

The Lindisfarne Gospels Pilgrimage

September 12-24 2022

A Photo Story



Preparations...

The Lindisfarne Gospels

Laing Art Gallery



In late January 2022, David Pott heard about the exhibition due to take place in Newcastle between September 17 - December 3 and soon after conceived the idea of The Lindisfarne Gospels Pilgrimage.

In March David decided to go ahead after various organisations agreed to back the project including the following....



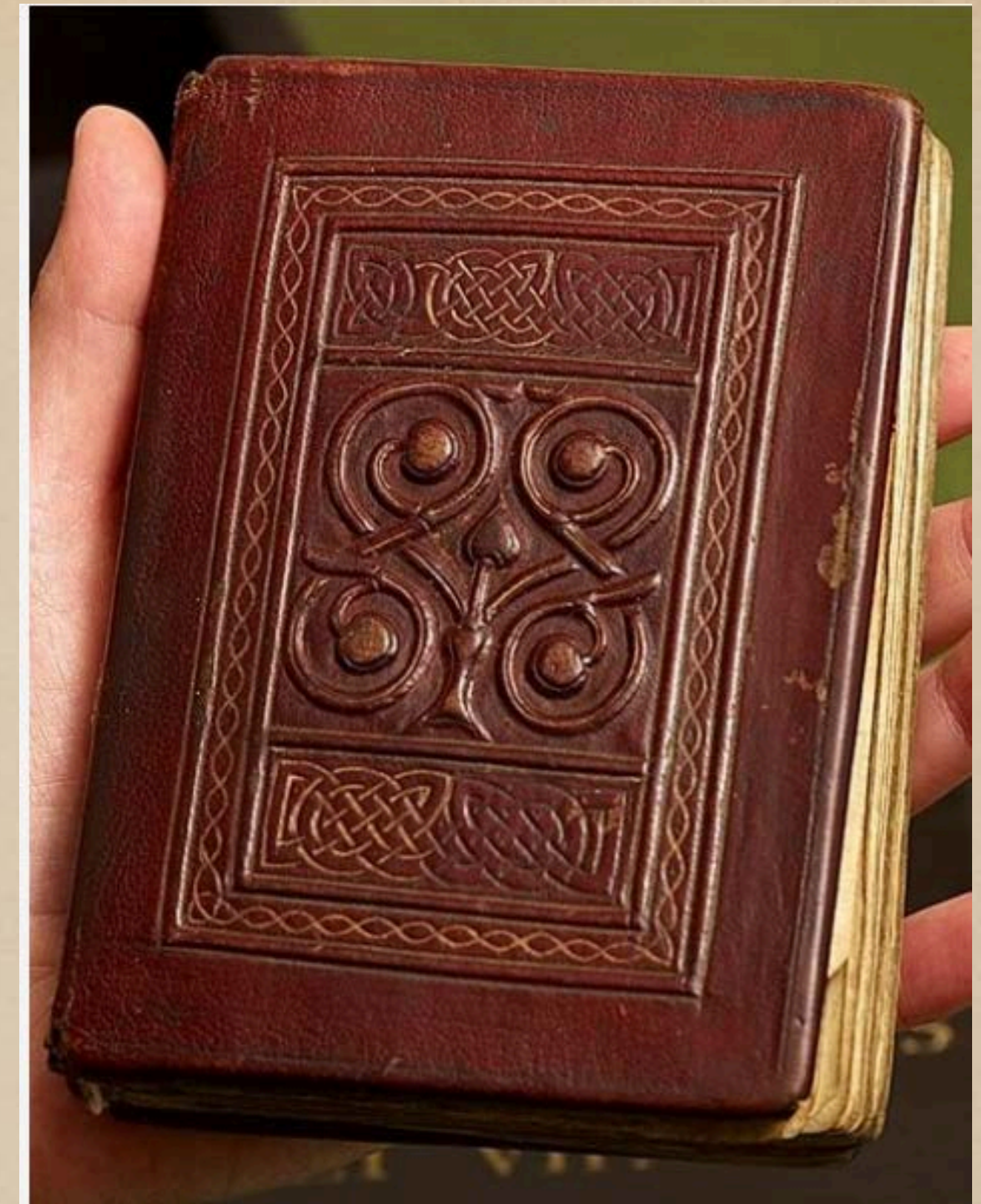
Diocese of Durham



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF NEWCASTLE





The Religious Resources Centre agreed to loan us facsimiles of The Lindisfarne Gospels and St Cuthbert's Gospel of John.

