



# *The Old St Beghian*

July 2023

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## **From Our President, Carter Croft (FN 60-65)**

I can not believe that my first year in office has gone by already. It has been a pleasure to act on your behalf, and I hope that you will not be disappointed in the progress that has been made.

It has been a privilege to work with Pam Rumney, Tony Reeve, David Lord and the Headmaster, who have guided me through the protocol.

My year started with the London Social run by Nicola Metcalfe. I unfortunately could not attend as I was away on my honeymoon, but it is the format that I think we probably will have to agree is the way the Society will have to consider in the future. From what I gather, it appears to have been another success, so thank you Nicola.

I then attended the North East section Dinner held at The Northumberland Golf Club, Newcastle, and here I must acknowledge and thank Bill Dove, who has served this section so faithfully for many years. It was a great evening; the Headmaster outlined the future of the school, including the encouraging news that pupil numbers continue to rise. For me it was great to see faces that I had not seen for far too long. Next year the event will take the form of a luncheon, so it will be another test as to future formats for social events.

Then after Christmas we all looked forward to Darryl Davies's Armathwaite special. Considering the previous Dinner was in July 2022, the numbers for a February 2023 function were very impressive, and it was a real tonic to see an all-

female OSB table. Well done Darryl it was a fabulous evening, which included a most encouraging review from the Headmaster.

There have been a few cancellations of section Dinners, and this lends point to the fact that, in these difficult economic times, we must experiment with various formats and venues in the future to find a way forward which attracts more members.

Sadly, we have had to cancel a Dinner that was to be held on the evening of OSB Day itself. For me this has been a big disappointment after arranging what I felt was an impressive array of distinguished OSBs who had achieved very successful careers. I wish to thank those who were to give their time, Dacre Watson, Clive Milburn, Graeme Bagnall, and Simon Curry, both at the Dinner and also in meeting pupils who might have been thinking of civil or military aviation careers.

On a more positive note, Stephen Downham, John Croasdale, David Ward and Anthony Taylor met in Newby Bridge to discuss the possibility of an informal social at the Grange Hotel. Eventually we fixed on the 1st September, and so far we have forty acceptances - an encouraging achievement. We have arranged a good price for those who want accommodation, also sandwiches and soup and a roll for £10 per head, payable on the night, plus a pay bar. Thank you to all those who will be supporting the function, and to any other OSBs, please join us if you can.

I should also like to send special thanks to John Braithwaite, who is working on OSBs in Cambridge, having already set the ball rolling by organising an informal gathering there. Well done, John, I look forward to being able to attend a section Dinner there in the near future.

The increase in pupil numbers at the school is very encouraging, also the recommencement of rugby football. Now that I have retired as a rugby coach, I have donated some of my coaching equipment to the school. I also intend to discuss with the Headmaster the possibility of holding a seven a side competition at St Bees with a view to attracting schools from throughout Cumbria.

We have a great deal to work on in 2023/4.

**Carter Croft (FN 60-65).**

**If any new or existing OSB Members would prefer to receive the Bulletin via email in future (with lots of additional photographs to enjoy), Please contact: Pam Rumney on (01946) 828093 or [osb@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:osb@stbeesschool.co.uk)**

## Calendar of Events

<b>2023</b>		
<b>August</b>		
<b>September</b>	Friday 1st	Cumbria – South Lakes Social, Grange
<b>October</b>	Friday 6th	London Social
<b>November</b>	Wednesday 8th	North East Lunch, Newcastle
<b>December</b>	28th tbc	Thomas Froggatt Rugby Match, Cumbria
<b>2024</b>		
<b>January</b>		
<b>February</b>	Friday 9th	Cumbria Dinner, Bassenthwaite, Keswick
<b>March</b>		
<b>TBC</b>	Dates to be agreed	Scottish Gathering
		Singapore Lunch
		Asia - Hong Kong and Shenzhen

**Additional events** are sometimes arranged between Bulletin issues.

Please do let us have an **email address** if you have one, so that we can inform you of such dates as they arise or, alternatively, do keep checking the Society's website and Facebook pages for further information.

**[www.st-beghian-society.co.uk](http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk) & <https://www.facebook.com/osbsociety>**

### Did you receive your Bulletin by Post instead of the usual Email version?

If you received the Bulletin by post this time instead of the usual electronic version, please get in touch to ensure that we have your current email address.

Following previous mailings we have received a large number of 'Failed Deliveries' of emails and can only assume that email addresses have changed but that we haven't been told about it.

**Please do get in touch with us on [osb@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:osb@stbeesschool.co.uk)**  
if you wish to update your contact details.

## ST BEGHIAN SOCIETY NOTES

### St Beghian Society Annual Subscription 2022/23

In 2020 the St Beghian Society Committee took the decision to introduce an annual subscription to secure the future of the Society, payable each September. We sincerely thank all OSB Members who have supported this request so far, and for those who have not, we should be very grateful if you would consider paying this year's subscription as soon as possible.

The minimum subscription stands at £20.00 per annum; however, if you would be willing to pay a larger amount that would be very much appreciated. The ways in which you can subscribe are set out on the Society website at [www.st-beghian-society.co.uk](http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk) or alternatively please contact the OSB Office for further details.

### OSB SHOP

If OSBs would like to have details of the range of items for sale in the OSB 'Shop', please contact the Office and a descriptive price list will be sent, or alternatively the information may be viewed on the Society website

**([www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/School Shop.htm](http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/School Shop.htm)).**

We have had to omit the usual advert to conform with data protection legislation.

### Data Protection Permissions

To update your permissions in respect of communications from the Society relating **specifically to Marketing and Fundraising** matters (including details of the OSB 'Shop' items for sale and School/Trust Information), please complete the online form at <https://forms.office.com/r/MmWi8QUk91> or contact the OSB Office.

Have you recently changed your address?

Have you got married recently?

Have any other personal details changed?

Have you any interesting news?

**Have you told us about it?**

**If not, please do so now on:**

**(01946) 828093 or [osb@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:osb@stbeesschool.co.uk)**

**St Beghian Society, St Bees School, St Bees, Cumbria. CA27 0DS.**

## 200 Club

### Have you thought about joining the OSB '200 Club' Prize Draw?

By taking part it gives you the chance of winning a **top Prize of around £200** whilst also helping to **support the school and St Beghian Society**.

All money raised goes towards supporting the school and the St Beghian Society. Over the years a variety of projects and clubs have been supported within the school, such as the purchase of canoes and a canoe trailer, a donation to the Car Kit Club, assistance with sports kit and sports tours and also the development of the ecology pond.

For just **£2 a month or £24 a year** you are entered into **one draw a year** and the more members we have, the bigger and more prizes there are. Remember, it is possible to have more than one number in the draw – and hence potentially to win more than one prize!

We do hope that you will consider joining in with this fun, but also very worthwhile, 200 Club draw. Why not buy a ticket for a family member or for friends – it could be a 'different' and lucrative Birthday/Christmas Present or Gift for someone!

Thank you to all of you who are already members; your support is very much appreciated. And we very much look forward to welcoming many more new OSBs to the draw soon...

**Entry forms can be completed online:** <https://forms.office.com/e/gpd8KcMSqD>

**Alternatively**, further information can be found on the Society website, along with printable postal forms in Word and PDF format at:

<https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/200%20Club%20Website%20Intro.htm>

**The winners of the June 2023 draw were as follows:**

PRIZE	No.	WINNER	PRIZE	No.	WINNER
<b>£200.00</b>	12	Howard Graham	<b>£40.00</b>	51	Andrew Johnston
<b>£100.00</b>	25	Terence Mayne	<b>£40.00</b>	76	William Wright
<b>£60.00</b>	73	Derek Kaye	<b>£40.00</b>	65	Sam Ashton
<b>£60.00</b>	42	Bill Affleck	<b>£40.00</b>	2	Gavin Spencer
<b>£60.00</b>	71	Gordon Mathison	<b>£24.00</b>	35	Terence Mayne
<b>£60.00</b>	3	Charles Gray			

**For further details and an entry form, please contact me, Darryl Davies:**  
5 Marlborough Avenue, High Harrington, Workington, Cumbria. CA14 4NW.  
[darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com](mailto:darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com) or 07970 180 751.

## OSB NOTES

### CORONATION MEMORIES

**Following a lunch between James Brindle (G 49-53) and Sam Ashton (SH 47-53), Sam has contributed the following reminiscence.**

**Coronation Day, 2nd June, 1953.**

“As the great day approached, it became clear to me that whereas the local schools were all having a holiday, we were not. I found this outrageous. I was head of School House and second head of school; Brian Scott, from Grindal, had the distinction of being head, and I do not now remember who exactly were the heads of ‘Hostel’ north and south. Anyway. I said to the effect look, we`re just not having this; and with me being the self-appointed shop steward, we got an appointment with J. C. Wykes the then Headmaster. I was totally familiar with him and his wife, since most days they had lunch with us on School House, and in my lofty position, I sat with them on the top table.

I put our case quite forcefully and he agreed, thus we got an additional three-quarter holiday. I`d been on my guard lest he tried to shift the date of one of the two others we had in the summer term to June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Now as to our lunch, plus the view of the Coronation.

