

Friends of Romiley Station



NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021

Welcome to our June newsletter. May was an exciting month in that we were certainly able to get somewhat back to normal, although the poor weather did lead to the cancellation of the first task session on Saturday, 8th May.

However, we managed to do quite a lot at the station and on Tuesday 18th May we were presented with our Cheshire Best Kept Station Award. We also had the opportunity of getting loads of plants from the Mellor Country House Charity's Annual Plant Sale thanks to the generosity of the Romiley and Marple Lions Club.

We also benefitted from the generosity of The Friends of Rose Hill Station when we were visited by Rachel Singer who not only helped plant a load of Hollyhocks but gave us some good gardening tips along the way.

You will find more details of all of these below together with much more.

RECENT TASK SESSIONS

At least we did not have to compete with snow and hail this past month and the monsoon type conditions at times certainly took away the need to regularly water all the plants.

We did have a very productive session a few weeks ago when we were able to remove a lot of growth by what was a former high stone kerb at the side of the slope up to the top station car park.

This was by the area that we are currently looking to turn into a more formal garden area. As the photo shows it was a very wet evening when the work was undertaken. Following a suggestion we have now purchased some low picket fencing aimed at stopping the growth returning, which has now been installed.





As you will know from previous newsletters we installed a large area of anti-weed matting over the previously overgrown area at the bottom of "the hill of doom" which had been cleared at during last autumn's 'volunteer day'.

This area will eventually be covered with inert material. However, the bracken that was there has tried to make a comeback.

That has all been dealt with, as was a massive rock that was uncovered on the site.

Once everything was removed the matting was put back in place.

We are currently waiting for a couple of firms to get back to us with quotes to provide a supporting concrete or sleeper wall at the base of the hill so that we can have it back filled to provide a level surface upon which we can place a number of planters which will really brighten up that area of the station car park.



At an informal session in mid May Rachel Singer (shown in the photograph) kindly spent an afternoon with some of our own members planting a number of Hollyhocks.

These were very kindly donated to us by Rachel on behalf of the Friends of Rose Hill Station. It must have been one of those rare sunny days given her "shades".



STEAM TRAIN - SATURDAY 5TH JUNE

We would like to remind you that the "The Scarborough Flyer" is scheduled to travel from Manchester Victoria to Scarborough (via Romiley and the Hope Valley) on Saturday 5th June.



It will be picking up passengers at Romiley (departure time 08.40) returning that evening at 21.20.

The train will be steam hauled on the outward journey through Romiley, but will be diesel hauled upon its return.

JUNE AND JULY TASK SESSIONS

We will be carrying out more Task Sessions during June and July.

They will take place on the following days:

- Saturday 12th June - from 2pm
- Tuesday 22nd June - from 7pm
- Saturday 10th July - from 2pm
- Tuesday 27th July - from 7pm

If you are able to attend any of these sessions please do let Angie Clark know in advance either on 07951 567147 or by email to clark.theateam69@btinternet.com.

If you fancy doing any gardening in between sessions do contact Angie so that she can make appropriate arrangements for you to have access to all the gardening tools.

Alternatively, do feel free to use your own tools.



TRAIN OPERATING COMPANIES (TOCs) - ANAGRAMS

You will find a full list of all the Train Operating Companies (TOCs) on the National Rail website (www.nationalrail.co.uk).

This month we have created 14 anagrams using some of the TOC names as they appear on the website.



All you have to do is solve those anagrams and find the actual names.

Against each anagram we have let you know how many words are in the name of the TOC plus the number of letters in each word.

For example: salami windward style (3 words 4, 8, 7 letters) = West Midlands Railway

1. seat two is vacant (3 words 6, 4, 5 letters) =
2. win artillery cash (2 words 9, 8 letters) =
3. mad sanitary sidewall (3 words 4, 8, 7 letters) =
4. excess twig park (2 words 7, 7 letters) =
5. our stare (1 word 8 letters) =
6. endorse pelican ale (2 words 10, 7 letters) =
7. insert large waterway (3 words 5, 7, 7 letters) =
8. rent horn (1 word 8 letters) =
9. gargle rain tea (2 words 7, 6 letters) =
10. wash horse expert (2 words 8, 7 letters) =
11. stir cola (1 word 8 letters) =
12. frontal sportswear (3 words 9, 3, 5 letters) =
13. run all this (2 words 4, 6 letters) =
14. sir may reel (1 word 10 letters) =

You will find all the answers at the end of this newsletter.

