

Station Adopters Report 30th April 2025

This year it is the 200th year of the Railway and there I'll be many celebrations happening at Chappel and Wakes Colne.

We have slightly enlarged the rectangular flower bed where the scouts planted crocuses for the spring. They will be returning on the evening of 6th May with the scout leader to plant flowers forming the number 200 for the age of the railways and we hope they will be in bloom in time for open gardens!

On 25th March, the dragon planter made by Southminster men's shed, was put in situ at the station. They transported it to us and it stands on the platform on the right, at the top of the concrete path near to the ticket machine. Whilst we had the idea of placing it on the flower bed, we were told it is far too heavy and would eventually sink, so it is now on a firm surface. We have planted it with a mixture of herbs which have all been labelled and there are some trailing flowers. We are planning to put a notice for commuters to pick any herbs they would like when they are more established.

We purchased the plants from Oliver's nursery and they kindly donated sufficient bags of compost for us to fill the entire planter!

Phil continues to allow us to use his water and the new hose enables us to reach most of the planters. However he has further problems with a leaking pipe in his garden so at the moment we are having to rely on filled plastic bottles.

We will be having a working party to remove the bulbs from the tubs and we will plant summer flowers to make a colourful display.

I was informed by greater Anglia that they need to remove two trees and their roots from the wildlife area next to the platform. This is because the roots have gone in to the drain system in the lawn of the neighbour who lives in The Paddocks and has caused considerable damage. Work was carried out at midnight on 24th April and the tree trunks were removed in the early hours of the morning before the trains started. It is planned that the workmen will return soon to remove the roots.

The next music train will run from Marks Tey to Sudbury and back twice on the evening of 12th July.

Mary Turner
30.04.2025