

In 1999 a local resident began a project that was to occupy much of his and his wife's spare time until the present day.

Beneath the vegetation at the northern end of the Jinny Nature Trail, opened in 1984 and maintained by Rolleston Parish Council, lay remains of the platforms that were once part of the village's railway station.

Stage 1 of the project featured a model diorama of the station; exhibited at the village Millenium Exhibition, this became the precursor of a working model, first exhibited at John of Rolleston Primary School in 2007, in an effort to demonstrate to local people a part of their heritage.

Stage 2 entailed the creation of a 3 dimensional virtual model of the complete station complex; incorporating the vast amount of reference gleaned whilst building the actual model, accurate renders of the 3d model, indicating how the station appeared from different directions, were incorporated into the signage now positioned around the site.

Stage 3 with the project adopted by the Rolleston Engineering and Transport Society, (TREATS) the final stage involved forming a community working party to clear excess vegetation, identify any railway relics and prepare the ground between the two platforms in readiness for a wildflower meadow. The completion of this stage was made possible by a grant of £7,600.00 received from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

On-going work entails rebuilding the brick base to the booking hall, a part of the project enhanced by the discovery of the actual plans at the National Archive.

The map on the reverse side of this leaflet indicates, with red arrows, a simple route beginning at the entrance to the Jinny Nature Trail on Station Road, Rolleston-on-Dove (OS Landranger map 128 grid reference: 2528, post code: DE13 9AD). Adjacent to the gate is the first information panel **A**, displaying a virtual image of the station layout together with a map, brief history and images of the trains that travelled this line.

Walk through the gate and up the track until you reach a point where the paths separate, take the left hand route towards the southbound platform. You will see another information panel **B**, showing how the station would have appeared when viewed from that point and details of the fauna and flora to be found along the trail. Also note the station nameboard **C**; a replica of the one installed by the LMS, sited on the exact location of its original.

Continuing along the platform towards the replica bench **D**, note the small gardens **E**, two of eight original plots sited on the two platforms and tended by the station staff. Also sited on this platform, a timber waiting room **F**, was mounted on the surviving concrete base; complete with stove, it offered shelter to passengers bound for Burton upon trent and destinations to the south.

Walking across to the opposite platform, note the footprint of the booking hall **G**, this timber building housed the ticket/parcels office, waiting room, ladies room and toilets. Looking to the west, across the path, once the route of the goods loop, the gables of the railway dwellings **H**, built to house the station master and staff, are visible.

Also, towards the southern end of this platform, a small sign **J**, indicates the position from where the photograph of the featured excursion train was taken. Lately a painting by railway artist, Colin Wright, based on that image, has been commissioned by the photographer, Phil Waterfield. Prints are available by contacting the email address below.

At the southern end of the platforms, there is another information panel **K**; it may appear identical to the one already viewed, but shows how the station would have appeared from the southern end and indicates different flora and fauna.

On re-joining the main path, walk back along it ?? metres and note the stone circle **L**, visible on the ground; once the base to a hand-operated crane that was used for the loading and unloading of railway wagons standing in the goods loop.

Continuing in a southerly direction, note to right the facing walls of the cattle and milk docks **M**. Milk was collected daily from the dock which faced on to the main line, whereas the cattle dock was served by a siding, still in use post World War II when a herd of Jersey cows purchased by a local farmer, arrived in Rolleston.

As the sides of the cutting reach their maximum height two piers that once supported a footbridge **N**, come into view; built to link Dovecliff Hall with Craythorne Hall, its iron spans were removed during the 1980's, leaving just the masonry as a reminder.

From here the Jinny Nature Trail continues towards Stretton where similar information panels have been positioned at strategic points. Of particular note is the gravel dock erected in 1920, but nothing remains of the passenger station.

