

## SEPTEMBER 2019

Hello All

The summer is coming to an end, but we have plenty to keep you busy during September and beyond with a host of events at the Station. Read on to find out more!

### NEWS

- CAFÉ @ THE STATION

The Café opening hours have returned to 6.30am – 2pm, Monday to Friday. If you are unsure please telephone: 01732 920150 or email: [batandballcafe@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:batandballcafe@sevenoakstown.gov.uk) for further information.

- PAVING

The latest edition to the outside area of the Station is some new paving in front of the notice board. More turf will be laid alongside over the coming weeks to complete this space. Overall it will improve to look at the station entrance gates and is a better surface for walking on.

- POSTER, PHOTOS & MAP



Next time you visit the Booking Hall at the Station take some time to look at the new artworks on the wall:

A poster illustration of Bat & Ball Station (see left), a watercolour map of Sevenoaks and three black and white photographs of the Station, circa 1960's, obtained from The Bluebell Railway's archive.

- MEMORIES OF BAT & BALL

During August we have been helping local people to reminisce about their memories of Bat & Ball Station, St Johns area and train travel pre-1970's. We were delighted to host a reminiscence workshop with a group from Care UK who watched a presentation, looked at some artefacts and discussed going on holiday by train.

Oral history interviews with individuals were recorded in order to collect information, that would otherwise be lost, for future generations. These recordings will be transcribed in the autumn then archived at Sevenoaks Library along with photographs of the station restoration project. Thank you to all those involved so far.

- DARENT VALLEY COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September was the launch of the new Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership (CRP). The aim of the CRP is to bring together 6 stations – Swanley, Eynsford, Shoreham, Otford, Bat & Ball and Sevenoaks - to promote local tourism, non-car transport and raise awareness of local heritage and culture under a distinctive brand.



*(Image: Russell Harper)*

Look out for the new logo (below). More information and events will be posted here <https://www.visitsevenoaksdistrict.co.uk/see-and-do/darent-valley-community-rail-partnership/>



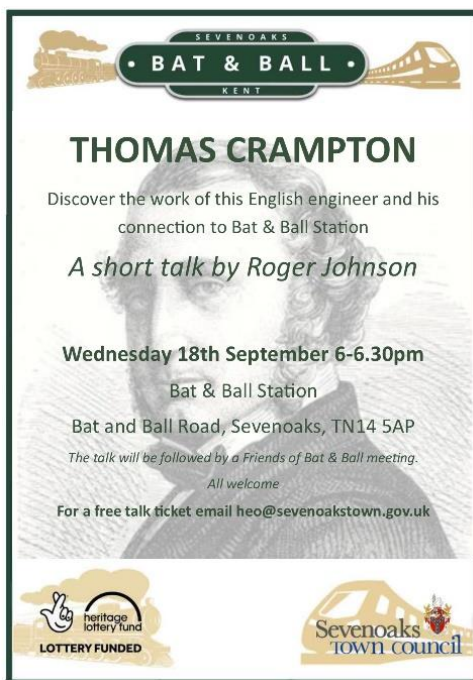
## FUTURE EVENTS

- History talk: Thomas Crampton – 18<sup>th</sup> September 6.0-6.30pm

Local historian Roger Johnson will give a short talk about the work of the English engineer Thomas Crampton and his connection with Bat & Ball Station. Please arrive at 5.45pm for a 6pm start. For a free ticket please email [heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

- Friends of Bat & Ball Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> September 6.30pm

The next FOBB meeting will be held at Bat & Ball Station on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm. All welcome. Please note: the meeting will follow the Thomas Crampton talk by Roger Johnson (see above)



- Heritage Open Day – 21<sup>st</sup> September <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

We are taking part in Heritage Open Days – England's largest festival of history and culture. The event will include talks, arts & crafts, model trains and the unveiling of a community artwork. Visitors can take a ride on a vintage bus from the Station, through the town then up to Knole Park. This is a free event including the vintage bus. For more information and to view the bus timetable go to <http://www.batandballstation.com/default.aspx>.

- 'Bat & Ball' Film premier – 22<sup>nd</sup> September 5.30pm

Sevenoaks Town Council and the Stag Youth Theatre present 'Bat & Ball', a film based at Bat & Ball Train Station. This comedic short film charts the history of the station, and the impact it has now. Created by and starring members of the Stag Youth Theatre, the film will be shown alongside a 'Making of' documentary. Filming took place at Knole Park, The Bluebell Steam Railway and centre stage is of course Bat & Ball Station. Tickets cost £5 per person and are available from The Stag Box Office or online at <https://stagsevenoaks.co.uk/film/bat-ball/>

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

- 'Grief Encounter' Murder Mystery event – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 7-10.30pm

Trouble on the tracks! Join us for a whodunit in which not everything is black and white! A fun evening with a 1950's theme (dressing up encouraged!). Fish & chip supper (alternative options will be available) is included in the ticket price. [Ticket sales information to follow soon.](#)

If you have any news items to include in the next newsletter, please email Linda Redden, Heritage Engagement Officer [heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.



(Image: Russell Harper)

The vintage bus outside Bat & Ball Station at the launch event  
for the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership