

Wednesday 7 June 2023

RAILWAY 74

Alfreton		0658
Manchester Piccadilly	0835	
Manchester Oxford Road		1302
Manchester Victoria	1308	1330
Stalybridge	1340	1413
Huddersfield	1441	1512
Sheffield	1628	1640
Alfreton		1706

Alfreton to Greenfield, £30.25

The original plan was for chemo today with a pre-op for a stent removal on Friday while I was there. Then Dr B said I couldn't have chemo today with stent removal on Friday, but I still needed to go for the pre-op. I was not amused when the alarm went at 5.45 am - but told myself I was having a train chasing day with a hospital thrown in.

There was a delay on the A38 as we had to slow behind a Highways Agency vehicle, but I made it in time. A return to Manchester is £30.75, fifty pence is saved by booking to Greenfield which is between Manchester and Huddersfield, on a line I need to do. A full train to Sheffield, and the HST was leaving as we arrived.



Very full across the Hope Valley - it is a lovely line. They are working on the new track (or old track restored) at Dore. At Piccadilly I walked down to Piccadilly Gardens and took the bus to The Christie - a bit further to walk than I wanted, but only £1.60 on the bus.



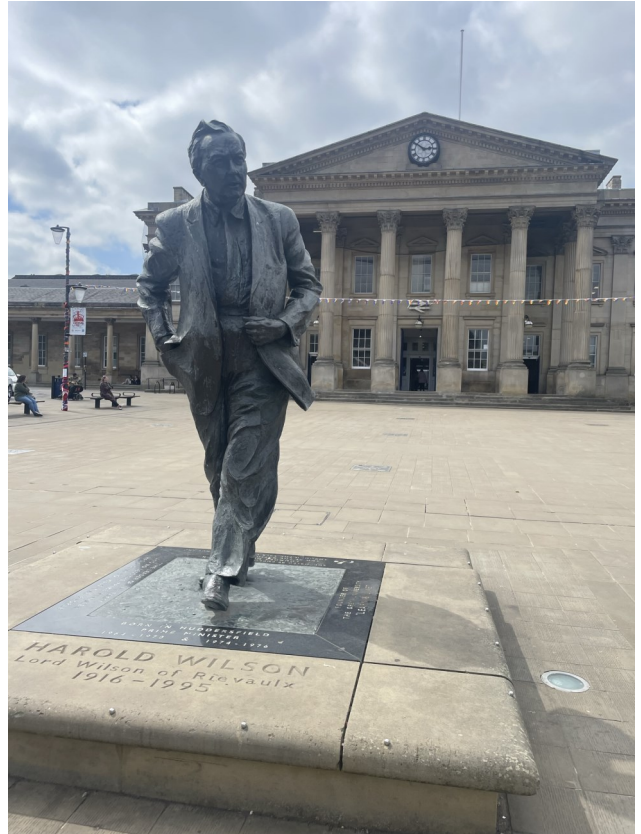
I made it for 9.30 and had the pre-op. I got told off for not isolating (I asked how I was supposed to when they got me to a hospital where no one is wearing masks) and they were surprised I had heart failure - in the end an anesthetist said he is happy for me to have my stent removed on Friday (we hope). It was gone 12 before I got away - train chasing time wasted - and I got a different bus back to the centre (£1.80).

I realized I wasn't going to make the 1258 from Piccadilly to Greenfield and on to Huddersfield, but I would make the 1302 from Oxford Road round the Castleford curve to Victoria. This actually goes through Greenfield but, as it doesn't stop, I can't really stay on till Huddersfield. Nice view at Oxford Road.



I changed at Victoria and at Stalybridge - which gave me a chance to have a drink in the station bar. Electrification work is slowly going on and the scenery is rather lovely on this line. On through Standedge Tunnel - the last time I visited the Visitors' Centre here was when we were at Lincoln - and into Huddersfield. Time for a short walk and I said Hello to Harold and to Felix the cat. I had a sandwich on the Sheffield train, then I slept.





We were late into Sheffield, but there was just time to pick up the train from Manchester back to Alfreton. A good jaunt - and coming home this way saved me 50 p!