



The Old St. Beeghian

Editor: Dr. A. J. H. Reeve, 6 Abbey Farm St. Bees, Cumbria, CA27 0DY. (Tel: 01946 - 822472)

No. 174

JULY 2008

Programme for Old St Beeghians' Day Saturday, 13th September 2008

Please return the reply form as soon as possible, but by Friday 5th September at the latest

Saturday, 13th September

09.30-13.00	Squash and Fives
09.30	Tours of the School. (Contact Helen Miller).
09.45	Committee meeting in the Whitelaw Building.
11.00	100th Annual General Meeting in the Whitelaw Building.
12.15	Service in the Chapel
13.00	Lunch in the Whitelaw Building.
13.30-14.00 Tee-off	Golf: The School v Old St. Beeghians.
14.00 onwards	Art Exhibition
14.00	Hockey: 2nd XI v Old St. Beeghians XI
15.00	Rugby: OSB 17 - 23 years v OSB 24 and over.
16.00	Tea in the Whitelaw Building.

Do please support these events by offering to play for the Old St. Beeghian teams. They continue to be a popular and integral part of the day for both those who participate and those who choose to spectate. Please contact the organisers by **Friday 5th September at the latest**, or preferably at the earliest opportunity.

Rugby: Huw Lewis, The P E Centre, St. Bees School. Tel: 01946 828037 Mob: 07789 858234

Hockey: Sarah Bromiley, The P E Centre, St. Bees School. Tel: 01946 828037 Mob: 07730 234774

Squash: Mark George, St. Bees School, St. Bees. Tel: 01946 828000.

Fives: John Wilkinson FS (68-73) would like to hear from anyone who would like to play Fives on OSB Day. He can be contacted on 0161 351 7888 or mobile 07799478405 or e-mail j_a_wilkinson2002@yahoo.co.uk

School Notes

After a Thanksgiving and Leavers' Service in the Priory, Speech Day continued with prizegiving in the Sports Hall when the Head, Philip Capes, spoke as follows:

Chair of Governors, Fellow Governors, Mayor and Mayoress, Honoured Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen - a very warm welcome to St. Bees and to our 2008 Prizegiving and Speech Day. First of all I would like to thank our Preacher from this morning's service, the Reverend Roger Simpson. We appreciate his finding the time to travel across the country from his Church, which lies in the shadow of the York Minster, to come and talk to us this morning. The School Chaplain has already told us about the influence that Roger had on him when their paths crossed in Canada ten years ago. Now his message today about getting a proper perspective on things has given us a great deal to think about as we approach the end of another school year.

I am also delighted to welcome our Guest of Honour Sue Farr, who has been an Executive Director at Chime Communications plc since 2003. The Chime Group helps hundreds of well known companies and organisations create, manage, monitor and market their businesses, brands and reputation, not only in the UK and but also internationally. Most of Sue's career has been spent in broadcasting - firstly as Director of Corporate Communications for Thames Television, which saw her launch TV Gold, and subsequently as Director of Marketing for the BBC, where she was responsible for marketing strategy, planning and implementation across all the BBC's public service brands. She is also the Vice Chair of AMDIS - the Association for Marketing and Development in Independent Schools. We thank her for joining us today and look forward to hearing her speak later in the proceedings.

The academic year started with the School celebrating another excellent set of public examination results. At A-level, 42% of all our entries gained the top A grade. This compares very favourably with the national average of 25%. The percentage rises to 64% if the next highest grade - a grade B - is included. Carys Rowlands, last year's Head Girl, was one of the top performing candidates in French in the whole country and secured her place to read Law at Sidney Sussex College in Cambridge. William Winzor also achieved the grades he needed for his place to read Mathematics at Downing College, Cambridge. At GCSE level, the results were just as impressive. The majority of pupils gained ten or more excellent grades with over half of all the GCSE entries awarded either an A* or A grade. Two of our present Lower Sixth, Laurence Gribble and Christopher Sharman achieved eleven A* grades and Laurence even added a further two additional A grades in German and Drama to bring his total number of passes to thirteen.

This summer sees the first of our pupils taking the IGCSE papers in the three separate sciences of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These IGCSEs provide the academic rigour that we seek for our students and give an excellent foundation for the subsequent A level courses, but unfortunately they have not been approved by the Government run Qualifications and Curriculum Authority. Although IGCSE grades are readily accepted by all UK

universities, it will mean that when the Government league tables are published this Autumn, it will appear that St. Bees' pupils will not have gained any Science qualifications! I assure you that this will definitely not be the case.

Every year our Sixth Form pupils have to compose a Personal Statement to support their application for a University place. This statement enables them not only to justify their choice of degree course, but also to inform universities about their achievements and interests outside the classroom. Every Christmas term as I read through these statements, I am always pleased not only by the number, but also the breadth of experiences that our pupils are able to call upon to fill that space on the form. We especially believe the oversubscribed universities are looking very closely at the personal statement to identify those students who demonstrate they have more to offer than just good academic results. Following last year's Oxbridge success we have been delighted that another four of our students have been offered places at Oxford or Cambridge. Three are conditional on this summer's A level results, but Jesse Kirkwood the Head Boy and Head of School in 2007/8 has an unconditional place at St. Anne's College, Oxford to read French with Polish. In this current round of applications, we have had six pupils applying to read medicine at University - again through careful research and compilation of supportive personal statements, all six have received conditional offers.

St. Bees School has always believed in educating its pupils in the widest possible sense of the word. This year two new initiatives have been introduced into the timetable to extend the curriculum beyond the conventional set of traditional subjects. Lower Sixth Form pupils have been given a series of short courses to broaden their understanding in disciplines that they may not have encountered before. The units offered have been in the History of Art, Presenting to an Audience, Cooking for One Away from Home, Philosophy and finally one in PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) with Financial Issues, which has been jointly delivered by Katie Heap, the School Nurse and Gordon Stokes, the Bursar. At the younger end of the School, the Monday afternoon programme for our First Form has been modified to include an Outdoor Education group to run alongside the usual Adventure Training and Food Technology courses. The programme includes camp craft - putting up shelters and tents as well as the teaching of navigation skills. This new course, put together by Mark Ollis, our Head of Geography, will finish with an end-of-year summer camp down at Eskdale for all First Form pupils.

One advantage of being an independent school is that we can pick and choose which Government led educational initiatives we decide to follow. So looking to the future, the extended project is a single piece of work of a student's choosing that requires evidence of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. The aim of the extended project is to strengthen programmes of study for 16 to 19-year-olds, testing a wider range of skills. We endorse this objective and this year we shall be trialing the extended project with a number of volunteer Lower Sixth Form pupils in the period between the end of their AS examinations and the Christmas half term break. We view it as being particularly useful for those Sixth Form students applying to universities or medical schools that still use a personal interview as part of their entry procedure.

