & Steve Hemm 0773 1385152 hilaryh51@btinternet.com

Richard Lee 0784 1398088 & Deb Lee 01946 823470 lee535877@aol.com

Beach Estate, Seacote Gardens, Peckmill, Station Road & Rowan Terrace.

Demi McDowell 0784 0301712 DMcDowell14@aol.com

Zoe Crossan 07751331202 zjhay@hotmail.com

Lower Main Street (North of Village school lane to Station), Seacroft Drive, Outrigg close and further up.

Stuart Burgess & Yvonne Leech. 01946 824712 leech.burgess@btinternet.com

Gabrielle, Martin, Charlotte & Harriet Kane 07934 063132 gabriellekane@mac.com

Mid Main Street (School lane to Outrigg and Outrigg terrace.).

Simon & Rachel Walker 0777 2211656 rachelwalker825@gmail.com

Claire Shackley 0782 8328306 shackattack42@aol.com

Upper Main Street (south of Outrigg), Nethertown and Egremont Roads.

Neil Davidson 07305950016 neildavidson2014@hotmail.com

Tom Horner & Abi Nutsford-Milling 07808068835 abibeautytherapy@gmail.com

Fairladies Estate.

Audrey Agnew. 0781 2924055 adairagnew@gmail.com

Heather Richardson 07484 713233 & +44 7935521872 & 01946 825089

heatherrichardson2012@btinternet.com

Tony McCarron. 07494077042 tonytricialulu67@hotmail.com

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Web: www.west-coast-group.co.uk

Priory Progress! Our buildings have been closed for nearly 12 weeks since Mothering Sunday, but hopefully that may change in July! Meantime our church worship and outreach remains active (via YouTube, Facebook and phone) – serving the local community and offering weekly worship both by Livestream and Priory Notes delivered to church members who are not online. The vicar and helpers will continue this until it is safe to meet again in church for worship and prayers.

Sincere Thanks to everyone who has generously donated to the Priory recently since the closure – by standing order, one-off donations and cheques covering regular amounts normally given in the collection plate. It is much appreciated by the Priory Church Council who are facing a considerable reduction in income this year – due to no collections; no halls rental; no fundraising events; and of course no Pop-In café which is so missed by everyone. The lack of social gatherings does affect the mental and spiritual wellbeing of us all, especially those who live alone. However you are not alone!

Giving advice for those not online who have missed the May and June parish magazines – please send donations/cheques payable to St Bees Priory to the Treasurer Norman Killip, Beehive House, Seamill Lane, St Bees. CA27 OBD.

Church Council meetings – Two virtual meetings have been held hosted by Rev Becky, a Standing Committee and a PCC meeting. Matters discussed included planning, church services, finance, maintenance of buildings and grounds, pastoral care and community life. The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 14 July at 7.30 pm. when the agenda will include the Diocesan Strategic Review and the Priory's 900 Years plan.

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Robson Family

The Robson family are taking part in the Virtual Lewa Safari Marathon for **Tusk Trust** because Charm loved running, Africa & protecting wildlife. Across Africa, the effects of the Coronavirus now threatens the livelihoods of millions of people as well as the future of the continent's unique wildlife. The real Lewa Safari Marathon cannot take place this year and the loss of the funds it normally raises for African communities and wildlife protection will only increase the impact of the virus.



Charm Robson ran the Uganda Marathon in 2014 and would definitely have supported Eliud Kipchoge to raise money for this cause..... so the Robson Family is taking part in her memory.

Husband Chris, at 82, a Lakeland Trails and St Bees Triers runner, daughters Sam, Anya and Rezwana, sons Timon and Steve and grandchildren Janneke, Jake, Henry, Fabio and Jos will be walking, swimming, running and cycling to complete 26 miles in total each during June to raise money for this valuable cause.

As well as the marathon, they are doing a Family Plank Challenge - 26 minutes of planks in total per team member before the end of June. Chris / Dad / Grandad has set the bench mark at 2 minutes on his trial run.

