



Message from the Chair

As we come to the end of another calendar year, it is great to be able to report on another very successful year for the partnership and rewarding to see it recognised at local and national levels. The reputation of KCRP continues to grow and it is often used as an example of good practice.

The ACoRP award recognised the quality of two major projects on our two lines. This year's stakeholder forum had to be re-scheduled after the original date clashed with a Southeastern Stakeholder Forum but showcased the work carried out by our volunteers and officers over the preceding year.

In the new year we are looking to formalise our role as an Accredited Community Rail Partnership, an exercise by the Department of Transport (DfT) and the Association of Community Rail Partnerships (ACoRP) that ensures we have procedures, processes and examples of delivering against the Community Rail four pillars

- * Providing a voice for the community
- * Promoting sustainable, healthy and accessible travel
- * Bringing communities together and supporting diversity and inclusion
- * Supporting social and economic development

With the help of volunteers, 2020 is already looking to be a very active year. Although still unknown, at time of writing, Southeastern will know the franchise position from 1st April and KCRP will know what future funding is available. Our hosting organisation, Sustrans, should also be settling into a new four year contract.

Annual Stakeholder Meeting 21st November

On Thursday 21st November we hosted our Annual Stakeholders Meeting at Maidstone Town Hall. Thank you to all those who attended to share the highlights of the work and activities we have been doing over the past year.

We would like to thank all our presenters who were involved. Students from Five Acre Wood Snodland and Sheppey College shared their achievements from the past year. Sheppey College adopted all 5 stations on the SwaleRail Line and Five Acre Wood adopted Snodland Station.

Thank you also to Lindsay and Ben from KCC Transport Innovations who spoke about sustainable travel and Daniel Wright from ACoRP who shared some wonderful good practice of diversity and inclusion projects other Community Rail Partnerships are undertaking around the country. You may also wish to download our latest Annual Report from our website.



All our volunteers received certificates for their efforts over the past year and Five Acre Wood School were awarded Volunteer of the Year 2018/19.

ACoRP Awards 3rd October 2019

On Thursday 3rd October, Kent CRP attended the National Community Rail Awards in Telford.

We were shortlisted in three categories this year and we are delighted to announce that we picked up two 3rd place certificates this year.

This was for our Five Acre Wood Snodland Project at Snodland Station in the Involving Diverse Groups Category.

Our second achievement was 3rd place in the Best Community Engagement Category for the Sea Folk Sing Choir that took place at Strood Station and along the Swale Line in November, working jointly with Ideas Test and Sparked Echo.

A huge thank you to all those involved in making these projects a success.



Snodland Garden Opening 26th September 2019



On Friday 20th September, Kent CRP hosted an opening ceremony at Snodland Station. This was to recognise the fantastic work that the Five Acre Wood Snodland

students have made to the area at the front of the station. It was opened by the Chair of Kent CRP – Chris Fribbins. He was assisted by some students and staff from Five Acre Wood. Also present were members of the community who helped to fund the project. We would like to offer our thanks to the Snodland Partnership, Bruce from BJA Civil Consulting Limited and James Lehane from Kent County Council. We would also like to thank ACoRP for match funding the project and Southeastern who worked with us on the project as well and moved the security cameras to cover the entire area.

Bulb Planting Queenborough Station 18th October

We were delighted to have teamed up with The Minster On Sea Rotary Club and Sheppey College to plant 2000 purple crocuses in a roundel at Queenborough Station this morning. Kent CRP have been working with Sheppey College over the last year on numerous activities. This is the first landscaping project undertaken. The significance of the purple crocus bulb is to help raise awareness of the eradication of the Polio virus. People who have received a vaccination against polio have their finger nail marked purple. Hopefully today, Kent CRP, Minster on Sea Rotary Club and Sheppey College have helped to further raise awareness. We are now all looking forward to Spring.



Sheppey College Projects

Back in June, Students from Sheppey College carried out passenger surveys at all stations along the SwaleRail Line. The students feedback on their findings which included more seating required at Queenborough Station. The Level 2 and 3 carpenters responded to this request and designed and made two fantastic new benches with planters.

On Friday November 22nd, their hard work was installed at Queenborough Station. Well done all those involved at Sheppey College in making this possible and thank you to ACoRP who also provided funding to help make this project viable.

Students also launched their own video to highlight some of the attractions near to SwaleRail stations. Take a look at this on our website.

On November the 18 and 19th we also took students to visit our Swale stations to come up with ideas for projects this year. We look forward to seeing some of these ideas implemented over the course of the next year.



Maidstone CycleFest 2019 28h Sept 2019

Kent CRP attended Maidstone Cyclefest to encourage people to think about using their cycle to and from the station and also taking their cycle on the train to travel further afield.

Thank you to all those who spoke to us on the day and also those who took on the Smoothie Bike Challenge. Why not take a look at some of the picturesque walks and cycle routes you can take from each of our stations? These are available on our website.

Upcoming Events

December 14th 2019 Santa Train (SwaleRail Line)

March 14th 2020 Music Train (Medway Valley Line)

Cycle Rails

Southeastern have approved the addition of cycle rails at 7 of our stations on the Medway Valley Line.

Keep up to date! visit our website www.kentcrp.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter [@kentcrp1](https://twitter.com/kentcrp1) Facebook Kent Community Rail Partnership



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