

NAVIGATION:

Use it or lose it!

Do cruise all the way to Five Locks if you have the opportunity. It may not be entirely easy going but cruising there will help to keep the channel open and demonstrate interest among boaters and local people in the aim of eventual restoration of the canal all the way to Newport. A number of private and hire boats made it to Five Locks in 2015, including *Archimedes* in June. Offside cutting below Pontymoile was much better than in 2014 and weed not as bad as some reports had suggested. A very shallow section just north of the Cwmbran tunnel was dealt with in 2014. Going is slow between bridges 53 and 52 but otherwise there should be no problem with depth of water.

Speeding

If you are making a breaking wash running along the banks you are going damagingly fast, even if you are not exceeding the maximum speed limit of 4mph.

And remember for safety and courtesy:-

Slow down when passing moored boats

(As a rough rule of thumb it should take at least 20 seconds to pass a typical moored steel narrowboat).

AMENDMENTS:

p.31, 4th para.: for 'last century' read '19th century'.

pp.38 & 40: Herons Rest Marina: Tel: 07870 581174

CLOSURE

Union Bridge No 50 Griffithstown is closed to navigation while repair work is carried out, should reopen January 2017. Update will be posted on my site:-
WWW.monandbrecguide.wales

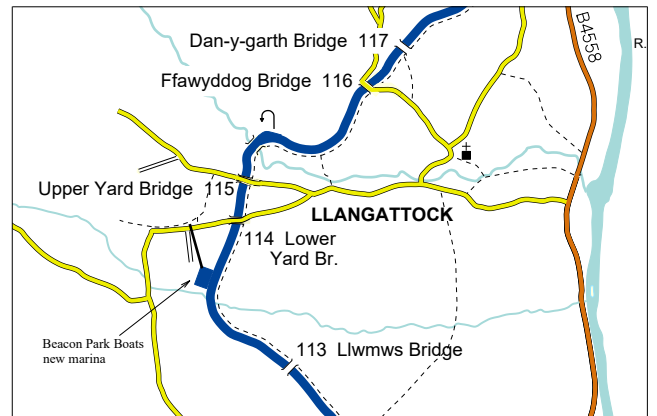
IMPROVEMENTS:

Nearly 500m of vulnerable canal above Llangattock village were relined during the 2012/13 winter, at a cost of £1.2 million.

Major winter works by C&RT in 2013/14 included a £0.3M offside cutting programme and £1.2M spent stabilising the embankment at Llanfoist and nailing it to the bedrock, following significant settlement caused by the unprecedented wet weather in late 2013.

Substantial further expenditure by C&RT in 2014/6 included £1.3 million on relining at Llangynidr and £0.6M dredging between bridges 57 and 76.

Beacon Park boats new marina



Beacon Park Boats have moved from Llanfoist (pages 34/35) to Llangattock (pages 40/41):-

Beacon Park Boats
The Boathouse,
Hillside Road,
Llangattock,
Powys NP8 1EQ
Tel. 01873 858277
<https://beaconparkboats.com>

ADDITIONAL FACILITIES:

Gilwern

Butcher (closed Monday)
B&B and Craft/Gift Shop (Roadhouse Narrowboats)

Talybont

Not a new feature, just a first mention:-
Ashford House Gardens, 200yds upstream of the tunnel are open to the public on Tuesday afternoons (April to September). There are mooring bollards nearby.

RELOCATION:

Gilwern

The Post Office has moved from Main Road to Gilwern Garage & Spar Shop in Crickhowell Road.

RECOVERY:

The winding hole immediately downstream of Sand Bridge, No.105, closed in 2013 to reduce the risk of leakage into properties immediately below the canal, has been re-opened following repairs to a nearby bed valve culvert.