As has been said by others, we had great freedom on all Sundays: ‘bicycle’ was an item on the ‘clothing list’. We were greatly encouraged to go into the lakes and mountains, which we did, in parties of two or more, backed by the ‘blue ticket’ system, by which your house master recorded where you were going and with whom. One copy went with you and the other remained in the book. The Sunday timetable was arranged to give us the maximum time away from School House. The first compulsory event in the evening was evensong in chapel, and I have a distinct memory of seeing from my choir stall Eddy Holmes and John Leigh dashing in, having left outside their bikes and climbing ropes.

There was a list of approved hostelries, the management of which had all received a letter asking them not to serve us with alcohol; we were easily identified in our navy-blue shorts and blazers plus stockings of a lighter shade. Of course, we all got to know which landlords were relaxed about this. Such a one was Charles Caldwell, who together with his wife, Anne, owned and ran the Bower House, Eskdale. I blush with embarrassment to tell you how, in the company of Bryan (‘Charlie’) Pringle, we ordered a gin and orange and two glasses. Charles’ expression didn’t flicker, and we got our order.

Sometime later, in about 1950, when I was fifteen, I have a very clear memory of entering the Bower House through the outer lounge and being about to cross the

route from the kitchen (on my left) to the dining room, when a girl in a white overall crossed my path carrying someone's lunch. Our eyes met. Len Deighton has an apposite phrase: 'She came into my life like the Royal Scot, but without all that noise and steam.'

Let's just say that by June 1953 the Caldwell's daughter, Gill, and I were well acquainted. Luckily for me I was approved of by Charles and Anne. Charles had been to Rossal, and if St Bees lost in the annual rugger clash of the titans, I would receive a scornful postcard.

As soon as I told Charles about our victory with J.C.W., he said he'd hired a television set on which to watch the great occasion and proposed to put on lunch; the price, to include watching the Coronation, was two and six. I put up a notice in the Hostel main corridor (it was important to view the board every morning in case your rugger set was due to play that day). I think there were about fifteen responses, and I rang that information through to Charles. On the great occasion, Gill on a day's holiday from Calder Girl's School, waited on us and then we watched the ceremony. It was a great success except that London appeared to be suffering a blizzard, which seemed not to be noticed by anyone in the capital! At that time the Bower House, as run by the Caldwells, and always employing an exceptional chef, was a beacon of civilization in an otherwise barren landscape. In their favour was the developing nuclear site at Sellafield. The Bower House subsequently became the inn where senior government scientists, engineers and civil servants stayed. It was also a popular place for St Bees' parents to stay. Sometimes members of staff would be invited for Sunday lunch, T.A. Brown for example. Other regulars were jolly bachelors: prime examples were Tony Dearle, and riding pillion on Tony's bike, David, 'Bill' Henderson. Tony is remembered by one wet day drying his socks on the dining room radiator!"

**Photo of James and Sam may be seen at:**

**<http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

**Tim Brown (G 53-59) recalls some events surrounding 1953.**

"Whilst I was away in Austria, the local paper had big headlines about the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest. It was big news in that country of mountains. This reminded me of the additional joy we had here on Coronation Day 1953.

On this expedition, Tom Stobart was the chief cameraman. He was an Old Boy and came to give us a talk when he returned to this country, in either 1953 or 1954.

I once had the pleasure of meeting Edmund Hillary who, with Sherpa Tensing conquered the peak, in a self-service dinner queue in a hotel restaurant on the Ganges where he was carrying out a rather ill-fated jet boat journey. He was a tall gangly man. He happily gave me his autograph!"

**Barry Williams (F 52-57) recalls the 1953 coronation.**

“I had lunch the other day in a five-some with Peter Griffiths and David Hedley with their wives. In addition to me, Peter and David were all Foundation 52-57. Over lunch we got to discuss our memories of the late Queen's coronation in 1953 when we were all at school (no tiny black and white TV for us!).

I mentioned that I remember very well that Miss Widdas, the art teacher, and others produced a number of heraldic shields out of stiff cardboard or plywood over which were stretched Foundation North rugby shirts with blue and white hoops and FS shirts with red and white hoops. From what I remember these shields were hung alternately out of the windows of Big Dorm, overlooking the Crease. Griffiths and Hedley can't remember this, and neither can Ian Nimmo (F 52-57), whom I have just telephoned! I am convinced I am right, but then all of us are in our 85th years so who knows?

I made a bit of progress by finding my store of old school magazines in my very dusty attic! The issue for July 1953 (Vol 16 No 11) certainly confirms my memories of our red/blue/white rugby shirts being used in the decoration of Foundation although it doesn't refer to the 'shields', which I am pretty certain our shirts were stretched over.

Anyway it's all a bit trivial but fun to remember. I'm pretty certain that none of us expected that the Queen would reign for almost all our lives, in many cases for longer than some of my friends would live.”

**(Do any OSBs have recollections of these shields or indeed other memories of being at school during the Queen's coronation? Ed.)**

## **SOCIETY WEBSITE & FACEBOOK**

Please remember the St Beghian Society **website & facebook** pages at

**[www.st-beghian-society.co.uk](http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk)**

**<https://www.facebook.com/osbsociety>**

Please take time to have a look at them and ‘**follow**’ us for up to date information and news of events and other matters that may arise in between Bulletin issues.

We would certainly welcome any comments that you may have.



## **Dan Colver (SH 60-64) recalls an expedition to Africa:**

“Possibly my greatest memory of my time at St Bees was the Easter holidays of 1963. Three masters, Gordon Dyke, Alan Francis and Ron Johnson set off on an adventure of a lifetime, with seven pupils, those being Langley Brown, David Pecker, Neil Dumbleton, Richard Woodhead, Dick Langhorn, Mike Jamison and myself.

The journey from St Bees started on the overnight sleeper to Euston and then by train to Dover, where we picked up a minibus. One of the first problems with the minibus was that we had too much luggage and so all but necessities had to be left behind. The journey through France, Spain and Morocco took a week. We eventually arrived at the end of the road in the Atlas Mountains and walked for several hours to set up a base camp. When we arrived in the mountains the weather had not looked safe enough to take on the challenge of conquering Mount Toubkal at 13671ft (in new money 4167m). Eventually the weather improved and two successful climbs to the top were completed. The views of the Sahara desert from the summit were just another highlight of the trip.

I believe several more visits to the Atlas mountains were made by the school in later Easter holidays, but we were the first.

We had many adventures on our journey: visiting the market in Marrakech, a sea trip across the Straits of Gibraltar, exploring the Rock, nights under the stars, rough camping.

The trip was subsidised by the C.C.F. as an arduous training exercise, and went towards my gaining the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award. Our parents made a contribution of £25, I do not think you will find value for money like that today. Could such a trip be made nowadays with all the health and safety measures that would be necessary? I doubt it. How life has changed after sixty years.

I write this note in memory of my fellow travellers for those three weeks we all enjoyed in the Easter holidays of 1963.”

Dan has sent in two photos, from Neil Dumbleton (FS 60-64) and Langley Brown (SH 59-64).

The climbing photo taken by Richard Woodhead (FS 60-64) shows Gordon Dyke leading, with Alan Francis bringing up the rear. This was the first group to climb Mt Toubkal. Dan, along with Langley Brown, completed the climb with Gordon Dyke the following day.

The second photo of the group of four was taken by Richard Woodhead at a reunion held 10 years ago. From left to right Langley Brown, Neil Dumbleton, Dan Colver and Mike Jamison (FN 61-65).

**Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

**Ed** - Other articles about Atlas mountain trips have been included in previous Bulletins and may be found at the following links:–

**July 2010** – by Alison Strafford (nee Lamping) (L/G 77-84) - [https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july10bulletin/Morocco%20Trip%20\(Alison%20Strafford\).htm](https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july10bulletin/Morocco%20Trip%20(Alison%20Strafford).htm) and

**January 2012** - Reminiscences from Richard Woodhead (FS 60-64) and David Elston (FS 65-70) - <https://st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan12bulletin/Atlas%20Mountain%20Reminiscences.html>

**C. A. (Charles) Hedley (FN 57-64) has contributed the following item. ‘The King of all Japes’– an alternative account.**

“I was *very* interested in the article ‘The King of all Japes’ written by George Robson (FN 57–64) in the July Bulletin. It brought back memories from the distant past as I was one of the Foundation prefects he mentioned who climbed up onto the roofs of the old physics labs and chapel one dark night.

I have kept a diary for many years (from my school days onwards) and in it I recorded the events of that escapade. Not surprisingly, considering the passage of time, there are a number of anomalies between George’s account and my own recollections, and I hope he won’t be too offended by what I am about to reveal here.

It all happened on the evening of October 28<sup>th</sup> 1963 after lights out. The rest of the house were in bed when four or five of us (recently created prefects) thought it would be a good idea to have a bit of fun. Prefects never went to bed until later, and so it was not unusual for them to be around at that time.

We left Foundation and walked the short distance along School House Lane, collecting some lumps of coke along the way, and climbed up onto the roof of the old physics lab.

Lying in wait, and hidden behind the low parapet of the library, we knew that the duty prefect would be along soon to lock up the labs, the chapel and lastly the library. When he came in sight, we lobbed a couple of bits of coke towards him but they missed and therefore had no effect at all. Then, to make life a bit more interesting, we threw a duffle coat which landed much nearer to the target. The duty prefect was none other than the hapless George, and he must have got a bit of a fright because he fled the scene and rushed off to report the events of the night to higher powers. It did not take Daryl Farrant (assistant housemaster) long to identify who the culprits were....

