

PRESS RELEASE

13th November 2018

Immediate use

Pilgrims Festival 2018 – Worksop Priory – “Music at the Priory”

Monday 19th & Friday 23rd November 2018

At Worksop Priory, there will be two music events, each starting at 7.00pm, with a talk about the Priory and its links to the Separatists. Each event is £10pp on entry, including a mince pie and mulled wine.

On Monday 19th November, medieval harpist Leah Stuttard will perform her programme “Sacred Fragments” made up from 13th and 14th century sacred music from England played on a sweet and angelic harp with readings interspersed from the medieval mystic Julian of Norwich, a poem from a commonplace book on the shortness of life, and comedy from one of the Towneley plays. The guiding idea behind this programme is the fact that so much English music from the Middle Ages is preserved only in very random and fragile ways – in fragments.

On Friday 23rd November, The Doncaster Waites will play music from the streets at the time of the Separatists. They are an early music group based in the town of Doncaster and take their name from the bands of musicians who used to be employed by local corporations as town musicians, “The Waites”. The music they play is generally centred around the first half of the 17th century, the time when the first detailed accounts of the original Doncaster Waites appear in the archives. Their costume is also based on these accounts and the men accurately represent how the original Waites would have looked at that time.

Pilgrims Art Exhibition – Babworth Church – 17th & 18th November

This year’s Pilgrims Art Exhibition will be on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th November. This will be the third year that Babworth Church has held the Pilgrims Art Exhibition, which is part of the Pilgrims Festival commemorating the Mayflower Pilgrim Families’ journey to the New World, as part of the countdown to 2020, the 400th anniversary.

All work on display in Babworth Church has been inspired by the Separatist and Mayflower Pilgrims story. Any artists may provide their work which should be delivered to Babworth Church on Friday 16th November between 2.00pm and 4.00pm with a short identifying summary.

The Art Exhibition will be open to the public from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday 17th November and between 12.00noon and 4.00pm on Sunday 18th November. Entry to the event is free, refreshments are available for a small charge, and donations to the Church are always welcome. There will be an artist and embroiderer working during the weekend so you can see how it is done!

On Saturday 17th November at 11.00am, local author and historian, Adrian Gray will be giving a talk about the Separatists during the Art Exhibition in Babworth Church. This will include information about Richard Bernard, Vicar of Worksop Priory, and co-collaborator with the Separatists – find out Worksop’s connection with New England’s foundations.

There are also parade and performance events at Bawtry on 18th, at Retford on 20th, at Gainsborough on 21st, and at Scrooby on 22nd November.

Bassetlaw Christian Heritage is organising this year’s activities in Bassetlaw, North Nottinghamshire, working as part of the Pilgrim Roots consortium, supported by the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham.

To find out more about the story, The Hub in Churchgate, Retford, has a Pilgrims Museum that contains an overview of the Mayflower Pilgrims and their roots in Bassetlaw, North Nottinghamshire (adults £2.50, up to 3 accompanied children free).

Information is also available at www.bassetlawchristianheritage.com.

Notes to editors

Bassetlaw Christian Heritage (BCH)

BCH focuses on the people and their stories, based on faith heritage, in the region centred on Retford, with a radius of around 30 miles, including Bassetlaw, North Nottinghamshire, and parts of Lincolnshire and South Yorkshire.

BCH works collaboratively with groups and individuals, and if anyone would like to help in any way, please contact them at contact@bassetlawchristianheritage.com.

Website at: www.bassetlawchristianheritage.com.

BCH is grateful to the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham, the Rotary Club of Retford, Retford Civic Society, Retford Lions and District Councillor Carolyn Troop for their support.

Photographs of previous years’ events are provided/available

For further information please contact Rick Brand at rickbrand@hotmail.com or 01427 891376.