

## **DAITH AR Y FYORDD CYMEU, MAWRTH 25<sup>TH</sup> 2017**

**Please note that you may need to change the country in your satnav when you enter Wales**

We meet at the “Hassop Station Café” Where the parking is 50p for 30mins (**DE45 1NW**) at 9am on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> of March (*I would suggest just a quick drink here, as we will be stopping around 11am for a snack*) 9.30am prompt (any problems please give me a call on 07809232217) we leave and make our way through Ashford in the Water on the A6020 then take a right turn at the T junction towards Buxton on the A6. We stay on this road until we reach the outskirts of Buxton (Morrison’s Roundabout) and take the first turning turn left following the A5059 until we merge left on the A53 then right onto the A54. Stay on this road and take the first road on your left still following A54 eventually ending up in Congleton.

At the first roundabout in Congleton, we take the second exit (its sharp right) on to “Mount Batten Way” and stay in the right hand lane, following “Through Traffic” go over the roundabout and then stay on the left towards the traffic lights, turn left and in 500 yards go straight over the roundabout (Large Tesco on your right) then at the next roundabout take the second exit A34 and follow signs for M6. At the junction take second exit and keep following signs for M6 on the A534. Eventually you will see the sign for the M6 motorway, we turn LEFT on the M6 signed Birmingham, and go one junction coming off at junction 16, stay in the right hand lane as you exit the motorway. At the bottom of the exit we turn right on the A500, there are four roundabouts on this road, keep following brown signs for Bridgemere Garden World and remain on the A500. After the forth roundabout the road changes to the A51, where we turn left and then first left again staying on A51 following signs for Bridgemere Garden World, this road is approximately seven miles long, and the GC is on your left (**CW5 7QB**).

From the GC we turn left on A51 for a short distance then turn right on the A525. We pass through Audlem and Burleydam where the A525 bends to the left, keep following this road passing through Broughall, eventually ending up on the outskirts of Whitchurch. Stay on the A525 following signs for Wrexham, the road changes to the A41 as it skirts underneath Whitchurch, but changes back to the A525 signed Wrexham. Stay on this road until you turn left on the A539 heading towards Penley. Stay on this road passing through Overton where the road bends to the right then Keep left and remain on the A539 heading towards Ruabon. Just before Ruabon turn left remaining on the A59 signed Llangollen. Stay on this road over first and second roundabout, then stay in the right hand lane, heading towards Llangollen. You will pass through Trevor and eventually end up in Llangollen. Watch out for mobile speed cameras! Do not turn left over bridge, go straight on, this is one bendy road all the way up to the Horse Shoe Pass, and the “Ponderosa café”(**LL208DR**) is at the top of the pass on your right. After a quick bite at the café (if required) and the customary photo shoot, it’s back down the pass the way we came up, and straight to our hotel in Llangollen

(post code **LL20 8AD**) When you check in to the hotel, you will be asked to complete a menu for the evening meal, please ensure this is completed and returned early enough for them to prepare your choice.

The following morning, we will be leaving the hotel at 10am sharp (clocks go forward, so please be prepared) breakfast is from 7.30 to 9.30, and if you need fuel, the garage is 500 yards away, so please fill up before we set off. We will be turning right out of the hotel, heading for Corwen on the A5 (watch for mobile speed traps) we pass through Corwen and turn left on the B4401 heading towards Llandrillo. After a few miles we turn left onto the B4402 until we reach a T junction, here we turn left onto the B4391, and this is just one long bendy road for about seven miles, so there's no need to panic if you lose sight of the car in front of you. Your first village will be Llangynog, at which point we will be turning into the entrance of a small car park and then immediately out again at the exit going back along the same road we have just driven down. WHY? I hear you ask, hopefully that question will be answered by the stunning scenery and the fantastic roads. Then it's back along the B4391, passing the T junction we started at, and heading towards Bala remaining on the B4391. In Bala, we go straight across the staggered cross roads onto the A4212. We stay on this road for a few miles skirting around the edge of Afon Tryweryn Lake eventually we turn right on the B4391 which takes us to Ffestiniog. The B4391 is another long bendy road, so simply stay on this road until you come to a T junction, and turn right, and follow signs for Bleaenau Ffestiniog on the A470, eventually ending up at Betwys-y-Coed (**LL24 OAE**) where we can take a longer break for lunch. There is plenty of good parking here as well as shops and cafes galore, all for £2.50 for two hours, which should be adequate (20p mind you to spend a penny!)

After lunch, its right out of the car park on to the A5 towards Capel Curig where we turn left on to the A4086 and after a few miles turn right staying on the A4086. This road takes over Mount Snowdon and down the tight walled twisty roads on the other side. The A4086 takes us through Nant Peris, Llanberis pass Llyn Padam Lake where we turn right on the A4244 at the next roundabout take the third exit on the A4244 then at Bangor Service Station we take a left at the roundabout then a right at the next immediate roundabout onto the A55. We are on this dual carriageway with the sea on our left for around 20 miles until we reach Llandudno. Once we have gone underneath the Conway Tunnel we take junction 19 and head up the A470 into Llandudno. My plan is to drive up the north shore then follow the A546 down to the West Parade which with luck, we should find somewhere (anywhere to park) and if it's not raining we can re-live our childhood by flying kites on the beach, where the highest kite and the most outlandish kite, might just win a small prize. From here it's a short drive back to the A55 where those travelling home can head down the motorway and for those who have taken the opportunity to stay over on the Sunday night, we will head the quickest route (50 miles) back to the hotel.

Best regards - Trevor