

V8 Lincolnshire Tour 2019 – Richard Withington reports it was a “Memorable” tour showing Lincolnshire is neither flat or boring!



< Tour “Goody Bag” on arrival



Line up

Organisers Richard & Victoria Withington prove that Lincolnshire is neither flat nor boring! ‘Memorable’ was the most frequently word used by the ‘V8 gang’ who enjoyed this year’s tour around parts of Lincolnshire. Gathering on Thursday 12th September at The Old Barn, Marston, Grantham, were some 18 V8s (11 RV8s, 6 BGTV8s and 1 ZTT V8).

Friday 13th (!) was bright and sunny as they headed North to the **International Bomber Command Centre** and were given excellent and sometimes emotive descriptions of the reasons for remembrance, recognition and reconciliation, panoramic views across the City of Lincoln, and the Cathedral which greeted the bomber crews as they returned. The group then proceeded to **Lincoln Castle** and explored the Walls, the Victorian prison museum and Magna Carta.



Gathering at the Tour hotel, the Old Barn

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With the Lancaster. “Just Jane”



MGV8s parked up at the International Bomber Command

A second day of brilliant sunshine greeted the Tourers as they followed a route around the **Vale of Belvoir**, South of Grantham and east to the **8-sail windmill at Heckington**, with an informative insight into the mill operation. After the customary cakes and coffees, the group passed through New York (!) to the **Lincolnshire Aviation History Museum** and a photo opportunity with ‘Just Jane’ the Lancaster bomber under restoration to flight and a tour of the airfield, little changed since 1945, and the museum with its artefacts and the complete Mosquito. Many enjoyed lunch at the Naafi.

Saturday night entertainment was a humorous talk by Colin Young (BBC Bargain Hunt fame) of some of his auctioneering experiences.

On Sunday the group left early to travel, again in sunshine, past **RAF Cranwell College**, to the **Kinema in the Woods** at Woodhall Spa. Entertained by Alan on the Compton organ and following films there was much laughter. Some more intrepid tourers then followed the route plan to the **North Sea Observatory** at Chapel Point and returned via the Wolds, pausing again for the essential cream tea in Tealby. Others visited Belton House (NT) closer by. The Tour rounded off with a visit to St Wulframs, the parish church of Grantham, with the Trigge chained library and again informative guides. Despite a damp start, skies cleared, and tourers returned home in more sunny weather.

Thanks to sponsors and members of Lincolnshire Centre for their help.