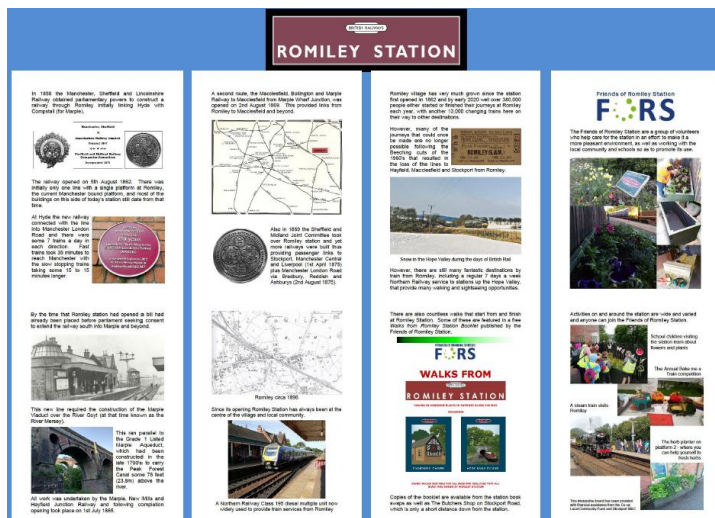
INTERPRETIVE BOARD

In an effort to not only promote the station and the many travel opportunities from Romiley we have come up with the idea of installing an interpretive board.

It would also let people know all about the station's history as well as our work. So we have approached Becky Styles at Northern (who is to approach Network Rail for us) for consent to site the board at the left of the main station entrance at the bottom of the ramp up to Platform 1.



The interpretive board will be A1 in size and will be made out of recycled plastic.



To meet the cost we have also submitted a funding application to Stockport Council's Werneth Area Committee

It will be considered at their June meeting.

In addition we will be using some of the money given to us last year from the Coop Local Community Fund. That will make up for any funding shortfall.

PLATFORM 2 BOOK SWAP

We are pleased to say that the Platform 2 Book swap has now reopened and is now bigger and better than before with three times as many books.

We have created the extra capacity with the installation of a further bookcase which has been filled with a whole host of books.

This follows a very generous donation of an entire book collection from a local lady who was moving out of the area.



CHESHIRE BEST KEPT STATION AWARDS 2020

In our December 2020 Newsletter we were delighted to report that we had won one of the 2020 Cheshire Best Kept Station Awards.

Our award arose out of our 2018 Community Art Project in which we covered 11 boarded up windows on Platform 1 with pictures of local scenes, all painted by members of the local community.

Locally Rose Hill Station also won an award for its work in celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the line through Rose Hill and there was a commendation for Marple Station for their Agatha Christie/Miss Marple anniversary project/artwork.



The photograph above show the award being presented to Angie Clark by Mark Barker on Tuesday 18th May by Mark Barker (the chair of Cheshire Best Kept Stations) accompanied by Mark Angelucci (Rail Officer - TfGM) and Theo McLaughlin (Station Manager North / East Manchester & High Peaks - Northern).

In addition the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick very kindly came along to lend us his support and thank us for the work that we as a group undertake at the station.

We were blessed with some beautiful weather but unfortunately, with the current restrictions on numbers gathering at stations, we were not able to invite along all those many people who were involved with the initial project.

MELLOR COUNTRY HOUSE CHARITY'S PLANT SALE ROMILEY AND MARPLE LIONS

Over the weekend of 22nd and 23rd May 2021 the Mellor Country House Charity held their annual plant sale. The charity is dedicated to providing short self catering breaks for groups, families, carers and individuals primarily from Greater Manchester who could not, otherwise, have a break at all.

We were delighted not only to learn about the weekend plant sale from the Romiley and Marple Lions but also to be invited by them to choose a whole host of plants for use at the station which the Lions would pay for so as to support not just us, which they have done magnificently in the past, but also the Mellor Country House Charity.



Members of the Lions came along to the station on Tuesday 25th May to not only present us with the plants but to help put them into the platform planters, which they had themselves paid to have constructed in memory of some of their own members who had sadly passed away.

We are privileged to have such loyal supporters of our work.

Without groups like the Lions, whose support has been both practical and financial, we would not be able to achieve as much as we do, so we owe them a very big thank you.



The photos on this page show a selection of the plants with our members and the Lions, some of the Lions hard at work planting them and our jolly band of members celebrating being in a supervisory role

TRAIN OPERATING COMPANY ANAGRAMS - ANSWERS

1. seat two is vacant (3) = Avanti West Coast
2. win artillery cash (2) = Chiltern Railways
3. mad sanitary sidewall (3) = East Midlands Railway
4. excess twig park (2) = Gatwick Express
5. our stare (1) = Eurostar
6. endorse pelican ale (2) = Caledonian Sleeper
7. insert large waterway (3) = Great Western Railway
8. rent horn (1) = Northern
9. gargle rain tea (2) = Greater Anglia
10. wash horse expert (2) = Heathrow Express
11. stir cola (1) = ScotRail
12. frontal sportswear (3) = Transport for Wales
13. run all this (2) = Hull Trains
14. sir may reel (1) = Merseyrail