

# Cistercian Monks

Arrive in Stoneleigh 1155



A group of hermits established at Radmore in Staffordshire, converted into an abbey of the Cistercian Order. The monks, however, were so much interfered with by the foresters that immediately upon the accession of Henry II in 1154 they petitioned him to transfer them to his manor of Stoneleigh. This he did, settling them first at Cryfield, where they found the proximity of the road from Coventry to Warwick too distracting. He accordingly gave them a new site, surrounded on two sides by the River Avon and on the north by the Echills Wood. The first stone of the abbey church was laid on 13 April 1155. Nothing of this now remains.