

# Friends of Brighouse Station

**Bringing new life to Brighouse Station**

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## **News From Brighouse Station June 2023**



Welcome to our early summer edition of News from Brighouse Station, keeping you up to date with all the latest news and recent improvements. Well done to all concerned.

The volunteers at Brighouse Station have brushed away the long cold winter and re-planted the fence planters, flowerbeds and barrels with fresh summer plants which should last all the way through to the autumn. The lavender near the entrance will soon be in full flower and the bees will be buzzing round it along with the wild flowers in that area.

New Cosmos and Rudbeckia plants are being planted in the bed on platform2 to encourage pollinating insects and add lots of summer colour.

The choice of plants in the barrels and platform planters has changed from thirsty Begonias to heat tolerant Geraniums just in case we have a repeat of last year's hot weather. We have also installed a rainwater harvesting system to reduce water usage.



In the new Climate Change Garden at the Halifax end of platform 2 five raised beds have been made from timber recycled from the fence on platform 1 which has been replaced by a new fence. The beds have been filled with a free draining soil mix and planted with drought resistant evergreen plants and grey leaved English Lavender and Thyme which will flower and attract bees and pollinating insects during the summer. Planted in the far bed are five evergreen shrubs which are hardy, heat tolerant and produce flowers and berries. In the centre square bed is a windmill palm which is hardy and at the end nearest the ramp is Photinea Red Robin a red leaved evergreen. In the two central long raised beds we planted Phormium tenax. During the winter our hardy volunteers split the primulas from further along platform 2 and planted them at the left hand side, these have been in flower since February and can be seen by people in the passing trains along with the dwarf daffodils in the sloped area by the ramp. To complete the area, paths will be made from the woodchip created from the overgrown Laurel trees removed from the site last summer. The work on this site has been partially funded by FoBS and Northern grants.

The Royal Planter on platform 2 Has a new plaque commemorating the coronation of King Charles the third and Queen Camilla.





There was a blue plaque attached to the bridge on platform 1 which had deteriorated badly. Brighthouse Civic Trust kindly offered to replace the plaque previously donated in 2012. The new plaque is now displayed on the new fence so that it can be seen more easily.



Last but not least. Our new artwork installation phase 1 has been fitted above the fence on platform 1. Designed and produced by staff and students from Calderdale college depicting various buildings, landmarks and countryside scenes around the town.

Due to modernisation of part of the station platform this has taken longer than planned, nevertheless everyone agrees it is a superb piece of work which enhances the station and helps to promote Brighouse.



Tony Baxter regional director of Northern said “I would like to say a huge thank you to the incredibly talented students whose artwork now has pride of place at the station.”

FoBS are now looking forward to Phase 2 of the project which will be displayed on platform 2 in due course.

We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter, there will be another to follow later in the year. It has been quite a hectic time again since our last newsletter, everyone involved in improving the station have given their time freely and worked tirelessly to improve the station for the benefit of passengers and train crews. Thank you also to our sponsors. We are Looking forward to a visit from Yorkshire in Bloom Judges in July to demonstrate our work throughout the year.

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