

Lichfield City HISTORICAL TREASURE

Hunt



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Simply follow the map to complete the missing sentences whilst exploring this beautiful historical city as a family. Pushchair & wheelchair friendly, don't forget to tag us in #NurtureCommunity



1

Lichfield Cathedral, the only three spired medieval cathedral in England. Mainly built during theto..... century, but a building in place here since the 8th century dedicated to Saint Chad, first Bishop of Lichfield. Badly damaged during the English Civil War, during which the main central spire collapsed.



2

The statue of the Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus on the West Front porch of the cathedral. The West Front was redesigned in the late 19th century and there are over statues on the West Front alone, most of the crafted by local stonemason's Bridgeman and Sons of Quonians Lane (see photo 8).



3

On the left corner of the West Front is a burial stone for Henry Williams, a scaffolder, who fell to his death from foot high while working on the West Front statues in the 1880s. His workmates obtained permission from the Cathedral to bury him where he had fallen to ground. They used a stone slab from the cathedral and carved his workman's spade alongside his name.



4

The Bishop's Palace at the end of the Dean's Walk. Built in after the original Palace was destroyed in the English Civil War. Two extension wings were added at the end of the 19th century. The Bishop's of Lichfield only lived here for about 100 years, residing mainly at Eccleshall Castle near Stafford, it is now home to the Lichfield Cathedral School.



5

Lichfield Speakers Corner by Minster Pool was officially opened in by the BBC newsreader George Alagiah and is the second most used Speakers' Corners in the country, after Hyde Park in London. Anyone can speak at the corner at any time and regular speaking events are held throughout the year.



6

The Causeway House on Dam Street. A causeway is a strip of raised land between two areas of water and Dam Street is separated by two bodies of water, Minster and Stowe Pools. The street used to flood regularly duringtimes, with pilgrims having to use boats to cross Minster Pool to reach the cathedral.



7

Dame Oliver was Samuel Johnson's first school teacher when he was about old. He was her favourite pupil and when he left for London many years later, she gave him a leaving present of gingerbread biscuits. It is now the site of the Truly Scrumptious sweet shop.



8

The former workshop of Robert Bridgeman in Lichfield's , Quonians, off Dam Street. Bridgeman's were stonemasons, and woodcarvers responsible for hundreds of statues and wood carvings across Lichfield and the rest of the country. Many of the statues on the West Front of the cathedral were by Bridgeman's craftsmen.



9

The statue of James Boswell in front of St Mary's Church on the market square. Boswell, a Scottish Lord, was a friend of

..... and he and Samuel travelled around the country, mainly on foot, including up to the Outer Hebrides in Scotland. His autobiography of Johnson provides lots of information and stories about Lichfield's greatest son.



10

A panel on the statue of Samuel Johnson on the shows a young Samuel being lifted up and carried on the shoulders

of his school friends. Samuel was very sickly and weak as a child and struggled to walk too far, relying on the help of his friends.



11

The Guildhall was where the Lichfield Guild's, essentially local businessmen and merchants, met

to decide on the rules, regulations and punishments of local and national government. Parts of the building date back to the and to the rear are the Guildhall cells where prisoners were held. The cells included a condemned cell, where prisoners were held before being taken for execution, which was often hanging.



12

To the right of the Guildhall is Donegal House, a Georgian building built in Jutting out from Donegal House is a

clock, presented to the City of Lichfield by Mrs Michael Swinfen-Broun, of Swinfen Hall, in 1928. The building is now home to Lichfield City Council, the Lichfield Festival and Lichfield Arts.



13

Lichfield House, more commonly known as the Tudor of Lichfield, is another of Lichfield's oldest buildings, built in

It was used to house prisoners of war, both Royalist and Parliamentarians, during the English Civil War and the chain fixings, and prisoners' graffiti, can still be seen in the cellars. It is now a restaurant and confectionery shop.



14

The shop front at Golunski Leather at the top of Market Street, has a fabulous bow window. The building, which is Grade II listed,

was built at the end of the For many years it was WJ Mercer Leather goods shop, the street was known as Saddler Street (leather working) in the 15th century. The shop is now renamed but is still run by members of the Mercer family.



15

Pom's Kitchen and Deli is one of many restaurants, pubs and cafes on Bird Street, now the dining quarter of Lichfield. Bird Street

was on the main between London and Liverpool during the Georgian coaching era and many coaches and travellers stopped on Bird Street for accommodation and refreshments.



16

One of several coaching inns on Bird Street was the Swan Hotel. The pubs used to 'compete' for coaches and entice them to stop

at their inn rather than the oppositions. This sometimes resulted in between the stable hands of the pubs, accusing each other of stealing a coach that had been destined for their rival's venue!



17

The Road and Path Cycling Association sign on the old Swan Inn, now restaurant, is one of only a handful that

remain across the country. The Association ran for a number of years at the end of the 19th century, when cycling was very popular, just before the influx of motor vehicles.



18

The toilet blocks on the junction of Swan Road and Bird Street, by Beacon Park museum gardens, were originally built in

and timbers from the old Franciscan Friary were used in its construction. The Friary, built originally in the 13th century, was demolished in 1538 as part of the Dissolution of the Monasteries during the reign of King Henry VIII.



About Jono

Jono is a tour guide, local Lichfield historian and general 'Man About Town'! Outside of Lockdown he provides history tours and presents talks to groups and organisations. He is the author of the A to Z of Lichfield book, telling the history of Lichfield through the letters of the alphabet, and also writes regular history features for the monthly Citylife in Lichfield magazine.

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Well done!

for completing

Lichfield City

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- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 18. 1930 | 9. Samuel Johnson |
| 17. Ash Italian | 8. oldest street |
| 16. punch-ups | 7. 5 years |
| 15. coaching route | 6. medieval |
| 14. 19th century | 5. 2009 |
| 13. 1510 | 4. 1687 |
| 12. 1730 | 3. 40 |
| 11. 14th century | 2. 100 |
| 10. market square | 1. 12th to 16th |
- Answers