Chris adds - Charm always wanted to compete in another race in Africa. She won the Ladies prize in the Uganda Gorilla marathon some years back and thought that the South African Big Five event would be fun if some of the family could join with her. Sadly her illness stopped all thoughts of running, but daughter Sam noticed that the Lewi Safari Marathon which is held in Kenya to support wildlife has been postponed and the organisers urged supporters to help by doing their own virtual version where they live. So in memory of Charm, who loved running and wildlife, the Robson family are raising money for Tusk, the wildlife charity, with their own events in Cumbria, Devon, Hampshire, Gloucester, France and America. Some will be running their own 26 miles, sons Timon and Steve will be cycling, daughter Anya will be swimming. Most of the family including Chris (14 are involved) are doing a mix of running and cycling, and all will be doing 26 minutes of planks, not all at once! **Donations to Chris Robson or justgiving.com/fundraising/robsonfamilymarathon**

About Tusk Trust—Tusk is a dynamic organisation with over twenty-five years experience initiating and funding conservation and community programmes throughout Africa. The charity, whose Royal Patron is Prince William, supports over 60 projects to protect wildlife and also promote education and alleviate poverty.

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Parish Council News

Meetings – The Parish Council held its first ever virtual meeting on 15 June via Cisco Webex. It was attended by parish councillors as well as the Clerk and one of our ward councillors. It is not quite the same as meeting in person but we were able to approve the annual governance statement and annual accounts and deal with several items of business which needed decisions. At the moment meetings in person are still not allowed but arrangements for the meeting on 20 July will be kept under review.

West Cumbria Mining – West Cumbria Mining has submitted some amendments to its original planning application which was approved by CCC some months ago. The amended plans involve some changes to the design of the processing plant which will ensure that the by-product is minimised or eliminated entirely so all the coal mined will be of metallurgical quality. This will not affect the external appearance of the plant in any way. The Parish Council has agreed to support the amended plans and to urge CCC to approve the amended application as soon as possible so the project can move forward.

Play Areas – For the moment the play areas at the main beach and on Outrigger remain closed pending further advice from the government. The restrictions in recent weeks have slowed progress with replacing the two springy toys in the toddler area at the beach but we have identified two new items which will fit with the seaside theme and which we hope will prove more robust and able to cope with the heavy use. We will be placing an order shortly and have them installed as soon as we can. We would like to remind everyone that the play equipment is only for use by children and should not be used by older teenagers and adults.

Village in Bloom – The coronavirus pandemic has affected all the usual village activities and events including the work of the Village in Bloom volunteers. The Parish Council would like to thank the volunteers who, despite the restrictions, have managed to continue to look after various areas in the village and have put up the planters on the railings on Main Street. The colourful displays will be much appreciated in these difficult times.

Coronavirus Support - the Parish Council would like thank everyone who has continued to help friends and neighbours during this difficult time. Although there has been some gradual easing of restrictions, the volunteer support scheme will remain in place for the time being for those who may need help during self-isolation. The Parish Council will continue to provide as much information as possible via the web-site, Facebook page and noticeboards. If you have any questions, the Clerk (pc_clerk@stbees.org.uk tel 822560), the Chairman (Doug Sim tel 824898) and Vice Chairman (Grant Gilmour tel 822677) are available to help.

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Local Councillors
Borough Councillor
Councillor Jeffrey Hailes
Telephone 01946 814819
Jeffrey.Hailes@copeland.gov.uk
County Councillor
Councillor Chris Whiteside
Telephone: 01946 67575 (home) or 07798 667678 (mobile)
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A better world after Covid

As you read this, I would hope that we are all enjoying a little more freedom than of late. Some of us have suffered more than others and many have experienced loss, loss of a loved one, loss of freedom, loss of a job.

But for many, the economic and political aftershock of the coronavirus could be more damaging than the disease itself.

Corona virus laid bare the injustices in supply chains:

Many well known stores did not honour clothing contracts with businesses in low income countries, such as Bangladesh, even when the items had actually been delivered. There is no furlough scheme or welfare payments for these factory workers.

Sheuly, a farmer in Bangladesh, describes her situation. Crops have been harvested, never to be sold. She cannot get to market

People are starving. They cannot provide enough food to their children, let alone pay for them to get to school. People are very scared.”

But those of you who have been buying Traidcraft goods have already been helping.

