

Chinley and Buxworth Transport Group

How we work to support and improve Chinley station

Note: Should any of the embedded links not work, a full list of web links appears at the end of this document

Improving the environs of Chinley station

We continue to make sure that station planters are attractive, well-stocked and free of unsightly weeds; we made sure that action was taken promptly when a planter was emptied and upturned in September 2023.



4th September 2023



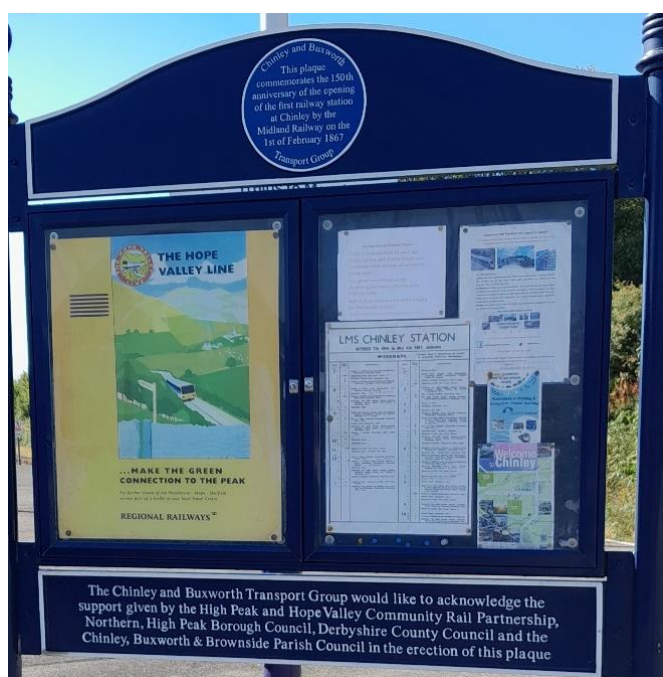
6th September 2023



September 2024

We make sure that the Chinley 150 commemorative notice board is kept tidy, free from condensation and up-to-date.

During 2023 and 2024 the Chinley 150 noticeboard has featured 'Welcome to Chinley' leaflets and 'Chinley Transport Survey' leaflets. Both have handy QR codes.



The *Northern* **cycle shelter** adjacent to Chinley station car park had been in an unattractive state for some time. Mould on the roof, rear and side panels was unsightly. We cleaned up the shelter and also via Northern customer relations, corrected the erroneous entry on the National Rail and Northern websites which previously stated that Chinley station had no bike storage. We were thanked by Northern Customer Relations for this work.



“Thank you for contacting Northern. I am writing to you regarding correspondence you have sent ourselves relating to station information on the website. I want to express our gratitude for reaching out to us and sharing your observations, this has been sent to the relevant department to investigate and resolve immediately.

Kind Regards,

Tochukwu Okonkwo Case 360447 31/3/24

We were also thanked by Northern for our efforts to make sure that the previously incorrect National Rail entry on the number of parking spaces at the station car park was rectified.

Thank you for contacting Northern.

Thank you for providing us with this valuable feedback regarding the parking situation at Chinley railway station. Your efforts to document the current status of the car park with photographic evidence are greatly appreciated.

I will ensure that this information, along with the picture evidences, are passed on to the station management for further review. It's important that our online platforms accurately reflect the availability of parking spaces at each station, and your input will help us address any discrepancies. I understand the importance of maintaining accurate information for our customers, and I apologize for any inconvenience caused by the incorrect details on the Northern and National Rail websites.

Thank you once again for bringing this to our attention, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any further questions or concerns.

Kind Regards, Samuel Gbaye

www.northernrailway.co.uk

<https://www.journeycheck.com/northern/>



NORTHERN

Case 359480 13 April 2024 17.13

We made sure that the missing “Chinley for Cracken Edge..... “ information boards were reinstated after they were removed by contractors in September 2023.



