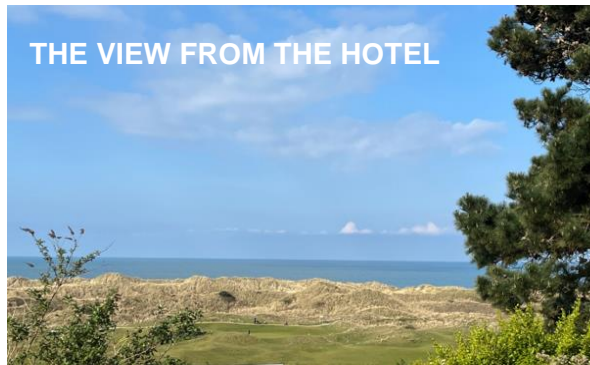


## NORTH WALES AWAY WEEKEND

The first social event of the new Livery year, the Master's North Wales Away Weekend took place from Friday 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023, based at the imposing Trefeddiann Hotel ([www.trefwales.com](http://www.trefwales.com)) Aberdyfi (Aberdovey) on the very southern flank of the Eryri (Snowdonia) National Park.



The event commenced with a charabanc trip to the Museum of Modern Art in Machynlleth where there was a reception and presentation of a Travel Award to Atish Bansod for his work on supporting Welsh agriculture, details of which can be found elsewhere in this edition of The Bulletin. The party then had the opportunity to enjoy the many and varied artefacts on display at the museum. Some of the displays were as magnificent as others were mystifying!!

A very sunny Saturday morning saw the party transported to the Centre for Alternative Technology ([www.cat.org.uk](http://www.cat.org.uk)) where we first had to ascend to the actual centre by a water powered funicular after which we were given a private conducted tour of the eco-centre before having the opportunity to explore the many working and practical exhibits. This is clearly a centre that is looking at educating visitors on eco-friendly techniques as well as carrying out high level research into protecting the environment for the future. The centre offers qualification to MSC standard and a number of our group did wonder whether there would be an opportunity to create a future company award for one of the students.



After re-joining our coach we passed below the peak of Cader Idris before arriving at Towyn Quay, (Gwynedd) which is the terminus of the Talylllyn Narrow Gauge Railway ([www.talylllyn.co.uk](http://www.talylllyn.co.uk)).



We boarded the No7 “Tom Rolt” steam locomotive and travelled along the entire length of the line with a brief stop at Abergynolwyn to enjoy a delicious cream tea and scones.

After returning to Towyn we took the opportunity to visit the unique National Narrow Gauge Railway Museum in which the study of the late Rev W Awdry has been reconstructed. The Rev Awdry was, of course, the creator of “Thomas the Tank” and was both a keen supporter and volunteer of the railway (as is our Master!).

After the short return journey back to the hotel, our party was joined by some fellow Liveryman as well as some senior officials of the railway, who were personal friends of the Master. Everyone enjoyed a wine reception before a presentation of a railway sign was made to the Master. While the sign contained the word “Master” it actually said “Station Master” .... close enough! The dinner was an enjoyable, if rather a boisterous, affair which continued until well after dark.



Sunday was cloudy but saw everyone join together for breakfast before departing back to the various parts of the Principality and even beyond.

All agreed that it was an excellent venue, with enjoyable events and great fellowship and we were sorry when it ended. A great start to the new Livery year!