



Friends of Kingscote



So who are the Friends of Kingscote (FoK)?

The “Friends of Kingscote” (FoK) was established over 30 years ago. The main purpose of the group is to maintain Kingscote Station as it would have been in the 1950’s British Rail era.

At present we have just under 140 supporters who subscribe on a yearly basis. The funds generated are used for various projects and maintenance which is undertaken by our volunteers. We have a nucleus of 16 volunteer FoK workers who usually meet on Tuesdays and Saturdays. An annual Newsletter is produced which is sent to all our subscribers in August.

Kingscote Station was part of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway from August 1882 to 31st December 1922, after which it became part of the Southern Railway and then British Railways in 1948. In its early years the station won awards for floral displays; a tradition we still try to maintain. It finally closed for passenger traffic in May 1955. In 1964 Kingscote Station was sold and became the property of a private purchaser thus ensuring that at least the station house was preserved.

It was re-purchased by the Bluebell Railway in 1985. The “Friends of Kingscote” subsequently formed and set about the huge challenge of renovating the station over the next 9 years. The first passenger train arrived at Kingscote on 23rd April 1994. The station was the northern terminus of the Bluebell Railway for 19 years until in March 2013 the line re-opened to East Grinstead. The station then returned to a quiet existence much as it would have been in the late 1950s.

FoK Working Volunteers

The “Friends of Kingscote” is always looking to recruit new working volunteers. If you wish to visit and see what we do, Tuesday and Saturday mornings between 9 am and 10 am are a good opportunity. Or if you happen to visit the station and see one of us at work please stop and have a chat. To be a working member you will have to belong to the Bluebell Railway and join the FoK.

FoK Members and Supporters

The “Friends of Kingscote” depends on the financial support and encouragement of all its members. If you would like to support the FoK by becoming a “Friend”, complete the application form below and send it to our Membership Secretary, John Sisley, by e-mail at: johnandmary@waitrose.com

Donations and Gifts

In the Booking Hall at the station we have a box where people can and often do leave a cash donation. Our present day workers are very mindful of the efforts made by our former volunteers and are determined to ensure that the station is maintained to the highest possible standard. This is a costly undertaking. Many people recognise the picturesque nature of the station but do not wish to become formal members. If you wish to make a one off donation to help us, please contact the membership secretary and use the Application Form details below.

Please consider making a contribution; it will be very much appreciated



Friends of Kingscote

Application Form



(This covers the period from now until 31 July 2021)

I would like to support the “Friends of Kingscote”. The current annual subscription is £15. Any additional donation would be much appreciated by our working volunteers.

The Friends of Kingscote (FoK) annual newsletter is produced in July/August. To save costs we encourage supporters to receive this by e-mail. If, however you wish to receive a paper version please tick this box.

Name:.....

Address:.....

..... Post Code:

E-Mail Address:

We are committed to protecting your personal information, and will not share your details with any organisation outside the Bluebell Railway, which comprises the Bluebell Railway Preservation Society, Bluebell Railway Plc, the Bluebell Railway Trust and their subsidiary supporting groups. So that we may contact you using the details you have provided, please tick this Consent Box

Our full Privacy Policy including your opt-out rights can be found at: www.bluebell-railway.com/privacy-policy/

a. I wish to join and pay the annual £15 membership

b. I wish to join, pay £15 membership and make a donation, so my total payment is £.....

(Delete a. or b. as appropriate)

Please consider using the following method of payment which in past years has proved to be very convenient for many of our supporters:

Pay by Bank Transfer to the following account: Bank: Lloyds Bank, East Grinstead
Payment to: Friends of Kingscote Sub
Sort Code: 30-92-92
Account Number: 01034824
Reference Box: See following note:

(Please ensure that your initials & surname are entered into the Reference Box provided by your bank. This will ensure the payment is properly recorded in our records.)

E-mail your application form to the Membership Secretary, John Sisley, at: johnandmary@waitrose.com
OR

Please post your application form (and cheque, made payable to “Friends of Kingscote”), to:
The Membership Secretary, 3 Warren Close, Felbridge, East Grinstead, RH19 2PR

The working members of the FoK thank you for your support and the assistance your help provides in maintaining this lovely 1950’s station