

Recently, the friends of Brighouse train station won a national award at the Community Rail Awards 2026.

The award ceremony took place in Derby, where 600 people gathered from all over the UK. They won first in the Photo Competition, capturing the Essence of Community Rail with a photo titled 'Brighouse Busy Lizzies'. Paul Marshall, Chair of the 'Friends of' group said 'We were very proud to be announced the winner!'

## Get Busy with the Friends of Brighouse Train Station

Paul has been a member of the group for many years, originally being invited 'to look and advise on the area as it was started up'. Before retiring, Paul had worked for the local authorities – Kirklees and Calderdale – growing plants as a gardener so it was a good call to get him on the job.

Friends of Brighouse Station came about in 2014 and have produced stunning floral displays winning numerous top awards From Yorkshire in Bloom and Community Rail Network thanks to the hard work of

the volunteers and skilled helpers. A number of flower planters are mainly sponsored by local businesses who help to fund the displays along with grants from Northern.



IT requirements. Paul reassured me, 'You won't be forced to do anything' and it sounds like there's always something to do and people to meet.

For more information on sponsorship, volunteering or anything else, visit [www.friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk) or pop down on a Wednesday morning to see what the Busy Lizzies are up to!

If you'd like to get busy with the group, they ask for just 2 hours a week. The work includes replanting twice a year, tidying and, of course, watering the plants. They also invite digital natives to assist with the website and