

Friends of Romiley Station



NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024

After yet another month of somewhat mixed weather autumn is certainly well and truly here, what with the clocks having gone back to Greenwich Mean Time and with it the arrival of much shorter day light hours and longer hours of darkness.

On the plus side weeds and other unwanted growth does slow down and we can also look forward to the arrival of the Christmas period whilst thinking where did 2024 go.

October was another great month for us though with our second Hitachi Volunteer Day which like the first in September achieved so much thanks to the wonderful efforts of the Hitachi staff.

COMMUNITY RAIL NETWORK MEMBERS' SURVEY



Members' survey

Each year the Community Rail Network (CRN) conduct an annual members' survey.

This gives everyone connected with community rail, including community station groups the opportunity to provide valuable feedback to the CRN.

This year's survey is particularly important as CRN will be using the responses to help to inform their new member support and development strategy for 2025-29, which is currently in development.

As previously they are inviting responses from multiple individuals within each station group, so as to gain a broader picture of views.

Therefore, all of our members and community rail contacts are invited to complete the survey.

It can be found here - <https://app.impactreporting.co.uk/pwa/5de9N8> and should take no more than 15-20 minutes to complete.

Finally, the deadline for responses is 5pm on Friday, 8th November.

TASK SESSIONS

We held a successful task session at the station on Saturday 12th October after which we gravitated to the Crafty Vendor for suitable refreshments.

The session was very much one aimed at tidying up areas near to the Platform 2 ramp after which we planted a large number of spring flowering bulbs which we hope will add a great deal of colour to that side of the station early next year.

We will be holding our next session on Saturday 9th November commencing at 2pm.

Please do try and come along if you find yourself free that afternoon.

'NEW' PLATFORM PLANTERS

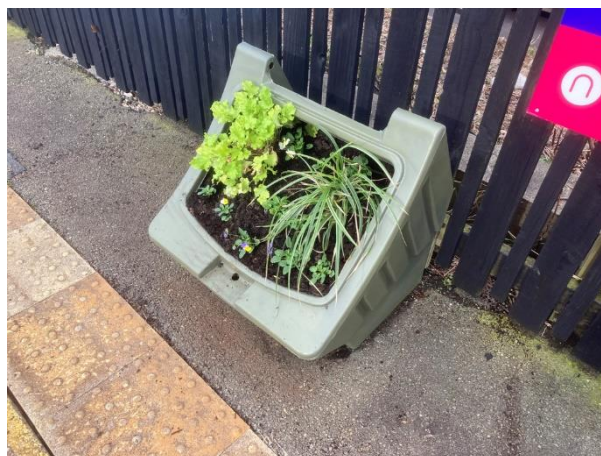


For many years now there have been bright yellow rock salt containers located on both platforms.

They were no longer required, having outlived their usefulness, so we were delighted when Northern gifted them to us so that they could be converted into planters rather than simply being removed from the station and disposed of.

We made an application to the Transport for Greater Manchester Small Grant Fund which was quickly approved thus giving us funding for their conversion to planters and with it a new lease of life.

We also worked closely with Romiley & Marple Lions, especially Phil Daniels who is also one of our active members, as it is they who kindly help us maintain all our other planters at the station as well as the Platinum Jubilee Garden.



Becky Styles at Northern arranged for everything in the containers to be removed before Phil set about removing the lids.

Thereafter they were painted in a suitable green colour, which matched the wooden containers already in place, before filling each one with suitable material to assist

drainage plus compost and soil. He then finished off the job by planting each one with two perennials, violas, grasses and bulbs (primarily small daffodil bulbs) that will come into flower next spring.



Each of the new planters were already bolted to the platforms so they will not be moving anywhere fast should anyone have the urge to do so.

We are, therefore, extremely grateful not only to Northern for letting us convert the disused containers but also to TfGM who kindly met bulk of the cost of conversion and planting. In addition the Lions Club have met some of the cost.



On the face of it this was very much a small project but one that we feel will provide yet more colour to the station and improve its overall environment.

A 'TREE'MENDOUS FOOD AND DRINK STATIONS QUIZ

This month we have taken the names of 32 stations on the national network. Each station contains within it either the name of a tree or something that you could eat or drink.

The trouble is we have mixed everything up, although to make it a bit easier we have put the mixed up stations in two columns of 16. You have to swap a tree, drink or food item from the first column with a similar one in the second column. You always swap a tree with a tree, a drink with a drink or a food item with a food item and each swap will also have the same number of letters in it.

To show you how it works take number 1 WILLOW TREE in the first column.

You can see that WILLOW is a 6 letter tree so look for a 6 letter tree in the second column that when swapped with WILLOW will give you two correctly named stations.

In column 2 you will find CHERRY which you can swap with WILLOW to give you two stations, namely CHERRY TREE and NEWTON LE WILLOW.

Is as simple as that. Good luck.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 WILLOW TREE | A ALDERWOOD |
| 2 DALECHAPEL | B ASHERS END |
| 3 BIRCHLEY EDGE | C BEECH GROVE |
| 4 FRIESBY | D CHIPS LOAF |
| 5 ELMBURYS | E DUMAPPLE |
| 6 BENTPEA | F FISH LANE |
| 7 BLACKPERRY | G GOLSEGG |
| 8 CARSHALTON HAZELES | H HAWTHORN PARK |
| 9 PIEESFORD | I KIRKDRUM |
| 10 RICEBOURNE | J MONTLIME |
| 11 ROSEHOUSE | K NEWTON LE CHERRYS |
| 12 PLUMTREE | L PEARSTEAD |
| 13 SUNNYWINES | M RUNSAGE |
| 14 THE HORNBEAMS | N SHIPHAM HILL |
| 15 SUGARTEAD | O SMEADSHEAD |
| 16 HATHERCORN | P WATER BARR |

HITACHI VOLUNTEER DAY – 3RD OCTOBER



Our second Hitachi Volunteer Days took place on Thursday 3rd October and just like the first one we were not only blessed with a dry day but were extremely well supported by all the volunteers from Hitachi.

Yet again they were a super bunch of people who worked extremely hard helping us with lots of tasks as can be seen from the pictures.

During the day they achieved so much.

Becky Styles, Northern's Regional Community & Sustainability Manager also came along and gave a safety briefing to everyone taking part in the day.

In advance she had provided lots of fence paint which was used to good effect as the Platform 2 fencing was given a complete makeover.

It needed painting as in the past few weeks many of the life expired parts had been replaced, including quite a few of the posts that support the fencing.

Areas by the car park were also cleared and generally tidied up (which allowed them to be planted with spring bulbs at our last Task Session)

As before lunch and hot drinks were provided by the Romiley Life Centre which supplemented all the cake that was on offer and duly consumed.

One of the Hitachi Team, who had a passion for cake (and painting from the picture above), had also generously baked and brought along some rather excellent Welsh Cakes





A 'TREE'MENDOUS FOOD AND DRINK STATIONS QUIZ - THE ANSWERS

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 CHERRY TREE | K NEWTON LE WILLOWS |
| 2 DRUMCHAPEL | I KIRKDALE |
| 3 ALDERLEY EDGE | A BIRCHWOOD |
| 4 APPLEBY | E DUMFRIES |
| 5 ASHBURYS | B ELMERS END |
| 6 BENTHAM | N SHIPPEA HILL |
| 7 BLACKWATER | P PERRY BARR |
| 8 CARSHALTON BEECHES | C HAZEL GROVE |
| 9 EGGESFORD | G GOLSPIE |
| 10 FISHBOURNE | F RICE LANE |
| 11 LIMEHOUSE | J MONTROSE |
| 12 PEARTREE | L PLUMSTEAD |
| 13 SUNNYMEADS | O SWINESHEAD |
| 14 THE HAWTHORNS | H HORNBEAM PARK |
| 15 CHIPSTEAD | D SUGAR LOAF |
| 16 HATHERSAGE | M RUNCORN |

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