Areas of School life where pupils have the opportunity to demonstrate their initiative, enterprise and leadership skills, as well as growing their own self confidence are numerous and I have not time to mention them all this morning. Establishing and running Young Enterprise companies in the Lower Sixth, participating in the Junior Inter Form Debating Competition, performing in Lunchtime Music Recitals or Orchestral Concerts, taking part in one of the Junior or Senior Drama Productions, being a member of a School rugby or hockey team - all these activities contribute to the development of our pupils and because of the size of this school, these activities are genuinely accessible to all.

The School chooses two charities to support each year. The local charity has been the Royal National Lifeboat Appeal set up to raise funds for a new St. Bees lifeboat and the second charity adopted has been the Watoto Wa Baraka Orphanage in Kenya. One present and one past pupil are closely involved in the work of these two charities. Matthew Reid in the present Upper Sixth is a member of the St. Bees lifeboat crew and Rachel Farnham, who left last June, will be spending this coming summer vacation undertaking projects at the Kenyan orphanage. The Charity Committee's first fundraising event was a Charity Fashion Show and two Sixth Formers, Abigail Brown and Bethanie Crayston, volunteered to plan, promote and run the event. The Fashion Show raised an impressive £850 pounds and both Bethanie and Abigail learnt a great deal in the process. I forget how many times I had to say to them 'don't panic' we will find a way to overcome this problem!

Once again it has been a very successful year for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme with significant numbers of St. Bees' pupils achieving their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. The latest group of pupils to achieve gold were presented with their badges last Friday by Brigadier Mike Griffiths, who was in School carrying out the Biennial Inspection of our CCF Contingent. By the end of this term the total count for the year will be ten gold, twenty five silver and thirty five bronze awards - a very creditable performance for a School the size of St. Bees. While I am talking about the CCF, last month we were delighted when Lt. Col. Jeff Evans, the Contingent Commander of our CCF, was presented with the Award of a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate by James Cropper, one of our Governors, in recognition of his 31 years' loyal service as a CCF Officer.

Another opportunity we wish to give our pupils is the chance to meet and converse with people from a wide variety of different backgrounds and cultures. To a certain extent this happens daily due to the presence of our international students, but there have also been additional opportunities. There have been two exchange trips involving students from Poland and Spain and a visit to Paris last February that included spending half a day attending lessons in a French secondary school. During the Easter holidays, the History Department once again organised a successful tour to historical places of interest in Germany and Austria and the 1st XV rugby side ended their season with a holiday match against Sutherland High School, Pretoria, South Africa. Sutherland were one of our hosts on the last two tours to South Africa, so we were delighted to be able to return their hospitality. We were just a little too generous, however, and lost an excellent game by 28-19. While I am talking about sport, I must mention the success the girls' 1st XI hockey team

have enjoyed this year - winning ten of their twelve school matches. This has been the best playing record for a 1st XI hockey team in recent years. Congratulations to all those who have played in this side since September.

Not to be outdone, the Headmaster also decided to broaden his horizons and having been awarded a Walter Hines Scholarship by the English Speaking Union spent eighteen days in the Easter Term visiting a number of Independent and State High Schools as well as Universities on the Eastern side of the USA.. My programme started in Philadelphia, moved on to Columbus and Louisville before finishing in Chattanooga and Orlando. I learnt all about the American High School curriculum and the methods of assessments utilised as students move through their four year programme from Freshman to Sophomore and from Junior to Senior. During my time in the USA, I absorbed a great deal of information, but I confess I never managed to grasp the rules of American football, even though I attended a Superbowl Party and received detailed instruction on the finer points of the game. I also never got used to seeing signs such as 'please leave your handguns at home' on entry to cinemas. During my time in the States, I was hosted by ESU members and visited many beautifully designed homes - although some included features I found bizarre - one home had what appeared to be a dumb waiter by the front door. It turned out to be a book elevator placed there so that on arriving home from school the children of the house could have their homework books taken straight up to their bedrooms without the effort of carrying them upstairs! Whatever next?

We are always striving to offer our pupils different opportunities to try new activities. In Outdoor Pursuits perhaps the most exciting opportunity this year was to experience off shore sailing in Scotland on the River Clyde. Four senior pupils accompanied by two members of staff travelled to Largs in early October where a 37 foot Jenneau Sunfast yacht was chartered for a three day trip. Pupils have another chance to experience off-shore sailing this coming June. In the Easter term a caving expedition took a group of St. Bees pupils to the Yorkshire Dales and a tour of the 'Bull Pot of the Witches' The group was successful in negotiating their way around the potholes, nooks and crannies using a variety of methods from walking sideways to curling up into the smallest of shapes.

Interest in golf increased immensely during the term Nicola Rossler, one of the leading junior golf players from Germany, was at the School. You may remember her photograph on the front cover of the Winter Newsletter. Now the School has engaged Stuart Hemmings, a PGA golf professional, to teach golf not only during timetabled Games periods, but also to provide high quality individual coaching to pupils who want to improve their game and their handicap. We plan to offer golf lessons on the same basis as we do peripatetic music lessons on the days that Stuart Hemmings is based in the school. Stuart has a great deal of experience coaching golf to children and teenagers, not only in this country but also in the States and Australia and we are delighted that he is able to join the staff.

Another new venture has been to enter a school team into the Shares4Schools competition. A group of Upper Sixth pupils has been busy learning about the 'ups, but mainly the downs' of the stockmarket. The team was given £1500 to invest and the aim of the competition is to increase the value

of the portfolio by as much as possible over the current academic year. The pupils have learnt a great deal during the competition and have quickly realised that it is not that easy to make money in a falling market

Every year some 'out of the ordinary' things happen at St. Bees School - who would have thought that two members of School House would devote so much of their freetime to creating a short film on the skill of 'can throwing'. Lars Hempel and Kai Reimers have perfected the art of projecting empty drink cans in a variety of ways into waiting bins - often bouncing them off a series of walls, ceilings etc. around the School in the process. The resulting films (the initial one was so successful, a sequel was commissioned) are being submitted as part of their AS level Art coursework, but could easily be adapted to front anti-litter campaigns.

As usual we have had a number of auxiliary staff who have joined us just for this academic year. The two language assistants, Camille Coudre from France and Isa Mendez Buendia from Spain, return to their native countries at the end of this month. We have had a third resident assistant this year, Catherine Gardiner from Germany who, besides supporting teachers in the History and Learning Support Departments, has been helping with drama productions and care of the boarding girls on Bega House. Olga Karamenova from the Ukraine has been our Artist-in-Residence this year and besides delivering the History of Art course to the Lower Sixth, she, like Catherine, has been assisting on Bega House. We wish Olga well as she leaves us to join the Art Department at Uppingham School. We must also not forget Spencer Attoe from Australia, who spent the Christmas Term with us coaching rugby and introduced that rallying war cry to the 1st XV training schedules.

Andre Sykora from the Czech Republic has been the second teacher we have welcomed from Eastern Europe under the HMC Training and Work Experience Scheme. Besides being the resident Tutor on School House, Andre has been based in the Art Department and helped greatly with Outdoor Pursuits. Ian Gray has worked for St. Bees School for fifteen years in many capacities - as an evening Tutor on Grindal House, assisting with the Games programme, particularly with the coaching of hockey, tennis and golf and, of course, as Director of the very successful Summerfest Activity weeks held over the summer holidays. We wish him well for the future.

