

# The Friends of Reddish South Station

Volume 14 issue 2

June 2022

Newsletters are like buses—you don't see one for months then 2 turn up within a few weeks!

We've had a very busy time in June and would like to keep you all updated while it is still all fresh - especially in view of the importance of the campaign. .

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## Thank You!

### The response to the TfGM survey is 'unprecedented'!

### 1,257 surveys completed so far



Pictured left on Houldsworth Square: Dave, Dot, 'terrier' Terry, 'dynamo' Mildred and Alan



Pictured Right: Denton Chair Alan, Friends Alan, Dave & Dot

With the final count not quite finalized as we go to print, what can we say but a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to take the survey regarding restoration of regular rail passenger services from Stockport to Manchester Victoria via Reddish South & Denton Stations.

Stephen Canning from Stantec who are overseeing

the feasibility study said the response was unprecedented for an urban line—and the responses were telling a sensible story.

The Campaign Group have been canvassing whenever possible, leafleting the residential areas around both stations and have been largely met with enthusiasm and positivity about the

possibility of a local rail service.

Stantec will be submitting a report on the basis of their investigations, meetings with the Friends and Stockport & Tameside Councils and the surveys.

We will report on the findings and next steps when we are informed. (more p.2)



When the survey went 'live' there was only a short time to publicise it - the closing date was 24th June.

Many local shops generously allowed us to put posters advertising the survey in predominant positions.

We must thank Friends Mildred 'the dynamo' and 'terrier' Terry for taking the time to deliver over 700 leaflets, and for the enthusiasm with which they canvassed people on Houldsworth Square. Friend Rachel Wise designed the poster and the QR code, and the Friends of Reddish South & Denton Stations



Alan in Denton displayed posters and distributed leaflets locally.

We hope now that there is enough evidence to support having a reintroduced rail service that has been long needed by Reddish residents.

A survey to bring a rail service from Marple Rose Hill to Stockport via Reddish South has also been successful with over 1500 responses. This can only be positive for Reddish South Station.

The leafleting experience has given us all much more respect for post-men!

(FORSADS) campaign group who also delivered leaflets and canvassed over the last 3 weeks.

The Friends began on Houldsworth Square; Sainsbury's in Denton allowed us to pester their customers for a couple of hours last week and display posters. Stockport Station also permitted 2 posters to go onto platforms 3 & 4.



## Steam Train 'Bahamas' comes through Reddish South on the Jubilee Weekend

Although it is always a brief experience, there is always a good attendance on the platform when a steam locomotive comes through.

Not to miss an opportunity The Friends kicked off their survey campaign and even managed to sell some magnets. As ever, some enthusiasts had not visited the station before and they were interested both in the station and the campaign.

The Bahamas was giving its passengers an excellent day out!

*Picture below courtesy of Dave Ashworth*



*Top Centre: Friend Mildred*

*From top: Friend Terry, Alan & Mildred on Houldsworth Square;*

*Dot & Dave in Sainsbury's*



## Worker Bee Market Family Fun Day & Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Main picture-

Alan & Dot get their hands on the trophy!

Bottom left: Cllrs Janet Mobbs, Roy Driver and Friends Terry & Margaret;

Below, Friends Dot, Alan, Mayor Cllr Dave, Friend Keith, Mayoress

Jeanette & Friend Sue



FORSS were invited to have a stand at the market which is held in the grounds of Broadstone Mill every month. This was a special event to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen. There were a record 66 stalls and was a tremendous success.

There were many specialist stalls and the unexpected arrival of the trophy won by Stockport

County as champions of the National League. County will return to EFL league 2 after a gap of 11 years next season.

Andrew Gwynne MP, Mayor Cllr Dave Wilson and Lady Mayoress Jeanette Slavinski, Cllrs Janet Mobbs, Gary Lawson, Roy Driver & Kate Butler also visited all

the stalls.

Northern Rail and TfGM both kindly donated some bags, pencils, key rings and pens to be given away to visitors to our stall.

There was a lovely choice of sweets from 'Aunty' Dot. We launched a colouring competition

for the under 12s for prizes of Family Day Rail Tickets, again donated by Northern Rail and we extend our thanks to Becky Styles and Mark Angelucci.

