

# Southeast Communities Rail Partnership Weekly Highlights

DATE 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026



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

- I developed an info card and an accompanying badge to more easily communicate when recruiting volunteers.
- Network Rail has agreed to instruct a contractor to clear the litter on the other side of the fence on Platform 2 at High Brooms Station. This is one of several initiatives at High Brooms to hopefully discourage anti-social behaviour.
- Working on 2 funding applications. One is a substantial amount for an exciting heritage collaboration.



A large rectangular info card with a white background and a blue border. At the top left, it says "NOT JUST TRAINS" in large blue and orange letters. To the right is the "Southeast Communities Rail Partnership" logo, which is a circular graphic with a green and blue train track pattern. Below the main title is a horizontal line with a yellow heart icon in the center. To the left of this line is a blue circle containing three white people icons. To the right of the line is a list of activities, each with a small icon: a camera for "PHOTOGRAPHY", a plant for "GARDENING", a book for "LOCAL HISTORY", a group of people for "COMMUNITY EVENTS", a walking stick for "WALKING GROUPS", and a handshake for "AND MORE!". Below the list is a paragraph of text: "Did you know local volunteers help bring projects like heritage events, station improvements and community events to life? From local history and photography to gardening, walking groups, schools projects and community events, there are lots of ways to get involved. Whether you can spare a few hours or become a regular volunteer, you can help make a real difference to the communities served by the 1066 Line." At the bottom of the card, there is a blue banner on the left with a white heart icon and the text "JOIN US AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE", a yellow banner in the middle with the text "Everyone welcome!", and an orange banner on the right with a white train icon and the text "HELP MAKE THE 1066 LINE SOMETHING SPECIAL".

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

- This week, we submitted a bid to the Safer in Sussex grant, administered by Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner. This application is to assist a collaborative project to reduce anti-social behaviour at Bognor Regis station.
- I was out on the trains this week, visiting stations, and had a good catch up with Carly Gibb, station manager, who is always supportive of community rail activities.
- SCRP had a stand at Gatwick Airport's Staff sustainable travel event. Arun District Council and Horsham District Council officers joined me and contributed not only a very generous 8 prizes for the raffle we ran, but also brought Lupin, the poodle, who was one of the main draws.

*Photos: Station partner at Ford station, the model railway shop is now known as Model Giant (Gaugemaster for online orders). They have cleverly installed a monitor in their shop, with live train running information, to help customers who might get distracted by the fantastic range of stock.*



Time	Destination	Platform	Expected
10:20	Southampton Central	2	On time
10:27	Brighton	Angmering (10:34)	10:29
10:38	London Victoria	East Chichester (10:52)	On time
10:39	Bognor Regis	Bathwick (10:44)	On time
10:46	Brighton	Bathwick (11:02)	On time
10:50	Southampton Central	Woolston (11:12)	On time
10:57	Brighton	Angmering (11:04)	On time
11:01	Chichester	Bathwick (11:03)	On time
11:08	Bognor Regis	Bathwick (11:07)	On time
11:08	London Victoria	East Chichester (11:24)	On time

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

- Lots of hilarious planting in the rain for Community Rail Week at Isleworth and Hounslow stations, with local volunteers Kathleen, Julian, Penny, Beverley and Heather.
- Work on final Proofs for Mortlake Footbridge artworks week, as well as finalizing RA and ATW for installation on 8<sup>th</sup> June.
- Research and sourcing of high-resolution photographs for Richmond Station Art Gallery of works from museums and galleries around the world, from the London Transport Museum to National Gallery of Scotland and Museum of Modern Art in New York.
- Social Media training for CRP line officers with Kim Kaven of SWR.
- Meetings with Steering group vice chair Michael and Grant from Hounslow council regarding funding applications, and with Chair Sidonie and Angela from Richmond council, planning Richmond and Mortlake's 180<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration next month.
- Meetings with St Margarets volunteers in preparation for multiple ways to celebrate their 150th birthday, including the brilliant children's poster competition organised by volunteer Rachel, with SWR Station Manager, Manoj. First Prize – Family Train ticket to anywhere on the SWR Network!

**CALLING ALL YOUNG ARTISTS!**

**150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

**ST MARGARETS STATION**

**POSTER COMPETITION**

In celebration of the **150<sup>th</sup> birthday** of St Margarets Station we are launching a poster competition!

