

Probus Club of Cardiff, Llanishen



VIRTUAL OUTING ON THE WAVERLEY

Thursday 27th May 2021 at 7.00PM

Continuing our series of virtual 'social outings', the next outing is on the Waverley, Britain's last remaining paddle ship which takes place on the Thursday 27th May starting at 7.00 pm. **N.B. Please note the time**



Named after Sir Walter Scott's debut novel, Waverley was built in 1946 as a replacement for a vessel sunk during the Dunkirk evacuation. Waverley sailed from Craigendoran on the Firth of Clyde to Arrochar on Loch Long until 1973 when she was bought by the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society. Since 2003 Waverley has been listed in the National Historic Fleet by National Historic Ships as "*a vessel of pre-eminent national importance*".

After extensive restoration work, supported by a major fund raising effort over the last two years, Waverley has been restored and has recently returned to service. Her schedule normally operates passenger excursions around the British coast between May and October each year, primarily operating from Glasgow and the Firth of Clyde but also in the Bristol Channel, the Solent and the Thames.

It has been the intention of the Probus club for the last 2 years to join one of her voyages from Penarth but this has not been possible due to the renovation work and COVID restrictions, but should the governments in Edinburgh, Cardiff and London ease the social distancing rules, it may be possible for Waverley to resume economically viable sailings later this year, and if this proves possible, the club would wish to join in one of the voyages from Penarth in the last week of August 2021. Failing this, the trip will take place in 2022 when the Waverley visits the Bristol Channel again.

This evening's tour will be led by Paul Semple, General Manager of Waverley Excursions who has overseen the restoration of Waverley over the last two years and who, on the successful completion of the work, said:

"This is a day that we've longed for, considering how far we've come with Waverley - but she's back. People have shown support through the appeal and just seeing people on board today, happy that Waverley is back in business. It was like open-heart surgery. She's had a major transplant in the sense that the boilers have been replaced, the electrical systems have been replaced and all the super-structure put back on top - the famous funnels reinstated again. Technically, we have a new Waverley."

The tour will begin at 7.00 pm and take approximately 45 minutes. Paul will introduce us to Waverley expanding on the history of Waverley, the extent of the most recent renovations and the plans for the future. Wives and partners are welcome as they would be were this an actual outing. There is no charge to individuals as the club is meeting the costs.

Zoom joining details: Please log in as follows from 6.45 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92371835575?pwd=bVBzRWNKN1pubTM4T0RFeS9wRW1jZz09>

Meeting ID: 923 7183 5575

Passcode: 348209