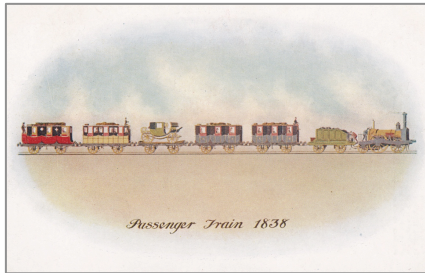


'Sowerby Bridge Railway Station 175' Celebrating 175 years (1840 - 2015)



The Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station invite you to join us over the weekend from Saturday 3rd October to Monday 5th October 2015 to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the railway coming to Sowerby Bridge, when the original station opened on 5th October, 1840.

We have contacted local schools and youth groups requesting that they support the event by taking part in a **painting/poster competition** on the theme "Sowerby Bridge in 1840", with an emphasis on railway and transport. All entrants will receive a souvenir gift and prizes will be awarded to the winning entries in both Primary and Secondary categories. One of the winning entries will be made into a Northern Rail poster. Entries (up to A3 in size) may be submitted to the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms at the station to be on public display on Saturday and Sunday (3-4 October) before judging takes place and the award of prizes on the Monday afternoon (5 October). Entries will be accepted equally either as part of a school or youth group submission or independently from individuals (up to age 18). A specially commissioned painting depicting a scene in 1840 will be displayed in the Refreshment Rooms over the weekend. The Sowerby Bridge Library is hosting a display of Victorian transport images and local Victorian scenes from 12th September to 2nd October, 2015. Further details regarding the competition will be included with the display.

SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS OF THE ENTERTAINMENT PLANNED FOR THE WEEKEND.

'Sowerby Bridge Railway Station 175' Weekend Entertainment

The station will be decorated throughout the weekend with Union Jack flags and bunting in order to recreate the scenes from 175 years ago.

SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER , AND MONDAY 5th OCTOBER -- 12 noon until 4.00pm -- Guided tours (preferably by prior arrangement) of the Bronte Garden, the station and the newly installed Information Boards, for adults, families, school groups and supervised children. The tours will be conducted by our volunteers, some of whom will be in Victorian costume. Paintings will be on display in the Jub. Ref. Rooms.

SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER -- 12 noon onwards -- A screening of railway-related film will be featured in the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms.

MONDAY 5th OCTOBER -- 2.00pm until 4.00pm -- Brass band displays, Morris Dancing (both subject to confirmation), Official "unveiling" of the Station Information Boards, Display and Judging of Painting/Poster Competition, and complimentary celebratory cake and 1840s style catering.

Yorkshire in Bloom 2015 -- At the annual awards ceremony held at York Racecourse on 8th September, the station's entry was again successful, being awarded a **GOLD PLAQUE** and certificate in the competition's Open Spaces category. This has been achieved thanks to the hard work of our volunteers and the continued support of our sponsors.

Annual General Meeting -- Our Group's 5th AGM will be held in the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms from 7.30pm on Tuesday, 10th November, 2015. Open to all, the guest speaker will be Mr Chris Ingham, Northern Rail's Station Manager.

Planter Sponsorship Update - We are pleased to welcome Goodall Transport Limited as a new sponsor this year, and thank them for their support.

To sponsor a planter simply email: jhagardener@googlemail.com

Coach Trip, Sunday 4th October -- Great Central Railway, Autumn Steam Gala, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

A few seats are still available. For further details or to book your seat please call at the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms or contact Jim Milner -- jim.milner@tiscali.co.uk

Installation of Defibrillator at the Station - Owing to successful fund raising by the Sowerby Bridge Rotary Club, and with the co-operation of Northern Rail, arrangements are being made for a defibrillator to be installed on Platform 1 (Manchester Platform) of the Station. If everything goes to plan the defibrillator will be "unveiled" during the weekend of the 175 celebrations.

Planters and half-barrels update..

The annual winter changeover and replanting of flowers and plants is scheduled to take place on Saturday, 24th October from 10.00am.

Remembrance Sunday – 8th November, 2015 – (details to follow)

The Information Board situated centrally on Platform 2 (Leeds Platform) records the names of the railwaymen employed locally by the former Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company who lost their lives in the Great War (1914-1918).

