

Southeast Communities Rail Partnership Weekly Highlights

DATE 7th Aug 2026



1066: Hastings to Tonbridge

Kanna Ingleson, Line Officer
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- Work can start work on the heritage trail from Hastings to the Castle thanks to our successful CRDF application for 10K. This project is a partnership with Hastings Borough Council and other tourism stakeholders. We are now inviting designs for the lamp-post banners that will mark the route. Details here: [Arts and culture](#) | [Norman Heritage trail banner competition](#)
- Our collaboration with OneYou is going well with free health checks at Robertsbridge being fully subscribed this week. Next stop is Etchingam.
- We have an excellent proposal for a mural at Crowhurst Station from local artist Emily Johns. In response to a brief from SER and the local community, her design incorporates the old viaduct, Crowhurst history that references King Harold's manorial holding in 1066, the natural environment and the southeastern Class 357 train. The pic shows Emily and community representative Sonia Plato at Crowhurst Station overlooking part of the wall that will be soon be transformed.



Arun Valley: Gatwick Airport to Bosham

Rowena Tyler, Line Officer

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- I was pleased to hand out several of the Railway Detectives activity packs on the Arun Valley Line to families this week. This photo shows Lexi and her mother, off on a day trip to Bognor, who loved having a locally themed puzzle book to while away the journey as well as looking out of the window. (Photo permission given) [Combined PDF](#)
- A very positive meeting with one of the station managers and The Track at Bognor Regis station, planning projects including 'Deck the Ticket Halls' for Christmas!
- At my home station, salespoint staff were proud to show off their new GTR uniforms. Shirts and trousers feature a strip with the colours of the four brands.
- This message dropped into my inbox:

I am on one of your trains from Barnham to Gatwick Airport and the guard is the most helpful, happy guard I have ever come across. She is so kind and smiley to all the passengers and an absolute credit to your company. I saw her name badge and it was Clare I think. She deserves recognition.

I forwarded it to GTR Head of Customer Services. Jenny Saunders GTR Conductor Manager Debbie Morris, who identified the employee easily and replied to the passenger.



Hounslow to Richmond
Anna Stearman Line Officer
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- A week of grant applications for new projects at Hounslow, Isleworth and Whitton stations.
- Meetings with new partners in Hounslow, Station adopters in Isleworth and Whitton, Jenni Jones from CRN, Kanna and Fiona.
- We have received lots of lovely feedback and news coverage regarding the new artwork at Richmond and the new mosaic at Isleworth.
- <https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/news/article/10245/hounslow-council-awards-nearly-17-000-to-local-community-groups>
- https://richmond.gov.uk/news/news_july_2026/mortlake_richmond_stations_anniversary?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery



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



Lots happening at Rye station.

Two new low-level wooden planters in the shape of trains have been installed by GTR facilities team on the platform to replace the old broken planters. We are now in contact with a group to organise planting and future care of the plants as part of our community rail outreach. Photos courtesy GTR.

A new set of poems has been produced by the Rye Harbour Writers which have been sent to GTR for printing. We hope the posters will be installed in ready for the busy summer season with the [Rye Jazz Festival](#) and [Rye Arts Festival](#).

The [wildlife photography competition](#) run by the Friends of Rye Harbour Nature Reserve closes on 1 September.



Moon of Rye

Phil Willcocks

Moon of night, shining bright
watching our world.
You can see, far more than we,
history unfurl.
We live our lives, love our loves, fight our wars and die
but you go on forever, shining in the sky.

We gaze at you so many times
from our beds at night.
Snuggled cosy warm
you all cold and bright,
When our lives seem speeded up, faster every day
you just smile slowly on, watching our nights away

And of course you know it all
you've seen it all before
our tiny human struggle
ten thousand years or more.
Will we learn, can we learn, how to live our lives,
or, reach up to the heavens and steal your gleaming prize?

Perhaps we are too mortal, too earthly to try
for you'll go on forever, shining in the sky?

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

A chance to catch up with people in Dorking at a launch event for the Good Living and Walking Festival in September, organised by Jo McGowan of Dorking BID. Great venue: Mountain Warehouse (discount offered too!) I am running a railway history walk on 22nd September through the town, station to station. Let me know if you would like to join.

- Also this week:
- Had a meeting with Trevor and Surrey County Council to discuss possible films project in Blackwater Valley.
- Met with colleagues to plan entries for Community Rail Awards 2027
- Submitted a bid to CRDF for North Camp Station;
- Discussed arty happenings for the Big Draw with Sandy and plans for an artwork project for Reading underpass with both Sandy and Mikey from Hampshire CRP.
- Water butt has been linked to the drainpipe at Shalford, hurrah! Just need some rain now!
- Attended the CRN Tourism Network with a presentation by Whistlestop Arts and Lynda.
- Photo: Launch event in Dorking with Chairman of Mole Valley District Council, Simon Budd.





Sussex Coast
Line Hove to Littlehampton
Lynda Spain Line Officer
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- Rowena and I enjoyed a trip to London to the GTR Stakeholder Forum. Very informative about new initiatives
- Progress with the funding bid to CRN for the Train to Trail project with Whistlestop Arts
- Presentation to the CRN Tourism Network about the Beyond the Rails project and inclusion on the CRN Website
- <https://scenicrailbritain.com/railway-themed-activity-packs/>



Sussex Downs Line Seaford
to Brighton

Michael Olden Line Officer
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- As part of the improvements at Trafalgar Street the recently installed Friendship Bench at Brighton station is proving very popular. It took a little waiting for me to get this snap before a family moved on to catch their train (see photo).
- Meetings with new and potential volunteers at Lewes station



Windsor to Reading

Sandy Mahon, Line Officer

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- We held a community-focused family event at Staines Community Garden, designed to celebrate biodiversity, promote sustainable living, and inspire eco-friendly habits. Through interactive activities, and entertainment, the families learnt how small actions can make a big difference for our planet.
- Meeting with colleague Sara and Mikey from Hampshire CRP regarding a collaboration for a mural at Reading underpass.
- SWR Community Bursary Scheme applications.

SCRIP CIC News

Fiona Morton CEO, Trevor Field
Finance Officer

- Shortlisting for CRN Awards , so many projects to chose from, we also encourage station partners to submit their own entries by 30th September.
- Promotion of rail link buses that take people to attractions near to railway stations , promoting special offers for families as part of CRN's Scenic Rail Britain Day's Out by Rail Campaign
- Next week is our accreditation renewal meeting.
- Pictured above Cuckmere Bus and CRN awards Hub on website
<https://communityrail.org.uk/events-and-campaigns/community-rail-awards/>



2027 COMMUNITY
RAIL AWARDS



Thursday 4 March 2027



Headline partners

NORTHERN



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