

Friends of Romiley Station



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2021

Welcome to our October Newsletter. Sorry that it is slightly later than usual this month, but this was due to the editorial team holidays. However, we hope that it has been worth waiting for.

TASK SESSIONS

During September, which as you know contained quite a lengthy hot and dry period we very much concentrated upon the gardens generally tidying up, weeding and preparing then for the autumn and winter months ahead.

At the next session, which takes place this coming Saturday (Saturday 9th October) from 2pm we will be planting a load of daffodil bulbs in the Waiting Room garden, to replace those destroyed by Network Rail when they cut down a load of trees a couple of years back now, so that hopefully we can get back to having a lovely spring display.

In addition we will be tidying up our storeroom on Platform 2, as on Monday 11th October our contractors are due to start the work (kindly funded by Northern, TfGM and the Community Rail Network) to refurbishing the room and to put glass back into the windows so that we can see what we are doing when inside.



The same contractors will also be undertaking work at the bottom of the "Hill of Doom" by the Council's Pay and Display Car Park aimed at creating a pleasant garden area which will be much more welcoming to those driving or walking up to the Platform 2 entrance. This work is being funded by the Co-op Local Community Fund.

Both sets of work should have taken place almost 18 months ago now but had to be put back given the Covid situation. So, as Father Ted would say, the money to pay for it all "has been resting in our account".

STATIONS QUIZ

Thanks to Mark Barker, the chair of Cheshire Best Kept Stations, who gave us the idea for this month's quiz.

Incidentally, over the past couple of months or so the Cheshire Best Kept Stations judging team have been travelling all over the old Cheshire visiting countless stations as part of the process in determining the winners of the 2021 Awards.

Their efforts will culminate in an Awards Evening, to take place during on Tuesday 25th January 2022. So put the date in your diary now if you want to keep that night free.

Cheshire Best Kept Stations will be giving full details of what they have planned nearer the time.

Meanwhile, back at the Quiz (the answers for which are at the end of the Newsletter).

The idea this month is that you solve the clues to identify a railway station somewhere on the British network. To make it easier and more interesting every station name begins with and ends with the same letter.

For example: What each daughter had in a family of 8 girls = Seven Sisters

1. Market town in Kent where both Mick Jagger and Len Goodman were born which could easily mean to quickly go over a river crossing.
2. This seaside resort is not far from Beachy Head. It certainly wasn't created in the west!!
3. Lying about 36 miles south of London this town sounds like the lead singer/writer of many Moody Blues hits has teamed up with an ex-Tory Prime Minister who loved boats.
4. Situated on the River Nene this county town was once famous for its shoe industry.
5. Lindow Man is associated with this Cheshire town.
6. Still in Cheshire we hope that Jackie Weaver has the authority to travel to here.
7. Over to Merseyside now. This station sounds like it could involve a bit of climbing over the dunes.

8. On the West Coast Main Line it appears that this lady in religious service is being told to continue consuming food.
9. This Cumbrian station literally translates as "Ash-tree of St Patrick". It is also home to a large creamery operated by Dairy Crest.
10. Still in Cumbria. This station could have been where Superman kept his money.
11. Not far from Romiley, this station has an excellent display featuring the story of The Railway Children.
12. Former garrison town in Essex the first part of its name can be worn on your foot.
13. Home to four times World Snooker Champion who takes his nickname from this Scottish town by becoming its Wizard.
14. Another Scottish station, but this time in Glasgow, with a name that sounds like it could be home to a moveable Christian feast.
15. Lincolnshire seaside resort that is bracing and home to the first ever Butlins Holiday Camp.

STEAM TRAINS AT ROMILEY

There have been a number of steam trains passing through Romiley this past month and another will be coming along during the morning of Sunday 24th October with the visit of "The Tin Bath".

"The Tin Bath" is named after a memorable scene in the classic TV comedy 'Last of the Summer Wine' when Compo, Clegg and Foggy roll down a Yorkshire hillside in a tin bath.



Full details of the train can be found at <https://www.railwaytouring.net/the-tin-bath-1>



On Saturday 11th September a steam hauled service from Liverpool to Scarborough (The Coast to Coast Express) stopped for a couple of minutes at the station. It was hauled by LMS Jubilee class 45627 Sierra Leone. Although confusingly the number painted on the cab of the engine (45562) corresponds to its former sister locomotive Alberta.

However, the most exciting visit took place on Thursday 16th September when LNER Peppercorn Class A1 60163 Tornado came through the station on its way from Liverpool Lime Street to York pulling the 'Jorvik Express'.