Suzanne Sinclair joined the Modern Languages Department to teach Spanish in September 2004. During her four years at St. Bees, she has organized trips to Barcelona and set up an exchange with a school in Zaragoza. Her activity of Spanish cooking has always been extremely popular. Suzanne will be moving to a new post at Ipswich High School for Girls so she can join her fiancé who is based in East Anglia.

Alison Riley started teaching Physics part-time at St. Bees in January 2004 before joining us full-time the following September in the Information and Technology Departments. Besides being a very conscientious teacher and Tutor on Bega, Alison has always given 110% to the extra-curricular life of the school - as an officer in the CCF, arranging sailing activities in dinghies on Derwentwater and in yachts for off-shore sailing expeditions on the River Clyde. She will be missed by all as she takes a break from teaching to explore other career possibilities.

Michael Clack took over School House and the History Department in September 2003 and very quickly became involved in all aspects of school life. He joined the CCF as an officer, coached the 2nd XV rugby and 2nd XI cricket sides, ran activities such as Bridge and Croquet and participated in a number of staff/student drama productions. The pastoral care he offered to the boys on School House was outstanding and his seniors will remember their clay pigeon shooting outings for a long time. He joined us as a single man and leaves us with his wife Sarah and the young Archie Clack Minor - presently just six days old, plus of course his dog Rhodes, to take up the post of Head of Senior School, at the Oporto British School. We wish Michael and his family happiness and success for the future.

Rowena Watkins joined St. Bees to teach French in September 2001. A staunch supporter of the work of the Charity Committee, she has helped pupils raise thousands of pounds over the years through car washes, quizzes and the running of the Saturday café at St. Nicholas' Tower in Whitehaven to name just three. She enjoys travelling and besides the usual Departmental trips to France, she accompanied the small group of Sixth Formers who flew to Mumbai in India to carry out charity work two summers ago. Rowena has decided to take a break from teaching and we wish her well for the future.

Two senior members of staff are retiring at the end of this current academic year. Jill Wharrier became a Learning Support teacher at the School in 1988. After her workload and responsibilities increased, she was appointed full-time with Head of Department responsibility in September 1998. Under her leadership, the Learning Support Unit grew and gained a local and national reputation. A great many parents have been grateful for the educational support and guidance that she has offered to their children during their time at St. Bees. Her kindness and expertise in this area were recognized in 2000 when Jill won a well-deserved regional teaching award for excellence in special needs teaching for the North East and Cumbria. The second member of staff retiring is Tony Reeve who joined St. Bees in September 1989 as a teacher of Latin and Greek, before becoming Head of Classics in the following year. The public examination results achieved by Tony Reeve over the years have been outstanding and he has never been happy unless all of his pupils have gained the highest possible grades in their public examinations. The Classics department nearly always achieves the highest number of A*s at GCSE and As at A level for its candidates. In recent years Tony has been the member of staff in charge of the 1st XI cricket squad and every season he has built up a great team spirit within his squad of players and they constantly have displayed great loyalty towards him. We are delighted that for the present Tony has agreed to continue as the School Archivist. We wish Jill and Tony long and happy retirements.

Besides wishing all the staff who are leaving St. Bees at the end of this academic year good luck for the future in which ever direction they are heading, I would also like on your behalf to thank all the teaching and support staff (and they total over one hundred individuals) for all the time and effort they devote to the School and the education of your children. Please join me in showing your appreciation in the usual way.

The final opportunity that I wish to mention this morning is

the opportunity to be part of a community. Earlier in the year, I was delighted to support the establishment of 'The Friends of St. Bees' and hope you will be able to join them for the events they are promoting at the moment such as the Hog Roast and Ceilidh on June 27th. Also don't forget the Autumn Ball taking place on Saturday September 13th with the well known tribute band Buddy Holly and the Cricketers and the additional attraction of free dodgems during the whole of the evening - you should be ordering your tickets now from the Marketing Department.

This year marks the 425th anniversary of the founding of St. Bees School. In 1583, five years before the defeat of the Spanish Armada and only weeks before his death, the then Archbishop of Canterbury - Edmund Grindal obtained from Queen Elizabeth 1 permission by way of Letters Patent to found a school in St. Bees. The urgent need for a school at St. Bees after the suppression of the Priory had destroyed the only place of education may be gathered from Grindal's own words - "Copland is the ignorantest part in religion, and the most oppressed of covetous landlords of any part of this realm to my knowledge". 425 years later, I hope you will agree with me that St. Bees provides a first class education for West Cumbria, both inside and outside of the classroom, and constantly strives to provide its pupils with the opportunities necessary to prepare them for life in this rapidly changing and shrinking world.

Thank you for listening and enjoy the rest of the day.

Philip Capes

Snippets

A column reflecting some fragments of information about OSBs that have come our way

Alastair Lord (SH 90-95)

on his engagement to Sarah Fee.....

Ken Baker (AC 88-95)

on his recent marriage to Tricia Smith.....

Helen O'Shea (L 91-96)

on her recent marriage to Scott Chambers.....

Jason Spires (F 86-93)

on his marriage to Sarah Carroll (L93-98).....

Louise McWilliam (L 90-97)

on her marriage.....

James MacKenzie (AC 90-95) and his wife Linda

on the birth of their daughter, Violet.....

Mark Roberts (SH 93-95) and his wife Suzie

on the birth of their son Samuel, brother to Joseph.....

Howard Graham has been in touch to advise that he and a group of his contemporaries from the 1980s will be attending OSB day and the Autumn Ball in the evening.

The Bulletin

In January, many OSB's received their bulletin by email for the first time. Your feedback, nearly all positive, was most welcome and we are working on several minor issues to improve the system for future distribution.

Whilst we do fully appreciate and respect the views of members, electronic mailing does significantly reduce the costs of the Bulletin to the Society and we hope that over the longer term more OSB's will be happy to receive their half year Bulletin in electronic form. At the present time approximately 50% of members receive it in this way.

We currently have a substantial number of Society members for whom we do not hold an up to date address, and in this and subsequent Bulletins we shall be listing, in the address supplement, the names of those members whose current details are not known. In this issue of the Bulletin we have started by providing names of those who have left school during the last twenty years or so. Do please assist us if you are able by putting us in touch with these members.

The Society's database is being updated all the time and more and more useful information is being held. Thanks to all of you who have helped to achieve this and to those of you that have not we shall be delighted to receive snippets of your experiences and life achievements to date. Such information forms a very important part of the Society Bulletin and is always welcomed by other members.

D.F.Lord.

OSB Notes

PAUL McATEER (AC 83-85) has sent an update as follows: "Since leaving St. Bees, I have moved around considerably: Newcastle Upon Tyne twice, Cardiff, London, Chepstow, Morpeth, Guisborough, Piercebridge, Boroughbridge and finally Guernsey. I and my wife have been working our way around the country buying, renovating and selling houses, although I invest in commercial property investments. Having run my own company for ten years I have managed to have the flexibility to live in Guernsey. Whilst I thought my house-dealing days were behind me, our next project is a new build going down the Green Route, although I definitely won't be seen on 'Grand Designs'.

