



V8 Mid-Wales Tour 2012

The tour was based at the Metropole Hotel in Llandrindod Wells over the long weekend from Friday 31st August to Monday 3rd September and Richard Withington reports the first evening saw 58 members in 29 cars gather looking forward to a weekend of tours and visits in Mid-Wales. The tour was well organised by Bob and Carolyn Owen.

On **Saturday** the Tour set off in almost perfect weather conditions to Devil's Bridge to view the three bridges via the Abergwesyn Pass with spectacular views, pausing en route to view the Elan Valley reservoirs. From the pass there were route options: a trip to Aberystwyth by car or steam train, or visiting the forestry for kite feeding were then on offer. Various return routes included the Abergwesyn Mountain Road, often used for night rally trials, with more spectacular scenery. The greatest surprise on Saturday after dinner was the 'live' entertainment which proved to be nothing less than the Builth Wells Male Voice choir!

Sunday arrived with slightly duller weather which gave way first to drizzle, but later to sunshine as members made their way to Corris, via the Machynlleth Mountain Road with yet more breathtaking scenery. Another steam railway alternative was available or visits to Harlech Castle, with drives over the Bwlch y Groes mountain road to Meirion Mill for a cream tea.

The final event on **Monday**, in brilliant sunshine, was a short drive to Presteigne, a

town which seemed in a time warp, for a special opening of the Judges Lodgings concluding with lunch when members departed their various ways.

Altogether another successful event, where to next year? Well many V8 enthusiasts will hope to join the European Event of the Year 2013 in August based at Aviemore in Scotland if they are successful in their bid to secure a place when the

booking opens on Monday 1st October 2012 in the early hours. The Caledonian Centre has an impressive record in running wonderful tours in the Scottish Highlands. If you have any ideas for a future V8 Autumn tour or would like to organise one, do get in touch with Bob Owen – his contacts are on the V8 website.



Pausing for views of dams and lakes in the Elan Valley

