

# Rail User Group Awards 2016

Roger Blake

Railfuture Director and Awards Organiser



# RUG Awards Judging Panel

Comprising these Railfuture Vice Presidents:



Paul Abell



Ian Brown



Barry Doe



Roger Ford



Chris Irwin



Stewart Palmer

In his November 2016 “Informed Sources” column, Modern Railways contributor **Roger Ford** wrote:

*“November starts with one of the year’s most enjoyable meetings. As an honorary Vice President of Railfuture I get to join the judging panel for the annual awards. For someone who spends too much time writing about high level policy in these difficult times, it is a refreshing change to help celebrate the successes at the grass roots.”*

# RUG Awards Presentation

Seven awards,  
twelve winners this year -  
presentation by

Stewart Palmer  
Railfuture Vice President



# RUG Awards 2016: Best newsletter

- One Commendation
- Silver Award
- Gold Award

# Best Newsletter: Commendation

Friends of Reddish South Station

<http://reddish.dsracing.me.uk/>



FRSS FRSS FRSS FRSS FRSS FRSS

## The Friends of Reddish South Station Newsletter Autumn 2016

Volume 8 Issue 3

October 2016

### The 'Biggest Coffee Morning in the World' is a resounding success (again) at Reddish South Station



Pictured right, regular supporter Andrew Gwynne MP (second right) with, from left, Clifs Tom Grunoy, Dickie Davies, Yvonne Guariento & friend Dot Ashworth



Pictured above, Friend Terry Rourke with Dot. The Late Breakfast Club & Terry's raffle raised £97 for the fund. Pictured right: Dot with the conductor on our regular weekly one-way train!



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It has been difficult this issue to decide on our headline story as such a lot has been happening in the last weeks, but we felt, in the end, that the Macmillan Coffee Morning fund raising should take centre stage, as it shows once again how generous the people of Reddish are in these difficult times.

Read on for more interesting items!

Inside this issue:

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Our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning as ever brings with it a prayer for fine weather, which we don't always get, but the rain stayed off long enough, and we even had some blue sky this year for everyone to enjoy a drink and a cake without running for cover!

The residents of Reddish once again did us proud and

turned out their pockets in aid of this truly worthy cause. The conductor on our weekly train was pleased to receive chocolate cake!

Terry Rourke from Reddish Community Centre & the Late Breakfast Club raised £97.

We had some cakes left over which we were able

take to Stockport Labour Club and thanks to them we raised another £47.

Our grand total this year was £330, and once again we would like to thank everybody who contributed for their overwhelming generosity.

More pictures on page 2.

# Best Newsletter: Silver Award

Furness Line Action Group

<http://www.furnesslineactiongroup.org/>

**FURNESS LINE ACTION GROUP**

Furness Line Action Group  
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**FLAG**  
THE RAIL USER GROUP FOR FURNESS AND WEST CUMBRIA

Newsletter  
No 95  
August 2016



St Bees station on 4th June 2016 and the Northern Carlisle loco hauled service departs for Barrow. In charge Lange Logo liveried class 37 37 401 "Mary Queen of Scots". Photo: Alan Johnstone

**NORTHERN TIMETABLE WOES:** Timetable nightmares overshadowed the first weeks of the new Northern franchise- on many levels. As watchdogs for the line, we have alerted Northern to each of these. We are pleased to report the new management are listening and taking action to address these where this is possible within present rolling stock and staffing constraints.

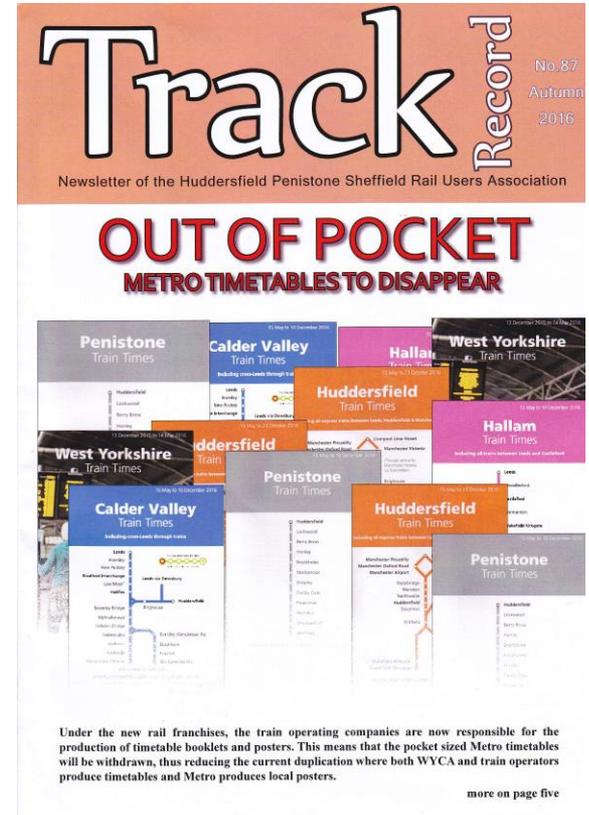
Firstly, the new services Arriva agreed to provide when they signed the franchise are likely to be so seriously delayed by late delivery of new rolling stock and electrification schemes that the Department for Transport are redrafting the Invitation to Tender. We therefore endeavoured to obtain a commitment this will not impact the promises made for improved Cumbrian Coast services from December 2017 including the 8 through Manchester trains each way and Sunday services north of Barrow.