A pouch was especially made for the pilgrimage because we know that during the journeys of St Cuthbert's coffin, it was carried by one of the monks in a pouch around the neck.





A replica of St Cuthbert's coffin was made for the pilgrimage by local artist Jane Crawford and wood worker Colin Hardy.



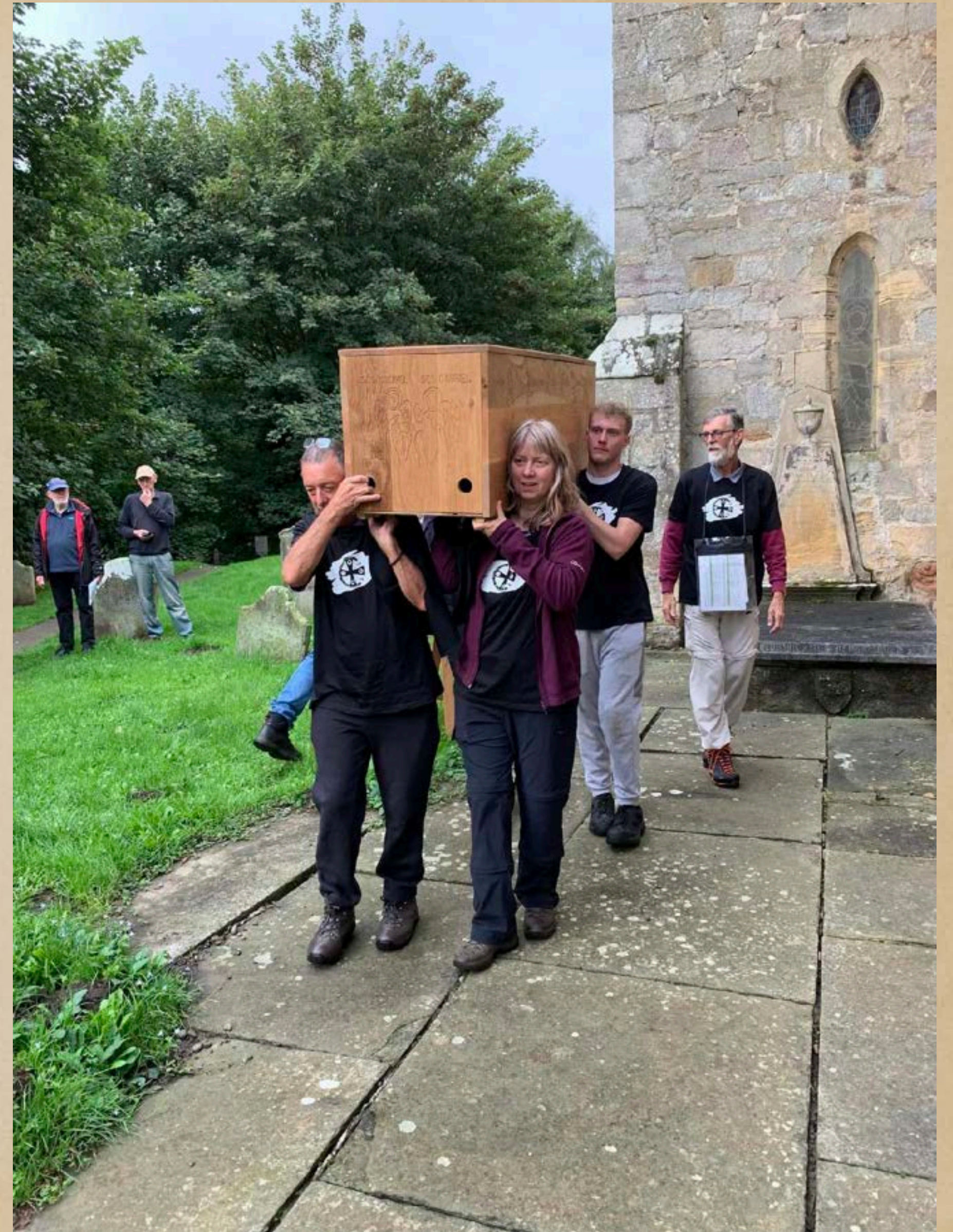
The death of the Queen just four days before the pilgrimage began led to some major adjustments, but it was decided to still go ahead in the confidence that the Queen herself would have wanted it to happen.

