

Looking ahead to autumn...

Despite yet another wet summer, the Group has remained undeterred in its ambitions for another strong entry for the station in this year's Yorkshire in Bloom competition. In addition, the Group has sought to involve a younger audience with activities at the station through a colouring/poster competition with students at Bolton Brow Primary Academy.

We've also managed to fit in a social trip to Lake Windermere and secure significant funding for the Group.

As always, I hope you find our news interesting and useful, and we'd welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have. Please email us at fofsbrs@gmail.com Or, if you would like to find out how you can get involved with our Group, please call me on 07850 822590. Thank you.

Christopher J Wright, Convenor (FofSBRS)

Yorkshire in Bloom is here again...

Despite a wet day being forecast for the YIB judging day on Weds 18th July, it actually turned out bright and sunny.

The station was smart and colourful, with Union Jack bunting decorating the station platform, when the formal judging took place.

Thanks go to the Group's volunteers, who dedicated much effort (and many hours) over the last few months to ensure the station looked its best.

We now await the results, which will be announced at York Racecourse on 18th September and hope our efforts are recognised.

Students from Year 6 at the Bolton Brow Primary Academy also got involved this year by submitting posters for the station, to coincide with the judging.



Bolton Brow Primary Academy...

And the winners of the Yorkshire in Bloom colouring competition were:

- 1st Prize Gregory Walker
- 2nd Prize Danielle Crabtree
- 3rd Prize Ellie Bell

The winning poster:



Each received a gift-voucher prize. Well done to all! There were over 30 entries and it was a tough decision for the judges to pick out the top 3! Thanks to Group member, Gillian Reece-Jones for co-ordinating the competition.

Station improvement update...

Work is expected to start on the car park extension in the near future (creating an additional 40 spaces by the end of the year). A 'Friends Group' Notice Board on each platform has been installed as this newsletter goes to print. The intention is to use these notice boards to keep station users up to date with our news and information of interest.

Funding update.

Our key aim 'to breathe new life into Sowerby Bridge Station' has now become a project supported through the **Community First Neighbourhood Matched Fund Programme** administered by CDF for the Office for Civil Society. Their grant of £2,500 (the maximum amount available to a single group) covers the provision of flowers, shrubs and herbs in previously uncultivated land around the station, as well as purchasing reclaimed railway sleepers to create new flower beds. This funding will also cover the purchase of much needed new tools and equipment and will enable more rain-water harvesting initiatives to be put in place. A truly fantastic result for the Group.

Thanks also to funding by **ACoRP** (Association of Community Rail Partnerships), the Group has been able to proudly display our Yorkshire in Bloom successes of the past 2 years on replica station totems which are positioned in the station subway.



Do you have a few hours to spare?
Want to help your local community?
Would you like to make new friends?

If the answer is Yes, why not come to one of our events (see Calendar of upcoming events on the back page). You'd receive a warm welcome and be under no obligation to join us.

Contact us: Tel: 07850 822590 or email: fofsbrs@gmail.com

Coach trip to Lakeside & Haverthwaite ...

On Tues 14th August, 10 Group members and 6 non-members enjoyed a coach trip to the Lake District where they took a ride on the preserved L&H Railway, and a cruise on Lake Windermere.

The day was a great success and the sunny weather was an added bonus. Thanks go to Group Member (and Treasurer) Jim Milner for organising.

Following this successful outing, the Group are planning to organise more trips in the future. All are welcome to join us so watch out for the future editions of our newsletter for details.



And we're off!



Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station Invite you to 'A Brief Encounter' (CD Presentation)

The Group has arranged a showing of local railway scenes from the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society's archive collection on **Sunday 30th September** (from noon) and on **Monday 1st October** (from 10.00am) at The Jubilee Refreshment Rooms. An opportunity to see many interesting local views from years gone by, with books and cakes for sale. Admission is free and all are welcome. Just turn up on the day.

Did you know?....

.... The most powerful diesel engines in BR days were the 'Deltics'..... later known as Class 55s. 22 were built and entered service in 1961/62, replacing steam on the East Coast main line. By the very early 1980s they had been relegated to secondary duties and could be seen occasionally passing through Sowerby Bridge, usually on Sundays, on diverted Newcastle-Liverpool expresses.

A number are preserved and it's not unusual for them to be spotted occasionally passing through the Calder Valley en-route to diesel galas at various locations.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

| Date | Event |
|--------------------------|--|
| Fri 7 and Fri 14 Sept |  'The Scarborough Flyer' passes through Sowerby Bridge station. Expected time 9.39am and returning approx 8.09pm in the evening. |
| Sat 15 Sept | Work Together session. 9am-12noon. Meet at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms. |
| 30 Sept & 1 Oct | 'A Brief Encounter' CD presentation of local railway scenes. Noon onwards on 30/9. 10.00am onwards on 1 Oct at the Jubilee |
| Tues 9 Oct | Open 'Committee' Meeting. 7.30-8.30pm at the Jubilee. |
| Sat 20 Oct | Work Together session. 9am-12noon. Meet at the Jubilee. |
| Nov - tbc | Royal Horticultural Society's National 'Dig Together Day'. 9am – 12noon – meet at the Jubilee. |
| Tues 13 Nov | Annual AGM. Starts 7.30pm at the Jubilee. |
| Sat 17 Nov | Work Together session. 9am-12noon. Meet at the Jubilee |
| Tues 11 Dec | Open 'Committee' Meeting. 7.30pm- 8.30pm. At the Jubilee |

Work Together Days vary and may involve weeding, tidying up the station, planting or watering the flower boxes etc. If you enjoy a bit of cultivating and have a few hours to spare, please join us. Just ask for Chris at the Jubilee on the station.

Open 'Committee' Meetings are held once per month and the agenda includes general updates on the Group's activities and progress. Why not come and see what we're all about. You'll receive a warm welcome. Just ask for Chris.

Acknowledgements

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