LOSSES:

p.26: Dayboats are no longer available for hire at Pontymoile Basin.
p.49 5th para.: Eggs are no longer available from Lower Wenallt Farm.
P.24 Cross Keys Pub is now closed and the boaters book has disappeared, if anyone knows of it whereabouts please let me know

website: www.monandbrecguide.wales
The latest version of this update sheet can be downloaded
LATEST VERSION:
from British Waterways in July 2012
responsibility for canals and rivers in England and Wales
The new charity, the Canal & River Trust, took over
2012
Canal & River Trust
British Waterways 1962

December 2016

SUPPLEMENT
1. Additions and Amendments
2. Food and Drink at a glance (reverse side)

FOOD & DRINK AT A GLANCE

(excluding principal towns, where there is a wealth of choice)

Abbreviations:

L&E: Lunchtimes and evenings. L: Lunchtimes only E: Evenings only AD: All Day Rest.: Restaurant/Separate dining area

Outside Seating: 'Gdn' implies a grassed area with tables and seating; 'Yes' a hard surfaced area with tables and seating; /P a play area

TV: Satellite TV

Other: Regular or Guest ales. (L= 'Local' brewer/s) ☼ : CAMRA listed ☼ = Dog friendly

Children are welcome at all the venues listed below, unless stated otherwise.

Assume 7 day opening unless stated otherwise.

BEERS

PLACE	PUB/HOTEL	PHONE	HRS	FOOD	OUTSIDE SEATING	EXTRAS
Nearest Bridge			---	---		
			L&E	Rest. Bar		
FIVE LOCKS (PONTNEWYDD)						
	Cross Keys			<i>currently closed</i>		
SEBASTOPOL/GRIFFITHSTOWN						
Br.48	Crown	01495 740387	(9)		Yes	TV
Br.49	Open Hearth	01495 763752	✓	✓ ✓	Canalside & Gdn	Boaters book. Boules
PONTYPOOL						
Br.52	Horse & Jockey	01495 762721	✓	✓ ✓	Yes/P	
MAMHILAD						
Br.62	Star	01495 785319	(1) ✓ ^h	✓ ^h ✓ ^h	Gdn	☼ WiFi, TV, Darts, Quiz(alt.Sun)
Br.65	Horseshoe Inn	01873 880542	(2) ✓	✓ ✓	Yes	{ ☼ WiFi, TV. Provision service for boaters (order by phone)
GOYTRE						
Br.70	Goytre Arms	01873 880376 mob: 07794 469476	(1) ✓	✓ ✓	Gdn/P	{ ☼ WiFi, Darts, Pool, TV, Quiz(Wed) Open fire, Jukebox
GOVILON						
Br.98	Lion Inn	<i>closed</i>				
Br.98	Tafarn y bont	01873 830720	✓ ^a	✓ ^a ✓ ^a	Yes	{ WiFi, Music (Thurs), Pool & Darts ☼ Sky & BT Sport
GILWERN						
Br.103	Bridgend Inn	<i>currently closed</i>	(5) ✓ ^c	✓ ✓	Breakfast	Yes
Br.103	Navigation Inn	<i>currently closed</i>				Open fire, WiFi, TV, Darts, Music
Br.103	Beaufort Arms	01873 832235	(2) ✓	✓ ✓	Yes	WiFi, TV, Darts, B&B
Br.103	Corn Exchange	01873 832404	(2) ✓ ^d	✓ ✓ ^c	Yes	TV
Br.103	Lion Hotel	<i>closed</i>				
CRICKHOWELL						
Br.115	Bridgend Inn	01873 810338	✓	✓ ✓	Riverside Gdn	☼ WiFi, B&B
	Dragon Inn	01873 810362	(1) ✓	✓ ✓	Gdn	☼ WiFi, B&B
	Bear	01873 810408	(1) ✓	✓ ✓	Gdn	☼ WiFi, B&B
	Corn Exchange	01873 810699	L	✓ ✓		
	Britannia Inn	<i>currently closed</i>				
LLANGATTOCK						
Br.115	Horse Shoe Inn	<i>currently closed</i>				
	Vine Tree	<i>currently closed</i>	✓	✓ ✓	Gdn	
Br.117	Old Rectory Hotel	01873 810373	✓	✓ ✓	Breakfast	Gdn ☼ WiFi, Golf (visitors welcome)
THE DARDY						
Br.118	Ty Croeso B&B	01873 810573				B&B WiFi (charge)
UPPER LLANGYNIDR						
Br.129	Red Lion Hotel	01874 730223	(1) ✓	✓ ✓	Breakfast ^k	Gdn/P ☼ WiFi, Music, Pool, Darts, TV, B&B
LOWER LLANGYNIDR						
Br.133	Coach and Horses	01874 730245	(1) ✓ ^k	✓ ✓	Canalside Gdn/P	☼ B&B, Games Room, WiFi
TALYBONT						
Br.142	Travellers Rest	01874 676233	✓ ^e	✓ ^e	Gdn	B&B
	(Restaurant & Rooms)					
Br.143	Usk Inn (Stn.Rd)	01874 676251	(1) AD	✓ ✓	Aft. Tea ^j	Gdn B&B, Games, TV
Br.143	Star Inn	01874 676635	(2) ✓	✓ ✓		Gdn WiFi, B&B, TV, Live Music (Beer Fests June/Oct)
PENCELLI						
Br.154	Royal Oak	01874 665396	(4) ✓ ^f	✓ ^f ✓ ^f	Canalside Gdn	
LLANFRYNACH						
Br.158	White Swan	01874 665276	(9) ✓ ^g	✓ ^g ✓ ^g	Gdn	WiFi, self catering cottages
GROESFFORD						
Br.163	Three Horse Shoes	01874 665672	(3) ✓ ^m	✓ ^m ✓ ^m	Yes(+view) & Gdn	☼ WiFi, TV