The next day we were hauled up before the housemasters (Peter Croft and Ron Johnson) and read the riot act. The punishment meted out was that we had to be in bed before 10.15 for a week. We probably appeared suitably contrite at the time, but it must have been very annoying and disappointing for the housemasters to be obliged to discipline a group of prefects who were themselves meant to be setting

a good example of behaviour to the rest of the house.

We just thought it was a bit of harmless fun!

Needless to say, we behaved very properly for the rest of our time on Foundation. I don't think George suffered any lasting damage from his experience, but he probably took a torch with him the next time!

I can only remember the name of one other prefect involved, but if there are any of you out there who do remember this escapade, and who can supply any more information, then I would be very interested to hear from you!"

**Ian Hentley (AC 83-90) recently visited, having not been back to St Bees for around 30 years. Following his visit, he kindly gave us an update on his life since leaving school:**

"I joined Kent police in February 1995 and following initial training was posted to Gillingham police station in the Medway towns. I spent my initial service as a uniformed officer in Medway before getting an opportunity to join a specialist operations unit based at Maidstone. I then transferred back to uniform at Gravesend police station before a stint in CID prior to my promotion to sergeant and my final move to Tunbridge Wells. After nearly twelve years with the police, I felt it was time for a change. Although I enjoyed the camaraderie, the job itself had changed an enormous amount even in the short time that I had been there.

I had always had a passion for aviation and had wanted to be a pilot when I was younger. As a CCF cadet at St Bees I fondly remember going to RAF Woodvale to fly 'Chipmunk' basic training aircraft. With the police I had done some sailing and gliding and whilst I enjoyed these pursuits, I knew I wanted to get into a flying role as a professional pilot. I did a trial lesson in a helicopter which made me realise that rotary was the way to go! Sixteen years later and I'm flying for The Air Ambulance Service as a helicopter emergency medical service pilot, which is (probably) the best job in the helicopter world. I currently live in Coventry with my girlfriend and enjoy real ale and (trying) to keep fit!"

**60 Years on, a Follow Up.**

**Following Mark Spencer Ellis' (SH 62-63) and Ian McNicol's (SH 62-67) piece in the January issue of the Bulletin, Chris Lord (G 53-57) posed the question to Mark, 'What happened between 1962 and 1963?' What follows is Mark's reply.**

"I do think that Geoffrey Lees was way ahead of his pupils in grasping the way times were changing. Though no Bob Dylan - in fact he cultivated a very conservative facade, some of which he fully endorsed - he could see what we could not, even though, or especially because, we were the people he was talking about.

My take on his remark is not that we were dismissive of deferentialism: I'm sure every generation has been fairly scornful of the one they saw as holding them back, but I think the point Geoffrey was making was more subtle. He could see that some of us were reading *Private Eye*, and that our favourite television programme was *That Was The Week That Was*. Sometimes it's a very narrow line between satire - 'To heal with morals what it hurts with wit' (Alexander Pope) - and taking the piss. Sixth Formers have always done the latter, but we were becoming more and more aware of the feet of clay which were holding up institutions and prominent individuals, and were - I say this retrospectively - becoming more apt to ask why we should accept as normal, aspects of society that had previously been relatively unchallenged. And I think Geoffrey was perceptive enough to realise that there were potentially profound shifts underway in our world. The cultural popularity of working-class writing, film and music wasn't just the Beatles. It's telling that the Shrewsbury-educated disc jockey John Peel assumed a Liverpool accent to give him credibility with his listeners. And with the possible exception of *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*, almost all pre-1950s creative writing had middle-class implied readers, in particular D. H. Lawrence, whom I studied for A level. Popular films or music can have an almost immediate impact, but - with the notable exception of the Penguin paperback of Lady Chatterley's lover in 1960 - novels and plays which broke the mould in the 1950s, such as *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* or *Look Back in Anger*, didn't really enter popular consciousness until later, and in the case of the novel, when it was made into a film. There was a moment that struck me in 1964 that I think would have been unlikely ten years earlier: before the 1964 General Election the Labour and Conservative candidates agreed to speak to the sixth form and staff. I vividly remember that after the event - perhaps but not entirely because the Conservative candidate could have been kindly described as a chump - our House Tutor on School House, John Jones, told some of us that as a result of the event he and several colleagues would be voting Labour. I don't think many of us were aware of the extent to which our culture was changing; for some of us the next step was the student movements of the late 1960s, for others a more gradual liberalisation, and for others the understandable reaction of becoming 'young fogies'. But I do think Geoffrey Lees grasped what was going on, and I hope this begins to explain my take on his remark."

## **Wanted! - OSB Dinners and Events Photographs**

**Any photographs from St Beghian events or even informal impromptu get-togethers would be very much appreciated.**

Please remember to take your camera and capture the memories!

**Please send to: [osb@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:osb@stbeesschool.co.uk) or (01946) 828093 or by post.**

## **A letter from an OSB in Rome: from Francesca Merlo (L 11-15).**

“As mine was the last year to finish school before its closing in 2015 I think it’s safe to say that I’m amongst the youngest of all of you reading. That’s already a lot of pressure to be under, but to know that what you are reading is not only by me but also about me is the next most difficult part. To those of you whom I haven’t met, my name is Francesca Merlo, and I’m a 27 year old British/Italian journalist and translator, currently working for the Vatican.

I think the best way to start is with the only thing I know we have in common for sure, and that is, of course – in whatever form – St Bees School.

I joined St Bees in the 4<sup>th</sup> form. It was 2011. I had lived the first fourteen years of my life in Paris, and after one year of my family and I living in Rome, we decided that boarding school might be a good idea for me. Boarding school isn’t such a big thing in Italy and people always ask me about it in awe. I tell them, now, that they were the best four years of my life. And it’s true,

What a wonderful place to be a troubled teenager!

I did get into some trouble when I first started, nothing particularly exciting so I won’t go into too much detail about it. I’ll talk instead about a time I didn’t get into trouble, when the men doing work outside Bega, my house, found cigarette butts on the floor. I thought I was doomed, mainly because the cigarettes I’d been throwing from the roof of Bega House were Camel, and (much to my dismay) you couldn’t buy Camel cigarettes in England, and I was sure they would trace them back to the only Italian girl on the house. Luckily my housemistress at the time didn’t know much about British cigarette brands and she dropped the charges for lack of evidence!

By sixth form I’d become an exemplary student. I didn’t study particularly hard, but I was well behaved and got along with all the staff and pupils. I spent most of my time in the music department with Mrs Simper, who guided me through my grade 8 singing, encouraged me to apply to sing with the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain, and prepared me for my singing Diploma, which I eventually passed. I wasn’t the best at sports, but I was captain of our newly formed rugby team, led by Mr McNee, whom I had the pleasure to see in Rome recently when he came with his son, and my friend, Fraser to watch Scotland beat Italy. I also played hockey and was dubbed ‘feisty forward’ by the 1<sup>st</sup> XI hockey team and by the McNernerys, who had hoodies printed for us with our nicknames on the backs when the school said they couldn’t afford them. Ellie McNerney is another dear friend and lived with me on Bega - if the Bulletin ever opened a column on stories about friends, I would have many to tell about her. Her parents also got me out of trouble a few times. The one I owe them for the most was when Lydia, who boarded with us on weekdays, and I called them and asked them if we could go and sleep at theirs instead of going back to house because we’d drunk far too

much fireball whisky watching the Italy rugby match in the Carlisle Wetherspoons! They said yes, of course, and covered for us and looked after us as parents do. After these cigarette and whisky stories, I must promise you that I've become neither an alcoholic nor a chain-smoker, though I do enjoy a whisky every so often (not fireball, which Denis, the American exchange student had so excitedly brought us that day in 'Spoons).

It was Red Nose Day when the terrible announcement came. It had to happen on the one day of the year we all came in dressed as our favourite television characters. Mrs Malan, who was head of boarding at the time, came down the corridor outside the salad room saying 'prefects, gather everyone into the sports hall.' We didn't ask any questions, she'd barely looked us in the eyes, it clearly wasn't a good time. So, we did as we were told and went around the school shepherding everyone into the sports hall, where we sat, cross-legged, with no teacher in sight and waited. Spiderman speculated someone had died; Pippi Longstocking brought it down a notch and said someone was probably ill. Lydia, who was just Lydia to me under her ridiculous 118 costume, turned to me and said 'whatever it is, it's serious.' It became serious to me, too after that. It was when Mr Davies walked in, gown flying behind him, that I looked at Lyd and with I don't know what arrogance told her 'the school's closing.' We'd been hushed into silence by then, but she looked at me and mouthed 'No, I think he's ill', shaking her head. Then we all looked up, in unison, to the man who knew everything. 'St Bees School is officially closed.' I think that's all anyone heard.

You all know what happened next. The campaign, the letters, the videos – all useless. The school closed and we all went our separate ways.