We have managed to fit in three children along the way - all girls, as well as numerous dogs. I am ashamed to admit in this publication that the girls are enjoying their school careers at Sedbergh!

Guernsey is the most gorgeous place to live and I would thoroughly recommend anyone wanting a bucket and spade holiday (amongst other things) to come and try it out. I would be delighted to see any Old St Beghians.

I seem to have bumped into various old boys and girls along the way and generally see Chris Wade once or twice a year at Twickenham. My Father bumped into Jeff Edgar recently, who couldn't believe that I left over 20 years ago. Me neither Jeff!!"

DAVID R.W. HARTLEY (FS 44-47) has sent a summary of his career to date:

Deaths

G.P. BRADLEY (F 28-32) passed away in February. His daughter, Victoria, sent the following appreciation:

"My father enjoyed many sports at St. Bees and developed a love of rugby which stayed with him throughout his life.

After leaving the school Gordon started work as a Premium Apprentice at Appleyards of Leeds (1934-39). He was commissioned into the Territorial Army in 1938 - 7th (Leeds rifles) West Yorkshire Regiment, reformed in 1939 as 45th Battalion Royal Tank regiment. Upon expansion of the Territorial Army in 1939 he moved to Morley to help form the 51st Battalion Royal Tank Regiment. He served overseas from 1943-45 in Africa and Italy and was later responsible for the disbanding of the 51st Battalion Royal Tank Regiment. He was the only commissioned officer to serve throughout the life of the regiment with unbroken service. He was mentioned in despatches in 1945 and in the same year took up duties as Town Mayor in Venice Lido and later at Mestree. He was awarded the Territorial Decoration in 1950.

In January 1940 Gordon married Katherine Clare Murray; his first daughter Jennifer was born in 1942 and second daughter Victoria in 1947.

After the war the family moved to Wensleydale where Kay and Gordon ran a pub for three years, following which they moved to a village on the edge of the North York Moors where Gordon ran the village Post Office. During these country years, his love of cricket continued and he played for the village team. In the late 1960s the family moved to Harrogate where Gordon began work at the Post Office Savings Bank, later transferring to the Ministry of Defence RAF.

He was elected President of the RTA Leeds Branch, taking over on the death of Brigadier J. Noel Tetley, and remained in this position for 15-20 years.

In 1973 Gordon and Kay retired to the Isle of Man and enjoyed 22 years together golfing, travelling, socialising and gardening prior to Kay's death in 1995.

Victoria visited St. Bees in 2001 and took a trip down memory lane for Gordon, who was not up to travelling. He took great delight in seeing the many photographs she took to remind him of his school.

Unfortunately his health declined over the last three or four years after suffering various mini strokes and the symptoms they bring, suffering a more significant stroke from which he did not recover.

He had a long and varied life and leaves behind daughters Jennifer and Victoria, grandsons Peter and Paul, and a great grandson Lukas, of whom he was very proud and they of him."

JOHN MOFFAT (F 32-35) died on 27th march, 2008. Bill Alexander (SH 42-48) sent in the following notice:

"Former businessman, magistrate and parish council leader Jack Moffat died at his home at Craig Cottage, Milburn, aged 89.

Mr. Moffat, formerly of Wordsworth House, Sockbridge, was for many years managing director of Nickersons Penrith Seeds Co., which supplied farmers across Cumbria and southern Scotland.

"Having qualified as a doctor, I spent ten years in General Practice, which included three as R.M.O. in the Parachute Brigade. For twenty five years I specialised in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, fields which have taken me to Zimbabwe, South Africa and the Middle East. In the UK I was a Consultant in Weston-Super-Mare and Bristol and Senior Lecturer at Bristol University Medical School. I retired early (in 1993) owing to family illness, and am very fortunate to be in good health at present."

C.H.W. GRAY (FN 70-74).

St. Beghians may be interested to learn that Lt. Colonel C.H.W. Gray was made an Officer of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in the Queen's Birthday Honours' list this year.

MARTIN FAVELL (GH 57-61) has provided this account of his 'anniversary' walk to the school:

"Last summer, I realised that it was fifty years since I had left Birkdale Preparatory School in Sheffield to spend the last four years of my school education at St. Bees. To mark the occasion, I decided to repeat my journey from Sheffield to St. Bees but, instead of travelling by the same means of transport, namely by train, I resolved to travel the whole distance by foot.

I was delighted to discover that I could use national trails for all but 35 of the 217 mile journey so it was with great anticipation and some trepidation that my brother, Tony Favell (GH 1952-57), and I set off on 19th May in warm sunny weather to start our long journey north. Having spent the first day walking over the moors from Sheffield to Edale, we progressed by way of the Pennine Way as far as Ribblesdale and then joined the Dales Way, which took us into Sedbergh, where my brother had to leave me (he assures me that he will complete the journey later this summer). I continued along the Dales Way as far as Staveley, across country to Gasmere, and then finally, followed Wainwright's Coast to Coast route to St. Bees, where I arrived with my wife, Caroline, on 6th June after 19 days of wonderful weather and glorious scenery.

It was a challenge which I thought I would never contemplate, let alone complete, but it proved to be an adventure I thoroughly enjoyed and shall never forget."

Editor's Appeal

Members will note that little information has been received from Old St. Beghians for this issue. May I ask any current OSBs to consider submitting details of their lives to date for possible inclusion in the Bulletin? You would be surprised how often such information proves of interest and is frequently instrumental in re-establishing contact with former colleagues. Such contributions do not have to be lengthy, but any anecdotes to support basic career/family details are always welcome.

Editor

A son of the late George and Margaret Moffat, who farmed at Cliburn, he was educated at Appleby Grammar School and St. Bees.

He went on to work at the Carlisle branch of the Midland Bank, but in 1939 joined the 4th Battalion of the Border Regiment and was commissioned as an officer. He saw service overseas during the Second World War and took part in the D-day landings, going on to fight his way across Europe to Germany.

He was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the French authorities for bravery in action and demobilised in 1946 with the rank of major.

The following year he joined Thomas Edmondson Ltd., a Penrith-based chemist and farm supplies company, and subsequently became a director, specialising in the seeds side of the business. The firm joined the Nickerson group in 1963 and he was appointed managing director of the business, in which position he remained until his retirement in June, 1982.

The business continued to expand under his guidance, becoming the dominant force in the supply of agricultural seeds, and also cereals, in the area. What made the firm so successful was attention to personal service, and Mr. Moffat was always ready to help customers — nothing was too much trouble.

He served as a magistrate on the Shap Bench for 12 years and was chairman of Sockbridge and Tirril Parish Council for 16 years. He was president of Penrith Agricultural Society in 1979.

He also farmed in a small way at Sockbridge, keeping Aberdeen Angus and later Hereford cattle.

He was married and he and his wife, Margaret— usually known as Peta — had a son, Miles, who now lives at Crawley, Sussex. She died a number of years ago. He is also survived by a sister, Mrs. Peggy Nicholson, who is the widow of former Appleby chemist Tom Nicholson, and now lives in New Zealand.

After his retirement, Mr. Moffat had more time to follow his main interest, which was country pursuits, especially rough shooting. He loved keeping dogs and was always accompanied by a springer spaniel and Border terrier. He also took a keen interest in all the village activities in Milburn."

JOHN E. MOFFITT (SH 41-46) died on 6th May, 2008. The following notice is taken from the local press:

"The man regarded as one of the greatest agriculture entrepreneurs, influencer and cattle-breeder of the past century, John Edward Moffit CBE DCL FRASE, of Stocksfield, Northumberland, died on May 6, aged 79.

Born on September 11th, 1929, at Hunday Farm, near Workington, West, Cumbria, to Edward and Alice Moffitt, he was one of three children.

He studied agriculture at Armstrong College, now the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The family moved to Peepy Farm, Stocksfield, in 1944 and retained the Hunday cattle-breeding prefix previously registered in 1937 with the then British Friesian Cattle Society; now Holstein UK.

On November 20, 1950, a cattle-breeding watershed arrived in the shape of a Society sale held at Harry Hobson's repository at Peterborough.

The sale consisted of 57 bulls and 13 heifers imported from Holland and had an estimated attendance of over 2,400 people.

Mr Moffitt purchased the third highest priced animal - one that would later transform the fortunes of not only the Moffitt family, but pedigree British black and white cattle breeders.

Only three bulls catalogued carried the famous Manus bloodline and the Moffitt family purchased a yearling bull calf known as Adema 88, for 7,000 guineas.

Over the next decade, Adema 88's progeny became the most sought after animals in the UK.

His show-winning daughters achieved in excess of 71 Championships, 90 Reserve Championships, 491 First prizes and 126 First prize progeny groups on a national basis. The bull had eight prestigious First prize winners at the Royal Show from 1955 to 1965. By 1961, the success of Hunday bloodlines led to, along with several other leading fellow breeder directors, the formation of the UK'S first private AI company known as, Cattle Breeders Services. John served as secretary and general manager from 1961 until 1979 and that year, became chairman of the company, then trading as Premier Breeders Ltd.

In 1982, under his leadership, the company acquired a leading competitor, Select Friesian Services, and in 1988, established the UK's largest national cattle embryo-transfer business at the company's base at Valium Farm, Northumberland .

John's vision for the future of UK cattle-breeding brought about the establishment of the world's first nucleus herd testing programme at Bays Leap Farm.

From 1981 onward, John's unique knowledge of agriculture, science and cattle-breeding resulted in his serving on numerous advisory committees at Edinburgh University, Newcastle University and the Institute of Genetics, Roslin, Edinburgh.

He was appointed chairman of the Milk Development Council, chairman of the National Animal Data Centre as well as acting as president of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers and British Cattle Breeders Club, respectively.

He was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Agricultural Society of England (FRASE) in 1973 and was made a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) for Services to Agriculture in 1979. He received a Doctorate of Civil Law (DCL) from Newcastle University in 1985 and elected an Honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1989. In 1994 he was awarded "International Person of The Year" at World Dairy Expo, Madison, USA.

He received the "Princess Royal Award" in 1995 from the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers for Outstanding Achievement to the Dairy Industry.

In January 2008, John received the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from breed society, Holstein UK.

John Moffitt is survived by his wife Madge, son Peter and daughter, Sue, and six grand children."

W.G. BIRTWISTLE (FS/AC 71-76). Vaughan Evans (FS/AC 72-76) has sent in the following appreciation:

"Bill Birtwistle died suddenly on August 10, 2007, aged 49. Bill will be remembered by those on Foundation South and elsewhere in the school in the 1970s as a talented all-rounder:

a strong swimmer, rugby player and cricketer. Academically he had a seemingly effortless ability to succeed at all the subjects taken, as well being a gifted artist. As a friend, Bill was solidly loyal and true. In our final year (1975-76) we moved from Foundation South to Abbots Court, as the first year to use this building as a Sixth Form centre. After completing 'A' levels Bill read Marine Biology at Stirling University and thereafter ran Dunsop Bridge Trout Farm. For those not familiar with this region, Dunsop Bridge is a village in the area of the ancient Forest of Bowland, Lancashire; a tranquil, relatively remote area of great natural beauty. Bill married in 1985 and is survived by a son and daughter."

JOHN R. BURSLEM (FS 57-62) died on 11th November, 2006. Richard H. Taylor (FS 59-64) kindly sent in the following appreciation:

"John was not a personal friend, but a contemporary a couple of years older than myself and whom I therefore knew only slightly, remembering principally that for some arcane reason unknown to me his nickname was "Egg" Burslem! I do remember that he was generally regarded as a very nice chap.

It was in fact my wife Pam who came across John Burslem in post-St. Beghian years, and who recently by chance heard news that he had died a couple of years ago. When Pam was on a Dip.Ed. course in Edinburgh in the early 1970s, and I was working on my Ph.D., one of her friends was Hilary, who later married John. John and Hilary spent most of their time overseas on medical missionary work, but Pam met up with them a decade or so later in London, where we then lived, after Hilary had contacted her to say that they were taking one of their rare vacations in the UK. Pam was surprised when it emerged somehow in the conversation that John, like me, had been at St Bees in the early 1960s. Unfortunately, I wasn't there as I was away at the time. She found John extremely amiable and good-humoured, and clearly very dedicated to his work.

After leaving St. Bees, John Burslem qualified as a doctor and married Hilary, and we understand that, both devout Christians, they dedicated their lives to medical missionary work overseas. John and Hilary had two daughters (Susan and Jane) while in Bhutan. Very sadly, Hilary died while they were out there in the late 1980s. John married his second wife, Helen, who now lives in Glasgow, some years later, and together they had a daughter, Anna. John's eldest daughter, Susan, has followed his footsteps into the medical profession, qualifying as a doctor two years ago.

One of my old St Bees School lists records that he was born on 23 July 1943, so he would have been 63 when he died in November 2006. After Pam heard indirectly of his death recently, remembering him from his days with Hilary, she tracked down a 2007 issue of a magazine called *Go*, apparently a Christian missionary magazine, which contains a short tribute to John (author unknown). This indicates the kind of important and humane work that he did and his evidently fine qualities as a person:

'How do you write about such a man? Mention his name and a smile comes to the faces of those who knew him. A man of surprises and contradictions. It was, at least in part, his deep concern that a woman could die due to lack of basic health care that took him back to work in Nepal but he cared

little for convention or appearances. A practical man, his first love was surgery, but he adapted with good humour to teaching health workers, administration, fixing cars, driving up rocky river beds, or building and cleaning toilets. He would spend hours making sure his surgical techniques were the best, and there will be many people in remote regions, especially those suffering the disabilities leprosy can bring, who are grateful for his care. He was frustrated by seeming lack of concern by those in positions who could make a difference, but had extraordinary patience in situations beyond control. He sat for a month in a small hotel room in Beijing waiting for a permit over Christmas and away from his young family in Scotland. When I apologised for officialdom he smiled. 'It's OK, I spent the time studying Old Testament sacrifices'. As he studied and thought deeply his faith was real and his counsel and sermons worth listening to, but he would express himself to God with a simplicity that expected God to honour his promises and hear his prayers the first time they were spoken. Why bother the Almighty with the same issue again?

