

CVG Virtual Visits 2020: Visit 16, Navenby and Coleby, Lincs.

This is the last part of our planned October visit, planned so as not to involve a long journey from Southwell with the restricted daylight hours of the last week of the month. We'd better not tarry then! Lots of good things to see and having a closer trip for our last outing doesn't mean we have to compromise on quality or quantity of interest.

We started the day at the magnificent church at Brant Broughton and then moved across to the "Edge villages" along the A607, firstly to Welbourn and now to **Navenby** where another Jenkins 2 star church hides away from celebrity. St Peter's is Grade 1 listed, and contains work from the C13, C14, C15, and mid C18. It was restored carefully by Lincs architect Charles Kirk in in 1875-6 and includes a remarkable east window reconstructed from medieval fragments into a window of complex attractive tracery, "extraordinary" says Jenkins. Also look out for the Founders tomb, the fine Easter Sepulchre and matching sedilia, all roughly contemporary around 1320. Apologies for the adverts that come with this next link but here is the listed buildings citation at

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101147458-church-of-st-peter-navenby#.X42mQtBKjIU>

Oh dear, here's yet another Lincolnshire lead theft with five tonnes stolen from St Peter's one night in March 2019. It seems that churches in rural areas, and particularly in Lincolnshire, are regarded by those with a criminal bent, as lead mines just waiting to be harvested. My solution would be for parishes to replace the lead themselves and sell it to provide more modern and probably more efficient roof material. More details of the theft are at

<https://www.graffoechurches.co.uk/index.php/2-uncategorised/51-lead-theft-more-details>.



Navenby St Peter with its "extraordinary" east window



Coleby All Saints

We can then have lunch (we hope) at the Kings Head in Navenby, followed (perhaps) by a quick visit to the nearby Mrs Smith's Cottage Museum, a cottage lived in by Hilda Smith who was there until she died at the fine old age of 102. The museum preserves her memory and her cottage as she left it in 1995. More details at <https://www.mrsmithscottage.com/visit/>

Our last visit is to nearby **Coleby**, to the Gr 1 listed parish church of All Saints. This is another rather curious looking church with work from the C11, C13, C14, C15 and C19. The west tower could be Saxon topped by a C15 spire. Look out for the fine ornate C11 doorway within the porch and Norman arcades inside. The church was restored carefully by F C Penrose in 1864, and the tower in 1901. Details (again please excuse the adverts) at <https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101164829-church-of-all-saints-coleby#.X7K3Gcj7TIU>.

You can of course see more photos by Googling Coleby and Navenby churches and clicking on Images.

Well that concludes our trips for this year. I hope you've found them interesting and I'm sure we're all praying that we can get out and actually visit them next year, going to places we wouldn't normally think of visiting, getting lost down rural back roads, seeing churches, enjoying pub lunches (usually), spotting funny names in churchyards and rude medieval carvings, meeting friendly vicars and locals, sheltering from the rain, desperate for a hot coffee or toilet break. I'm sure we've all missed our monthly ventures, well I have anyway.