

Friends of Brighouse Station

Bringing new life to Brighouse Station

Newsletter No 1 (May 2015)



Launch Day

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Friends of Brighouse Station group. The group was officially launched on the 9th January by the local MP Craig Whittaker. Councillors Benton, Blagborough and Pillai were also present and confirmed Council support for the project. The group has been formed to improve the look and the surroundings of the station. "The station is the first part of Brighouse that many of our visitors see and it is important to make a good first impression." The Friends are looking for other members to join and help with their work.

Contact us:

Email: enquiries@friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk

Visit us at www.friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk



Wikipedia.org

A station was first opened close to the present site in October 1840 and was known as Brighouse for Bradford: as no station had then been built in the city! It was closed by British Rail in January in 1970. A new station was built a few hundred yards to the east of the original one and opened in May 2000. From that date the station has been operated without any permanent staff.

Various organisations attend the station to perform assorted services but for most of the time train passengers are the only people who visit the platforms and car park.

Rail services are presently provided by Northern Rail (Leeds, Manchester, Huddersfield Halifax and Bradford) and Grand Central Trains (Bradford to London Kings Cross). Grand Central decided to set up a group of volunteer Ambassadors with the help of several Brighouse people. The Ambassadors work on Sundays to help passengers using the Grand Central services.

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Our Chairman, David Bedding, gives a few more details about the purpose of the group and how the station and its surroundings will hopefully look much more attractive and give a great impression to visitors of what the town of Brighouse has to offer.

A message from the Chairman

As you will have seen from the first page it's just over 4 months since we officially 'launched' our 'Friends of Brighouse Station' group. If you go through the station regularly you could be forgiven for thinking 'but nothing's happened yet' – and, to be fair, there's not yet a great deal to see. We're very much at the start of our journey to really 'Bring New Life to the Station'.

However, if you use the car park then you may have noticed that the visibility onto Armitage Road is now much better since the overhanging shrubs have been cut back. The car park edges no longer have weeds growing out of them and there are distinct signs of the 'shrubbery' by the entrance to the car park being cut back and thinned out so that the beds can be taken back to something less like a low-growing jungle and more like a garden!

On the platforms? Little yet except if you look behind the fence on Platform 1 the litter has disappeared and the area looks tidier.

What happens next? As you will know from your own garden, if you have one, this is the time of when you plan your flower beds ready for planting – and that's just what we've done. Thanks to the generosity of Grand Central Railways and the local businesses listed at the

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bottom of this page, early summer will see the transformation of the platforms by the installation of planters on the fences and tubs of flowers on the platforms, thereafter these will be a permanent feature on the station and will be changed twice per year. We'll also be continuing the task of getting the various 'shrubbery' areas round the station back under control and making them more visually attractive – just a steady slog on this task and we'd obviously welcome more members to help in this task.

David C Bedding

Chairman, Friends of Brighouse Station

chairman@friendsofbrighousestation.org.uk

The Friends of Brighouse Station would like to thank all the businesses in Brighouse who have sponsored a tub or planter at the station.

TAYLORS & CO	ARROW COACH TRAVEL
BRIGHOUSE DRY CLEANERS	THE FLOWER GARDEN
BLAKELEY'S OF BRIGHOUSE	DIRECT CARPET CO,
WEBSTERS INSURANCE BROKERS	RYECORN WHOLEFOODS
CZERWIK -FINE WINE AND CHEESES	
No. 43 COFFEE HOUSE	COMMERCIAL/RAILWAY
TREBLE CLEF MUSIC SHOP	THE CO-OPERATIVE
ROKT CLIMBING GYM	TRAVEL
HARRISON LORD GALLERY	PREGO ITALIAN CAFE BAR
KERSHAW'S GARDEN CENTRE	AND RESTAURANT
WHITEGATES ESTATE AGENTS	THE MILLERS BAR
CO-OPERATIVE FUNERALCARE	STATION CAFE

Corporate Members

Fawcett Cards and Gifts Ltd
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Meze Restaurant
Station Cafe
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