# Rose Hill Ghost Train - The Facts

There is currently a Rail Head Treatment Train (RHTT) - aka "Sandite" Train - in the Working Timetable. It is booked to occupy the Rose Hill branch from 18.05 to 18.17 on Monday to Thursday all year. In practice it will only operate as needed during the "leaf fall season" (as Network Rail rather quaintly describe what the rest of us call autumn). A print out of the full schedule of the train is shown below. It leaves Wigan in the afternoon and finally makes it back to Crewe in the early hours next morning after an extensive tour of the North West's rail network.

In the current timetable, passenger trains occupy the branch at the following times in the evening peak: 17.14 to 17.26, 17.44 to 17.57 and 18.33 to 18.56. The RHTT fits in neatly between these trains. In the new timetable, passenger trains occupy the branch at the following times: 17.05 to 17.23, 17.37 to 17.48 and 18.35 to 18.48. The missing train should occupy the branch at pretty much the exact times that the RHTT is there. Clearly, the timings of the RHTT were designed to fit in with the old timetable and nobody seems to have realised that there was a problem with the new timetable until late in the day.

**Possible Solutions**

The logical solution would seem to be to move the RHTT forward to fill a slot between 17.51 and 18.03 or 18.21 to 18.33, allowing the extra Rose Hill train to operate ( this assumes that the margin between trains leaving and joining the branch is 3 minutes - and that some pathing allowance can be applied to the adjacent passenger trains) , or alternatively to move the RHTT to a different time altogether. We don’t want to remove it completely. We appreciate that changing the RHTT may not be straightforward given the intensity of use of the network in the PM peak and the lengthy schedule of the train. We understand that Network Rail are short of timetable planners and the May 2018 timetable is a mess. We know they may have higher priorities for December 2018.

Another option would be to delay the 17.34 to around 17.54, so it fits in between the RHTT and the 18.09. This is unsatisfactory and creates an uneven timetable, but at least it maintains 2 tph in the evening peak. Again, this may not be easy.

**What We Should Do**

The removal ofthe most important peak hour service from the timetable is obviously completely unacceptable**.** It is crazy that a key passenger train is taken out to suit the convenience of Network Rail**.** The 17.34 **should** operate to Rose Hill. I don't think it is up to us to propose solutions to the problem, it's enough that we know that this is not an insoluble issue. Network Rail have until October to sort out an alternative time for their train (everyone knows it only operates in the autumn) - this should be achievable if they put their minds to it.

**Path of the Rail Head Treatment Train**

**FRGT 1634 Wigan L.I.P. to Crewe**

**Runs on 23rd May 2018**

**Schedule Information**

* **WTT** schedule UID **H41523**
* Runs **FSSuX** between **21/05/2018** to **06/12/2018**
* Service code **95998501**