FORSS had a very successful day and recruited 6 new members!

*More pictures overleaf*





*Pictures clockwise from top L: Labour candidate Holly McCormack, Friends Keith, Sue, Dot and Cllr Janet Mobbs celebrate the jubilee;*

*The committee out in FORSS (sorry!) Keith, Alan, Dot, Tom, Sue & Dave;*

*Friend Walter with the Mayor's right -hand man; Friends Keith, Sue, Alan. Cllr Gary Lawson and Dot;*

*Andrew Gwynne MP with Cllr Kate Butler, Holly , and Dave*



## Colouring competition winners

The colouring competition for 2 x family rail tickets was judged and the winners were presented with their prizes on the station platform on 23rd June.

It was a picture of the central panel of the FORSS 'second chances' mural.



*Grayson pictured second L front with Indy and Noah 3rd L with their families and the committee*



Our winners were Noah, 6 and Finlay, 7 and we were very impressed with the picture by Grayson, 4, and he was awarded a 'highly commended' runner up prize.

We invited the winners and their families to the station to be presented with their



Awards by the FORSS committee. Unfortunately Finlay could not make the original date but was still able to receive his award.

The winners were able to see the mural from which the picture had been taken.



Again, thanks to Becky Styles of Northern Rail for the donations of the two family day tickets.

*Top (L) Jake with Finlay, Mum Jenny Dot and Dave, Top (R) Dot presenting Noah with his prize; Bottom R() Jake, Dot, Finlay & Dave after Dot presented his prize; bottom (L) Alan presenting Grayson with his highly commended prize, pictured with his family*

## Friend Ryland wins Manager of the Year of the FORSS Fantasy Football League

Ryland was presented with the cup for manager of the season (the first time we've actually had a trophy!) by FORSS Chair Tom and Fantasy Football League organizer Alan for the 2021/22 season after winning the title with his team 'Hyde Away' who got 2258 points

Pete's Plonkers came a creditable runner up with 2194.

Come & join the FORSS league for next season— its fun, free, and competitive! Anyone can enter—not just FORSS members—and we would be delighted to see the league grow bigger.

E - m a i l   A l a n   a t  
forss1@ntlworld.com if you are interested for 22/23 season



*Friend Alan & Chair Tom present Ryland with his cup!  
Ryland is also a member of the folk group who entertain us on our away days.*

## The Friends have been awarded by Morrison's customers

We were very pleasantly surprised with a community award from Morrison's including a certificate and some lovely chocolates for going above & beyond in the community.

It was presented to Friends Alan & Kim by Sam, Scout Leader of 1st/4th Reddish Scouts.

Thank you to whoever it was who nominated us and Morrison's—it's great!



Above, Sam presents Alan with the certificate;

Left: Noel, Alan, Dot & Keith

## The Friends of Reddish South Committee are:

**Tom Grundy Chairman:** former Councillor of Reddish South, who, together with Councillor Walter Brett initiated the formation of the Friends Group in 2007. When he retired from the council we persuaded him to stay as our Chairman.

**Keith Chapman Vice-Chair:** Keith and wife Sue have always been staunch Friends and Keith is extremely knowledgeable about anything rail, historic or current.

**Dot Ashworth Treasurer:** of course Dot is Treasurer + and is the Face of FORSS. Along with her partner-in-crime Kim they are the ones who cajole, smile and without the real knowledge of rail (although forever learning) tend to be the ones who jump up and down and repeat 'we want a service'!

**Noel Henry Technical Chair:** Is our oracle for technical information and writes excellent reports to submit to any number of consultations and regulatory bodies. He is also our station gardening expert

**Kim Burrows Secretary:** which includes the newsletter and the website. She and Dot collaborate a lot and tend to organize supplies for the events.

**Dave Ashworth Twitter:** He has the job of on-the-spot- reporting and keeping the committee informed of current events. He manages the gazebo erecting, table organization and general management at events

**Alan Burrows Membership Secretary** who also helps with the newsletters and website as proof reader and ideas man. He and Keith are Dave's second-in-command at events.