September 2023



September 2024

Safety Aspect of the Environs of Chinley Station

We are always keen to make sure that Northern are notified of any important safety matters at Chinley station or in any area that directly affects Chinley station

- In May 2024 a tread on one of the footbridge steps was disintegrating – we photographed this, informed Northern and the matter was rectified (28th May 2024).
- The yellow line on Platform 1 has been missing for some time – we have made sure via @Northernassist that Northern is aware of this so that maintenance can be planned (October & December 2023, March 2024).



Engaging with the wider community – what does CBTG do?

A major project which begun in early 2023 has been the creation of what has become an award winning website to keep the public better informed about Chinley station, our activities and other local, regional and national transport issues.

- We applied for funding in the spring of 2023 for our major initiative to update the [Chinley and Buxworth Transport Group's website](#). Our ideas and raison d'être for the project were presented to the High Peak and Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership and to the local Parish Council, and we were delighted that both organisations contributed to its funding. We worked in close cooperation with a Chinley based web designer for this project. The website went live in August 2023 and featured some major improvements on the old website:-
 - (a) A [News section](#) in the form of an ongoing 'blog' where each post was also flagged up on our other social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter/X)
 - (b) A bi-monthly Newsletter, featuring the best of the blogs



- (c) A much improved contact form
 - (d) A much expanded 'Useful Links' page
- At the 2024 [Railfuture](#) AGM, Conference and Rail User Group Awards event in Edinburgh on July 14th 2024 our group received the **Adrian Shooter Gold Award for Best Website**. [See our award here](#). The judges commented:

"Head and shoulders above the other nominees. A clean Home Page with all you need to know plus easy navigation to the individual topics. The "Useful Links" section would make it my winner on its own." "I liked the fact that it is not just a rail group, its whole emphasis is on the wider use of integrated public transport. The Home Page is eye catching and immediately makes you want to see more. Very easy to navigate with sensible grouping of topics. It all seems to work as well which is always a plus! Very current, last news post only yesterday. Plenty of good quality pictures with a good mix of local, regional and national issues covered on transport as a whole, not just rail."

The website has meant that we have been in a far better place to achieve wider engagement and contact with the local community and general public by, for example ...

Promoting Chinley station as a start/end point for access to the National Park/ recreation

In line with initiatives promoted by Northern and the High Peak and Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership, during 2023/2024 we have enthusiastically joined forces with other stations on the Hope Valley line to create and promote walks from Northern stations. All of these walks – both our own and those created by other stations including those on the Buxton line – have been advertised on our website's News page, on our Facebook page and on Twitter/X.

Our own walk from Chinley station [is here](#)

Further possibilities from Chinley station [are here](#)

Walks from Buxton station [are here](#)

Walks from New Mills stations [are here](#)

Walks from Marple station [are here](#)

Walks from Romiley station [are here](#)

Walks from Hathersage station [are here](#)



Here's a round walk from Chinley Station via Cracken Edge (10k, approx. 2hrs)

Supporting Northern's policies on travel by rail and bicycle

- We have actively supported Northern's rail + bike policy - see our post promoting Northern's [policy here](#)
- We have produced a handy pack of information ([click here](#)) about travelling by train + bike from Chinley station and linking up with other transport modes eg Manchester trams, Liverpool Merseyrail, Moorlands Connect etc...



Notifying the public about how rail users from Chinley can access other transport modes

The recent introduction of the [High Peak 62 service between Buxton and Castleton](#) allows better integration between bus and rail from Chinley to destinations in the Hope Valley. We notified the public about this via our CBTG website, Facebook and Twitter/X



New bus service will take passengers from Buxton to Castleton via Dove Holes, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Edale and Hope.
Photo Jason Chadwick

Informing the public about important rail matters affecting Chinley

During the recent emergency repairs at Hague Bar between New Mills Central and Marple, we have made sure that we disseminated as widely as possible Northern's public announcements regarding the rail replacement buses, the duration of the works etc. Up-to-date information was publicised on multiple occasions on our Facebook and Twitter/X pages and via the CBTG website in April, May and August 2024. See an example of [a post here](#)



Keeping in touch with the public's views on local transport issues in/around Chinley

In early 2024 we surveyed people's views in our local community about how to improve the ways in which everyone can get about in and around Chinley.

