

Southeast Communities Rail Partnership Weekly Highlights

DATE 6h Feb 2026



1066: Hastings to Tonbridge

Kanna Ingleson, Line Officer
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- Attended a Strategic Planning meeting in Tonbridge together with Line Chair James Abbott. Network Rail is looking at possible improvements at various stations over the next 30 years, including the 1066 line between Hastings and Tonbridge. A need for better access to the platforms at St Leonards Warrior Square was recognised.
- Met with the grand-daughter of Etchingam platelayer Joseph Weston to plan a celebration at the station and an unveiling of his blue plaque. Station Manager Damien Collyer had the plaque made and he has put in a request for it to be installed in the ticket office. Once that has been done, we will set a date.
- Developed some artwork for 1066-related activities (badges of course) and promos. These include the upcoming 40th anniversary of the electrification of the Hastings to Tonbridge line. The 'swoosh' element is a reference to Halley's Comet that famously made an appearance in 1066.



Arun Valley: Gatwick Airport to Bosham

Rowena Tyler, Line Officer
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February kicked off with plenty of project planning:

Rail200 exhibition train late announcement of an additional stop at Bognor Regis station, 2nd 3rd March, several discussions with community partners and local stakeholders, hoping visitors to the train also receive a big Bognor community welcome.

Also in March, Bognor will host the premiere launch of 'The Arun Valley Line – Exploring the Rails', the sequel to last year's podcast and film series. Invitations have been sent out to contributors and partners who have expressed an interest in helping to market the series. *Do contact Rowena if you are one of these and not received your invitation.*

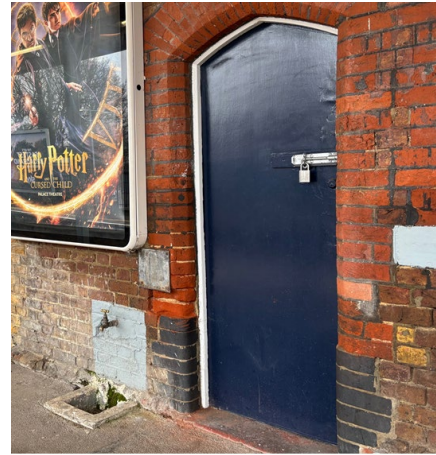
A call has gone out to choirs or individual singers (and trumpeters!) to join a community chorus at King's Cross Station on Saturday 7th March, to raise money and awareness of GTR's chosen charity, MIND.



Crawley Station has provided space for a schools' art competition. GTR maintenance installed new frames with cork backing at very short notice
Read more at [Sussex Community Rail Partnership | Southeast Communities Rail Partnership](#) including how you can cast your vote.

Hounslow to Richmond
Anna Stearman Line Officer
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- Meetings and site visits this week at Hounslow Station and with potential partners for developing green spaces in and around the station: Luke from Bee Friendly Trust and Great Oaks College, who had some wonderful ideas for a wheelchair accessible sensory garden.
- Meeting with Andy from Orleans House Gallery to discuss the potential for collaborative projects at Twickenham and St Margarets Stations.
- Discussion with Jenni from CRN regarding funding application processes and ideas.
- Meeting with Friends of St Margarets Station.
- Delightful discovery of a tap on a station platform !



Grant and Michael on a Hounslow Walkabout



Planters at Hounslow Bus Station

Marshlink Hastings-Ashford International Paul Bromley Line Officer paul@southeastcrp.org



The undoubted highlight of the week was a lovely community celebration with the winners and runners-up from the Railway 200 'Write on Track' poetry competition we ran with Rye Harbour Writers using a grant from Southern.

The wordsmiths and their families travelled to Rye station for the official unveiling of their poems in poster frames in the booking hall and were presented with smaller framed versions of their work.

Refreshments and cakes followed as the group mingled and chatted with the writers.