His family were top priority and he always wanted the best for them. He made the best choices. Hilary was a superb wife, mother and friend. They made the decision together to have their family in Bhutan and accept the same conditions faced by the people to whom they had gone. Hilary's death there was devastating but the staff took the family to heart and helped until John made his other excellent decision. He could not have chosen better than Helen to join the life of the family.

I knew him in Bhutan where he ran a government hospital and the district health and leprosy programme and in Tibet working with KunDe Foundation. I thoroughly enjoyed his company, appreciated his humour, his practical common sense, adaptability, and the depth of his spirituality.

He is missed'."

The late ALAN FRANCIS. Further to the obituary notice in the last issue, David Elston writes:

"I was very sorry to read of Alan Francis's death last September. I was at St Bees from 1965 to 1970 and only really came across Alan in my final three years, and then joined his 1971 trip, (as an Old Boy along with John Dunn), to the High Atlas which I still remember with great clarity and which I enjoyed enormously.

I had previously gone on a number of CCF and other school climbing expeditions lead by Alan and Martin Lamping to The Torridons in North West Scotland, to Snowdonia and on many week-end trips throughout the Lake District, so had come to enjoy the challenges and pleasures of climbing and learnt a huge amount from "the Major" in that regard. As a result I still enjoy regular hill-walking, mainly now in Scotland and Northern Spain.

It is very interesting to look back on the discipline and care over risk-taking which Alan instilled in all those under his control on those trips, especially given the ever increasing focus demanded by today's educational authorities, whilst at the same time he encouraged (and pushed!) everyone to stretch themselves to their full physical abilities. I remember one afternoon I went with Alan from school to collect a mountain stretcher and related equipment from a climbing team based on the Eastern side of the Lake District, which was closing down. Alan did not hide his astonishment and

irritation at the poor state of the equipment and I realised then that while he insisted that everyone on a climbing trip should push themselves as hard as they could, this was never at the expense of safety. As demanding as Alan undoubtedly was, and as testing as these mountaineering expeditions were, they must have been amongst the safest as well as ultimately being extremely rewarding. Indeed, on one climb during the 1971 High Atlas trip, I well remember Alan ordering a descent when we were less than 1,000 feet from the summit, as he realised the weather was rapidly closing in, saying 'I'm sorry gentlemen, it's unfortunate but we must start to descend immediately'.

We spent the last week or so of the 1971 expedition travelling, rather than climbing, on the South side of the Atlas Mountains on the very Northern edge of the Sahara visiting a number of places including the then rather shambolic town of Ourzazate, (which Martin Lamping and I decided should be twinned with Fazakerley on the outskirts of Liverpool).

It was during that trip that I realised the full extent of Alan's literary interests and his wider interests as emphasised in Peter Broadhurst's obituary. During the expedition I finished reading T. E. Lawrence's Seven Pillars of Wisdom, and I well recall Alan suggesting I read a number of other books on Lawrence and on the First World War generally to get a broader (and, dare one say it, more accurate) view. We had some really interesting discussions, some tough climbing and some stunning views and experiences on a memorable trip. I have a lot to thank Alan for, as I am sure do many others who had the good fortune to go on such well organised and adventurous expeditions."

John Colver (SH 60-64) says:

"Sorry to see that Alan Francis has passed on. It was thanks to him that St. Bees started the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. I was one of the first to reach the Silver Award and hence earn the privilege of 'gliding'. I spent many a Sunday out climbing on the Lake District fells with him. I would like to correct Peter Broadhurst's very interesting notes on "The Major". I went on the first trip to the Atlas Mountains with Alan in Easter 1963. Peter has the dates a little later. It was a very exciting trip sleeping under the stars for three weeks and conquering Mt. Toubkal 4168 meters high."

RUGBY AT EGREMONT

Any Old St. Beghians based in West Cumbria and still playing rugby or, very importantly, looking to start playing again, may wish to know that there is now a particularly strong link between the school and Egremont Rugby Club.

In the second half of last season, the 1st XV included the following players:-

Ian Buchanan (SH 95-02)	Kieran Marshall (SH 98-05)
Ben Jacques (G 00-05)	Paul Drysdale (SH 95-02)
Jack Kelly (G 01-06)	Matt Drysdale (SH 98-05)
Paul Devoy (G 04-06)	Andy Donaldson (SH 96-03)

Off the field, the newly formed rugby committee at the club is chaired by Jeff Edgar, and also includes Huw Lewis and Stuart McNee.

So this range of faces, both old and new, should ensure a warm welcome for OSBs at a club which, with its brand new changing room complex and all-weather floodlit

training area, is very much on the up. University-based players are also very welcome when home on holiday.

For further information, call Huw Lewis on 0778 985 8234 or simply turn up to Tuesday or Thursday night training.

St. Beghian Society Website

The Society Website, www.osbonline.co.uk is now up and running. Photographs for inclusion will be most welcome. These can be forwarded via email or by post to the Society for scanning and return. Members can also email the Society through the website.

OLD ST. BEGHIAN'S GOLFING SOCIETY

FIXTURES FOR 2008.

THE CRITCHLEY CUP	
Silloth on Solway G.C.	12th September
SCHOOL v OLD ST. BEGHIAN'S	
St. Bees Golf Course	13th September
THE QUEEN ELIZABETH CORONATION SCHOOLS TROPHY	
Royal Burgess G.C., Edinburgh	19th-22nd September
GRAFTON MORRISH [Finals]	
Hunstanton G.C. and Royal West Norfolk G.C.	26th-28th September

Halford Hewitt Report 2008

This year's Halford Hewitt Cup was played from 10th to 13th April over the Championship links courses at Royal Cinque Ports (Deal) and Royal St. George's in Kent.

In the first round we were drawn against Eton at Deal. We have been drawn against Eton on many occasions since our memorable match at the beginning of the eighties where we lost the deciding match at the 20th hole at St. George's. We played again in the second round in the 2005 event and most recently at the QE tournament in Edinburgh. We won the match in Edinburgh 3-0, so we entered the match with some confidence, albeit as major underdogs given Eton's past success in the tournament.

The team began to assemble in Kent on the Monday at the Griffin's Head and practice rounds were booked on the following day at Rye and at Deal prior to the official practice day at Deal on the Wednesday. Our accommodation had undergone some further improvements making our stay even more comfortable and the catering was provided as usual by Oregano, though under new management.

First Round: St. Bees v Eton

In the top match, Andrew Goodwin and James Doggett made a good start winning the 1st hole. The pair missed a birdie chance at the 3rd and with it the opportunity to build on their lead. A solid par followed by a birdie at the next two holes and Eton went 1 up. Some poor putting by St. Bees allowed Eton to take a lead which they continued to build. Eton won 7&6.

