

The Leek and Meerbrook Team Ministry and the
Hermione Warren Trust seek to appoint a

Warden for St Chad's Retreat House



**St Chad's House,
3 Southfields, Leek, Staffordshire, ST13 5LR**

About St Chad House



View from the sitting room at St Chad's

St Chad's is a retreat house left to the church and town by a local Christian lady, Hermione Warren, whose wish was that the house be used as a place of healing and retreat. It is run in a style that draws from the traditions of Celtic spirituality.

A body of trustees oversees the legacy and the maintenance of the house but the day to day running depends on voluntary donations.

The house has a chapel and a well-stocked library with books on the healing ministry and Celtic spirituality. There is a sitting room with lovely views of the Ladydale valley.

St Chad's resident warden is supported by the Leek and Meerbrook Anglican staff team.

What does St Chad's offer?



Lounge in guest accommodation

A spacious house in a quiet location (not off the beaten track)
Open views and nearby walks

Quiet Days

Drop in afternoons

Facilities for small groups to meet (usually a maximum of around 12 people)

Parish groups, individuals or friends are all welcome.

Short stay accommodation in a self-contained flat on the first floor of the house for a person or couple in need of rest and refreshment.

Food and drink available on request.

The Vision for St Chad's House

To be a place of prayer for healing of individuals, communities and nations.

To be a place where people can come for quiet and spiritual refreshment.

To be a place where soul friends meet and share their journeys

To be a place that provides facilities for studies in Celtic Spirituality



St Chad's Library

Warden of St Chad's House, Leek

Job Description

1. Appointment

This is a House-for-Duty post open to both clergy and lay people and to an individual or couple. The honorary Warden is appointed by the tenant of St. Chad's House (The Leek and Meerbrook Team Ministry) subject to endorsement by the owners (The Hermione Warren Trust).

2. Aim

To manage St. Chad's House as a centre for the ministry of prayer, healing, hospitality and spiritual formation.



Entrance Hall

3. Duties

1. Maintain, when possible, a daily rhythm of house prayer drawing on resources from the Anglican and Celtic traditions.
2. Host the weekly Team Staff Meeting at 9.15am on Monday mornings and occasionally other Team initiatives such as for example Lent Courses or Confirmation Preparation Courses as agreed.
3. Plan and lead twice monthly quiet days and "one-off" events with outside speakers/leaders.
4. Offer the ministry of listening and prayer for healing.
5. Host day meetings of groups from local churches.
6. Offer hospitality to individuals and groups using the House through the provision of simple meals and ensuring the house is kept clean and welcoming.
7. Develop awareness of St. Chad's through the local church and other networks and keep local churches informed of news and events through posters, leaflets and by email and the internet.
8. Develop a 'Friends of St. Chad's Group' (who give practical, prayer or financial support) through personal and local church contacts. Plan awareness and fundraising events such as coffee mornings, garden parties etc.
9. Network with secular groups to offer support to the community.
10. Keep accounts and submit these to the Chair of the Hermione Warren Trustees.
11. Work with the Vicar of All Saints who will be Chaplain to the House.
12. Other activities as deemed appropriate.

4. The Person

The Warden will be someone who:

- ❖ is committed to growing and deepening their own life of prayer and that of others
- ❖ is confident in offering hospitality and welcome to those who visit the house whatever their background
- ❖ has the capacity to listen to others and is confident in his or her own Christian faith
- ❖ is sympathetic to both the Anglican and Celtic traditions of spirituality
- ❖ can create a space in which people can experience the healing power of God for themselves
- ❖ is confident in leading simple acts of worship and delivering regular quiet days
- ❖ is a team player and an effective communicator

5. Management, Support and Finance

1. The Warden will be a member of the Leek and Meerbrook Staff Team and will attend the weekly staff meeting on Mondays at 9.15am.
2. The Warden will be immediately responsible to the Team Rector and they will meet as required to review the work of the House.
3. The Warden will be offered help in setting up an informal support group if needed.
4. The Warden will establish a pattern of working and rest days in consultation with the Team Rector.

5. Holiday entitlement will be six weeks per annum.
6. The Warden will meet periodically with the Trustees to report on the work of the house.
7. The Warden is provided with free accommodation: water and council tax and repairs of house equipment and utilities are met by the owners. The cost of gas, electricity and telephone is paid half by the Warden and half by the House Account.
8. There is no salary with this post but money paid into the St. Chad's House Account is available to cover running costs (these monies include donations from guests, Friends of St. Chad's, churches, fund raising etc.).

The Leek and Meerbrook Team Ministry

The Leek Team Ministry in the Church of England Diocese of Lichfield was established in 1979 with the Parishes and Benefices of St Edward's with St John's, All Saints and St Luke's with St Paul's uniting together at that time. The Parish of St Matthew's united with the new Parish of Leek in 1983 to create the present Parish and Benefice of Leek and Meerbrook.

There is great diversity within the Team with space for a wide variety of Christian spirituality. We value the distinctive contribution made by each congregation. Each district is responsible for its own mission and ministry but, where appropriate, we pool resources and work together.

The team of ministers consists of the Team Rector and the two Team Vicars. Each of the four former parishes is designated a District with its own elected District Church Council, with the PCC being the legal entity for the Parish. Various functions relating to the Districts are delegated to the DCC as appropriate.

You can find out more about the life of the Team by going to www.leekparish.org.uk

The Town of Leek

The North Staffordshire market town of Leek is located some 12 miles north-east of the city of Stoke-on-Trent in the Staffordshire Moorlands, bordering on Derbyshire, Cheshire and the Peak National Park. Leek lies within the parliamentary constituency of Staffordshire Moorlands and the area is administered by the Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and Leek Town Council.

It is an area of outstanding beauty with a mixture of rugged crags, meandering river valleys, lakes, woodlands and rolling pastureland. Farming is prevalent within the area, particularly with livestock. The town's charm and the area's beauty are the cause of an expanding tourist industry discovering this part of England.

Historically a mill town, in recent years the dyeing and manufacturing mills have reduced to be replaced by commerce and other light industry providing employment for the 20,000 inhabitants.

Each Wednesday, and latterly on a Saturday, a market that dates back to King John is held in the town square and other places in the town centre. The livestock market is held also on Tuesday and this is now on the outskirts of the town. The shopping areas have a variety of shops catering for every requirement with a healthy balance of independent and nationally known retailers.

The education system, which includes 4 church schools linked to the Parish, gives results higher than the national average. It has a First, Middle and High School system, ages of transfer being 9 and 13 years, with both of the two high schools, Westwood and Leek High, running successful 6th Forms. The town also has a vibrant college offering a range of courses both full time and vocational.

Applications for this post should be made on the form provided and sent to the Team Rector by post to Revd Nigel Irons, 24 Ashenurst Way, Leek, ST13 5SB or by email to stewardisleek@hotmail.com and should be submitted by Monday 15th July 2019.

Arrangements to visit the house and ask more questions about the post can be made by contacting the present Warden Mr Mike Fitzsimmons by email at stchadsleek@gmail.com or by telephone on 01538 3824873.