



The Old St Beghian

July 2022

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From Our Past President Howard Graham (FS 80-87)

It has been an interesting last few years and taking over the OSB Presidency in September 2020 has meant I've had somewhat of a muted tenure. My message has always been let's connect more with old friends. The more we connect the stronger the Society becomes, and as a group, the more active we can become the more support we're likely to build for the school, and at this time the school needs our support in anyway we can give it. Pupil numbers are growing slowly and the future is certainly brighter for St Bees School than it has been, mainly due to the characters who are driving the process of rebuilding. Our school has always been a place where character was built, and at least in some small way for every former pupil, it has made us what we are today. The teachers in my time were a massive part of that character-building and I feel the same applies now with those that are driving the school forward. The Headmaster is a good example. I have no idea of his teaching credentials, but he certainly has the right character to take our unique school back to its former glory. So, if you are able, please support the refurbishment appeal that was recently launched, and is mentioned elsewhere in this Bulletin, in any way you can (further information can be found here: <https://www.stbeesschool.co.uk/st-bees-school-appeal/>).

I have so enjoyed catching up with old friends at various OSB Dinners and socials, culminating in the Black Tie Dinner on OSB Day on the 25th June at the school. The theme at these events when chatting to those attending is always, why haven't we done this sooner? So, plan ahead, get a table or a small group together for your most local dinner and use it to reconnect with old friends and make new ones; I promise you, the effort is worth it.

A personal plan, long in the making, means I'm unable to continue the role and it has now come to a close. I have handed over to another 'rugby nut', the very capable Carter Croft (FN 60-65). I will however be trying to catch up with Old St Beghians far and wide over the next few years, so please keep an eye out in the Bulletin and the OSB social facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/427579695153162/?ref=share_group_link
 (Even if you are not on Facebook it's worth joining this one group just for some of the hair cuts in the old photos posted!)

I wish Carter all the best in his role of building a stronger OSB Society through your help.

Let's connect!

Howard Graham (FS 80-87).

Calendar of Events

2022		
September	Friday 16th	London Dinner
October	Friday 14th	London Social
November	Wednesday 2nd	North East Dinner
	Friday 25th	Scottish Gathering
December	Wed 28th (tbc)	Thomas Froggatt Rugby Match, Cumbria
2023		
January		
February	Friday 3rd	Cumbria Dinner
March	Saturday 4th	OSB Committee Meeting
April		
May		
June	(tbc)	OSB Day (tbc)

SCHOOL NOTES

From the Headmaster Robin Silk

I write on the back of a memorable weekend and especially the Saturday evening with Stuart Lancaster as our guest of honour, and our first social occasion of such a magnitude since the re-founding of the school. I do, in the same breath, apologise for the standard of opposition put out against the OSB cricket team, although I will remind the OSBs that a scratch school pupil/RNLI side did have the OSBs at 6 for 4 at one point. In fact, it was a very England-esque performance of modern 'Bazball' vintage from the OSB middle order as they streaked away into the broad sunlit uplands before skittling the school team for not very many. More poignantly, it was wonderful to have so many OSBs back at the school after so many years, and that included three OSBs of 90+, the eldest of whom, at the age of 94, danced into the early hours of the morning. A highly entertaining and thoughtful address from Stuart Lancaster and great live music capped a thoroughly enjoyable night. Thanks are owed to many for organising the event, but most of all to our Head of Admissions and Marketing, Ceara Fisher, and the OSB Society Secretary, Pam Rumney.

This was one of the events forming the end of a very successful end of year for St Bees School, with the school ending on seventy-two students, with forty-two boarders and thirty day students. Next year we will be passing a hundred students for the first time since reopening, with about fifty-five boarders and forty-five day students, including over thirty students in the Sixth Form. These are exciting times for the school and it is a testament to the team on the ground and our support from Full Circle in China, alongside the St Bees School Trust here, that we are growing once more. On a note of China, our two schools and one international section of a third school continue to grow and we look forward to the day when China opens up fully so we can really do justice to our free-flow campus concept, which will see more students from China attend St Bees School here and more students from here have, a probably more short-lived, Chinese experience. So far, we have only two students from mainland China, and although we want to restrict our Chinese students to a maximum of one-third of our international cohort and our international cohort to about one-third of the total number of students, we certainly do want to grow our Chinese contingent.

There has been a number of firsts this year for the new St Bees School. Our first Wainwright Mountain Walking Club (ticking off about thirty Wainwrights in its first year); our first fixtures against other schools, including Cross Country,

Badminton, Basketball, Volleyball, Football and Athletics, most of which, I am glad to say, we have won; our first school play and our first Founders Day. We have also had our inaugural Inter-House Triathlon among other events. Our recent Sports Day was really well attended, which bucked the COVID trend, and we welcomed Gary McKee on his 175th marathon of 365 in the year, to run with the students and present the prizes. Of course, throughout the year as we have navigated the latter stages of the pandemic, the focus on good academic work, excellent pastoral care, and redeveloping the student voice alongside good governance for the school has continued apace. I am delighted to say that we now have a Local Advisory Committee that is functioning well and overseeing what we do in school alongside our Board of Trustees and the Board of the School based at Full Circle in Hong Kong. These collaborative bodies give the school the proper oversight to ensure it is compliant and meeting its targets. We have also established a Student School Council and our first Boarding House Student Council to get the students more involved in the running of the school, which even included their involvement with the development of a St Bees School fusion ice cream - it is not all hard work! Last, but not least, we had our first major community initiatives since reopening, including acting as a centre both for collection for the West Cumbria Ukraine Appeal and for a Multicultural Group, which supported integration of refugees into the area. We also are, once more, the venue for the St Bees Bash, which this year raised in excess of £6,000 for charity. All these things go together to make the student experience here a rich one, whilst also re-establishing St Bees School at the heart of the community.

We therefore end the year in a much stronger position, ready to take on the challenges of the future, and with an imminent visit from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), we certainly approach inspection with more confidence. With that said, we still do need to get our facilities up to standard and for that the Trust is going to be at least partially reliant on donations from generous benefactors, especially you, the OSBs. We will be investing in a new boarding house for Sixth Formers next year, as with numbers growing we do need more space, and at the St Bees School Black Tie Dinner I did launch the St Bees School, Library and Arts Fundraising Appeal. If you have agreed to receiving OSB/School marketing and fundraising information in the past, I would ask you to look at the Brochure that will be sent to you either in digital or hard copy form and give generously to the Appeal. If you do not receive a brochure, but are interested in finding out more, please see the following link: <https://www.stbeesschool.co.uk/st-bees-school-appeal/>. A further article from me elsewhere in the Bulletin also embellishes this point.

I hope all OSBs have a fine summer or, if you are in the Southern Hemisphere, an equally enjoyable winter (remember the weather you experience will be better

than that you experienced in a St Bees summer!). The recent St Bees School Alumni weekend is, I hope, here to stay and we look forward to welcoming OSBs back to the school on these and other occasions. For those of you going to the London Dinner on 16th September or to the London social gathering on 14th October, we will be joining you for the evening. Can I just encourage all who receive this newsletter, in turn, to encourage all the younger OSBs to join up. The very best to you all for a fine summer.

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 BEGHIAN SOCIETY NOTES

St Beghian Society Annual Subscription 2022

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 or alternatively please contact the OSB Office for further details.

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.

FUNDRAISING APPEAL FOR NEW LIBRARY, ART AND DESIGN ROOMS AND THEATRE

I have had the privilege to lead St Bees School in its second incarnation for just under a year now. Set where it is, with an incredible history and so many stakeholders who care so much about its revival and success, this really is a fine educational establishment, and an ideal place to be educated. All of us involved in this project are determined that we make the school sustainable into the future with a model of education which draws the very best from the old, while looking forward with renewed spirit and vigour to provide an independent school education with a difference. Our international outlook, overt focus on the development of character, the links to St Bees Schools in China and, in future, further afield, are all part of the package that we are confident will see a long-term future for this most august of institutions. The buildings, of course, still remain in trust and are therefore the property of the St Bees School Charitable Trust. This remains, as it always was, without substantial streams of income until the St Bees Schools reach a significant size. Looking after and financing the renovation of our ancient buildings is no small undertaking, especially when we have the added cost of making the facilities fit for the 21st Century. We will therefore now and always rely to some extent on the great and good of our alumni and other friends of the school. It is with this in mind that I appeal to you all to donate generously to this Appeal. Any little (and hopefully large) donation that you can give will be very gratefully received indeed.

If you have agreed to receiving OSB/School marketing and fundraising information in the past, a Brochure will be sent to you either in digital or hard copy form, along with payment details and a gift aid form. If you do not receive a brochure, but are interested in finding out more, please see the following link: <https://www.stbeesschool.co.uk/st-bees-school-appeal/>.

In advance, thank you so much for your donations and we look forward to keeping you up to date with our progress as we go forward.

Robin Silk
Headmaster

Work-Experience Project at St Bees

Tom Wright (G 11-15) reports:

It was a pleasure to return to St Bees in May alongside my work colleague and fellow OSB, **Fiona Frise (nee Tubman) (G/L 88-95)**. Together with support from school teacher Mrs McCallig, we facilitated a Year 10 in-house work-experience programme.

Fiona is Head of Marketing at React and I am one of React's Engineering Consultants. When designing the work experience week, Fiona and I created two team-based tasks (one environmental engineering themed and the other being more marketing and project management focused).