Submissions will be displayed in the waiting room and around the platform.

**HOW TO ENTER**  
Create an A4 poster using:

- Paint
- Crayon
- Pencil
- Pen

**DEADLINE**  
**1<sup>st</sup> July 2026**

**AGE CATEGORIES**

- 3-7
- 8-12
- 13-18

**PLEASE WRITE ON THE BACK OF YOUR POSTER:**

- ✓ Name
- ✓ Age

**AMAZING PRIZES!**  
A family train ticket to anywhere on the South Western

Let your imagination run wild!



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

Lots of community engagement and networking including:

- Formal launch of updated maps for train, walk and cycle routes along coast linking Hastings to other towns
- Catching up with Network Rail at emergency services day (promoting Arlo books)
- Thank you event for Volunteers' Week organised by Community Action
- Plus planning for Try a Train trip for Community Rail Week 'Journeys for All' – report and pics in next week's newsletter



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

We celebrated **Community Rail Week** on the North Downs Line with three events all chiming with this year's theme of **Journeys For All**:

The launch of a new podcast by Whistlestop Arts at Pippbrook House in Dorking. It features a whole episode around Chilworth Station with local heritage stories and our blue plaque project gets a mention. See link in next weeks newsletter.

A big thank you to Andy and Mark at GWR for last minute installation of the new panel at Crowthorne Station in time for the launch of the new Car Free Travel map and leaflet, funded by GWR and hand drawn by a local artist.

Finally, we had the grand and official opening by Network Rail of the new Footbridge and Lifts at Farnborough North, both of which have made rail journeys so much safer. More photos next week!

Photo: Ambles and Rambles Whistlestop Arts



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

- Community Rail Week is a really busy week on the Sussex Coast Line
- Launch of the photography exhibition “Heart of the Tracks” by SupaJam College at Hove
- First gardening session at Goring with Northbrook College (unfortunately, weather stopped play)
- Multi-Agency meeting at Durrington to come up with a joint action plan (see photo)



*Community rail brings people  
together through rail*

## Sussex Downs Line Seaford to Brighton

Michael Olden Line Officer  
[michael@southeastcrp.org](mailto:michael@southeastcrp.org)

- On Friday, 'Man Space', a group from Friends of Bishopstone station encouraging retired men to get out and socialise 'Tried the Train'. Members caught the train to Brighton visiting the Toy & Model Museum where Jan Etches gave a talk before exploring the museums fascinating collection. After, the group were treated to lunch before catching the train home. (Thanks to Julian Holt, bottom left, for the photo).
- Wednesday the new restored platform waiting room at Bishopstone station was officially opened. It has been transformed into a welcoming heritage room featuring a permanent exhibition on the history of the Ouse estuary.



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## Uckfield - East Grinstead – Oxted & Ton - Reigate Samantha Lear Line Officer [samantha@southeastcrp.org](mailto:samantha@southeastcrp.org)

- This week as Community Rail week and Volunteer week have fallen together I have taken the opportunity to thank the wonderful Station Partners along the lines for all that they do. Listed below are the groups. Next time you pass a station on the lines look out for the lovely gardens, artwork and environment they are creating.

