

THE EXPLORING HERALDRY INTEREST GROUP “The Bottesford Adventure” 20th July

All those who visited **St Mary’s Church** contributed very positive remarks about our last outing of the 2011-2012 round of sessions, before our break as an Interest Group until October 19th. Strung together anonymously here, then, is something from everybody – apologies for any nuances lost in the editing, but space is a consideration, and photos seem essential as some indication of the richness of the day.

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Spectacular! - richness of treasures a revelation - go every week, find something 'new' ... how beautiful the setting, even in downpour. Over very welcome coffee, intro talk [by John Daybell, Chairman of the Friends] on history of church, interesting and helpful background to tombs and other monuments; ... so much to learn from each, and Vic’s quiz questions certainly helped us "read" that information for use later ... not previously aware Earls and Dukes of Rutland were buried at Bottesford - all tombs really interesting, ... exquisite carving, fab heraldry and family tie-ups ... fantastic preservation ..., absolutely lovely – *for example*:

- Henry, 2nd Earl, and Margaret Nevill, daughter of Radulph Earl of Westmoreland - restored colours so vibrant, carving beautiful - want to have closer, longer look; ...



Foreground left: Tomb of Henry Manners, 2nd Earl, and Margaret Nevill
(in background, East Window and the Manners Peacock Crest on Altar-Front)

- Lord Rosse, ... magnificent alabaster carvings, small kneeling figurines at the base, fine heraldry;

- ... difficult to choose one but impressed by Witchcraft Tomb [*Francis Manners, 6th Earl, and 2 wives Frances and Cecilia - see Church Guidebook!*] and that of John Manners, 4th Earl, and Countess Elizabeth;



The Holcroft arms (quarters 1 and 4), with Horton (2) and Chantrell (3)
Arms of the family of Isabel, wife of Edward Manners, 3rd Earl

- ... interesting to learn about something all around us if we just notice.

... afterwards, **Paul's Restaurant**, Bottesford, excellent way to end season's programme ... good laugh down Memory Lane... great fellowship.



Some of our Interest Group at Lunch

Compiled & Edited by Vic Taylor, Group Leader