The students were issued job descriptions for both tasks as well as examples of roles that a project team would usually include (e.g. Project Manager, Client Liaison officer etc). The students then prepared for an interview, including the production of a CV in advance of the interview.

Fiona and I had a full day at the school at the start of the week, conducting all interviews and assigning the roles. When each team was finalised, we ran separate workshops focusing on each of our own disciplines and the pathway that brought us both into the positions we now hold following a St Bees education.

Photos of Tom Wright and Fiona Frise during Work Experience Project Sessions available at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

After this briefing session, each team planned their week ahead to produce a project proposal that would eventually see the students produce a summary report and presentation (to Fiona and me) at the end of the work experience week.

The students also participated in supporting workshops organised by **Lucy Cox (L 05-10)** from (FedEx), and Oliver Hodgson from Platinum Live. Both workshops were used to help the students develop a solution to the problem that we had proposed.

Fiona and I returned to the school at the end of the week to listen to the project proposals and provide feedback. We were both impressed with the solutions they had generated and how each team had planned their route to a solution.

On a personal note, the week-long experience brought back a lot of happy memories for me. It was great to be based at school once again and meet the enthusiastic students. It was clear to me that the new management of the school have captured the same ethos that St Bees will always be known for.

It is relatively easy for me to maintain contact with the school (in comparison with other OSBs) primarily due to my being locally based in West Cumbria as well as through my role as Secretary of the Old St Beghian Golfing Society. I believe OSBs with a fondness for the school, both young and old, should play their part in supporting the school as it continues to strengthen and grow.

Tom Wright.

OSB NOTES

Sam Ashton (SH 47-53) remembers Abbey Farm.

“A local, lifelong friend (but much younger than I) worked for the Head family at Abbey Farm, St Bees around 1971/2. In my day the farm was owned by the Atkinsons, but they subsequently sold it to the school and the Head family became the tenants. Part of the deal was that they supplied the school with vegetables grown on the farm. Sometime in the 1970s when the school was in need of some ready money, they sold the farm to the Heads, who were then the sitting tenants. For me, the Abbey Farm was familiar territory, since I had been involved with tractors at home on the family farm since the age of seven. Whenever Suttons of Beckermest turned up at Abbey Farm to thresh with one of their smart outfits, I always went to look. When I became sufficiently ‘senior’ at school to skip compulsory daily ‘exercise’, and depending on what was happening at the farm, I would go along and drive the grey Fergie tractor and plough to give Harold Graham, the regular driver, an extended afternoon tea-break! Happy memories!”

Photo of Audrey and Tony Head planting cabbages in the 1960s at Abbey Farm may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>. (Photo credit – Sue Head).

J. D. S. (Tim) Brown (G 53-59) has sent in some notes from his 1956 diary.

21 Jan. First day back. Assembly was usual tripe but only 5 minutes of it. There were two new masters - Legatt and Wetheral. Film at night was Cardboard Cavalier and extremely funny. Play rehearsal for School for Scandal.

6 March. Ladies’ costumes came and we tried them on in afternoon as we were excused Corps. At 6.30 I went to Mrs Wykes for my make-up and wasn’t finished till 7.30. The (School for Scandal) dress rehearsal went well and I only forgot one or two lines. After a coffee, went to bed, very tired, at 11.30.

8 March. A very active day. Went to Whitehaven on 3.40 bus. S.P. (Mr Parkinson) and Mr Kerr were on. I bought 3 cream cakes and had my hair cut at Bell’s. School for Scandal opened and went very well. The village audience laughed in all the wrong places. Rounded off the evening at 11.05 with one of my cream cakes.

9 March. The last performance with Grindal and School went really well. We had a cream cake feed in Hostel - bed at 11.30.

30 March. (Good Friday). Three-quarter day. After ante-communion we left on a bus for Buttermere whence Dumbo Simpson and I walked over two passes into Wasdale. It was a beautiful day. We had a 2/6 tea at the Wasdale Head Hotel and

then walked along the lake to the bus for 5.30. There was Compline and another of the plays in the cycle of Man born to be King

31 May. Morning plunge cancelled. Len Hutton knighted in Birthday Honours. 3/4 Day so went with Bill Greetham and Peter Stewart by bus to Borrowdale. We walked to Watendlath with its nice village and tarn. We then lost our way but eventually found Blea Tarn and ate our packed lunch. We could see Thirlmere. A mist came over and we rushed down a steep slope to Stonethwaite where we had tea - 8d. each. Then to Seatoller where the bus left at 6.30.

30 June. Speech Day. The prizes were given by General Platt, the liberator of Abyssinia. It was the best one yet. He had a word with all of us and thought I'd chosen a good book (Vol.1 of Churchill's History of the English-Speaking Peoples) - chosen against the advice of 'Snips' Brown. The speeches weren't too bad with Mr Mawson on again about the weather. The band was good, but it rained so there was no gym display. Fees to go up.

16 July. 2nd. 3/4 Day. As Bill Greetham was doing exams, I went with Chris Lord on my bike to Eskdale and had a very restful day. We went for a bathe in the river near Stanley Force and then had a sandwich lunch at the railway terminus - nice and cheap. Read, sun-bathed and bathed again in the afternoon.

3 Aug. (RAF camp). Train to Kings X then to Paddington which was full of reservists because of the Suez crisis. We were housed in tents at White Waltham. We were taken up in an Anson which was very enjoyable - my first ever flight.

6 Aug. Went to London Airport with Haigh. It was very interesting. Read my first paper for days - Suez news disturbing.

7 Aug. Shooting in the morning. Then on a Link Trainer. In the afternoon went up in a Chipmunk over Reading, and I had to take over above Henley, making an absolute mess of things. Film at night was The Barefoot Contessa.

4 Oct. First dancing lesson. Michael Tonkin was my partner - did a waltz and barn dance. The teachers were very amusing.

17 Oct. We left School at 10.15 in 3 double-deckers, with packed breaks and arrived at Sellafield about 1/2 an hour later. We went to the public enclosure and waited for 1 1/4 hours during which time we saw many important people arrive, also Richard Dimbleby. Mr R.A. Butler spoke from the dais followed by Sir Edwin Plowden, Chairman of the UKAEA. Then the Queen spoke. She was dressed in navy blue with a silver brooch and wore a white hat. She switched on the first full scale atomic power station in the world and I was very proud to be there. We left about 12.45 along crowded and decorated roads.

27 Oct. (On the Colts XV). Left School for Sedbergh with the 1sts at 8.05. It was very cold and frosty. We stopped at Thirlmere and they had us walking for about 1 1/2 miles along the road. The reflection on the water was magnificent as it was so still. The trees were just on the turn. The next stop was Ambleside where we

had coffee and cake at a very nice café. Bought a paper - Hungarian revolt really dreadful - 10,000 believed dead including the footballer Puskas (this was false). After Kendal, we were on the moors for another walk. At Sedbergh we were shown around the school. The match was a rout and we lost 20-0. The firsts lost 39-3 in another rout. There was a good turnout of Old Boys - Crosthwaite, Binns, Mathias, and Hunter were there.

1 Nov. First of the new Field Days. Left after a mix-up in Chapel with Mr Moule. Went to Silloth, and had tea and buns, and then two flights in Ansons. We saw the school from the air with the poor Army people parading on the Terrace and then flew up Lake District valleys which was a bit frightening. We were given a good lunch. Opera at night was Barber of Seville performed by the Opera Players.

9 Nov. Uneventful journey to Rossall. It is huge (550 pupils). Everyone has a study. Classrooms not very good. Hugh-John Boulter and I went into Blackpool on a tram in the evening and bought rock. Back for 9.30 and slept on hard beds in the San.

10 Nov. After breakfast in the huge hall, David Ferry and I went into Fleetwood by tram. The Colts match was at 11 and all forwards played with fire and we won 9-3. It was our first win for a while. Gaul played well with 2 tries and 'Marilyn' Campbell also with 1. We were all very happy. The firsts lost 12-6.

14 Nov. Came out of school at 12.20 and after an early lunch left for Keswick. On the way I saw a poster 'Lynch Eden'. The Colts match was very rough but we won 8-0 - it should have been 11-0 if I'd kicked the ball after a tackle. Scorers were Gaul and Graham with Campbell converting. We stopped in Cockermouth on the way back as Keswick was completely shut on a Wednesday.

15 Nov. Colts meeting with Nick Carter after lunch discussed the problem of taking spoons as souvenirs after a match. More dancing at night - quick step, Russian waltz and - yes - Rock and Roll.

16 Nov. J.C. Wykes won't let us have a chapel collection for Hungary. Lecture in the evening was Education in the Gold Coast.

25 Nov. Chapel: J.C. Wykes waffled for 18 minutes. But we had our collection for Hungary which was a record £21.16.10 (equivalent to today's £436).

6 Dec. Had a Hostel Concert rehearsal in the Memorial Hall after dinner but it flopped - too many factions at work! Last dancing lesson with competitions and the conga. Bell, Lister, Brown P.J., Southern and Hedley J.D. came to our Grindal study to listen to Les Misanthrope on the Third Programme. S.P. provided orange and biscuits and we had a good time.

12 Dec. The Choir did the first of their Hungarian Relief Carol Services at Cleator.

17 Dec. In Assembly, J.C.W. told us the Old Boys were despondent about our Rugger. The Hostel Concert went off well, especially Swees and the Grindal rope trick. Cleaned the study on the last day of term. Baldwin and Rhodes left us."

W. H. (Bill) Colbeck (FN 49-55) has sent a photo of the 2nd XV rugby team of 1953/4 and comments:

“As I looked at the photo, I thought back to my most wonderful time at St Bees, helped to a great extent by the extremely nice young men with whom I shared my life over the six years that I was at the school.