Brighter Uckfield

Buxted Together

Brighter Crowborough

Rotherfield Parish Council

Judith at Cowden

Creative Community

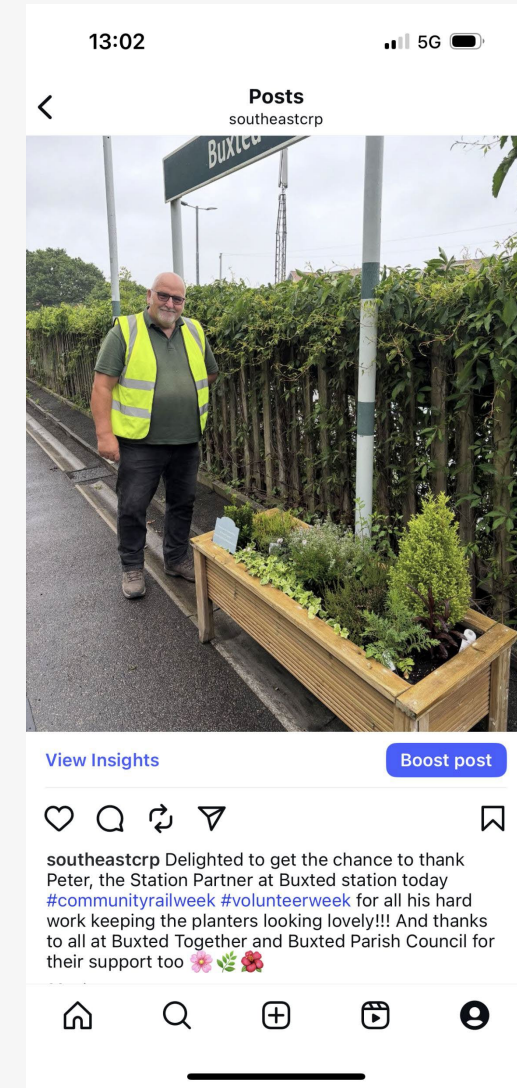
Step by Step School

Growing Redhill

The Oaks Specialist College

Nutfield Station Garden

- Buxted station partner volunteer, Peter Smith, pictured here, also agreed to join the Uckfield & East Grinstead Steering Group. This is great news as we work to refocus, reengage and reinvigorate the group so that even more wonderful community and voluntary activity can be achieved for local communities along the lines. Welcome Peter!





## What are the barriers to men engaging in allyship?

...think it's a 'women's issue'.

...think that it's not their place to get involved.

...fear other people's reactions.

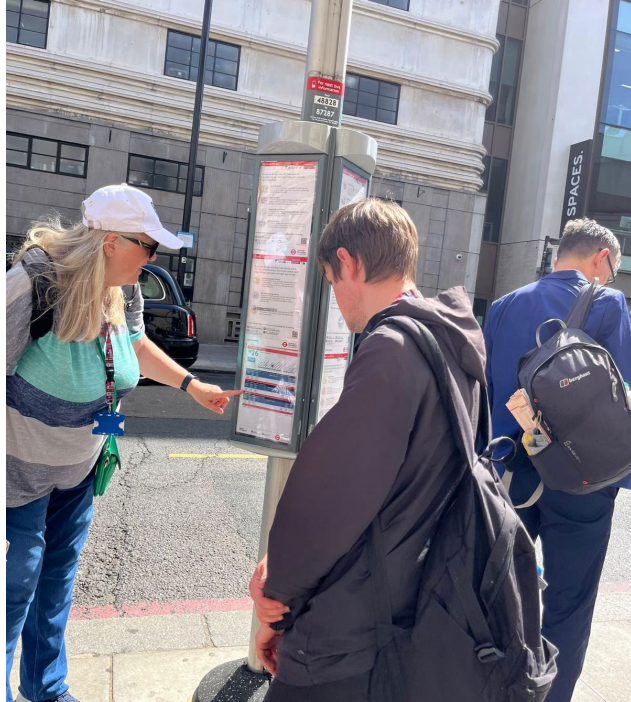
...hold sexist attitudes themselves.

...don't realise other men want to help as well.

...fear repercussions for themselves or others.

Windsor to Reading  
Sandy Mahon, Line Officer  
[sandy@southeastcrp.org](mailto:sandy@southeastcrp.org)

- Attended White Ribbon webinar called Watching the game, playing your part. With the upcoming Football World Cup, statistics show major sporting events can intensify abuse of women and girls. It gave practical tips for speaking up safely and supporting others.
- Catch up with colleague Anna.
- SCRP staff teams catch up.
- All you need to know about SWR social media session.



