

Thursday 19 January

RAILWAY 53

Alfreton		1044	1.50
Sheffield	1113	1141	
via Pontefract			1.00
York	1303	1312	
via Harrogate			3.90
Leeds	1422	1432	2.95
Sheffield	1551	1606	1.50
Alfreton	1632		
			£10.85

Northern Rail had a flash sale. It took a lot of work to find the bargains and be creative - eg bargain fares from Alfreton to Sheffield, but not on to Leeds. I gave myself far longer than I needed to drive to Alfreton, so used the time to install the Ring-go app for station parking - just £2.80 after 10. Plenty of time at Sheffield, then north on the thrice-daily (I think) service direct to York - not exactly full.



Through the post-industrial landscape of Sheffield and Rotherham, then some rather nice countryside north of that. Straight on after



Moorthorpe, up through Pontefract Baghill (which gets very few trains) and on to Ferrybridge - I still don't understand why it is green to send wood pellets across the Atlantic to fuel our power stations - gave Hannah a wave as I passed South Milford, and into York.





I remember the days when the Harrogate train was small and clapped out, now it is rather posher and more regular. I had the first third of the train to myself. Still semaphore signals and manual crossings, but the token exchange has gone. It would be good to explore the line with my camera. The nice café at Knaresborough that Alex and I patronized a while ago is still there - and looking very tempting.





Castleford and reverses, which means I have now done new track - but I still have a gap between Castleford and Glasshoughton. They are building a new platform at Castleford with full lift access. Back at Sheffield I crossed the station and caught the Nottingham train, which had come from Leeds just after the one I had got off. That was the only train that was anything like full. I made the mistake of driving back from Alfreton station via the town centre, not a good idea that time of day. I had had a lovely day and caught up on a lot of reading.



Knaresborough river needs an explore. Harrogate has a nice signal box and the viaduct south of there has some lovely shadows.

Leeds station is big when you have to walk from 2b to 17a, but I made it. This one goes into

