

# Yate Station ~ Update

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✦ July 2010 *Edition*

## IN THIS ISSUE...

➔ Did you know...

➔ Yate Station User's Blog is online

 First Great Western

➔ Do you have any questions or feedback for FGW?

 National Rail Enquiries

➔ National Rail Enquiries online rail journey planner



➔ Environmental Improvements to Station Platform

➔ Message from Yate Station Supervisor:  
*Nigel James*

➔ New Help Points from September 2010

➔ Car Parking Charges

➔ Did you know...

Yate station first opened on 8 July 1844 and closed on 4 January 1965. It was reopened on 11 May 1989. It is the start of the Thornbury branch line, however the passenger stations on this branch have long since closed and the line only remains to serve Tytherington Quarry.

Yate Station is located on the main Bristol to Birmingham line between Bristol Parkway and Cam & Dursley.

In the Strategic Rail Authority's 2007/08 financial year, Yate was ranked as the 1104th most-used station in the UK.

*Source: Wikipedia*

➔ Yate Station User's Blog is online

Anyone can become a member of Yate Station User Group, there is no membership fee. We would welcome more input from the stations users. You don't have to commit yourselves to attending meetings, just add your name as a comment to the blog posts with an e-mail address and you will be kept informed about what's happening with Yate Station and about up-coming news.

You are of course welcome to attend the Friend's meetings, meet FGW representatives, including Nigel, and put your comments to them in a relaxed setting rather than in a harassed situation whilst obtaining your

travel ticket in a queue consisting of 10 to 20 people! Log on at: <http://yateuser.blogspot.com/>

➔ Do you have any questions or feedback for FGW?

 First Great Western

First Great Western actively seeks views from customers as regular feedback can help to plan improvements to services.

Comments can be made by contacting the Customer Services team on 08457 000 125. Lines are open daily from 0700 to 2200.

You can also email your concerns to: [fgwfeedback@firstgroup.com](mailto:fgwfeedback@firstgroup.com)

All written comments from customers should be sent to:

**Customer Services Team**  
**FREEPOST SWB40576**  
**Plymouth, PL4 6ZZ**

For further information, visit: [www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk](http://www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk)

➔ National Rail Enquiries online rail journey planner

The National Rail Enquiries website has a useful journey planner that can found at: <http://ojp.nationalrail.co.uk/en/pj/jp>

 National Rail Enquiries  
**[CLICK FOR YATE STATION LIVE TRAIN TRACKER](#)**

## ➔ Environmental Improvements to Station Platform



*Photo courtesy of Wikipedia*

It is planned to make the station more attractive by clearing overgrown foliage, laying weed control matting and gravel and installing flower beds. It is hoped that some materials will be donated by local companies, but a grant application has also been submitted to South Gloucestershire Council. Work to clear the ground will be undertaken by the Probation Service under the community pay back scheme, a local voluntary scheme for 18-25 year olds has also offered to advertise for volunteers to help with the improvements. It is hoped local schools and/or youth groups will get involved with the scheme, as experience at other stations shows that their valued involvement helps to reduce crime (Tyndale Primary and Brimsham Green Secondary schools have already indicated a willingness to get involved). Once the work is complete volunteers will be required to maintain the site and water the plants. A sufficient water supply would be needed.

## ➔ Message from Yate Station Supervisor: *Nigel James*

Customers are reminded they must have a valid ticket to travel. Daily tickets or weekly season tickets may be purchased from me during these hours.

At all other times tickets must be purchased from the Train Manager/Conductor on board the train.

I am very happy for any local community group to advertise events on the notice board at Yate Station. Please let me have your information during my working shift.

## ➔ New Help Points from September 2010

*This is what the new help points will look like. They will provide up-to-date information for people using the station...*



*Photo supplied by First Great Western*

## ➔ Car Parking Charges

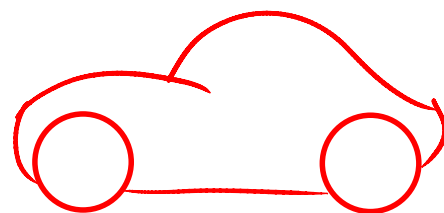
A Yate station user has complained about inserting two £1 coins into the car parking ticket machine for a £1.10 fare, the machine did not give change, thereby paying an extra 90p!

Linda Swainger (First Great Western) said the car parking ticket machine at Yate station is a standard coin operated machine for a station of that size. The machines do not give change so they do not have to have a cash box which helps to deter vandalism and break-ins. The machines do provide an option to pay for car parking using a mobile phone rather than coins.

Linda further added that car parking charges are set by APCOA in conjunction with First Great Western and are currently being reviewed.

First Great Western have acknowledged the fact that signage on the ticket machine could be improved to make people aware that the machines do not give change and therefore the exact money should be inserted into the machine.

Correspondence will be sent to Mark Hopwood, Managing Director of First Great Western and Steve Webb MP, reiterating the Friends of Yate Station's concerns about the car parking charges at Yate station.



If you would like to get involved with the Friends of Yate Station Group or contribute to this Update, please contact Yate Town Council either by telephone on 01454 866506 or by email: [info@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk)

