



The Old St Beghian

January 2026

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From Our President Darryl Davies (FS 62-68)

I have now completed eighteen months as President of the Society and found the time most rewarding. I have attended a number of OSB functions in that period, including a gathering at Grange Golf Club, which it is hoped will be held every two years, next time in September 2026. Over the years I attended many North East Branch dinners and more recently lunches. It is sad that one did not take place this year, and unless someone is willing to take the reins it will become moribund. I enjoyed my trip down to London for an excellent London Dinner at the Civil Service club, but was unable to make the London Social gathering at the Samuel Pepys, however David Paul kindly stepped in on my behalf. The Cumbria dinner at Armathwaite Hall continues to go from strength to strength. In February 2025 we had ninety eight guests in attendance and I am hopeful of a similar number in 2026. Make a note in your diary and get booked up straight away (Friday 27th Feb 2026).

I recently formed a group which has had two meetings at the Melbreak Hotel in Workington and is now known as the Melbreak group. It is made up of OSBs of different ages who are willing to come along to explore new ideas and ways forward for the Society. We have received a number of suggestions, some of which we are currently implementing. As a Society, as well as being on Facebook, we are now on Instagram, which was suggested as a way of interacting with younger OSBs. We are also now publishing a Newsletter twice a year, in spring and autumn. You should all have received two of these publications to date and any comments would be much appreciated. We are of course continuing with the Bulletin, our formal publication of record, too. The next meeting of the Melbreak

group will be in March 2026 and if you would like to join us, you would be more than welcome. If you can't make it, but have any ideas, do let us know.

St Beghians' Day in 2026 is on June 6th. Do join us if you can. It was well attended last year, despite the weather! This year, after the formalities in the morning, there will be lunch in the Foundation dining room and music in the quad accompanied by a cream tea.

My time as President of the Society ends on OSB Day this year and I need to find a successor. If anyone is interested, please let me know. There is also a vacancy for a Deputy President, whose role is to support the President. That person would have the choice of eventually becoming the President if it was his or her wish. We also have four Committee Member vacancies and would be pleased to hear from you if you are willing to join us.

These past eighteen months have gone so quickly and I should like to thank you all for your support. It has been an honour and a privilege to be your President.

Darryl W Davies.

St Beghian Society (OSB) Office - Opening Hours

Mon – Thurs 9.30am – 2.30pm (Termtime Only)

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.

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>

Calendar of Events 2026

January	Tuesday 6th	Cambridge Gathering The Royal Standard, Fore Hill, Ely, CB7 4AF.
February	Friday 27th	Cumbria Dinner , Armathwaite Hall Hotel, Bassenthwaite, Nr Keswick
	tbc	Golf – OSB Social (Feb or March tbc) Silloth Golf Club
March	tbc	Golf – OSB Social (Feb or March tbc) Silloth Golf Club
	tbc	Cambridge Gathering Venue tbc
April	7th-12th	Golf – Halford Hewitt 2026 7th-8th Practice/9th-12th Competition
May	Friday 29th	London Dinner , Civil Service Club, London SW1A 2HJ
June	Saturday 6th	St Beghians’ Day 2026 at St Bees OSB Reunion & Live Music in the Quad
	tbc	Cambridge Gathering Venue tbc
July		
August		
September	tbc	Golf – Queen Elizabeth Tournament , The Royal Burgess G.S., Edinburgh
	tbc	Scottish Gathering Combined with the above QE Comp.
	tbc	South Lakes Social Grange, Cumbria
October	tbc	London Social , The Samuel Pepys, London EC4V 3PT
November		
December	Sat 28th tbc	Thomas Froggatt Rugby Match , Egremont RUFC
TBC	Cambridge Gatherings – Various, every two months	
	Asia - Hong Kong and Shenzhen	
	Singapore Lunch	

OSB Day 2026
St Beghians' Day Reunion
and
'Live Music in the Quad'
Saturday 6th June 2026

During the afternoon there will be **'Live Music in the Quad'**, with various artists from the OSBs and school. Vicky Davies (aka Miss Dee) (L 94-99), Stevie Jennings-Adams (L 99-06), Carmen Brown (G 88-93), Leanne Fox (L 94-01), Maddie Charlton (E 22-24), School Students and Lee Shackley (Head of Music, St Bees School) have been invited to perform a mix of music across the genres. If you are a musician and would like to perform, we would love to hear from you. Please do get in touch with the OSB office - osb@stbeesschool.co.uk.

A **cash bar** will be available from lunch time onwards until the end of the event.

There will also be a **Fives competition**, as in previous years, for anyone who would like to play – in the past participants have included, OSBs, students and staff. All are welcome to participate or spectate.

In addition, this year, there will be a **Social Cricket Match** with mixed teams of OSBs, students, parents, staff and others, during the afternoon (weather permitting). Please do let us know if you would like to participate – all are welcome. Why not get some old school teammates together to come along?

A **Strawberry Cream Tea in the Quad** (£6pp), from 4.00pm onwards until around 5.30pm, will conclude the day.

The day will commence with a Committee Meeting and **AGM**, including a **talk by the Headmaster**, followed by the **Chapel Service** at around mid-day, which this year will be taken by The Rev'd Canon Paul Maybury (FS 72-77).

An informal, self-service, sit-down **OSB lunch in the Foundation Dining Room** will be at 1pm. The cost of the 3-course lunch, including a glass of wine, will be £28 for both the lunch and the Strawberry Cream Tea at the end of the afternoon, plus unlimited coffee/tea all day, or £24 for the lunch only and coffee/tea.

If anyone is interested in gathering together a group of OSB friends, we are more than happy to send out a message to a specific group of people on your behalf. **Please do just get in touch if you are keen on getting a group of OSBs together for a reunion on the day – Contact Pam at osb@stbeesschool.co.uk.**

Please do let us know if you are interested in playing in either **the Fives Tournament or Cricket Match** – we would very much appreciate your involvement in these events – details on the Booking Form.

You are welcome to come to all or just part of the day if you prefer.

★ **All are welcome, including partners, family and friends.** ★

However, we do need to know if you intend to come along on the day, so please confirm your attendance at the various events

by completing the enclosed Booking Form.

We hope to see you there!

Programme - Saturday 6th June

St Beghians' Day Reunion and 'Live Music in the Quad'

(All Welcome)

9.45am

OSB Committee Meeting
in the Foundation building

11.00am

Talk by Headmaster & AGM
in the Salad Room

12.15pm

OSB Chapel Service
in the School Chapel

1.00pm

OSB Lunch
in the Foundation Dining Room

From 2.30pm

Live Music in the Quad* (and Bar)

Eton Fives Competition begins

Social Cricket Match begins (weather permitting)

4.00pm - 5.30pm

Strawberry Cream Tea in the Quad*

*weather permitting – otherwise in the Salad Room

St Beghian Society Ideas Board

What we currently provide/offer...

- Lunches & Dinners
- Sporting Events
- St Beghians' Days
- Support the School
- Bulletin/Newsletter
- Socials & Drinks
- Golfing Society
- Communication
- Facebook
- Website

What do you like?

What don't you like?

What could we do better?

What else could we do?

New Ideas, Comments, Suggestions...

Do you prefer
Socials/Drinks
only ?

Do you prefer
Formal/Informal
?

Do you prefer
Dinners or
Lunches ?

Would you like
Sporting Events
?

Locations:
Where would you
like to see events
taking place ?

Would you like
a Quiz or Music
Event ?

What else could we offer
?

Any other Comments
or Ideas ?

St Beghian Society

We Need Your Help...

Perhaps

Be part of the Future OSB Team...
As Treasurer, Secretary, Bulletin Editor or another role...

Join an Informal occasional **Think Tank Workshop**
To help with new ideas to move the Society forward for all OSBs...

Be a Future President...
To attend events, meetings, support and promote the Society etc...

Be a Committee Member...
Attend two meetings a year to help support and develop the Society...

How Could You Help ?

Organise an OSB Event...
Maybe an area Dinner, Lunch, Social, Quiz, Music, Sport...

To offer some IT Help & Advice
Re Software, database, Facebook, Instagram, Website – current/future...

Is there anything else you could Help us with or offer Advice on ?

Perhaps

Or any other suggestions and ideas you may have which could help us ?

Please let us have your Comments, Ideas & Offers
osb@stbeesschool.co.uk / 01946 828093 / or by post

SCHOOL NOTES

From the Headmaster

It is an immense honour and privilege to be writing these notes as Headmaster of St Bees School and, as far as I can ascertain, the first Old St Beghian to take up this role.

I grew up in the village and was a pupil at the school for seven formative years. St Bees has always held a very special place in my heart and soul, and to have now the responsibility of leading the school that shaped me is something in which I take enormous pride. I approach the role with clear purposes: to work tirelessly to secure St Bees' future; to reach break-even, move beyond it, and ensure the school is profitable, successful, and once again renowned for the quality of its education and the strength of its community.

At the start of this academic year, I said to staff about my upcoming year as Headmaster, half-jokingly but with complete honesty: *"If you enjoy it, then enjoy it every day — because it's only for three terms. And if you hate it, don't worry, it will be over soon."* I can say without hesitation that I have enjoyed it immensely, and time has flown by at a remarkable pace.

Current Position and Direction

Like all independent schools, we continue to operate in a challenging economic and political climate. However, student numbers have remained steady at around 100, a slight dip, but one that was anticipated. Importantly, revenue is up, the deficit is down, and Full Circle continues to support the school as we move steadily towards long-term sustainability.

This year we have welcomed students from countries new to the school: Burundi, Czechia, Hungary, Morocco, Russia and Tajikistan, further enriching the international family that has long been central to St Bees' identity.

We were delighted to welcome Sarah Wang, Principal of St Bees Dongguan, back to our campus, reinforcing the strength of our West-East partnership. This visit coincided with a visit from Roger Sinnett, former Headmaster and Local Advisory Council member responsible for Education. Our Dongguan immersion programme saw six students visit St Bees for two weeks — and I am especially pleased to say that one of those students will be returning permanently in January. Looking ahead, I am also very pleased that Mr Oliver Wells, who will take up the post of Headmaster in August 2026, visited in October to get to know the school and its community. He and I are working closely together, alongside the Senior Leadership Team, particularly on marketing and recruitment in China and across Asia during the coming year.

Teaching, Learning and Outcomes

One of the great pleasures of my role is spending time in classrooms. When observing lessons this year, I have been consistently impressed by the quality of teaching, which is excellent across the school. Lessons are purposeful, engaging and ambitious, and this is reflected in both student confidence and outcomes. Our staff work extremely hard and with real passion for the students in their care. Their commitment, professionalism and belief in St Bees, particularly during a challenging period for the sector, deserve enormous recognition and thanks. Our current Year 13 (Upper Sixth) cohort have already secured offers from an impressive range of universities, including King's College London, the University of Manchester, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Warwick, and other Russell Group institutions. Degree pathways include Biomedical Sciences, Data Science, Environmental and Sustainable Development, Film Studies, International Social and Public Policy and Social Sciences, a reflection of both academic breadth and aspiration. Our Mechanical Engineering applicant went for interview at King's College, Cambridge in early December, and will find out if he has successfully obtained an offer in early January.

Pastoral Care, Welfare and Values

Safeguarding and student welfare remain front and centre in everything we do. This, combined with the efficiency of our pastoral systems, is one of St Bees' defining strengths. Knowing our students well, supporting them holistically, and ensuring they feel safe, valued and listened-to underpins every decision we make. Remembrance Day remains deeply important to St Bees School and to our Old St Beghian community. This year it felt especially close to home, as some of our families are directly affected by current global conflicts and have lost immediate relatives. We came together to honour those who served and to reflect on the enduring values of duty, sacrifice and peace that define St Bees.