In the second match David Hopley and Stephen Moss recovered from an early two hole deficit to keep the match

on track at the turn. Eton increased the pressure with some good golf after the turn and closed out the match at the 15th Eton won 5&4.

Andrew Deall and Adrian Peckitt made a positive start in the 3rd match, making good pars at the 15th and 2nd followed by an eagle at the 3rd to go 2 up. A couple of poor shots at the next two holes by St. Bees let Eton back in the game, so after 5 holes the game was all square. The Eton pair then made 5 birdies over the next 7 holes to be 6up after the twelfth! A par at the 13th secured their victory 6&5, leaving the St. Bees pair shell-shocked.

Michael Coffey and Mike Stamper were paired in game four and came up against an Eton pair at the top of their game and were not able to get a foothold in the game.

Eton won 7&6

In the final game, Gareth Edgar and John Currie played a great match with many swings and turns and came through to secure a half point and prevent a whitewash for the team. Game Halved.

Match result; St. Bees 1/2 Eton 4 1/2

Plate Tournament: Prince's Golf Course

In the first round we were drawn against Bishop's Stortford Gareth Edgar and John Currie continued where they left off the day before playing a very solid game and securing a comfortable victory. St. Bees won 4&3

In game two, Andrew Deal partnered James Doggett, and whilst not playing their best golf made for hard work, a string of pars starting at the 14th was too strong for the Bishop's Stortford pair and eventually St. Bees ran out winners by 2&1.

In the final game, Stephen Moss playing with Mike Stamper had a very good match with their opponents but eventually their stronger overall game proved too good for the opposition. St. Bees won 3&1 and completed a very solid performance by the team.

Match Result; St. Bees 3 Bishop's Stortford 0

In round two we played Taunton;

The match against Taunton proved to be a very close, exciting and hard fought match. All the games went to the 18th and the result was only decided on the last putt of the final game.

In match one, John Currie and Gareth Edgar continued their good form, which was matched by their opponents, and went down to the wire. The St. Bees pair 1 down playing the last, just failed to take the game to the 19th by a great putt by Taunton on the final green securing the half and the match. St. Bees Lost 1 down.

In the second game Adrian Peckitt and Andrew Goodwin were playing against a former university golf team mate of Adrian's, Richard Willacy, who was also Taunton's team Captain, which added a little extra interest to the contest. Both pairs played well in a very close fought contest, Taunton going into an early lead. St. Bees began the comeback at the 10th, squaring the match at the 13th and then going 1 up at the next. St. Bees maintained the lead to the 18th and a par 4 secured the victory. St. Bees won 1 up.

Michael Coffey and James Doggett also fought the closest of battles against good opponents and all went down to the last putt on the final green. The nerve of the Taunton pair held strong as they holed a left to right swinging putt from 6

feet to take the game and the match. St. Bees Lost 1 down. So, the closest of matches ended our Hewitt for 2008.

St. Bees 1 Taunton 2

All in all another very successful Halford Hewitt event both on and off the golf course. Though the tournament was so early this year I think we were caught a little by surprise! Back to normal next year though, the 2008 Halford Hewitt is to be played on 10th to 13th April, for more information visit www.halfordhewitt.com. **Andrew Peckitt**

The Cyril Gray

Despite some minor hiccups in our accommodation an unusually large squad assembled to do battle in this the most enjoyable of Old Boys' golfing events. We were joined this year by Andy Crummey, who, having relinquished his duties as Captain of Gullane G.C., was able to make his debut.

In recent years we have won a Dinner Match on the practice day against Glenalmond with some ease and whilst they have gone on to do great things in the tournament proper we have not fared so well. Therefore we took our defeat this year with not just a pinch of salt, but with a very large quantity of wine when we paid for their dinner, knowing that it was our turn to march on. This we did:

First Round v KES Birmingham

S.W. Morrison & A. Crummey (with Mike Stamper as caddy) won 3/2 T. Wall & C. Lockett A.M.A. Bagott & C.B. Crummey won 5/4 D. Glover & M. Seabrook W.B. Morrison & M.W.A. Coffey won 6/5 D. Soutter & F. Scuse

Mike Stamper, who had played in the Dinner Match against Glenalmond, made way for Brian Morrison. The match was the perfect start and whilst we were not necessarily on top form, it was both sufficient and a good boost to the confidence for all three pairings to win.

The following morning we played Eastbourne and it has to be said quite fancied our chances. As is so often the case in a close match, each team was always ahead in one match and scored relatively easy victories, so it all hung on the top match.

Having missed an opportunity to go two up at the 11th our top pair found themselves one down coming to the 17th. Andy Crummey holed from 15 feet for an excellent four, which should have been enough to square the match, but the opposition stoutly followed him in. At the last Andy once again holed a telling putt but again Eastbourne held their nerve and we lost by one hole and the match 2-1.

A disappointment as we felt we could have beaten one or two other sides in our half of the draw. However, with our strengthened team we shall be back next year to fly the OSBGS flag and trust that we avoid Watsons' in the early stages.

Second round v Eastbourne

S.W. Morrison & A. Crummey lost 1 hole B. Meaby & C. Walker A.M.A. Bagott & C.B. Crummey lost 4/3 P. Wickham & P. Mitchell W.B. Morrison & M.W.A. Coffey won 5/4 A. Eden & C. Spencer

Anyone reading this who perhaps took up golf after leaving School and finds themselves the wrong side of 50 and with a single figure handicap should get in touch.

Michael Coffey

200 Club

At the March meeting of the St. Beghians' Society, the 200 Club draw was made with the following results:

£40.00	Holliday, M. and C. Gough (Calvin), S.J. Etchells, P. and S. Davies, J.F.
£30.00	Mathison, W.H.G. Tetley, C.R.C. Hart, M.P.T.
£11.00	Strafford, P. and A. MacCaig, A.S.

The 200 Club has draws in March and September with the big payouts in September. All 'profits' that are made go to the School. Recently we have purchased a canoe trailer and are currently investing in canoes. Last year we were able to furnish the art department with a 'screen printing bed'. We have also purchased recently an interactive whiteboard for the School.

We are always looking for new members, so if you would like to join, the cost is only £24.00 per year, or would like further information, please e-mail me at darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com.

Darryl W. Davies, Secretary, 200 Club

Autumn Ball 2008

The Autumn Ball 2008 will take place on Old St. Beghians' Day - Saturday 13th September 2008.

The response so far has been very good but firm bookings need to be made as soon as possible. The maximum number that can be accommodated is 400 and a maximum of 10 guests per table is the preferred number with someone acting as lead contact and money collector!

For further details or to make a booking, please contact either Helen Miller or Cath McMullen in the Marketing Department at the School throughout the summer holidays:

Telephone: 01946 828010 or 828012

E-mail: helen.miller@st-bees-school.co.uk or catherine.mcmullen@st-bees-school.co.uk

New Contact Details

Pam Rumney - Assistant to the Secretary.

