

Llanidloes Postal bus service

The following pages tell an incomplete story of Britain's first Mail Bus service, (Officially referred to by the Post Office as Postal Bus) These are items scavenged from my own collection of material, together with a couple of contributions from Hugh Johnson.

BRITAIN'S FIRST MAILBUS

By Hugh Johnson

Tourists exploring one of the remoter parts of Montgomeryshire are often surprised at the form of transport used by the local inhabitants.

Strolling up a quiet farm track one is quite likely to be confronted by a Mail Van with a difference - this one has windows in the sides and carries passengers. It is Britain's first Mailbus which combines the delivery and collection of mail with the carriage of fare-paying passengers.

The service was inaugurated on February 20th 1967 and at present carries an average of 30 passengers per week. It is one of eight experimental services and the only example at present operating in Wales. *(Note 1).

This vehicle has been specially adapted with a Mail Locker built into the rear and carries up to 7 passengers. It belongs to and is operated by the Post Office and is regularly used during the summer months by tourists and campers.

The locals rely on this as their only form of regular transport to Llanidloes or Llangurig and use it most days of the week throughout the year (A normal bus service only operates in this part of Montgomeryshire on Saturdays).

A total of 45 miles is covered on the morning run and 33 miles in the afternoon, the latter being quicker because no delivery is made - Mail is only collected from Post Offices and letterboxes.

During the morning run the postman delivers mail to a number of isolated farms and homesteads (in some cases opening and shutting 2 or 3 gates in the process) sells stamps and collects any mail for posting. Farms may be several miles from the nearest pillarbox or Post Office so the postman provides their main link with the outside world.

There is no Posting Box on the side of the bus and no handstamping is done 'en route'. All mail is taken by the postman/driver into Llanidloes Post Office and thence by mailvan to nearby Newtown, where it is cancelled with the LLANIDLOES die on the Newtown Cancelling Machine. *(Note 2). It is then despatched by rail to Shrewsbury for sorting and onward despatch.

A set of fare tables, a current timetable and a route map are illustrated below.

Acknowledgement for help in compiling this article is expressed to both the Head Postmaster Llandrindod Wells and the Postmaster at Llanidloes, Mr. J. Langford.

Retyped copy
reproduced on
next page.

The above article, written by Hugh Johnson was published by the Welsh Philatelic Society in 1974. It gives a very good account of the service, and it's usefulness to the local community. Hugh Johnson has given his kind permission to use this article, however the copy that I have is very poor, (nearly 50 years old), so I have retyped it in order to make it more readable

BRITAINS FIRST MAILBUS

By Hugh Johnson

Tourists exploring one of the remoter parts of Montgomeryshire are often surprised at the form of transport used by local residents.

Strolling up a quiet farm track, one is quite likely to be confronted by a Mail van with a difference—this one has windows in the side, and carries passengers. It is Britains first Mailbus, which combines the delivery and collection of mail with the carriage of fare-paying passengers. The service was inaugurated on February 20th. 1967 and at present carries an average of 30 passengers per week.. It is one of eight experimental services, and the only example at present operating in Wales.

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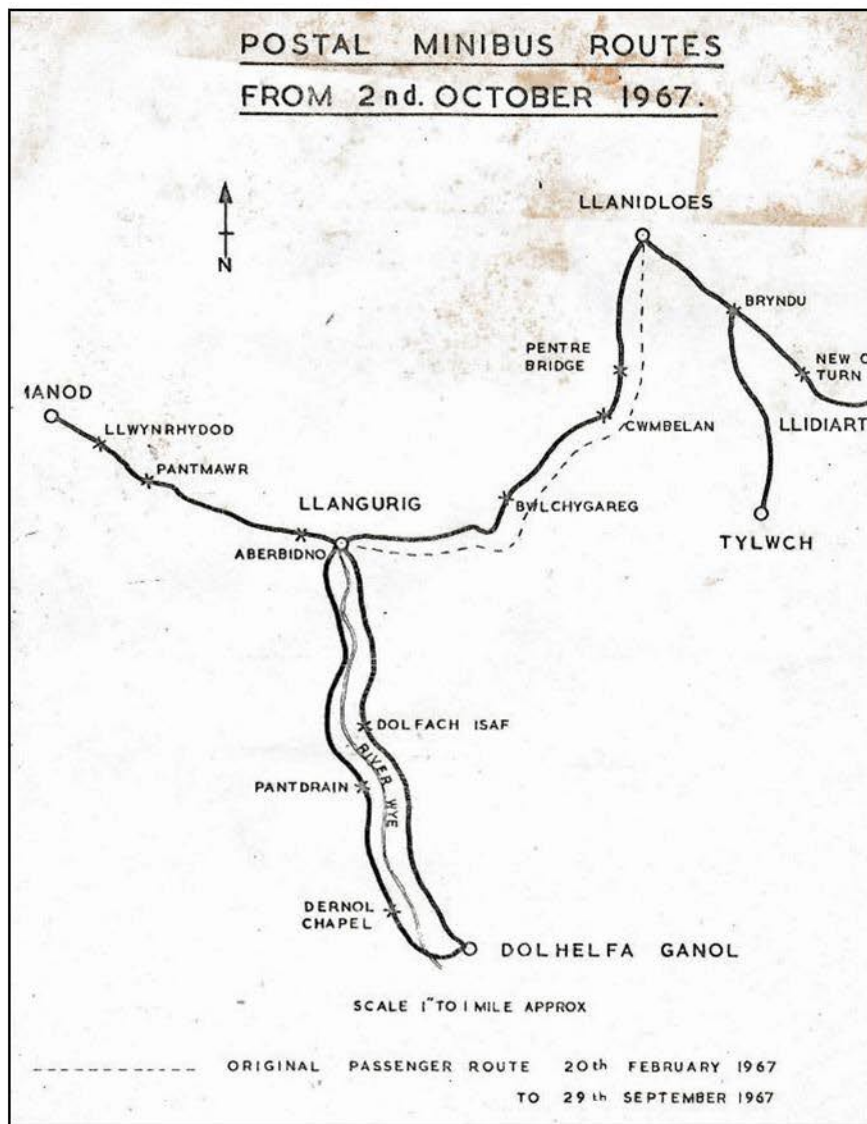
Postman-driver Stanley Owen shows his new bus ticket machine to the lads of Llangurig, Montgomeryshire. A few minutes later he was driving off on the first journey of the Post Office minibus which not only carries mail but provides a bus service for villagers. The story about the start of the modern mail coach service is on Page 9.

