

## NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2021. We hope that you had a lovely Christmas and New Year despite all the problems caused by the ongoing pandemic. Even with it being winter there has been quite a lot going on although we have now cancelled all task sessions until further notice. Probably a good job considering the weather at the moment.

#### TASK SESSION - 12TH DECEMBER 2020



**Christmas 2020**

The redecoration has made a tremendous difference with the station looking so much brighter. Unfortunately, it was not possible to paint the awnings over the platforms as that would have required a full possession of the line.

**Christmas 2019**

We were able to put up our Christmas tree at the foot of the stairs by the main entrance on Saturday 12th December.

As you can see from the photos the tree was very much enhanced this festive season by the improvements undertaken by Northern during 2020 when they gave the station a fresh look with a total redecoration.



## THE BLUE PULLMAN

On Saturday 12th December 2020 the Blue Pullman train passed through Romiley during its first public outing.

It had been due to have its inaugural run on 5th November but the lockdown forced its owners, Locomotive Services Limited, to postpone the trip for just over a month.



With a livery harking back to the days of BR's iconic Blue Pullman it departed London St Pancras at around 09.00 before heading up the Midland Main Line and then down the Hope Valley passing through Romiley on its way via Guide Bridge and Stockport to Crewe. Later it returned to London via the West Coast Main Line.

The refurbishment and repainting of the all first class HST was carried out for Locomotive Services Limited by Arlington Fleet Services at Eastleigh, with the set first breaking cover on October 30 when it returned to its Crewe base.



The pictures show the Blue Pullman passing Platform 1 as it heads in the direction of Woodley and Guide Bridge.



## MAYOR OF STOCKPORT

Shortly after we published the December Newsletter we received a lovely letter from the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick, which was addressed to everyone who is a Friend of Romiley Station. We have written back to the Mayor thanking him for his kind comments as well as reproducing the letter below so that you can read it.



TOWN HALL  
STOCKPORT  
SK1 3XE

3 December 2020

Friends of Romiley Station  
C/O Romiley Station  
Romiley  
Stockport SK6 4BR

Dear Friends of Romiley Station

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for the outstanding work that you have continued to carry out on your local station over many years and in particular offer my congratulations to you for your recent and well deserved success and recognition in the 2020 Cheshire Best Kept Stations Awards.

Your community art project has made a massive improvement to the appearance of your station, the manner in which you engaged with the local community is an object lesson in community outreach. Giving individuals of all ages and abilities the opportunity to contribute directly to the final project makes the results that much more representative of the community at large. The additional landscaping and gardening work around the station that further enhances the appearance and user experience has not gone unnoticed, it really does make the station a more welcoming and pleasant environment for everybody.

Stockport Council recognises, that this year more than any other, the valuable contribution that volunteers within our community make to the greater society. Providing opportunities for individuals to be a part of something that enthuses them, helping to overcome isolation and social disadvantage and giving people from a wide range of backgrounds an opportunity to work together are just a few of the benefits of volunteering. The Community Rail movement has been supported by Stockport Council for many years in recognition, both of the importance of rail to the town but also the contribution that individual friends' groups make to their local communities. As the town moves forward into 2021 and into what we hope is a more positive outlook, getting people back onto public transport is going to be a key objective of the Council and we hope that Community Rail can play a big part in promoting rail travel to help us all move towards more sustainable travel and a cleaner environment.

Thank you once again for your efforts in supporting your local community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Dean Fitzpatrick'.

Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick  
Mayor of Stockport

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Email: [mayors.office@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:mayors.office@stockport.gov.uk)

Website: [www.stockport.gov.uk/mayor](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/mayor)

## COMMUNITY RAIL AWARDS 2020



The 2020 Community Rail Awards took place during an online event on Wednesday 9th December 2020.

It was extremely well put together and celebrated Community Rail throughout the country.

If you have not seen the Awards Evening then do view it on You Tube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYGHwx-pN3w> or by simply typing in Community Rail Awards to follow the link.

You can also download a copy of the Awards brochure by visiting the Community Rail Network website at [www.communityrail.ork.uk](http://www.communityrail.ork.uk).

It was great to see so many local groups featuring again this year. However, a special mention to the Friends of Rose Hill Station who were awarded the Lead Gold in the *"It's Your Station"* Category.

## STEAM TRAIN - SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2020



Saturday 19th December 2020 saw a steam hauled special heading from Telford Central to York, via the Hope Valley, pass through Romley

The steam train in question was a Southern Railway West Country class 4-6-2 Pacific steam locomotive 34046 Braunton which was built in 1946.

After careful restoration during the early 2000's she returned to steam in 2007 and in 2013 back into operational service on main lines and looks magnificent to this day.

Thanks to Geoff Walton for sending us this picture (and pictures of the

Blue Pullman featured elsewhere in this newsletter).

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - TUESDAY 9TH MARCH 2021**

Unless things changes dramatically our Annual General Meeting will take place remotely (using Zoom) on Tuesday 9th March 2021 commencing at 7.00pm.

The Agenda and accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020 are set out below.

If you cannot join the meeting but wish to have something discussed please do let the Secretary know before the meeting.

A Zoom link will be sent out with the March Newsletter so that anyone who wishes to attend can do so.

### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 3rd March 2020
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Officer's Reports
  - Chair
  - Secretary/Membership Secretary
  - Treasurer (including presentation of Annual accounts (kindly audited by John A Simpson BA ACA)

If anyone would like to put themselves forward for any of the elected positions and cannot be at the AGM please let the Secretary, Angie Clark, know in advance of the meeting at [clark.theateam69@btinternet.com](mailto:clark.theateam69@btinternet.com)

5. Projects for 2021
6. Constitutional Amendments (Notice of which should be given to the Secretary in advance of the meeting)

Please note that a proposal has already been received to amend clause 9 of the constitution replacing the current clause "*9. There shall be an annual and/or lifetime membership subscription to help pay necessary expenses – to be fixed at a members' meeting at such a rate as is from time to time thought appropriate.*" with "*9. Membership shall be free upon the completion of an appropriate membership application form. A member may discontinue their membership at anytime by advising the membership secretary in writing.*"

7. Any Other Business

**THE FRIENDS OF ROMILEY STATION**  
(Incorporating Romiley Remembers)  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**1ST JANUARY 2020 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020**  
(1ST JANUARY 2019 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2019)

	2020 Income	2019	2020 Expenditure	2019	2020 Surplus/Deficit	2019
Opening Balance (Yorkshire Bank Account)	£2,325.32	£1,380.09				
Opening Balance (Petty Cash)	£2.81	£49.83				
<b>Opening Total Balance</b>	<b>£2,328.13</b>	<b>£1,429.92</b>				
Allocated as						
Romiley Remembers	£380.78	£255.79				
Friends of Romiley Station	£1,847.34	£1,174.13				
<b>Friends of Romiley Station</b>						
Membership Subscriptions	£115.00	£95.00			£115.00	£95.00
Donations	£570.00	£240.00			£570.00	£240.00
Grant - Northern Rail - Artwork		£172.70				£172.70
Grant - Northern Rail - Platform 2 Storeroom	£950.00				£950.00	
Grant - TfGM/ACoRP - Platform 2 Storeroom	£1,000.00				£1,000.00	
Platform 2 Storeroom			£14.89		-£14.89	
Grant - SEM Community Rail Partnership - Plants etc	£150.00				£150.00	
Grant - Stockport MBC - Ward Flexibility Fund		£85.00				£85.00
Grant - Northern Rail - VE Day 75th Anniversary Event	£200.00				£200.00	
VE Day 75th Anniversary Event			£9.99		-£9.99	
Subway Windows Project			£5.89		-£5.89	
Station Artwork				£285.49		-£285.49
Station Sign			£13.50	£84.00	-£13.50	-£84.00
Subscription to ACoRP				£30.00		-£30.00
Mini Beast Display				£23.99		-£23.99
Cooperative Local Community Fund	£3,640.92				£3,640.92	
Walks from Romiley Station Booklet			£567.90		-£567.90	
Gardening (Plants, Seeds, Tools etc) Including Planters			£688.44	£86.06	-£688.44	-£86.06
New Planters / Mural				£140.67		-£140.67
Room Hire	£44.00		£44.00		£0.00	
Station Totem Fridge Magnets		£14.00				£14.00
Prizes for "Bake me a Train" Competition			£9.98	£17.60	-£9.98	-£17.60
Poppy Display				£6.18		-£6.18
Stationery			£38.95		-£38.95	
Christmas Tree and Decorations				£86.06		-£86.06
Compensation from the Financial Ombudsman/Bank		£100.00				£100.00
Payment to change bank accounts		£787.60				£787.60
Bank Interest (RBS Bank Account)		£0.46				£0.46
	<b>£6,888.82</b>	<b>£1,497.66</b>	<b>£1,383.64</b>	<b>£724.45</b>	<b>£6,278.38</b>	<b>£773.21</b>
<b>Romiley Remembers</b>						
Book Sales - In the Footsteps of the Fallen		£220.00			£0.00	£220.00
Blue Plaque - Gertrude Powlicke Service/Ceremony				£95.00	£0.00	-£95.00
Donation - to Royal British Legion			£380.79		-£380.79	
	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£220.00</b>	<b>£380.78</b>	<b>£95.00</b>	<b>-£380.78</b>	<b>£125.00</b>
<b>Total Income/Expenditure</b>	<b>£6,888.82</b>	<b>£1,717.66</b>	<b>£1,774.33</b>	<b>£819.45</b>	<b>£4,895.68</b>	<b>£898.21</b>
<b>Opening Total Balance</b>					<b>£2,328.13</b>	<b>£1,429.92</b>
<b>Current Total Balance (FoRS + RR + Opening Total Balance)</b>					<b>£7,223.72</b>	<b>£2,328.13</b>
<b>Made up of</b>						
Current Balance (Yorkshire Bank Account)	£7,090.91	£2,325.32				
Current Balance (Petty Cash)	£132.81	£2.81				
<b>Total Balance</b>	<b>£7,223.72</b>	<b>£2,328.13</b>				
Allocated as						
Romiley Remembers	£0.00	£380.79				
Friends of Romiley Station	£7,223.72	£1,947.34				

REPORT OF THE EXAMINER TO THE FRIENDS OF ROMILEY STATION

I have reviewed the records and vouchers presented to me relating to the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 and confirm that they are in accordance therewith.

*J.A. Simpson*

6th January 2021

John A Simpson BA ACA  
Chartered Accountant