The captain is Robert Wilson, who went on to play for Oxford as hooker! John Mawson - sadly long deceased - is on the extreme left of the back row!

It was a remarkably good season for the 2nd XV. We played all the local Grammar Schools’ 1st XV’s and therefore usually lost all of our matches! To win half of the games and to have a score of 143 points for and only 147 against us made the team very proud!

About half of the side went on to play for the 1st XV in season 1954/55 when we lost to Sedbergh 16-6 (through two interception tries by a wing three quarter who went on to play for Yorkshire and to have trials for England) but won all of our other matches!

The names of the players, from left to right are:

Back Row – J. Mawson, W.H. Colbeck, E.C. Thompson, E. Collins, G.C. Hayton, D. Cartmel, M. Widdas, S. Parker, H.C. McQuillan.

Sitting – J.M.H. Kennedy, P.J.J. Leech, R.M. Wilson, A.W.J. Thompson, M. Thomson.

On Ground – J. Blackburn, E.K. Williams.”

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

Dan Colver (SH 60-64) writes:

“Just to say how much I have enjoyed, in particular, the last two editions of the OSB newsletter. It has brought back fond memories of standing on The Crease on CCF inspection day, the year Sir Gus inspected us. I well remember the day Sir Gus arrived in the helicopter to land on Wallside. I think the whole village came to see what was going on. I was picked out to be introduced to Sir Gus on The Crease, by Major Francis, as I was the son of an old boy. My father had been at St Bees on School House with him in the late 20s/early 30s. He was certainly quite a school hero. What a coincidence his daughter should end up marrying an OSB.”

David Hill (SH 67-72).

An old boy, David Hill (SH 67-72), has been in touch to say that he is currently involved in an extremely worthwhile and potentially ground-breaking cancer research programme with the Institute for Cancer Research, ICR, which is based at 15 Cotswold Road, Sutton, London, SM2 5NG <https://www.icr.ac.uk>. The research aims to bring new drugs into use to treat what are currently described as ‘undrugable cancers’. He has personally made a multi-million pound donation to

this research and is keen to do all he can to spread the word about the work which the Institute is doing on this project. If any OSBs would like to be associated with this or to have more information, please contact David on david@lfdevs.co.uk or 0044 7801 793030 (WhatsApp preferred).

Photo of David Hill and Professor Ian Collins standing in front of the ICR's Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery where the new Centre for Protein Degradation will be based may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

J. Adrian Hope (G 69-76) writes:

“I read with interest the OSB note from Michael Ferns (SH 53-58) for I spent a month in Australia in 1986 with two business associates. After a short stay in Sidney we drove north to Shute Harbour then over to Hamilton Island where we chartered a motor yacht. I was amazed to discover that most of the islands were named after Cumbrian towns and places! I was told that an officer on Captain Cook’s voyage of ‘discovery’ came from Whitehaven, hence the naming. Our first trip was to Brampton Island and each day we would check the map to plan a visit to another Cumberland island. I vividly remember sitting on Whitehaven beach, 12 km of pure white sand, and seeing no other person. A 10lb fish which my colleagues subsequently caught we barbecued on the beach, sharing it with three delightful Australian ladies who had anchored nearby in a lovely sail boat. Happy memories. When St Bees Island came on the market, I tendered a bid, which was refused. On Hamilton Island was the holiday home of the late George Harrison. We spent a very pleasant evening as his guests. The next villa was owned by Rupert Murdoch, though we never received an invite. However he did zoom past our boat in his huge 200 foot motor launch, nearly sinking us in his wake! While anchored off Brampton Island we arranged to visit the Great Barrier Reef. We were collected by an old De Havilland seaplane and then flown to the reef. We walked ankle deep on the coral with the land in sight – an unforgettable experience and something not allowed now. In 2014 when I was recovering from a brain tumour, I was able to instruct my wife and daughter, who were visiting my brother-in-law, in how to hire a motor launch to Whitsunday Island and thereby visit in my footsteps.”

George Robson (FN 57-64) and John Ogden (FS 51-56) have compiled the following piece:

The King of All the Japes?

“I guess it is usual for schoolboys to devise practical jokes, and in particular those at boarding schools.

For example, I remember that in 1962 some of the Foundation prefects thought it

a good idea to explore the roofs of the chapel, the lecture theatre and the then physics lab during hours of darkness. The scheme went as planned until a roof tile fell down to the Terrace alerting a member of staff who was locking doors for the night. I cannot remember what punishments were meted out.

And then there was the matter of Old Boys' Day 1962. We Foundation boys woke up on the morning after Old St Beghians' Day to see an amazing sight from the dormitory windows. During the night a large, mature tree had been felled, transported and replanted in a very large hole dug in the centre of The Crease. I daresay groundsman Jack Holdroyd would not have been pleased!

But the king of all japes must surely have been that devised and delivered by a group of Foundation prefects in the summer term of 1955. This was two years before George's arrival at the school, but he was soon to hear an outline of the details of the enterprise.

The idea, dreamed up by Foundation prefect John Ogden (FS 51-56), was to provide secret communications between Foundation, Grindal and School House by laying a telephone line, known only to certain senior pupils, on all three Houses.

A trapdoor had been cut in the floorboards of the first prefects' study on the left in the short corridor almost opposite the Quadrangle entrance into Foundation. It led into a large space. This was big enough to hold four or five crouching boys. The trapdoor leading to the 'snug' was not easily spotted and with a few adjustments became undetectable. This 'snug' was of course used for smoking and the storage of other illicit objects. The thought was that, with ingenuity and planning, a telephone line could maybe be laid from this space connecting Foundation, Grindal and School House. The idea of a private phone to the other two Houses seemed appealing. Some weeks were spent planning how this could be done: e.g. endless lengths of telephone wire were stored in the armoury to be taken on CCF field trips but very rarely used. The fact that John was the sergeant in charge of signalling and responsible for all signalling equipment was useful to the enterprise. Most buildings within the school's domain have ventilation bricks and so give easy access/egress to wires. A bridge across Pow Beck behind the cricket pavilion could easily carry an unnoticeable line across, both above the water in the beck and below the railway lines. The wall alongside School House lane was also useful and, with what is now the car park in those days being merely a dirt track and no New Block or Whitelaw Building, devising a route between Foundation and School House was not too difficult. Similarly, a plan for a line between Foundation and Grindal was worked out and it was not long before communication between the three houses' prefects started during the latter part of the summer term of 1955. And it was over one year before things came to an end. So how was this enterprise uncovered?

During the 1956 summer holidays workmen came in to check and update the central heating piping beneath Big School. Some of the floorboards were removed when the workmen discovered and reported the wiring running alongside the pipes. Also discovered was the 'snuggery' beneath the prefects' study. In due course the routes that the wiring took to Grindal and School House were traced. somehow the name of ex-pupil John Ogden came to light and Headmaster Wykes wrote to him. The tone of the letter was curt. It didn't ask for the names of fellow plotters but showed curiosity. Sadly, this letter has been mislaid but John remembers 'evil smelling snuggery' featured in it.

If any of those involved in the caper other than John are still alive perhaps further details of this could be supplied.

And I am sure the editor of The Old St Beghian will be pleased to hear details of other mischief at the school - I know, for example, of a number of amusing activities that happened during the three-quarter day cycling outings.

On St Beghians' Day 2022, George Robson (FN 57-64) bumped into John Ogden on the Terrace and suggested the two of them tour the Priory interior and afterwards pay homage at the graves of those we both remembered. It was during this time that the subject of the telephone caper arose. John agreed to provide George with details, and he would then stitch the facts together to form an article for the Bulletin."

Some random reminiscences from John West (SH 61-64).

"PL called me 'Wooly' after 'The wild and wooly West'. I remember the expression but would have to google the exact meaning. Maybe a song? 'C'mon Wooly' was to get me to the dormitory, with a push in the back and a smack of the lips, which was his trademark.

My hair was, and is, like our Prime Minister Boris's, totally untrainable! (I feel lucky to still have some!) **The School House photo of about '61**, where it is everywhere, demonstrates this (I had probably combed it two minutes before!). I had a crew cut before the **1963 school photo**. About ten years ago I visited the 'Master Hairdresser', M. Fischer, then in his 80s. He remembered me asking for that crew cut! 'I told you that it might not stand on end'. It did. When I got back to school a few days later I was christened 'Fritz' because it looked so German. It lasted until it grew out. Luckily by then, the Beatles were defining hair styles, so my unruly, unpartable hair didn't stand out so much!

When, as we filed to lunch, we passed before the prefects, sitting smug on the corridor windowsill, they would stop you and tell you to go and comb your hair, wash your hands etc. I was the perfect sitting duck. I had no parting. My hair might have been immaculate three seconds before, but suddenly not! So, as you can imagine, I have sympathy for Boris!

I'm ancient enough to remember sweet-rationing and finding farthings and going to the sweet shop and being able to buy something. You could buy a quarter of Pineapple Chunks, or Pear Drops for 6d. Pear Drops tasted of acetone. Basically, both confections had a hard sugar coating which ripped the roof off your mouth and your tongue apart by the time you had scoffed them! Still, for those who are old enough to remember 2 ½ d, then you'll know that you could get four Black Jacks or Fruit Salads for 1d! (The Society Secretary remembers Sherbert Pips, Toffee Bonbons, Rhubarb and Custards from her school days. Anyone else? Editor).

