

Bures Station adopters report - September 2019

- Working parties at the station garden continue to be held once a month and in between, we deadhead and keep the beds and tubs regularly watered. We have recently given a tap key to Ian Elder who lives next to the station as he has offered to water regularly.
- We are currently in the process of arranging for a history board to be erected at the station to display the history of Bures with some photographs. Vanessa is liaising with Gill Jackson and June Povey.
- We continue to meet regularly for coffee with June, Jayne and other station adopters alternating venues along the line when we share progress and any matters and issues arising.
- Members of our group have offered to assist the two station adopters at Marks Tey station when they have a working party as they have larger garden space to manage at their station and need assistance until they can recruit more helpers.
- Two members of our group volunteered and helped on the bucket and spade trains from Colchester to Walton which was a huge success.
- Jan Airies is currently working with June Povey to plan and lead a ramble/walk along the Gainsborough Line. This will be advertised and promoted at the different stations and more widely in the local community with the intention to promote our beautiful railway!
- Alan Neville arranges three monthly information meetings at Colchester or Chelmsford which enables us not only to be kept up to date with news and events but also is an opportunity to meet others from further afield in the region.
- Our station has been entered for an award with Greater Anglia, the categories include
Best Small Station, Best Medium Station, Best Staffed Station, Best Adopter Group
Best Newcomer, Best Community Involvement, Most Improved Station, Best Personal Contribution.
There will also be a Judges Special Award. Several adopters will be attending the ceremony on 11th October at Ipswich Town football club where winners will be announced.
- Our station has also been shortlisted for an award by Greater Anglia. Two members will be attending the ACORP awards ceremony in Telford on 2 and 3rd October.

We are currently exploring the idea of a painted mural on the back wall of the car park below the platform in. Anglia Rail have given the go ahead to the idea and I plan to contact the art department at Thomas Gainsborough School with a view to exploring whether they would be interested in painting a mural. Current thoughts are to have a painting that reflects our local artists ie Constable or Gainsborough. Other ideas are to explore possible interest with Gainsborough House and First Site.

- As a group of station adopters we are well supported by the staff involved at Greater Anglia who help us with the practical tasks of repair and painting at our station and also in promoting our area for rail travel. Alan Neville is due to visit the station on 1st October to see improvements we would like to be carried out. The list includes the replacement of the fencing, bench, and an improvement in the quality of the notice boards to reflect Bures being a heritage station.

Mary Turner Station Adopter Lead 14th September 2019

