

Station Adopters Report September 2024

23rd July working party

On 9th August, several of our group welcomed a visit from Nir Barack who is the Environment and Energy Manager at Greater Anglia and he was very impressed with our station garden. We took him for coffee at Bank House tea rooms and he talked about wanting to promote his plan for stations to use recycled coffee grounds as a fertiliser. We discussed it with staff at the tea rooms and we now collect their coffee grounds and have a bin at the station for storage.

On 13th August Jayne June and I escorted a group of members from Ferriers Barn on a train journey from Bures to Sudbury via Marks Tey. They returned to Bures having had a successful day out and having had their lunch at The Codfather in Sudbury. The rail tickets were funded by Greater Anglia.

Working party on 4th Sep

We attended Witham station open gardens on Sep 6th which also included a free ride on the Flich line to Freeport.

The scouts have agreed to do some further planting of the rectangular flower bed which they planted for the 175 year's celebration of the Gainsborough Line. This time it is planned to plant crocuses.

We now have a new retractable hose which is now attached to the wall beside the tap and was kindly fixed in situ by Ron Wright. It makes watering the plants much easier as it extends to 30 ft. This was paid for by a grant from greater Anglia.

Bures Station was nominated and shortlisted for an award at the National Rail Awards Ceremony in the category of small station of the year and we were invited to attend the event at The Grosvenor House Hotel on 12th September. Fiona and I attended this formal event which was attended by well over 1000 people and hosted by Nick Knowles. There were 6 stations in our category which was won by a station in Scotland. We were up against considerable competition and despite not winning, it was a tremendous accolade to be selected and nominated!

Later this month, we have arranged for 2 groups of scouts to attend some Rail Safety sessions with Darren Griffiths who is the Safety Adviser at Railscape. They will take place at Bures and Marks Tey stations.

Our group will be attending the adopters awards ceremony at Portman Rd on 18th October and the annual Thankyou Event in Chelmsford on 21st November where thanks is given to all the station adopters for their contribution and hard work.

Mary Turner
Lead Station Adopter