Day 1 Monday September 12th - Gainford to West Auckland



Our journey began at St Mary's Well between the River Tees and St Mary's Church in Gainford

There were only five occasions when the coffin was carried in the traditional manner and this was one of them as we carried it from St Mary's Church at the beginning of our pilgrimage.



Setting out with pupils
Gainford Primary
School. We are on our
way at last!





David sharing with pupils at Ingleton and two children with St Cuthbert's Gospel and the pouch.

The Co Durham flag with St Cuthbert's Cross was such a great addition to the pilgrimage. On so many days there was a good breeze which made it more exciting to carry! The black ribbons were to remember the Queen and here they fly well in her honour!



Day 2 Tuesday September 13th - West Auckland to Spennymoor

After meeting with three schools on the village green at West Auckland, children from Oakley Cross Primary School walked with us - the youngest we had on the whole pilgrimage.





Left: walking with pupils from St Chad's School along the Etherley Line. Above: Pupils from St John's School carry the coffin.



A refreshment stop at our house on the warmest day of the pilgrimage.

Day 3 Wednesday September 14th - Spennymoor to Durham



Left: Walking by the Nicky Back Burn with Tudhoe Grange pupils. Centre & right: At Mount Joy and walking down to Durham with pupils from Durham High School for Girls.



Left: Durham High School handover to St Oswald's Primary School.
Right: Walking over Prebend's Bridge with the lid of the coffin.



We had a warm welcome in the cathedral from Canon Michael Everitt who took us to the place where it is most likely that Cuthbert's coffin came when it arrived in Durham in 995.

The coffin stayed overnight beside the tomb of St Cuthbert which was unexpected and very much appreciated!



Day 4 Thursday September 15th - Durham to Pelton



This was the day of few photos probably because we were so busy with presenting in 5 different schools!

Left: Looking back at Durham as we walked with the Chorister School.

Right: With Chester-le-Street Primary school by the bizarre King Cole sculpture!

Day 5 Friday September 16th - Pelton to Newcastle

A very different day with no schools! We arrived at the Angel of the North and were greeted by a wonderful selection of sandwiches provided by the Charltons. Hospitality was outstanding on the whole of the pilgrimage.



We just had to have
a photo of the
angels' side of the
coffin with the Angel
of the North!



It was wonderful to have such a warm welcome at Newcastle Cathedral and to have the coffin rest in the lovely crypt.



Day 6 Saturday September 17th - Newcastle to Killingworth

On the opening day of the Lindisfarne Gospels Exhibition, we walked first from the Anglican cathedral to the Catholic cathedral where we remembered Cardinal Hulme who did much to promote the Northern Saints. On the left is Robert Byrne, the Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle. We carried this banner of St John from the Lindisfarne Gospels.



We also had Dean Geoff from Newcastle Cathedral, Mark Bryant, former Bishop of Jarrow and Canon Eileen Harrop representing Durham Diocese with us. Here we pause at Pilgrim Street before finishing this special ecumenical walk at the Lang Art Gallery.





In the afternoon we paused at St Mary's Well by Jesmond Dene, then walked on to Killingworth passing this lake before arriving at St John's Church.

Day 7 Sunday September 18th - Killingworth to Blyth

It was good to have Sarah Moon, vicar at St John's leading us for the first part of the day via waggonways towards the coast at Seaton Sluice.





In the afternoon, we had a walk on this good path to Blyth with time to talk to people on the way. In the evening we arrived at sunset at our wonderful accommodation aboard the tall ship Williams II!