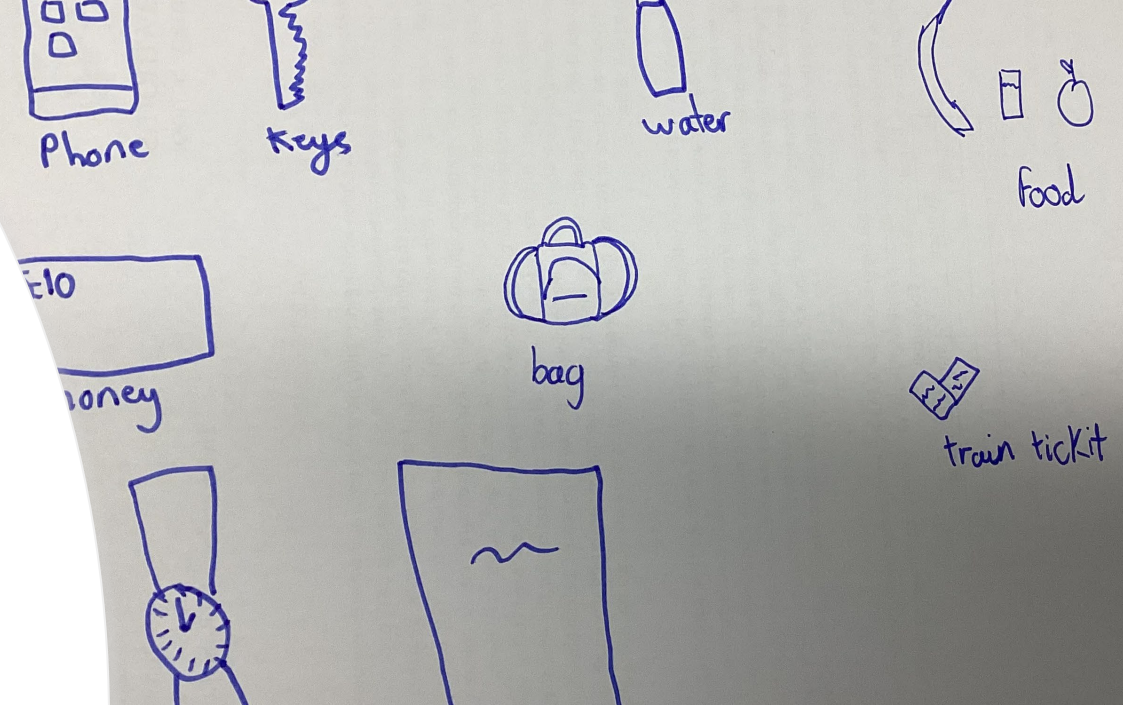
## Go Learn Education Cath Reed Education Officer [cathreed@southeastcrp.org](mailto:cathreed@southeastcrp.org)

- I ran two Planning a Journey workshops for Year 6 pupils at Steyning primary School ( 59 pupils)
- I ran a Rail safety and a Sustainable and Healthy workshop for pupils at St Roberts Southwell in Horsham ( 60 pupils)
- I ran a Planning a Journey and a Careers workshop for Year 6 pupils at Barcombe Primary School ( 58 pupils)
- I ran a TWC planning a Journey workshop for students from St Anthony's Special school in Chichester. This is their final and hopefully totally independent trip after working for two years on the programme. It is wonderful to see how confident they now are using the Apps and planning independently.
- (11 students)
- I ran 2 Planning a Journey and 2 Rail Safety workshops for pupils from St Thomas a Beckett Primary school in Eastbourne (120 pupils)
- Pictures from the TWC trip to London with Brighton Forward students.



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

- I ran a Try a Train trip for The Oak Tree School in Winnersh. 14 x Year 9 students travelled from Wokingham to Slough to watch the fast IET trains.
- I ran 2 x 'Planning your Journey & Staying Safe' workshops at Hollylodge School at North Camp. 61 x Y6 pupils.
- I ran 2 x 'Planning your Journey & Staying Safe' workshops at Hawthorns School in Wokingham. 60 x Y6 pupils. Pictures from the 'what to pack for a train trip' activity.
- I delivered a Travelling with Confidence (TwC) trip for Halow Year C to Gatwick Airport (travelled from Guildford). Had a tour and a ride on the monorail. 5 x young people pictured bottom left helping us celebrate community rail week.
- I delivered another TwC trip to Gatwick Airport for Halow Year AW. Travelled from Woking. 10 x young people.



