

# BRIAN BUSHELL

## Railway Preservation CV

Brian's lifetime passion has been railways, and he became heavily involved in narrow gauge railway preservation. An expensive hobby – where most of his money went!

### TALYLLYN RAILWAY

(all voluntary during weekends and holidays)

- 1958** S&T Lineman – re-wiring pole route through Brynglas Cutting
- 1959** Cleaner/Fireman based at Pendre
- 1959-1963** North-west area group P/Way winter weekend working parties
- 1960** Trainee Guard/Booking Clerk
- 1961-1972** Guard/Booking Clerk
- 1963-1972** Blockman (TR equivalent of signaller). One of the first!
- 1964-1972** Member of Publicity and Shop Management Committees
- 1965-1972** Founder Member and Secretary of Traffic & Operating Committee. In 2005, guest speaker at Committee's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary function. No doubt he will be wheeled out again in two years for 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!
- 1968-1972** Elected to main Council, the railway's 'management committee'. Unlike other preserved railways, it is the Society, not the Company, which determines policy and effectively controls the railway. When re-elected in 1971, came second in poll only to John Slater (editor of *Railway Magazine*), getting more votes than Jimmy Boyd!!
- 1970-1972** Press Officer (member of Press Club for 12 years). Handled all publicity for Society's 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Most of the above can be verified by reading editions of *Talyllyn News* from the period.

### FFESTINIOG RAILWAY

(See main CV for computer career)

- 1968-1971** Booking Clerk and Assistant Guard on days off from Talyllyn! (Mad or what!!)
- 1972** Guard (voluntary)

(then forced to abandon all railway volunteering due to problems at home in Birkenhead)

- 1977-1981** Guard//Booking Clerk (voluntary)
- 1981-1984** Fireman (single engines only) (Voluntary/Paid, depending on circumstances)
- 1982-1997** Guard/Booking Clerk (paid)
- 1983-1987** Signaller (paid). Made redundant by automation! Subsequently re-qualified as Rhiw Goch signaller for shortish period in early 2000s.
- 1982-1983** Blaenau Ffestiniog Station Master (paid). Set up station ready for opening, in conjunction with Sean Britton, who was his day off relief.
- 1982-1983** Father Christmas!! (Voluntary) First trip, they stuck a cushion up his tunic to fatten him up a bit – he got jammed between the Pullman seat backs in the Obs!
- 1982-1986** First-ever resident warden of old Minffordd Hostel (voluntary). Bit like having a lunatic running an asylum! Felt more like resident psychiatrist!
- 1985-1988** Class B Controller (paid)
- 1988-1995** Class A Controller (paid). Controlled all three days of both 1990 and 1993 Galas on his own (apart from evenings). Lapsed himself in 1995 due to time spent on computer work preventing him getting out enough to be as familiar with latest developments as a controller needs to be.