Tornado is a 4-6-2 steam locomotive built by the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust. It was completed in 2008, even though construction had been taking place since 1994. It is the first newly built main line steam locomotive in the UK since Evening Star was British Rail's last ever new build in 1960.

It is the only LNER Peppercorn Class A1 locomotive in existence, as every other one was scrapped years ago.

Tornado is named after the Panavia Tornado, a combat aircraft flown by the Royal Air Force.

WALKS FROM MARPLE STATION

We are very pleased to report that The Friends of Marple Station have now published a walks booklet, along the lines of the one we did last year.

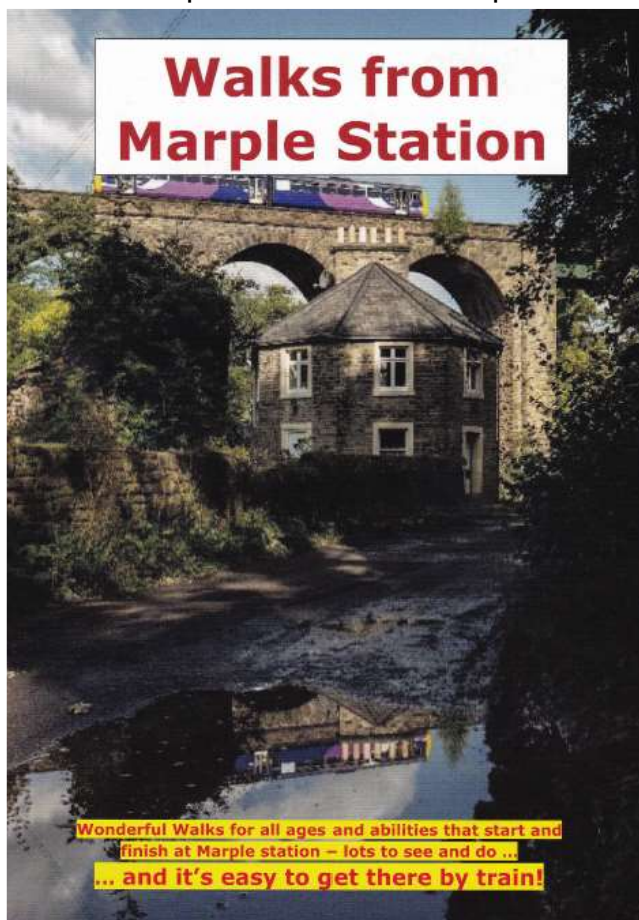
There are 8 walks detailed that all start and finish at Marple station.

They vary in length from 3.7 miles right up to 8.3 miles. Many of them cross over walks in our booklet and so by using copies of both booklets a host of walking opportunities from both stations can be created.

Marple have used the same style of clear mapping that we employed, which makes each walk very easy to follow.

Copies of the booklet are widely available.

In Romiley there are stocks held at the station as well as at The Butchers Shop on Stockport Road (where copies of our booklet can still be obtained).



SQUIRREL PROOF BIRD FEEDERS



In the past we had bird feeders at Romiley, but most of the seed was probably consumed by the hungry squirrels in the village.

So we would very much like to put up a couple of squirrel proof bird feeders in

the Waiting Room Garden.

We spotted two superbly designed and handmade feeders at Bamford station and would like to have similar ones made for our use.





So we are looking for a volunteer amongst our membership who really enjoys a spot of creative woodworking to make them for us.

We would provide all the necessary materials. The volunteer would provide the skill.

If you would like to get involved in a practical way then please do contact the secretary Angie Clark either by email at

clark.theateam69@btinternet.com or phone on 07951 567147.

NETWORK RAIL – SHATTERED LIVES

Network Rail, in conjunction with British Transport Police and seven-time Paralympian Simon Munn, MBE, have released a new film which underscores the life-threatening dangers of trespass on the railway given that a third of adults say they would step onto it so as to retrieve a mobile phone.

The film – part of Network Rail's joint You vs Train campaign – warns about the life-changing dangers on, and around the railway.

You can watch (and share the film) by using the following internet link:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/stories/you-vs-train-shattered-lives/>

STATIONS QUIZ - ANSWERS

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Dartford | 9. Aspatria |
| 2. Eastbourne | 10. Kents Bank |
| 3. Haywards Heath | 11. Strines |
| 4. Northampton | 12. Shoeburyness |
| 5. Wilmslow | 13. Wishaw |
| 6. Handforth | 14. Easterhouse |
| 7. Sandhills | 15. Skegness |
| 8. Nuneaton | |