



Cheshire Flag



With Cheshire Day coming up on 30th March, it was particularly appropriate that Rose Hill was honoured, along with five other Stockport Stations, at the 20th Cheshire Best Kept Stations Awards Evening held on Thursday, March 16.

The event was attended by Mayor of Stockport Cllr David Wilson and Mayoress Jeanette Slavinski (pictured) with the awards being presented before 100 guests at The Grange Theatre, Hartford, Northwich by Brian Barnsley, Deputy Chief Executive of Community Rail Network, (pictured) the umbrella organisation for the nationwide Community Rail movement .

On presenting the awards, Brian said: "I am certain that Community Rails continuing strength lies with local communities getting involved, the Cheshire Best kept Stations Awards remain are a wonderful celebration of all the volunteers efforts, congratulations to all the winners, and as has already been said, everyone is a winner here!"

Mark Barker, Chair of Cheshire Best Kept Stations (pictured) said: "Tonight's Awards Evening is a celebration and a thank you for all the volunteers and community groups who do so much to brighten up our stations in Cheshire. You are all winners! - whether or not you pick up an award tonight, this is a big thank you to you all; a party for volunteers and for those who support & encourage you; rail industry, civic leaders and local authorities.

Rose Hill Station won the Community Rail Network Award for Community Engagement with the Friends Group re-engaging with their community after the pandemic by reinstating their ever popular Santa visit to the station and taking a hundred strong party from the local primary school on a train ride, during which they learned how to use stations and trains safely. This is a Group that has a strong relationship with its community.

Friends of Rose Hill Station Chair Rachel Singer (pictured along with Cllr Malcolm Allan) said: "Thank you so much for the award we received for our work with our local community, the school rail trip and, especially, the Santa event. I'm so pleased, on behalf of our group, to have this acknowledged because the event means a lot to so many local families and involves a lot of sheer hard work on the part of our volunteer group."

Also noting that Romiley Station won the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Award with the Friends wanting to create something that would not only mark the Jubilee but would also provide a lasting legacy and improve the station environment. The scheme brought back into use a steep sloping plot of derelict railway which is visible from the village centre, creating a new garden dedicated to Her Majesty. An interpretive board giving a history of the station and village and details of the Friends Group were also provided.