

23rd April 2018

James Wright – The Newly Built Personality of Ralph Lord Cromwell

As the De Cromwell family has connections with Lambley, we considered it was only fitting we should hold our meeting about its famous son in the parish church for which he provided the money.

Ralph de Cromwell's family seat was the Lambley Manor House, long lost. The name comes from the village on the Trent north of Newark. It was through his marriage to Margaret Deincourt that he inherited Tattershall Castle which became his main home.



He fought under Henry Vth at Harfleur and Agincourt and was one of the regents appointed in the reign of the young Henry V1th. He rose to become Treasurer of England and then Chamberlain of the Exchequer. He travelled widely and was interested in European architecture. He used his wealth and his building knowledge to finance the rebuilding of Tattershall Castle, the brick tower we know today. He also financed buildings at Collyweston in Northamptonshire and South Wingfield Manor in Derbyshire.

In his will he left instructions for the building of Lambley church where only the west tower remained. His badge of office based on his purse and the plant "Gromwell" is carved high on the east wall and is proudly used as our Society's logo.

Our speaker, James Wright, a Doctoral Researcher at the University of Nottingham has studied Ralph Cromwell and his architectural legacy. He gave an erudite and entertaining talk on the subject for which he obviously cares passionately. He was enthusiastically applauded and thanked.

The Society would like to record our appreciation of the welcome and help given to us on the evening by the Church Warden and other members of Holy Trinity Church.