

SENRUG PRESS RELEASE 27th June 2019

NEWMINSTER ART ADORNS MORPETH STATION

Morpeth Commuters now have a brighter view when waiting for their morning train to Newcastle, thanks to artwork provided by pupils from the town's Newminster School.

The large pieces of eye-catching art now installed on platform 2, opposite where Newcastle passengers wait for their train, will be also be seen by visitors arriving at the station from London and the south, as well as passengers on trains passing through on their way to Edinburgh.

Completed by the school's year 8 art students, the attractive paintings follow the Morpeth in Bloom theme "Between Woods and Rivers We Dwell", and promote the rich landscape of flora, fauna and architecture found in and around Morpeth.

The school, part of the Three Rivers Trust, was able to complete the artwork thanks to a funding grant of £1,000 from Northern, which was secured by SENRUG, the pro-rail campaign group which also acts as the station adoption group for Morpeth.

Maria, a pupil at the school, said she thought the paintings "will help brighten up Morpeth" whereas Anna, another pupil stated "they will help show off our town, especially to people who have never visited before". Mrs Woolley, Newminster's Deputy Head and Art Teacher commented "We hope that the designs reflect Morpeth's beautiful architecture and wildlife. The pupils have worked collaboratively over five months to complete the artwork and we are thrilled that our students have been given the opportunity to develop their creative skills and resilience within a real life brief."

Dennis Fancett, Chair of SENRUG, who organised the funding, and visited the school

whilst the art was being created said: “We are most grateful to Northern for making this award, and also of course to the pupils at Newminster who have clearly worked very hard and with great enthusiasm to produce the results that we see today. Morpeth now has a fantastic range of train services to destinations such as Newcastle, Edinburgh, Leeds, York and London, with Manchester and Liverpool being added in a few months’ time, and improving the station environment through projects such as this is an excellent way to show off our town”

Ends (354 Words)

Notes for Editors

SENUG – The South East Northumberland Rail User Group - is a voluntary pro rail campaign group: contact Dennis Fancett, Chair, tel 01670 825500 or 07810 353651, e: chair@senrug.co.uk. www.senrug.co.uk

Funding was provided from Northern Railway’s Seed Corn Fund: Northern Press Office: tel: 01904 568652 or e: press.office@northernrailway.co.uk

Photo captions: Some of Newminster’s pupils with their completed artwork

Other photos to choose from at <http://www.senrug.co.uk/newminster-school-images.php>