We let people know about the survey via our website ([here](#)) via Facebook and Twitter/X, via flyers at the station and on local noticeboards, via face-to-face conversations at the station, via email, via local businesses....

Engaging with local elected representatives/other professionals

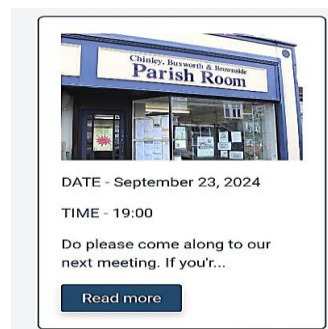
At our regular meetings of the Chinley and Buxworth

Transport group we have for many years enjoyed excellent participation from:

- Members of the Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council
- Local councillors from 2 different wards of the High Peak Borough Council
- The County Councillor for Whaley Bridge Division
- Members of the local business community

We have also hosted:

- The MP for High Peak (occasionally)
- Senior Engineers from Network Rail (occasionally)
- T.O.C. executives
- The Derbyshire representative for TfN



Our meetings are well advertised via email, the CBTG website, Facebook and Twitter/X

Putting Chinley on the map nationally – on BBC Morning Live !

In April 2024, in cooperation with Flitwick station in Bedfordshire, we coordinated the work of a BBC film crew from BBC Morning Live who came to Chinley to film a 10 minute programme on access to the rail network, featuring in Chinley's case, the life experiences of [our](#) local World Champion paracyclist.

The resulting programme was broadcast on BBC Morning Live on July 8th 2024. See the link to this programme [here](#)



Supporting the work of the High Peak and Hope Valley Community Rail partnership and engaging with Northern's sustainability/station manager (Jan 2024)

We have attended and contributed to meetings and AGMs of the HPHV CRP for many years, including all HPHVCRP meetings in 2023/2024 at various locations around the High Peak.

We have always worked closely and cooperatively with the officers of the HPHVCRP liaising at the same time with Northern's sustainability and station managers (eg our station meeting and social event of January 2024 with Rebecca Styles and Monika Sayed) . The display board seen in the picture below was a great example of our joint working – as is the financial support given to this website by the HPHVCRP !!

Chinley station volunteers

The volunteer members of the Chinley & Buxworth Transport Group (C&BTG) work hard to promote and improve cycling, rail and bus transport in Chinley and its neighbouring villages. The group have adopted Chinley station with the approval of Northern Trains and look after it on behalf of their community.

On the platforms look out for the 'Herbs on the Line' garden planter; you're welcome to take or leaf or two home to flavour your dinner.

A display board and plaque on the island platform celebrates the 150th Anniversary of Chinley station and displays historical information about the station from its much busier steam train days.

Due to the considerable problems with passenger access to the station the volunteers devote a lot of their time to campaigning; lobbying the Government and the rail industry to invest in the station and provide a step-free route onto the platforms.

Keep up with the group's activity on their website: www.chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk and on facebook [@Chinley and Buxworth Transport Group](https://www.facebook.com/ChinleyandBuxworthTransportGroup)



Display board at Chinley station

Our work throughout 2023 and 2024 on Access for All

At CBTG we have worked tirelessly with Network Rail, Northern, all elected representatives, the general public, local businesses, ministers at the DfT, officers of the High Peak and Hope Valley Rail partnership for over 15 years to have Chinley station improved so that level/step-free access to the single island platform can be achieved.

We have kept this campaign going through thick and thin and indeed one of our first posts* on the new website was intended to remind everyone that it has been its very poor access that has been Chinley station's most problematic aspect for decades.

Whatever the volunteers in our group can do and have done to make travel from this station more agreeable, a decrepit 22 steps up/down footbridge providing the only access to the trains has in many cases not just inconvenienced travellers with luggage, bike/rail users, families with pushchairs, rail users with a mobility issue, it has also made the station unusable for many people.

