

## Burtey Fen, February 10<sup>th</sup> 2022

It was a chilly February morning as thirty six members clambered aboard our coach for our first day trip of 2022, which was taking us to Burtey Fen near Spalding.

As we reached our destination we entered the main entrance to the hall. Inside you are greeted by memorabilia dating from the fifties and sixties era of pop music. There is an old style Jukebox standing in one corner together with posters and photographs of all the old time pop favourites dating back to those times. Helen Shapiro, Connie Francis, Buddy Holly, Johnny Cash, the Beatles, to name but a few, out of scores and scores of them. There were even some examples of the old Dansette record players on display, remember them?

We were all served some refreshments before entering the main hall where our concert was to take place. The room is made out like an old style music hall or theatre. The two main instruments are on show on stage, the Wurlitzer and the Compton organs, both dating back to the earlier part of the twentieth century. Various other instruments were displayed and sometimes used as an accompaniment to the main organs.

Our host, Nicholas Pitts, started his repertoire of music which included a mixture of film musicals numbers and classic early pop tunes that we all remember so well from times gone by. Song sheets were handed out towards the latter part of his repertoire that gave us the chance to sing along to the tunes that he played. No matter, despite us all trying our best they did sound reasonably tuneful, in places :)

After the concert finished it was back on the coach as Ian our driver took us on to Springfields Garden Centre and Shopping Mall in Spalding. Here we all split up into our groups and walked around the shops and garden centre, taking in a coffee or a bite to eat as we wandered.

Eventually we all boarded the coach once more, some ladened with items and treats bought while we shopped. Then it was homeward bound back to Lincoln to end a day that everyone on board thoroughly enjoyed.

Thanks to Steve for arranging and our driver for the day, Ian.

Brian Purkis