She is based in the Society Office in Foundation and is working on a part-time basis, Monday to Thursday 09.30 - 14.30.

Any member wishing to contact her with regard to Society matters can do so by:

1. Telephone - 01946 828093.
2. Email - pam.rumney@st-bees-school.co.uk or osb@st-bees-school.co.uk
3. By letter - Mrs Pam Rumney,
The St Beghian Society,
St. Bees School
St Bees, Cumbria, CA27 ODS

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Bristol and West of England

The St Beghian Society Bristol and West of England Branch held its 59th annual dinner on May 11th at the Ship Inn, Alverston outside Bristol. It proved a select and enjoyable evening but with a depressingly low turn-out. The Society President was not able to be with us but George Robson responded ably to the toast 'The Society' It is always a pleasure to welcome Philip and Helen Capes; their considerable effort in getting to us from St. Bees is really very much appreciated. Just eight of us sat down to dinner including the Headmaster and Helen Capes and the organiser's wife. The organiser was somewhat encouraged to learn that there had been a previous Branch occasion when the head count had been seven! Once again there was a complete lack of recent leavers, the 'youngest' old boy having left school in 1963! We will run a dinner in 2009; it will be the 60th the Branch has held - but it may well be the last. The people who don't come have a range of perfectly respectable reasons for their absence. Increasingly age comes into the equation, but so do drink driving considerations and what we might bundle together under the heading of the logistics of a geographically scattered branch membership. It is perhaps time to consider the longer term viability of branches remote from the Cumbrian heartland.

Contact: Bill Affleck at william.affleck@btinternet.com or 01453 832619.

Bill Affleck

(I do hope West of England members, young and old, will heed Bill's appeal for support, especially since the 2009 dinner will mark an anniversary. I am sure all Branch secretaries would equally welcome an influx of new members for the annual dinner-ed.)

West Cumbria, South Lakes and Preston Branches

A very successful dinner for the combined branches was held at the Stonecross Manor Hotel, Kendal on Friday, 2nd May 2008. It was a pleasure to welcome as representatives of the Society and the School not only the President Malcolm Dix, but the Headmaster and Mrs. Capes. Also attending were:

West Cumbria Secretary, Mr. Darryl Davies (FS 62-68) and Mrs. Davies (M 1992-2002)

South Lakes Secretary, Mr Nick Curry (SH 60-65) and Mrs. Curry
Preston Secretary, Mr. James Brindle (G 49-53)

Tom Croft (SH 42-46)

Norman Leigh (SH 45-48) Nigel Davies (G 57-62)

John Leigh (SH 46-48) George Robson (FN 57-64)

Stan Holmes (SH 45-50) Pete Bell (FN 60-65)

Sam Ashton (SH 47-53) David Lord (SH 60-65) and Mrs. Lord

Bill Greetham (G '53-58) Everley Buckley (G 63-68)

James Starkie (SH 53-58) Simon Temple (SH 64 -69) and Mrs.

Tim Brown (G 53-59)

Temple

Mark George (FS/AC 70-77)

D. W. Davies

Annual Dinner Dates

North East

The 2008 Branch dinner will be held at the Northumberland Golf Club, Gosforth, Newcastle on Wednesday, 12th November at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Contact the Branch Secretary, Bill Dove (01670 517786).

Branch Secretaries

After leaving School, many members use their parents' address for several years while at University or moving around the country from post to post.

It would be helpful if such members were to contact the secretary of a local branch if this exists and a list of branch secretaries is therefore given below:-

Bristol & West:

Dr. W. S. Affleck, Barley Hill, Watledge, Nailsworth, Stroud, Glos. GL6 0AS. (01453-832 619).
william.affleck@btinternet.com

Cumbria (South):

N. J. V. Curry, 95 Appleby Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 6HE. (01539 728808).

Cumbria (North):

Position vacant.

Cumbria (West):

D. W. Davies, 67 Coronation Drive, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 6JP. (01946-67984). darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com

Liverpool:

I. J. Braithwaite, Bramble Grange, Belle Vue Lane, Guilden Sutton, Chester CH3 7EJ. (01244-300565). ijb.1@virgin.net

Manchester:

R. P. Calvin, The Lymes, Priory Road, Bowden, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 3BS. (0161-9289812). Mobile 0777 1893900. roycalvin@gcorner.co.uk

London:

Secretary: A. K. L. Crookdake, 5 The Deerings, West Common, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2PF. (01582) 461406.

North-East:

W. E. Dove, 71, Pinewood Drive, Lancaster Park, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 3ST. (01670-517786). williamdove15@yahoo.co.uk

Yorkshire:

Position Vacant.

Scotland:

D. M. Parker, Broomview, Ardcharnich, ByGarve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2RG. (01854 655300). mobile 07813510396. parkyatdeanst@yahoo.co.uk

East Europe:

J. Anderson, ul Dziecieliny 3 m81, Miedzylesie, 04-745 Warszawa, Poland. Tel (0048) (22) 812 7779.

Deadline

As the target month for the next issue of The Old St. Beghian is January, the Editor would be most grateful if Branch Secretaries and other contributors would let him have their notices and reports by 30th November, 2008.

SCHOOL SHOP

Silk Tie	12.50
Terylene Tie	5.00
Badge (silver wire)	13.00
Badge (cloth)	7.70
Chrome Buttons (large or small each)	1.20
Square	3.60
Cuff-links	15.00
Tie Tac	3.50
Ladies' Silver Emblem Pendant	10.30
Ladies' Scarf Ring (new)	4.00
Bar Brooch (new)	4.00
Car Badge	7.70
Plaque of School Arms	25.00
College-wrap style scarf (wool)	16.50
Navy blue courtelle sweater with embroidered O.S.B. Badge 36"-48"	16.40
Prints: (Quadrangle, Terrace, General View) each	1.75
Cheques should be made payable and addressed to St. Bees School Shop, St. Bees, Cumbria CA27 0DS	
The Golfing Society Silk Tie is obtainable from Andrew Johnston, Red House, Boustead Hill, Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 6AA. Tel. 01228 576745	
Price £15.00 inc. p.&p. Cheques payable to O.S.B.G.S.	

Bursary Fund Reminder

The school has a bursary to assist Old St. Beghians with the education of their sons and daughters.

In this respect, the Bursar would be pleased to hear from anyone who is considering sending their child/children to St. Bees

OFFICERS:

President:

W. M. H. Dix

Committee:

Mrs. S. J. Calvin	J. M. W. Dunn
Mrs. C. A. Hunt	A. J. Haile
Mrs. A. M. Strafford	R. Hall
Messrs. R. P. Calvin	A. D. Lord
D. E. Lyall	D. F. Lord
D. W. Davies	A. J. H. Reeve
M. N. Roberts	A. J. Wills

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

D. F. Lord

Trustees:

D. F. Lord	W. F. Gough
J. G. Craig	N. A. Halfpenny
R. P. Calvin	

The next Committee Meeting will be in the Whitelaw Building at 9.45 a.m. on Saturday, 13th September, 2008.