This is a very poor 50 year old picture from my collection showing one of the bus drivers with the Mail Bus at Tylwch. Hugh Johnson has now sent me a copy of the original photograph, taken by postmaster J. Langford, shown below

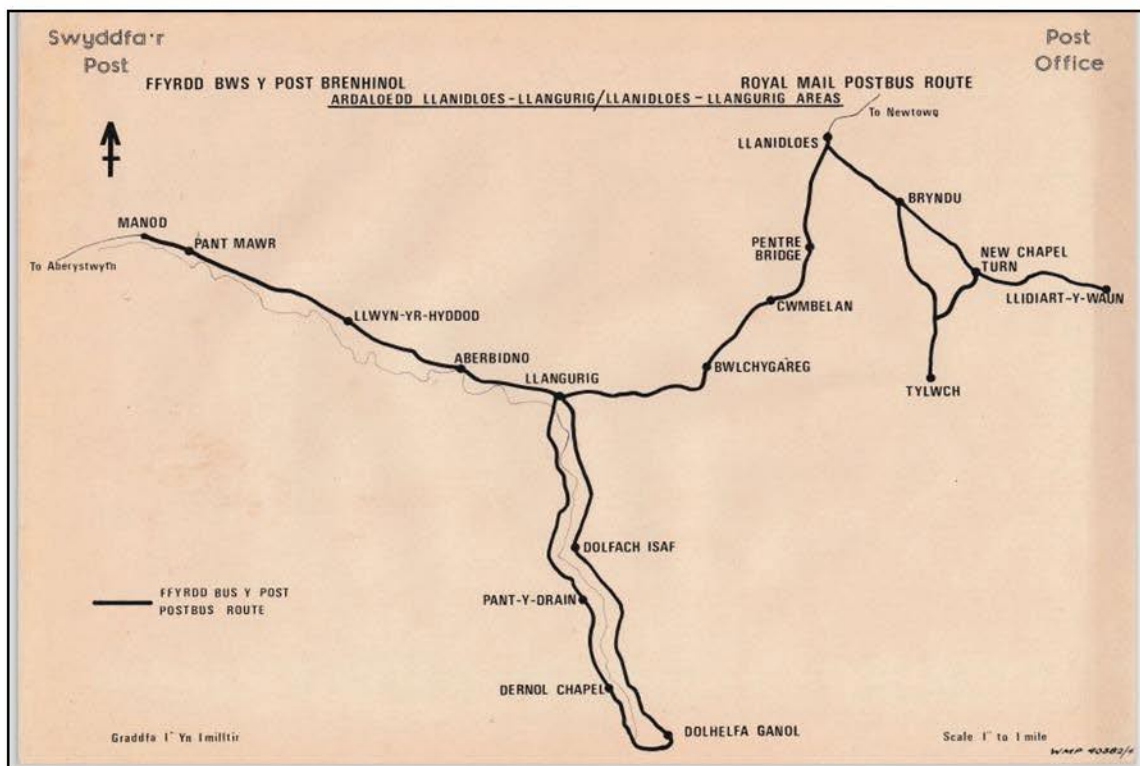




Fred Jones, one of the Llanidloes post bus drivers, was a very good friend, and help to me. For several years in the 60,s I had a "Tropical fish" shop in Great Oak street, just below J.K.Morgan. Fred helped me in the shop, and also helped me to install fish tanks for customers. Knowing of my interest in Philately he supplied me with Post office material of all description, including Stamp posters. Internal Post office posters, Bag tags, Order sheets, Post office manuals, Post Office courier magazines, anything that was available. These fill several large boxes. The Stamp Posters going back as far as 1969 are specially interesting to me because they closely tie in with my comprehensive collection of commemorative stamps. I must mention here, that another good friend, Roger Hales was even more helpful in my "Tropical fish" shop.



These timetables illustrate just how basic the Post Bus service was operated, hardly surprising since early timetables describe the service as experimental. Note that in the later version Llwyn-yr-Hyddod has been correctly located.



EXPERIMENTAL POSTAL BUS SERVICE

LLANIDLOES—LLANGURIG AREAS

FARE - TABLE

COMMENCING 15th FEBRUARY, 1971, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

(E) LLANIDLOES—LLIDIARTYWAEN—LLANIDLOES (E)

From To	LLANIDLOES	BRYNDU	TYLWCH	NEW CHAPEL TURN	LLIDIARTYWAEN
LLANIDLOES	-	4½p	9p	7½p	10½p
BRYNDU	4½p	-	6p	4½p	7½p
TYLWCH	9p	6p	-	-	-
NEW CHAPEL TURN	7½p	4½p	7½p	-	4½p
LLIDIARTYWAEN	10½p	7½p	10½p	4½p	-

1. Return Fare LLANIDLOES—LLIDIARTYWAEN— 18p
2. Any point to point within a stage or part of a stage— 3p
3. Children: between 5—14—half above fares rounded to nearest ½p., under 5 and accompanied—free

EXPERIMENTAL POSTAL BUS SERVICE

LLANIDLOES—LLANGURIG AREAS

FARE - TABLE

COMMENCING 15th FEBRUARY, 1971, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

LLANGURIG—LLANGURIG WYE LOOP

(C) Down East side of River Wye—MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY ONLY (C)

To From	LLANGURIG	DOLFACH ISAF	DOLHELFA GANOL	DERNOL CHAPEL	PANT-Y-DRAIN	LLANGURIG
LLANGURIG	-	4½p	9p	12p	15p	18p
DOLFACH ISAF	-	-	4½p	9p	12p	15p
DOLHELFA GANOL	-	-	-	4½p	9p	12p
DERNOL CHAPEL	-	-	-	-	4½p	9p
PANT-Y-DRAIN	-	-	-	-	-	4½p
LLANGURIG	-	-	-	-	-	-

1. Any point to point within a stage or part of a stage— 3p.
2. Children: between 5—14—half above to nearest ½p., under 5 and accompanied—free.

(D) Down West side of River Wye—TUESDAY and THURSDAY ONLY (D)

To From	LLANGURIG	PANT-Y-DRAIN	DERNOL CHAPEL	DOLHELFA GANOL	DOLFACH ISAF	LLANGURIG
LLANGURIG	-	4½p	9p	12p	15p	18p
PANT-Y-DRAIN	-	-	4½p	9p	12p	15p
DERNOL CHAPEL	-	-	-	4½p	9p	12p
DOLHELFA GANOL	-	-	-	-	4½p	9p
DOLFACH ISAF	-	-	-	-	-	4½p
LLANGURIG	-	-	-	-	-	-

1. Any point to point within a stage or part of a stage— 3p.
2. Children: between 5—14—half above fares to nearest ½p., under 5 and accompanied—free.

These are 1971 timetables for the Post Bus Service. The service is described as experimental. Llwyn-yr Hyddod, the stop between Aberdidno and Pantmawr is not mentioned, although it is shown on the route



Gwasanaeth Bws y Post Brenhinol - Royal Mail Bus Service

LLANIDLOES - LLANGURIG AREAS

Tabl Costau - Fare Table

Yn dechrau 5 Medi 1977 nes y rhoir hysbysiad pellach

Commencing 5th September 1977 Until Further Notice

(A) LLANIDLOES - LLANGURIG - LLANIDLOES (A)

I/O To/From	O/I From/To	Llanidloes PO	Pentre Bridge	Cwmbelan	Bwlch-y-Garreg	Llangurig PO
Llanidloes PO	-	-	S 6p R 11p	S 8p R 14p	S 12p R 22p	S 15p R 27p
Pentre Bridge	S 6p R 11p	-	-	S 3p R 5p	S 8p R 14p	S 12p R 22p
Cwmbelan	S 8p R 14p	S 3p R 5p	-	-	S 7p R 13p	S 11p R 20p
Bwlch-y-Garreg	S 12p R 22p	S 8p R 14p	S 7p R 13p	-	-	S 7p R 13p
Llangurig PO	S 15p R 27p	S 12p R 22p	S 11p R 20p	S 7p R 13p	-	-

S = Tocyn Unffordd/Single Fare R = Tocyn ôl a Blaen/Return Fare

(B) LLANGURIG - MANOD - LLANGURIG (B)

I/O To/From	O/I From/To	Llangurig	Aberbidno	Pantmawr	Manod
Llangurig	-	-	5p	9p	14p
Aberbidno	5p	-	-	5p	9p
Pantmawr	9p	5p	-	-	5p
Manod	14p	9p	5p	-	-

Tocyn ôl a Blaen/Return Fare Llangurig - Manod 25p

1. TOCYNNAU ÔL A BLAEN Bydd rhannau dychwelyd o docynnau ôl a blaen ar gael am hyd at un mis calendar ar ôl y dyddiad rhoi
2. TOCYNNAU PLANT Bydd plant rhwng 5 a 14 yn talu hanner pris tocyn person mewn oed. Gwnelr unrhyw ffracsion o geiniog yn geiniog gyfan. Cludir plant o dan 5 oed gyda pherson mewn oed yn rhad ac am ddim
3. O UN PWYNT I BWYNT ARALL O un pwynt i bwynt arall o fewn ffin prisiau neu ran o ffin prisiau - 5c
1. RETURN TICKETS Return portions of return tickets will be available for up to one calendar month from date of issue
2. CHILDREN'S FARES Children between 5-14 travel at half of adult fare. Fractions of a penny to be rounded up. Children under 5 and accompanied travel free
3. ANY POINT TO POINT Any point to point within a stage or part of a stage - 5p.

This 1971 timetable is only listing the Llangurig Wye Loop

LLANIDLOES - LLANGURIG AREAS

Tabl Costau - Fare Table

Yn dechrau 5 Medi 1977 nes y rhoir hysbysiad pellach
Commencing 5th September 1977 Until Further Notice

(A) LLANIDLOES - LLANGURIG - LLANIDLOES (A)

I/O To/From	O/I From/To	Llanidloes PO	Pentre Bridge	Cwmbelan	Bwlch-y-Garreg	Llangurig PO
Llanidloes PO	-	-	S 6p R 11p	S 8p R 14p	S 12p R 22p	S 15p R 27p
Pentre Bridge	S 6p R 11p	-	-	S 3p R 5p	S 8p R 14p	S 12p R 22p
Cwmbelan	S 8p R 14p	S 3p R 5p	-	-	S 7p R 13p	S 11p R 20p
Bwlch-y-Garreg	S 12p R 22p	S 8p R 14p	S 7p R 13p	-	-	S 7p R 13p
Llangurig PO	S 15p R 27p	S 12p R 22p	S 11p R 20p	S 7p R 13p	-	-

S = Tocyn Unffordd/Single Fare R = Tocyn ôl a Blaen/Return Fare

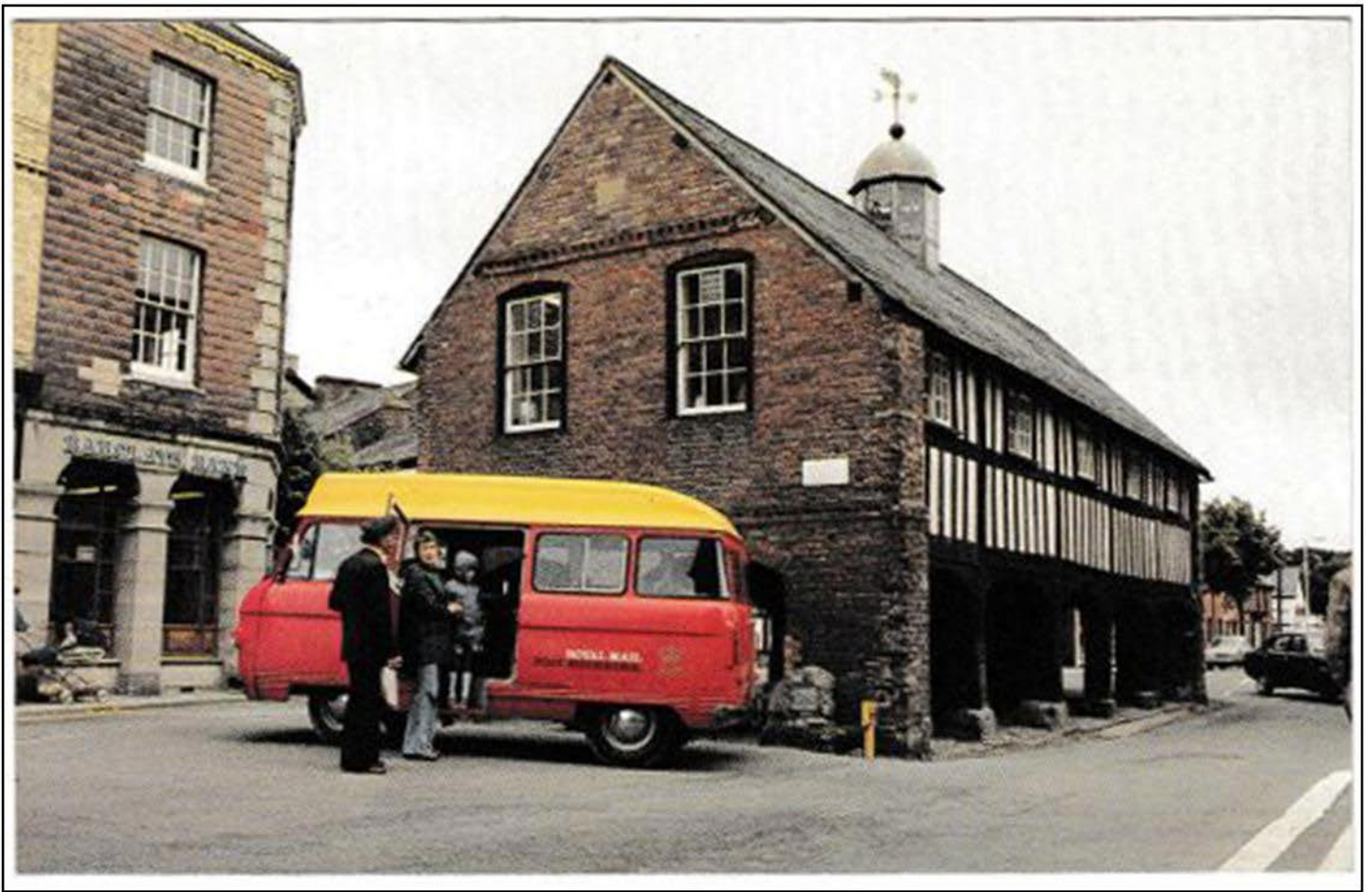
(B) LLANGURIG - MANOD - LLANGURIG (B)

I/O To/From	O/I From/To	Llangurig	Aberbidno	Pantmawr	Manod
Llangurig	-	-	5p	9p	14p
Aberbidno	5p	-	-	5p	9p
Pantmawr	9p	5p	-	-	5p
Manod	14p	9p	5p	-	-

Tocyn ôl a Blaen/Return Fare Llangurig - Manod 25p

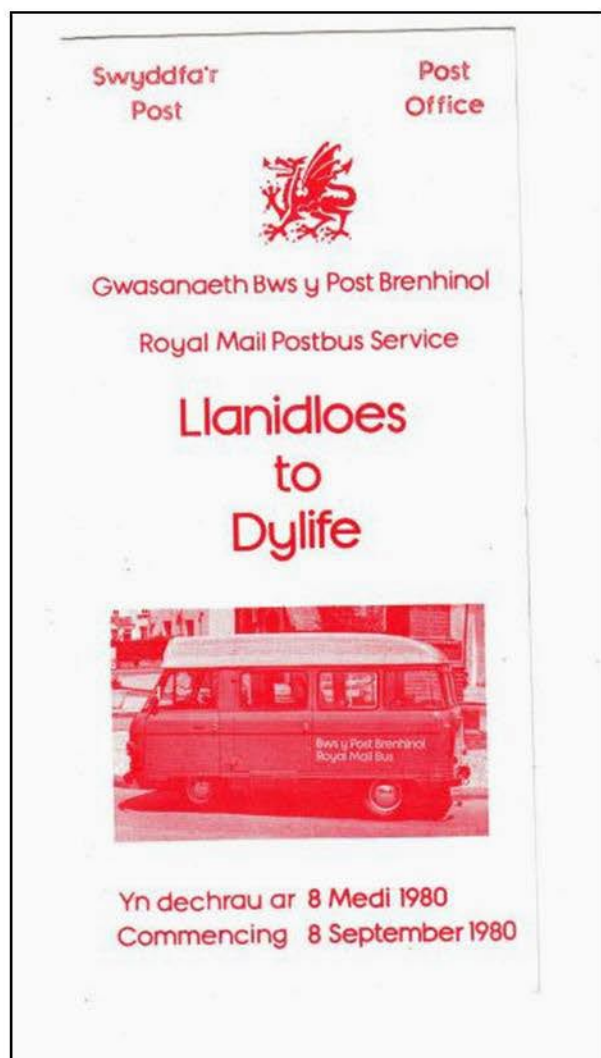
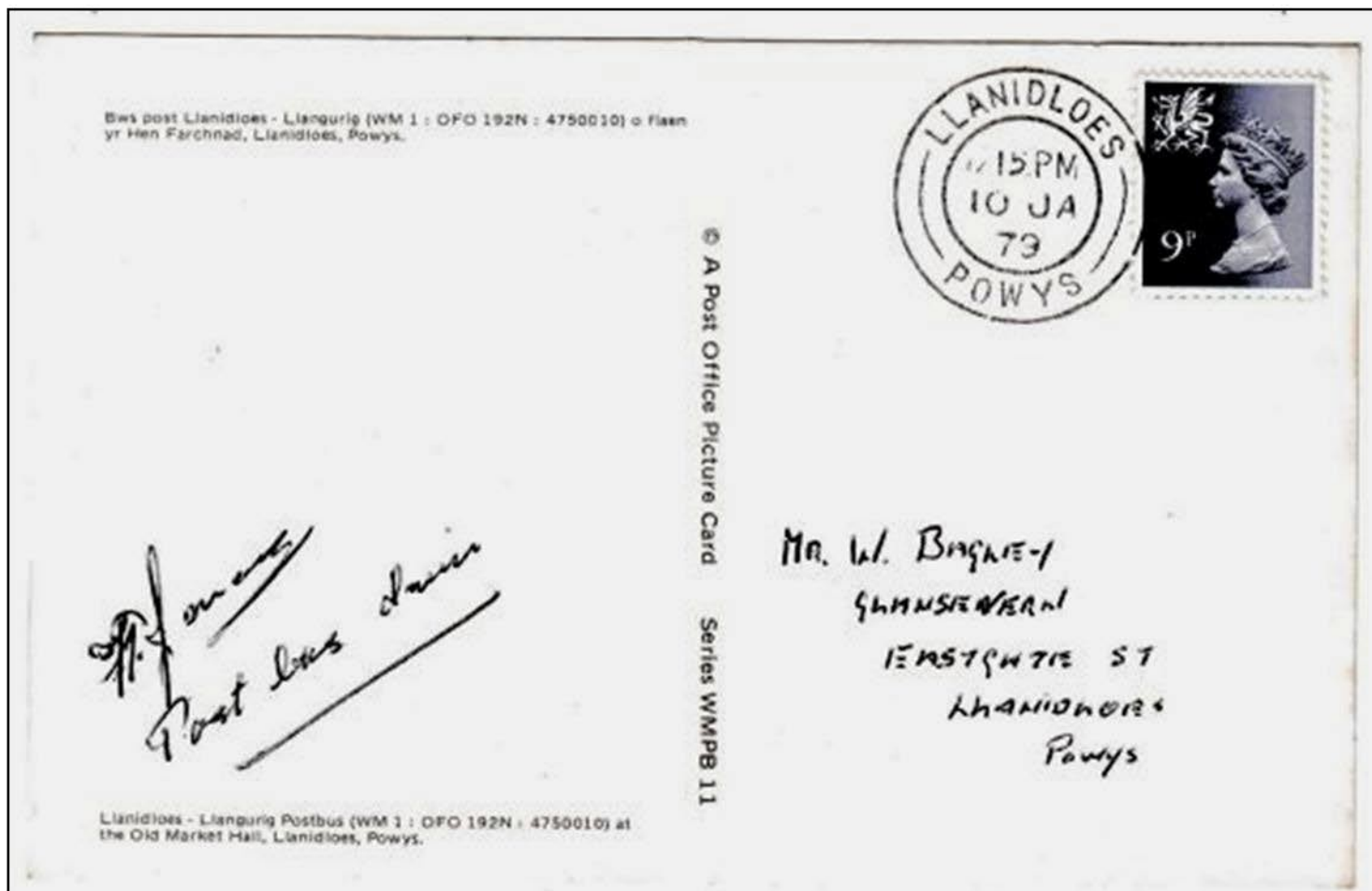
1. TOCYNNAU ÔL A BLAEN Bydd rhannau dychwelyd o docynnau ôl a blaen ar gael am hyd at un mis calendar ar ôl y dyddiad rhoi
2. TOCYNNAU PLANT Bydd plant rhwng 5 a 14 yn talu ~~hammer~~ pris tocyn person mewn oed. Gwnelr unrhyw ffracsiwn o gelniog yn gelniog gyfan. Cludir plant o dan 5 oed gyda pherson mewn oed yn rhad ac am ddim
3. O UN PWYNT I BWYNT ARALL O un pwynt i bwynt arall o fewn ffin prisiau neu ran o ffin prisiau - 5c
1. RETURN TICKETS Return portions of return tickets will be available for up to one calendar month from date of issue
2. CHILDREN'S FARES Children between 5-14 travel at half of adult fare. Fractions of a penny to be rounded up. Children under 5 and accompanied travel free
3. ANY POINT TO POINT Any point to point within a stage or part of a stage - 5p.

Six years on from the previous timetable, and surprisingly the format has not changed



These are two postcards featuring Fred Jones and the Royal Mail bus outside the Market Hall. Both cards have been signed on the reverse by Fred.

Both cards were signed by Fred, and Hand stamp dated.



This trifold leaflet from 1980 is a combination of route map and timetable for the Llanidloes to Dylife Postbus service. The leaflet is opened up on the next page.

Gwasanaeth Prynhawn
Afternoon Service



— siwrnai allan
outward service
- - - siwrnai yn ôl
inward return service

Post Brenhinol

Cardiau Bws y Post

Darluniau o Fysiau Post Cymru
ar y ffordd

ar gael o available from

Philatelic Counter
18 Westgate Street
CARDIFF
CF1 1AD

Post Office
Postbus Postcards

Pictorial views of the Welsh
Postbuses on route

Published by S.24.

Wales and The Marches Postal Board

Swyddfa'r
Post

Post
Office



Gwasanaeth Bws y Post Brenhinol

Royal Mail Postbus Service

Llanidloes
to
Dylife



Yn dechrau ar 8 Medi 1980
Commencing 8 September 1980

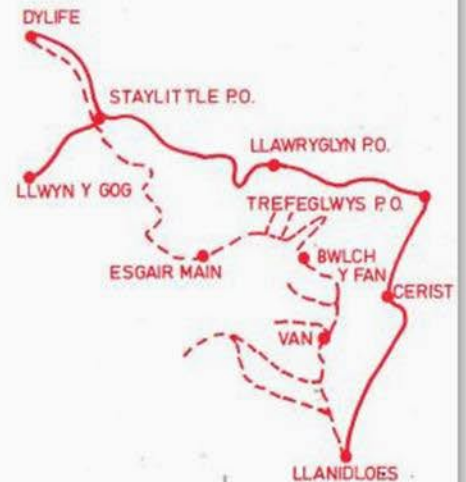
Amserlen, Timetable
Llun - Sadwrn, Monday - Saturday
a.m.

Depart	LLANIDLOES P.O.	1000
	CERIST	1020
	TREFEGLWYS P.O.	1024
	LLAWRYGLYN P.O.	1032
	TANLLAN LB	1040
	STAYLITTLE P.O.	1049
	LLWYN-Y-GOG	1054
Arrive	DYLIFE	1102
Depart	DYLIFE	1103
	STAYLITTLE (Chapel)	1106
	ESGAIR MAIN	1115
	BWLCH-Y-FAN LB	1128
	VAN P.O.	1153
Arrive	LLANIDLOES P.O.	1200

Tabl y Costau, Faretable
Llun - Sadwrn, Monday - Saturday
a.m.

Llanidloes P.O.	
40	Cerist
50 20	Trefeglwys P.O.
60 45 35	Llawryglyn P.O.
60 45 40 15	Tanllan
65 60 55 40 40	Staylittle P.O.
70 65 60 45 45 15	Llwyn-y-gog
80 70 65 60 55 40 35	Dylife
80 70 70 65 65 50 45 25	Staylittle Chapel
95 90 80 70 70 65 65 55 45	Esgair Main
95 90 80 80 70 65 65 60 50 15	Bwlch-y-Fan
100 90 90 80 80 70 65 65 55 35 25	Van P.O.
105 95 95 90 80 70 70 65 65 45 40 30	Llanidloes P.O.

Gwasanaeth Bore
Morning Service



— siwrnai allan
outward service
- - - siwrnai yn ôl
inward return service

Llun - Gwener, Monday - Friday
p.m.

Depart	LLANIDLOES P.O.	1540
	CERIST	1548
	TREFEGLWYS P.O.	1552
	LLAWRYGLYN	1600
	TANLLAN LB	1610
	STAYLITTLE P.O.	1619
	LLWYN-Y-GOG	1624
Arrive	DYLIFE	1631
Depart	DYLIFE	1632
	STAYLITTLE (Chapel)	1636
	ESGAIR MAIN	1645
	BWLCH -Y- FAN	1650
	VAN P.O.	1655
Arrive	LLANIDLOES P.O.	1700

Llun - Gwener, Monday - Friday
p.m.

Llanidloes P.O.	
40	Cerist
50 20	Trefeglwys P.O.
60 45 35	Llawryglyn P.O.
60 45 40 15	Tanllan
65 60 55 40 40	Staylittle P.O.
70 65 60 45 45 15	Llwyn-y-gog
80 70 65 60 55 40 35	Dylife
80 70 70 65 65 50 45 25	Staylittle Chapel
95 90 80 70 70 65 65 55 45	Esgair Main
95 90 80 80 70 65 65 60 50 15	Bwlch-y-Fan
100 90 90 80 80 70 65 65 55 35 25	Van P.O.
105 95 95 90 80 70 70 65 65 45 40 30	Llanidloes P.O.

NODIADAU
1 Bydd plant o dan 3 oed gydag oedolion yn teithio am ddim.
2 Bydd plant rhwng 3 a 14 oed yn teithio am hanner prîs oedolion.
Mynegir pob ffractions fel y gainio gron agosaf i fyny.
NOTES
1 Children under 3 years of age and accompanied travel free.
2 Children over 3 years of age and under 14 years of age travel at half the adult fare. Fractions of a penny to be rounded up.