I went to Warwick to read French, Spanish and Arabic but dropped out after a year and a half and went back to Rome, where my parents were still living at the time. I had enrolled in a university there for translators and interpreters, but I really just didn't want to be at university. That was my first mid-life crisis! Then one day, like every other, when I was supposed to be in class at university I saw a notice, "ufficio placement/stage" (internship office) and from then, everything changed. It took a couple of months to get the paperwork sorted and in June I started my internship at the British Embassy to the Holy See. I barely even knew what the Vatican was back then, let alone the Holy See. Towards the end of my three-month internship, my wonderful colleague encouraged me to apply for a job as a journalist at Vatican News/Vatican Radio and five years later I am still there. (No, I never did get my degree.)

It's perhaps worth noting that working for the church was the furthest thing away from anything I had ever imagined, and the Rev. Swartz, with whom I had a great relationship throughout my time at school, would only be even more convinced of the existence of God if he knew what I was up to now! I got a G in my GCSE

religious studies, and if you don't think that grade exists, Mr Swartz would be able to confirm it! So it would seem that I was destined, in one form or another to this church-related life. Don't believe for a second, though, that those who work as journalists in the Vatican will ever become nuns or priests. Many of us are lay people and all of us tell the news in the same way that other journalists do around the world. The job, however, is quite different.

One of my favourite parts of the work is the reading, both on the radio during the live news broadcast we conduct daily, but also at papal events. I have the honour of providing the English-language translation at Pope Francis' Wednesday General Audiences in St Peter's Square. This is done in eight different languages. I also provide the commentary for any live radio and television broadcasts of his events. This means that anything the Pope does that is televised has mine or one of my colleague's voices explaining what is going on and translating what he says for the anglophone world.

We do the same kind of translations in writing. Each papal discourse is translated into English and synthesised into an article for our web page. Each article is then tightened and adjusted to be read for the radio, and then, recorded and used on our broadcast. When I first arrived, I struggled with the theological side of the translations. Most of what I knew about the liturgy and Biblical passages came from my years singing. You'd be surprised at how many Bible passages I knew off by heart, without knowing their provenance or real meaning. I am no expert now, by any means, but everything does make much more sense when I read and translate it, even the somewhat complicated 'Vaticanese' that some of the cardinals speak.

But we don't only speak about the Pope at Vatican News. The order of our work is Pope, Vatican, Church and World. I am lucky to work in a varied team, with colleagues from all over the Anglophone world, in which we each have our areas of expertise and interest. My interests (as I doubt I will ever become an expert in anything) lean more towards the humanitarian side of the church's work. I am lucky enough to have interviewed many interesting people in the humanitarian field, from water distribution to migration and from conflict resolution to human trafficking, to name but some. Some of these have been over the phone, others via Zoom, and many in person as people come to the Vatican to meet with Pope Francis, or to Rome for work. At times, I too, have gone to them. My job, in fact, also allows me to travel.

The first journey I went on was in my very first year working here at the Vatican. I travelled to Panama where Pope Francis was attending World Youth Day – an event that happens every four years and gathers young Catholics from all over the world. I must say it was a great first journey.

The next World Youth Day is actually taking place this year, having been postponed for a year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and I will be going to Portugal at the beginning of August to cover it. Covid stopped a lot of the travelling, as you know, but I have also been to Dubai for an interreligious meeting, to Paris for a conference on women in leadership at the UNESCO headquarters and to various places within Italy.

Vatican Radio offers its services in 48 different languages and so I work in a building with people from over 60 different countries. It's an interesting place and we all work together, for ourselves but also for one another. Anyone who interviews anyone does so in all the languages that person speaks, especially when you are sent on journeys.

I also run the Vatican News Instagram account, rapidly approaching its first million followers. (Follow us!) There is a lot to say about working in the Vatican, but I know that I have already totally gone over the requested length for this article. Pope Francis himself has stressed that a homily should be no longer than ten minutes, I think that can be applied to anything.

I'd like to conclude with a memory of my first meeting with Pope Francis, or Papa Francesco. I have grown extremely fond of him over the years. Impossible not to when you follow his every word and every movement, so much so that you begin to think you can recognise his mood or how he is feeling from the way he walks and the way he talks. But no matter how much you think you know him it is always exciting when you see him approaching you to shake your hand. You see this white mystical figure coming towards you and he humanises himself, going off route and making the Gendarmes (Vatican Police) and Swiss Guards (Pope's private guards) around him panic, just to say good morning to you, knowing you are working for him, to give you his hand, to smile at you. The first time, I shook his hand with both my hands and I really didn't know what to say: 'Nice to meet you. I'm Francesca.' 'Nice to meet you, too. I'm Francesco', was the reply."

**George Robson (FN 57-64) has submitted the following:**

### **AT THE VICARAGE.**

"In 1962 Mr and Mrs Brown (known to we boys as T.A. and Snips) secured a tenancy of the Priory's vicarage - a large Georgian edifice with a walled garden at the rear.

In those days we Foundation boys had to fill in a chart displayed on the Foundation corridor's notice board to keep a record of sporting activities. RU stood for Rugby, C for cricket, R for a run, WS for Work Squad.

On a red hot day in June I filled in WS, for Snips had asked me at the end of one of her lessons to come over to the vicarage and put straw onto her strawberry



patch to keep the clusters of berries above the soil. It was a large strawberry patch and with it being a hot day the temptation to help myself to strawberries grew as the afternoon wore on. The trouble was Snips kept glancing out of a window and so I felt I must resist the temptation. After almost two hours the job was complete, so I knocked on the side door and reported to Snips. She thanked me and as a reward for my efforts gave me a sizeable brown bag, which I assumed contained strawberries. Halfway down the driveway leading back to school I succumbed to temptation and put my hand in the bag. Lo and behold - no strawberries but new potatoes! Next to the strawberry patch potatoes were being grown. I just couldn't imagine how Snips thought potatoes would be of any use to me! I was so aghast that I threw the potatoes into a bin that was placed at the end of the driveway. I later wondered what Snips or T.A. thought when they next opened the lid of the bin and saw the potatoes. But the die was cast and I heard nothing more from the Browns.

A week or two later Snips asked me if I would mow the lawn.

Ever willing I went to the vicarage in the afternoon and found the lawnmower in place on the edge of the lawn. But there was something else on the lawn! Lying on a blanket in the very centre of the lawn was T.A. - sunbathing and wearing only a skimpy swimming costume. He seemed to be asleep so I felt there was no alternative but to commence mowing and assumed the noise of the mower would awaken him. But it didn't. So, I stuck to the edges of the lawn and completed a full circuit. Even though the mower was not a quiet one there was no movement from T.A.. So, I looked more carefully and could not see his chest moving up and down. After a few circuits I began to think maybe he was dead! Each circuit brought me nearer to the centre of the lawn and to T.A. But still no sign of life. Having completed the mowing apart from the patch T.A. was lying on, I had no alternative but to return the mower to where I had found it and go back to school. I thought what a shock awaited Snips - finding her husband dead!

Naturally I reported the matter to those in my dayroom and of course the rumour soon spread around the House that T.A. was dead.

So, the next morning a goodly number of us hastened to the science room in the New Block to see if T.A. was there.

And so he was - busily laying out apparatus for the first lesson of the day.

T.A. was not dead and I felt foolish!"

### **George Robson writes about David Pecker (FN 59-64):**

"I am sure that every Old St Beghian made special friends that endured long after school days were over.

David Pecker became my bosom friend throughout our years together at school (1957 to 1964) and we kept in touch for many years after that.

We were both attached to Eaglesfield and after that Foundation North, and we sat side by side in class, specialising in the same subjects.

David's father was a senior administrator with the Colonial Office and spent much of his career serving at Government House in Accra - the capital of our then colony of the Gold Coast (now known as Ghana).

With his parents so distant it was always a problem as to where David should spend the school holidays, and on occasions he spent time with my family in Northumberland.

After leaving school he spent a few years in the army - he had always been keen on the school's cadet force - but then decided to turn to teaching. At this time, he changed his surname from PECKER to PACKER for reasons I'll leave others to conjecture over!

After only a few years as a schoolmaster David felt driven to become an overseas social worker and spent a number of years giving humanitarian aid to the poorest people in what was by then called Ghana. Of course, during these years David and I kept in touch, and I still retain some of the letters he sent me. Scouring through them I have come across these phrases:

'We try to create lasting change'

'We have a vision of a fair world'

Then tragedy! No doubt as a consequence of working in some of the poorest and unhealthiest areas of Ghana he contracted some kind of swamp disease. His health declined so much that he was sent for treatment back in England. But he became so debilitated that he succumbed - still in his mid-forties.

As I pointed out at the November 2022 North East Branch Dinner, our school was founded in the same year (1583) that England claimed its first overseas possession (Newfoundland) and thus beginning what grew to be the British Empire.

Hundreds of Old St Beghians will have, with David Pecker as a noble example, devoted their lives to humanitarian aspects of our Empire's/Commonwealth's history. The years move on but this tradition of serving those less fortunate in distant lands continues.

Yes, I learnt a lot during my friendship with David. I do so much miss him."

**Photo may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

**Perhaps Old St Beghians can point to Old Boys and Old Girls that have involved themselves in work similar to David's?**

**Running Together: from Jennifer Walker (L 88-94).**

"Connie Hossain (G/L 90-95) and I, in a friendship which started at St Bees many years ago, recently ran the inaugural Rob Burrows Leeds marathon together. We have come a long way from cross country at school on the golf course - which we

both still remember (not always with fond memories)!