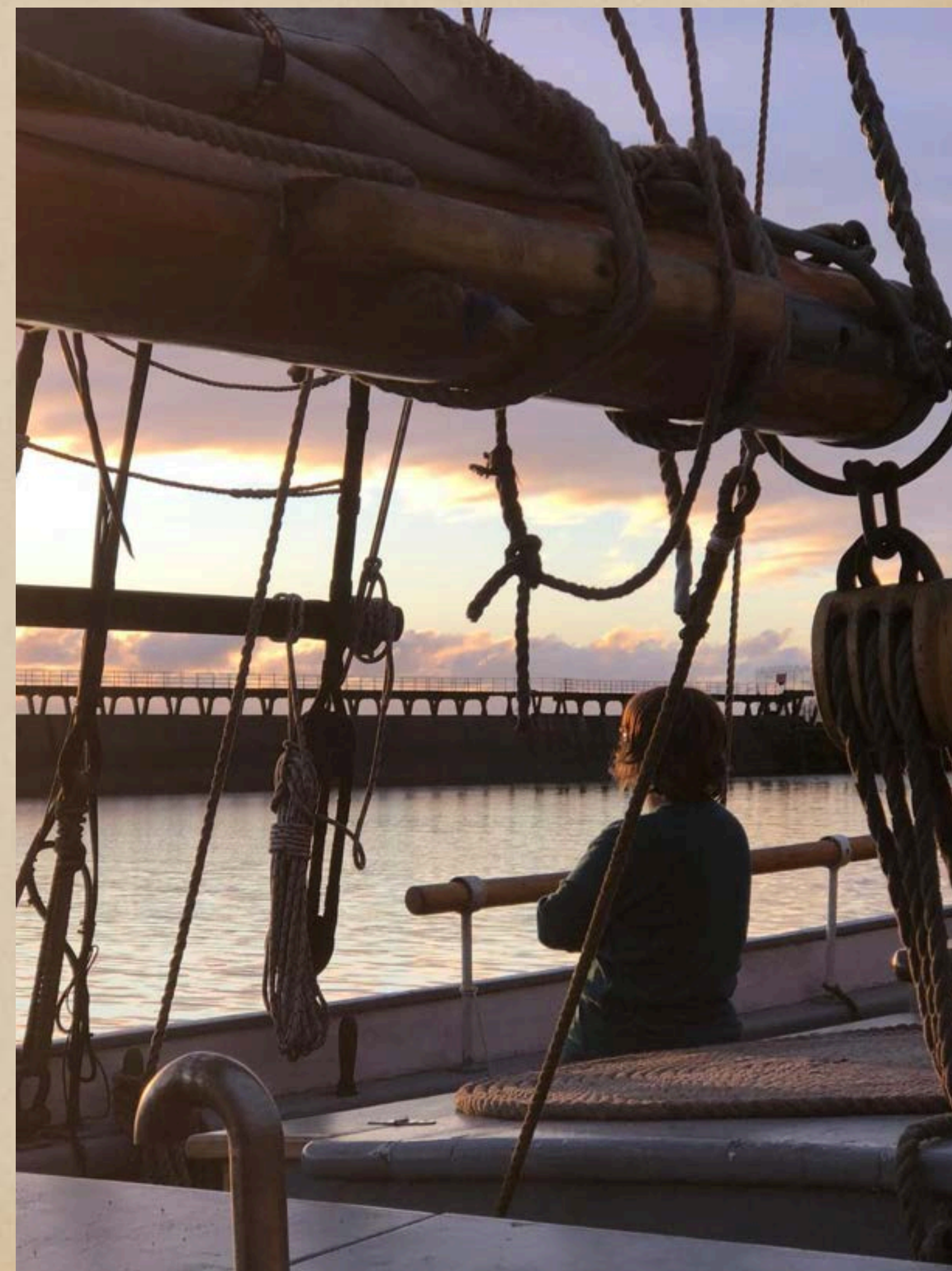


Day 8 Monday September 19th - Blyth to Widdrington



Left: Our day began with our host Clive Gray treating us to a wonderful cooked breakfast!

Right: A quiet moment at sunrise.





Today was the Queen's funeral and when we gave a presentation in Cambois it was good to see St Cuthbert and the Queen together. It was a quiet reflective day as we continued the pilgrimage.

