

Lindsey U3A trip to Beverley

We were blessed with yet another sunny day when our coach set off to Beverley giving us great views as we crossed the Humber Bridge. It was a joint venture between the Visit's and Architecture groups so the members had a variety of objectives for the day, Some were happy to take advantage of the wide variety of shops in the town, many of which are small independent businesses whilst others made a beeline for the impressive Art Gallery and Treasure House Museum to see the Georgia O'Keeffe exhibition. We were also impressed by the permanent collection, particularly works by Fred and Mary Elwell depicting life in Edwardian times. No visit to Beverley would be complete without seeing the Minster and it was a delight to hear the organist practicing for the afternoon recital. A few lucky members had time to return and hear the whole performance and marvel that the organist was just a 14 year old girl. Excellent refreshments were provided by the students of the local college.

Many of us had booked places on a tour of the parish church of St Mary's. This is no ordinary church and no ordinary tour, we began outside so that we could see the new gargoyles. In 2022 nine new carvings were added and all of them commemorated women famous in their fields of science, engineering, flying and more. Our enthusiastic and warm hearted guide took us inside to see the controversial new carvings all based on C S Lewis's Narnia. Other intriguing aspects of the church were the WW2 bullet hole through the stained glass, the façade of the organ sold to Oslo to raise funds, the stars on the ceiling which are a map of the constellations, the chancel ceiling decorated with 40 monarchs, (not all of them in order after restoration!) The most impressive thing of all was how the community of the church gathered together and used this beautiful ancient church in a modern inclusive way.

Some of us rounded the day off in style by stepping back in time with a pint in the very traditional pub The White Horse. A grand day out!

Rosey Thompson