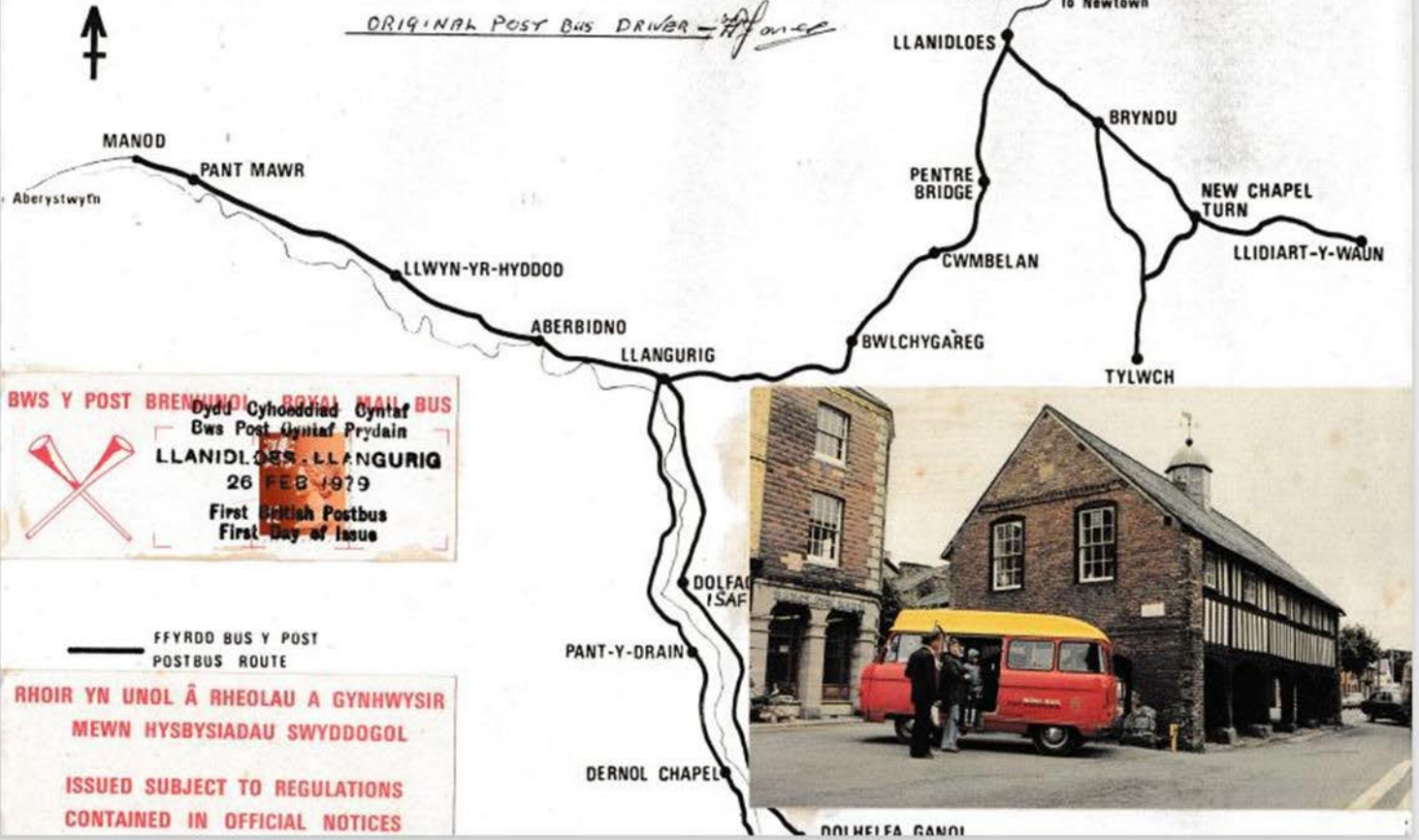
FFYRDD BWS Y POST BRENHINOL

SWYDDFA'R POST
POST OFFICE

ROYAL MAIL POST BUS ROUTES

ARDALOEDD LLANIDLOES-LLANGURIG/LLANIDLOES-LLANGURIG AREAS

ORIGINAL POST BUS DRIVER *Fred Jones*



BWS Y POST BRENHINOL ROYAL MAIL BUS
 Dydd Cyhoeddiad Gyntaf
 Bws Post Gyntaf Prydain
LLANIDLOES-LLANGURIG
 26 FEB 1979
 First British Postbus
 First Day of Issue

FFYRDD BUS Y POST
 POSTBUS ROUTE

**RHOIR YN UNOL Â RHEOLAU A GYNHWYSIR
 MEWN HYSBYSIADAU SWYDDOGOL**

**ISSUED SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS
 CONTAINED IN OFFICIAL NOTICES**

This is a unique item specially prepared for me by Fred Jones, the Post Bus driver. The occasion was the introduction of a new Royal Mail Bus ticket. This is the very first ticket issued by the ticket machine, and the sheet has been signed by Fred.

Postbus

Take a trip with your friendly postman
 34 miles of beautiful scenery for 90 pence

Monday to Friday
 Leaves at 4.00 p.m.
 Returns at 5.30 p.m.

Looking forward
 to seeing you!

Further particulars available at :-
 Post Office Counter
 Longbridge Street
 LLANIDLOES
 SY18 6EG

Bws post Llanidloes - Llangurig (WM 1 : OFO 192N : 4750010) o flaen yr Hen Farchnad, Llanidloes, Powys.



**BWS Y POST BRENHINOL
ROYAL MAIL BUS
LLANIDLOES-LLANGURIG**

H. Jones

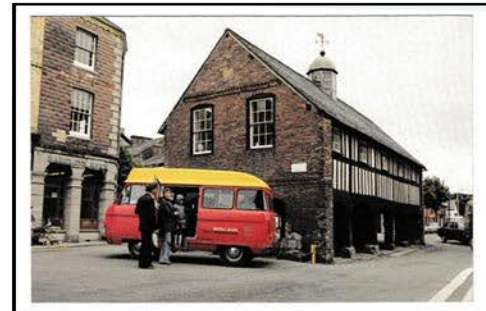
1st POST-BUS DRIVER

15th. ANNIVERSARY

© A Post Office Picture Card Series WMPB 11

Llanidloes - Llangurig Postbus (WM 1 : OFO 192N : 4750010) at the Old Market Hall, Llanidloes, Powys.

A special hand stamp applied to the rear of the postcard in 1982 on the fifteenth anniversary of the service. Also signed by the driver.



GWASANAETH PRYNHAWN - AFTERNOON SERVICE

Llanidloes

17	Cwmbelan																
23	11	Bwlchygarreg															
29	17	11	Llangurig														
40	25	23	18	Llwyn-yr-Hyddod													
46	40	40	23	18	Manod												
-	-	-	-	23	18	Llwyn-yr-Hyddod											
63	57	52	46	-	25	18	Llangurig										
69	63	63	52	-	40	23	11	Bwlchygarreg									
80	63	63	57	-	40	25	17	11	Cwmbelan								
86	80	69	63	-	46	40	29	23	17	Llanidloes							
86	80	80	63	-	52	46	40	23	21	11	Bryndu						
86	86	86	80	-	63	52	46	40	25	21	18	Tylwch					
98	86	86	86	-	63	57	46	40	40	23	23	11	New Chapel Turn				
98	86	86	86	-	69	63	52	46	46	40	25	21	11	Llidiart-y-Waun			
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	11	New Chapel Turn			
103	98	98	98	-	80	69	63	57	52	46	40	25	-	18	11	Bryndu	
103	103	98	98	-	86	80	63	57	57	46	46	40	-	23	18	11	Llanidloes

A fare table, probably for the use of the Post Bus driver.

