

July 2022

# Stakeholder Newsletter



**"THERE IS NO PERFECT TIME TO START. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO KNOW EVERYTHING TO GET GOING. JUST GET INTO THE GAME. YOU WILL LEARN BY DOING."**

**— JACK CANFIELD**

**Julia Singleton-Tasker, CRP Officer**

The Midlands certainly has the interest nationally and internationally with Coventry City of Culture coming to an end in May and the start of the Commonwealth Games in the last week. More and more people are discovering what makes the Midlands such a special place to live, work and visit. Each area has its own unique heritage and culture and, as we continue to recover post-Covid, the CRP will be working on projects that showcase the diversity and huge range of opportunities the Midlands has to offer. We are beginning to make plans for next year and will hopefully be able to share them with you at our stakeholder event in September!

**NEWS & STORIES FOR THIS ISSUE:**

- Completed projects
- Upcoming projects and events
- Station adoption and partner updates
- Funding
- Other Events



Happy bees at Widney Manor Station

# Completed Projects



## Coventry Station Community Day

On Saturday 7th May, the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership in partnership with Highly Sprung, hosted the Coventry Station Community Day to celebrate the completion of the new £82m station extension building and enhancements to the original station that is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Funded by Avanti West Coast and Coventry City Council, the day brought together the best of transport innovation, culture and theatre through activities, information stands and performances.

Take a look at our online photo album of the day [here](#).

Read the full reports on our community projects [here](#).



## Community Rail Week and Rail Trails

The Heart of England CRP joined community groups and volunteers across Britain for this year's Community Rail Week to encourage people to 'give the train a try'.

Using our brand new Rail Trails, the CRP organised 2 guided walks from the 25th – 28th May which were open to anyone to join as well as an additional walk for families from St Michael's Children and Family Centre in Bedworth. Our tour guide, Verity Tiff, led all three walks sharing her local knowledge and we had great feedback from all participants. Watch out for more guided Rail Trail Weeks coming up soon!

You can also download the Rail Trails for yourself. By the end of summer, we'll have walks from all of our stations up on our [website](#).



# Completed Projects Continued

## Leamington Spa Mural

Leamington Station has undergone major improvements over the past few months, and we've funded our own addition in preparation for the Commonwealth Games - this fantastic mural by local artist Emily Pettitt!



## Safe and Active Travel Award

The Heart of England CRP is delighted to announce that we are working with WCC Road Safety Education Team to promote new railway safety activities for KS1 and KS2 children in Warwickshire from September.

Contact [roadsafetyeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafetyeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk) to request resources.



## University of Worcester

Graphic Design students at the University of Worcester were given a 'live' brief by the Heart of England CRP, to redesign our line map to showcase all the amazing opportunities the area has to offer. Students were tasked with creating a more visually attractive product that evolved and expanded the Partnership's original more utilitarian map of the region's network. Updates included representing some places of interest and amenities at various station stops via new illustrations, diagrams and supporting information (i.e. walking distances between stations and key historical sites). See all the designs [here](#).

Gdes2010(2) Graphic Design for Print  
- Redesign the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership Line Map



Printed version of my map.



Digital version of my map.



Mock-up No.1



Mock-up No.2

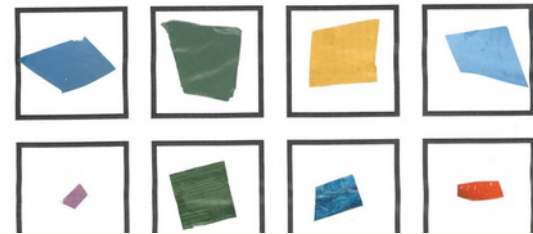
These are my final designs including two mock-ups, a digital version and a printed version of my final line map. I am happy with how my design turned out and its use to see it in situ also printed out. I have really enjoyed the brief.

University of Worcester 2022  
Digital Arts Centre, Gdes 2010(2)  
Danni Epstein

If you have any information you would like to share on this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, then please email: [juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Upcoming Projects and Events

### COLOUR PALETTE



SAVE  
~~THE~~  
DATE

## Stakeholder Event

On Friday 30th September we will be holding an in person stakeholder event. The event will open to all adopters, project partners, industry partners and anyone else who's interested in Community Rail. Keep an eye on emails for further details and how to register!



## Warwick Colour Palette

Warwick District Council have worked with artist Stacey Barnfield to produce a colour palette for Leamington and Warwick. The Leamington Spa Colour Palette can be seen in the pedestrian subway linking the town with the station and the Warwick colour palette is on display as Warwick Station. Further to the success of our school engagement project in Leamington, encouraging students to create their own colour palettes, we will be working with Melissa Keskinilinc to use the Warwick Colour palette as inspirations for primary school students to create their own palette that represents what makes Warwick special to them.