*The comments section of our very extensive 2016 survey showed this problem very clearly - [click here to read the post](#)

In May 2024, in the run-up to the general election, things changed !

See [our post here](#) re the DfT's Access for All May 2024 announcement.

Chinley was one of only 6 stations managed by Northern which were included on the DfT's 2024-2029 list of stations nationwide which will be considered for AfA funding. It should be noted of course that Chinley is listed as an East Midlands region station for planning purposes !

Transparency data

Railway stations awarded Access for All accessibility funding

Published 24 May 2024

Chinley

East Midlands

Northern
Derbyshire

Northern

Keeping the local community informed about topical areas of local, regional and national debate

During 2023 and 2024 there were two rail-related matters which arose where we thought it important to make sure that the local community and our elected representatives were aware of the issues.

In 2023, the DfT consulted on a proposal to close a large number of ticket offices nationwide. Although Chinley station has no ticket office, the issue was obviously one where local citizens might want to comment on the consequences of the proposed policy for the whole rail network.

With our posts on social media and the website we let people know how they could respond if they so wished to this government consultation on the website of the Northern Railway. Read [our post from August 2023 here](#).

In the Spring of 2024 Northern Railway announced that it was planning to introduce charges for its station car parks at a number of Northern stations including Chinley. This was an issue which CBTG was able to bring to the attention of the local community via our website ([here](#)), social media and word-of-mouth.

Our Plans for the Future !

In 2017 we organised a very successful and widely supported Art Exhibition for local schools to complement the many activities which took place to commemorate 150 years of Chinley Station. The art work which was produced was displayed in the Community Centre and on the newly installed commemorative display board – itself a joint venture between CBTG, the HPHV CRP and Northern's sustainability/community manager - on the platform at Chinley station.

We intend to organise another similar art exhibition for 2024/2025 which will be timed to coincide with the opening of the brand new Chinley Community Centre which is under construction at the present time.

Chinley and Buxworth Transport Group

September 2024

Weblinks in order of appearance in the document (with page numbers)

Chinley and Buxworth Transport Group p4

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/>

Railfuture p4

<https://www.railfuture.org.uk/Welcome-to-Railfuture>

The Adrian Shooter Gold Award for Best Website p4

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/cbtg-takes-gold-in-railfutures-2024-rail-user-group-awards/>

A Walk from Chinley station p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/chinley-station-round-walk-via-cracken-edge/>

Walks from New Mills stations p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/new-booklet-of-walks-from-new-mill-stations/>

Walks from Marple Station p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/walks-from-hope-valley-line-stations-marple/>

Walks from Romiley station p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/walks-from-hope-valley-stations-romiley/>

Further walks from Chinley station p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/1042/>

Walks from Hathersage station p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/walks-from-hathersage-station/>

Walks from Buxton station p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/walks-from-buxton-station/>

Northern's train and bike policy p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/travelling-by-train-with-northern/>

By bike and train from Chinley p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/connecting-to-other-networks-by-bike-from-chinley-station/>

The new High Peak 62 Service p5

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/the-new-high-peak-62-brings-buses-and-stations-closer-together/>

Hague Bar Emergency Repairs Post p6

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/impact-on-timetable-of-emergency-repairs-between-new-mills-central-mcheester/>

BBC Morning Live Programme on 8th July 2024 featuring Chinley p7

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/chinley-to-be-featured-on-bbc-morning-live-of-monday-8th-july/>

and

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0020yzc/morning-live-series-6-08072024> (minute 31)

Post on Access for All at Chinley with comments from 2016 Survey p8

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/chinley-station-needs-step-free-access/>

Chinley on DfT's list of 50 stations to be awarded AfA funding p8

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/chinley-is-on-the-dfts-list-for-step-free-access/>

Post on Ticket Office Consultation August 2023 p9

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/ticket-office-closure-consultation-period-extended/>

Post on Northern's announcement re proposed charges for station car parks p9

<https://chinleybuxworthtg.co.uk/blogs/northern-propose-charging-for-parking-at-chinley/>

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NOTE: All weblinks accessed and functioning 24/9/2024

