

# Friends of Brighouse Station

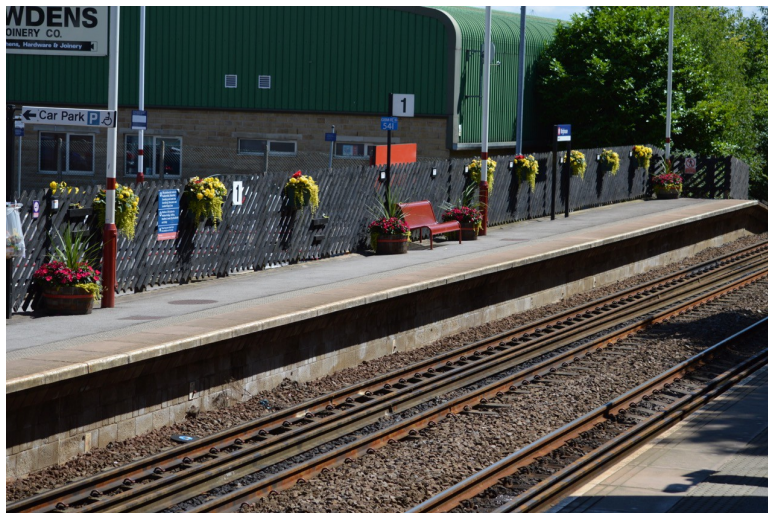
## Bringing New Life to Brighouse Station

### News from the Station

We did it again – ‘double top’ ! ‘Outstanding’ from Yorkshire in Bloom in the ‘It’s Your Neighbourhood’ Category and ‘Gold’ from ACoRP (Association of Community Rail Partnerships) in their ‘It’s your Station’ competition



This is the second year running that we have achieved the highest rating which, for any group, would be an achievement to be proud of. But then add to this that this is only the third year of our Group’s existence and it is a real tribute to all the hard work that has gone into turning the station from the rather drab and somewhat ‘unloved’ appearance of three years ago into the colourful and welcoming place that it is today



Apart from the significant number of passengers who comment on the displays it is also good to note that many do go along reading the plaques to see which local businesses

are the sponsors – without the sponsorship of the local business community we would be struggling to produce the displays that we do.

To give you some idea of the volume of plants required to produce the displays here are the pansies for the winter after they had been ‘potted on’ at the nursery. They really do stretch into the distance – no mirrors involved !



All the fence mounted planters and the barrels will change over from their ‘summer’ to ‘winter’ planting during October . The date isn’t yet decided as it is very much dependant on the weather.

Work has continued during the summer on the area behind the fence on Platform 2. The wild flower area planted by the Scouts is now well established and should give a good display next year. In the very near future we will be putting sempervivium plants in the stone wall and these should add some interest to a blank area – without damaging the wall. We also hope that the clematis planted above the wall will do the same.

Our ‘insect hotel’ area tucked away in the area sponsored by HWA at the top of the car park is nearing completion – I am given to understand that quite a number of ‘guests’ have checked in already ! – but some more enhancements to the area are planned. The Huddersfield end of Platform 1 is the best viewing point if you want to see how the work is progressing. We’ll give you a fuller report when it’s completed.

We’re making slow but steady progress with Northern regarding the planned station enhancements – there will be a ticket machine and the shelters are to be refurbished – but it’s still not determined exactly when this will be done. However, it seems unlikely that the area under the bridge on Platform 2 will be affected so we are now looking at possible uses for this area.

Anyone using the ramp to Platform 2 may have noticed that the overgrown ‘shrubby’ in the area between the ramp and the track is in the process of being cleared. This is the current Scouts group project and over the coming months this area will progressively be made into a ‘garden’ area backed by a ‘nature’ area around the larger trees – hopefully this will be complete by next summer.

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