

ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL —NEWSLETTER 13.08.23

Safeguarding:

Kathryn and I have recently completed the Lichfield Diocese Safe-guarding Leadership Course and found it thought-provoking and useful. St Chad's has an obligation, as do all churches, to promote a safe, caring culture and environment. Part of this obligation means that we must ensure that all members of our PCC and any members of our congregation who take part in services, pastoral work or who are in anyway involved in the life of the church, are trained using diocese safe-guarding materials. This is necessary to protect ourselves, St Chad's Church and anyone who might be in any way vulnerable.

This Basic Awareness Course can be completed by individuals online
<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/>

However, Kathryn and I would like to invite everyone to complete this Basic Awareness Training in sessions within the church so all training can be completed as a church community. This gives us the opportunity to discuss and also supports those of us who are not keen on technology.

The course will be delivered in St Chad's in two 45-minute sessions on two consecutive weeks. The sessions aim to be informative, interesting and they will mean that St Chad's is fulfilling its obligation to raise awareness of safe-guarding for all members of our congregation.

The dates for your diary are:

Monday, September 25th & Monday, October 2nd - start time 7.30pm (session duration 45 minutes.)

If anyone has any queries or concerns regarding safe-guarding at St Chad's Church please contact me, the Parish Safe-guarding Officer on 07779667470.

We look forward to seeing you at the Basic Awareness Course. Tea and biscuits will be served!

Claire Houston Brown

I am planning a three-day pilgrimage on Friday 18/Saturday 19/Sunday 20 August. It will form a triangle between the ruins of North Staffordshire's three sister-Cistercian Abbeys. We will walk from:

- Croydon Abbey (near Rocester) to Abbey Hulton (Stoke-on-Trent) on Friday 18 August – approximately 16 miles
- Hulton Abbey to Dieulacres (Leek) on Saturday 19 August – approximately 11 miles
- Leek to Croxden Abbey on Sunday 20 August – approximately 16 miles

The members of the pilgrim party will be Bishop of Lichfield Michael Ipgrave, lawyer Ann Fisher, Archdeacon of Stoke-upon-Trent Megan Smith, Methodist Chairs of District Rachel Parkinson and Helen Kirk, Midlands Baptist Regional Minister Adrian Argile and possibly one or two others.

On Saturday 19 August, we will walk from Hulton Abbey (Abbey Hulton) to Bagnall St Chad's and Tomkin Chapel, then on to Longsdon St Chad's, Leek St Edward's and Dieulacres Abbey ruins. I estimate that we would pass through Bagnall during the mid-morning of 19 August.

It would be wonderful if it were possible for you (or someone) to open St Chad's for us to call in and to pray God's blessing on the local congregation. We will not be able to stay long, as was the case last time round, but it will be an important stop on our journey.

Many thanks in advance for your help

Robert Mountford
Ecumenical Officer for Birmingham, the Black Country and Staffordshire
07790 032967

Note from Kath:

The group are due to arrive at St Chad's between 10:45 and 11:00 just for a short time of prayer. it would be really good if there are a few of us there to meet them.

Kynren—An epic Tale of England

The thought went through my head, 'Why am I here?' It was dark, cold and pouring with rain. I am sitting on a wet seat in the open air covered in two plastic bin liners as a protection against the elements! I look around in front of me is a large stretch of grass land which is overlooked from on high by the Bishop of Durham's Palace. I have got the dramatic scene I now await the action.



A small boy, Arthur, runs across the grass to his grandfather who tells him that he will tell him the story of this Islands. Then suddenly out of nowhere, just in front of me appears a lake with boats full of Roman Soldiers, the invasion has begun!

Boudicca faces the foe in her chariot. The Romans are successful and buildings and roads appear to replace the grass. This is quickly followed by a second battle with Saxons fighting the Vikings at Stamford Bridge.

The violence subsides and there are scenes of tranquillity set in a very rural setting. There are horse and carts, hay makers, maypole dancers, and a gaggle of geese pass by me only feet away.

Then another quick change as the large build towards the edge of the field amazingly rotates to reveal King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. There follows the magical encounter of the King and the Lady of the Lake as he drew the sword Excalibur from the stone.

Next the Tudors are the centre of attraction with a joust and horses galore.



The mood of the extravaganza changes as it enters the Industrial Revolution with colliers working in the mines and then out of the mist emerged a full size Stephenson' Rocket. People in the carriages were dressed in Victorian costume and waving their flags. The train disappears and the searchlights focus on the castle wall to show pictures and hear sounds and speeches from WW1 and WW2 and finally there was the Queen waving to us all. I was still very, very wet and cold but it was well worth the discomfort as it was such an amazing production with so many people, animals, scene changes coloured lights and a wonderful commentary, 'what more could one ask?'

Danny Boyle who choreographed the opening ceremony of the London Olympics in 2012 was producer of 'kynren' and Kevin Whitely famous for his role in the TV series 'Lewis' was the commentator. A journey to Bishop Auckland to see the fabulous 'Kynren' would be well worth it.

Anne and Brian

Drinking from the saucer:

My cousins' grandmother always drank her coffee like this!

I thought it was because it was too hot.

Do you remember older generations drinking from their saucer?

Then today I came across this poem that made me feel there was symbolism to the coffee ritual.



Drinking from My Saucer

by John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow.

And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I don't have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough.
But I've got loved ones around me, and that makes me rich enough.

I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.

So God, help me not to gripe about the tough rows that I've hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.

And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.
Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.



Love and God bless, Leonie x