This is a four page communication from the Post Office in 1978 setting out in great detail a description of the Postbus tickets and the ticket machines in use.

Hysbysu'r Wasg Radio a Theledu Press & Broadcast Notice

Swyddfa'r Post
The Post Office

Bwrdd y Post Cymru a'r Gororau
Wales and the Marches Postal Board

Oddi wrth y Swyddog Cysylltiadau Cyhoeddus
From the Public Relations Officer H Sivell

Teleffon Telephone 393295

January 1978

POSTBUS TICKETS IN WALES

The Post Office's first ever Postbus was inaugurated in Wales on 20 January 1967 between the villages of Llanidloes and Llangurig in Powys. Later that year the service was extended to run both sides of the River Wye.

Throughout the history of this Postbus a ticket machine has been used. Between 1967 and 15 February 1971 - decimalisation day - a Mycalex machine was used but for the new money the machine was changed to an Almex which has been in use ever since. (Samples of the tickets are shown as Item A and Item B in the attached folder).

The Mycalex ticket measured $3\frac{3}{8}$ " x $1\frac{1}{8}$ " (95mm x 37mm) and was printed on one side only in English, giving details of date, fare paid, stage boarded, a four digit serial number and the logo "Issued subject to the Published Rules and Regulations" and "Post Office".

The Almex ticket whilst bearing the same logo as its predecessor also states the ticket, which measures $1\frac{9}{16}$ " x $1\frac{3}{8}$ " (40mm x 45mm), is "Not Transferable". This ticket is printed in English only on side with information relating to date, fare paid, three digit serial number and machine number. The value of Postbus tickets to collectors (Peridromophalists) was not appreciated and no special issue of tickets for Llanidloes-Llangurig Postbus has ever been undertaken.

However, with the introduction of further Postbuses into Wales and an awareness that people study and collect tickets, opportunity has been taken to provide collectors with a new source of material.

The Wales and the Marches Postal Board under the Chairmanship of Mr Gerry McMorran, have decided that all Postbus tickets in Wales will have postage stamps affixed to relate to the value of the fare and those will be cancelled with a route personalised undated rubber stamp at the time of issue.

The basic ticket is white, measuring $3\frac{3}{4}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (96mm x 39mm). On the face "Bws y Post Brenhinol - Royal Mail Bus" appears in $1/8$ " (3mm) red block lettering whilst to the left are a pair of crossed Posthorns and to the right of these are cornered vertical rectangles to locate three postage stamps. On the reverse again in $1/8$ " (3mm) red block lettering appears "Issued subject to Regulations contained in Official Notices" and the Welsh translation - which has precedence over the English - "Rhior yn unol a Rheolau a Gynhwysir mewn Hysbysiadau Swyddogol". (A sample of the blank ticket appears at Item C in the sample folder).

The second Postbus in Wales was inaugurated on 18 July 1977 at Llandovery, Dyfed and the service comprises part of a Welsh Office Rural Transport experiment. For the first day services a special dated bilingual commemorative rubber hand stamp was used to cancel the postage stamps on the tickets. The Commemorative handstamp read:-

"Gwasaneth Bws y Post Brenhinol
Taith Gyntaf
Llandovery - Cilycwm-Rhandirnewyn-
Myddfai
18.7.1977
First Journey
Royal Mail Bus Service"

and measured $15/16$ " high x $1.13/16$ " wide (23mm x 46mm).

For the first 4 months a general cancellation stamp was used which read "Bws y Post Brenhinol - Royal Mail Bus" and measured $1.3/8$ " x $1/2$ " (35mm x 7mm) but on 28 November 1977 the currently used route personalised cancellation stamp was introduced. This stamp read:-

"Bws y Post Brenhinol
Royal Mail Bus
Llandovery-Cilycwm--
Rhandirmwyn-Myddfai"

and measures $1.7/16$ " x $1/2$ " (37mm x 12mm).

The latest Welsh Postbus - the third - based at Rhyl was inaugurated on 31 October 1977 in conjunction with the Clwyd County Council. The tickets are similar to those in use on the Llandovery Postbus and again a commemorative handstamp was used for the First Day services. This stamp read:-

"Gwasaneth Bws y Post Brenhinol
Taith Gyntaf
Rhyl-Meriadog-Rhyl
31.10.1977
First Journey
Royal Mail Bus Service"

and measured $1.15/16$ " wide x $15/16$ " high (49mm x 23mm). The daily cancellation stamp reads:-

"Bws y Post Brenhinol
Royal Mail Bus
Rhyl-Meriadog-Rhyl"

and measures $1.7/16$ " wide x $1/2$ " wide (37mm x 12mm).

The cancellation stamps are made by means of a Printy self-inking machine manufactured by Trodat.

As stated earlier, all Postbus tickets to be issued within Wales and the Marches will have postage stamps amounting to the appropriate fare value affixed. In Wales a bilingual version will be used while, for the Marches, an English only style will be adopted though the ticket will remain the same size. The tickets

are issued from a ticket holder -- known as a "mousetrap" -- which has several spring-clips to hold the varying value of the tickets. These holders are made in Cardiff by a small general contractor to suit the number of fares required for each service.

The introduction of route personalised cancellation stamps has proved to be a financial success, having entered a ready market of transport and transport ticket enthusiasts who are keen to add to their collections. This policy will continue throughout the area controlled by the Wales and the Marches Postal Board.