

TWO SAINTS WAY PROJECT

News Update
February 2011



Dear friends,

After a fairly quiet patch up to the New Year, things have really started to move with the project.

Here are some of the encouragements to share with you...

- As you will see, the logo is now finally determined. We are very pleased with the way it includes St Chad's cross and the goose symbol of St Werburgh and also the way that it combines the historical references with a feeling of contemporaneity. We are grateful to Destination Staffordshire for paying for this initial work and glad that the designer Richard Merritt will be continuing to assist with branding as the project develops.
- We are now properly set up as a not for profit company limited by guarantee – this is important as we make funding applications.
- We have set up a bank account with HSBC here in Stone.
- The website domain www.twosaintsway.org.uk has been purchased and the site is being built by Lichfield District Council's web designer as a contribution to the project.
- The Project Plan and the budget have both been revised. I am so grateful to Marg Hardcastle for her help with the Project Plan and Andrew Burman's help with the budget.
- Nantwich Town Council have agreed to contribute £1,000 when we are ready for signage and interpretation in the town.
- The Anchor Foundation have given a second grant of £3,000 to the project.
- You will notice that I am using “we” a lot and that is very right. I am so glad that Tim Saxton agreed to be a co-director of the Two Saints Way and his help is invaluable. He is also the treasurer. I am also so grateful for the help that others on the steering committee have given.

So, as you can see there are many things to be grateful for!

I am so aware that good relationships are critical in order to set up the Two Saints Way successfully. I have recently been reading a book called “Walking the Story” by Jane Leach about her experience of walking the Camino pilgrimage route to Santiago. What strikes me is the richness of relationships and some very special experiences of hospitality. If that is what we want as the end product, it needs to be central right the way through in the preparations. An example is in the area of finance – so often that is divorced from relationships. Funding projects like the Two Saints Way will be increasingly challenging in these days of cutbacks, but as the examples above show, the good will engendered through relationships is critical to achieving our goals.

Here are some other things to inform you about with the regard to where we are heading in the coming weeks...

- With regard to funding, Tim Saxton & I will have an initial meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund in Birmingham on February 16th. We are likely to start there and also apply for funding elsewhere.

- To support funding applications we need to strengthen partnerships and have more letters of support. Last week I sent out some partnership forms and I have already received some back with supporting letters. Others have said they will respond after meetings.
- We are seeking for letters of agreement regarding the proposed route from the four Rights of Way officers. The first one has just come in from Cheshire East.
- We would like to set up a 'Friends of the Two Saints Way' group. I am thinking of launching it on my 65th birthday which is May 2nd by walking 65 kilometres on the day along the Two Saints Way from Stoke Minster to Lichfield Cathedral and aiming to raise a minimum of 65 friends! Watch this space...

Finally, some ways you may be able to help...

1. If you are linked to an organisation that might like to partner with the Two Saints Way Project, do let me know.
2. As I have said, building relationships is vital. If you know people (especially close to the route) who need to know about it please let me know. We are especially keen to make links with schools and with local councils. I am happy to come and share a powerpoint presentation about the project if you are associated with a group who would be interested. I can also email you introductory information if you want to make the first contact rather than myself.
3. I am collecting material for the meditation guide to go along with the guide book. If you have any material you think might be suitable, please let me know.

You will see below that I have a new email address for Two Saints Way – twosaintsway@gmail.com also works. My personal email dlpott@gmail.com will still work fine, but I am endeavouring to switch my Two Saints Way involvement to the new one, so if you want to email me about that, it would be helpful to use that address but it's no big problem if you forget!

Your support is very much appreciated.

With best wishes,

David

David Pott
Project Leader

144 Oulton Road,
Stone, Staffs,
ST15 8DR

t: 01785 286 474

e: admin@twosaintsway.org.uk

www.twosaintsway.org.uk

Two Saints Way Project is not for profit company
limited by guarantee, company no.7483349