Life Beyond the Classroom

Boarding remains the life and soul of the school, and a lot of work has gone into upgrading the boarding experience for both students and their families. Boarders are taking part in an enhanced onsite and offsite weekend activity programme, all students are doing prep in the library to focus on academic rigour, and student voice across the school is a real focus for my vision this year.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award continues to grow, with fantastic uptake, while the Wainwright Club has seen boarders and day students alike enjoying the fells and the spirit of adventure that is so deeply rooted in this part of the world. Sport remains vibrant, with fixtures, as well as regional and national competitions in badminton, Eton Fives, football, netball and volleyball. Golf has returned to the curriculum and is being enjoyed by students of all ages, and we are excited to be launching fencing in January, with staff trained and a new programme ready to begin.

Our House competitions, from remote-control car-racing to gingerbread house building, have brought plenty of fun, camaraderie and healthy rivalry. We have also launched Reader Leaders, creating Literature Ambassadors who peer-mentor younger students and support reading both within school and in the wider community. I am equally delighted that our School Choir has been re-established and is already performing, a much-missed tradition brought back to life. Our environmental commitment has strengthened significantly. In the first quarter alone, we achieved a 21% reduction in electricity usage and a 26% decrease in gas consumption compared to last year. Food waste is down 5% since we began systematic measurement, tangible progress that reflects shared responsibility across the school.

This term finished with all the traditional aspects of the Christmas season: Christmas Fayre, the Carol Service, back in our own chapel, and Christmas Dinner, attended by our OSB President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Looking Ahead and Staying Connected

Marketing and admissions remain a major focus, with 2026 set to see several significant international recruitment drives, alongside continued engagement with our local market.

This year's Activities Week will see the whole school take part in a residential in Scotland, bringing everyone together through outward-bound activities and a touch of "fancy camping" in pods.

We continue to value the role that Old St Beghians play in the life of the school, and I would very much like to see more OSBs sharing their journeys with current students. If you would be willing to give a talk, in person or via video call, please do contact me directly, or through Pam Rumney, as we would love to hear from you.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Society officials for their continued support and hard work. Your commitment plays a vital role in keeping the St Bees community connected across generations.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the upcoming Society lunches and dinners, and I strongly encourage you to attend where you can, particularly St Beghians' Day, which remains one of the highlights of our year. Thank you, as ever, for your continued support of St Bees School. It truly matters. With my warmest wishes to the Old St Beghian community for a happy and successful 2026.

Laurence Gribble, Headmaster.

St Bees School – The Hive Newsletter

Keep up to date with news from St Bees School.

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

Previous copies may also be viewed here.

OSB NOTES

Roy Brocklebank (Meadow 56-57 and FS 57-61) sent in the following recollections.

“I enjoyed reading the July Bulletin, with particular reference to George Robson and his story about John Railton. By great coincidence I walked across Tresco airfield on the Tuesday before. I doubt the airstrip has been improved since then as it is a grass strip with concrete blocks painted white.

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

I also read Peter Royds recollections, with my memories differing in some detail. At the time I believe there was at least one day boy, Brownrigg, whose parents owned the garage between the station and Foundation. My recollection of the Privileges Test was similar except that it was conducted in the Senior Studies. One had to wait outside, when summoned to dash inside and stand on a tuck box behind the door. I know we were not allowed to look at our interrogators, who would fire random questions at us before failing us, and our having to repeat the process a few days later. One question I recall was about the lamps on the post by the Chapel. There were no lights they having been removed during the war.

As for a master accompanying two prefects at lights out, I have no recollection of any master being involved. I do not remember prefects having a bed in each dorm, only Big Dorm, where the most junior pupils at the south end had to open every window so that the top and bottom were equally sized. Brutal in winter but probably necessary with thirty barely washed pupils! There was a clean bath once a week and showers after rugby. The limit was the volume of two huge copper hot water tanks in the basement.

I also remember:

Jam sandwiches – raspberry jam blended with margarine and spread sparingly on two thin slices of sliced bread. Never again!

At meals, Grace, but always in Latin. I recall also roll call in the evening, with the question and response, ‘Brocklebank?’ ‘Adsum.’

Rather than ‘turn it off’- if a junior looked at a senior too long, the signal was a downward finger stroke on the nose.

The lapel mark worn by the 6th Form was not then a white flash but a length of Royal Air Force rank braid for Flying Officers and upwards.

The matron while I was in Foundation was Miss Appleyard. Worried parents (including my mother while my father was at sea) would ring Miss A and to much embarrassment the unfortunate child was summoned from prep to the telephone.”

Roy Brocklebank (FS 56-61) subsequently submitted the following reminiscences.

“For a long time I have been relatively detached, but as those I was at school with pass on, so the number of my contemporaries shrinks and a wealth of knowledge is lost.

Bill Dove, both by name and nature, was a sad loss.

And Willie Jones. Not Willie to us, but I was one of three who were assigned to him as my tutor or mentor. It seemed quite arbitrary and neither he nor I knew why, as he was not just my English master. Where I did take instruction from Willie was writing. He would give extra-curricular instruction on writing in italic script. I am sad to say I lost some of that skill, but my writing still has some semblance to italic.

On another occasion there was a school trip to Ennerdale and a climb up Red Pike to High Style. I remember wearing school clothing and a duffle coat. We trudged up the mountain in mist from cairn to cairn. Willie ran up past us to the top before running back down; that did our morale no good at all! On reflection, had the school done such a walk today, ill-equipped as we were, there would certainly have been questions asked.

Returning to Willie and his tutorials, it soon became an opportunity for the three of us to cram inside his tiny Austin Seven and drive at a snail’s pace up the Main Street and thence to some café or other where he would feed us starving pupils with much sought after food.

Talking of food sparks another memory of Foundation meals. Once a week we were able to choose one item of comestibles, say a packet of cereal or a jar of jam or marmalade. We also had a red painted tin, previously containing a roll of elastoplast, with our sugar ration, though rationing had now ceased. Breakfast consisted of the aforesaid cereal and a cooked breakfast. This might be French toast, half a slice of bread fried in egg batter, or half a slice of fried bread and a tomato; on Sunday a small slice of bacon or perhaps a sausage. One main meal I recall was Lancashire hot pot; I remember slices of potato and black pudding. The Sunday roast was the pinnacle of Foundation cuisine. Rumour had it that the joint of beef was cooked in the school on a Thursday, driven to Whitehaven when cold and sliced into wafers, and on Sunday it was reheated and served with roast potatoes! Another notable feature of the Hostel dining room was the redoubtable dinner ladies. Always friendly, they brought a welcome touch of home. I would marvel how they could carry five or six plated meals and spill not one.

Another memory was the birthday treat at Meadow House, where we would have a special drink before bed, hot orange squash!”

Richard Goss (FS 61-67) writes:

“I would be most grateful if you could pass on my appreciation to Peter Royds for his excellent 'A Privileged Life' article. It brought back so many wonderful memories of life at school. It must have taken him some time to write and he captured the spirit of the period perfectly. His memory for such detail is absolutely brilliant. Reading it now makes the routine and discipline seem harsh, but we all accepted things as they were and for myself my school days were very happy. One of the aspects of his article that made me laugh was that we only knew each other by surnames. When I scan The Times' Deaths column each day I often wonder if a person mentioned was someone with whom I shared my school years.

I was very interested to see the rugby team photograph. I am standing to the left of Peter. From what I can see at the time I had reasonably strong shoulders but limited height. I used to stand at the very back of the lineout and aim to get into the face of the opposing stand off whenever possible. The shoulders are now considerably reduced in size and the height diminished with advanced age! If only one could turn the clock back some sixty years to experience it all again for a couple of days.

I am so looking forward to reading Part Two of Peter's Bulletin.

I have lived in the Home Counties for over fifty years and have only made one visit back to St Bees, but now it does not seem so far away.”

A Visit to the School in 2025 - David Hedley (F 52-57) writes:

“In May 2025 three of us drove over to St Bees, Robert (RJ 50-55), David (JD 52-57) and Charles (CA 58-64), the three Hedleys.

Seldom visiting since those years, and never together, we came back for a guided tour and lunch arranged by Charles with Pam Rumney, who was so generous with her time and made us so welcome.

So, three brothers, sons of the youngest of another three brothers, also OSBs, returning to a world which these days seems so different.

Yes, the same hollow valley, straggling village and an oddly surviving railway station; the Crease and that row of Cumbrian sandstone buildings with the Chapel tower. Inside Hostel the familiar dining room and corridors, though somehow shrunken, but dayrooms and dorms all rearranged for new circumstances.

I had doubted whether, after three years of closure, the school could be revived, so remote on the western tip of West Cumbria but locked 'in perpetuity' to a late 16th century foundation document permitting no alternative purpose. Amazing then to realise that the school of 250 boys of our time has now recovered to 125, half day pupils, half boarders, some from a range of European and Asian countries.

Back to our visit in May: we didn't actually talk much, each of us I think reflecting on our individual memories as we were walking round and taking in more recent changes. In my time, the Memorial Hall opened so we could experience a well-equipped stage for drama productions, compared with the limitations of Big School, with its dodgy electrics. The swimming pool and other sports' facilities now much improved and shared with the wider community. Not much fives played these days, but it is developing.

No more The Bogs*, in our time an improvement on the Roman facilities down at Ravenglass, but what a waste of space: that opposite row of stalls largely unused as we clung to some semblance of privacy; the brazier protecting it all from winter frosts, providing a social hub for a few prep time smokers.

Back further to the 1950s, and for myself very aware of family tradition, I was already conditioned to accept the prevailing discipline. So, no questioning of the endless trivial differences, aka privileges: which doorway, which blazer buttons, which bench (under the Chapel tower) etc. Also, the humiliating regime of being tested on this trivia or held to summary trial for minor infringements by senior boys, 'supervised' by a (slightly more senior) prefect.

(The three of us were, I strongly believe, fortunate not to have been sent to a boarding prep school, and I wonder about those who had – whether they brought with them that culture of verbal bullying.)

Those minor infringements incurred some punitive activity: 5 or 10 runs (the pre breakfast circuit, out of the quad, down to the gate, along the edge of the Crease, up the steps to the Terrace and back into the corridors to the quad door). Ten runs took out most of our mid-morning break. For more serious misdemeanors (not meriting the cane) an extra afternoon dose of cross country, notably the endless road up to High Walton and back.

[That reminds me of the harsh winter of many weeks of frost when High Walton duck pond froze over. A few of us had skates and I remember the patch of darker ice out in the middle. As I didn't weigh much (still don't) I ventured too close and fell in - only two feet deep. Thoughtfully I decided against walking to the edge which would have ruined the ice rink for everyone. So, I lay down to spread my weight. Inevitably the ice level sank enough to leave me in a puddle of freezing water. I rolled across to safer ice before getting to my feet, so to that extent I succeeded. The bike ride back to a hot bath still rates as the coldest I have ever been!]

Coming to classroom discipline, teachers could sentence us to ten or twenty minutes of physical jerks supervised in the gym by Company Sergeant Major Morse, then in charge of physical education (also managing the Armoury in Hostel basement). In my time he was replaced in the gym by Lads Kerr, less

regimented, more educational: he scrapped the custom of physical detention so no more would we hear, for example, 'Hunter! 20 minutes pd!'

Did all this encourage us to become open minded, questioning, tolerant adults? My memory of the sixth form weekly double period of General Studies: first and second sixth Arts and Science together in the Library, an article or two of required reading from the basically Tory periodical, Time and Tide, discussion chaired by Headmaster Wykes. Did we learn anything of alternative viewpoints?

