

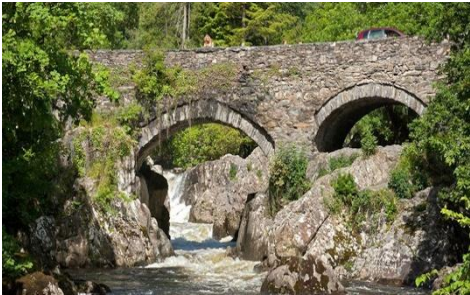


AUDLEM & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB



Betws-y-Coed ***Ffestiniog Railway*** ***& Portmeirion***

Tuesday 16th September



BETWS-Y-COED is North Wales' most popular inland resort. It is where the River Conwy meets its three tributaries flowing from the west, the Llugwy, the Lledr and the Machno. Much of it was built in Victorian times and it is the principal village of the Snowdonia National Park.

THE FFESTINIOG RAILWAY is the oldest independent railway company in the world - being founded by an Act of Parliament in 1832. It introduced the world's first narrow gauge steam locomotives in 1863 and four of the original locos still remain.

Over the last fifty years, the Ffestiniog Railway has become one of Wales' top tourist attractions.

Visitors to the railway can enjoy the outstanding natural beauty of Snowdonia as they pass through areas inaccessible by road and undisturbed by the sights and sounds of modern life.

PORTMEIRION is a popular tourist village in Gwynedd, North Wales. It was designed and built by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis between 1925 and 1975 in the style of an Italian village, is now owned by a charitable trust and has served as the location for numerous films and television shows, most famously serving as "The Village" in the 1960s television show *The Prisoner*. The grounds contain an important collection of rhododendrons and other exotic plants in a wild-garden setting, which was begun before Williams-Ellis's time by the previous owner George Henry Caton Haigh and has continued to be developed since Williams-Ellis's death.

We leave Audlem at 9.30 and travel to Betws-y-Coed for 11.30 here we stretch our legs, take coffee, (at own cost) visit the shops and take in the scenery.

Leaving at 12.30 we make our way to Portmeirion via Blaenau Festiniog where we drop off those who would prefer to make the rest of the journey by narrow gauge railway, the train leaves at 1.30pm and arrives at Minffordd (for Portmeirion) at 2.40pm.

The coach party continues to Portmeirion arriving at 2pm.

At 2.40 the coach will meet the train party and take them on to Portmeirion (all of 1 mile)

The coach leaves at 4.30 and arrives home about 6.45.

Cost of coach and entry to Portmeirion is £22 per head, for those taking the train it is an extra £8.50.