Brother Andy and I spent our summers at our Aunt Nell's (My mother died when I was six - on reflection, this may have been why I went to boarding school at age six! - and Aunt Nell was her sister.) This was at Haverthwaite, near Ulverston. We lived in a large posh house in Barrow. Aunt Nell lived in a council house, 8 Levens Garth, Haverthwaite. There was no incongruity, you just accept differences in your childhood, don't you? In fact, I remember that when Uncle Jack bought a 'new' car, a Vauxhall, probably eight or ten years' old, I remarked that I loved the cloth seats, Aunt Nell said somewhat wistfully, 'I would have thought you would prefer leather!' (Dad had some nice cars, usually a new one every year.) I didn't even notice!

The river Leven ran close by. We went swimming there, in fact the area was very heaven for any boy. We took our bikes, had loads to do and friends to play with. Somehow summers seemed forever sunny in the fifties (I'm sure I just remember the good bits!). We went out of the house in the morning and returned for meals and dark! We built camp fires, looked around the local dump for pram wheels to build a 'Bogey', had 'The Haverthwaite Boys' Club' (a candle-lit shed behind the local post office) – **I have included a photo of two of my childhood friends - Rod Heywood (cricketer extraordinaire) and John Lancaster outside 'The Haverthwaite Boys' Club', around the 1950s.** We climbed over the railway line (now the Haverthwaite to Lakeside steam railway) to the woods behind, waved at the engine drivers - and they waved back. One day I was by myself by the river and started to talk to two men who were fishing from the bridge. One asked 'Where do you go to school?' I replied 'Oh, Huyton Hill, I'm sure you've never heard of it!' 'I think I have; Mr Butler is the Headmaster, isn't he!' I was amazed. Before that, I'd been stopped in Barrow by a policeman and asked why I wasn't at school. 'Oh, we haven't gone back yet,' I replied in my beautifully received English. (I promise you that the accent is long gone; let's face it, even the Queen doesn't speak like that now!). 'Where do you go to school?' asked the bemused policeman. I replied, 'Huyton Hill.' This obviously confused him further. 'Where's that?' 'Near Ambleside.' He obviously didn't know it, or why I should go to school thirty miles away, and neither did he know that because we worked

Saturdays, we had longer holidays than the local children. A gruff 'On your way' followed. The fisherman asked which public school I would be going to. My reply was 'St Bees.' 'Oh, that's a lovely coincidence, both of us are masters there.' 'Well, my brother starts there next term.' (This must have been 1959.) I rushed back to Aunt Nell's very excited and tried in vain to get brother Andy to come back with me to meet them. I am outgoing, Andy is not! I think that the last thing he wanted to do was to meet two future teachers. I think that they might have been 'Algy' Lyall and ANR Dearle. I didn't remember that day while I was at school, but I had a long conversation with Mr Lyall on Old Boys' Day in about 2012. We talked about Mr and Mrs Lever among other things. It was only going home on the train when I remembered our earlier possible meeting, so I missed the opportunity to quiz him about it.

My 'waiting house' had been Meadow, Mr. Lyall and his wife ran Eaglesfield then. I said how much I had liked being on Meadow. Philip and Molly Lever had managed it, along with the 'Matron', whose name, I'm ashamed to say that I can't remember, gave it an almost family atmosphere. 'PL' was definitely a father figure. If he had to 'beat' you, it was with a plimsoll and not hard and I think it was with reluctance not pleasure. Later I received 'three of the best' from 'Lem' Parkinson for being late to evening 'Shed' (Chapel), which was a completely different experience. The physical scars have long gone, but I remember that in every detail! I suspect that the look I gave him as I turned around from the third stroke dissuaded him from a fourth!

When I started on Meadow, we had at home a Mark V11 Jag. I loved it. Mr Lever had a Mark V111 two tone blue one. I loved our car, so you can imagine how much I liked PL's!

I remember JC Wykes leaving (I think to be head of educational programming at Border Television) and Mr Lees taking over as Head. That would be in 1963. I'm not sure if his opening speech in the Mem Hall was recorded in any way. It was certainly an eye opener to the assembled. The part that shocked us was when he said something to the effect of: 'The Olympic Games start next year. Everyone will tell you that the important thing is the taking part. I'm here to tell you that that is not true. The important thing is winning! I want you all to be winners and to strive to achieve and to win at whatever you take part in.' I think the shock was because it was so 'unBritish'. I have since heard stories from Old Boys saying how he helped them achieve more than they thought themselves capable of. I think we used to play Eton fives, which Rob Astin introduced me to. I don't remember playing any other schools, but I'm sure we had house matches, which School House tended to win along with everything else in my time! I certainly remember falling over onto my back and all the other players laughing out loud - then suddenly silence. I looked back over my head to see Mr Lees, the

Headmaster, towering above me, looking down. I remained, sort of frozen. Then he said, 'Carry on.' The game resumed with him watching. That would be summer 1964. I was slightly more supple then!

Eileen Lithgow (a childhood friend who used to run the St Bees post office on Main Street, and whose two girls went to the school) has invited me to the St Bees News & Views Facebook page, so I shall be looking forward to seeing all the local gossip. I remember that the phone box was around there somewhere and my older brother Andy (who was there for two terms when I was) and I used to go to that phone box on Sundays and contribute 6d each to phone home."

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

John West (SH 61-64) remembers:

"In about 1963 there was a programme on the TV about borstal. It was of interest particularly because the borstal was at Calder Bridge, so although not close to home at Barrow, it was close to St Bees. I've no idea if it's still there, or even if borstals exist nowadays.

Dad wasn't watching, but Lily, my stepmother was. The programme started with describing the school, interviewing a few of the pupils and asking them why they were there etc. I seem to remember that they were mostly inner city boys, aged about 13 – 16, mainly I think, caught thieving and vandalising or similar and sent away for a 'sharp, short lesson.'

The next part of the programme went on to show what happened to them, The presenter saying something like 'This is the first time that they have had any order brought into their lives...'

The school day started with them getting out of bed, washing at a row of sinks in a dormitory, making their beds, all in silence. Waiting for a bell while standing having their beds inspected. Then filing down to breakfast.

They ate breakfast in silence, then went for lessons. Lunch then more lessons. Tea. Prep. Bed. Some days they played organised sports. The emphasis was probably more on practical teaching, metalwork etc.

About three quarters of the way through the programme, I casually said 'Public School is exactly like that - well, except you're allowed to talk at meals after grace.' My stepmother looked at me wide-eyed. 'You mean we're paying all that money for you to go to...to...to BORSTAL!'

I didn't really know how to reply to that, I may have said something like 'well, we do get to come home for holidays.' She was not a happy lady - I don't know how she thought we lived, but that was how it was then!"

SNIPPETS.....

Carter Croft (FN 60-65) was married on 22 July 2022 to Lynda Burns. Nick Curry (SH 60-66) and David Lord (SH 60-65) were among the guests.

OBITUARIES

Michael J. Heale (G 62-68).

Dave Heale, Dimitri Sklavounos and Charlie Lambert have submitted the following:

“It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the death of Michael J. Heale, known as ‘Mike’ by his brother and friends.

Mike was a very intelligent man who was interested in everything scholastic and philosophical and aspired to understand what was important in life.

Unfortunately, he also inherited a body that was poorly coordinated, and therefore unathletic, which combined with his gentle and sensitive nature made him a perfect target for many a bully or unhappy person at school. Tragically for him, this had a profound impact which affected him later on in life. He was a deeply thoughtful, kind, and considerate man with strong principles throughout his life.

At St Bees, Mike developed a disinterest for sports and a dislike for the many old-fashioned ways of the school, and especially the ‘privilege’ system. He consistently spoke with those who would listen about the archaic and barbaric system and encouraged everyone not to join that cycle of becoming the ‘abuser’ when in a position of power. He expected people to treat each other with respect, irrespective of age, role or status, and used his authority wisely as a House prefect to promote this. He was the first House prefect to reject the idea of having a ‘personal fag’. Despite his gentle nature, he was not averse to verbally admonishing any fellow student who demonstrated an abuse of power at the expense of someone beneath them in age or status.

After leaving St Bees, unsurprisingly Mike went to study Law at Dundee University. He enjoyed his time there and left with a good degree. His strong beliefs were demonstrated there also when he was arrested and cautioned for posting Marxist literature on lamp-posts. Mike was not a radical though, he just wanted a fairer society for all.

After leaving university, he began to work towards becoming a solicitor, and then decided he would prefer to work abroad to understand what life was like in a developing country. He applied to VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas) and was allocated a teaching job in an agricultural college in Zambia. He spent two happy years there, and developed an enjoyment of teaching and valued many aspects of the culture. He also appreciated being in a country that was striving to establish its own identity after years of colonial rule, and enjoyed contributing to that. He also valued the fact that it echoed, albeit to a far lesser degree, the experiences of his uncle who had been working in Kenya prior to and during the Mau-Mau uprising, and who was one of the very few British people invited to stay on afterwards and serve in a prominent role in the first Kenyatta Government.

Once again, in his time in Zambia we could see manifested Mike's strong belief in the development of self-respect, self-identity, mutual respect and also dislike of empire (of any kind).

After his two years there, Mike returned to England and decided to combine his interests by joining a college in Southall, a multi-cultural community, and continue teaching in many aspects of law, as well as other subjects. Unfortunately for him, the transition back to England was marred after a year or two by the development of mental health issues, which many ascribed to his difficult times at St Bees.