On a lighter note, we enjoyed the idiosyncrasies of our teachers. Cyril Wood as junior Housemaster: a tilt of the head, a long look down a long nose, 'Some specimen, has been', something nasty in the petrie dish! Spiv Dearle in lederhosen on pushbike overtaking a straggle of scouts up that hill out of Gosforth en route for Wasdale Red Pike (I can date that to Coronation Day 1953). Don Legato in his red TR2, accelerando. Percy Lever, *piu lento*, his majestic Jag Mark 10 squeezing through the gateway onto the Terrace (he who not long before giving us our O level French dictation introduced us to a novel *falsetto 'e acute'* – getting technical here as there should be no audible difference between two different word endings: a past participle '-é with the accent' and an infinitive ending '-er'). Then Snips Brown with her endless reams of handwritten cyclostyled notes to be added to our History folders.

Not after all to forget Piff Williams, every 'r' flipped off the tongue precisely: 'Ferry, you really are an incredible bastard!'

Many contributors to this magazine describe the freedoms we enjoyed to explore our surroundings, bike excursions into the western lake valleys and fells. Those country lanes with little post war traffic, early Sunday chapel, free with a blue ticket (notional destination Wasdale) till evening chapel, was it 6.30? I'm not aware of any serious mishap over five years as we pedalled far and wide to climb Gable, find a stretch of fine scree for a quick descent, jump off the bridge over Stanley Gorge, park our bikes behind The George for a little refreshment, or climb the classic route up Pillar Rock. One abiding memory of two of us sharing a tin of beans warmed over a puddle of meths in a rock hollow on that promontory that juts out into Wastwater: a real sense of awe, no one else in the landscape. We needed that freedom.

Our parents clearly wanted the best for us and this was only a few years after the 1944 Education Act. Class sizes were smaller, teachers perhaps academically more qualified, access to closed scholarships (established to benefit a handful of schools with subsidised places at Oxbridge colleges). We had professional coaches in rugby and cricket, and there was the golf course. I recall a guest speaker** at Speech Day exhorting us to go forth to become 'Captains of Industry'. Despite all the privations we knew at the time we were privileged,

maybe giving us a sense of entitlement, later perhaps to recognise the costs, emotional and social, that could come with it.

Footnotes:

* In some Public School Slang Dictionary 'bogs' has been attributed to – St Bees.

** Possibly the OSB named Farquarson, Head of ICI Product Distribution.

F.B. Kerr – PE Teacher - (M 54-56)

J.C. (James) Wykes – Headmaster - (HM 51-63)

C.W. (Cyril) Wood – Chemistry – (M 45-59)

A.N.R. (Anthony) Dearle – English/History – (M 48-87)

Donald Leggatt – Music – (M 52-53 & 56-65)

P. Lever - Modern Languages - (M 46-67)

Mary Brown – History - (M 42-61)

P.F. (Paul) Williams - English – (M 48-58)”

Robert Hedley (FS 50-56) wrote following his visit to St Bees last May:

“The ‘Hedley Brothers’ splendid visit on the 14th May 2025 was a memorable occasion and my thanks to the OSB team for giving us so much time.

Though I have passed through St Bees and the western Lake District on too few occasions since leaving in ’56, the red sandstone never seems to change. So it was quite a surprise to set foot inside The Foundation. Whilst almost unrecognisable in today’s functions, all appeared in good order and a welcoming place to be. The new sports facility is amazing, the Library has real books in it, but the Chapel looks... tired. As we left, my glimpse of a Kenwood food mixer in what used to be the Senior Changing Room showed me how out of touch I am with modern teaching syllabi.

What we did not have time to see were the ‘living quarters’ in School House. I never set foot in either School House or Grindal, but the one thing we had in Hostel, and I assume throughout the main boarding houses, was a ‘Cube’, a private cubicle of space for study and one’s personal space and possessions. This device seemed to puzzle a staff member, but I have noticed from the internet that the concept seems to have crossed to the Orient and is now used in St Bees Dongguan.

And finally, thank you so much for the new tie, a great memento of a most enjoyable five years in a wonderful part of the world, as well as a most enjoyable return visit to St Bees. Thank you.”

Photos relating to the above two pieces (the Hedleys’ visit) may be seen in an article by Charles Hedley in the July 2025 Bulletin at:

<http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

M. V. (Michael) Jackson (F 39-43) – Centenary Anniversary.

Jez Lawson (SH/AC 76-83) kindly advised us of the centenary anniversary of OSB Michael Jackson (F 39-43), who was born in July 1925. Our notes record that after service in the Royal Navy escorting the Arctic convoys, from 1950 he spent the rest of his career with the Agricultural Advisory Service until his retirement in 1985. He then became active in local parish affairs as a councillor and clerk to the council. Throughout he pursued a keen interest in the ornithology of Wiltshire. We congratulate Michael and send him the Society's good wishes.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Ivan Jones (FN 60-64) sent in the following relating to our last issue.

“Having just read the OSB magazine, I recall that I knew Alastair Carstairs both at St Nicolas prep school and St Bees although he was a little ahead of me. The attached school photo from 1956 at St Nicolas shows him as an obvious stand-out. The boy next to him in civvies was a German exchange student. Also in this picture are three other boys destined for St Bees, Nelly Acons, Geoff Steven and me. Is that some sort of record?

My wife and I spent a pleasant evening with Molly Carstairs in the Beaumont Hotel in Hexham in April 2003 where we stayed overnight. The hotel was run by an OSB.

Our generation of OSBs certainly got around!”

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Chris Lord (G 53-57) recalls ‘Privileges’ in the 1950s.

“Reading Peter Royds's article in the July Bulletin rekindled memories of Grindal in the summer term of 1955. I had moved down the hill from Meadow House. I was appointed Bell Fag, which involved getting up in time to be down in the hall at 7:15 to ring the hand bell, running along the dormitory corridors at 7:25 shouting ‘Ten minutes to go’ and ringing second bell at 7:35, giving the late risers ten minutes to get out into the road at 7:45 for the morning dash to Barony and back. I had great trouble learning, not so much the privileges, but rather the names of the 1st XI and other ‘important’ people in the school. Successive failures led to a punishment run, a longer punishment run and finally a beating. The beating was administered with all the ceremony of an Elizabethan execution: at evening prayers Mr Parkinson told early bedders to go straight to their dorms and late bedders straight to their dayrooms; everyone knew what was about to happen, but not necessarily the name of the victim. The bath and shower room in the basement served as the execution chamber. Back in the dorm I was obliged to show my backside so that the grouping could be admired. Optimum grouping left only one deep wound, whereas poor grouping meant four or six shallower wounds.

We were tested again in the autumn term but in a less terror-inducing format, and informal warnings were issued through the grapevine to give us time to prepare. Personally, I had far less difficulty learning the fifteen members of the 1st XV than I'd had with only eleven cricketers. It was the structure (full back / wing, centre, centre, wing / fly half, scrum half / front row, second row, lock, wing forward, wing forward) compared to a simple list which helped. I too remember, as a fag, sitting in front of the boiler holding pieces of bread to the flames, trying to achieve exactly the correct shade of brown before running up two flights of stairs to the prefects' study."

George Robson (FN 57-64) recalls two faithful employees.

"One of the benches now on the terrace has affixed a plaque displaying:

PRESENTED BY

MISS S. APLEYARD

MATRON, FOUNDATION HOUSE 1945-1979

ON HER RETIREMENT

It is hard to believe anyone ever exceeded thirty-four years employment at the school, but actually I am aware there was someone who did. Who it was will not be revealed until much later in this article.

Meanwhile let's concentrate on the lady who did reach thirty-four years of service and whom many hundreds of Old St Beghians will recollect, especially those who were attached to Foundation House.

Widely known at the school as 'The Nag', Miss Sheila Appleyard trained in nursing and other medical matters during the war years before looking for a suitable post in a hospital or boarding establishment. She spotted an advertisement for matron at St Bees School in Cumbria, and when her college tutor discovered the application had been successful, warned Sheila not to stay in post longer than five years because a longer stay could well lead to some kind of unhealthy attachment to the place and stifle any hopes of advancement in the medical profession.

But on arriving at St Bees Sheila immediately felt happy and content with her life and moving on never crossed her mind.

I myself spent seven and a half years at the school, all attached to Foundation except for the first year when I was posted out to Eaglesfield. And living not too far from her home at Alnwick in Northumberland I met up with 'The Nag' (at school) and Sheila (back home) at all times of the year.

Sheila was the youngest of three sisters who had together inherited from their father a large and imposing early Victorian villa called *Long Knowe* on the outskirts of Alnwick. Her practice was to live during the school holidays at Alnwick, and at the school during term time. (Actually, she followed the practice

of being at St Bees for one full week before and one week after each term to prepare for receiving/clearing up after the boys.)

The eldest of the three sisters was Ethel, who lectured in education at the nearby teachers' training college based in Alnwick Castle. Neither Ethel nor Sheila married, but second sister Monica (Clark) did marry and went to Canada where she had a daughter, Sybil. It was therefore Ethel who lived year-round at Alnwick and maintained the family home.

It might be worth mentioning here that following a divorce, Monica after some training became matron of Meadow House under Peter Lever whilst her daughter Sybil spent a few terms in a junior position on Foundation before becoming a nurse at Whitehaven Hospital.

As regards accommodation at school, Sheila was given a room adjacent to the Foundation dining room and, on the floor above, a bedroom which was placed, appropriately and conveniently, adjacent to the sick room.

With her lounge being right next to the kitchens, her needs were few but nevertheless once per month she took a bus into Whitehaven to shop. But most of her leisure time was spent working at her rock garden which, some may remember, lay on the slope between the New (now called Science) Block's car park and the Third's rugby field. She was always looking for new plants and new ways to make the garden even more beautiful than it had already become.

Before evening prayers Sheila held surgeries, then, straight after lights out for the other boys, held court within the surgery for the house prefects in dressing gowns, drinking Horlicks and chatting about issues of the day.

Particularly important amongst her duties of course was caring for any boys consigned to the sick room, and to mind here come memories of the crisis weeks of the Asian Flu epidemic of 1957/1958 when at its peak just over half the boys were consigned to their dormitory beds. And here I have another recollection springing to mind. Before boys set off to the annual Scout or Cadet Force camps, each boy's private parts had to be inspected. I remember us all lining up outside the surgery waiting for our turn with some trepidation and consternation.

When there was a special occasion for the school such as Speech Day, Sheila was expected to be 'everywhere at once' doing her best to ensure the day went off smoothly. It always did for she was ubiquitous!

Back in Northumberland visits by me to the Appleyard home were quite frequent. And when I achieved a driving licence, I would take her for trips out for the day. For instance, I well remember our strolling together along the sea front at Seahouses then on our return journey stopping at a wayside chapel where, being noted as chapel organist, I played a few pieces to impress Sheila.

Of course, Sheila had to modify her ways of operation to work in concert successfully alongside the succession of Foundation housemasters. With

Foundation being twice the size of both Grindal and School House (about 150 boys) there were two housemasters – one for Foundation North and one for Foundation South. I remember from my time we had John *Shuff* Hall, Peter *Beaky* Croft. Ron *Slime* Johnson.

Sheila had a great sense of humour and her loud resonant shrieks of laughter would often ring around the whole of the house. But early in 1962 we noticed these outbursts were much rarely heard. It turned out Sheila was diagnosed with some sort of cancer and in due course she became a patient at The Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle. I, of course, felt driven to pay her some visits and do my best to cheer her up. I remember on one occasion when by her bedside she reached out and grasped firmly one of my hands which she held tightly until I left the ward. Her motivation for doing this was a mystery to me at the time and it still is. Happily, Sheila's operation was a success, and she resumed her work at the school.

