



Group and Club Visits

As featured on TV, our museum in the stunning Cheshire Peak District has a great deal to offer and is a popular choice for various interest groups to visit, including Probus, WI, U3A, Societies, Cubs/Scouts, Brownies/Guide packs, Car and Motorbike Clubs.

We also receive many visits from Art and Photography groups who want to capture the beauty and craftsmanship that goes into the curve of a flywheel or the graceful lines and precision of a piston and cylinder

We offer a great day out for groups who would like to come and learn more about the workings of engines or the history of the local area.

We understand how much work a group organizer or tour operator has to put in to make the day a success. So, we have put together this short brochure with some tips and things you might want to know when planning a group visit with us. We would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

There is so much to see in the area, why not extend your day and visit another attraction too? Or stay overnight and explore the Cheshire Peak District in more detail?

**We look forward to welcoming you to the museum
during the 2015 season**



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Our award winning website is www.enginemuseum.org where you can find more information and photographs.

Full access details also available on website, plus details of wheelchair available for booking.



Welcome to the Anson Engine Museum

This unusual and fascinating museum used to be one of the best kept secrets among Cheshire's many attractions. Over the past few years it has undergone some major changes and is now recognised as one of the Country's leading specialist museums.

Situated just south of Manchester on the site of the old Anson Colliery, it is the result of Les Cawley and Geoff Challinor's years of hard work collecting and restoring engines.

The museum is a registered charity and does not receive government or public funding towards its running costs. To date most of the work has been carried out and funded by the volunteers and Friends of the museum. It was described by one of its visitors as '*run on a shoestring and fuelled by enthusiasm*'.

Despite this the award winning museum has flourished and now houses a unique collection of over 250 gas and oil engines, many maintained in running order. Ranging from early Crossley gas engines through to more modern diesels. Engine enthusiasts from all over the world come to visit this fascinating museum.

The Les & Ena Cawley Memorial Building is home to a fantastic display showing the development of the internal combustion engine. The museum has secured many early examples from other major museums eg Science Museums of London, Edinburgh, Birmingham & Bristol. The collection tells the story of the engine from the cannon to the sophisticated, electronically controlled engine of the future.

The museum also has a steam section with two Robey engines; an A frame, a beam engine and newly arrived a Bingfield. Pride of place however goes to the giant Stott mill engine that used to drive a cotton wadding mill in Hazel Grove. It was rescued by the museum and has been lovingly restored to working condition by the volunteers. It ran in 2011 for the first time in over 50 years. This is the largest running steam engine in Cheshire.



The museum opens to the public one weekend a month from Easter until October. Engines run every day the museum is open, additionally engines “in steam” once a month, see website for specific dates. Sorry, but no club visits can be accommodated on our published steam dates.

As well as the impressive collection of iconic engines there is also a Craft Centre where monthly demonstrations are given by blacksmiths, bodgers and wood turners. See website for specific dates.



The museum also boasts a local history section where a giant scale model of Poynton (c1900) has been built by the volunteers. Over 5,000 hours of work have gone in to perfecting the model. The area also has display of photographs, maps, mementoes and keepsakes from the Vernon Estate and Anson Colliery.

We have a small café area that provides a range of soft drinks, tea, coffee & confectionery but we are happy for you to bring a picnic. Our shop has a range of interesting souvenirs for you to purchase to remember your visit.

The museum has many plans for expansion but these are limited by resources of money, our volunteers availability and time. We are still expanding however so do come back for a return visit and see the many changes.

Comments & Reviews

Inspection report for Visit England award:-

Whilst preserved steam locomotives may have more glamour, nevertheless – it was the static engines that powered the full flowering of the industrial revolution and made possible the huge developments the mills, factories and workshops of the C.19th and C.20th. This museum celebrates those engines – steam, oil and gas driven – and traces their development. An enthusiastic volunteer team – led by the Curator – are constantly expanding and enhancing the collection. Very high standards of presentation and interpretation have been achieved. Highlights of each day are engine *'start-ups'* with informed commentary.

The site – once Anson Colliery – is in an attractive wooded area, yet is close to Poynton. The local history of the village is a delightful feature, with a huge model landscape alongside photographs and artifacts from the industrial era.

The museum storage yard gives some idea of what could be developed here – given resources and time. For those who love engineering and relish the celebration of the North West's industrial past – this is an absolute *'must-see'* site. It is a huge asset to the region's tourism offering.

Trip Advisor

["a museum that comes to life"](#) to see these old engines come to life is a great achievement. This place is a real gem.

["A good FBHVC destination"](#) Drive-it-day 2012

["Hidden gem"](#) Manchester Civic Society

["What a fantastic day out!!"](#) couple on their honeymoon

["A Splendid Day Out For All!!"](#) Even my wife, who is not mechanically minded, thought that this was one of the most pleasurable museum experiences she'd had.

["An enthusiast needs much more than the two hours we were there, try all day and more."](#) Australian Engine Enthusiasts

["The visit to Anson turned out to be the highlight of the trip."](#) Group of engineers visiting Cheshire for AGM

Information and how to book your trip

- In 2015 pre-booked club visits made on 1/2 May, 12/13 June, 24/25 July, 28/29 August, 25/26 September, 23 October will be charged at £6.00 per head, minimum of 12. It cannot be guaranteed but we will endeavour to provide a guide for your group who will give an introductory talk about the museum.
- Payment of £72 should be sent within a week of your booking dates/times being confirmed, cheques made payable to Anson Engine Museum (12 x £6.00 = £72). Additional numbers can be paid at time of visit.
- If over 15 visitors in a coach, the named driver will receive free entry plus hot beverage.
- Our tea shop can provide a range of soft drinks, tea, coffee & confectionery.
- By prior arrangement we can provide a platter of sandwiches or buffet to suit your requirements, prices/menu can be provided on request.
- Booking should be made by completing and returning a booking form indicating your preferred dates and times. Organiser will be contacted by the museum to advice on availability of preferred date, etc.
- We recommend you wait for confirmation of your booking before advertising the event to members as we only take one group visit at a time and would hate to cause disappointment.
- If cheque not received within 10 days the date cannot be held and will be offered to other groups and may result in you losing your preferred slot.
- Cancellation or drop in numbers should be notified as soon as possible. NB cancellation policy applies if less than two weeks notice of cancellation.
- A call from the organiser 2 days in advance of the visit to confirm times/numbers will be required (01625 874426).
- Please remember we are run by volunteers and want to ensure we have sufficient people available to help your group get the most from your visit. A surprise of an extra 15 visitors on your visit would not allow us to do this.

