

#### A great start to 2012...

2012 began with a number of key improvements being made to the station, which will undoubtedly have a positive effect on the overall experience for station users. As always, our Group will continue to work closely with our rail partners to raise awareness of the key improvements that station users want to see at Sowerby Bridge.

I hope you are finding our newsletters of interest and would welcome any feedback you have – you can email us at [fofsbrs@gmail.com](mailto:fofsbrs@gmail.com) Or, if you would like to get involved with our Group or discuss any feedback, please call me on 07850 822590. Thank you.

Christopher J Wright, Convenor (FofSBRS)

#### Station improvements update...



The installation of a **self-service ticket machine** was completed by Northern Rail in December 2011 (on Platform 2). Rail passengers can now purchase their travel tickets in advance.

**Live departure/arrival boards** were also installed over the New Year/early January (going live in February), giving passengers up-to-date rail information.



It has also been confirmed that the **car park expansion plan** has been agreed with the relevant rail partners. This will create an **additional 40** car spaces. Metro are scheduled to complete this work by the end of 2012 – we'll keep you updated on progress.



## Station improvements update (continued)...

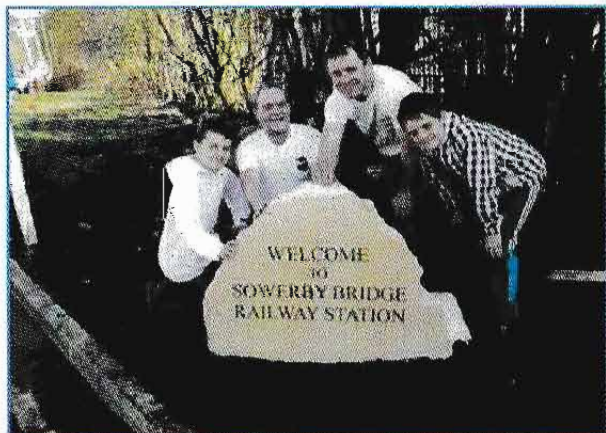
### Roof repairs on Platform 2...

Northern Rail have also confirmed that much needed repairs to the roofing on Platform 2 (Leeds line) will be completed by the end of this year. This will involve the replacement of all the roof panels on Platform 2. Replacement glazing where the ticket machine is located has just been completed.



### New Platform Seating...

We are looking forward to the new platform seating (donation by **WP Eglin**) being installed in the near future. We will update you on progress in the next newsletter.



### ‘Welcome Stone’...

March saw the unveiling of a Welcome Stone at the entrance to the car park. The stone, kindly donated and engraved by local stone mason, **Jamie Haley (of JNH Stone Masonry)**, is another ‘Friends’ initiative to create a more pleasant and welcoming experience for visitors to the station.

### Did you know?....

...the branch line from Sowerby Bridge to Ripponden opened on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 1878. This was a day of great excitement in Ripponden, with the firing of cannons, the ringing of church bells and ‘open house’ in the public houses. Around 2000 people travelled on the branch line on the opening day, and Sowerby Bridge station ran out of pre-printed tickets to Ripponden. They had to use tickets for Mytholmroyd (which was the same price for a single journey – 3d!) to make up the shortfall.

The line was extended to the terminus at Rishworth in March 1881, and an intermediate station at Triangle was provided in June 1885. Passenger services on the Rishworth branch line ceased in 1929.



## Can you help?...

### Station Planter Sponsorship...



The Group are offering local businesses the opportunity to sponsor one of the many station planters and flower tubs on and around the station. In return for a 12 month sponsorship, we'll support local businesses with a 'Sponsored by' plaque on their allocated planter.

We have large half barrel planters at £150; Rectangular planters and hanging baskets at £100; and semi-circular fence planters at £50.

This annual sponsorship will pay for the maintenance and replanting of the planters for 12 months. Please contact John Hartley ([jhagardener@googlemail.com](mailto:jhagardener@googlemail.com)) if you would be interested to find out more.

Thanks so far to the following local businesses who have chosen to support us:  
**Rosehill Polymers Ltd, Abram Pulman & Sons Ltd, Smith Solicitor LLP, Shire Cruisers and Calder Valley Aquatics.**



### Website – Wordpress help...

The Group is in need of some help with building a Wordpress website! We have the outline content and structure; as well as a domain name but unfortunately not the web expertise to build! We need someone with a few hours to spare to help us set up the site and give some basic training on how to maintain the site. If you can help, please contact Wendy Riordan on 07921 079123. Thank you.

**We are also looking for volunteers** who can spare 2-3 hours per week, who have experience in any of the following disciplines: communication or marketing; fund raising, general admin, setting up processes, minute taking etc.

You would join our monthly strategy group meeting and help shape the direction of the Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station.

Why not come along to an Induction Evening to find out more about the Group and what we are trying to achieve – there's no obligation to join! Please contact Wendy Riordan on 07921 079123 if you're interested. Thanks.

# Calendar of Events

The following are our upcoming events and **ALL** are welcome.

Work Together Days will vary and may involve weeding, tidying up the station, planting or watering the flower boxes etc. Meeting place is the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms at the Station – just ask for Chris.

Open ‘Committee’ Meetings are held once per month and the agenda includes: Updates from the Convenor, Secretary, Treasurer and group discussions about relevant topics such as upcoming events or ideas.

Date	Event
Tues 10 Apr	Open ‘Committee Meeting’. Starts 7.30pm at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms.
Sat 21 Apr	Work Together session – 9am-12noon – meet at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms.
Tues 8 May	Open ‘Committee Meeting’. Starts 7.30pm at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms.
Sat 19 May	Work Together session – 9am-12noon – meet at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms.
Tue 12 Jun	Open ‘Committee Meeting’. Starts 7.30pm at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms
Sat 16 Jun	Work Together session – 9am-12noon – meet at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms.

## Acknowledgements ....

**THANKS.....** to **Northern Rail, Metro, Linda Riordan** (MP Halifax) and **David Draycott** (Councillor Sowerby Bridge Ward) for driving forward key improvements now in place at the station.; **SimPrint**, Sowerby Bridge, for the discounted printing of this newsletter ([craig@simprint.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:craig@simprint.fsnet.co.uk)); [www.jnhstonemasonry.co.uk](http://www.jnhstonemasonry.co.uk) for the donation and engraving of our ‘welcome’ stone; [www.rehmanbuilders.co.uk](http://www.rehmanbuilders.co.uk) for cementing the welcome stone in place and **Peter Marsland** (PCB Group) for setting up our website domain.