Secondly, the interim shortage of rolling stock continues to erode the existing timetable with through Manchester services either reduced or downgraded to Sprinter stock meaning loss of seat reservations, reduced comfort and more changing trains at Lancaster or Preston.

# Best Newsletter: Gold Award

Huddersfield Penistone Sheffield  
Rail Users' Association

Judges' comments: topical, relevant, useful to  
passengers, lively, newsy, classy!



# RUG Awards 2016: Best website

## ■ Joint Gold Awards!

Judges' comments:

Each is exemplary in serving their group's different aims and showing best practice

# Best Website: Gold Award

Copeland Rail Users' Group  
<http://www.crug.org.uk/>

## Welcome to the Copeland Rail Users' Group (CRUG)

*promoting the Cumbrian coastal line (Barrow in Furness - Whitehaven - Carlisle) since 2004*

We campaign to preserve and improve local services in cooperation with Northern, Cumbria County Council and the Community Rail Partnership

The new franchise holder Arriva Rail Northern took over in April 2016. Included in their franchise are the former TransPennine routes from Barrow and Windermere to Manchester Airport.

We have been part of the successful introduction of 'Harrington humps' to make stations more accessible



Hump at Harrington

# Best Website: Gold Award

Friends of Rose Hill Station  
<http://www.forhs.org.uk/>



**F:RHS**  
Friends of ROSE HILL station



Improving your travelling experience

[Home](#) | [History](#) | [TIMETABLE](#) | [Gallery](#) | [News](#) | [Walks](#) | [Poetry Station](#) | [Links](#)



*Est 1869, Rose Hill Station, Marple, Cheshire, SK6 6EE*

## Who We Are....

Based in Marple, near Stockport, Cheshire the Friends of Rose Hill Station was founded in June 2009 and consists of Volunteers who give of their time in improving the station environment and campaigning for a better train service.

We are members of the Goyt Valley Rail Users Group and South East Manchester Community Rail Partnership with good links with Northern Rail, Network Rail, Transport for Greater Manchester and Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council.

Celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2019, the station is at the terminus of a spur line of the Hope Valley line with service to Manchester Piccadilly on Northern Trains. There is direct access to Middlewood Way, a ten-mile trail ending at Macclesfield.



Keep up to date with news & events, follow us on Facebook

# RUG Awards 2016: Best campaign

- One Award

# Best Campaign

Cambridge Heath & London Fields  
Rail Users' Group

See 'A brief history of the CHLFUG  
campaign' at

<http://www.railwatch.org.uk/chlfug.html>

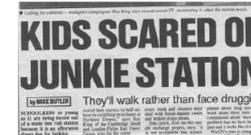
One judge's comment:  
'excited by the report!'

Two small stations come back from a near-death experience

Case Study: CAMBRIDGE HEATH AND LONDON FIELDS

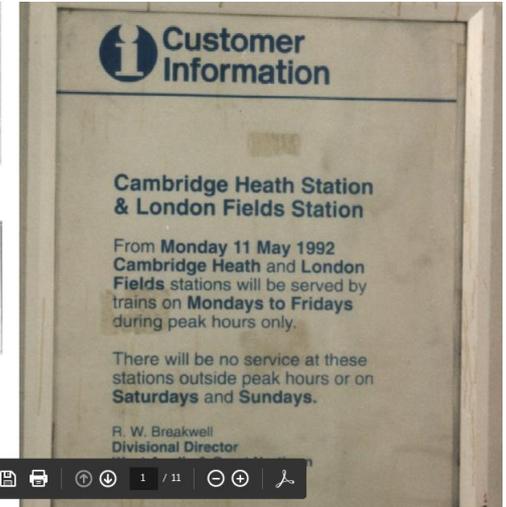


East London Advertiser  
January 1998



Hackney Gazette  
January 1999

The prospects for two  
London stations which were  
written off as "a disgrace"  
years ago have been  
transformed.



