

Friends of Brighouse Station

Bringing new life to Brighouse Station

News From Brighouse Station January 2024

www.friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk

Welcome to News from Brighouse Station January 2024. We wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope that you will continue to support us throughout this year.

You may have read in our latest communication that Brighouse Station has been shortlisted in the National Community Rail Network Awards at a Gold level (one of Four in the country) We entered the it's Your Station category in the competition and were pleased to receive the emailed result. The awards ceremony takes place in March 2024 The photograph shows some of our proud volunteers having a celebratory cuppa with the shortlisting certificate.



In 2022, we discovered several areas of graffiti adorning the station and surrounding areas which detracted from our floral displays and the surrounding area.



Emails were sent to different organisations over the next few months to see if this could be removed from safely accessible places. Thanks to our station cleaners, Calderdale Council and volunteers we managed to sort out the

problem, apart from the Gooder Lane Road Bridge which had looked rather industrial since it was built but when covered in graffiti and weeds was a disgrace to the lower end of Rastrick and the main gateway to Rastrick from Brighouse.

After more discussions and negotiations staff from the Transpennine Enhancement Group who use our station very kindly painted the grey sides of the bridge which made things look a lot better.



It was then suggested that Calderdale College could provide art work by local students to brighten up the area. With the help of sponsors named on the bridge this was carried out by the college adding much needed colour to the bottom of Rastrick. Check out the sponsors when you walk over the bridge to admire the work. Thanks to the efforts of many departments and Calderdale Council the area looks much brighter.

It Has been one of the wettest autumns for many years, some of our Wednesday working days had to be cancelled due to the wet and severe minus 7C frost which badly affected the planters. Fortunately, the frost melted and most of the plants have recovered.



The Wednesday team have worked tirelessly throughout the year watering the planters regularly throughout the hot summer days and in the cold wet autumn deadheading the plants.

Without these hard working people we would not be able to continue.

Some of these volunteers have been with FoBS since 2015 and have been working for nine years.

We are now appealing for some new trainee volunteers to help out at busy times such as plant changeover days twice a year and summer watering to keep the plants alive.

Our working sessions are usually less than two hours and we try to work in pairs or groups. If anyone feels they could lend a hand can they email paulmfobschair@btinternet.com for a discussion. Our main working days are Wednesday mornings 9.30 to 11.30 and every second Sunday in the month .



This jasmine flowers from November to March and is a haven for winter insects.

It has been trained up the wall by our volunteers.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday April 3rd at St John's Conference Suite in the Community Hall at the far end of St John's Street Gooder Lane Rastrick at 7pm. After the short meeting light refreshments will be served. There will then be a presentation on the construction of the M62 through Brighouse to Scammonden with photographs never seen by the public.

Free entry to annual paid-up Members and sponsors.

Your annual Membership renewal is due by the end of January. We have kept the price down again to £5.00. preferred payment BACS Transfer or Cheque to the Station Café Gooder Lane Brighouse if possible please.

New members welcome.

Please go to our website www.friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk and go to Membership where you can find the payment details and new membership form. Contact details are on the front page of the website.

Annual business sponsorship details are also available on the website. Again, prices have been kept down due to more new sponsors being found. One of our members will be calling on you during the next few weeks if you wish to renew for another year.

And Finally.

Our Climate change Garden is nearly finished
With the newly sown annual wildflower area
Growing well ready for flowering this spring,
Something to look forward to after the dreary
winter weather.

The site of the previous Brighouse station now
demolished can be seen on the right under the
Gooder Lane Bridge.

Hope to see you at the AGM.

