



## Andresey Lodge No.6408

### **WHAT'S IN A NAME**

Geoffrey – Sixth Abbot of Burton, who died in 1151, wrote a 'Life of St Modwen', the manuscript of which is in the British Museum, reference Royal MS 15 BIV

This manuscript quotes Pinaeus:

*'But when St Modwen had come to the river Trent, which flows past Mount Calbus, which in English is called Calbe-cliffe (now Scalpelcliffe) they built there a church consecrated to God and St Andrew, which place is called Andresey because it is a small island .. and after they returned from Rome, they built a church on the other side of the water at the foot of Mount Calbus in honour of St Peter and St Paul (now St Peter's Stapenhill), and God wrought many miracles near the aforesaid river. And after the Abbess had blessed them she returned to Ireland, but Althea dwelt in Andresey as the Holy Abbess had appointed, for she was recognised as Abbess. According she requested that she might remain with them. In the great and long wood of Arderne she constructed three churches; the fourth was in a certain Island in the River Trent which flows near to Mount Calbus.'*

St Modwen spent seven years at the church with two Irish nuns called Lazar and Althea. St Modwen, with her two companions went on a pilgrimage to Rome and on their return built another church on the Stapenhill side of the river (near to where St Peter's Church now stands). They are attributed with performing many miracles on Andresey Island particularly those connected with eyesight. The well on the site was said to have extensive healing properties.

When St Modwen left Burton, she returned to Scotland and founded many religious houses, one being at St Andrews Isle (Ardrossan near Salcoat). When St Modwen died at Langfortin in Scotland, her body was brought to Burton for burial, her tomb being on Andresey. The inscription on her shrine is preserved in The Abbey Church.

The Benedictine Monastery in Burton (Burton Abbey) was founded in 1004AD and dedicated to the Virgin and St Modwen. Ironically therefore, **Andresey** existed first and was used to introduce Christianity to the area by **St Modwen** and 300 years later came Burton **Abbey**.

In Burton Lodge history, **Abbey Lodge** was consecrated in 1854 followed by its daughter Lodge **St Modwen** in 1926 and then by its second daughter Lodge **Andresey** in 1947.