Shortly after I finally left school in March 1964, long-serving master Anthony *Spiv* Dearle was moved from his room in Lonsdale Terrace in which he had resided since 1948 to take on the housemastership of Foundation North. As was to be expected, I suppose, Sheila occasionally let slip to me information that was perhaps better not given to pupils. On this matter and realising I was an ex-pupil she told me Anthony Dearle had become aware he was getting forgetful and easily confused (possible the onset of Alzheimers?) and each week gave Sheila a list of his duties/engagements for the week ahead and asked her to remind him of each. The person referred to in the first paragraph of this article I will now name. It is May Dodds. As the consequence of having suffered polio when only a girl she had a pronounced limp, and so to the boys she was known as 'Limpy'. May had been born in St Bees and became part of the Foundation House domestic team in 1940. During the war years her chief responsibility was ensuring wartime blackout regulations were adhered to. She would be answerable should the village's warden charge the house with an infringement (though May assured me this never happened).

But in my time Limpy's main responsibility was overseeing laundry matters. Once a week each boy's clothing and bed linen had to be bagged and taken to a central location for Whitehaven's laundry firm to collect. At the same time the previous week's laundry could be collected from the same location. On top of this May also had certain responsibilities at mealtimes.

When 1979 arrived Sheila and May, both well past the statutory retirement age, together decided to call it a day and retire, these were major events as both had been liked and respected by the boys and looked on as institutions. May continued to live in her small cottage at the top of the village rented to her by Bill Fox. But it is nice to know the school did not forget her long service. Squads of pupils were

regularly deployed to her cottage to carry out tasks to assist her - window cleaning, painting, general cleaning, gardening etc. Her final months were spent as a resident of a care home close to the village and where I once visited her and took a photograph which features at the foot of this article with one of her Priory gravestone.

I think it was in 1983 that I received a phone call from Bill Fox, who told me Sheila had died peacefully at her home. With the nearest crematorium being at Blyth, where I was by then living, he asked would I represent the school at the funeral and take with me a spectacular wreath? Of course I was very ready to do this.

At the funeral I met the last survivor of the three sisters, Ethel, and also Sheila's niece Sybil. Both had travelled from Alnwick by taxi.

*In the Foundation dining room there is on one of the walls a plaque celebrating Limpy's thirty-nine years' service. This plaque was made and put in place by David Lyall and paid for by myself.

Is it too late to fix adjacent to it a similar one to Sheila?"

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

(Regarding long-serving employees at the school: May Dodds, whom George goes on to mention, served for 39 years, and the current groundsman, David Lamb, joined in 1982, and so has served a continuous 44 years to date! There may well have been others. Ed.)

George Robson (FN 57-64) remembers the Reverend Geoffrey Moule.

"For generation after generation whole school photographs featured a chaplain. For most of the 1950s until the early 1960s the school chaplain was the Reverend Geoffrey Moule.

Other than carrying out his duties as chaplain the Reverend taught Latin and Divinity. However, he was truly a passionate ornithologist and during his hours not on duty he was, whatever the weather, to be found with notebook and binoculars wandering about the Head or somewhere else in the locale in the hope of a 'find'.

The Reverend hit the national ornithologist headlines at one point in the mid fifties when he saw, photographed and reported a bird that had never been seen before in Britain. The name of this bird I do not recollect but I am sure a reader of this will oblige the Society by reporting its name. This led to over a week of the beach carparks being full and lots of twitchers replete with camera, binoculars notebook, sandwiches and flask ascending and descending the Head.

In 1961 the Reverend gave up schoolmastering to take on a parish in the Midlands where a few years later I paid him a flying visit during which time I photographed him (see photo).

On retirement and clearly driven by his happy memories of St Bees he bought a

small cottage on the Rottington Road on the outskirts of St Bees where he could resume his birdwatching. The school persuaded him to refamiliarize himself with the chapel and so he occasionally led morning services. He lived to a great age (92) and on his death in 1996 his ashes were placed and marked in the Priory churchyard.

It is worth adding that Horace Moule was descended from Handley Moule who was Bishop of Durham from 1901 to 1920.”

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

George Robson (FN 57-64) recalls incidents surrounding the opening of the school's New Block.

“With the ‘New Block’ (now known as the Science Block) recently completed and opened by ‘bouncing bomb’ creator Barnes Wallis, Headmaster James Wykes was keen that it should be shown at its best and accessible to visitors on Speech Day 1959. Therefore, he instructed the staff that worked in the block’s classrooms that their rooms should not only be presentable but that each should have an interesting exhibition for parents and other visitors to view. This order applied too to the staff based in the ‘old’ science block and the new metalwork shop.

Photo of James Wykes and Barnes Wallis at the opening may be seen at:

[https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/miles/1950-60/1958-](https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/miles/1950-60/1958-59/speech%20day/speech%20day.html)

[59/speech%20day/speech%20day.html](https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/miles/1950-60/1958-59/speech%20day/speech%20day.html).

A photo of the Science Block as it is today is available to view.

Geography master ‘Spike’ Cawthorne, for example, put on display the fine collection of fossils that were kept in his room and also sorted out the more colourful and interesting maps his department possessed.

And the new Biology master, Eric Middleton - who became housemaster of Grindal and later still enjoyed a notable career in Yorkshire - made his contribution to the scheme. The school and he over the intervening years kept in contact. He wrote a series of books concerning his deep Christian faith, presenting signed copies of them to the school. He published four - *The New Flatlanders*, *Dimensions of the Spirit*, *Surprised by the Spirit*, *An Inside Track to the Spirit*.

Photo of Eric Middleton is available to view.

I had both good relations with head of history, Ron Johnson*, and a very enthusiastic interest in the subject. Therefore, I volunteered to Ron to mount an exhibition concerning the rare and valuable penny black that my late grandfather had bequeathed to me in his will. Ron readily encouraged me to do this. I heard at the time that a fair number of visitors found interest in my display. I guess I was taking a chance displaying the stamp in an unguarded room, but there it was throughout the celebrations for me to retrieve in good time. The Penny Black was altered in colour to the Penny Red in 1841 after less than a year of its issue and it

was during this period that my great great grandfather purchased a penny black in London and posted it to the family home here in Northumberland where it has been passed on as an heirloom ever since.

Photo of the Penny Black stamp is available to view.

Photo of Ron Johnson is available to view.

*Ron shortly after his years at St Bees emigrated to Australia. He died there in 2024.”

Photos of Ron and his obituary may be seen at <https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july24bulletin/Obit%20-%20Ronald%20Johnson.html>.

All photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>. (Jan 2026 - We have just been advised that Eric Middleton died on 29/10/25. Ed.)

George Robson (FN 57-64) and the Lighthouse.

“There are numerous sporting activities available to St Bees’ pupils but surely each has, willingly or unwillingly, been a runner. The only activity that I myself excelled in was running, having been a member of the running eight for three years.

High House Road / Triangle / Sandwith / Sea Mills / Three Sisters / Lighthouse are just some of the routes I recollect we followed.

For those not chosen for any other activity a concern for the day was what the housemaster or head of house was to choose for the day’s run. Would it be the shortest - the Triangle - or the longest - the Lighthouse via Sandwith? After all, there is a big difference between a mile and a half and five miles!

I guess I did the arduous Lighthouse run five times in my day during which the only thing I knew about the lighthouse was that we were honour bound to touch its wall before turning back.

That is until now when I have turned to researching it.

I’m sure very few know that **St Bees lighthouse is the highest in England (335 feet)**. In 1718 Trinity House rented some land on the Head from St Bees School (ensuring ongoing finance) and employed architect Thomas Lud(g)widge to oversee the construction of a lighthouse. It turned out to be the first of three lighthouses on the site, a structure 9 metres tall, 5 metres in diameter and topped by a large metal grate that burnt coal. By 1822 it was the last coal powered lighthouse in Britain when it was destroyed by fire and, tragically, along with the lighthouse keeper’s wife, Mary Clark, and her five children all perishing by suffocation.

As soon as the following year a second lighthouse was completed, built by John Nelson for £1,447 but continuing to provide the school with an income. It differed very little in construction from its predecessor. However, it was to be transient in that as soon as 1866 it was decided to replace it with a more ambitious third – the one that still exists today. Architect Henry Norris alongside Trinity House

arranged a well-attended grand opening ceremony at which newspapers of the day, a set of coins of the realm and various commemorative scrolls were buried in a zinc box. The light was to be visible for 24 seconds, eclipsed for two seconds intervals and could be visible out at sea for 24 nautical miles.

During WW2 the home guard used the lighthouse as an operational base. Also, during the war, a sad event was that one of the refugee pupils from Mill Hill School fell and was killed in the area of the lighthouse following which permission to climb the Head had to be sought by pupils of both schools. Since the war the lighthouse has been put to an extra use - a turning marker for the annual Isle of Man air races.

The light and fog signal remained operational until the end of 1950 but early in the 1960s a more advanced triple frequency tannoy electric fog signal heard 20 miles at sea was put in place in a detached building very close to the cliff edge. In 1987 the light was fully electrified with a beam that can now be seen 33km away, demanned and automated at the same time. Also, in that year the foghorn which used to sound every 45 seconds was discontinued.

The lighthouse is now monitored and controlled from Trinity House's Planning Centre in Harwich, Essex.

In the summer of 2024, a friend and I went on the inland route to the lighthouse when I made my sixth and almost certainly my last visit. I didn't spot any changes, but knowing what I know now, was disappointed not to see any plaque or other memorial to poor Mary Clark and her five children who perished in that fire of 1822. But at least they are remembered by inclusion in this article.

Wikipedia lists 30 other references and shows numerous photographs."

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

John Wilkinson (FS 68-73) writes:

"Martyn Sayer (School House 69-74) and I (Foundation South 68-73) completed a squash marathon in July 1975 at St Bees School some two years after we left. So, our 50th anniversary is this year.

We played for 70 hours 12 minutes on the courts at the school and achieved a world record and got our names in the Guinness Book of Records. We started the marathon at 5pm Wednesday night and finished at 5.12 pm on the Saturday and were allowed 1 minute after every game and 5 minutes every 4 hours for food or toilet break.

We raised £1250 which in those days could have purchased one brand new Mini car! The money raised was split 50/50 with the Multiple Sclerosis Society and Cancer Research."

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Responses to the July 25 article on the Tuck Shop:

Kevin Smith (SH 72-79) sent in a google screenshot and says:

“I am fairly sure that this beige house was the Tuck Shop when I was at St Bees (72-79).”

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Mike Charnley (FN 70-75) also sent in a google screenshot saying:

“Back in the early 70s there was just this little shop, now converted, and just past Grindal House.

There used to be an entrance at the side of the house and we were often sent by prefects for a cheese and onion bap when the shop was closed – on a Sunday! But a school tuck shop – no.

I rarely went in, just the side door during slave (fag) days as my body had a sugar issue so I used to go up the road to Blenkinsop’s for fruit!

As for George Robson's 1964 penny, I can do one better as I used to collect coins on the cheap (ebay). I am not sure if this is maybe a sixpence as no pennies back then and also its silver.

The date didn’t ring a bell till few days ago!”

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

**All Photos mentioned within this Bulletin may be seen at
<http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.**

If you wish to receive an electronic version of the Bulletin in future,
in addition to your postal copy, please do let me have your email address.

Please contact: Pam Rumney on (01946) 828093 or osb@stbeesschool.co.uk



NEW OSB Instagram Page



A NEW OSB Instagram page has been created.
Please do follow it to keep up to date with news and events.

OSB Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/osbsociety/>

SNIPPETS.....

Michael Howard Jamison (1947-2024).