If you have any information you would like to share on this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, then please email: [juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

# Station Adoption and Partner Update



## Solihull

In preparation for the Commonwealth Games we set up a fund to support the work of station adopters in the area. Friends Of Solihull Station were awarded funds to fill their planters with red, white and blue flowers for an eye-catching display at the station. A day of hard graft from the volunteers and the station is looking beautiful and will undoubtedly lift the spirits of those travelling by rails to Commonwealth Games events.

As an added bonus, the plants were in for the Platinum Jubilee!



## Widney Manor

We got to pop by to meet some of the volunteers from the local Soroptomists who were planting new plants in the lead up to the Commonwealth Games. The station is looking beautiful and has plenty to keep the local wildlife and commuters interested.



## Chiltern Railways

Chiltern Railways are donating 14 abandoned bicycles left at stations to The Bike Project. To ensure that bicycle parking is available, abandoned bicycles may need to be removed from time to time, so this is a great way to ensure there's space for . Starting with London Marylebone station and gradually moving onto more stations in the coming months, we're delighted to be part of this great cause in which abandoned bicycles will be donated to refugees who can make use of them. Bicycles are a means of sustainable travel and a cheaper alternative for those that may be struggling especially with the rising costs of maintaining personal vehicle's (i.e., cars), navigating around becomes a complex process.



If you have any information you would like to share on this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, then please email: [juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

# Funding Opportunities



## Green Shoots Community Climate Change Fund

The Warwickshire County Council Green Shoots Community Climate Change Fund provides grant funding to community projects to mitigate against, and adapt to, the impact of climate change. It is aimed at community and voluntary organisations. The latest round of funding will be open for applications between Friday 17 June until Monday 19 September 2022 and you can find all the details on the [WCC website](#).

## Community Rail Network

If you are a member of CRN, then you can apply for grants of up to £1000. Membership for a year is £25 +VAT and you can find out more details here [www.communityrail.org.uk/join-us/station-adopters-small-groups/](http://www.communityrail.org.uk/join-us/station-adopters-small-groups/)

## CrossCountry

CrossCountry have reopened their Community Engagement Fund. The fund aims to make significant impact within the communities they serve. Any project will be considered for inclusion, and there are no financial barriers to requests (subject to available funds). The deadline for applications is the 12th September and you can find out all the details of the fund [here](#).

For more information on different funds and tips on grant funding, check out the CRN [website](#).

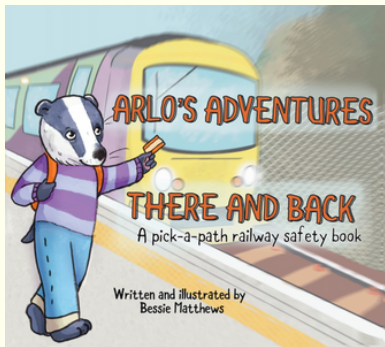
Alternatively, get in touch and we can help to research funding opportunities that are available for station volunteers and for projects you may wish to partner with us on.



Coten End Primary School has created some beautiful drawings of bikes to celebrate the Commonwealth Games Road Races coming to Warwick. These will be on display at Warwick Station for all to see!

If you have any information you would like to share on this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, then please email: [juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

# Upcoming Events



If you're travelling through Leamington, Stratford-upon-Avon and Coventry Stations next week, you might see me promoting this year's Backtrack competition. I'll be giving out the brilliant 'Arlo's Adventures - There and Back Again', a new rail safety book that encourages readers to make the right choices to keep them safe using the railways. The Community Rail Education Network has been working with Freightliner driver Bessie Matthews and has been funded by Community Rail Network, Scotrail and Freightliner. There is an [online version](#) where you can follow Arlo and his friends on their adventures.

## Community Rail Network Events -

You can register and find out more about all CRN events [here](#).

:

### Permissions to work at stations

**Date: 16 Aug, 2022**

**Location: Online via Zoom 10.15-12.15**

**CRN Members only**

An overview of the permissions you'll need for work/projects at stations.

### Community Rail Awards 2022

**Date: 5 Oct, 2022**

**Location: Manchester Central Convention Complex**

This year's Community Rail Awards will take place on Wednesday 5 October 2022, at Manchester Central Convention Complex.

### Community Rail Network AGM and board elections

**Date: 1 Nov, 2022**

**Location: Online via Zoom 14:00-15:30**

Community Rail Network will be holding its next Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 1 November 2022 (14:00-15:30). This year's AGM will take place using Zoom and registered attendees will be sent log-in details shortly before the AGM takes place.

Please "save the date" and further information will be available soon, including details of the agenda and registration process (via Eventbrite).

If you have any information you would like to share on this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, then please email: [juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:juliasingletontasker@warwickshire.gov.uk)