Normally, Traidcraft Exchange’s work is about the long term - building livelihoods, increasing incomes for the poorest, and challenging unjust business practices but these workers in Bangladesh were provided with rice and soap.

Where Traidcraft has been working for sometime with co-operatives, these areas have responded to the crisis better than areas without this long term commitment.

Together we can aid recovery, ensuring the producers have the basic things they need to survive now. But the basics are not enough. We need to prepare farmers for the next harvest, help workers to restore their livelihoods and do what we can to protect workers’ rights for the next generation.

Please purchase your essentials from Traidcraft and help make the post Covid world a better one.

Thank you. Deb Lee 823470 lee535877@aol.com

(Photo courtesy Traidcraft Exchange)



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john@hrybltd.com

News from St Bees School

It's been a long time in the making, but we can finally reveal what we have been working so hard on for a while now - we've created a brand-new House system for the school! When the new students join us in September, a ceremony will be held where each individual will be 'sorted' into a House - much like in Harry Potter, although, sadly there won't be a sorting hat! Existing students and staff have been assigned a House and the idea is to get everyone working together and throughout the year: students and staff will work towards gaining points for their House. House points can be awarded - and taken away - sporting events will see Houses go head to head and at the end of the year, the triumphant House will be revealed. Without further ado, here are the new Houses at St Bees and why they have been chosen:

BEGA An Irish princess who gave her name to the village of St Bees, St Bega was a brave, adventurous and curious young woman. With courage and respect, she signifies strength and empowerment - a perfect testament to the Bega House.

ELIZABETH Queen Elizabeth I, hailed as one of the greatest monarchs of all time, signed the "Letters Patent" that meant St Bees could be established as a school. She awarded Grindal the Archbishop of Canterbury position in 1575. The Queen was an intelligent, loyal and witty leader - characteristics encouraged in all St Bees students.

FOUNDATION Foundation is the name of the main, and original, school building, the heart of the school and the hub of teaching life. Foundation building was built between 1587 - 1588, benefiting from extensive expansion with new floors in the 1800s.

GRINDAL Son of a local farmer, Edmund Grindal, Archbishop of Canterbury, is founder of the school and a native of the village. In 1583, although ill and blind, Grindal persevered to ensure the school was opened. An ambitious, confident man with perseverance and resolve, he stood for everything we honour at St Bees - his legacy still very much ringing true.

In true Harry Potter style - in which house do you think you belong?

ST BEES SPEECH DAY STILL GOING AHEAD ONLINE The end of the year is fast approaching, and while we've had a far-from-normal school year thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, we're still going to be celebrating the school year as we always have - with our Speech Day celebrations! Whilst we can't physically be together, we're utilising the online learning platform Microsoft Teams to deliver Speech Day virtually to students, parents and staff - just as we would normally, but in the comfort of their own homes instead of in school. There will still be awards and lots of activities to get involved with! Speech Day is taking place on 3rd July and we are in the midst of putting the final touches to the celebrations. Make sure to keep a look out on our social media for the results of our awards on the day.

(Reprinted from Hive with School's permission)

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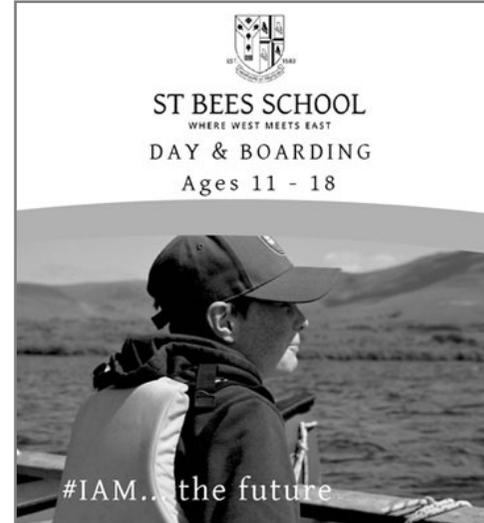
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St Bees Swimming Pool



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/>

St Bees Lifeboat

At 7:30pm on Saturday 30 May the volunteers at St Bees RNLI were requested by Belfast Coastguard to go to the aid of a 20 foot fishing boat with mechanical failure.

