

In The News | 2nd August 2022 | Latest Rail News

August 2, 2022



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The transformation of Hartlepool station has taken a major step forward after plans for the major overhaul were given the green light by Hartlepool Borough Council.

Proposals will see the station's redundant second through platform brought back into use with a new replacement platform, plans also sees new lifts and a footbridge for improved access.

Hartlepool station is the busiest single-platform station in the UK and the third biggest station in the region which, pre-pandemic, welcomed up to 650,000 passengers per year.

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New wider platforms at the University station have been used for the first time as the major redevelopment project reached another key milestone.

Spectators heading for the Birmingham 2022 hockey and squash competitions were among those to benefit from the extra space and new shelters on the wider platforms.

University station is undergoing a major redevelopment with new station buildings, bridges and platforms to accommodate the 3.5 million passenger journeys it sees every year.

[Click here for more details.](#)

A giant tortoise brought trains to a halt when it was found on a railway track.

The injured animal was spotted near Harling Road, north east of Thetford, Norfolk, on the Cambridge-bound line at about 12:40 BST.

Greater Anglia said three services were affected by the tortoise's presence.

Swallow Aquatics in East Harling said the tortoise, Clyde, had gone missing on Sunday and had now been taken to a vets, as it was hit by a train.

Hull Trains are holding a competition to name one of their new trains and it could be named in honour of some of Hull's most famous faces.

The article on Hull Live says the shortlist of five names includes Hull band Housemartins, headscarf revolutionary Lillian Bilocca, and Jean Bishop, Hull's dearly missed "Bee Lady" who died last year.

All the names have a connection to Hull, or the Hull Trains service to London Kings Cross.

And yes, "Chip Spice" has been suggested as an option too. It is up to the public to decide, with a poll open until next Monday.

Photo credit: Tees Valley Combined Authority