

Branston U3A Croquet Club on tour 2019

Our croquet group are a very active and competitive group. We participate in the East Midlands Federation league with two teams in the second division, the B team having been promoted this year .

At one local league match we were told of The Ripon Spa Hotel. The hotel, which is managed by two croquet internationals, has a distinct 1930's character about it, with four croquet lawns laid out in front of the terrace, it was perfect for croquet enthusiasts. Wendy Wilcox offered to arrange a visit for our members if we would like to go. Fifteen members and two guests signed up for the visit.

We arrived at lunchtime on Sunday 19th of May, and the sound of mallet on ball was soon underway as we enjoyed the flat smooth grass to which our home lawns are aspiring but still have a little way to go. Some of our group also participated in a coaching session run by Fergie Thompson the resident international.

Stuart Worsnop did a great job of organising various friendly competitions on each of the three days we were there. This ensured that everyone played everyone else which was a great learning experience for a novice such as myself. By 3:00pm on Tuesday in the words of one of our members we were 'croqueted out' so it was time to set off home again.

All of us thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and we hope that perhaps this will become an annual event. It would never have happened without the organising skills of Wendy and Stuart so on behalf of everyone who attended many, many thanks to you both.

Judy Crowe



A.A.M. History group

“a man without blemish”

For our June meeting Sue and Trevor took the A.A.M. History group on a magical mystery tour of three medieval deserted villages with Anglo-Saxon associations and surviving churches. We started at Rand where we could easily discern the junction of Roman roads and site of medieval settlement. Even more remote was Goltho. All that remains there is the fire damaged chapel, although we were able to pick up fragments of tiles and pottery as we crossed the prairie like wheat fields. After lunch we concluded our tour at Linwood near Market Rasen, recorded in Domesday Book with a church, two manors and a water mill held by Alfred of Lincoln and Durand Malet. The population then was 165. Little remains but the church partly hidden in woodland. It is Grade 1 listed, has 12th century origins and is the only remaining church in the U.K. dedicated to St. Cornelius. There are two outstanding 15th century floor brasses of wealthy Lincolnshire wool merchants, one of which invites prayers for ‘the souls of John Lyndewode, a man without blemish, and Alice, the sharer of his destiny, his wife of many years standing.’ This touching epitaph was probably composed by their son, Bishop William Lyndewode, a minister and diplomat in the reigns of Henry V and Henry VI. Rand, Goltho and Linwood deserve to be better known. Which of us though, will be remembered as being without blemish?

Richard Free



Local Heritage Group

Southwell Minster

A group of about twenty members visited Southwell near Newark on a beautiful day in late May. On arrival and after a cup of coffee, we were split into two groups for our guided tour with two of the cathedral's excellent guides.

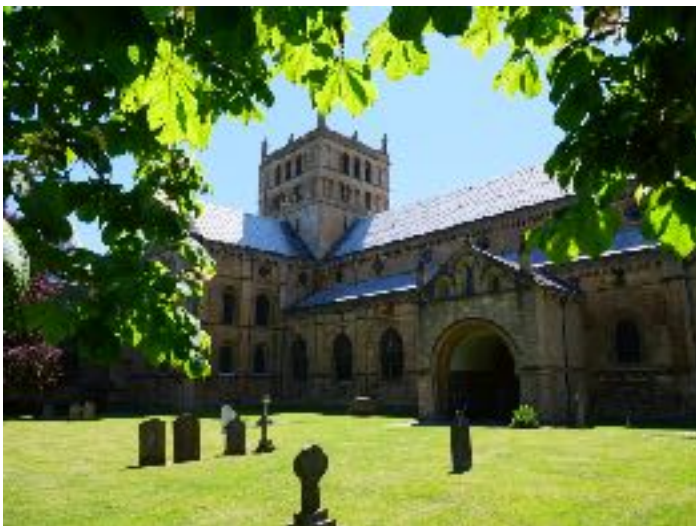
Southwell Minster is the Cathedral of Nottinghamshire. It is the seat of the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham and the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham.

