

AUGUST 2019

Hello All

Things seem rather quite now the schools are on holiday but we are still keeping busy at Bat & Ball Station.

NEWS

- SCHOOL GROUPS



We were delighted to welcome six school groups over three days during July. Both students and staff had a great time despite the weather being extremely hot. Activities included writing postcards, dressing up in Victorian costumes, learning about how steam trains work using a model train and discovering a variety of unusual railway artefacts. Feedback from students on the day indicated that dressing up was definitely the favourite activity!

A great big thanks to all the volunteers (some pictured above) who helped to inspire the children with their knowledge and expertise in relation to history of steam, railways, travel and Victorian era.

- CAFÉ @ THE STATION

The Café opening hours have been temporarily amended during the summer period. Please contact the Café in advance to check up to date times. Telephone: 01732 920150 or email: batandballcafe@sevenoakstown.gov.uk for further information.

- PUBLIC TOILETS

We are pleased to announce the public toilets on the Station platform are now open and will be available from 6am to 7pm. Please note they are closed via an automatic locking system.

- PLANTING AT THE STATION

Work continues with planting at the Station as Gill and I planted up a new bed by the entrance, with lavender plants from The Hop Shop in Shoreham this week.



There will be further opportunities to help with planting and maintaining the garden areas at the station over the coming months. If you can spare just a few hours a month to volunteer, you would be very welcome.

Please contact heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk for more information.

- WEBSITE - www.batandballstation.com

Don't forget to check out the website for up-to-date information on news and events. Latest stats/visits to site: May – June 765 and July 427.



LOTTERY FUNDED

BAT & BALL STATION NEWSLETTER



- GTR PASSENGER FUND – DEADLINE EXTENSION

The deadline to complete surveys has been extended to 31st August 2019.

Govia Thameslink Railway are contributing £15 million towards a Passenger Benefit Fund which can be used to provide tangible benefits for passengers. Passengers and stakeholder groups can submit ideas and suggestions for their chosen stations. Here are some examples of what would benefit Bat & Ball Station:

- Ticket machine (£25,000)
- Better information on trains & buses running through & past the station (£5-10,000)
- Step free access from platform to trains (£10,000?)
- Passenger shelters further on the platforms towards the London end (£15,000 each)

Further details about the fund and how to select your preferred scheme can be found here <https://www.passengerbenefitfund.co.uk/the-fund/>. To complete the survey go to the [website](#) and click submission form.

Thank you to anyone who has already submitted their survey.

FUTURE EVENTS

- Community Rail Partnership Launch 1st September

Please save this date in the diary. More details to follow.

- Friends of Bat & Ball Meeting – 18th September

The next FOBB meeting will be held at Bat & Ball Station on Wednesday 18th September at 6.30pm. This meeting will be preceded by a short talk about Thomas Crampton by FOBB member Roger Johnson, arrive at 5.45 for a 6pm start.

- Heritage Open Day 21st September

We are taking part in Heritage Open Days <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>. The event will include talks, arts & crafts and the unveiling of a community artwork. Visitors can take a ride on a vintage bus for a round trip from the Station, through the town then up to Knole Park. Anyone interested in helping at this exciting community event please email heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

If you have any news items to include in the next newsletter, please email Linda Redden, Heritage Engagement Officer heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk by 29th August 2019.