Mike Blyth (SH 56-61) sent in a link to the following incredible life story of OSB Surgeon Mike Jamison (F 61-65) written by his wife, GP Gill Jamison, which can be found at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin> or directly here:

[https://livesonline.rcseng.ac.uk/client/en_GB/lives/search/detailnonmodal/ent:\\$002f\\$002fSD_ASSET\\$002f0\\$002fSD_ASSET:388012/ada?qu=LIVES_OCCUPATION%3D%22Colorectal+surgeon%22&d=ent%3A%2F%2FSD_ASSET%2F0%2FSD_ASSET%3A388012%7EASSET%7E2&te=ASSET&dt=list&st=AT](https://livesonline.rcseng.ac.uk/client/en_GB/lives/search/detailnonmodal/ent:$002f$002fSD_ASSET$002f0$002fSD_ASSET:388012/ada?qu=LIVES_OCCUPATION%3D%22Colorectal+surgeon%22&d=ent%3A%2F%2FSD_ASSET%2F0%2FSD_ASSET%3A388012%7EASSET%7E2&te=ASSET&dt=list&st=AT).

‘Two Presidents at Dinner’ – Darryl Davies (F 62-68) (Current OSB President) and James Brindle (G 49-53) (OSB President 1998-2000) met up for a very enjoyable dinner and catch up in November 2025 at the Fleece Inn, Dolphinholme, Nr Preston. They were joined by Darryl's wife Pat and celebrated Jim's forthcoming 90th birthday in December.
Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

In response to Andrew Green's piece about the Bursells in July 25 OSB newsletter, Richard Hughes (SH 60-63) comments:

“Ref Kaare Bursell; he left St Bees and read veterinary medicine at Liverpool University. He now lives in Nevada, USA. He is on Facebook and YouTube. Gunnar, his younger brother, is also on Facebook but I can find nothing more than that.”

(We have subsequently learned that Kaare passed away in February 2020. Ed.)

Andrew Mitchell (FS 63-68) in collaboration with David Wilcox published in September the 3rd edition of the book 'Arid Shrubland Plants of Western Australia'. Copies can be ordered online at <https://uwap.uwa.edu.au/products/arid-shrubland-plants>.

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

From Kevin Smith (SH 72-79).

“I thoroughly enjoyed Peter Royds’ Part One of a 'Privileged Life' and have made my daughter read it so she can appreciate what an utterly spoiled time she has at her school in comparison!

I am very much looking forward to Part Two and would be grateful if you would pass my thanks for sharing this with us.”

A Privileged Life

Recollections of Foundation House, St Bees School, in the 1960s

Peter Royds (2025)

A Privileged Life (Part 2)

Some recollections of Foundation House, St Bees School, in the 1960s

Gliding

There was a privilege called ‘Gliding’ which has to be given a special mention. It involved the three buttons of the school blazer. The highest expression of gliding was ‘full’ gliding, both on and off house, meaning all three buttons could be left undone anywhere around the school or village. This privilege was reserved for school prefects, as distinct from house prefects. There were only four school prefects, one of whom was also Head Boy. The more numerous house prefects could fully glide on, but not off, their own house.

The next manifestation was ‘semi’ gliding, meaning two out of three buttons undone. This was for the house prefects off house; maybe other people on house but not off house, although maybe off house if you had sports colours or were in the upper sixth. And then there was ‘no gliding’, meaning all buttons fastened. Precisely the point of this set of rituals was beyond any normal understanding. But it was important; any illegal gliding was punishable.

Studies and Dayrooms

Foundation had only four studies, all quite small, plus a very small one, remote from the others, which was shared by Foundation’s two school prefects. Of the four main studies, the house prefects occupied the two which overlooked the Terrace and down the valley along the railway line. That left the two other studies, and no outside view, for senior boys who were not prefects. These were the ‘Senior Studies’ and housed a further eight or so boys. Considerable effort was usually made by the residents to make these rooms as pleasantly habitable as possible since they were living quarters as well as places to study. Less than twenty boys, therefore, had studies on Foundation and the rest were in dayrooms, of which there were about five. School House and Grindal not only had prefects’ and senior studies, but also junior studies.

In the Foundation dayrooms, each boy had his own small wooden cubicle. Seniority determined who got the best locations away from draughty doors or nearest to radiators etc. There was a ‘House Order’ of the seniority of every boy on Foundation pinned up on a notice board. You could rise or fall in the House Order according to your fitness for promotion or demotion, judged termly.

The cubicles were screwed to the floor, and all were joined together round the sides of the dayroom.

This was our bit of personal space. It was where we kept our school books and limited personal belongings. Photos etc were put up with drawing pins. The cubicle was also where evening prep. was done, in silence, under the supervision of a senior boy sitting in the centre of the dayroom at a large wooden table. On it, during the day, were communal newspapers and magazines.

A housemaster could be expected to appear round every dayroom at some point during prep. Each cubicle had a fixed desk and fixed bench seat under which tuck boxes were kept – locked. Every tuck box had the owner's initials printed on it. A curtain, from home, could be drawn to achieve a degree of privacy, but had to be open during 'prep'. After 'prep', it was the evening house assembly, maybe some free time, then bed.

We were allowed radios in the dayroom. Along with the newspapers, radio kept us in touch with life beyond the village. Radio Caroline North, the 'pirate' station, was broadcast from out at sea somewhere between St Bees and the Isle of Man. The still familiar 'Sounds of the Sixties' were a welcome intrusion into our sheltered lives.

Swees

The senior dayroom on Foundation was known as 'Swees' and comprised mainly lower sixth-formers. The name was said to derive from a by-gone Master who was Swiss, which he apparently pronounced 'Swees'. Swees was the poor equivalent of the junior studies on the other main houses.

What I remember about Swees is that the Swees boys had the privilege of using a set of swing doors, across the corridor from their dayroom, which led out to the quad via a sort of vestibule where a few bikes were kept. Moreover, Swees were not required to line up in the main corridor like the other dayrooms before the morning run. They could join the run through their swing doors and straight out into the quad.

General Fags

The most junior dayroom was called 'Baby Dayroom'. This was where the fags were. The 'general' fags were basically unpaid servants, under the direction of the prefects who would wander in and shout 'fag' when they wanted something done. One particularly tedious general fagging duty was cooking teas for the prefects. This was organised on a rota and took place following games on Wednesdays and Saturdays. These were 'match days' when there were no afternoon classes. The cooking was done on a small stove in the lower portion of Big School, next door to the studies. Eggs (all modes of preparation), bacon, sausages, fried bread, beans etc., with a constant supply of toast, were ordered throughout the afternoon. The

food was delivered to the prefects in their studies. You had to knock every time for admission and be sure to wait for audible permission to enter. Knocking and simultaneously entering was presumptuous and guaranteed being bawled back out. Prefects from other houses would be invited for tea. Maybe four or five fags would be involved in the shift, including the clearing up afterwards.

Punishments

Throughout the tea-making performance, which was a free time of day for everyone except the scullions, Foundation boys of all ages were also reporting to the prefects' studies to do punishment runs. Runs were the commonest form of house punishment.

Regular transgressions included socks round ankles; poorly made bed; kit not put away in dormitories or changing rooms; brawling; sitting on radiators; breach of privileges; talking before Grace; talking after lights-out; disobedience; eating in Chapel.

It was punishable to visit certain shops in the village which were 'out of bounds'. The sea was also forbidden, and we never swam in it. The school had its own swimming pool. There had been a serious radiation leak into the sea from the Windscale/Sellafield nuclear power station just down the coast several years previously. It had caused great alarm locally, not least at Calder Girls School in Seascale, which was not far from the plant. My sister and cousins went to Calder Girls which is perhaps why I was sent to St Bees. I remember a sixth form dance with the girls from Seascale in the St Bees School library.

Returning to the punishment runs, the seriousness of the offence was reflected in the length of the run. The runs were named after their destination – Seamills, Shore, Sandwith and others. The worst run was a Lighthouse, though it may have been banned for being too long. The standard punishment run was called a Triangle (or more than just one) along three stretches of road in the village. The prefects set you off on a run from their study, with a given return time. Boys might do more than one punishment run in the same afternoon to clear their arrears. We were all familiar with the routes of these runs because on the days when we were not involved in team sports, or the pitches were water-logged, a run was set for the afternoon's exercise slot.

After sports, we had communal showers in the junior or senior changing rooms in the basement where the drying room and the C.C.F. (Combined Cadet Force) store and rifle room (called 'The Armoury'), were also located. Prefects had separate changing and washing facilities.

Beatings on Foundation were given by masters and prefects, though it might have been only by the two school prefects. Serious misconduct warranting a beating could take the form of insulting staff, unauthorised absence from school, stealing from the kitchens, drinking, smoking, and so on. Beatings from the housemasters

would take place in their rooms. Those from the prefects were dispensed in Big School after the evening house assembly and, appropriately, prayers. These were occasional rather than common occurrences. However, one teacher used to beat boys in front of the class, with a short wooden stick, on the hands. That happened if they just forgot to bring the right book with them.

Private Fags

Although exempt from the tea making and other general fagging, the labours of the private fags, as already touched on, were equally menial. Some of their work was particularly time-consuming if the prefect was involved in a lot of sports. Rugby or cricket boots, and laces, needed cleaning after every game. Then there was the weekly preparation of the prefect's military uniform. The obligatory Tuesday afternoon C.C.F parade and training began with an inspection of uniform and kit. Boots had to be highly polished – some used the spit and polish technique – with spats and belts blancoed; cap, belt and spat brasses polished and uniforms pressed.

Private fags even unpacked the prefect's trunk at the beginning of each term and packed it again at the end. They were paid a pound or two at the end of every term.

Hostel Bogs

'Hostel' was another name for Foundation House. A set of centrally located all-school toilets, known as the 'Hostel Bogs', stood in a sort of outside yard at one end of Foundation. Beyond the main yard, which was full of sturdy urinals, an open air pathway divided two rows of eight or so toilets cubicles on either side. The rows of cubicles therefore faced each other across the pathway. They were roofed but had neither heating nor individual lights. The floors were concrete, with white ceramic tiles on the walls. But the most unforgettable feature of the cubicles was that they had no doors. Privies they were, private they were not. No need for air freshener. The cubicles at the far end were favoured by the smokers.

Lessons and Sport

When not on House, lessons and sport accounted for the rest of our time. These activities, however, were recognisably normal, even though sport was not everyone's afternoon recreation of choice. These aspects of school life were therefore less memorable for me than the peculiarities of the boarding house. One point that did, however, stand out was that, whereas privileges and all manner of team and house awards were handed out for sporting success, academic achievement was not incentivised or rewarded to anything like the same extent. No privileges flowed directly from being good in class. The highest scholastic accolade was merely a book presentation at the annual prize-giving ceremony on Speech Day.

The school choir, about which I once wrote in the OSB Bulletin, was seriously good while Donald Leggat was music master. The C.C.F. was just more discipline, deference and shouting.

For The Record

I have had very little contact with the school or any contemporaries since leaving in 1967, but I did look in over ten years ago to donate some photos to the Archivist (no such person back in time). He hasn't put them on the website as I had hoped. This is disappointing because those in the photos will not be above ground all that much longer to see them. I hope they still exist.

I thought I would record my schoolboy memories for the historical interest of my children, and their children. But now, having re-lived it all in the writing down of these recollections, I am more inclined to think they will consider that none of it can possibly be true. Nevertheless, I am very grateful to my daughter Elizabeth for typing this up.

Reflections – the Elite, The Survivors and Les Miserables

It has been said that public schools were not unlike young offenders' institutions. They have also been described as the last bastion of an outdated recruiting system for governing the Empire etc. etc. On the other hand, some who actually went through it all would say that they were good years and 'never did me any harm'. That is usually heard from those who aspired to belong to the school elite – the privileged winners. Others did not belong to the elite. They got through it and survived a very strange environment in which to grow up. And then there were boys who should never have been sent away to a boarding school in the first place.