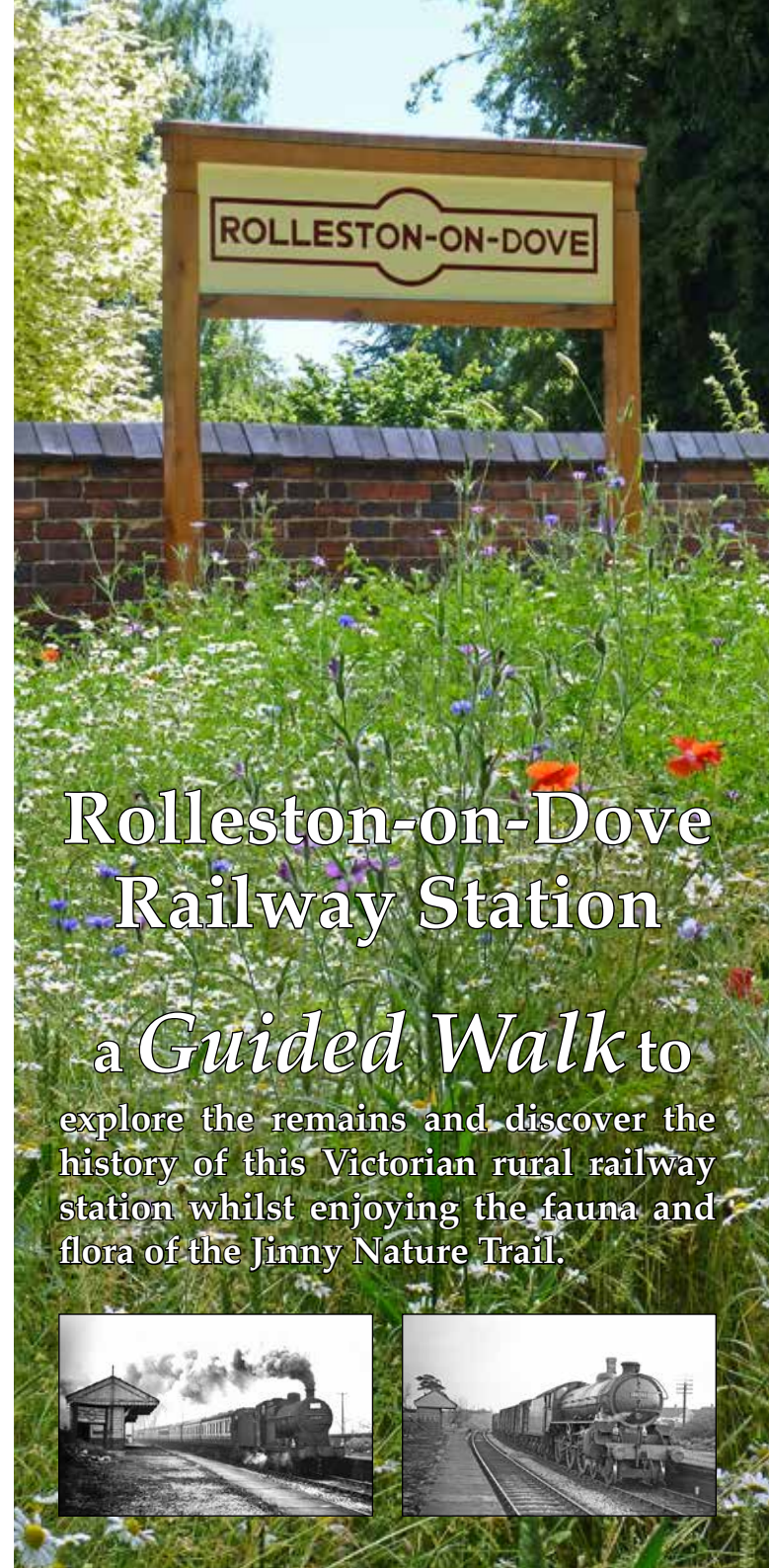
On reaching the end of the trail at Bridge Street, if you wish to walk a circuit, turn right and right again into Craythorne Lane. Continue along that lane, taking a left hand bend until you come to top of the hill and turn right by a fingerboard on to a bridleway between cottages to the right and a bungalow, adjacent to Craythorne Hall, to the left. Continue along this track, through a kissing gate and take-in views of the distant Derbyshire hills to the north-west.

Keep to the left hand boundary of the field, turning right, passing a gap in the hedge to the left and proceed to the next stile. Turn right across a field to a gap in the hedge, pass through the gap and descend steps to the remains of the footbridge, rejoining the Jinny Nature Trail turn left towards the station site.

The Jinny Nature offers enjoyment regardless of the season; during the summer months take-in the wild flower meadow planted between the two platforms, or in winter, when the vegetation has died-back, observe to better effect the remnants of a railway that transformed the lives and expectations of so many.



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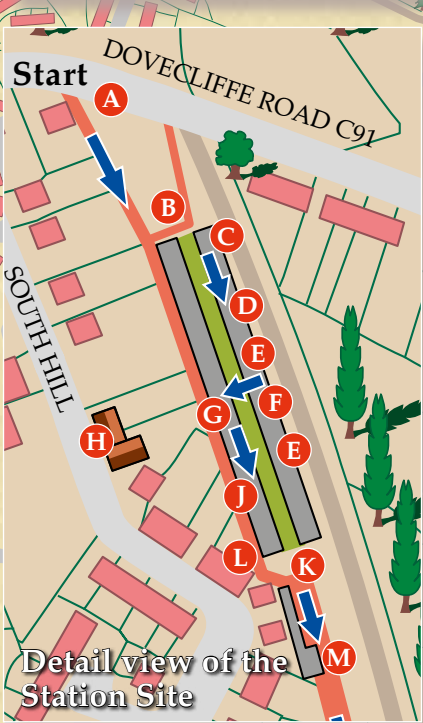
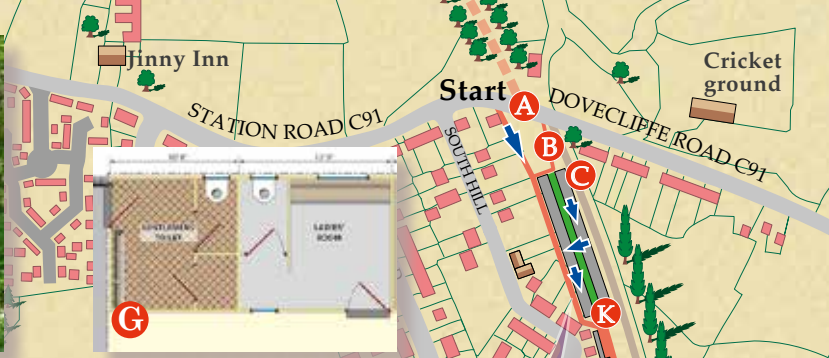


Rolleston-on-Dove Railway Station

a *Guided Walk* to

explore the remains and discover the history of this Victorian rural railway station whilst enjoying the fauna and flora of the Jinny Nature Trail.





- Key**
- A** Information panel
 - B** Information panel – station looking south and fauna & flora
 - C** Replica station running-in board
 - D** Replica bench
 - E** Platform garden
 - F** Platform shelter
 - G** Booking hall
 - H** Railway dwellings
 - J** Standpoint for photograph – source of painting
 - K** Information panel – station looking north and fauna & flora
 - L** Base of yard crane.
 - M** Milk/cattle dock
 - N** Piers to footbridge

