

**The Club Annual Holiday in Llangollen & Snowdonia May 2011**  
**Report by David Jones - Social Secretary**

The holiday, based at The White Waters Country Hotel (Llangollen, North Wales) was very successful, much enjoyed by everyone present. Despite some mixed weather none of the daily visits were interrupted with everything going according to plan. The countryside was beautiful, a delightful blend of valleys and hills with lambs and sheep grazing practically everywhere. Never seen so many before!

The itinerary was well planned starting with a morning visit to Erddig House and Gardens (NT near Wrexham) followed by an afternoon trip on the

Llangollen Canal  
and crossing the  
acclaimed  
Pontcysyllte  
Aqueduct.

*Crossing the  
aqueduct.*



The following day was spent driving through Snowdonia Park via Dollgellau and Barmouth to Portmerion, an Italianate village built in the 1920's by the eccentric architect Clough Williams Ellis.



This has a fine mixture of colours, buildings, designs and views which, though unusual, offer a highly recommended return. During the afternoon the group

was taken to the “Electric Mountain”, a fascinating insight to the recycling water for the production of supplementary electricity. Such ingenuity!

*Portmerion*

Next day the group visited a Woollen Mill, en-route to the highly rated, renowned Bodnant Gardens (NT). The timing was excellent as the famed



Laburnum Arch was in full blossom, a sight to behold and photograph. The Gardens were lovely, beautifully set out and full of colour at this time of year. Later in the day there was a visit to Llandudno and the opportunity

to take the Great Orme Railway or walk to the Pier etc. The return journey to the hotel was via Ruthin and the Horseshoe Pass, a really magnificent route with such stunning views. The final day began with a drive through the heart of Snowdonia followed by a lunchtime break in Caernarfon (some went around the Castle) prior to the trip on the Welsh Highland Railway Steam Train journey across Snowdonia to Porthmadog. Yet more magnificent views!

In all the holiday was time really well spent, offering the opportunity for friendship and fellowship within the group plus the opportunity to experience such lovely countryside, these enhanced by many different visits to be long remembered. Grateful thanks to Colin Wynn for all his planning, organisation and leadership, also to John (the Coach Driver) who with quiet efficiency and courtesy escorted the group safely through the full six days. Well done indeed!

David Jones