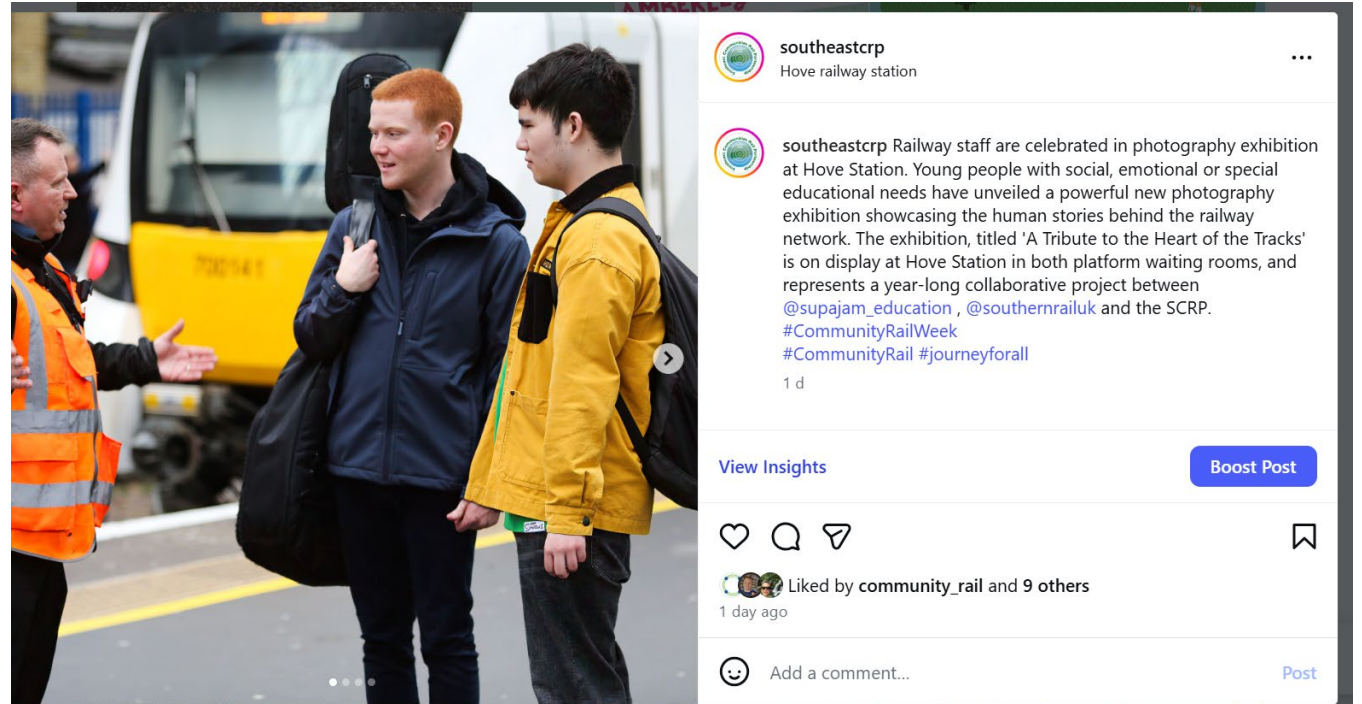
Marketing and Communications  
Samantha Lear Comms Officer  
samantha@southeastcrp.org

Please see our Instagram and Facebook for details of all the wonderful Community Rail Week activity happening along the lines:

<https://www.instagram.com/southeastcrp/>

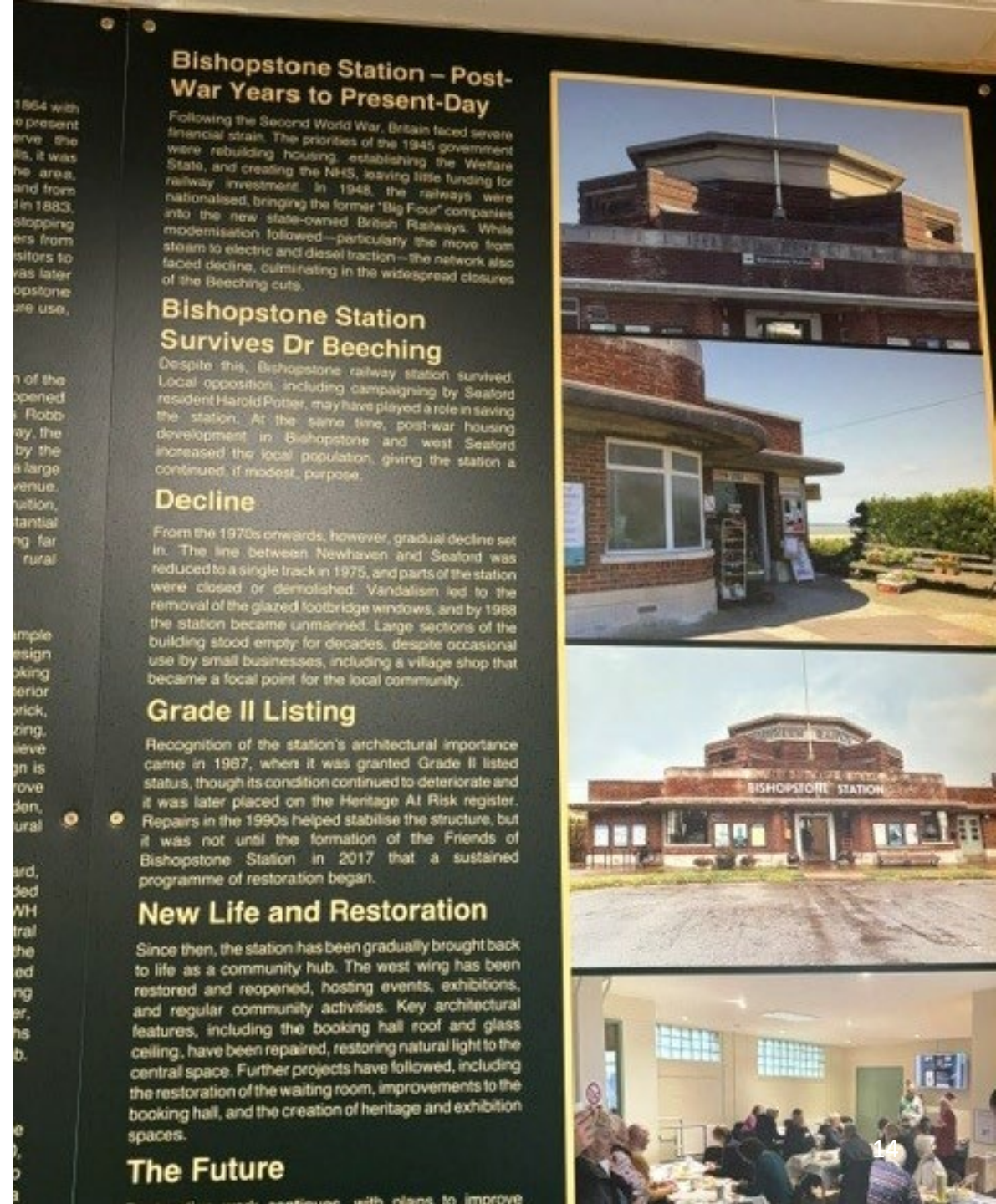
<https://www.facebook.com/>

Next week is our film launch in London don't forget to let us know if you can attend.



SCRP CIC News  
Fiona Morton  
CEO, Trevor  
Field Finance  
Officer

- Opening of the Platform Room at Bishopstone Station. Pictured below staff and students from Seaford Head College and a snapshot of the display. See our Facebook and Instagram reels for a short film



## Bishopstone Station – Post-War Years to Present-Day

Following the Second World War, Britain faced severe financial strain. The priorities of the 1945 government were rebuilding housing, establishing the Welfare State, and creating the NHS, leaving little funding for railway investment. In 1948, the railways were nationalised, bringing the former "Big Four" companies into the new state-owned British Railways. While modernisation followed—particularly the move from steam to electric and diesel traction—the network also faced decline, culminating in the widespread closures of the Beeching cuts.

### Bishopstone Station Survives Dr Beeching

Despite this, Bishopstone railway station survived. Local opposition, including campaigning by Seaford resident Harold Potter, may have played a role in saving the station. At the same time, post-war housing development in Bishopstone and west Seaford increased the local population, giving the station a continued, if modest, purpose.

### Decline

From the 1970s onwards, however, gradual decline set in. The line between Newhaven and Seaford was reduced to a single track in 1975, and parts of the station were closed or demolished. Vandalism led to the removal of the glazed footbridge windows, and by 1988 the station became unmanned. Large sections of the building stood empty for decades, despite occasional use by small businesses, including a village shop that became a focal point for the local community.

### Grade II Listing

Recognition of the station's architectural importance came in 1987, when it was granted Grade II listed status, though its condition continued to deteriorate and it was later placed on the Heritage At Risk register. Repairs in the 1990s helped stabilise the structure, but it was not until the formation of the Friends of Bishopstone Station in 2017 that a sustained programme of restoration began.

### New Life and Restoration

Since then, the station has been gradually brought back to life as a community hub. The west wing has been restored and reopened, hosting events, exhibitions, and regular community activities. Key architectural features, including the booking hall roof and glass ceiling, have been repaired, restoring natural light to the central space. Further projects have followed, including the restoration of the waiting room, improvements to the booking hall, and the creation of heritage and exhibition spaces.

### The Future

The work continues, with plans to improve

