

# Southeast Communities Rail Partnership Weekly Highlights

DATE 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026



1066: Hastings to Tonbridge  
Kanna Ingleson, Line Officer  
[kanna@southeastcrp.org](mailto:kanna@southeastcrp.org)

- A legacy from Railway 200 and the Blue Plaques Project has made links across the country. The Joseph Weston plaque created interest from Platelayers around the country, and we have shared his story widely.

- Mike Lamport writes: “

*“Our first thoughts are to put these individual stories both online and into a physical photo story album that visitors will be able to flick through when they stop by to sit in our restored permanent way hut. Thanks again and keep up your excellent work and well done for winning with your inspired plaques project. As judges we were blown away by it.”*





Arun Valley: Gatwick Airport to Bosham  
Rowena Tyler, Line Officer  
[rowena@southeastcrp.org](mailto:rowena@southeastcrp.org)

Good evening, Rowena, I just wanted to thank you for arranging for our young station adopters to take part in the trip today. I've received some lovely feedback from them when we were waiting for parents to pick them up, they really enjoyed learning how to read the timetables and understanding about listening carefully for when a train is splitting at stations, they were not aware of this occurring before today, they even realised they needed to be in front 4 carriages for the way back so it definitely showed they were taking on board what was being explained to them during the trip. Thank you again for your time and full support on this journey into our adopt a station project, it's been a slow process but things should start moving forward through the summer holidays. Have a lovely week and catch up soon.

Amanda Foster, Crawley Youth Ifield Station Adopter

Hounslow to Richmond  
Anna Stearman Line Officer  
[anna@southeastcrp.org](mailto:anna@southeastcrp.org)

- Preparations for the big Richmond birthdays in July are ongoing, in collaboration with Angela Ivey of Visit Richmond and various community groups in Mortlake and East Sheen.



Angela and a volunteer at Richmond Station.

# Marshlink Hastings-Ashford International Paul Bromley Line Officer [paul@southeastcrp.org](mailto:paul@southeastcrp.org)

- ✓ Completed and submitted funding application to produce guides for station-to-station walks along King Charles III England coast path
- ✓ Held Marshlink steering group meeting online with presentation on how station groups can be part of celebrations for Bayeux Tapestry and Year of the Normans
- ✓ Station planters are looking magnificent – thanks to all the gardening volunteers.
- ✓ Former Eastbourne MP Stephen Lloyd praised the planters at Eastbourne station (bottom photo) as “splendid” and added: “Cheers up the whole environment”.



North Downs Gatwick- Redhill- Reading  
Line Officer:  
Sara Grisewood  
[sara@southeastcrp.org](mailto:sara@southeastcrp.org)

It was great to be out and about on the North Downs Line this week, exploring a Railway History walk as part of Guildford Walkfest in September: it was beautiful, quiet lanes and footpaths, close to the railway line with stunning views of the Surrey Hills.

I also walked part of the route from Shalford Station linking with National Cycle Network route 22 which runs from London to Portsmouth!

At a site meeting at Shalford with Verity from GWR we discussed a CCIF outcomes, with funding agreed for a mural; we also met Bex from Shalford Station group and, by chance, Mark, GWR station environment officer. It was a good opportunity to talk about all things Shalford Station. I reported having seen a stoat on the platform last week!!

I attended a CRN online session on GBR and began preparing a CRDF application for a new artwork at North Camp Station.

Plans are underway for our next Steering Group meeting at Sandhurst, a new location for us. I am also looking forward to our SAB on 22<sup>nd</sup> July which will be at Reg's Garden.

- Photos: me walking; site visit Shalford Station: Verity GWR, Mark GWR, Bex Shalford Climate Action photo: SCRP





# Sussex Coast Line Hove to Littlehampton Lynda Spain Line Officer [lynda@southeastcrp.org](mailto:lynda@southeastcrp.org)

- This week I have been reporting some overgrown shrubbery issues to Network Rail and taking photos
- I visited Ferring Nurseries to set up an account with this lovely family run local business. Garden groups along the line can now have plants, soil etc. delivered direct to their stations
- I attended the CRN Webinar “Rail Reform and Great British Railways”
- Adur & Worthing Council are arranging a community day at Durrington Station which I will be attending and helping to promote
- Potential new station partners at East Worthing and West Worthing (watch this space)
- Photos: Overgrown shrubs at West Worthing, Ferring Nurseries, flyer for volunteer session at Durrington

**Durrington Station**  
**VOLUNTEER SESSION**  
Litter picking-Weeding-Painting  
Thursday 25 June 2pm-5pm  
Durrington-on-Sea Station-Worthing-BN12 6BT  
Meet outside the station on The Causeway

- Friendly welcome • Expert support
- Wear outdoor clothing & sturdy footwear
- Adults & accompanied children welcome
- Tools provided • Free

**LOVE YOUR AREA**  
Gift your time-Meet people

Sussex Downs Line Seaford  
to Brighton  
Michael Olden Line Officer  
[michael@southeastcrp.org](mailto:michael@southeastcrp.org)

---

- I attended the launch of the SCRP's short film about the fantastic work done by the Friends of Bishopstone station
- This week marks the beginning of a series of open days at London Road stations allotment space and pocket park. 11-4pm Sunday 21st, 2-5:30pm Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 11-4pm Sunday 28th June.