# RUG Awards 2016: Best campaigner

## *The Clara Zilahi Award*

in memory of a stalwart Railfuture  
campaigner who died in 2013

■ One Award

# Best campaigner

## *The Clara Zilahi Award*

### Tony Smale

Former editor of Rail User Express newsletter, custodian of national registers of rail user groups and reopening campaigns, now secretary of Railfuture Wessex branch



# RUG Awards 2016: Best social media

- One Commendation
- One Award

# Best Social Media: Commendation

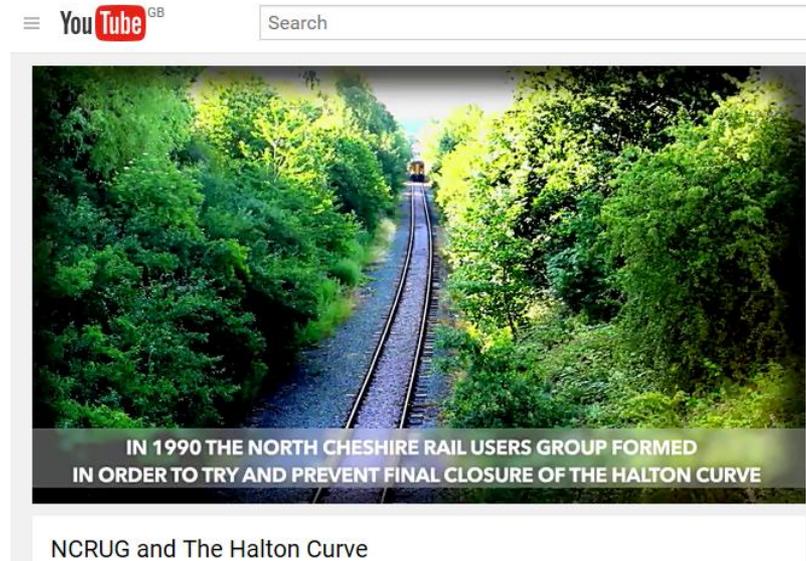
North Cheshire Rail Users' Group

<http://www.ncrug.org.uk/>

The Halton Curve video

Judges' comment:

Would be even better with a simple map



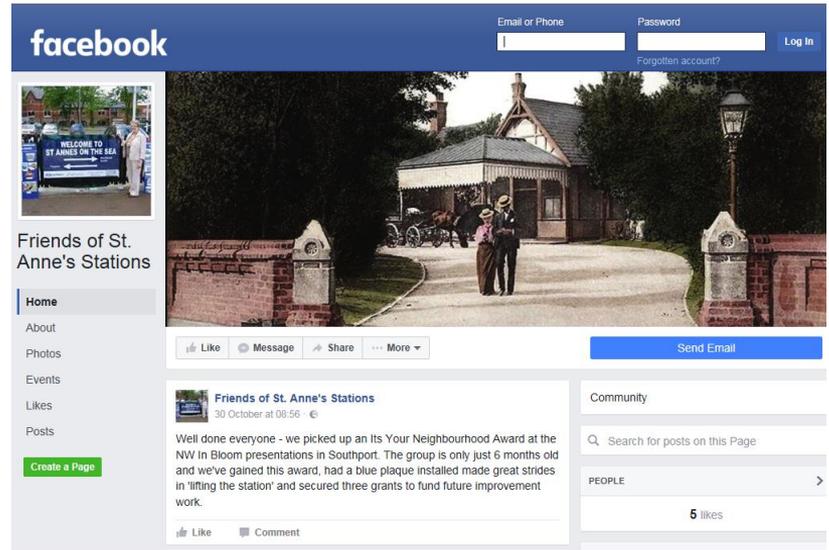
# Best Social Media: Award

Friends of St. Anne's Stations

<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-St-Annes-Stations-214185165640850/>

Judges' comment:

A great example of the positive use of social media



# RUG Awards 2016: New Group

## *The Oliver Lovell Award*

in memory of the Cotswold Line Promotion Group founder who died in 2013

- One Commendation
- One Award

Judges' comments:

Important to focus on the users of the railway.

# New Group: Commendation

## **SALISBURY TO EXETER RAIL USERS GROUP. (SERUG)**

For The STATIONS OF GILLINGHAM, TEMPLECOMBE, SHERBORNE. YEOVIL  
JUNCTION AND CREWKERNE. November 2015.

Salisbury to Exeter Rail Users' Group



# New Group: *The Oliver Lovell Award*

## Friends of St. Anne's Stations



# RUG Awards 2016: Judges' Special Award

- One Award

# Judges' Special Award

## Richard Crane

Founder of Bedford to Bletchley Rail Users' Association in 1981 and Chairman since.

Vice-President Chris Green said:

"I have known Dick Crane for thirty years and have found him tireless not just in the development of the Bedford - Bletchley line, but in the wider rail industry. He has run two first rate railway discussion groups at Bletchley and Surbiton which attract record numbers of younger members at a time when railway supporters are all supposed to have grey hair! He is also a modest person who does not shout about his contributions to our industry."

