



THE ABBEY FLYER NEWSLETTER

Abbey Line Recent News

In this Issue:

Abbey Line recent news	1
Obituary	1
Recent Events	1
Fares and Ticketing	2
St. Albans/ Watford	2
Contact details	2

Recent Events

The 'Easter Eggspress' attracted many families and young children who enjoyed face painting, goody bags and other entertainment whilst 'on line'.

Community Rail Day on Saturday 20th May saw stalls, vintage vehicle displays and rides, and a miniature railway at the Abbey station, on a blustery day.

A CRP stall was held at the Park Street fete on Sunday 21st May and despite atrocious weather, generated membership enquiries.

The relaying of track on the line has now been completed, and the only planned maintenance this summer (so far) is engineering work on July 2, 9 and 16 until 14.00 approximately.

The location of the new district swimming pool is still under review.

There will be a special late train from St. Albans at 23.00 during the Beer Festival, September 27th-30th.

Sundry CRP minor improvements continue apace, and the latest addition is a cycle shed at St. Albans Abbey station. (If only we could cycle through the park!)

On April 21st, the service at St. Albans City Station was halted, causing overcrowding on the Abbey Line.

The Southend Special has been put back to the Autumn-more news next time.

The Pilot group have continued to work on finalising the business case for the installation of a passing loop at Bricket Wood and the introduction of a more frequent train service on the Abbey Line. Plans for the passing loop have now been produced. Bidders for the new West Midlands franchise, which includes the Abbey Line, are asked to submit options for the introduction of a more frequent service on the route.

Obituary

Sadly, we have to report the death of the late Phil Glazebrook, age 70, who passed away suddenly in April. Phil was chair of Watford Rail User Group and member of Abfly. He had interests in The Ruislip Lido

Railway, the Tallylyn Bridge Steam Railway and Kew Steam Museum. Phil was a bachelor and leaves a half sister and 2 brothers. Donations please to the British Heart Foundation.



Membership secretary,
Dave_Horton@btinternet.com
07739 023318

Chairman
John.W.Webster@btworld.com
01727 752613



NEWSLETTER EDITOR
PAULSPELZINI@AOL.
COM
07739 852924

www.abfly.org.uk

Ticket and Connection changes

First Capital Connect gave the Abbey Line an unexpected boost recently by scrapping their off peak fares during the evening rush hour. This has already led to media coverage extolling the virtues of the Abbey Line, and castigating FCC. From June 11th, Abbey line times are unchanged, but some connections have changed as follows;

From Milton Keynes, the 0726 is now 0722. To London Euston, the 1728 now arrives 1738, and to Milton Keynes the 0711 now arrives 0736, the 0748 now 0812, the 0853 is now 0837, 1053 is now 1019, the 2213 (change at Bletchley) now arrives at 2222, and the 2240 now arrives 2254 (not 2324). All other times are unchanged.

St.Albans and Watford Promoted



It has been a good year for the CRP, and the local football teams have also had a very good year.

St. Albans FC had a civic reception and open top bus tour of the city following their play off success in the Nationwide Conference (South).

Watford FC have also done very well to reach the Barclays Premiership via the Coca Cola Championship play offs.

This will have a 'dividend' effect locally, and boost trade and tourism by approximately 10% next year, it is estimated.

A later evening service for Watford's midweek home games, between 22.00-23.00 may be needed. Saracens also had a reasonable season in the Zurich Premiership, with about 50 fans using the branch for the Easter cup game.