We are planning for a short Remembrance Service to be held and wreaths to be laid at the Board by our Group, and also by a representative of Northern Rail, in recognition of their loss. We invite family descendants of all former railwaymen who lost their lives in the Great War, the Second World War and more recent conflicts, and others, to lay flowers if they wish, and to join us for the service.

Installation of “Welcome to Sowerby Bridge” Boards

By the time this newsletter is in circulation two large “Welcome to Sowerby Bridge” display boards will have been fixed to fencing at either ends of Platform 1 and will be clearly visible to everyone using the station as well as everyone travelling on trains passing through. The boards include our Group’s logo together with Sowerby Bridge’s Coat of Arms. The production and installation of the boards has been made possible by a contribution from ACoRP’s (Association of Community Rail Partnership’s) Small Grants Fund.

Website Help Required ...

This is an urgent appeal to anyone with the relevant IT skills, and with a few hours to spare, to help us maintain and develop the Group’s website. Our previous website manager is no longer able to carry out these tasks and consequently the website now requires a number of updates. If you are interested and have the skills required please get in touch.

ACoRP Community Rail Awards 2015...

We have recently been informed that our entry to the ACoRP Community Rail Awards for 2015 in the category ‘Best Station Garden ‘ has been selected for shortlist, and we have received a ‘Certificate of Shortlisting’. Our entry featured the Bronte Garden which was officially opened by the Mayor of Calderdale in August, 2014. This is a very prestigious nation-wide competition, for which the winners will be announced at a gala dinner to be held in Torquay on 1st October, 2015.



Tia (the three-legged German shepherd)

Tia was a regular and welcome visitor to the station and the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms, accompanied by her owner, our member Mick Pilling, and we were saddened to learn that she had passed away last month. She will be greatly missed.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Sat 3 Oct – Mon 5 Oct	SPECIAL EVENT – ‘Sowerby Bridge Railway Station 175’, Celebrating 175 years, October 1840 – October 2015.
Sun 4 Oct	COACH TRIP, GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY, LOUGHBOROUGH 8.30am Departure from JRR* Pre-book your seat.
Tues 13 Oct	Open ‘Committee’ Meeting. 7.30-8.30pm. Meet at JRR*
Sat 24 Oct	ANNUAL WINTER REPLANTING . From 10.00am. Meet at JRR*
Sun 8 Nov	REMEMBRANCE SERVICE. Leeds Platform. Details to follow.
Tues 10 Nov	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 7.30-8.30pm. Meet at JRR*
Sat 21 Nov	Work Together session. From 10.00am. Meet at JRR*
Tues 8 Dec	Open ‘Committee’ Meeting. 7.30-8.30pm. Meet at JRR*
Sat 19 Dec	Work Together session. From 10.00am. Meet at JRR*

*Venue: JRR = Jubilee Refreshment Rooms at Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

Work Together Days vary and may involve weeding, tidying up the station, planting or watering the flower boxes etc. If you enjoy a bit of cultivating and have a few hours to spare, please join us. Just ask for Chris at the Jubilee Rooms on the station.

Open ‘Committee’ Meetings are held monthly and the group discusses general updates on its activities and progress. Why not come and see what we’re all about. You’ll receive a warm welcome. Just ask for Chris.

Acknowledgements ...

THANKS .. To Calderdale Council for the approval of a grant from their Festivals and Events Fund, and to Northern Rail for their help and support, in respect of the ‘Sowerby Bridge Railway Station 175’ Event. Thanks also to Tesco for their contribution.

ALSO .. to ACoRP for their grant support covering the provision of the two ‘Welcome to Sowerby Bridge’ boards, **and** to Kiyran Burke and the Halifax Model Railway Club, to Steve Hanlon of Clayton and to our member Michael Grogan for the donation of models and DVDs. **FINALLY**, an extra- special thank you to Ron Goodall, of Goodall Transport Ltd., Sowerby Bridge, for his sustained efforts in attempting to acquire a sea container for the use of our Group.

Contact us: Tel: 07850 822590. Email: fofsbrs@gmail.com
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