

Friends of Brighouse Station

Bringing new life to Brighouse Station

Chairman's Report for 2020

As you will have read in Anne Cass's Secretary's report, 2020 was a very challenging year for the group. We were fortunate that, at the times of our Spring and Autumn plant change-over, the Covid restrictions did allow us to have a small team on the station to change the fence planters and replant the barrels and beds – although it did require some rather 'interesting choreography' to maintain social distancing!

Amazingly though, when I tot up my records of work done at the station, it comes to just a little under 400 hours (compared to just over 600 in 2019) which is a real tribute to the tenacity of our Volunteer Group who made the best of opportunities to get work done when restrictions allowed.

Active on the station in 2020 were:

Richard Armitage
Ann Crowther
Anne Howarth
Keith Normanton
Roy Shakespeare
Sue Thorp

Shona Brady
June Harding
Norman Hodgson
Paul Marshall
Beulah Shaw
Alan Whittel

Anne Cass
Susan Hill
David James
Beryl Shakespeare
David Thorpe
David Woffindin

A particular 'Thank you' is due to Norman Hodgson and Beulah Shaw who, on Sundays during the Summer, took their 'permitted exercise' by walking up and down the platforms to water the planters, barrels and beds. Without this I think we would have lost many of our plant displays.

We are also very grateful to our Sponsors for their on-going support in a very difficult business environment.

From a financial point of view we finished the year with a very 'healthy' bank balance. This was largely due to the fact that we were unable to make much progress with projects we had planned and budgeted for – for example in one case we have a grant (From Community Rail Network) for the Information Boards for the platforms where the income was in 2020 but all the expense will be in 2021.

As the UK moves towards the 'New Normal' we should be able to make some progress on our delayed projects. The long-awaited Information Boards will be the first to be completed and then the area behind the fence on Platform 2.

For 2021 we will continue with the same Officers and Committee members and then, hopefully, in 2022 we will be able to return to the practice of an Annual General Meeting.

David C Bedding

April 2020