It was also a massive 'personal best' for Connie on what was her second and my tenth marathon.

On route we also saw Catherine Harrison (L 93-95).

We are still collecting for the Motor Neurone Society and have raised nearly £5600 so far.

If anyone would like to give a donation, please see:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/conandjen.>"

**Congratulations to Jenny and Connie on their achievement.**

**Photos may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

### **John West (SH 61-64) recently donated some books to the school's library and writes:**

"Thoughts of the library reminded me of what a haven of peace this was. In winter a fire would be burning in the huge fireplace. I'm sure it was some sort of 'privilege' to sit near it (for the prefects only – Ed.), but it was a joy to while away time there on a wet Sunday afternoon. One of the books I took out was a biography of Ferenc Puskas, front man of the 'Mighty Magyars', as the Hungarian national team was known in the 1950s. I had no real interest in football, I loved rugby. However, Rob Astin, lover of football generally and Burnley in particular, persuaded me to read it and I enjoyed it.

Rob and I regularly exchange letters and when I mentioned that I was expecting to see, among others, Carter Croft and David Lord at the Grange Hotel in September, he said that he'd met Carter in about 1972 when he was playing for Sidcup and Rob for Westcombe Park. He also added 'The other person I bumped into post school was David Lord. He was working for Barclays in Margate (?) and another big Burnley fan.' Burnley were in their pomp in the early sixties, but Rob felt that he and Fred may have been the only Burnley supporters in school, or possibly even the county. He was pleased to find that they were both still supporters. I still don't really follow football, but since St Bees, I have always looked to see how Burnley have got on.

The library was used for the Debating Society meetings and although I never took part, I used to enjoy listening to the cut and thrust. One time the discussion involved members taking the part of famous people stranded on a raft. I think they were running out of food and had to ditch someone overboard; each player had to expound on why it should not be them. I can't remember who else took part or who the other celebrities were, but Nick Curry was Bob Hope. His argument was basically that without him they were 'Hopeless.' Lots of good laughs. Nick was consigned to the sharks!"

## SNIPPETS.....

**Tim Brown (G 53-59)** kindly sent to the archives a First Day Cover containing the Royal Mail issue of the 'Blackadder' [aka Rowan Atkinson (FN 68-72)] stamps. As Tim says, 'probably the first St Beghian to feature on a postage stamp.'  
**Photo may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

**Eric Middleton (M 58-69)** writes that following his last book, 'Surprised by the Spirit', he is planning another dealing with spiritual experiences and encounters. Further details may be obtained from Eric along with copies of his last book - [eric.middleton2@btinternet.com](mailto:eric.middleton2@btinternet.com).

**Peter Strong (G 46-49)** - We were delighted to welcome Peter back to school in June. Peter's last visit here was in 1983 for the quatercentenary celebrations. Peter, along with his wife, Judy, and his daughter and granddaughter, who were over from Canada, enjoyed a tour down memory lane. The family appreciated seeing the places Peter had told them many happy stories about over the years. A photo may be seen of Peter outside the school chapel.  
**Photo may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

**John Wilkinson (FS 68-73)** sent in a photograph commemorating the Fives marathon in 1973 when he and five other pupils 'completed sixty hours non-stop (play thereby) creating a world record'. The photo shows: Peter Rushforth (FS 70-75), Michael Chisholm (FS/AC 70-75), John Wilkinson and Simon Johnson (FS 70-73). Missing are Richard Hird (FS 68-73) and Peter Eadie (FN 69-75).  
**Photo may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

## Articles for 'The Old St Beghian' Bulletin

The next issue of 'The Old St Beghian' is due out in **January 2024**.

We would welcome write-ups from any OSBs who would like to contribute. Whether it is a piece about life at school or your career since leaving, if you think others will be interested, please do send it in.

We would love to hear from you!

The Editor would be most grateful if you would let him have your write-ups by the **30th November, 2023**.

## 1960s Nostalgia on Film.

**George Robson (FN 57-64)** has recently had produced several copies of a DVD 'St Bees in the 1960s – Scenes and Characters at St Bees School in 1962, 1963 and 1964', which was originally taken and created by **Richard H. Taylor (FS 59-64)**.

A piece written in 1999 by Richard explains how the film came about: “When I was approaching the end of my time at St Bees, my father urged me to take some cine film around the school. As an Old St Beghian himself (John H. Taylor – F 22-26) he was keen to have some cinematic record of the school. I’m afraid I was neither very assiduous nor technically proficient in doing so, but I did take some sequences of particular events, which bring back memories of those far-off times, and, as well as boys, glimpses of well-remembered characters who in various ways shaped our lives in those distant days...”

The film is about 29 minutes in duration and was originally shot on 8mm colour cine film.

George has made available ten copies of the DVD, free of charge, along with a written contents sheet describing some of the scenes captured.

If any OSB would like a copy, please do get in touch with Pam Rumney in the OSB Office and a copy will be sent to you.

## OSB Committee

The Committee, which has two meetings a year (June and November), is in urgent need of new members. The Society would welcome any OSBs who feel that they could help by joining the Committee. Membership is not confined to any particular age group, and younger OSBs will be equally as welcome as any others. The more the Committee is representative of age and gender, the better.

No previous experience or particular skills are needed, just a desire to help the Society to move forward and enable it to continue for generations to come. If you would like more information, please contact Pam Rumney at the OSB office.

Please do help if you can.

## OBITUARIES

**Reverend Richard Michael Clarkson (G 51-57) died on 14th April 2023.**

**Tim Brown (G 53-59) writes:**

I was sorry to read of the death of Mike Clarkson on 14th April. He was ahead of me on Grindal, but at a time when one looked on senior boys in awe (if not in fear!) Mike went against the grain. He was always friendly and supportive. I remember the infant son of Sam and Margaret Parkinson, Michael, knocking on the studies door and asking if Mr Clarkson would come out to play - and he obliged, possibly fishing in Pow Beck.

He was a true Lancastrian and began his ministry at St Anne's on Sea in the Fylde, I believe. I saw him on the odd occasion, but he was a good friend of Bill Greetham (G 53-58), who succeeded him at St Anne's, and I learnt about his whereabouts from him. Michael taught at a number of schools as well as serving ministries in Lancashire and Sussex. He was a good chap, loved and respected by many.

**Dr A.W. (Bill) Frankland (FN 26-30) – Memorial Service.**

A well-attended memorial service in honour of Dr Frankland was held on 17<sup>th</sup> May at St Michael's Church, Cornhill, London, the original service having been postponed owing to the covid pandemic. Bill was a passionate supporter of the school and the OSBs and the Society was represented by members of the Committee and other OSBs. The church service was followed by a reception in the elegant surroundings of the Drapers' Hall.

**Photo may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

### Notification of Deaths (Since the January 2023 Bulletin)

<b>CLARKSON, R.M. (Michael)</b>	Died 14.04.23	G 51-57
<b>DODD, G.P.C. (Gervase)</b>	Died 04.04.23	F 56-61
<b>HOCK, A.A. (Arthur)</b>	Died 21.11.22	FN 47-53
<b>JOHNSON, S.G.M. (Simon)</b>	Died 20.05.23	FS 70-73
<b>PARKER, R.B. (Richard)</b>	Died 28.03.23	G 67-72
<b>RIGBY, J.A. (Tony)</b>	Died 05.05.23	FS 44-49
<b>TURNER, P.J. (Peter)</b>	Died 29.12.22	FN 53-58

# SCHOOL NOTES

## From the Headmaster Robin Silk

I write in the midst of scorching weather and a term of largely uninterrupted sunshine; not always the best for the public exam season, but we never turn up our noses at good weather here. Just under five years from refounding and 440 years after the original foundation, we have reached a key landmark of 100 students once again, and despite a small drop off, we finish the year with 97 on the roll and with a likely number in excess of 125 next year. The school is growing in a sustainable way and continues to improve both in the quality it offers and the array of opportunities available to our young people.

Of course, it has been a huge relief that, for the first time in three years in education, we have not been beset by the quarantines, panics and other vicissitudes of the covid pandemic. It has meant our attendance has gone up and, more importantly, made eminently possible those things that educational institutions can and should be doing. Sports fixtures have therefore begun again in earnest with matches taking place in fives, volleyball, basketball, squash, cross-country, cricket, football and athletics. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme has extended its reach to the Gold Award. We have, rather excitingly, taken our first international trip to Iceland. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all who went on it, not least the chance to see whales, dolphins, geysers, basalt columns and glaciers (with the Aurora Borealis putting on one of its finest displays for the St Bees contingent). There have been nine more mountain walks (now eighteen in total and more than fifty Wainwrights conquered by the Wainwright Club), and a series of outdoor pursuit trips (including climbing, kayaking, canoeing and ghyll scrambling activities). Our students have had considerable success in Maths and Science Olympiads and there have been many keenly contested inter-house events. With two weeks of term still to go and a number of competitions still to take place, alongside the final merits to be totted up, Bega and Foundation Houses are neck and neck at the top of the standings with Bega aiming to take the mantle held by Foundation for the last two years.

