

## Station Adopters Report 18th November 2023

Adopters have been busy buying and planting in the tubs, hanging planters and flower beds, and work has been done deadheading shrubs and removing and cutting back dead plants. We are still without a sign in the wildlife area which was lost during the rewiring work. Greater Anglia have agreed to replace it.

Jan and I were recently at the station when a young lad of 13 waiting for the train, gave us real complements for the work we do making the station garden look so attractive and showed real interest in the station adoption scheme and went on to suggest we decorate the station with poppies because it was that time of the year! So Jan purchased some poppies and decorated the wire fence!

We now have a new roof on the waiting room. The sign saying Warning fragile roof, strictly no admittance still remains. I have asked whether it could be removed as it suggests to many that there is no admittance to the waiting room but Alan Neville has informed me it must remain as it is part of the safety procedure as it canopies.

I have asked again when it is planned to activate the car charging points in the car park and have been told that it is being left to the asset management and our press office to decide.

Next year will be the 175th year of the Gainsborough Line and viaduct. Cath, a station adopter at Chappel and Wakes Colne coordinated a meeting last week with a group including station adopters from Bures and Sudbury and member of the parish council to discuss and start planning how to celebrate this event. It has been suggested that each adopter group do what they feel best to celebrate the event and for everyone to keep in touch to offer support and avoid duplication. The dates are 28th and 29th June.

The CRP have so far arranged a walk from Marks Tey to Chappel on 29th June and an afternoon talk by a railway historian about the viaduct and line. In the evening will be an Old Time music train, tickets to be printed in the format they would have been in 1849. It is also planned to give commemoration medals to the children.

It is hoped that different groups in Bures will be able to offer some ideas and get involved in planning and help celebrate this event, ideas include the Parish Council, Scouts, Bures Primary School, Ferriers Barn day centre and Bures Common Trust. Any ideas are welcomed and need to be coordinated.