



## May Bank Holiday weekend in Shropshire

*by Graham Stratford, Motorcycle Group member*

The Buckatree Hall hotel is nestled in the area of Shropshire known as the Wrekin – a very picturesque part of England and one that hadn't yet been explored by the motorcycle group. Forty five people had booked for the May Bank holiday weekend so it promised to be a successful one.

A variety of trips for the Saturday and Sunday were planned by small groups and individuals – some went walking in the local hills (from the footpath opposite the hotel!), some went walking across the Pontcysyllte Aquaduct on the canal at Llangollen and others even went out for a ride on their bikes - some to the Ponderosa café on the Horseshoe pass in Wales, some to RAF Cosford and some just rode out to explore the region. Ironbridge also seemed to appear popular.



The small group I went out with visited the Long Mynd with its spectacular views across the Welsh and English countryside – the descent from here was interesting; a very steep, single track road going down to Plowden with a sheer drop on the right hand side – certainly not for the faint hearted! Sadly the weather wasn't brilliant – we had a complete assortment across the weekend including coldness, rain, hail and even a little sunshine but nobody complained too much!

Feedback from the attendees was positive and everyone seemed to enjoy the weekend – the rooms at the hotel were good, food was excellent and the hotel staff were all very friendly.

On the Saturday evening we tried to encourage members to start thinking about organising some weekends away for 2017. We explained that for various reasons the committee are not yet able to commit to organising anything for next year and would be grateful for any offers to help with event organising. Yes, it does take some time to find a hotel etc but it certainly isn't too onerous and if anyone has any ideas or is willing to try and organise something but doesn't know where to start, they can contact one of the committee who will be happy to talk through what is involved. Events don't have to be on Bank Holiday weekends – any other weekend or even a midweek break can be considered!

*Bike photos courtesy of Alan Mayger*