Day 9 Tuesday September 20th - Widdrington to Alnmouth

You can see here how much pupils from Grange View C of E School enjoyed carrying the flag and sensed the privilege of carrying Cuthbert's Gospel.





Left: "Just feel the weight of that!" Those gospels sure are heavy!

Right: Paul Gray explains about the badges before giving them out.

Happy Grange View
pupils all badged up
with Discover The
Lindisfarne Gospels
books after a great
time walking with us.





In the afternoon our pilgrims took an accidental diversion to this hill with a cross marking where St Cuthbert was consecrated as Bishop of Lindisfarne - it was meant to happen!

Day 10 Wednesday September 21st - Alnmouth to Embleton



Our day began at Hipsburn Primary School. We loved having outdoor presentations like this with so much good weather!



We enjoyed refreshments at Craster and walking past Dunstanburgh Castle was a highlight.

Day 11 Thursday September 22nd - Embleton to Bamburgh



Pupils from Embleton School walked with us to Low Newton and for a change we had some rain, but it didn't dampen our spirits. Dunstanburgh Castle was in the background as we walked along the beach.

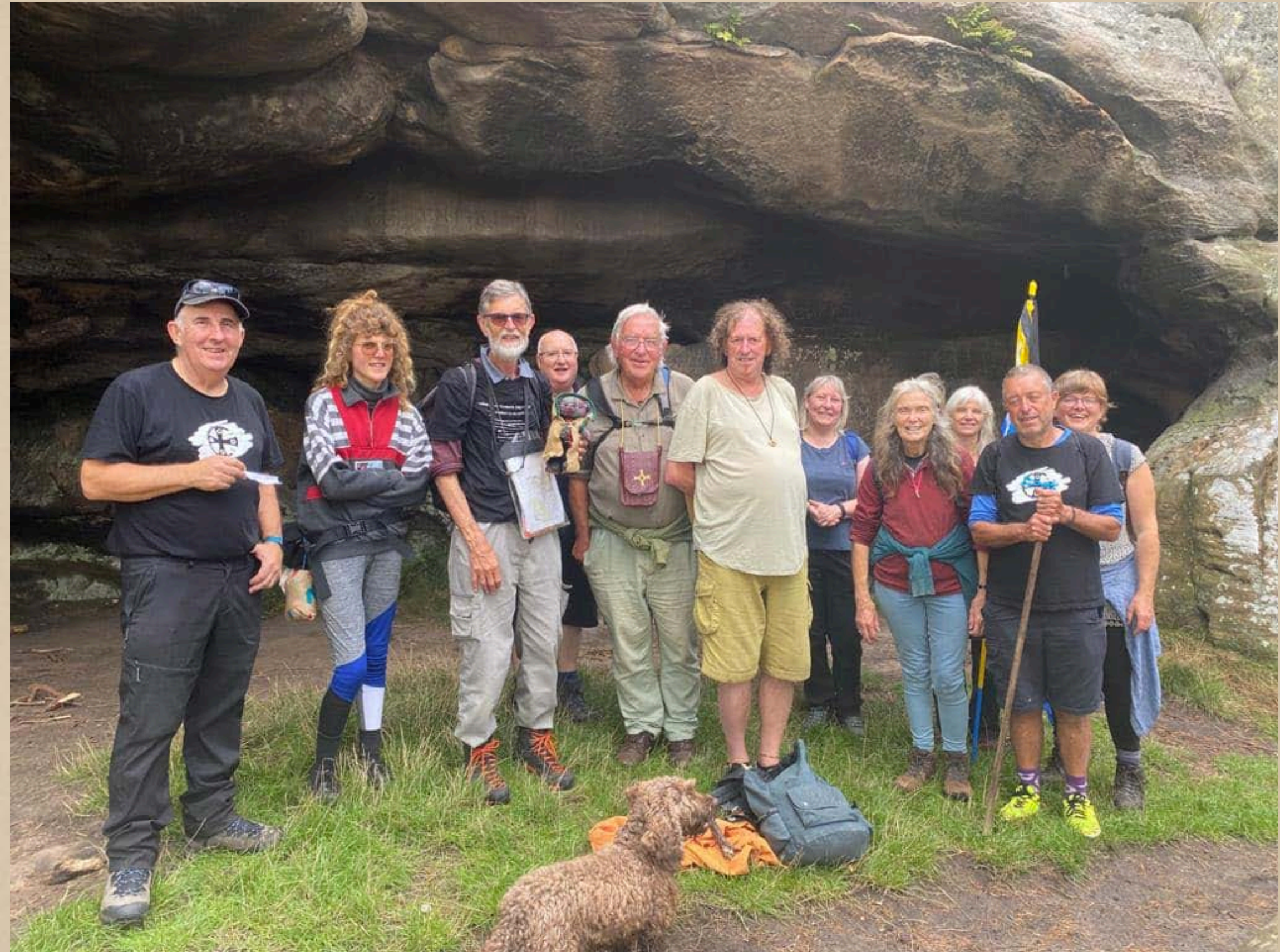


At St Ebba's Church in Beadnell, there was a short service, followed by our sharing about the pilgrimage to members of the congregation and pupils from Ellingham C of E School. We also enjoyed a good lunch before we set off for Seahouses and Bamburgh.



Soon after we had given a presentation at St Aidan's Church in Bamburgh, a late evening shaft of sunlight from the west window lit up the coffin. It was a glorious "saints in the sunlight" moment and this photo doesn't do it justice!

Day 12 Friday September 23rd - Bamburgh to Fenwick



Left: Leaving Bamburgh behind as we walk to Belford for our final school presentation.
Right: We arrive at Cuthbert's Cave.



Left: It's always a great moment to reach the top of the hill above Cuthbert's Cave and see Holy Island.