Mike decided to leave London after several years and move to a quieter part of the country in the hope that this would enable him to manage better. Sadly, that was not to be, and after a few more years of determined working he reluctantly decided to accept retirement on medical grounds.

However, if this seemed to many like the end of a meaningful and productive life, Mike was to prove everyone wrong. His principles and intelligence still burned strongly, and slowly but surely motivated him once more into a life of service in a different form.

Mike became increasingly involved in voicing his thoughts on the development of, and concerns about, services as part of the 'Service User' movement in the Cheshire area. He eventually became the lead spokesman for the mental health service users in his area. His thoughtful and respectful approach, combined with his ability to listen to everyone's point of view, whether service user or service official, led to him being asked to sit on the Board of the Mental Health Trust, which provided services for people in Cheshire, which he did for many years. During his time in this role, Mike oversaw many developments, and sat on many interview panels for all posts from nurses in specialist services to the Chief Executive Officer. He also supported other users to take on these tasks.

Probably one of the most important contributions that Mike made was when the Mental Health Trust decided to close down the local acute admissions unit, owing to its poor state of repair and significant cuts in the budget. Mike felt it was incredibly important for people going through a mental health crisis to remain close to their families and communities, and that two and a half hours travel by public transport to a proposed unit was unacceptable.

Initially, he became the recipient of service users' expressions of upset and concerns. As he continued to express his opposition to the Mental Health Trust, he began to draw people and an ever widening circle of support to him, including a local newspaper and the local MP.

Mike thankfully was alive long enough to see the results of all his efforts over many years in the development of two new local units, one for acute mental health admissions, and another for people with dementia, as well as the

establishment of two 'Crisis Cafes' in two under-resourced areas. Many people will benefit from these developments, even if they do not know to whom they should be thankful.

He confronted other significant challenges, especially when his partner of many years, Marian, developed cancer, and he cared for her attentively at home until she died some fifteen years ago.

Mike retained a life-long love of art and history, and especially when manifested in the form of stamps. At St Bees he established the Philatelic Society. In later life he revelled in collecting beautiful stamps, especially covering the period towards the end of British Colonial power, and the establishment of each country's independence. He had prepared a talk on Zambia for the local Philatelic Society, but sadly died a day or so before he was due to deliver it.

Mike's interest in philosophy and life led him to study and become extremely knowledgeable about many religions. He considered Buddhism, Quakerism and Unitarianism amongst the most benign, and opted for attending a Unitarian chapel, partly because of his respect for the minister at the time. Being the grandson of a Unitarian minister probably helped also. He became increasingly supportive of his local Unitarian chapel, and was appointed a Trustee and sat on its Committee for many years, supporting many social and wide-ranging fund-raising activities. He also steadfastly maintained the simple yet meaningful task of ringing the bell to welcome people every Sunday.

Not every brother becomes a friend. Not every friend becomes a brother. Mike achieved both, just by being himself.

Rest in peace brother, friend, exceptional human being."

Dave Heale (G 64-69), Dimitri (aka Jim) Sklavounos (G 63-67), Charlie Lambert (G 64-68).

Alistair W. McCreath (FN 60-66).

John Fletcher (G 54-60) has reported the death in January of Judge McCreath.

Alistair McCreath died on 30th January 2022 aged 73 years. He was married with two children. Following school at St Bees and university he embarked upon a career in the law. In 1972 he was called to the bar and practised as a Barrister in Birmingham until 1995, ultimately specialising in criminal work, something he continued from 1996 when he became a Circuit Judge sitting at Birmingham Crown Court. Among those he sentenced was the popstar Gary Glitter. In 2007 he became Honorary Recorder of Worcester. He was well known for his advocacy of the continuing education and training of the judiciary and was a great supporter of the use of computer technology in the courts. In 2011 he became Resident Judge at Southwark Crown Court and Honorary Recorder of Westminster in 2012.

Above all he was noted for his contribution as a trainer of advocates and his great encouragement of the next generation of students for the bar.

Duncan Samuel Rothwell Merrin (G 53-56).

Ross Merrin has forwarded the following, which was composed by his late father for the Bulletin:

After leaving school Duncan Merrin qualified as a chartered accountant in Manchester and after qualifying, he went to Ghana where he worked for Deloittes.

On returning to England in 1968 he was headhunted by Rio Tinto Zinc and worked with them in Anglesey for eight years at their aluminium factory; from there he was transferred to London.

After three years in London, he was recruited by an Australian mining company and spent a number of years in Indonesia and Singapore where he started his own business and was also instrumental in forming a branch of The St Beghian Society.

After thirty years he returned to the United Kingdom.

He is survived by his two sons from his first marriage and his wife, Yati.

(Duncan was an active and loyal supporter of the Society and we are grateful for his organisation of several lunches in Singapore. Ed.)

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

Alastair Iain Maxwell Penman (SH 55-59).

Elizabeth Penman has kindly submitted the following notice:

“After a long illness Alastair died at home with his wife in attendance.

He was known locally as a great Galloway historian and archaeologist, having worked at Whithorn, he had his own Archaeological Digs at Buittle Tower near Dalbeattie and Newbarns Estate near Colvend under the name Stewartry Archaeological Trust. His passing will be a loss to many who attended his lectures and his excavations. He has taught many archaeological students over the last thirty to forty years. His family have lost a loving husband, Dad, stepdad, grandad, brother and a great scholar.”

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

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

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

Donald George Murray Smart (FN 42-47).

Pippa Smart has kindly submitted the following:

“My father attended St Bees School, just 15 miles south of his home in Workington and enjoyed his time there – even making it to Head Boy - and retained a fondness for the school for the rest of his life. He played the organ at its chapel services. He told us how pupils were effectively kicked out for the whole day on regular occasions to entertain themselves in the open air, and although most headed for the coast, he used to take his bike and explore the mountains and roads of the northern lake district - recounting huge journeys across passes where the bike (those heavy 1940s bikes) had to be carried most of the way. This started his love of the fells and the mountains that lasted the rest of his life.

Although he received a place at Cambridge to read history, he took a swift about-turn and decided to become a dentist – deferring national service to go to Manchester University. This meant that when he did his national service he went in as a Captain (three pips!) and was sent to Kaduna in Nigeria. Out there he managed his own dentistry unit, providing care for both the British military and the local population. He took a camera with him and kept a record of his time there that he turned into an amazing scrapbook of his experiences - which seemed to include relatively little dentistry and a lot of R&R!

When he returned from Nigeria he needed a job, and got a position as assistant dentist in Buckingham, thanks to his mother, who took the initiative to ask about possible positions. Dentistry in those days was very different - I remember him telling me that during training they were told that buck teeth in a woman were considered attractive so they should not straighten women’s teeth as much as men’s! It was when he was working as a dentist in Buckingham that he met my mother, and they were married in late 1956 and moved to their first home in Aylesbury, with a semi-feral cat. During their long marriage they had eight dogs, numerous horses, but no more cats.

Once he had got sufficient experience, he opened his Aylesbury practice, and in the late 1970s he left Aylesbury and opened up a Winslow practice after moving to Stewkley in 1975.

My father witnessed a total revolution in tooth care and dentistry during his career. At Manchester he had met Malcolm McGregor, an anaesthetist, who also lived and worked locally. They worked together at the Friday evening surgery in Aylesbury and until the late 60s they would have a full book for extractions every Friday, but within a few years after the introduction of fluoridation the number of people (and teeth) plummeted to a few every other week as tooth health improved dramatically. He was always keen to try out new ideas and new treatments. One of these was the baby bottle warmer – not something you’d see in many dentists’ surgeries. He’d read that warming injection fluid to blood temperature made it

less painful for the patient. This care for his patients meant he was greatly respected. He was always an NHS dentist and believed passionately about the right to free dental care for everyone.

Thirty years ago he retired from dentistry, but filled his time to capacity once he had stopped work.

He was a keen sportsman, He'd started playing rugby at St Bees and continued this by playing for Aylesbury and Buckingham. He was also, earlier in his life, a good squash player until his doctor hinted that his regular (minor) injuries were a way of his body telling him it was time to give up. I also learned that he suffered hand injuries whilst playing rugby and revived his piano playing as physiotherapy to get his hands back into working order. He also loved and was a good skier.

In the 1980s he returned to regular cycling and especially enjoyed the London to Brighton races which he started joining in 1986. He loved a challenge, and a tough ride of around 50miles with a killer hill near the end was an achievement he was rightly proud of. He wasn't put off by falling off his bike and suffering concussion, and the last race he cycled was in 2009 – when he was 80! Over the years the ride might have become slower, and the breaks longer, but one constant was the final slap up meal when they arrived in Brighton, in Wheelers restaurant, before the coach journey home.

He also loved growing vegetables. This started with the large allotment-garden in Weeden, and then the large plot at Bonham Farm - of which strawberries and raspberries seemed to dominate. And he had a particular passion for growing tomatoes.

He loved cars, and over the years owned several amazing ones. The list includes a gorgeous E-Type Jaguar, a Triumph, a Lotus Eclat, and a beautiful Panther Lima. The latter two were unfortunately written off – but not by him!

Another keen interest was new technology, which included buying a Sinclair ZX80 computer in the early 80s. Ten years ago he decided he should get another computer and bought a laptop. He was very quick to pick it up – perhaps a little too quick, for, within a couple of months he had realised that he could use it to compare prices and announced that he'd just bought a car online. The car was the Nissan Duke, his last car. He then discovered the iPad and the laptop was discarded. I think it's fair to say that his greatest joy was discovering that he could play Sudoku on the iPad.

