

South Manchester Branch Holiday in Llandudno, May 2019



On the 12th May a coachload of our members left on our annual holiday under the care of our tour manageress/Sherpa, Helen Strong. This year it was Llandudno and we had a brand new coach to take us there. Llandudno in good weather is difficult to beat as a resort. The bay is beautiful and the front is immaculate. Although not large, it has all the stores of a large town-Primark, Costa, etc, and still retains local businesses. The main street is flat and ideal for the less mobile. Electric scooters abound.

On the way we stopped at Tweedsmill, near St Asaph, a retail centre beloved of coach drivers. We travelled to the hotel on the front, arriving at 4.00pm.

The following day we were up for breakfast at 8.00am and our first trip took us to Port Meirion. We were old enough to remember the Prisoner. It is a good visit and they provide transport for those of us not fleet of foot.



The following day was free but Craig Reville-Horwood had thoughtfully brought his show to the Theatre Clydd and some of us went as the theatre was a stone's throw from the hotel.



The following day we were back on the road to Anglesey. We stopped at Beaumaris - great in good weather -less so in less than good weather, then on to Plas Newydd, a National Trust house overlooking the Menai Strait, where we saw the breath-taking Whistler mural.

That evening the local Methodist church had a choral evening. We had a proper Welsh choir and a harpist who performed in addition. A sensational night.



Our last trip was the National Slate museum at Llanberis where a retired worker reminisced on film on his working life which he seemed fortunate to survive. We lunched at Betws-Y-Coed and then had a trip down the railway from Blaenau Ffestiniog to Portmadog. It rained briefly at last on our way home. We went from St Asaph over the Horseshoe pass to Llangollen. After lunch we drove home.

The weather was brilliant. Our driver Derek was perfect and we thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Peter Lloyd-Jones