There have been many other firsts this year, as we have grown large enough to do things that size prohibited us from doing previously: we have had our first Head Prefect election and our first school prefects bringing their leadership to bear round the school. We are helped by having a sixth form that makes up now a third

of the school roll - all very helpful for the balance in a very good school. We have appointed our first academic specialist to the SLT and we will also have our first academic middle leaders, with some very able people, appointed to Head of Faculty positions. This will enable us to harness the talents of all our staff and in turn the students. We even have had our first inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate, which went very well.

On Speech Day we were joined by Baroness Hayman of Ullock and our CEO from China, Mr Danny Wang. We followed this up the weekend after with our second ever Founders' Day, with the organ played by OSB, George Robson, and the following day a very enjoyable OSB Day, attended by a number of OSBs and spouses, alongside some teachers and students. The barbecue in the evening was especially enjoyable and it was great to spend some time with OSBs in a somewhat more relaxed fashion than the formal dinner of last year. On that note though, it would be good to get more OSBs, and especially the younger generation to these events. We had to cancel three planned dinners in various locations due to lack of numbers and now with the school going again, it is time to revive the OSB Society once more.

Lastly, I am glad to say our connections with China are up and running once again, with Laurence Gribble visiting twice in the same number of months and myself as Headmaster visiting in August. In July and August we have a number of Chinese students, once more attending from our schools in Dongguan and Huizhou, first for our Activities Week and then our Summer School. We continue to face a number of challenges in getting this fine old school up and running again but we have a great team, and with your support, I am confident the school will flourish into the future. I hope all OSBs have a fine summer and I look forward to writing again at Christmas.

**Robin Silk,  
Headmaster.**

## **St Bees School – The Hive Newsletter**

Keep up to date with news from the team at St Bees School.

If you would like to receive current news about the school, you can sign up to their mailing list and get The Hive delivered directly into your inbox.

**To sign up to The Hive Newsletter - <http://eepurl.com/dyLWWP>.**



## ST BEGHIANs' WEEKEND 2023

Founders' Day began in hot weather on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June with the school hosting a chapel service (at which George Robson (FN 57-64) played the organ) followed by a barbecue lunch then Sports Day and prize-giving and concluding with cream teas on the Terrace. The fine weather continued on OSB Day itself on the Saturday with a Committee Meeting and AGM in the Management Centre, at which the members were addressed by the school's Headmaster, Robin Silk. The Minutes can be read in our next issue of the Bulletin. At the AGM, the newly constituted 200 Club draw took place with a 1<sup>st</sup> Prize of £200. All readers are encouraged to join this worthwhile club, whose profits support the school in various projects. Details of membership can be found elsewhere in the Bulletin. The OSB chapel service followed, attended by students of the school, led by the Rev Becky Gibbs with a sermon delivered by Mark Spencer Ellis (SH 62-66). There were readings by the Society's President and a student of the school. Following lunch in the Foundation, many OSBs were conducted on a walk around the Priory and its environs by former master, Chris Robson (M 68-04). An account of this tour can be read below. During the afternoon a Fives' tournament took place with staff, students, and OSBs, led by John Wilkinson (FS 68-73) and Laurence Gribble (SH 02-09/Current Staff). Again, a report of the tournament can be read below. Formal arrangements were then concluded with a very enjoyable and relaxing free barbecue, kindly provided by the school. Socialising continued until about 9 pm when the first drops of rain were felt after two days of glorious weather.

Over the weekend there was a display of school art, which included many pieces created by pupils before the school's closure in 2015, and OSBs from that era are encouraged to collect any pieces of theirs which may be in this display. The names of OSBs who attended on the day can be found below, along with a list of apologies received from those unable to attend.

**Photos may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

### **OSB Day Priory Walk and Talk**

After twelve months in the planning, the Priory and Community Garden event on the Saturday afternoon took place with twenty-five participants.

OSBs and partners gathered in the Quadrangle where retired physics master at the school and leading resident of the village, Chris Robson (M 68-04), gave a fascinating fifteen minutes talk on the early days of the school and the village. He described the series of happenings that brought about not only the opening of the school in the 1580s, but subsequent events such as the coal scandal and the advent

of the railway that led to the development of the village and its notable Theological College.

The group then crossed over the road and through the Priory's lychgate to turn right to pay respects at the village's World War 1 and 2 memorial to the fallen; then onwards to view the area where plaques are laid to mark the burial of ashes. At both the war memorial and at the sites of the graves of the following, single red roses were laid: Dinah Haile (who ran a tuck shop next to Grindal for many years), Tony Cotes (M 59-90), Rev'd Geoffrey Moule (Chaplain) and Bill Fox (FN 35-40/Bursar 60-80).

The party then moved towards the Priory entrance, pausing at the grave of a student of the Theological College, Sharm Oates, who died suddenly in 1865 and whose headstone displays a deal of information about him and of his family. He too was given a red rose in respect.

Moving into the Priory the group sat in the front pews where Chris Robson had set up a projector and screen to give a riveting twenty minute illustrated talk on the celebrated 'St Bees Man'.

At the conclusion of this Chris introduced the Priory organist, Frank Bowler, who performed two pieces (Blue Sleeves, by Malcolm Archer and Power of Life, by Mons Leidven Takle) that showed the famous 1899 Father Willis organ at its finest. The second piece had the whole building shaking!

We then moved off to visit the graves of other school-related people:

Thomas (M 41-70) and Mary Brown, David (M 52-91) and Jean Lyall, Sam (M 48-75) and Margaret Parkinson and May Dodds, who served as assistant matron on Foundation for forty-seven years and amongst much else enforced the blackout regulations during the war years. Red roses were laid here too.

Passing through a gate we moved into the little known Community Garden which was brought about in appreciation of the hospitality Mill Hill School received during the years it was evacuated to the village. One particular feature of the garden is what is known as the Monks' Laver. This is a circular well, centuries old, still emitting water of the purest quality.

Wending our way back to school via the Dandy Walk, it was agreed by all that the Walk and Talk had been a delightful and enjoyable experience.

Credit should be given to George Robson (FN 57-64) for devising and planning the event and to Chris Robson, whose knowledge and enthusiasm were self evident.

**Photos may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

### **OSB Day Eton Fives - John Wilkinson (FS 68-73) reports:**

The event began after lunch on the Saturday afternoon with one Old Boy (myself), two masters and thirteen pupils from the school taking part. Pairs were

chosen on a seed basis, which left eight players requiring to be picked on a number allocation.

There were eight pairs and there was a round robin basis for the play off, with four in each group; the winners of Group A playing the runners-up of Group B and vice versa. The winners of these two Groups played in the final and the losing two played for third place.

It was a very competitive two and a half hours of Fives and all who took part thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. It is hoped to repeat this format next year.

For the record, the winning pairs were: 1<sup>st</sup> Suproto and Frederik; 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr Gray and Rares; 3<sup>rd</sup> John Wilkinson and Martyn.

**Photos may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

### **John also adds an appeal: ‘**

When I was Fives Captain in 1972 and 1973, I taught quite a few to play the game. **Where are you now?** I am still playing at the age of 69. It is my 70th next year and so let us have all the fives players since 1973 come back and take on the school, it would be wonderful to play against them and win. Let's make the OSBs have a weekend to remember for everybody. The present pupils would love to take on the OSBs as they did in the past.

As you see, I really enjoyed the weekend playing Fives again!

## **ATTENDANCE AT OSB DAY**

It was a wonderful day and all those who came thoroughly enjoyed themselves, **BUT** we would like to see more people there in future and would love to know how we might change or add things to encourage more people to attend in the coming years. So, can you help us?

We would very much appreciate having your views, comments and ideas about what kind of event or activities that you would like to see and also what you think would encourage others to come back to St Bees for the day or weekend. All ideas are welcome.

Please drop us a line at [osb@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:osb@stbeesschool.co.uk) or tel on 01946 828093 or write to the address on the back of the Bulletin.

We would love to hear from you with your ideas.

## OSB DAY ATTENDEES

The lists that follow comprise the OSBs that we know were present on OSB Day or those who advised us of their apologies in advance. Thank you to those who were able to be present and also to those who got in touch to give their apologies.