---

## Uckfield - East Grinstead – Oxted & Ton - Reigate

Samantha Lear Line Officer  
[samantha@southeastcrp.org](mailto:samantha@southeastcrp.org)

- It has been a week of networking, planning and project preparation, including scoping a new timeline at Redhill, meeting East Grinstead Town Council representatives, monthly station manager meetings and station audits.
- Plans for next academic year also began with a meeting with The Oaks Specialist College with whom we are planning a series of Try the Train events.
- The CRDF application for Crowborough Mural has now been submitted.
- The site access permit for Redhill's new station partnership has been approved and planting can begin.
- I attended the Great British Railways and Community Rail webinar.



Go Learn Education  
Cath Reed Education Officer  
[cathreed@southeastcrp.org](mailto:cathreed@southeastcrp.org)

- I ran 2 Sustainable and Healthy workshops for Year 6 pupils from Arunside in Horsham ( 58 pupils)
- I ran a Planning a Journey then a station visit and train ride for 31 pupils from St Robert Southwell Primary in Horsham
- I ran a TwC trip for 11 students from Brighton Forward in Worthing travelling to Horsham.
- Maddy and I travelled up to Stratford for the Rail Live event. We were incredibly lucky to get a ride in the cab of the hydrogen train , what an amazing experience!



# Go Train GWR Education Maddy Mills Education Officer [maddy@southeastcrp.org](mailto:maddy@southeastcrp.org)

- Delivered a 'Planning your Journey & Staying Safe' workshop at Floreat Montague Park primary School in Wokingham. 27 x Year 6 pupils.
- Ran a station visit to reading for St. Peter's School. Travelled from Farnborough North to Reading. 30 x Year 6 pupils.
- Attended Rail Live at Long Marston near Stratford-Upon-Avon. Apart from riding in the cab of the first train of the event to run around their new testing track loop we saw locomotives, drones, robots and a gentleman who makes pretend wounds for training exercises for Network Rail. Fantastic event, learned lots and met people who may be able to help us in the future...



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

After the launch of our film, this week has been spent scoping new communications and sharing the film to our social media channels.

If you haven't yet watched the film here is a link  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/DZuaLGqpIM5/>

Please share with your colleagues, groups and anyone who you think would enjoy learning more about community rail in action.



# SCRIP CIC News

## Fiona Morton CEO, Trevor Field Finance Officer

- Preparing for our SAB event on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, Board meeting and negotiations with DfTO
- Our “thank you” event for Line Chairs, Staff and Directors will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept – thank you to Christ Hospital School for opening up their grounds for us.
- Amassing the data and evidence for DFT Accreditation renewal
- Pictured: Useful illustration from Richard James Dobbs about the potential of GBR to enrich communities

## COMMUNITY RAIL & PLACE-MAKING POLICY PAPER

Transforming Stations. Strengthening Communities. Creating Opportunity.

### POLICY OBJECTIVE

To maximise the social, economic and community value of Great British Railways by transforming stations from transport assets into community assets that connect people, places and opportunity.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Britain's railways connect millions of journeys every day. Their greatest value extends far beyond transport.

The Community Rail movement shows that when communities, volunteers, businesses, schools, charities and railway partners work together, stations become gateways to employment, education, healthcare, tourism, culture and local identity.

By embedding community engagement into the future of Great British Railways, we can unlock substantial economic, social and environmental benefits, improve passenger experience and build pride in place.

### THE GREAT BRITISH RAILWAYS FORMULA

TRACKS CONNECT PLACES  
↓  
STATIONS CONNECT COMMUNITIES  
↓  
COMMUNITIES CONNECT PEOPLE

### THE OPPORTUNITY

- A COMMUNITY HUB
- A DRIVER OF ECONOMIC GROWTH
- A LEARNING & SKILLS GATEWAY
- A CULTURAL & HERITAGE ASSET
- A SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION
- A PLATFORM FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 1 COMMUNITY FIRST**  
Place local communities at the heart of railway decision-making.
- 2 STATION PLACE-MAKING**  
Develop stations as welcoming destinations that reflect local identity and heritage.
- 3 VOLUNTEER & PARTNERSHIP GROWTH**  
Expand station adoption schemes, community rail partnerships and local involvement.
- 4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
Leverage rail connectivity to support businesses, tourism, employment and regeneration.
- 5 SOCIAL VALUE DELIVERY**  
Measure success through community outcomes alongside operational performance.
- 6 FUTURE GENERATIONS**  
Use the railway to inspire careers in engineering, transport, sustainability and infrastructure.

### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

ECONOMIC	SOCIAL	ENVIRONMENTAL
Increased local business activity	Stronger community cohesion	Greater use of sustainable transport
Improved labour mobility	Greater social inclusion	Reduced congestion
Enhanced regional competitiveness	Improved wellbeing and pride in place	Improved local environments