- Pre-booked, prepaid group visits outside of the dates specified can be requested (from 10 April – 16 October) minimum of 15 attendees. As we will be opening specially and providing a guide (or guides depending on numbers) to take your group around, the cost is £7.50 per head.
- Payment of deposit (15 x £7.50 = £112.50 deposit) should be send within a week of your booking being confirmed, additional numbers to be paid by the group organiser prior to visit or on day in one transaction. *Groups of a smaller number will be accommodated but at the minimum entry price equivalent to £112.50.*



Cancellation Policy

When returning a booking form for an event groups are agreeing to our cancellation policy which is outlined below.

*The Anson Engine Museum reserves the right to charge groups a cancellation fee of up to a **£5.00 per person** where **less than 2 weeks'** notice of a cancellation is given.*

Make the most of your visit to Cheshire

The Cheshire Peak District is a breathtaking destination that encompasses nearly 100 square miles of Cheshire's peaks and plains, including part of the Peak District National Park, from the moorlands of Biddulph in the South to Lyme Park and Disley in the North. It is a region brimming with glorious hills and plains, historic houses, beautiful gardens, rich cultural attractions, unique experiences, world-class events and quaint market towns.

Cheshire's Peak District has something to offer everyone - from dramatic scenery and an abundance of historic heritage sites, to stylish restaurants, great gastro pubs and picturesque country inns. You can enjoy the dramatic views, rocky outcrops, peaty rivers, heather clad moors, dry stonewalls, hill villages and stunning walks of Cheshire's Peak District. Explore the wide, gentle lowlands of the adjacent Cheshire Plain, characterised by canals and waterways, historic buildings and landmarks. For accommodation, food & drink ideas and things to do click on www.cheshirepeakdistrict.com/

If you would like to find out about walking, cycling, horse riding, canoeing, country parks in the area try www.discovercheshire.co.uk/?region=1&page=Home

There is so much to see in this area you might want to make your visit into a short break and enjoy what Cheshire has to offer.



Where to Stay?

From hotels boasting four and five star facilities, to go-as-you-please camping and caravanning, Cheshire has the accommodation to suit you. Options include luxurious country house hotels, excellent farmhouse B&B's and self catering.

Find a wide choice of accommodation available and book online by following this link www.cheshirepeakdistrict.com/accommodation

Close to the museum and often used by our visitors are:-

Elms Bed Farm Caravan Site
Mr. V. Whitetaker, Elms Bed Farm,
Elms Bed Road, Poynton 01625 872370

[Strawberry Wood Caravan Park](#) Home Farm, Farm Lane, Lower
Withington, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9DU 01477 571407

[Red Oaks Farm B&B](#) Charter Road, Bollington, Cheshire SK10 5NU
01625 574280

[Moorhayes House](#) Tytherington, Macclesfield SK10 2JJ 01625 433228

[Common Barn Farm](#) Smith Lane, Rainow, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 5XJ
01625 574878

[Harrop Fold Farm](#) - 5 star B&B Rainow, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 5UU
01625 560085

Finding the museum

[View a map of where we are](#)

Anson Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1TD

Airports

The nearest airport is Manchester International.

Travel by Road

Main motorway links to Cheshire are through the M6, M56 and M60. Route planning information can be found [RAC](#), [Multimap](#) and [Streetmap](#).

From the centre of Poynton - follow Brown Tourist Signs

Want to check the roads before you set off? [Click here](#) or, if you want to check the [weather forecast](#)

Travel by Bus - take the new P1 to the Boars Head, Higher Poynton, short walk down Anson Road to Museum entrance.

Travel by Rail

High speed rail services are available to Macclesfield and Manchester from London Euston (2.5 hours), and from Glasgow on the West Coast main line. Rail timetable information is available [here](#).

Nearest **Train** Station

- Middlewood Station (then walk down the Middlewood Way, approx 1.3 miles, or catch new P1 bus service). [Click here](#) for details
- Next nearest Poynton Station 2 miles. [Click here](#) for details

CLUB/GROUP VISITS TO THE ANSON ENGINE MUSEUM

Easter - end October 2015

Club/Group Name	
Name of organiser/contact	
Contact Tel Number	
Contact email address	
Postal Address	
Proposed date* of visit See note below	1 st choice 2 nd choice
Proposed time* of visit	1 st choice 2 nd choice
Areas of particular interest	
Number of attendees	
Other relevant information, including Group Talk if required	

Bookings subject to terms outlined on pages 7/8 of this booklet.

Please complete the booking form and return to

Anson Engine Museum, Anson Road, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1TD

Or by email to enquiry@enginemuseum.org

NB Your booking request will be confirmed, or alternative date suggested, by the museum asap after receipt.

For internal museum use only

Date completed form received at museum	
Confirmation of booking given to club contact	
Special requests/arrangements met?	
Entered in museum diary	
Presenter / demonstrators etc organised	
Confirmation call received 2 days in advance	