By the late 60s, though, big societal changes were happening. Changes no doubt happened even at St Bees. I remember seeing a film called 'If' (1968) not long after leaving school. The film posed the question – why do public school boys put up with these places and not start a revolution? Sixty years on, and I now read about a real-life revolution in the form of a Chinese link-up which has saved the school from extinction. A far quieter revolution than that envisaged in 'If' but no less drastic in its own way. Be careful what you wish for.

PHOTOS - Choir Practice in Old College Hall 1962 or 1963 and St Bees Head (top) and Seascale from very old postcards.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Photographs to enjoy...

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**

OBITUARIES

Hugh Turpin (M 83-13). Michael Farrer (FS 81-88) (Organ Scholar 1987/88) has sent the following.

“I first got to know Mr Turpin around 1986. I have too many incredibly happy memories to mention, however, perhaps the most powerful was watching and listening to his genius perform ‘Islamey’ (Balakirev) at the start of a morning lesson. Hugh was a proud Yorkshire man, who worked to exacting standards, respected his environment very much, but had one characteristic which in many respects led to his success, his capability to ask, ‘Why Not?’. When others believed it was impossible - enter Hugh.

Leadership, the capacity to inspire others, to get involved and use their energy and skills to realise a vision, is something over the decades Hugh excelled at.

Whatever challenge was presented, whether it was the Thanksgiving or Carol Services in the Priory or taking the choir to perform in a Cathedral or a summer concert, Hugh lived the predetermined mindset and utilised the resources to realise the limit, then extend it beyond what the team believed possible. The sound of the ‘Leighton Responses’ in Ripon Cathedral back in 1987 was electrifying.

A good leader is never critical. Hugh aligned to that thinking; if things didn’t realise the vision, he quickly understood why and shaped the next performance, ensuring that professionalism and learning was embedded into the team. Over his life he inspired scores of musicians. Around my own time I think there were at least six or seven pupils who were post Grade 8, of whom I know the Governors and the Headmaster were especially proud.

Although Hugh’s leadership was more than a force to be reckoned with, it would be fair to say that his management didn’t always quite align. On arriving in the department after playing for a chapel service, I recall that Hugh dashed into his office, grabbed a score and headed out at pace. About a second later the door reopened – ‘Ah, I forgot to tell you I’ve entered you for Grade 8’ - and off he went!!! I considered finding a date. I had about three, possibly four weeks. Hugh was puzzled – why was this a problem? I knew the Bach already and the other pieces were, in Hugh’s straight forward Yorkshire thinking, ‘Lollipops’. As always, he led from the front, sat at the chapel organ, sight read the lines, smiled, and reinforced the idea that all was pretty straight forward. There were those of more traditional lines who didn’t quite agree, however, with his guidance (and not forgetting the input of others) – I missed a distinction by only two marks. Hugh, never critical, raised an eyebrow, extinguished his mark 1 Marlboro, and proceeded to the Common Room on the upbeat – to share the news with a slightly enhanced optimism.

It was a privilege and an honour to have known Hugh, to have been his Organ Scholar – and to have learned and developed with the guidance of a leader and musician of such outstanding excellence.”

Notification of Deaths (Since the July 2025 Bulletin)		
CROSTHWAITE, H.W. (Howard)	Died 25.11.25	G 50-56
BOYD, N.C. (Neville)	Died 11.09.24	FS 72-77
DAWSON, M.R.C. (Martin ‘Fred’)	Died ???.09.25	F 58-63
HARDMAN, P.G. (Peter)	Died 23.11.25	G 49-53
KENYON, C.A. (Anthony)	Died ???.???.??	FS 47-48
MIDDLETON, E.W. (Eric)	Died 29.10.25	M 58-69
PARKER, D.M. (David)	Died 07.01.26	G 63-68
THOMSEN, O.D.A. (Olaf)	Died 14.11.25	F 49-49

THINK OF US....

REMEMBER THE OSBs IN YOUR WILL

A legacy in your will, made out to ‘The St Beghian Society’, would undoubtedly help to support us in the years to come.

For further details and an information leaflet, please contact the OSB Office.

St Beghian Society

WEBSITE, FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

Please remember the St Beghian Society

Website, Facebook & the NEW Instagram pages at

www.st-beghian-society.co.uk

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

<https://www.instagram.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.

200 CLUB



We currently have **68 payments** into the 200 Club account, which is a slight decrease from last year.

If you paid last year as a one-off payment, and haven't done so already, please do consider renewing your membership for this year too or, better still, set up a standing order going forward.

Please can I encourage OSBs to join our club.

All the funds raised go towards the payment of prizes and, more importantly, to help fund extra-curricular school projects or OSB ventures, where required.



Many thanks to Pam Rumney for designing and distributing our on-line form, which we hope provides an easy sign-up option, details of which may be found below.

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

We currently have a total of **£2,400 in the bank** after the draw on OSB Day 2025, which was held during lunch in the Foundation Dining Room.

The Winners of the June 2025 Draw were:

PRIZE	No.	WINNER	PRIZE	No.	WINNER
£200	46	DW & PM Davies (Darryl)	£40	71	W Mathison (Gordon)
£40	1	WE Dove (Amanda Dodsworth)	£40	43	PA Mawson (Paul)
£40	30	KJ & EC Smith (Kevin)			

Many thanks to Paul Mawson and Kevin Smith who donated their winnings to the St Beghian Society.

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

If not, please do because...

By taking part it gives you the chance of winning a **top Prize of around £200** and it also **helps the school and the Society.**

All money raised goes towards **supporting the school and the St Beghian Society**. Over the years, a variety of projects and clubs have benefited within the school by the purchase of such things as canoes and a canoe trailer, a donation to the Car Kit Club and assistance with sports kit and sports tours.

In the last few years, the 200 Club has donated £3,000 to the school library, which is now open, and £500 to the school's Eco-club. More recently £600 for the purchase of tents for the Duke of Edinburgh's award has also been given. These contributions were very much appreciated by both the school and the students, who greatly benefit from these activities and facilities.

For just **£2 a month or £24 a year (the price hasn't increased for about 40 years!)** you are entered into **one draw a year**, and the more members we have, the bigger and more prizes there are. Remember, it is possible to have more than one number in the draw – and hence potentially to win more than one prize! We do hope that you will consider joining in with this fun, but also very worthwhile, 200 Club draw. Why not buy a ticket for a family member or for friends – it could be a 'different' and lucrative Birthday/Christmas Present or Gift for someone?

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

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

Alternatively, further information can be found on the Society website, along with printable postal forms in Word and PDF format at:
<https://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/200%20Club%20Website%20Intro.htm>

Or, information and forms can be obtained from Darryl Davies, details below.

Please also try to persuade your friends to join. The prizes are not as good as the National Lottery's, but you have a better chance of winning! The more money we get in, the more we can donate to the school and Society, and the better the prizes.

Darryl Davies (Secretary and Treasurer 200 Club).

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

ST BEGHIAN SOCIETY NOTES

St Beghian Society Annual Subscription 2025/26

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's website at www.st-beghian-society.co.uk or alternatively please contact the OSB Office for further details.

OSB SHOP

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

(www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/School Shop.htm).

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

Data Protection Permissions

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

Have you recently changed your address?

Have you got married recently?

Have any other personal details changed?

Have you any interesting news?

Have you told us about it?

If not, please do so now on:

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

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



OSB Newsletter

Spring and Autumn Editions

The St Beghian Society are trialling the idea of a newly proposed **OSB Newsletter** and are initially producing two short, online only, Newsletters a year, in **Spring and Autumn**, to be distributed in between the current January and July issues of ‘The Old St Beghian’ Bulletin.

To date, two issues have been published – **Spring 2025** and **Autumn 2025**.

These Newsletters are not intended to replace the current Bulletin, but instead, to provide accessible regular current news in a bitesize interactive format.

We hope you enjoy reading it and would welcome your comments and ideas in relation to this new initiative and its future. Thank you to those of you who have already commented with some useful feedback.

If you would like to receive a copy of the new Newsletter and other online mailings in the future (if you don’t do so already), please do ensure that we have your up-to-date email address. You can still receive a postal copy of the full Bulletin, if you wish to do so, in addition to the online mailings, which include the electronic Bulletin and Newsletter.

Please do just let us know your preferences at the time of contact.

Articles for ‘The Old St Beghian’ Bulletin

The next issue of ‘The Old St Beghian’ is due out in **July 2026**.

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 may 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 **31st May, 2026**.

Minutes of the 30th (115th) Annual General Meeting of the St Beghian Society held in the Foundation Building on Saturday, 14th June 2025 at 11.00am.

There were around 36 people present, including Darryl Davies (President), David Lord (Treasurer), Pam Rumney (Secretary) and Andrew Keep (Interim Headmaster).

- 1) **Welcome by the President, Darryl Davies.** Darryl welcomed everyone to St Beghians' Day 2025 and thanked them for their attendance. He went on to introduce Andrew Keep the Interim Headmaster.
- 2) **School Update by the Headmaster (Interim) – Andrew Keep.** Andrew began by indicating that the school had continued to improve academically and that the site itself had seen several developments, including the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall. He confirmed that in the previous year the school had experienced its best university results since its reopening and that 2025 looked encouraging too. He indicated that sport also continued to thrive, including cricket, badminton, fives and volleyball, along with music, cultural activities and the DofE Award Scheme. Staffing had remained stable during the 2024/25 academic year and the school were proud to have two very long-standing members of the support staff, David Lamb and Jenny Bain, both with over 40 years of service with them. Student numbers had also remained steady at around 110.

Andrew indicated that he would be retiring at the end of the summer term and that a new Headmaster had been appointed, who would be taking up his position officially in September 2026. A formal announcement about the Head, who was currently working at Harrow International School, Haikou, China, would be made in September 2025. In the interim, Laurence Gribble had been appointed as an Interim Headmaster to guide the school over the coming year.

Andrew expressed his appreciation for the support shown by the Full Circle Education Group. He also thanked the OSBs wholeheartedly for their help and assistance in various projects, such as the 200 Club donations towards the library and the DofE tents. He went on to say that the OSB presence had made a genuine difference and that he hoped that they would continue to be partners in the future progress of the school. He concluded by asking for any questions.

Adrian Peckitt thanked Andrew for his interesting talk and said that he had felt heartened to hear the progress made in Fives at the school, however, he indicated his disappointment in the lack of students involved in golf.

Andrew confirmed that Laurence Gribble had been instrumental in driving forward Fives within the school and that they had a taster day where all students were encouraged to try the game and play. However, he recognised that golf was a trickier one. He confirmed that golf was part of the school's summer programme and that pupils could use the golf course, which they did do, but agreed that it was not used to the extent that it should be. He also acknowledged that they would need to recruit a good golfer onto the staff, as they currently had recreational golfers but not those of a competition standard.

In conclusion, Andrew was thanked for his interesting summary of the school's progress to date.

- 3) **Brief silence in memory of departed OSBs.** The names of those who had passed away since the last AGM in 2024 were read out by the Secretary, and the President conducted a period of silence in their honour.
- 4) **President's Yearly Report – Darryl Davies.** Darryl began by summarising the Branch events he had attended since becoming President in June, the previous year. In September 2024 there was the South Lakes Social held at the Grange Golf Course, followed by the North East Lunch in November in memory of Bill Dove and kindly organised and attended by Bill's daughter Amanda, with help from Don Williams. Darryl thanked all the organisers involved in helping to make these events a great success. He also mentioned the Cumbria Dinner Gathering, which he had organised at Armathwaite Hall in February, which 98 people had attended, including OSBs, partners, friends and several staff from the school. A rugby shirt, which had been donated by Howard Graham, was auctioned on the night and presented by Stuart Lancaster, and had raised £1000 for OSB funds. Darryl expressed his thanks to all those involved. Darryl also reported that he had attended an excellent London Dinner held in May at the Civil Service Club, kindly organised by Martin Birkett and Graeme Bagnall. This was the first formal dinner in London for several years and was very much enjoyed by those present. Darryl concluded by reiterating his main aims for his Presidency in respect of attracting more female and younger OSBs to get involved in the Society and he was pleased to report that at the afternoon's Music in the Quad there would be two female OSBs and a 19 year old OSB performing.
- 5) **Confirmation of the Minutes of the 114th A.G.M. held on Saturday 15th June, 2024 (published in the January 2025 Bulletin).** The Minutes of the previous meeting in June 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record. They were proposed by Robert Middleton and seconded by Dacre Watson.