Thanks to Southern for the Railway 200 grant to the writing group which enabled them to run the competition and publish the book of Station Poems.

News story on SCRP website (which has links to the winning poems): <https://www.southeastcrp.org/awards-ceremony-for-poetry-competition-winners/>

Case Study written and published plus updated Annual Review line page submission.

Press coverage already online on Sussex World with print stories expected in Hastings Observer and Rye News.



North Downs Gatwick- Redhill- Reading
Line Officer:

Sara Grisewood sara@southeastcrp.org

- Finalised content for the information panel to accompany new artwork at Farnborough North Station and looking forward to installing all the panels in March.
- Attended an online GWR CRP catch up.
- Had event planning meeting with Surrey Coalition of Disabled People: for our wheel/draw sessions.
- Furthered the Rushmoor Big Green Fringe Festival CRN funding application.
- Attended an in person onboarding for new station volunteers at Shalford Station with Nicole from GWR.
- Meetings continue to plan the underpass mural at North Camp Station.
- Photo of Mike Knott entertaining and promoting Reg's Garden and House Community Hub at a lunch event at St Peters Farnborough recently. Photo: SCRP

Uckfield - East Grinstead – Oxted &
Ton - Reigate

Samantha Lear Line Officer

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- Attended the East Grinstead Community Voluntary Fair this week and spread the CRP word, making initial contact with 10 potential partnership organisations. 1 Try the Train is already in the planning as a result.
- Attended SCRP staff meeting, SCRP/GTR Communities Team meeting and Wealdlink meeting.
- News received this week that the Artist working with SCRP on a mural opposite the station at Crowborough has received a grant of £500 for initial costs to develop the project with us.
- Next Week: Tonbridge station meeting with community lead and station manager and Uckfield & East Grinstead Line Steering Group on 13th



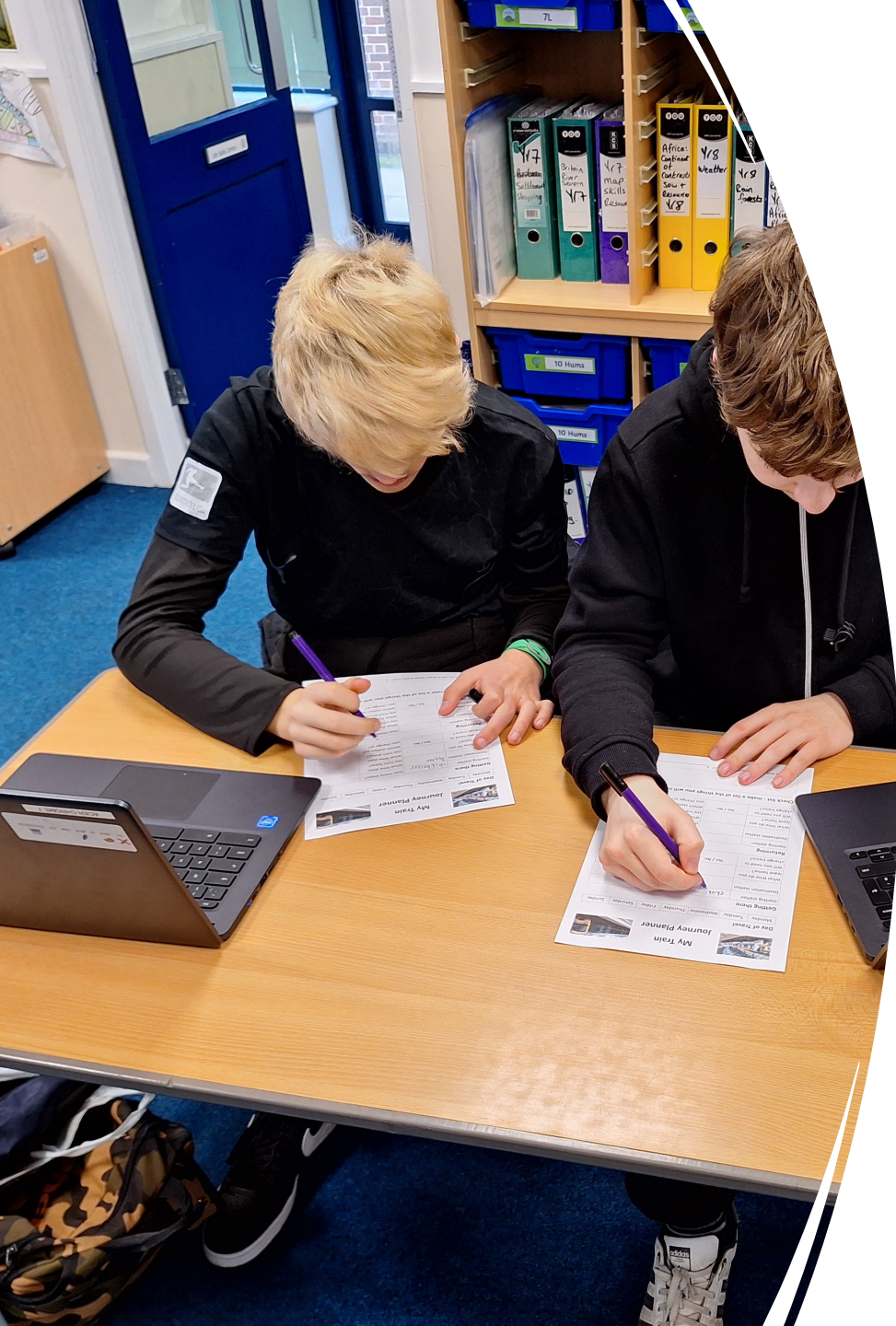


Windsor to Reading

Sandy Mahon, Line Officer

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- Our wonderful adopters at Staines Station have taken on an additional area of land at the beginning of Station Path. Rubbish has been cleared and plants have been put in place. Just up from this patch is a raised section where they have planted five fruit trees—apple, plum, and pear. Thanks to Network Rail and the Staines Business Improvement District for their help with this.
- SCRP teams meeting.
- New contacts made and meetings set up with Arts Groups in Wokingham who are keen to work with us on community engagement.



Go Learn Education
Cath Reed Education Officer
cathreed@southeastcrp.org

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- Working with year 11 students from St Anthonys Special School Planning a Journey from Chichester to Southampton (TwC) The students are becoming increasingly more confident to plan and travel independently, and we are able to support their life skills by helping them plan a trip to Ikea.
 - Planning a Journey from Chichester to Gatwick with students from Chichester College. (TwC)
 - Planning a Journey workshop with students from Northbrook College – we will be using the Clipper service for the first time as well as bus and underground. (TwC)



Go Train GWR Education
Maddy Mills Education
Officer

maddy@southeastcrp.org

- Delivered a 'Planning your Journey & Staying Safe' workshop at Potley Hill Primary School, 33 x Year 6 pupils
- Delivered a 'Travelling with Confidence' planning workshop for Surrey Choices, 10 x young people
- Attended GWR quarterly catch-up meeting.
- Attended staff lunch in Eastbourne thank you to Andy.

Marketing and Communications
Samantha Lear Comms Officer
samantha@[southeastcrp.org](mailto:samantha@southeastcrp.org)

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- Working with Silvertip Films & Friends of Bishopstone Station on promotional videos, funded by CRN.
 - 3rd Module of Social for Good Completed. This focused on Community.
 - Update on Comms given to Staff Meeting including changes to use of social media platforms meaning that we will no longer be using X (formally Twitter).



SCRP CIC News
Fiona Morton CEO,
Trevor Field
Finance Officer,
Andy Pope Line
Officer Team
Manager

Attended launch of All Party
Parliamentary Group for
South East and Gatwick
Diamond Gateway