He had a great sense of humour and Morecombe and Wise was probably his favourite act (but who doesn't love them?). Fawley Towers was another favourite programme.

My father had a quick wit; he liked people and people liked him. He had a full life, a good life, and a long life. We will miss him."

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

John Jeremy Whitehead (FN 45-59).

Gavin Hodgson (91-95) has kindly forwarded an obituary notice he found in a recent copy of The Record, the alumni journal of Corpus Christ College, Cambridge. We thank the Editor of The Record for allowing us to reprint some of their notice.

John was born at Buxton in 1931 and educated at St Bees School, Cumbria before coming to Corpus in 1951 to read the Natural Sciences Tripos. He was subsequently a schoolmaster and taught physics at Monkton Combe School, near Bath. Whilst still in his early fifties and after major heart surgery, he took early retirement. A lifelong bachelor, he devoted much of the rest of his life to mountaineering, climbing and ski touring, in both the UK and abroad. For the last thirty years of his life, he lived in a mobile home at Garstang, conveniently situated for climbing and walking in the Lake District. He was an enthusiastic skier throughout his life and had an extensive knowledge of the French Alps.

Anthony Joseph Wills (F 60-64).

28th April 1947 - 22nd December 2021.

Anthony's daughter, Claudia, has sent in the following about her late father:

Anthony was born on 28th April 1947 and lived at Angerton House near the Solway Firth, which has been in the family since the 18th century and he was a proud Cumbrian.

At the age of seven, Anthony went to prep school at Lime House and then Rickerby. At the age of thirteen, he followed in his father and grandfather's footsteps, and moved to St Bees where he joined Foundation House.

Anthony very much enjoyed his years at St Bees and made some very good friends while at school, including Richard Hughes, Anthony Rickerby, Neil Dumbleton, Richard Langhorne and David Griffiths, among others. He enjoyed lessons, especially history, but his highlights at school were cross-country running, playing hockey on the beach and having the freedom to explore the Lake District by bike with friends, including stopping off for a sneaky half pint on the way home.

After leaving St Bees, he spent time working on the family farm, before a year in Edinburgh where he shared a flat with Richard Langhorne and further honed his hockey skills at the Grange Club. His hockey playing continued when he returned to Cumbria, and he went on to play for Carlisle and for Cumbria County. He also coached and umpired for Newton Rigg College, where he later worked. His passion for hockey was passed on to his three daughters, and he spent many Saturday mornings cheering-on from the side-lines. His hockey skills continue through his grandchildren in New Zealand and in Inverness.

Anthony met Joanna on Boxing Day in 1971 and they were married in October 1972. They were very happily married and were delighted to have three daughters, Charlotte, Louise and Claudia.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

In memory of Anthony Wills (FN 60-64), Neil Dumbleton (FS 60-64) writes:

“Last month's issue of ‘The Old St Beghian’ carried the very sad news of the death of Tony Wills, one of my closest contemporaries at St Bees, shortly before Christmas. I rang another contemporary, Richard Langhorne, to pass on the news and exchange memories about our time shared with Tony at the school. Tony never excelled at the skills, sporting and academic, by which success at school was generally measured. But he did excel at the personality attributes needed to be an admirable person and the very best of friends. At times of dispute and uncertainty, he could always be relied upon to make the right choice and judgement. Even more important, he was totally loyal and dependable towards his friends. Being reliable and comparatively serious and hard-working may not have helped him stand out among more flamboyant contemporaries, but he left school better equipped than most to handle the challenges of the adult and professional life beyond. It is no surprise that those personal skills helped him become a long-term servant of the St Beghian Society Committee and also a School Governor. Richard Langhorne and I kept in touch with Tony for a few years after leaving St Bees. Together with David Griffiths, the three of us found ourselves in Switzerland for the latter stages of the 1966 World Cup, most memorably sharing a café with a group of Germans, in Weggis on Lake Lucerne, to watch the final. The following year, Tony's banking training took him on a traineeship to Edinburgh, where he shared a flat with Richard. Richard remembers the year, his second at university, as being particularly alcohol-fuelled, and was understandably grateful that Tony did most of the cooking. Some three years later, I was pleased that Tony was able to join Richard and David at my wedding in Belfast.

After that, our lives drifted apart. It was a delight, however, to see Tony again, this time with his wife, Joanna, in April 2013 over a drink at the start of the 50th anniversary reunion of the school's first Atlas expedition. His death will be felt by so many of his school and Old St Beghian friends.”

(Anthony was a long-standing loyal supporter of both the St Beghian Society and the school. He was an elected Society Committee Member for several years, President of the St Beghian Society from 2011-2014, and also a School Governor. We thank him for his dedicated service and support.)

Notification of Deaths (Since the January 2022 Bulletin)

ATKINSON, J.R. (Russell)	Died 04.02.21	F 42-46
FECITT, J.C. (Joe)	Died 30.01.22	SH 44-48
FORD, P.J. (Phillip)	Died ???.?.22	FS 56-61
HEALE, M.J. (Mike)	Died 06.04.22	G 62-68
McCREATH, A.W. (Alistair)	Died 30.01.22	FN 60-66
MERRIN, D.S.R. (Duncan)	Died 05.07.22	G 53-57
PENMAN, A.I.M. (Alastair)	Died 14.06.22	SH 55-59
RIGBY, M.G. (Matthew)	Died 10.03.22	FS 73-78
SMART, D.G.M. (Donald)	Died 10.06.22	FN 42-47
WHITE, M.H. (Mike)	Died 19.02.22	FN 49-53

SOCIETY WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

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

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.

St Beghians' Day 2022

After two years' enforced absence through the covid epidemic, June 2022 saw the resumption of St Beghians' Day at the school. In the morning, tours of the school were provided by the Headmaster before the Society's AGM at 11.00 am. This meeting included an address by the Head, Robin Silk, who reviewed the school's progress so far and answered a series of questions from OSBs regarding its future. The full Minutes of the AGM will appear in the January Bulletin as usual. There followed a Chapel service led by the Rev. Canon Jim Baker and his wife, the Rev. Anne Baker, ably assisted by George Robson (FN 57-64) on the organ. A current student of the school read one of the lessons. Lunch was then taken in the Foundation. After many years without an afternoon's sporting event, it was a pleasure to witness a cricket match again on The Crease, where an OSB XI met the Headmaster's XI. The weather was reasonably kind and the match, which the OSBs won, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. At the same time, Fives was being played during the afternoon. A talk by the Head followed by refreshments in the Foundation rounded off the day's events. The names of those who signified their attendance on the day or in advance can be found below, along with a list of apologies that were received.

In the evening the Society and the school had arranged a Black Tie Dinner in the Foundation with Stuart Lancaster as the Guest Speaker. Over 100 people attended and enjoyed an excellent meal with a raffle, entertainment, live music and a disco, with dancing and reminiscing continuing into the early hours of Sunday morning. Many people remarked on the success of the day and the pleasant atmosphere which had been generated.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

OSB DAY ATTENDEES:	
ALSOP, J.A. (John)	SH 71-76
BAGNALL, G. (Graeme)	SH 85-91
BROWN, J.D.S. (Tim)	G 53-59
CALVIN, R.P. (Roy)	SH 79-83
CALVIN (nee Gough), Mrs S.J. (Sara)	G 77-84
CARTNER, S. (Steve) & Wendy Cartner	SH 74-78
COX, L.M. (Lucy)	L 05-10
CROASDALE, J.A. (Joe)	FS 70-75
CROFT, R.C. (Carter) & Lynda Burns	FN 60-65

Continued overleaf...

CROSSLEY-SMITH, S. (Steve) & Pat Crossley-Smith	SH 47-52
CROSSLEY-SMITH, T.M. (Tim)	SH 73-78
CURRY, N.J.V. (Nick)	SH 60-65
DAVIES, D.W. (Darryl)	FS 62-68
FENWICK, R.C. (Calder)	FN 69-71
FOX, A.P. (Anthony)	G 62-67
GOW, M.J.A. (Malcolm)	SH 66-71
GRAHAM (nee Short), A.J. (Amanda)	G 80-87
GRAHAM, H.J. (Howard)	FS 80-87
GRIBBLE, L.J.R. (Laurence)	SH 02-09
HAILE, A.J. (Andy)	F/SH 76-83
HARDMAN, S. (Steve)	M 75-86
HARDMAN, H. (Helen)	M 81-86
HOPE, J.A. (Adrian)	G 69-76
LANCASTER, W.S. (Stuart)	F 80-88
LEES, S.C. (Steve)	G 56-62
LISTER, J.P. (Jim)	SH 68-74
LORD, D.F. (David) & Fiona Lord	SH 60-65
LOWREY, T.W. (Thomas)	SH 57-62
MACKAY, T.H. (Tim)	FS 68-73
MACKAY, W.A.L. (William) & Katrina MacKay Bulger & Edward Bulger	SH 42-46
MARSHALL, D.J. (David)	M 66-88
MYERS, G. (Gary)	FS 68-70
NICHOLAS, I. (Ivor) & Dorothy Nicholas	SH 44-48
OGDEN, J.E. (John)	FS 51-56
PAUL, D.T. (Tilak) & Vashti Ragoonanan & Nancie Slone	FN 71-76
REEVE, A.J.H.R. (Tony)	M 89-08
RIGBY, G.J. (Guy) & Mark Taylor	FS 73-78
RIGBY, J.A. (Tony)	FS 44-49
ROBSON, G.C. (George)	FN 57-64
SHORT, A.D. (Alistair)	FN 74-81
SWALES, R.J. (Roger)	FN 64-67
THOMAS, K.F. (Keith)	SH 72-76
TUOHY, T.J. (Thomas) & Kate Tuohy Main	SH 64-67
WATSON, D.R. (Dacre) & Ann Watson	SH 56-62
WILKINSON, J.A. (John)	FS 68-73
WITHNALL, S.G. (Stuart) & Hazel Elliott	G 58-63