- 6) **Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
- 7) **Election of Officers:**
- a) **President Elect** – Darryl reported that there was no President Elect in place at the present time but that he had some ideas and would be approaching people in due course. He also mentioned that at the Committee Meeting earlier it had been agreed to change the title name to Deputy President and to appoint three people to cover the role until a new President was appointed in June 2026.
 - b) **Committee** – Retiring this year were John Dunn, Mark Roberts and Lucy Cox - It was advised that John Dunn and Mark Roberts were willing to stand for re-election, but Lucy Cox had asked to stand down.
 - c) **Treasurer** – David Lord. David was willing to stand for re-election but as had been discussed in the previous Committee Meeting, new officers would need to be found in the next few years to cover the retirement of the Treasurer, Secretary and Bulletin Editor.
 - d) **Secretary** – Pam Rumney. Pam indicated a willingness to stand for re-election.
 - e) **Golfing Secretary** – Tom Wright. Tom was willing to continue.
 - f) **Accounts Checker** – Jason Spires. Jason was willing to stand for re-election.
 - g) **Bulletin Editor** – Tony Reeve. Tony was also willing to continue.
- Anthony Fox proposed the election of the officers mentioned above and this was seconded by Don Williams.
- 8) **St Beghian Society Finances and Accounts (2023/2024) – David Lord.**
David drew attention to the accounts sheet for the year ended 31st January 2025, which had been circulated with the AGM papers. He advised that the balance of cash held in the Society's bank and building society accounts amounted to just short of £84k. However, he pointed out that expenditure had exceed income by about £10k. He went on to indicate that these funds would see the Society through the next five to six years, but not indefinitely, and that a plan for the future would need to be put in place. After much discussion it was agreed that OSB annual Subscriptions should be increased in due course.
- 9) **OSBGS Golfing Society report – Tom Wright/Adrian Peckitt.** Tom (OSBGS Secretary) and Adrian from the OSBGS (Old St Beghians' Golfing Society) introduced themselves and circulated a paper presentation outlining the Old St Beghian Golfing Society (OSBGS), its status, and the events and competitions it is currently involved in. The presentation also gave details of

the past support given to the school by the OSBGS and also the club's future plans and challenges.

Adrian began by expressing how it had been an honour and privilege to represent the OSB badge at golfing competitions for over 45 years. He described the Halford Hewitt tournament, which is held on one of the best golf courses in the country and attracts 640 golfers on the tee on the first day, from 64 independent schools from across the UK. It was reported that several other events were also attended, in Edinburgh, Yorkshire, Cumbria, Kent etc, and with competitors from all over the country, which gave the opportunity to promote St Bees School far and wide. However, Adrian stated that the funding of these competitions was becoming invariably harder for the OSBGS to support as was the recruitment of new and younger members. A discussion then ensued and various ideas were mooted, including the possibility of linking golfing competitions with OSB events, such as the Edinburgh OSB Gathering and the Queen Elizabeth Tournament, which is held in Edinburgh. The Society and OSBGS agreed to consider this for the 2026 event.

Questions relating to golf within the current St Bees School curriculum were raised and Laurence Gribble stated that it did play a part in both summer PE sessions, as well as the GCAS (Global Awareness, Creativity, Action and Service) extra-curricular programme.

A suggestion to broaden the wider golfing community by introducing more social golfing and events was also put forward.

10) GTF, OSB Nominee Ltd – Anthony Fox/David Lord. Anthony reported that the GTF (Guarantee Trust Fund), OSB Nominee Ltd currently had three Trustees - David Lord, Roy Calvin and himself, and indicated that new Directors were being sought. He explained that OSB Nominee Ltd had been set up to hold the assets of the GTF funds, which currently had a nominal value of over £2m, including small packets of land, a loan to the school Governors and the remains of the proceeds of the sale of Lonsdale Terrace. He went on to state that OSB Nominee Ltd had been established in order to avoid personal liability and that the Directors were currently trying to monetarise assets. He also indicated that it would be beneficial for new Directors to have a background in, for example, law, accountancy, business investment, but that the new Directors did not necessarily need to be OSB Members. Those present were asked to consider if they themselves, or someone they knew, could possibly be a future Director of OSB Nominee Ltd.

11) New OSB Newsletter and Instagram page. The Secretary drew attention to the new OSB Newsletter which had been distributed for the first time in

April. Circulated twice a year (Spring and Autumn), in between the main Bulletin issues, Pam indicated that this trialled newsletter aimed to offer accessible current news in a bitesize interactive format and it was hoped that it would be a useful visual tool that would engage younger OSBs and those who perhaps did not have the time or interest to read the full biannual Bulletin.

12) Branch Activities – Dinners/Events List distributed. Darryl summarised the various dinners, lunches and social events which had taken place throughout the country over the last year and pointed out that all the forthcoming OSB events were detailed in the OSB Day Programme, which had been circulated with the AGM papers. He encouraged OSBs to attend and support the many different occasions wherever possible.

13) The 200 Club Report and Annual Draw – Darryl Davies. Darryl provided a summary of the 200 Club, stating that there were currently 75 numbers purchased, as opposed to 57 last year, and that there would be just under £2000 in funds, after the June 2025 draw. He went on to say that donations to the school for projects had included the School Library, the Eco Club and tents for the School DofE Programme.

As time was short, the 200 Club draw took place during lunch and produced the following winners:

PRIZE	No.	WINNER	PRIZE	No.	WINNER
£200	46	DW & PM Davies (Darryl)	£40	71	W Mathison (Gordon)
£40	1	WE Dove (Amanda Dodsworth)	£40	43	PA Mawson (Paul)
£40	30	KJ & EC Smith (Kevin)			

14) Any Other Business – No further issues were raised.

The President thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at around 12.15pm.

**A PDF version of the OSBGS Golfing Presentation,
mentioned in the Minutes above (item 9)**

may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

St Beghian Society – Careers Forum

We are keen to strengthen the links between the St Beghian Society and the school and in particular, explore ways in which OSBs can offer professional help to students in terms of advice, talks, mentoring or even placements, internships or jobs. This sharing of knowledge and opportunities would also be of relevance between OSBs within the St Beghian Society membership.

In the past, the school has run a series of career-themed assemblies/talks to which OSBs and others have been invited to speak, plus a careers week. Currently, the work-experience week in the summer term is available to Year 11, Pre-A, 12 and 13 and, in addition, some students are often keen to take part in internships during the holidays. We would be interested to hear from any OSBs who feel they could contribute to these events, by offering help, advice, or opportunities to current school students. If you would like further information about the school's work-experience programme, please contact Konrad Hansen at Konrad.Hansen@stbeesschool.co.uk.

In order to achieve the above, we are hoping to update and develop the Virtual Careers Forum information we hold, which was initiated by Don Williams several years ago.

If you feel you could help current students or other OSB members, by offering some professional advice, mentoring or even placements, internships and job opportunities, we would love to hear from you.

We would very much appreciate it if you could complete the online form at:

<https://forms.office.com/e/2tSsuAZpKE>

or complete the attached/enclosed form and return to:

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

On behalf of the St Beghian Society, Thank You very much for your help

Did you play Fives or Cricket at school? On OSB Day, 6th June 2026, there will be a **Fives competition** and a **Social Cricket Match** for anyone who would like to play – in the past participants have included, OSBs, students, staff and parents. All are welcome to participate or spectate.

Please do let us know if you are interested in playing - we would very much appreciate your involvement in these events – osb@stbeesschool.co.uk.

BRANCH NOTES & EVENTS

Branch Activities:

Cambridge Gatherings -

The Cambridge OSB Group met at the Red Lion Grantchester (November 2025). John Braithwaite (G 65-69) reports:

“Five OSBs out of a now core group of nine, from Cambridge and the surrounding area as far as the Wash, returned to the convenient Red Lion Pub in Grantchester, next to the river Cam. Grantchester is famous for the early 20th century intellectuals including Rupert Brooke, Ludwig Wittgenstein, Bertrand Russell, Virginia Wolf and others meeting under the apple trees in the Orchard Tea Garden. There is ample parking, ease of entry from the M11, and the pub has plenty of room. The staff know us now and provide a table in a large room just for ourselves and switch off the piped music. At our 13th meeting in August, Brian Powell (FN 50-54) had the young waitresses in stitches with his irresistible charm.

We also meet in various cosy central Cambridge pubs, but we decided for our 14th meeting to return to the Red Lion.

Robert Middleton (FN 50-54) is very kindly offering for a second time to host us all on his boat on the Broads in 2026. This summer we spent the night near his boat and were blessed with great weather thanks to the breeze for sailing.

We are hoping that Pam can join us in January when she drops her daughter off for the Lent term.

We always meet at 7:30 pm once traffic has died down, and midweek when the pubs and restaurants are quieter. We normally gather every four to eight weeks and are very open to other St Beghians joining us. Please do get in touch with me for further information - 07717209399 or braithwaite.john@icloud.com.

We may choose a different venue in January. (Since confirmed as at The Royal Standard, Fore Hill, Ely, CB7 4AF on Tuesday the 6th of January at 7:30pm.)

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

November Gathering Photo - L to R: John Wilkin (SH 55-60), Monty Morgan (F 53-58), John Braithwaite (G 65-69), Robert Middleton (FN 50-54) and Gavin Robertson (G 60-65).”

London Autumn Social Evening (Informal Gathering) - October 2025, The Samuel Pepys, London.

Thirteen OSBs plus three guests gathered at the Samuel Pepys pub on Friday 10th October 2025 for the annual London autumn social evening. It was wonderful to see several people attending their first OSB event in many years alongside a

number of faithful regulars! Please keep an eye on future OSB Bulletins and social media posts for information regarding the date and venue for the 2026 autumn event. It really is a fun and relaxed evening and a great way to reminisce with old friends and meet new ones.

List of attendees:

David Paul (FN 71-76), Tim Crossley-Smith (SH 73-78), Donald Jackson (SH 75-80), Alan Stewart (SH 82-89), Patrick Zebedee (SH 82-89), Robert Bindless (SH 83-89), Martin Birkett (SH 83-90), Chris Wilson (AC 84-91), Mark (Ronnie) Whelan (FS 86-91), John Whelan (FS 89-91), Paul Mashiter (SH 96-03), Alistair Booth (SH 96-03) and Will Winzor (SH 00-07).

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

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).

Cambridge Gatherings.

We are now a core group of nine, from Cambridge and the surrounding area as far as the Wash and always meet at 7:30 pm once traffic has died down, and midweek when the pubs and restaurants are quieter. We meet in various attractive central Cambridge pubs, recently a favourite has been the Red Lion in Grantchester, to eat and socialise for an hour or two. We normally gather every four to eight weeks and welcome other St Beghians who would like to join us. Please do contact me (John) for further information.

Our next get-together will be in **March 2026**, followed by one probably in the **summer of 2026** (tbc).

Contact: John Braithwaite on 07717209399 or at braithwaite.john@icloud.com or details can be obtained via the Society office.

Cumbria South Lakes Informal Social – Autumn 2026 (tbc) - Grange-over-Sands Golf Club, Cumbria (tbc).

