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The Friends of Reddish South Station Newsletter Autumn 2023

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 2023

Hello and welcome to the Autumn FORSS newsletter, and we hope you enjoy reading it. We had a wonderful time at Macmillan as we always do come rain or shine but it seemed extra special this year because Reddish people always rise to the occasion.

Can we also raise a glass to Committee members Dot & Dave Ashworth who celebrate their Golden Wedding this month—and drink to many more happy years to come!

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Macmillan Day 2023 Thank you for your generosity! We raised £315.40



Above: Terry, Raffle Star , right, some of the morning's supporters

The 'Biggest Coffee Morning in the World' in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support is one event we would never miss holding—only Covid prevented our 2020 & 2021 event being held.

We realize that, every year lately, money is tighter and tighter, and every year we wonder if this is the year that people feel that they cannot contribute as they would like.

Once again however you have proved our fears groundless, because your support of Macmillan Cancer Support remains as generous as ever

Special thanks to Terry



who was the star of the show raising £129 of the total just with the raffle!

We used our new gazebos for the first time, which were a great improvement on the ones we have been struggling with for a few years (thanks Heatons & Reddish Area Committee).

We were delighted to see lan Ball from Friends of Handforth Station Alf Clarke from Romiley Station with his wife Angie and Roy Chapman, of Crewe-Mcr Rail Partnership.

Mayor Graham Greenhalgh and Mayoress Carol Greenhalgh lent some gravitas to our proceedings. They are charming and friendly and really enhanced the event.

Reddish North Councillors Dave Wilson, Rachel Wise & Holly McCormack joined us later in the morning after they had been at a community gardening event.

The weather stayed reasonably fine, and even the long walk down the station steps didn't put anyone off!

Thanks to everyone who came for the morning and helped us achieve such a wonderful total.

Raffle winners were drawn later in the week— see page 3.

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(clockwise from top left): the Mayor & Mayoress chat with Cyril; Christine & Linda; Rachel with Lottie; The Mayoress with a regular coffee morning attendee; Alan with Ian Ball; Keith and Dave; North Reddish Councillors Rachel Wise, Holly McCormack & Dave Wilson; Jon, Rachel, Lottie, Sarah & Jake; Councillors past & present Cllr Dave Wilson, Cllr. Angie Clarke the Mayor & Mayoress, Former Councillors Walter Brett & Tom Grundy; Mildred & Margaret



Pictured

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The raffle draw took place on Thursday 5th September at Sykes Cafe. Sarah drew the winning tickets aided by Friend Noel who was unable to attend the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

First prize winner (hand-crafted Christmas Stocking) was Jake Ashworth, 2nd prize to Mr Eamonn O'Neill (Houses of Parliament Whisky), and 3rd prize of gift wrapped prosecco to Dave Wilson.

Jake is a Friend and grandson of Dot & Dave

Mr O'Neill lives in Heaton Chapel and has a great interest in Reddish and it's history.

Dave is a Friend and Cllr for Reddish North.

Macmillan Raffle Draw



Pictured L to R: Alan, Dot, Noel, Keith, Sarah & Tom (Picture Dave Ashworth)



Dot & Dave present 1st prize to Jake with brother Luke (picture Dave Ashworth)



Alan with Eamonn O'Neill, 2nd prize winner

The Vernon Building Society funding awards

The Friends were delighted when the Vernon Building Society contacted our Dot to inform her that we had been successful in the annual funding awards for local community groups and charities.

We were awarded £200 which we plan to spend on updating our banners, which are now



looking rather dated.

Lyndsy, the branch manager is pictured here presenting the award to Treasurer Dot.

We thank the Vernon very much for this welcome addition to our funds. The Vernon have been long-time supporters of the Friends.

The RHS Britain in Bloom North West <u>Awards</u>

Pictured top right: Tom, Alan , Dot presented with the certificate by guest Jason The Cloud Gardener. Bottom right :Alan, Dot, Judge Dave, Dave and Tom after the ceremony The Friends entered, for the first time this year, the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' section of the annual Royal Horticultural Society North West in Bloom awards. The presentations were held on 17th October 2023.

As you may recall, we reported that the station platform garden had been visited in July by RHS Judge David Bielewski, who said at the time he thought the planting was good and very appropriate for the station. He also asked us about the history of the station and how the group became involved

We were invited to the awards ceremony which took place at Bolton Football Stadium Premier Suite, where we enjoyed lunch and the chance to meet other groups.

We were seated with the Friends of Waterloo Park (FoWP) from Ashton-u-Lyne who had entered for the first time last year.

They advised that there were 5 award levels they had achieved level 3 last year and were





hoping for a level 4 this year, so we had no idea of where we would be placed.

To our utter astonishment and delight we were awarded 'Level 5 -Outstanding' at our first attempt. The Friends of Waterloo Park were similarly delighted to achieve level 5 too.

The awards were presented by Jason the Cloud Gardener.

As Judge David said afterwards, all we have

to do now is 'Keep it up'!

We must thank Committee member Noel for his vision for the planting on the station—without him we would not achieved so much!

We've included a picture of Bolton Football pitch for those of you who would be interested, plus the 'Lion of Vienna', Nat Lofthouse, who is obviously the hero at the club.

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Pictured above left: the Friends with Jackie from FoWP . The FoWP with their award; The stadium; the Friends with Nat Lofthouse

MP visits Reddish South Station

The Friends were visited by Stockport MP Navendu Mishra (Nav) in September who wished to meet the group and see the station.

At the next election the parliamentary boundaries are changing, which means Reddish will be, sadly, losing Andrew Gwynne who has been our biggest supporter and campaigner since we started out. However, he is the Friends' President and will still be representing Denton.

Should Nav be re-elected he will be the new Reddish MP so he wanted to see the group as he had spoken to Andrew about the work of the campaign.

We had a very pleasant visit and Nav has pledged to carry on working for the campaign in the future.



From L to R: Dave, Dot, Alan , Noel, MP Navendu Mishra, Lyndsy from the Vernon, Tom & Keith

Fantasy Football League

Manager of the season 2022/3

The honour of winning the FFL FORSS league for 2022/23 is Mr Pete Holmes.

Pete, who has been in the league since the start, has always been in the top 5, but this is the first time since we introduced a trophy (it is an actual cup, but we are a voluntary group!!)

Pete was surprised and delighted to receive the cup and has placed it in pride of place with trophies from his other great love, golf.

We met with him and his lovely wife Janet for lunch and the presentation.

When asked about the secret of his success, Pete, with typical modesty, said that it was a really lucky run in the last 10 games or so that won his team the league.

He is hoping to emulate his success this season, but feels that with such strong competition this year he may not manage it.





Pictured above; Pete, Janet and Alan

Pictured left: Alan presenting the winning manager the FFL cup

The Friends of Reddish South Station Committee are:

President of FORSS & The Friends of Reddish South & Denton Campaign Group: - Andrew Gwynne MP

Chair—Tom Grundy Vice-Chair-Keith Chapman Treasurer- Dot Ashworth Secretary/Website: Kim Burrows Technical Chair/Landscape: Noel Henry Membership Secretary: Alan Burrows Twitter/Media: Dave Ashworth Contact: email forss1@ntlworld.com website: friendsofreddishsouthstation.co.uk Twitter @davdotFo