**We thank you for your support.**

<b>ALSOP, J.A. (John)</b>	SH 72-76
<b>BROWN, J.D.S. (Tim)</b>	G 53-59
<b>CROASDALE, J.A. (Joe)</b>	FS 70-75
<b>CROFT, C. (Carter) &amp; Lynda</b>	FN 60-65
<b>CROSSLEY-SMITH, S. (Steve) &amp; Pat</b>	SH 47-52
<b>CURRY, N.J.V. (Nick)</b>	SH 60-66
<b>DAVIES, D.W. (Darryl)</b>	FS 62-68
<b>DOWNHAM, S.A. (Stephen) &amp; Kornelia</b>	G 61-65
<b>EADIE, P.M. (Peter)</b>	FN 69-75
<b>FENWICK, R.C. (Calder)</b>	FN 71-73
<b>FISHER, B.A. (Brian) &amp; Rosemarie</b>	FS 65-70
<b>GRIBBLE, L.J.R. (Laurence)</b>	SH 02-09
<b>HALL, R. (Richard)</b>	FS 64-68
<b>LISTER, J.P. (Jim)</b>	SH 68-74
<b>LORD, D.F. (David)</b>	SH 60-65
<b>LOWREY, T.W. (Thomas)</b>	SH 57-62
<b>MACKAY, W.A.L. (William), Edward &amp; Katrina Bulger</b>	SH 42-46
<b>OGDEN, J.E. (John)</b>	FS 51-56
<b>PAUL, D.T. (Tilak), Vashti Ragoonanan &amp; Nancie Slone</b>	FN/AC 71-76
<b>REEVE, A.J.H. (Tony)</b>	M 89-08
<b>ROBSON, I.C. (Chris)</b>	M 68-04
<b>ROBSON, G.C. (George)</b>	FN 57-64
<b>SPENCER ELLIS, M.C.V. (Mark) &amp; Victoria Love</b>	SH 62-66
<b>WATSON, D.R. (Dacre) &amp; Ann</b>	SH 56-62
<b>WEST, J.A. (John)</b>	SH 61-64
<b>WILKINSON, J.A. (John)</b>	FS 68-73
<b>WITNALL, S.G. (Stuart) &amp; Hazel Elliot</b>	G 58-63

## OSB DAY APOLOGIES

<b>BALDWIN, C.P.P. (Peter)</b>	G 51-56
<b>BEIGHTON, G.M. (Gerry)</b>	FS 48-52
<b>BIRKETT, M.J. (Martin)</b>	SH 83-90
<b>BRINDLE, J.S. (James)</b>	G 49-53
<b>CLARKSON, R.M. (Richard)</b>	G 51-57
<b>CALVIN, R.P. (Roy)</b>	SH 79-83
<b>CALVIN (Nee Gough), S.J. (Sara)</b>	G 77-84
<b>COLBECK, W.H. (Bill)</b>	FN 49-55
<b>COX, L.M. (Lucy)</b>	L 05-10
<b>CUSSONS, R.C (Rob)</b>	SH 91-98
<b>DOVE, W.E. (Bill)</b>	FN 57-60
<b>FERNS, M.S. (Michael)</b>	SH 53-58
<b>FOX, A.P. (Anthony)</b>	G 62-67
<b>HAILE, A.J. (Andy)</b>	F/SH 76-83
<b>JACKSON, D.I. (David)</b>	FS 56-60
<b>JACQUES, J.S.</b>	FS 63-68
<b>JOHNSTON, A.T. (Andrew)</b>	G 68-73
<b>LEVER, P.G. (Peter)</b>	G 62-66
<b>MATTHEWS, P.G. (Peter)</b>	G 50-55
<b>MESSINGER, F.O. (Frank)</b>	SH 50-55
<b>MIDDLETON, E.W. (Eric)</b>	M 58-69
<b>POWELL, B.H. (Brian)</b>	FS 50-54
<b>PRINGLE, J.M. (John)</b>	FN 46-49
<b>REDWAY, H.W. (Hugh)</b>	G 62-67
<b>REW, R.J. (Robert)</b>	FS 50-55
<b>ROBERTS, M.N. (Mark)</b>	SH 93-95
<b>SHANNON (nee Metcalfe-Gibson), N. (Nicola)</b>	L/G 78-85
<b>SHERWIN, A.P. (Andy)</b>	SH 93-00
<b>SIBSON, D.W.T. (David)</b>	SH 80-85
<b>SWALES, R.J. (Roger)</b>	FN 64-67
<b>TASELL, J.A.C. (James)</b>	G 61-66
<b>WHITWELL, T.D.A. (Trevor)</b>	E/FS 66-72
<b>WIGGLESWORTH, P.R. (Peter)</b>	FS 64-69
<b>WILLIAMS, D.H. (Don)</b>	F 61-64

## BRANCH NOTES & EVENTS

### Branch Activities:

#### **Cumbria Dinner – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2023, Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite**

After a very successful Dinner in May 2022, we met again at Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite on February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023 for the West Cumbria Branch Dinner. The change of season from summer to winter did not seem to affect the numbers as there were 64 in attendance. People came from many different parts of the UK including Edinburgh, Oxford, Yorkshire and the Midlands. A big thank you for making the effort.

I should like to extend my thanks once again to Simon Steele (FS 85-89), the manager at Armathwaite Hall, and also to Leeann Lennox-Burrough, sales and marketing executive, for once again making this dinner possible and for all the hard work they have put in so that this evening runs safely and smoothly. Many thanks also to all the staff who work so tirelessly behind the scenes.

I am indebted to Pam Rumney, Secretary of the Society, who has been a great help to me in organising this Dinner and who works amazingly hard throughout the year for the benefit of the Society. Pam also set up a memorabilia table with school magazines and photographs which corresponded to the years of those who were present.

The evening began with a champagne reception in the Broadwater suite prior to the meal. Thanks to Miss Dee (aka Victoria Davies (L 94-99)), for providing the music and entertaining us during this part of the evening.

After the reception we took our seats for the meal, which was of excellent quality and great value for money (£30!!) and included wine! We were given a varied choice of starter, main course and sweet with a vegetarian option, and the presentation was superb. The excellent staff and service made it another memorable occasion.

We were delighted to welcome Mr Robin Silk, the Headmaster, who gave us an update on the current situation at St Bees School. Under his leadership the school continues to grow.

We also welcomed our President, Carter Croft (FN 60-65), who is hoping to move the Society forward under his leadership.

Dick Lockwood (59-64) was presented with a copy of the Foundation House photograph taken in 1963 for showing originality in his pose!

#### **Attendees:**

**Guest – Robin Silk (Headmaster).**

**Officials of the Society** – Carter Croft (FN 60-65)(President), Fred Lord (SH 60-65)(Treasurer) & Fiona Lord (Staff 93-07), Darryl Davies (FS 62-68)(Cumbria Branch Secretary) & Pat Davies (Staff 91-01) and Pam Rumney (OSB Sec. 07-23).  
**Alumni** - Clive Milburn (F 58-63), William Hind (G 59-64), Richard Lockwood (FS 59-64), Sally Hopkinson, Tim Melville (F 59-64), Paul Haywood (SH 60-65), David Ward (FN 60-65), Nick Curry (SH 60-66) & Viv Curry, Stephen Downham (G 61-65) & Kornelia Downham, David Rowlands (G 62-68), Tim Mackay (FS 68-73), Richard Ward (FN 74-77), Ken Rangelcroft (FN 74-78), Andy Haile (SH 76-83) & Jane Dyer (Staff), Roy Calvin (SH 79-83) & Sara Calvin (nee Gough)(L/G 77-84), Rob Stewart (SH 79-83) & Dympna Stewart, Rosheen Ryan (nee Parker)(L/G 80-82), Jonathan Steele (FS 82-87), Siobhan Mulrooney (nee Parker)(L 83-86), Matt Hodgson (SH 83-90) & Nicola Hodgson, Paul Mawson (FS 83-90), Craig Melrose (F 83-90) & Jo Melrose, Jon Milburn (FS 83-90), Andrew Miller (SH 83-90) & Leanne Miller, Gill Venus (nee Lowrey)(G 83-90), Emma Davies (nee McNeil)(G 84-91), Chris Wilson (AC 84-91), Will Adie (SH 85-88) & Kay Adie, Simon Steele (FS 85-89), Ian Forster (AC 85-92) & Audrey Forster, Chris Johnston (SH 85-92) & Anne-Louise Johnston (nee Crookdake)(L 86-93), Vicky Poulett (nee Brownrigg)(L 86-88), Jacqeline Teggins (nee Green)(G 86-91), Andrea Thompson (L/G 86-91), Claudia Staechmann Brown (nee Brown)(G 87-91), Richard Postlethwaite (AC 88-92) & Negin Postlethwaite, Marianne Postlethwaite & Dave Postlethwaite, Richard de la Riviere (AC 88-95), Amelia Warne (nee McWilliam)(G/L 88-95), Alastair Lord (SH 90-95), Victoria Davies (L 94-99), Laurence Gribble (SH 02-09), Tom Wright (G 11-15), Jake Gildert (12-14).

We look forward to seeing you all again next year when the dinner will take place on **February 9<sup>th</sup> 2024** at Armathwaite Hall.

To book a place, contact Darryl at [Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com](mailto:Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com).

**Photos may be seen at: <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july23bulletin>.**

## **Australia...**

**Abi Birkett (L 01-08)** and her husband, **Daley (G 01-08)**, are currently living in Sydney, Australia. They have recently been in touch to ask if there are any other OSBs based in Sydney, or in Australia more generally. If so, they would love to connect with any interested St Beghians. Abi hopes that “there may be at least a few OSBs who might be able to meet in the near future, perhaps over a Sunday roast somewhere given the changing weather!”

If you are interested in a get-together, please contact Abi on 0460876213.

## **Forthcoming Annual Dinner and Other Dates:**

### **Asia - Hong Kong and Shenzhen**

If you are interested in attending dinners and get-togethers in Hong Kong and Shenzhen, or would be willing to organise such an event, please get in touch with Laurence Gribble, James Rebert or Chris Ma:

Facebook Group: "Old St Beghians in Asia"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/480912405435555/> or

E-mail: OSBinAsia@gmail.com or

WhatsApp: +44 7930 258791 (Laurence Gribble).

### **Cumbria Dinner – Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024, Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite**

The Cumbria Dinner and Gathering will take place on Friday 9th February 2024, 7.00 for 7.30 pm at Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Keswick.

Husbands, wives and partners are most welcome.

