

## Volvo Enthusiasts Club Welsh Driving Day, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018 “Steam in Snowdonia”

Welcome to our 2018 Welsh Driving Day. This is more of a driving event than last year’s run, and will take us on some of the most spectacular roads within the Snowdonia National Park, passing Snowdon itself (3559 feet) and several other mountains over 3000 feet on our route. We also take in the “Evo Triangle” from Pentrefoelas, which is a roller coaster run on some great roads. If you plan to join us on the day will you please let us know at: [catherineandsteve@virginmedia.com](mailto:catherineandsteve@virginmedia.com) so that we can warn our lunch venue as to numbers to expect.

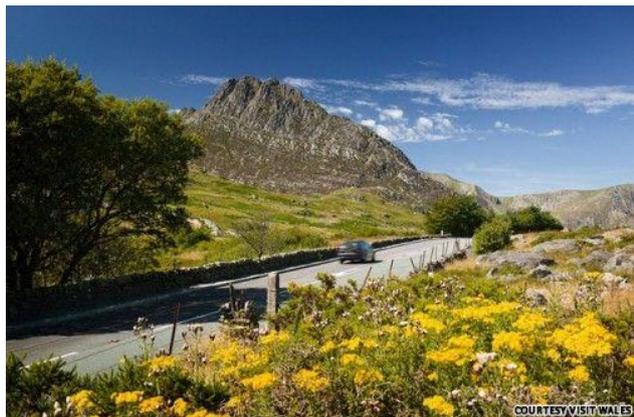


**Rendezvous:** At the public car park in Pothmadog, from 10am onwards, which is right by the Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railway terminus. Because the railway car park is strictly for patrons, and quite small, go over the bridge with station behind you and turn left at the Edinburgh Woollen Mill shop into the public car park, which is pay and display. Members can meet, chat, and visit the station only 50 yards away for a look at not one, but two splendid restored narrow gauge railways, each with its own distinct character. There is an excellent buffet (Spooner’s) and facilities.



We set off from the car park along the Cob, the famous slate causeway which carries the railway, passing the Boston Lodge Works, which builds complete locomotives from scratch. We then pass the little station at Minffordd, before running into the A487 for Penrhyndeudraeth. We then go left onto the A4085 for Beddgelert. This is a lovely road in dappled shade, but be aware it is narrow and

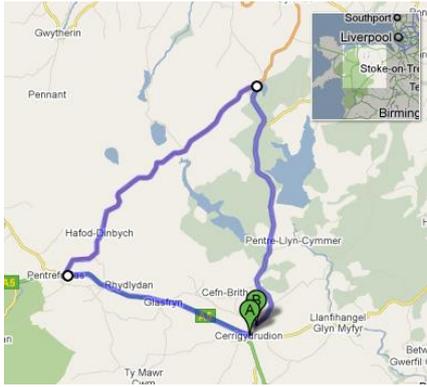
single track in places. You will pass the many turquoise painted buildings of the PlasBrondanw estate as we climb towards Beddgelert, passing the hamlet of Nantmor, and through the pass of Aberglaslyn. At Beddgelert, we will be stopping for a look around this picturesque village and lunch, either at a local pub, the Saracen’s Head, or at the SygunFawr country house hotel on the road out. We will confirm this on the day.



Bear right after the bridge, signposted for Capel Curig, on the A498 and then A4086 for Capel Curig. This is a

spectacular mountain road, with some steep drops, so take care and be on the lookout for stray sheep. We will try and have a photo stop subject to the number of cars we have on the day.

At Capel Curig we bear right onto the A5 for Betws-y-Coed. We pass through Betws, which is rather touristy and need not detain us, and continue to Pentrefoelas, where we stop at the Foelas Arms for a comfort break.



We now join the Evo Triangle for some truly great driving roads. Be aware that although there are no fixed speed cameras, this route is popular with bikers and WRC wannabees, and is policed with random camera vans and patrols. There are fast sweeping curves followed by some tight bends which can catch you out.

Continue along the A5 / B5105 to Cerrigdrudion, then left onto the B4501, up past Lyn Brenig reservoir. Then left onto the A543 back to Pentrefoelas. We then retrace our steps along the A5 to Cerrigdrudion, this time continuing along the

lovely B5105 for Ruthin and major routes home. The run will end at the Crown Inn, where we have permission to park down the lane by the car park if needed, as the landlord owns it.

We hope you enjoy the day, and will see you again at a VEC event soon.

**Steve Cropper, VEC NW Area Representative**  
Meeting 11am at the Ffestiniog Railway Station Porthmadog, North Wales - LL49 9NF.

[www.festrail.co.uk](http://www.festrail.co.uk) To include a run to take in some of the beautiful sights of North Wales along some excellent driving roads. Further details: Steve & Cath Cropper - **VEC North**

**West Reps** - [catherineandsteve@virginmedia.com](mailto:catherineandsteve@virginmedia.com)



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