The volunteers at St Bees RNLI were paged early on Saturday evening to go to the aid of a small fishing boat broken down about one mile from Whitehaven Harbour with two adults and a child on board. The boat was making its way south to a new berth outside of Cumbria.

The volunteer crew quickly located the vessel and attached a towline. The boat was then taken into the harbour and met by members of the Whitehaven Coastguard Rescue Team.

The lifeboat then returned to the station and was washed down and made ready for the next call out.

As the crew were being debriefed a member of the public informed them that an adult male had fallen and injured himself by the play area. The volunteers, using their casualty care training and wearing the required PPE to protect themselves and the public from Covid-19, quickly established that the casualty would require hospital treatment for a suspected broken leg. The RNLI crew remained with the casualty until the ambulance arrived.

Dick Beddows St Bees Lifeboat Operations Manager said 'If undertaking a sea passage please make sure you have checked the vessel is mechanically sound and sea worthy, all the crew have lifejackets and you have the means of communication and navigation, other than a mobile phone'.

WI News

I do hope you are all continuing to stay safe and well under the continued lockdown. Restrictions are lifting slightly, however we must continue to follow current Government Guidelines. A reminder that our July meeting has been cancelled, and no meeting in August.

Looking forward, there would be a great deal to consider prior to re-starting our WI Group safely, this is assuming current guidelines are eased, allowing increased numbers meeting in an indoor setting, and if Church Halls/Buildings are allowed to re-open. In the meantime enjoy the continued good weather and look forward with a degree of optimism to welcoming you back to St Bees WI in the not-too-distant future.

Further details regarding future WI meetings will be in St Bees News (September issue) and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/St-Bees-WI. Or contact me, Roxanne, on 01946 823137.

Cornerstone Christian Bookshop

Good News! Cornerstone Christian Bookshop is now OPEN - but for shorter hours initially. The bookshop will re-open on Thursday 2nd July, mornings only from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm; Mondays to Saturdays. Health & Safety measures will be in place, to protect customers and staff. Do come and check out our new books and see our Sale. We look forward to seeing you soon.
Caroline Lowman, Manager.

Grassroots

Congratulations to John & Sally Kennedy who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary by zooming their family over champagne on 4th June. Wishing them good health and happiness after their many years in St Bees, giving kindness and generosity to all friends and neighbours.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Dr Claire Summers retiring in July from the NHS after 37 years of dedication and expertise giving healthcare in A&E. Enjoy your freedom and travels!

Happy Birthday to Katy for 11 July from all at the Priory family church.

Cancellations Unfortunately the St Bees Flower Show, usually happening mid-August, has been cancelled due to the restrictions of the C-Virus crisis. A great pity, since all our gardens are looking spectacular with many leisure hours of gardening!

Elizabeth Cotes is back home and would welcome contact from friends. She is becoming vulnerable with occasional lapses in short-term memory, and it would reassure the family to know that friends and neighbours would pop in from time to time.

Harps for Harmony—a global collaboration! The local group Harps Northwest took part in the premiere performance of Pachelbel's Canon by 109 harpists across the world of all ages and experience. Was this the largest virtual harp ensemble in the world? It can be seen on Facebook. One day they, Harps Northwest, will perform this in the Priory.

News from the Village School

It is with great pleasure that we welcome back Mrs Sharp and Mrs Storey on their return to work following long term illnesses. We wish them all the best.

We would like to express our heart-felt thanks for all the support and hard work that has taken place in their absence – teachers, support staff, cleaners and in particular Mrs Winn, Mrs Spedding and Mrs James. They have all made tremendous efforts to ensure children have received high quality home learning and that our school has been able to reopen to vulnerable and key worker children. It has been truly uplifting to see children learning and playing in school once more. We do hope that we are able to reopen school fully in September to all children but will of course be directed by Government and Local Authority guidance to ensure that school is safe for both children and staff.

In addition we would like to thank our Governing Body and the Local Authority. They have worked closely together these past few months to ensure that school has followed best practice and to confirm that everything in school has been prepared correctly for reopening.

The challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic have brought are unprecedented and Mrs Sharp and Mrs Storey will continue to work closely with our Governing Body, the LA, Mrs Winn and all the staff at St Bees Village School to ensure that we are ready for any and all changes that occur in the future.