- Bass
- Brains
- Boddingtons
- Felinfoel
- Flowers
- Harpers
- Hancocks
- John Smiths
- Marston's
- Monland
- Rudland
- Rhydles
- Ryymey
- Treleys
- Theakstons
- Wadworth
- Whitbread
- Worthington
- Real Ales
- Others

Despite my best efforts I am finding it impossible to keep up with all the real ales and ciders that our canal side pubs hotels selling as they are changed quite regularly.

If you are a real ale drinker please contact the pub directly so that you will not be disappointed.

PLEASE, if you find any pubs are now closed or others reopened please let me know at :-
mail@monandbrecguide.wales

Other useful establishments:-
PONTYMOILE: Marina Tea Room. (07930 201520)
GOYTRE WHARF: Canale (01873 881069) (Italian Café and Restaurant)
LLANFOIST (formerly the Llanfoist Inn): Spice Lounge: Indian Rest't & Takeaway.
CRICKHOWELL: Courtroom Café (other restaurants and 'takeaways' include Red Indigo (Indian) [former White Hart]).
TALYBONT: Stores, P.O. and Café
ROGERSTONE: Fourteen Locks CC Tearoom

OPENING NOTES
 (1) Open all day
 (2) Open all day at weekends
 (3) cl.Mon. lunchtime, except Bank Hols.
 (4) cl.wkday lunchtime except Summ. Hols
 (5) Open all day at weekends; closed Mon except Bank Holidays.
 (6) Evgs.+ Fri,Sat,Sun lunchtime
 (7) Closed Tuesday
 (8) Sunday: lunchtime only.
 (9) Closed Mon. except Summer December & Bank Hols.

FOOD NOTES
^a not Mon.
^b not Sun evening
^c Lunchtime Tues to Sun
^d Thurs, Fri, Sat evenings only
^e Thurs, Fri, Sat from 7pm, Sun from 12.30; Mon, Tues, Sun evg. according to demand
^f Summer; Evg (and L&E in hols) & Winter; E: Thur, Fri, Sat; L: Sun.
^g not Mon, not Tues.
^h Lunchtime all week, Evenings Tues to Sat.
^j not Mon & Tues lunchtimes
^k Breakfast if booked
^m not Mon except Bank Hols

Information on this sheet is given in good faith but absolute accuracy cannot be guaranteed. The full range of beers ticked may not be held at any one time. Not all pubs return questionnaires each year and one has asked not to be included.

It may be wise to telephone ahead, particularly if seeking food in the evening