



TR Register Shropshire Group's Lake Vyrnwy Run



Saturday 17th September 2022

September's run will take us from Oswestry via Llansillin and Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant to the scenic Lake Vyrnwy. This must be one of the most picturesque settings in Mid-Wales and, with its outlet tower built in the style of a fairy tale castle, is evocative of a hidden kingdom.

We will meet on the Esso Filling Station side of the Mile End Services, Oswestry, at 10:00 for a 10:30 start.

After visiting Lake Vyrnwy, the route will take us through Castle Caereinion and Berriew to The Horseshoes Inn for lunch.

Lake Vyrnwy

Lake Vyrnwy was created to capture water from the River Vyrnwy so it could be used to supply the ever-expanding city of Liverpool with fresh clean drinking water.

A century ago, the Vyrnwy Valley looked very different. The valley of the River Vyrnwy was closed off by the building of the dam and the whole valley was flooded when the reservoir was filled. The creation of the lake involved relocating the former village of Llanwddyn. Farms and their land were also submerged below the water.

The village consisted of a Parish Church, two Chapels, three Inns, ten Farmhouses and 37 houses. In dry summers the water level sometimes drops far enough for the ruins of the old village to be seen. The new settlement was built lower down the valley and even the graveyard was relocated along with the Church.

The Corporation of Liverpool began work on the huge masonry dam in 1881. The Dam was completed in 1888. The lake took two years to fill and water was first supplied to Liverpool in 1891. An official ceremony in 1910 was conducted by the then HRH the Prince of Wales to mark the completion of the works.

The reservoir is 216 ft deep at its maximum depth. The pointed tower is the 'straining tower' and is where the water leaves the lake on the start of its 70 mile journey down the aqueduct. The water

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passes through a fine metal mesh to remove large objects. Lake Vyrnwy is surrounded by a perimeter road which is 11.75 miles long. The two stone towers on the top of the dam house the valves which control the excess water flowing from the base of the wall to allow the river to flow normally.

Itinerary: (times are approximate)

10:00	Meet at Mile End Services< Oswestry, SY11 4JA
10:30	PROMPT start of run
11:30	Arrive Lake Vyrnwy, Llanwddyn, SY10 0LZ
12:30	Commence drive around Lake Vyrnwy
13:30	Arrive at The Horseshoes Inn, Berriew, Welshpool, SY21 8AW (on the A483)

Contact:

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