

Summer Extra

Back in Time to Scunthorpe

On Saturday 16th of June, the visits group went on an organised trip by train around Scunthorpe Steelworks.

I was born and brought up in Scunthorpe and because of my job for a number of years, I spent a lot of time visiting what was known as "The Works". My past experience did nothing to detract from what was a very enjoyable outing.

After going by coach from Branston we met the train which was parked on a platform adjacent to Brigg road prior to the off.

The train consisted of three carriages, all full, and the pushing and pulling, was shared by a diesel engine and a steam locomotive.

The trip was split into two halves, with a tea and comfort stop in the middle.

It was during this break that I got to achieve every man's dream, and drove the diesel engine, for approximately 100 yards forward and then returning it to the station .

The Appleby Frodingham Railway Preservation Society is entirely staffed by volunteers, it has no connection, unless you count the one with the wheels onto the lines, with the steel company.

The rail trip was free but of course a donation is asked for to help keep it going.

The "works" it has to be said, are in a dilapidated state and the production bears no resemblance to that of years ago.

Two of the highlights for me, obviously with the exception of the driving of the engine, were the quality of the commentary, by one of the volunteers, and seeing Eccles Slag Company, where I had my first job...

Roger Foster



AAMH June Visit

Archaeology, Ancient & Medieval History Group members visited Nettleham and Snarford on June 5th.

In the morning we were conducted round the site of the former Bishop's Palace at Nettleham by Pearl Wheatley who explained the lay out of terraced earthworks largely hidden under meadow grass and wildflowers. Paths mown through the grass enabled us to appreciate the location of the King's Chamber, gardens, gatehouse, lime kiln and agricultural buildings. Queen Edith held the royal manor which was later gifted to Bishop Bloet by Henry I for use as a residence and administrative centre convenient to Lincoln. Edward I was a frequent visitor. It is believed that the document creating his son Prince of Wales was sealed at Nettleham. The buildings were demolished in 1630 with some of the materials being recycled to Lincoln. Several excavations and a geophysical survey have been completed revealing what was once an important episcopal residence.

After a quick look inside All Saints Church just as the creche was emptying and following a jolly lunch at the White Hart Inn some members continued to Snarford to view the outstanding Jacobean memorials of the St. Paul family at St. Lawrence's Church. That of Sir Thomas and his wife lying on an elaborate six-poster bed surrounded by their eight children towering behind the altar gave us pause for thought. The principal inscription read: 'Reader, you see what I am, you know what I have been. Consider what you yourself must be.' Sir Thomas St. Paul (d.1582) was MP for Grimsby and twice Sheriff of Lincolnshire. His son, daughter-in-law and infant granddaughter are commemorated in a stunning alabaster wall monument full of costume and heraldic detail. The wall tablet commemorating Frances, 'a rich widow of Lincolnshire', and her second husband Robert Rich, 1st Earl of Warwick, was equally arresting. He purchased the earldom for £10,000 but didn't live long to enjoy it. St. Lawrence's Church is always open and is maintained by The Churches Conservation Trust, a national body caring for historic churches no longer

used for regular services. The church stands alone just off the A46. Only St. Lawrence's and a farm remain of what was once a prosperous manor and village. It is well worth a visit. St. Lawrence is the patron saint of cooks so look out for his badge of a gridiron on the altar rails. St. Lawrence came to a particularly sticky end on the barbecue!

Richard Free



Snarford Church



August Special Event is a trip to Nidd Hall, Harrogate on 28th

The coach, refreshments including lunch and various activities are on offer for £20.00 per person.

**There are still places available on this trip
Contact Chris Hodson for details**

Visits Group - Ailby Stud Farm

A short while ago 14 members did a tour of Ailby Stud Farm near Louth. The feedback from everyone was fantastic. The group enjoyed seeing the facilities and discussed all the plans ready to be put in place as well as meeting all the horses including the stallions, yearlings and newborn foals, who all loved being centre of attention.

The group then had a talk and a short Q&A with the thatcher who is currently redoing the house roof.

Massive thank you to Sarah for her help in holding and demonstrating the horses and Stuart the thatcher for his time doing his talk.

Members gave a donation to charity raising a total of £55 which went to the Jessops Wing at Sheffield Hospital and this gave a total of £599 raised in less than a year.



Neighbourhood Event October 6th 2018



RETIRED? BORED? LONELY?

*LOOKING FOR ACTIVE INTEREST
GROUPS?*

**DO YOU ENJOY ART, WALKING, CARDS, FRENCH,
HISTORY etc**

Does the above interest you?

If so.....

Come along to

LEARN, LAUGH and LIVE

OUR PUBLIC OPEN DAY

ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 6TH

at THE VENUE, Navenby

from 10.30 to 3.30

refreshments, music, free parking

**THERE ARE U3a'S IN MANY OF THE VILLAGES NEAR
LINCOLN AS WELL AS IN THE CITY ITSELF
COME ALONG AND FIND OUT!**

Make a note in your diary!



The New Roof at Ailby

Local Heritage - A Visit to RAF Scampton

Fifteen members of the Local Heritage group recently visited the Bastions in the Air exhibition commemorating the 100th anniversary of the RAF and the Heritage museum at RAF Scampton,

The Bastions exhibition focusses on the air defence of Lincolnshire from 1915 to 1918 and the county's contribution to British airpower in the First World War. The Bastion in the Air exhibition opened to the public on Friday, April 6 and recreates a Royal Flying Corps airfield 'somewhere in France or Flanders' during the 1914 to 1918 war. The inside of a hangar at RAF Scampton has been transformed into a First World War airfield complete with three replica military aeroplanes from the era, workshops and tented accommodation that would have been found at that time.

Lincoln was one of the world's largest aircraft production centres in World War One. Through the development of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service, who were based at airfields around the county, the world's first independent air force - the Royal Air Force - came into being.

The RAF Scampton Heritage Centre is housed inside the offices of the former 617 Squadron Hangar which is a listed building. After a period of extensive renovation work carried out by volunteers, the Heritage Centre re-opened in June 2012. There is now the opportunity to see Wg Cdr Guy Gibsons office as it would have looked like in 1943. along with many artefacts of the period.

The centre traces the history of the airfield from it's formation as RAF Brattleby in WW1 through its closing after the Great War to it's reopening as RAF Scampton and expansion in time for WW2 and it's famous association with 617 "The Dambusters". It continues to look at its role in the cold war with the Vulcan bombers to its present day home of the Red Arrows.

The whole three hour visit was guided by some very knowledgable volunteers and by luck even included a flight by the Red Arrows as they took off and then returned from a display at RAF Coningsby.



Scunthorpe Steel Works



R.A.F. Scampton