The cost will be £36.00 pp and will include a champagne reception on arrival with live background music and a magnificent three course meal with wine on the table. Our private room is non-smoking and smart attire is requested whilst dining in the evening. Jeans, t-shirts and trainers are not permitted. Smart casual is most acceptable.

Accommodation is available at the reduced rate of £250.00 (normal price £355.00) and this includes breakfast and the use of facilities. A list of other local hotels is available.

Please book your accommodation directly with the hotel. Your contact is Leeann and her email is [leeann.lennox@armathwaite-hall.com](mailto:leeann.lennox@armathwaite-hall.com) or tel+44 17687 88909.

**Please book your meal with me** - cheques or BACS payments must be received as soon as possible to confirm reservation and guarantee a place. This event is likely to be oversubscribed. (If you cancel before Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024, you will receive a full refund). Cheques should be made payable to: "West Cumbria Branch OSBC" and sent to: Darryl Davies, 5 Marlborough Avenue, High Harrington, Workington, CA14 4NW.

BACS payment Sort Code: 01-09-54, Acc No: 83707689. Please add your name if paying by BACS.

Contact for further info: [Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com](mailto:Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com) or 07970 180751.

### **Cumbria South Lakes Informal Social - Fri 1st Sep 2023, The Grange Hotel, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria**

We are delighted to say that 35 OSBs and partners have already verbally signed up to attend an informal social at the Grange Hotel, Grange-over-Sands on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> September at 6.30pm. If you would like to join them, there will be a bar



available (unfortunately not a free bar) and a finger buffet at £10.00 per head (collectable on the night). Also, overnight accommodation is available (including the use of a spa for residents), at a preferential price – bookable directly with the hotel.

This is a wonderful way of reconnecting with old friends as well as connecting with new and more recent OSBs. Please try to spread the word and support our efforts.

Please let us know if you are interested in attending and book as below.

**RSVP:** Carter Croft (President of the OSB Society),

on 07743700986 or 01759 302859 or cartertusm1946@icloud.com.

(Dinner at the hotel would also be available for those who would prefer, but pre booking would be advisable directly with the hotel.)

### **London Branch Dinner – 2023/4 London**

Graeme Bagnall and Martin Birkett are the points-of-contact for the event, and if you would like to attend a London Dinner in the future, please email Graeme to register your interest: graemebagnall@me.com or call on +44 7778 301584.

### **London Social (Informal Gathering) – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023, The Samuel Pepys, London**

Nicola Shannon (nee Metcalfe-Gibson) (L/G 78-85) would love to hear from you if you are interested in attending the 2023 London Social at The Samuel Pepys, Stew Lane, EC4V 3PT on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Please contact Nicola at nicmetcalfeshannon@gmail.com or 0776 619 5468.

A lovely evening to catch up with OSBs over a drink and/or a bite to eat.

### **North East Branch Lunch – Wed 8th Nov 2023, Northumberland GC, Newcastle.**

It has been agreed in future to arrange the Annual North East Branch Reunion as a Lunch event at The Northumberland Golf Club. The 2023 gathering will be on Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup> 2023. We hope this change will make it easier to attend for those travelling any distance, particularly at night. We look forward to seeing and welcoming members and guests at that time.

Please get in touch with Bill Dove if you are interested in attending:

(01274) 585147 or williamdove15@yahoo.co.uk.

### **Thomas Froggatt Memorial Rugby Match - 28th December 2023**

Should anyone like more specific information nearer the time, please contact me via facebook <https://www.facebook.com/jonathan.garrod> or by email jonathangarrod@hotmail.com. **Jonathan Garrod (G 03-10).**

## **Branch Secretaries:**

Please find below a list of Branch Secretaries. If you are interested in attending a Branch dinner/gathering or require any other information, please contact the appropriate person. In addition, if you are living in another Branch's area temporarily, due to work or university for example, it would be helpful if such members were to contact the relevant Branch Secretary.

**Asia:** Laurence Gribble, James Rebert and Chris Ma:

E-mail: OSBinAsia@gmail.com or Facebook Group: "Old St Beghians in Asia"  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/480912405435555> or  
WhatsApp: +44 7930 258791(Laurence Gribble) or WeChat: laurence358499.

**Bristol & West:** Currently Vacant.

If you are interested in assisting with this position, please do get in touch.

**Cumbria:** D.W. Davies (Darryl),

5 Marlborough Avenue, High Harrington, Workington, Cumbria. CA14 4NW.

Tel: (01946) 831650 or 07970 180 751. Email: darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com.

**Liverpool:** I.J. Braithwaite (Ian),

Bramble Grange, Belle Vue Lane, Guilden Sutton, Chester. CH3 7EJ.

Tel: (01244) 300565. Email: ijb.1@virgin.net.

**London:**

G. Bagnall (Graeme) - **(London Dinner)**,

Tel: 7778 301584. Email: graembagnall@me.com.

Mrs N. Shannon (nee Metcalfe-Gibson) (Nicola) - **(London Social)**,

Tel: 0776 619 5468. Email: nicmetcalfeshannon@gmail.com.

**Manchester:** R.P. Calvin (Roy),

The Lymes, Priors Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire. WA14 3BS.

Tel: (0161) 928 9812. Email: rcalvin1@googlemail.com.

**North-East:** W.E. Dove (Bill),

3 the Rowans, Baildon, West Yorkshire. BD17 5DB.

Tel: (01274) 585147. Email: williamdove15@yahoo.co.uk.

**Yorkshire:** S. Crossley-Smith (Steve),

Garth Cottage, Moor Park Way, Addingham, West Yorks. LS29 0PZ.

Tel: (01943) 830640. Email: crossleysmith@btinternet.com.

**Scotland:** T.H. MacKay (Tim),

Tel: 0785 008 2583. Email: timmackay5859@gmail.com.

# Golfing Society (OSBGS)

## Old St Beghians' Golfing Society

**Halford Hewitt Competition** - St Bees fielded a strong team once again, ably captained by Adrian Peckitt.

### **The Cyril Gray 2023 (Tuesday 20th June - Friday 23rd June)**

Our Cyril Gray (over 50s) campaign this year was as enjoyable as ever, but unfortunately unsuccessful. We were well beaten 3/0 by Canford in the first round (their team including one off +1.5 and one off 1). We were fortunate in that we didn't have to play in the Plate in the afternoon, Wrekin being unable to raise a team. On Thursday, in the quarter-final of the Plate, we lost to the eventual winners, Merchant Taylors' 2 ½ to ½.

Rossall, were once again this year's winners of The Cyril Gray – no doubt with coaching from Stuart Hemmings!

The pre-tournament dinner is now firmly established and provides a wonderful opportunity to bump into friends old and new (if you could only remember their names) – with St Bees established as the best dressed team.

We are now 'calling all 50 year olds' to reinforce our team and start a new era.

### **Forthcoming Golf Fixtures:**

Queen Elizabeth Coronation:

**15-17<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the Royal Burgess Golf Club.**

The Golfing Society continues to run on behalf of Old St Beghian golfers. If anyone is interested in further information or joining the Society, please do get in touch with either myself (Tom Wright) or Michael Coffey, the President.

### **OSBGS Contact Details:**

**Michael Coffey, President** – Michael@golfclubsec.co.uk.

**Tom Wright, Secretary** – tomosbgolf@hotmail.com.

## **St Bees Golf Club**

**For further information:**

ST BEES GOLF CLUB, Peck Mill Lane, St Bees, Cumbria, CA27 0EJ

01946 824300 or secretary@stbeesgolfclub.co.uk

For any other **general enquiries** please email: info@stbeesgolfclub.co.uk

## SOCIETY OFFICERS:

### President:

R.C. Croft (Carter)  
(FN 60-65)

### President-Elect:

Vacant

### Treasurer:

D. F. Lord (David)  
(SH 60-65)

### Secretary:

P.J. Rumney (Pam)

### Committee:

R.P. Calvin (Roy) (SH 79-83)	A.J. Haile (Andy) (F/SH 76-83)
S.J. Calvin (Sara) (G 77-84)	R. Hall (Richard) (F 64-68)
L.M. Cox (Lucy) (L 05-10)	A.T. Johnston (Andrew) (G 68-73)
D.W. Davies (Darryl) (FS 62-68)	A.D. Lord (Alastair) (SH 90-95)
J.M.W. Dunn (John) (FS 64-69)	M.N. Roberts (Mark) (SH 93-95)
A.P. Fox (Anthony) (G 62-67)	

### Trustees:

R.P. Calvin (Roy) (SH 79-83)	N.A. Halfpenny (Nigel) (FN 62-67)
J.G. Craig (James) (FN 75-82)	D.F. Lord (David) (SH 60-65)

If you are interested in being involved,  
please contact the Secretary or any of the above members.

**The next St Beghian Society Committee Meeting – Sat 18th November 2023.  
The AGM and St Beghians’ Day, 2024 – tbc 2024.**

**Copy Deadline:** As the target month for the next issue of ‘The Old St Beghian’ is **January 2024**, the Editor would be most grateful if Branch Secretaries and other contributors would let him have their notices and reports by **30<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2023**.

**The St Beghian Society, St Bees School, St Bees, Cumbria. CA27 0DS.**

**(01946) 828093 or [osb@stbeesschool.co.uk](mailto:osb@stbeesschool.co.uk)**

**Website: [www.st-beghian-society.co.uk](http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk)**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/osbsociety>**