

Friends of Brighouse Station

Bringing new life to Brighouse Station

www.friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk

News From Brighouse Station January 2025

Welcome to all our paid members and sponsors.

There are several important things to update you on this time including major improvements to the station to accommodate greater passenger numbers and further smartening up of the station, all due to start in January.



Plans have been made to widen platform 2 under the bridge. This will accommodate extra volumes of passengers who will have to use the station later in the year when Huddersfield station is closed due to a major upgrade. There will be bus replacement services to and from Brighouse to Huddersfield at these times. Go to Transpennine Route Upgrade for more information.



Although there may be some disruption whilst work is in progress we will continue to keep the station looking its best.

Regular visitors will have noticed that the railings and handrails have been repainted after 25 years. Many parts of the supporting steelwork and steps were not painted last year, we believe repainting will start later in 2025 to complete the work.



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I received an email from a retired signalman who used to work at Brighouse station, he kindly sent some photographs of the signal box and goods yard which he took in 1960 before the track was removed and the Birds Royd industrial estate was built. He told me the story of how he left school and went to see the station master who gave him a job starting the following Monday but hadn't realised the lad was only 14 years old and not allowed to work until he was 15 which he was the Monday after he started work.

The problem was overcome. He told me that he cycled from Cromwell Bottom to Brighouse every morning at six am in all weather to get to work, then repeated the journey home at the end of his shift. He remembers the railway shunting yard

which operated 24 hours a day creating a great deal of clanking and steaming noises which could be heard in Clifton and the Woodhouse areas throughout the night.

25 Years of Brighouse Station

In the last newsletter I asked for memories of the station opening in May 2000. I have had one highly amusing one but need more for our story board which we are hoping to produce for the 25th anniversary if anyone has any ideas or would like to help with the celebrations please get in touch via the website click on contact us.

Dates For your diary.

If you were kind enough to sponsor the platform barrels, fence planters or flowerbeds at the station last year, thank you, the income goes a long way to towards plants and running costs. It is now time to renew your annual sponsorship for 2025.

Again, we are pleased to be able to keep prices the same as previous years due to an increased number of sponsors. New sponsors in 2024 will see their price lowered by £10 as they paid towards the cost of their new plaque last year. Bank transfer details are on our website details at the top of the page under sponsors. Cash or cheques can be given to one of our members who can visit you. A receipt will be sent by email by our treasurer. Payment if possible by the end of May.

Notice of Friends of Brighthouse Station Annual General Meeting. Thursday April 3rd at the conference suite, St John's Community Hall Rastrick at 7pm. Further details nearer the time.



Finally, a huge thank you again to our working volunteers who have worked in all weathers to keep the station at its best throughout the year. Many unseen volunteer hours go into our station upkeep and we are always looking for new members and volunteer. Go to our website and click on contact us to volunteer, sponsor or become an annual paid member.

Paul Marshall Chairman FoBS.