**CTC Lancaster and South Lakes – Annual Holiday 2017**

In June 2017, twenty-five members of the Club went to stay for a week in a group of four cottages and a static caravan at Penrhyn Farm on the North-West corner of Anglesey. We were right beside the sea with a view across the sound to Holy Island with its ferry port at Holyhead. The beach was shingle at the top but sandy and muddy further out – but no one swam from there while the wind blew. And it blew for much of the week. But the weather did not stop us following rides to Church Bay, Moelfre, Benllech on the north-east of the island. Getting there was OK, but the ride back was tough on a couple of days. Other rides went south to Niwbwrch, to Beaumaris and to the National Trust site at Plas Newydd.

Although there is an arterial road to the ferry port, many of the roads on Anglesey that the ride leaders found were quiet with hedgerows, flowers and fields with the rather small and sturdy looking local cattle. There are many ancient sites on the island and many of us were impressed by the burial chamber at Bryn Celli Ddu that has been reconstructed using the original stones. Shorter rides were arranged, sometimes going to coffee spots. The Wavecrest at Church Bay was very popular and the Bay Café at Benlech had good views but many of us returned to the café beside a windmill at Blas Llynnon.

As well as riding, some of us did some walking – there was a group walk around Holy Island and many of us walked from Penrhyn Farm northwards along a delightful coast path with small bays, inquisitive stonechats, stone arches and fields gently rolling down to the coast. A short ride to the bird sanctuary on Holy Island at [South Stack](http://ctclancaster.org.uk/photos) allowed us to spot guillemots, razorbills, gannets, puffins and kittiwakes as well as many gulls nesting on the cliffs. Nearby was an ancient settlement with the stone remains of round houses and grain stores. Andy led an intrepid group of three onto the mainland for a car assisted ride that toured the Lleyn peninsular. Andy also led the musical evening on his guitar that was held in one of the larger cottages, having supplied everyone with song sheets in advance. Nick arranged a meal at Catch 22 Brasserie where we were welcomed to a long table upstairs that seated everyone together. Special thanks to Anne for booking the cottages – they were splendidly appointed and made an excellent base for a holiday that everyone enjoyed.