



Leading from the 2nd Chair At Launde Abbey

What!!! Subordinate!!!! What a hooaaa, this word caused the first evening. After a lot of debate on the negative side of the word and then the positives given in response, the weekend took on a different feeling. I felt that I wanted to go home when the negativity started, as I have enough of that at home; but I found my voice and gave some positivity back. I always feel that I can talk freely about God and how he can help us all if only we let him.

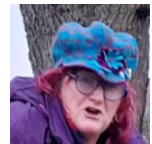
The worship that took place in the chapel was really serene and spiritual. I really felt the holy spirit was with us. Launde Abbey has that effect on me anyway. I just love it there as I feel enveloped in God's loving arms. His presence is in the brickwork, the grounds and the people who greet you when you first arrive.

It was lovely to catch up with friends that I did my training with and ones I don't see as much as we are so spread out. I also met some new people but couldn't have a chat with them like we would over lunch etc as we had covid restrictions in place. But I felt we all gelled and had fun during the time we had spent together.

The training sessions were interesting as it gave a different slant on what we would already be doing anyway. It gave us an insight of what the new changes will be for all of us when TTCT comes into play. We all may have different leaders/incumbents as we may have to help other parishes besides the ones we are in now. I felt that this change could be good for us as some are stuck in their ways and only want to do things their way; but actually we have to be adaptable to our calling and how we can spread the good news throughout His kingdom.

In our time out on Saturday afternoon, I really didn't want to be on my own so I joined Sally and others to go for a walk even if the weather was drizzly. It was rather muddy or boggy in places but we had some fun especially when we had to step over an electric fence. It was ok if you were tall but it was a bit dicey for those who had shorter legs. The going down the ravines were rather slippery in places but it was good to get some fresh air and not have to wear your mask. Even the fence climbing was interesting when we found a style had been taken away. I'm sure you will have seen some of the pictures that John Marshall had taken.

The worship we had together was really lovely and I enjoyed the singing too.
(all with masks on of course, as well as doors and windows open 😊)



We were fed extremely well as always; the food was fantastic even at elevenses the cookies were really delicious. I also loved the afternoon cake too. The drinks cabinet was also good and available day and night when ever you wanted it. We were away after all. It was lovely to have been given the freedom to use the facilities of the house as well as the facilities of the stables.

Thank you to all who were there; it was a lovely experience yet again. I love these weekends away, it gives you the freedom to be you and not what everyone expects of you.

Love Sandy Riley
Reader of the West Grimsby Team