Thank you for your continued support.

“If you’re ever in a shipwreck

“If you’re ever in a shipwreck...just hope it’s like the Izaro’s ...”

These words are from the back of a 1907 picture-postcard auctioned a while ago on Ebay. Someone called Edward was writing home about a wrecked ship at St. Bees, very much a tourist attraction that summer. Fast aground under Tomlin, she had been abandoned by her crew, who had all scrambled ashore without injury. The Whitehaven Lifeboat and the Rocket Brigade, though summoned, had been turned back before reaching the scene, and the local word was that no-one had suffered even a wet sea-boot.

This ship was the SS “Izaro”. She had been built in Grangemouth seventeen years earlier, as the steel-screw steamer “Edith”. Now in 1907 she was Spanish-owned, and carrying 700 tons of iron ore from Carthage to Maryport. In the dark and in thick fog she lost her bearings and ended up close under Tomlin, her prow and stern lodged on rocks but amidships, unsupported. Three days later the Salvage Officer from Liverpool reported her as being in a bad way: *“broken across decks two feet abaft stokehold bulkhead, side plating both sides broken down several feet, decks amidships broken and buckled in many places, midship side butts opened out and bilges bulged and twisted.”*

Soon a shallow draught steam lighter arrived from Liverpool and began taking off the cargo. It was obvious that the Izaro’s time was over, and that she was fit only for scrap. Dismantling her took all the summer, and postcards and an old photograph confirm that some salvage men camped out on the rocks. Eventually what was left of the wreckage was dragged the short distance to our beach, where it can still be seen whenever the tide is low. Principally there are two large boilers (well-holed now on the seaward side) and a quantity of assorted ironwork.



At times the boilers are encrusted with sponges and sea-anemones, and there have been reports of lobsters taking up home within them. In 2007 one of the Izaro’s anchors was



spotted under some other wreckage. Our lifeboatmen decided to recover it and after much effort they succeeded. I am told it was then that they noticed the date. It was the 25th of May - one hundred years, to the day, since the Izaro came to grief.

Bob Jopling, Village History Group

(This article was originally written for another magazine. We repeat it here now because there has been heightened interest in the “Izaro” following this Spring’s very low tides).

Lowes Court Gallery

Lowes Court Gallery – Hello to Exhibitors & Friends & Customers!

Visit us via **Facebook@LowesCourtGallery**

We are not opening yet but possibly in July. In the meantime we are selling via our Facebook page. Offering free delivery on orders of £20 and above. For non-local addresses, P&P will be charged.

For sale – cards, books, serving boards, clocks including tide-clocks, soft toys & cute Herdy sheep. Plus paintings by Kevin Weaver, Natalie Burns, Tetiana Scott and Rosemary Powell. Also handmade tweed handbags and hand-painted illuminated bottles. Plus prints, framed photographs, and more! Please view them online.

From Sue Cole, Subs Secretary

Florence Arts Centre

When we closed in March, Florence Arts Centre was just planning to take down Wallace Heim’s fantastic *x=2140* exhibition. While we have been closed, the enigmatic and inspiring sculptures, which explored the future of Sellafield after decommissioning, have continued to live, with the moss growing alone in the darkened gallery. It was with great disappointment that we had to postpone our exhibitions for the rest of spring and early summer, which had included a celebration of our *Sense of Place* residency programme and of Conrad Atkinson’s 80th birthday. Like many though, we have looked for the opportunities emerging from the restrictions. This month we will launch our new website, with improved interactive galleries featuring much more art to experience from our own homes, as well as an online shop for Florence Paintmakers’ products.

Meanwhile, back at Florence, our new heating is being installed and we are making plans to welcome back visitors safely, with a one-way system and increased cleaning routine a part of that. Restrictions allowing, we will reopen for an exhibition by resident artists Frances and Carolyn Marr in August. Films of the innovative processes they have used to make their beautiful ceramics incorporating Florence’s haematite pigment are online.

We are very grateful for Copeland Borough Council and Arts Council England support through this period which means we can face the future together with you all with optimism and confidence.

Why not join our mailing list to be the first to know when the new website goes live? Email florence@florenceartscentre.com and you’ll receive our new regular newsletter directly to your inbox.