Right: Walking down to Fenwick with the end in sight.

Day 13 Saturday September 24th - Fenwick to Holy Island



After walking from Fenwick to the Causeway it's off with boots and trainers and time to head for the pilgrim posts!



Left: Paul Gray expressing how we all feel as we walk the last mile! Right: ... and we arrive!



Left: Sarah Pillar anoints David's feet with oil - such a meaningful action.
Right: The flag is still flying with Cuthbert's Island in the background.



Last team photo! On the bench: Dave Hay, Ian Woodrow, Paul Gray, Sarah Hay, Pam Pott & Diola.
On the ground: Thom Hay, Heather Graber, David Pott, Johnny Pozzo, Roy Searle, Rebecca Watkins

The pilgrimage ended with a memorable concert by Canadian singer/songwriter Alana Levandoski and poet Malcolm Guite. Here Malcolm reads his poem about Cuthbert's Gospel as he holds the facsimile in his hand while Alana looks on.



Photo Acknowledgements

Slides 4-6 David Pott,

Slide 8 Judith Pressley

Slide 9 Sarah Hay

Slide 10 David Pott

Slide 11 Judith Pressley & Ingleton Primary School Facebook

Slides 12 & 13 Judith Pressley

Slide 14 Sarah Hay and Emma Ramsey

Slide 15 David Pott

Slide 16 David Pott and Judith Pressley

Slide 17 Judith Pressley and David Pott

Slide 18 Judith Pressley and Sarah Hay

Slide 19 David Pott

Slide 20 Sarah Hay and David Pott

Slides 21 & 22: David Pott

Slide 23 Sarah Hay

Slide 24 David Pott

Slides 25 Sarah Hay,

Slide 26 Sarah Hay and David Pott

Slide 27 Sarah Hay

Photo Acknowledgements

Slide 28 Sarah Hay and David Pott

Slide 29 David Pott and Pam Pott

Slides 31-33 Grange View Primary School Facebook

Slide 34 Heather Graber

Slide 35 Heather Graber and David Pott

Slide 36 David Pott

Slide 37 Heather Graber and David Pott

Slide 38 St Ebba's Church Beadnell Facebook

Slide 39 David Pott

Slide 40 David Pott and Heather Graber

Slides 41 David Pott

Slide 42 David Pott and Pam Pott

Slide 43 David Pott and Pam Pott

Slide 44 Pam Pott and Sarah Hay

Slide 45 Sarah Hay

Slide 46 Pam Pott