OSB DAY APOLOGIES:

BALDWIN, C.P.P. (Peter)	G 51-56
BEIGHTON, G.M. (Gerry)	FS 48-52
BIRKETT, M.J. (Martin)	SH 83-90
BRINDLE, J.S. (James)	G 49-53
BROWN, P.C. (Peter)	FS 50-56
CLEGG, E.P. (Peter)	SH 54-58
COLBECK, W.H. (Bill)	FN 49-55
DOVE, W.E. (Bill)	FN 57-60
DUNN, J.M.W. (John)	FS 64-69
GRANT, S.J. (Stephen)	G 65-69
HALL, R. (Richard)	F 64-68
JACKSON, D.I (David)	FS 56-60
JACQUES, J.S.	FS 63-68
JOHNSTON, A.T. (Andrew)	G 68-73
JONES, I.S. (Ivan)	FN 60-64
KIRKHAM, V.J. (Vanessa)	G 88-90
LAMONT, C.I. (Chris)	SH 92-99
LAXTON, R.M. (Richard)	G 59-64
LEVER, P.G. (Peter)	G 62-66
MATTHEWS, P.G. (Peter)	G 50-55
MESSINGER, F.O. (Frank)	SH 50-55
MOORE, A.S. (Adrian)	SH 76-81
POWELL, B.H. (Brian)	F 50-54
PRINGLE, J. M. (John)	FN 46-49
REDWAY, H.W. (Hugh)	G 62-67
ROWLANDS, D.W. (David)	G 62-65
SHANNON (Nee Metcalfe-Gibson), N. (Nicola)	L/G 78-85
TASSELL, J.A.C. (James)	G 61-66
WILLIAMS, D.H. (Don)	FN 61-64
WRIGHT, D.G.P. (Derek)	FS 48-53

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

200 Club



Membership: We currently have 56 members. Once again, this is very disappointing. I try to encourage new members by sending out a Direct Debit form to all the winners. A few new members do join, it has to be said, but sadly some of our older ones pass away.

Remember, it is possible to have more than one number in the draw.

It was decided to amalgamate the **March 2022** and **September 2022** draws and, going forward, to combine the two draws into one in future years, giving larger prizes. The 2022 draw was made on St Beghians' Day 2022. The prizes for the draw made at the AGM of the Society on 25th June 2022 were as follows.

PRIZE	No.	WINNER	PRIZE	No.	WINNER
£200.00	69	CH & CS Taylor	£40.00	53	Don Williams
£100.00	25	Terence Mayne	£40.00	5	Simon Daley
£60.00	65	Sam Ashton	£40.00	54	John Dunn
£60.00	58	Tom Lowrey	£20.00	3	Charles Graves

Congratulations to all our winners.

I should like to thank all those who subscribe to this worthwhile cause. Note that for as little as £2.00 per month you are entered for the draw in September (or whenever OSB Day and the AGM are held) and remember the more members we have, the bigger the prizes. Not only will your membership help you win prizes, it will also be helping the St Beghian Society and the school. Please help me to recruit new members.

You can contact me on **darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com** or **07970 180 751** for further information and an entry form.

Darryl Davies.

BRANCH NOTES & EVENTS

Branch Activities:

Cumbria Dinner 2022

After a very successful Dinner in July 2021, we met again at Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite on May 13th 2022 for the West Cumbria Branch Dinner. I should like to extend my thanks 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. A big thank you to all the staff who work so tirelessly behind the scenes.

Thanks, must also go 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.

The evening began with a champagne reception in the Broadwater suite prior to the meal. Thanks to **Caz Davies (B 99-01)**, who stepped in at the last minute, providing the music and entertaining us at the champagne reception.

After the reception we took our seats for the meal, which was of excellent quality and great value for money and included wine! We were given a varied choice of starter, main course and sweet with a vegetarian option and the presentation was superb. Even the fussy/plain eaters amongst us found something to their liking. The excellent staff and service made it another memorable occasion.

We were delighted to welcome Mr Robin Silk, the Headmaster, who gave us a very positive and passionate update on the current situation at St Bees School. We also welcomed our **President, Howard Graham (FS 80-87)**, and **President Elect, Carter Croft (FN 60-65)**.

The winners of the 'who can stay up the longest' competition were Darryl Davies and Richard and Negin Postlethwaite.

Those who were present:

Guests – Robin Silk (Headmaster).

Officials of the Society – Howard Graham (FS 80-87)(President of the Society), David Lord (SH 60-65)(Treasurer of the Society) and Mrs Fiona Lord (Staff 93-07), Darryl Davies (FS 62-68)(Secretary of West Cumbria Branch) and Pat Davies (Staff 91-01).

Alumni - Dan Colver (SH 60-64), Carter Croft (FN 60-65) and Lynda Burns, Nick Curry (SH 60-66) and Viv Curry, Stephen Downham (G 61-65) and Kornelia Downham, Anthony Dearden (FS 62-68) and Helen Rhodes, David Rowlands (G 62-68), Bruce Murdoch (FN 63-68) and Penny Murdoch, Roger Swales (FN 64-67) and Marjorie Swales, David Hughes (FS 64-68) and Val

Stewart, Eric Lafone (FS 65-68) and Monica Lafone, John Braithwaite (G 65-69) and Priscille Braithwaite, David Elston (FS 65-70), Neal Thompson (SH 66-71) and Moira Thompson, Tim Mackay (FS 68-73), Ken Rangecroft (FN 74-78), Dougal Reed (FN 74-80) and Sarah Whaldon, Andy Haile (F/SH 76-83) and Jane Dyer (Staff), Sarah Calvin (nee Gough)(L/G 77-84) and Roy Calvin (SH 79-83), Rob Stewart (SH 79-83) and Dymrna Stewart, Elspeth Moss (nee Mackenzie)(L 79-86), Jane Barham (L/G 79-86), Rachel Mitchell (nee Wade)(L 79-87), Rosheen Ryan (L/G 80-82), Jonathan Steele (FS 82-87), Siobhan Mulrooney (nee Parker)(L 83-86), Simon Steele (FS 85-89), Chris Johnston (SH 85-92) and Anne-Louise Johnston (nee Crookdake)(L 86-93), Ian Forster (AC 85-92) and Audrey Forster, Richard Postlethwaite (AC 87-92) and Negin Postlethwaite, Thomas Crowe (F 91-96) and Anna Crowe, Carolyn Davies (B 99- 01), Laurence Gribble (SH 02-09), Dave and Marianne Postlethwaite (Parents).

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 3rd Feb, Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite

After another successful bash in 2022 at the magnificent Armathwaite Hall, we are at it again! This time we have moved to February - Friday 3rd Feb 2023. Get rid of those winter blues! The cost is still an unbelievable £30.00!! Including a champagne reception on arrival with live background music, a magnificent 3 course meal with wine on the table – and all in our own private room.

Accommodation is available at the heavily reduced rate of £185.00 per room and this includes breakfast and the use of facilities (bookable directly with hotel).

Please contact Darryl Davies for further details about the dinner and to register an interest: Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com or 07970 180751.

London Branch Dinner – Fri 16th Sept, RAF Club, London

After a hiatus during the pandemic, we're really pleased to announce that the OSB London Branch dinner will be held at 19:30 on 16th September at the RAF Club on Piccadilly in London. The dinner in 2019 was a terrific evening and once

again we've reserved the President's Dining Room and its adjoining bar for our exclusive use. We'd love to see you there for fantastic food and drink in a spectacular venue; partners are very welcome too. Why not get together with some of your year group or former house mates and come as a team? With support from the school and Full Circle, we've managed to fix the price at £50 per head, as it was in 2019 (which we're very pleased about for central London in this economic climate!), and this will include the silver service dinner and wine. Graeme Bagnall and Martin Birkett are the points-of-contact for the event, and if you would like to attend, **please email** Graeme at graembagnall@me.com or call on +44 7778 301584.

London Social (Informal Gathering) - Fri 14th Oct, The Pepys, London

There will once again be an informal social get-together at The Pepys pub/restaurant (Stew Lane, EC4V 3PT) on Friday 14th October 2022 from 6pm onwards. If you fancy a lite bite and/or drinking or even just catching up, please do call in and join me. Nicola Shannon (nee Metcalfe-Gibson) (L/G 78-85) would love to hear from you if you are interested in attending.

Contact: nicmetcalfeshannon@gmail.com or 0776 619 5468.

North East Dinner – Wed 2nd Nov, Northumberland GC, Newcastle

The North East Branch is pleased to announce their first Dinner since Covid struck. This will be at the Northumberland Golf Club on Wednesday 2nd November 2022. Chairman, Don Williams, looks forward to seeing you then for a grand reunion once again. Please make a note of the date and contact our Secretary Bill Dove when you can confirm your attendance. Apart from anything, Bill will be pleased to hear how you have been. For further information and to register your interest, **please contact** Bill Dove on (01274) 585147 or williamdove15@yahoo.co.uk.