For nearly one thousand years Southwell Minster has been a place of pilgrimage. Its rural location and stunning, but slightly odd, architecture have made it a place to visit.

Southwell began as a Saxon manor, but in the 10th century it was granted to the Archbishop of York. The remains of the palace of the archbishops can be seen beside the cathedral. The present minster church was begun in 1108, and it remains one of the best examples of this style in England. The chancel was rebuilt in the 13th century, but apart from that, the main body of Southwell Minster is essentially Norman, with thick, rounded piers and rounded arches. The fact that so much of the Norman architecture has remained unaltered makes the nave of Southwell one of the best examples of this style of architecture in England.

It is small as cathedrals go but quite lovely, especially the Norman nave and the later Chapter House. The beautiful carvings of plants, animals and green men found within the Chapter House – known collectively as 'The Leaves of Southwell' – are of exceptional quality. They are regarded as the best example of this type of carving in the United Kingdom,

After nearly two hours the group met up again for lunch in the Cathedral Refectory, it was a very enjoyable visit.



Southwell Minster

Visits Group

Bransby horses rescue and welfare centre.

A small select group from the visits group went to Bransby horses in June. We were given a guided tour by Lauren and Jo, who were very knowledgeable and knew all the horses by name, their ages and background. There were some very sad stories of animals being found by the roadside, having to be rescued from desperate situations and badly mistreated. At Bransby they are given the very best care for the rest of their lives and it is all funded by donations. They currently care for 400 horses, donkeys and mules and 480 are in foster care and overseen by Bransby. They have just celebrated 50 years being founded in 1968 by Peter Hunt. The site is well worth a visit with a wonderful visitors centre, gift shop, charity shop and the feedroom cafe is highly recommended.

Jackie Brammer



Family History

The family history meeting for April/May was an open meeting where the speaker Audrey Von Lintzgy explained her search to find the origin of her surname.

She started her search, before the days of the internet, in the British Library India Office having been born in India. She had found a wealth of information and gave the 10 members and 2 visitors an entertaining and informative presentation with some startling facts about British India and amusing stories about her ancestors. She concluded by unveiling her family history scroll and the fact that after many false avenues she found that her ancestors and therefore the name were Russian.

Chris Hodson



Audrey Von Lintzgy and her family tree



U3A Neighbourhood Walking Challenge

For the second time the Branston U3A walking groups have been successful in the Annual U3A District Challenge competing with approximately 18 teams from the surrounding U3A Clubs. The three teams from Branston came 1st 2nd and 5th

This outstanding result proves the intellect of our walking teams. We received the trophy which is to be held in great esteem for the next year when it will our responsibility to host next years Challenge

Pete Robinson



The Trophy

Remember for the latest information

CHECK THE BRANSTON U3A WEB SITE

www.branstonu3a.org.uk

Summer BBQ and Social

We are hoping that as many members as possible can join us this year, but would like to point out that it will only be open to members who have booked and paid as it won't be like a normal monthly meeting. So if you would like to join us, please book as soon as possible. There is a booking form below but remember there are only few weeks left to book.

Last booking date July 28th

BRANSTON AND DISTRICT U3A SUMMER BBQ AND SOCIAL AT BRANSTON VILLAGE HALL

27 AUGUST 2019; 12 NOON til 4.00 PM



COST: £10 A Head for a choice of barbecued meats and salads, followed by a choice of desserts. Tea and coffee will be provided.



If you would like a tippie with your meal, please bring your own, plus glasses.

Branston U3A Singing for Pleasure Group will entertain us with a medley of Rogers and Hammerstein show songs and background music will be provided by Alexa.

You will also be able to try your hand at a variety of side shows to test dexterity and brain power, with prizes for the best score

Name(s)	Dietary Requirements

Please return booking form and remittance to:

Janet Foster, 20, Veronica Close, Branston, Lincoln, LN4 1PU

before July 28th 2019.

(cheque only please, payable to Branston & District U3A Social Account)

More photos of Southwell Minster

