Friends of Romiley Station



Welcome to our November 2020 Newsletter.

We have had a busy month working on the station gardens etc. achieving a great deal thanks to help from TfGM whose staff came along to a volunteer day.

As the dark nights draw in and autumn moves towards winter the gardens will begin to become more manageable as both plants and weeds stop growing.

Later this month sees the Cheshire Best Kept Station Awards Evening, so see below for full details.

Also, we are pleased to be able to report that Northern have now introduced a 90 minute interval service on the Rose Hill Line (more frequent at peak times).

CHESHIRE BEST KEPT STATIONS



As you may already know Cheshire is unique in that it is the only county in England that has a Best Kept Station Competition. Ever since 2003 Cheshire Best Kept stations has been doing a fantastic job to motivate and recognise the work of volunteer groups who put so much

time and effort into making their adopted stations and its environment a place to be proud of and one that benefits the community as a whole.

Like everyone else at this difficult time they have had to be inventive in their approach.

So they have moved their annual Awards Evening on-line and have also set up a You Tube Channel.

Full details can be found on their website (bestkeptstations.org.uk). It provides links to their You Tube Channel, their "Intouch" newsletter and much more. So do visit it on a regular basis.

The on-line Awards Evening will be on Tuesday 27th November 2020 commencing at 7.00pm. So put the date in your diary and make sure that you tune in.

ROSE HILL LINE (HYDE LOOP)



It is pleasing to report that Northern have from 26th October 2020 been able to bring back more trains onto the Rose Hill line, so as to provide a basic 90 minute interval service, augmented at peak times.

Trains do finish earlier than they used to pre-Covid but the shuttle bus is being retained each evening so as to provide a service linking Rose Hill, Marple and Romiley connecting with trains to and from Manchester Piccadilly.

The full timetable is set out below.

It can also be downloaded from Northern's website (northernrailway.co.uk). Northern have also produced an excellent printed leaflet giving full details. Copies are available stations on the route.



From Monday 26 October 2020

Manchester Piccadilly to Rose Hill Marple Train and evening shuttle bus timetable

The timetable shown below will run Mondays to Saturdays on the Manchester Piccadilly to Rose Hill line until Monday 14 December 2020, when additional services will be introduced.

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Marple	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1911	1	2010	1	2110	1
Rose Hill Marple	0740	0740	0811	0836	0906	0909	1041	1208	1340	1450	1539	1540	1708	1840	1841	-	1925	-	2025	-	2125

STATION IMPROVEMENTS

A lot of work has been ongoing at the station this past month or so, although at the moment it does seem to have been put on hold. Probably not too surprising given the weather.

We mentioned last month that decorators were busy painting the station buildings and they have made some excellent progress.

northern

We are making improvements to the facilities at this station.

Hoardings will be erected around the subway at Romiley station from Monday 21 September 2020, however, through access to the platforms via the subway will be maintained during this time.

Thank you for bearing with us, so that we can make this transformation happen! Workmen have also been very busy in the subway. They stripped away the brick lining on each side, cleaned out the sides and then shored up the roof, presumably to stop it flexing every time a train went over.

Unfortunately, there is now even greater water ingress than before but hopefully that will be sorted as part of the overall work being undertaken.





Temporary barriers have been put down each side of the subway to protect everyone using it.

The station was also visited by Network Rail surveyors as part of a survey aimed at extending the platforms some time during 2021. This, we are told, is to accommodate longer trains.

Also, during October Stockport MBC installed a traffic light controlled crossing and dropped kerbs right outside the main station entrance on Stockport Road. This temporary measure has already made crossing the main road much safer. A permanent crossing is to be installed, hopefully next year.

TASK SESSIONS

Our next Task Session will take place from 2pm on Saturday 14th November, so please put the date in your diary and contact Angie Clark on 07951 567147 or by email on clark.theateam69@btinternet.com to let her know if you are coming along.



We were blessed with some decent weather for the October session and managed to undertake a lot of tidying up in the Waiting Room garden.

We also filled just under two bags with rubbish that had been discarded on and around the station car park.

It is so disappointing that so many people think that it is acceptable to simply dump their used takeaway

wrappers, drink cans and the like rather than use the litter bins provided or better still take their rubbish home with them.

CO-OP LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

Our year of Co-op Local Community Fund support has now drawn to an end with the final sum raised for us being in excess of £1,100. We will be advised of the exact sum within the next week.

To date we have spent some



£1,059.04 of the money. Spending has been on new gardening tools (£403.18), Station Walks Booklets (£567.90) and weed control membrane (£87.96).

We can not thank the Co-op and their members enough for their fantastic support this past 12 months.

The balance of the money will be spent maintaining and developing the land at the bottom end of the station car park approach.

Meanwhile, we would encourage all of our readers who are also Co-op members to choose a good cause for the coming year. They are all listed on the Co-op's website.

VOLUNTEER DAY - SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER

The sun shone all day and thanks to the sterling efforts of those attending we managed to clear a vast area of the overgrown land at the foot of the "Hill of Doom" by the station car park.

We have now received our order of heavy duty weed control membrane which will be laid during the next Task Session.

We would very much like to thank Mark, Sam and Simon from TfGM who worked ever so hard throughout the day.



Northern very kindly paid for a green skip which has been filled and the contents taken away for composting.



One added bonus was that under a lot of the weeds and ivy we discovered several rotting tree trunks which were full of insects.

So we have moved these and placed them all together behind the Waiting Room garden so as to create a log pile 'Bug Hotel'.

SCENIC RAIL BRITAIN

We are very lucky where we live in that we have access to some wonderful scenery, including the Hope Valley which is very accessible by train.



However, there are many other lines in the area that give great access to some fantastic places. These include the Buxton Line, Mid Cheshire Line and lots more.

So when things return to a better normal and you feel up to travelling to some great place have a look at the Scenic Rail Britain website (scenicrailbritain.com) as it contains details on so many lines throughout our area and beyond.

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