Scottish Gathering - Fri 25th Nov, Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh

There will be a Scottish Gathering of OSBs at the Royal Scots Club, 30 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6QE on Friday 25th November 2022 for the Society Dinner. Details as to the menu and timing will follow. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to catch up with what is happening at our school and with fellow OSBs. It is hoped that sufficient interest will be generated to allow us to hire our own room for the event.

Please contact me as soon as possible to reserve your seats or if you require further information: Tim MacKay (FS 68-73), on 07850082583 or timmackay5859@gmail.com. Please do get in touch with me if you are interested in joining us on 25th November 2022.

Singapore Lunch

It is with regret that the death of Duncan Merrin has been reported elsewhere in the Bulletin. Duncan was the instigator of the Singapore Lunches and I am sure all those who have attended one of these events in the past will be saddened by the news. We do hope that the Singapore Lunches can be continued in memory of Duncan and would therefore ask if there is anyone living in the area, that would be willing to organize some kind of event, to please get in touch.

Seventh Thomas Froggatt Memorial Rugby Match 28th December 2022

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)**.

Wanted! - OSB Dinners and Events Photographs

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

We are always looking for pictures from those attending OSB get-togethers and events to include in both the electronic Bulletin and also on the website.

Please remember to take your camera and capture the memories!

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

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

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).

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

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 (South): N.J.V. Curry (Nick),

95 Appleby Road, Kendal, Cumbria. LA9 6HE. Tel: (01539) 728808.

Cumbria (West): 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: Please see Forthcoming Dinner and Other Dates above for contact information regarding the London Dinner and London Social.

Manchester: R.P. Calvin (Roy),

The Lymes, Priory 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: Please see Forthcoming Dinner Dates above for contact information.

Golfing Society (OSBGS)

Old St Beghians' Golfing Society

Halford Hewitt 2022

The Halford Hewitt came quickly upon us all this year following the event's return to normal routine, being held in its usual calendar format, prior to the Easter holidays.

Thanks to Captain Adrian Peckitt for organising the OSB accommodation just outside Sandwich village. Eleven OSBs made the journey to Kent for the initial practice rounds prior to the opening session.

Referring to the OSB Golf History archive: St Bees were drawn on Royal Cinque Ports for the first time since 2015, so the team appreciated the practice rounds – despite the horrendous showers on practice day two. Deal is renowned for a tough finishing stretch of holes, with long par fours usually into a prevailing wind – designed in a traditional 'out-in' links format.

The team were drawn against Chigwell for Round 1 of the Hewitt on the Thursday afternoon. We were thankful for the dry weather, but not the 60mph gusts!

Gareth Edgar and Ben Wilson lead the way strongly. Gareth walked in a 12ft putt on the 17th to seal a 3 and 1 victory. 1-0 to the Bees.

Pair 2 was a new Hewitt pairing of John Currie and Cameron Wood - the power pairing! They eased to a 5 and 4 victory. 2-0 to the Bees.

Andrew Deall and Jeff Ellis were the middle pair, Pair 3. The lads had fought well to take the match down the last all square. Andrew hit a great three wood approach into the wind from the middle of the fairway. One more yard of pace would have left the ball pin high for a birdie. Instead, a harsh bounce to the right left the pair with a tricky up and down. 2-1 to the Bees.

Pair 4 was Tom Wright and Mike Stamper. Both made a slow start and were heavily down at an early stage. Despite a slight resurgence, it was too little too late and they shook hands on a 4 and 3 defeat. 2-2.

The final pairing was Andrew Goodwin and Adrian Peckitt, an ever-reliable pairing. The pair made their result look casual, not knowing that the outcome of the match was solely focused on this game. Adrian pitched wonderfully to one foot from the back of the 17th green to close out a 2 and 1 victory.

3-2 win for the Bees.

A first OSB Round 1 Hewitt win since 2013 (should that be said quietly? it meant cause for celebration).

The team was as ever spurred on by mascot, Charlie Crummey, who served his role well as ball-spotter, rules official and general motivator. Charlie kept other

OSBGS members (who were not able to attend) from the UK and across the globe up to date with live scores through a running commentary of the match.

Photos Available - The Round 1 winning team within their pairs:

Pair 1 - Gareth Edgar and Ben Wilson, **Pair 2** - John Currie and Cameron Wood, **Pair 3** - Andrew Deall and Jeff Ellis, **Pair 4** - Tom Wright and Mike Stamper and **Pair 5** - Andrew Goodwin and Adrian Peckitt.

For Round 2 of the Hewitt, St Bees were drawn against Stoneyhurst. A northern battle. And a battle it was.

The overall match was decided through Game 1, so I will leave that till the last. Game 2 was once again the power pairing of Cameron Wood and John Currie, who secured a safe point through a 3 and 1 victory. Well done lads, 2 out of 2 for the week.

Game 3 was a new pairing for the week, Andrew Deall and Tom Wright. A few early bogeys had the pair up against it straight away - mistakes that can't be made when playing an ex-pro. Runs of pars from Andy and Tom kept the game alive and their play would have seen more reward if it hadn't been for the exceptional golf played by the Stoneyhurst pair.

Game 4 secured another point for the Bees, with Andrew Goodwin and Adrian Peckitt making birdie on the 18th to secure a two up victory. Well done lads, 2 out of 2 for the week.

Game 5 consisting of Jeff Ellis and Mike Stamper shook hands on the 15th - a 4 and 3 defeat.

With four matches complete and the score at 2-2, the match was to be decided through Game 1. Gareth Edgar and Ben Wilson had held the lead, but Stoneyhurst fought back to finish all square after 18. Onto the 19th at Deal, described as a Colosseum. Both teams held their nerves and made par fours. Onto the 20th and Stoneyhurst pulled off a great up and down for par, something that the St Bees pair unfortunately couldn't match.

This was a valiant effort from all, being so close to a 3rd Round appearance at the Hewitt. It seems to be a running trend in recent reports that our progression on the golf course is clear to see. As a group we believe that this is mostly due to the core nucleus of OSB golfers maintaining regular contact throughout the year. It's good to see and great to be a part of. Why not join us?

If you have interest in being an OSB golfer, or know of a keen OSB golfer, then please get in touch. It would be great to hear from you.

Tom Wright, Secretary
tomosbgolf@hotmail.com

The Cyril Gray – 2022

The Cyril Gray was once again played in perfect conditions, weather, course, but not quite our team. This year we had the added bonus of the postponed 50th anniversary dinner to look forward to, no longer to be in a marquee but in the clubhouse. Our practice involved a very close contest against Glenalmond with Adrian Peckitt and Andrew Goodwin prevailing one up again. Charlie Crummey and Stephen Moss fared slightly less well, whilst Jeff Ellis and Mike Stamper had a great half. They had lost the 17th to go one down but then, knowing exactly what they had to do, won the 18th, to share the honours/match.

The dinner was a great success, made all the more enjoyable by the absence of speeches, some excellent food and wine, with even better company from Glenalmond and three from Berkhamsted, including the tournament organiser, Michael Butler. The inevitable late night was followed by our first round opponents Framlingham. Losing to them would be a double disaster, the second being having to play again in the afternoon at 16.20, with an after eight finish. Fortunately, we won, with Adrian and Andrew continuing their unbeaten run in 2022 in all competitions. David Sim, very kindly stepping in for Jeff (who had a very serious domestic agenda, to attend a birthday party (Tracey's) and host a garden party for 500 of his nearest and dearest friends), together with Mike strode to a convincing win. Both wins coming on the 'right' side of the road. That meant Wrekin at 10:20 on Friday morning with Michael Coffey taking David Sim's place. We were convincingly thumped, losing the second and third matches out in the country, this time on the 'wrong' side of the road! However, Adrian and Andrew remained unbeaten.

Another most enjoyable tournament, a great get together with so many friendly faces, even if you can't remember their names...

Anyone who has turned 50 recently? Please get in touch asap.

Photo available of the Cyril Gray 2022 Team

Michael Coffey, President.

All Photos from the above reports, as captioned, may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july22bulletin>.

Contact Details:

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

Tom Wright, Secretary – tomosbgolf@hotmail.com.

Forthcoming Golf Fixtures:

- **QE Elizabeth Tournament** (Edinburgh, Royal Burgess):
Friday 16th - 18th September 2022.
- **Halford Hewitt 2023** (Kent, Deal, Royal St Georges or Princes):
30th March - 2nd April 2023. (For next year's Halford Hewitt, the society can explore the possibility of welcoming new OSBs to the event by perhaps taking advantage of one of the practice days prior to the Hewitt Knockout stages. If pre-warning is given, a round can be organised.)
- **The Critchley Cup** (once again, open to all abilities).
Dates to be confirmed.

St Bees Golf Club

For further information:

Club Secretary: Bill Douglas 01946 822573 or secretary@stbeesgolfclub.co.uk

Membership Secretary: Clive Hayes 01946 66003 or membership@stbeesgolfclub.co.uk

Club Captain: Iain Wright 07711 324676 or captain@stbeesgolfclub.co.uk

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

Articles for 'The Old St Beghian' Bulletin

The next issue of 'The Old St Beghian' is due out in **January 2023**.

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, 2022**.

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
if you wish to update your contact details.

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 4th March 2023.
The AGM and St Beghians’ Day, 2022 – A Saturday in June 2023 (tbc).**

Copy Deadline: As the target month for the next issue of ‘The Old St Beghian’ is **January 2023**, the Editor would be most grateful if Branch Secretaries and other contributors would let him have their notices and reports by **30th Nov, 2022**.

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

(01946) 828093 or osb@stbeesschool.co.uk

Website: www.st-beghian-society.co.uk

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