

OCTOBER 2018

Hello All

This is the first edition of the Bat & Ball newsletter which we will be creating each month to keep everyone up to date with news, events, and volunteer opportunities linked to the Bat & Ball Station refurbishment project.

News

Two items of furniture, a waiting room bench and an oak table for the café, which were purchased in an auction, have gone off to be refurbished and repaired by a furniture restorer in Dartford. Also, the Pooley platform scales which were left in the station have been taken to be restored by an enthusiastic team of volunteers at the Bluebell Railway. Below you can see the bench and scales in their current condition and we are really looking forward to seeing them looking a little smarter and back at the station in time for the preview event in November.



Website

The new website went live in August <http://www.batandballstation.com>. If you have a memory about the station do post it in the 'Post your memories' section. Please note there are still areas on the website which need content - this will be added over the coming months.

Information leaflet

To date, we have handed out over 1,500 copies of the information leaflet which explains about the restoration project and includes an historic timeline, facts about social history and Thomas Crampton. To access an electronic copy, go to the website.

The leaflet is proving to be a great success in spreading the message about the Station restoration project to the local community and beyond. If you have links with any local groups and are happy to give out some copies we would be most grateful. Below you can read some comments and feedback we have received so far.

'I now have a better understanding of the Station history and how it relates to the development of Sevenoaks'

'Yes, it helped me to understand the local history and the importance of retaining it whilst improving local conditions'

'The leaflet involves the community in local heritage – they have a sense of ownership'

'I am more likely to visit Bat & Ball Station because of better facilities and the tearoom'

'The Town Council is to be congratulated on this project'

'A very worthwhile project to restore the station building and other improvements in the area'

'The Bat & Ball project is a fantastic way of bringing a historic station back to life, whilst involving and informing the community'

Events

During August and September, we had two interesting talks on the brick and wood restoration aspects of the Station and a hard hat tour to see the progress of the refurbishment so far. The talks/tours were attended by members of the local community and local businesses.

On 6th September we buried a time capsule under the Station floor – the ceremony was attended by The Mayor, Town Councillors, Youth Councillors and members of FOBB.



Forthcoming events

Thursday 25 th October, 10am-2pm	Family Arts & Crafts – Community Centre
Wednesday 31 st October, 11am	Hard Hat Tour – Bat & Ball Station
Tuesday 27 th November 3.45-5pm	Preview Event – Bat & Ball Station

To book places for the tour please email heo@seveoakstown.gov.uk.

DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES THE FOLLOWING EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Tuesday 23rd October - History Talk on Thomas Crampton

Please note: we will be re-arranging this talk over the coming months.

Volunteering opportunities

Thursday 18th October, 9.30-11am – Sevenoaks Library

- Handing out flyers and talking to the public about the restoration project.

Thursday 25th October, 10am-2pm – Community Centre

- Assisting in family arts and crafts activities, setting up and clearing away.
- Handing out flyers and talking to the public about the restoration project.

If you have suggestions of items we could include in future newsletters, then please email heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk by **Friday 26th October**.

For further information about news, events or volunteering opportunities please email heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Linda Redden, Heritage Engagement Officer