We are hoping to arrange another South Lakes Social Evening somewhere in the south of the county in the autumn (tbc). If you are interested in attending, or have any ideas for a good venue, please do get in touch with Carter Croft on 07743 700 986 or cartertusm1946@icloud.com to register your interest.

Cumbria (West) Branch Dinner - February 2026, Armathwaite Hall, Nr Keswick, Cumbria - St Beghian Society Social Gathering 2026.

*** LAST CHANCE TO BOOK*** the Cumbria Dinner and Gathering which will take place on **Friday 27th February 2026**, 7.00 for 7.30pm at Armathwaite Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Keswick. CA12 4RE. Tel: 017687 88909.

Husbands, wives and partners are most welcome.

The cost is **£41.00 pp** and will include:

A Champagne reception on arrival with Live background music

A magnificent 3 course meal with wine on the table.

Our private room is non-smoking and smart attire is requested whilst dining in the evening. Jeans, t-shirts and trainers are not permitted. Smart casual is most acceptable.

Accommodation is available at the reduced rate of £185.00 (normal price £355.00) and this includes Breakfast and the use of facilities. Deluxe Rooms are £250. A list of other local hotels is available.

Please book your accommodation directly with the hotel. Your contact is Leeann at leeann.lennox@armathwaite-hall.com or tel +44 17687 88909.

Please book your meal with me (Darryl).

Cheques or BACS payments must be received as soon as possible to confirm reservation and guarantee a place. This event is likely to be oversubscribed. (If you cancel before Friday 13th February 2026, you will receive a full refund.)

Cheques should be made payable to: 'West Cumbria Branch OSBC' and sent to: Darryl Davies, 5 Marlborough Avenue, High Harrington, Workington. CA14 4NW.

BACS payment Sort Code: 01-09-54 - Account number: 83707689.

Please add your name if paying by BACS.

Contact: Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com or 07970 180751.

London Dinner – May 2026, The Civil Service Club, London.

Following this summer's successful London dinner we are pleased to be returning to the Civil Service Club (13-15 Great Scotland Yard) on **Friday 29th May** for the 2026 dinner. The expected cost is **£55** per person which includes a three-course meal plus wine - a very good price for such a convenient central London location. The venue offers multiple menu choices for each course so there should be something to meet all tastes and dietary requirements! This year we had twenty-six OSBs attend and it would be fantastic if we could beat that number in 2026! Please note that OSBs are also most welcome to bring a guest(s) along.

If you are interested in attending the 2026 dinner then please reach out to **Martin Birkett** (martin.birkett@hotmail.com), who will also be happy to answer any questions you may have.

London Autumn Social Evening (Informal Gathering) - October 2026, The Samuel Pepys, London.

Please keep an eye on future OSB Bulletins and social media posts for information regarding the date and venue for the 2026 autumn event.

Join us for a fun and relaxed evening and a great way to reminisce with old friends and meet new ones.

Contact: Martin Birkett (martin.birkett@hotmail.com).

North East Branch Branch

It is with regret that we have to report that there will be no North East Branch Lunch or Dinner in 2026 as there is currently no one in place to organise an event.

If you are able to help, please do get in touch with either Don Williams at don@kingdomofnorthumbria.co.uk or 07747 778 786, or alternatively the OSB Office at osb@stbeesschool.co.uk or 01946 828093.

Scottish Gathering – September 2026, Edinburgh.

In 2026 we are planning a **combined OSB and OSBGS (Golfing Society) event** to coincide with the Queen Elizabeth golf tournament in Edinburgh. The Golfing Society plan to make the weekend a signature event, opening the opportunity for Old St Beghians (golfing and non-golfing) to join, support and socialise with the team culminating in the evening with an informal social in or near Edinburgh.

Further details will be circulated once the tournament dates are confirmed, but in the meantime, please do get in touch with Tom Wright, the OSBGS Secretary to register your interest or to find out further details: **tomosbgolf@hotmail.com**.

Wanted! - OSB Dinners and Events Photographs

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

Please remember to take your camera and capture the memories!

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

‘Live Music in the Quad’ on OSB Day, June 6th 2026 – Various artists have been invited to perform a mix of music across the genres - **Vicky Davies** (aka Miss Dee) (L 94-99), **Stevie Jennings-Adams** (L 99-06), **Carmen Brown** (G 88-93), **Leanne Fox** (L 94-01), **Maddie Charlton** (18-23) and **Lee Shackley** (Head of Music, St Bees School).

Please do support them and come and join us on the day.

If you are a musician and would like to perform, we would love to hear from you.

Please do get in touch with the OSB office - osb@stbeesschool.co.uk.

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.

Cambridge: J. Braithwaite (John),
Tel: 0771 720 9399. Email: braithwaite.john@icloud.com

Cumbria: D.W. Davies (Darryl),
5 Marlborough Avenue, High Harrington, Workington, Cumbria. CA14 4NW.
Tel: (01946) 831650 or 07970 180 751. Email: darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com.

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

London (Social and Dinner):
M.J. Birkett (Martin) -
Martin – Email: martin.birkett@gs.com.

Manchester: R.P. Calvin (Roy),
The Lymes, Priory Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire. WA14 3BS.
Tel: (0161) 928 9812. Email: rcalvin1@googlemail.com.

North-East: Currently Vacant.
If you are interested in assisting with this position, please do get in touch.

Yorkshire: If you are interested in assisting with this position, please do get in touch with S. Crossley-Smith (Steve),
Garth Cottage, Moor Park Way, Addingham, West Yorks. LS29 0PZ.
Tel: (01943) 830640. Email: crossleysmith@btinternet.com.

Scotland: T.H. MacKay (Tim),
Tel: 0785 008 2583. Email: timmackay5859@gmail.com.

Golfing Society (OSBGS)

Old St Beghians' Golfing Society Report

Tom Wright, the OSBGS Hon. Secretary, has sent in the following Golfing Society Report.

The Cyril Gray Tournament 2025.

Michael Coffey writes:

“This year we were drawn against our regular practice partners and long-time friends – Glenalmond, a team that we used to triumph over ‘back in the day’. Of late they have been in the ascendency.

We did our utmost to field a competitive team including some ‘new blood’.

However, events conspired against us, and it was down to the regulars to go into battle.

The result:

Adrian Peckitt and Andrew Goodwin v Sandy Gray and Richard White: lost 1 down.

Jeff Ellis and Nigel Costeloe v John Bushell and Niall Booker: lost 2 and 1.

Charlie Crummey and Andy Crummey v John Gordon and Jim Patrick: won 1 up.

This was a very narrow loss, with its coming down, as it always does, to a crucial missed putt.

Undoubtedly, we would have triumphed with our original selection!

The somewhat galling thing is that Glenalmond went on to win the entire tournament, and thus giving hope to many other teams. Their victory of course was very well deserved and suitably celebrated. Our role as their practice partners though is now in doubt.

Understandably deflated by our narrow defeat, the next day we did not field even the same reliable team, having to bring a reserve out of retirement to challenge Brighton. Suffice it to say, we were well and truly beaten 3/0.

Overall, it was an enjoyable disappointment. The pre-tournament clubhouse dinner being a social highlight, where one meets and greets (not remembering their names) former opponents and friends, and where the team were joined by the ever present Mike Stamper and OSBGS President Michael Coffey.

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

The Cyril Gray is by far the most friendly and enjoyable past pupils' event. This is partly to do with the fact that all the competitors are over 50, and partly due to the time of year it is played - June. There is also the fact that there are teams of six and that is why we have, over the years, fared better in this event than any other.

Indeed, we won in 1983.

Roll on next year!”

Queen Elizabeth Tournament – Edinburgh

Queen Elizabeth - 2025

In September, St Bees once again attended The Royal Burgess Golfing Society in Edinburgh to play in the QE.

The team consisted of Nigel Costelo, Andy Crummey, Charlie Crummey, Adrian Peckitt, Ben Wilson and Tom Wright.

A good day was had on the course playing alongside Dollar School. Those who stayed on the Friday evening enjoyed an evening meal in the city centre and watched the Women's World Cup Rugby Union semi-final in a central bar.

Photo may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Queen Elizabeth - 2026

The QE is always a highlight in the OSB calendar. The event has been used in many different ways in the past, but always to enjoy great Lothian golf courses and balance the trip with a visit to the iconic city centre.

The QE will return in 2026 and we plan to make the weekend a signature event, opening the opportunity for Old St Beghians (golfing and non-golfing) to join, support and socialise with the team culminating in the evening with an informal social in or near Edinburgh.

Further plans and information on this will be sent out early in the new year, upon confirmation of competition dates. For now, please do reach out to the golfing team for an initial expression of interest, whether in supporting during the weekend on the golf course or meeting in the evening as a non-golfer – but always as a proud OSB.

Critchley Cup - Part 2 - Silloth Golf Club (4th October 2025)

Tom Wright has sent in the following write-up re the Critchley Cup Part 2 which was held at Silloth Golf Club on Saturday 4th October.

“Storm Amy tried its best to cancel the event, but we stayed optimistic as the forecast gave a small glimmer of hope with some sun and dry weather on Saturday afternoon on the North-West Cumbrian coastline.

Although it was a reduced field, seven of the OSBGS played 18 dry holes at Silloth; it was very windy; however the course was playable, scoreable and in fabulous condition.

Group 1: Tom Wright, Adrian Peckitt and Cameron Wood.

Group 2: Michael Gillman, Mike Stamper, Michael Coffey and Andrew Johnston.

It was refreshing to play at Silloth again; some in the group hadn't played the course for many years and had forgotten how good a course it is to play.

Afterwards, the group enjoyed a superb evening meal and social at The Bank in Silloth, completing a great golfing day.

Thanks to those who made lengthy journeys to support the event.

It is hoped that we will return to Silloth at the start of the 2026 season. To any keen OSB interested in joining the OSBGS, this event proves that no matter what the conditions are there will always be another OSB willing to play and a great day will be had by all.”

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

Future Dates:

- Internal **OSB Social** - Silloth Golf Club (TBC ~ **Feb/March 2026**)
- **Halford Hewitt 2026** - practice rounds (**7th & 8th April**), competition (**9th - 12th April**)
- **QE 2026** - The Royal Burgess Golfing Society (TBC ~ **September 2026**)

Further details for outstanding dates will be communicated when confirmed.

A PDF version of the OSBGS Golfing Society Slide Show, presented at the AGM in June 2025, may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/jan26bulletin>.

The Golfing Society (OSBGS) is run on behalf of Old St Beghian golfers.

If anyone is interested in further information or joining the Society, please do get in touch with either Tom Wright, the Secretary or Michael Coffey, the President.

OSBGS Contact Details:

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

Tom Wright, Secretary – tomosbgolf@hotmail.com.

St Bees Golf Club - For further information:

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

01946 824300 or secretary@stbeesgolfclub.co.uk

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

SOCIETY OFFICERS:

President:

D.W. Davies (Darryl)
FS 62-68

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.P. Fox (Anthony)
(G 62-67)

S.J. Calvin (Sara)
(G 77-84)

A.D. Lord (Alastair)
(SH 90-95)

D.W. Davies (Darryl)
(FS 62-68)

D.T. Paul (David)
FN 71-76

J.M.W. Dunn (John)
(FS 64-69)

M.N. Roberts (Mark)
(SH 93-95)

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)

We currently have a few places available on the Committee.

If you are interested in being involved, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact the Secretary or any of the above members for further information.

The next St Beghian Society Committee Meeting – Fri 27th Feb 2026.

The AGM and St Beghians' Day, 2026 – Sat 6th June 2026.

Copy Deadline: As the target month for the next issue of 'The Old St Beghian' is **July 2026**, the Editor would be most grateful if Branch Secretaries and other contributors would let him have their notices and reports by **31st May, 2026**.

**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>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/osbsociety>