**Operational Information**

* Schedule from **ITPS**
* Timed for **75mph** max
* **Diesel** locomotive

|  |  | **WTT** | | **Route** | | **Allowances** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Pl** | **Arr** | **Dep** | **Line** | **Path** | **Eng** | **Pth** | **Prf** |
| [Wigan L.I.P. [XWM]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/XWM/2018/05/23/1634) |  |  | 1634 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Springs Branch](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPRB/2018/05/23/1643) |  | 1639 | 1643 | GL |  |  |  |  |
| [Springs Branch Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPRBJN/2018/05/23/1645) |  | pass | 1645 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wigan South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WIGASJN/2018/05/23/1646) |  | pass | 1646 | UPL |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Wigan Station Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WIGANSJ/2018/05/23/1647) |  | pass | 1647 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wigan North Western [WGN]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WGN/2018/05/23/1655) | 2 | 1649 | 1655 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wigan Station Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WIGANSJ/2018/05/23/1657) |  | pass | 1657 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Crow Nest Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CRWNSTJ/2018/05/23/1702) |  | pass | 1702 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Walkden [WKD]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WKD/2018/05/23/1712) |  | pass | 1712 |  |  | 2 | 5½ |  |
| [Salford Crescent [SLD]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SLD/2018/05/23/1728) | 1 | pass | 1728 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Salford Central [SFD]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SFD/2018/05/23/1731) |  | pass | 1731 |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| [Deal Street Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MNCRDST/2018/05/23/1733) |  | pass | 1733 | SL |  |  | 3 |  |
| [Manchester Victoria [MCV]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MCV/2018/05/23/1738) | 4 | pass | 1738 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Miles Platting [MLP]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MLP/2018/05/23/1741) |  | pass | 1741 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Philips Park West Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/PHILPK1/2018/05/23/1742) |  | pass | 1742 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Philips Park South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/PHILPK2/2018/05/23/1743) |  | pass | 1743 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Ashburys [ABY]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ABY/2018/05/23/1749) |  | 1749 | 1749 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Reddish North [RDN]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RDN/2018/05/23/1753) |  | pass | 1753 |  |  |  | 1½ |  |
| [Romiley [RML]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RML/2018/05/23/1802) | 2 | pass | 1802 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Marple Wharf Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MARPLWJ/2018/05/23/1805) |  | pass | 1805 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Rose Hill Marple [RSH]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RSH/2018/05/23/1813) |  | 1809 | 1813 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Marple Wharf Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MARPLWJ/2018/05/23/1817) |  | pass | 1817 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Romiley [RML]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RML/2018/05/23/1820) |  | pass | 1820 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Reddish North [RDN]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RDN/2018/05/23/1828) |  | pass | 1828 |  |  |  | 8 |  |
| [Ashburys [ABY]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ABY/2018/05/23/1841) |  | pass | 1841 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Philips Park South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/PHILPK2/2018/05/23/1847) |  | pass | 1847 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Baguley Fold Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/BAGLYFJ/2018/05/23/1922) |  | 1852 | 1922 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Ashton Moss North Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ASHTMNJ/2018/05/23/1928) |  | pass | 1928 |  |  |  | 2½ |  |
| [Denton Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/DNTONJN/2018/05/23/1936) |  | pass | 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Denton Station Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/DNTOSTJ/2018/05/23/1937) |  | pass | 1937 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Ash Bridge Junction](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ASBRDGE/2018/05/23/1942) |  | pass | 1942 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Heaton Norris Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HTNOJN/2018/05/23/1944) |  | pass | 1944 | SL |  |  | 1½ |  |
| [Stockport [SPT]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPT/2018/05/23/1947) | 1 | pass | 1947 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Edgeley Jn No1](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/STKPE1/2018/05/23/1948) |  | pass | 1948 |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| [Adswood Road Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ADSWDRD/2018/05/23/1950) |  | pass | 1950 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Cheadle Hulme [CHU]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHU/2018/05/23/1951) | 4 | pass | 1951 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Macclesfield [MAC]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MAC/2018/05/23/2017) | 3 | 2004 | 2017 |  |  |  | 2½ |  |
| [Cheadle Hulme [CHU]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHU/2018/05/23/2031) | 3 | pass | 2031 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Adswood Road Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ADSWDRD/2018/05/23/2032) |  | pass | 2032 | SL |  |  | 1 |  |
| [Edgeley Jn No1](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/STKPE1/2018/05/23/2035) |  | pass | 2035 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Stockport [SPT]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPT/2018/05/23/2109) | DG | 2037 | 2109 | FL |  |  |  |  |
| [Edgeley Jn No1](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/STKPE1/2018/05/23/2110) |  | pass | 2110 |  |  |  | 14 |  |
| [Hazel Grove [HAZ]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HAZ/2018/05/23/2129) | 1 | pass | 2129 |  |  |  | 4 |  |
| [Furness Vale [FNV]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/FNV/2018/05/23/2149) | 1 | pass | 2149 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Chapel-en-le-Frith [CEF]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CEF/2018/05/23/2201) | 1 | pass | 2201 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Buxton [BUX]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/BUX/2018/05/23/2225) | 2 | 2214 | 2225 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Chapel-en-le-Frith [CEF]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CEF/2018/05/23/2238) | 2 | pass | 2238 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Furness Vale [FNV]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/FNV/2018/05/23/2250) |  | pass | 2250 |  |  |  | 6 |  |
| [Hazel Grove [HAZ]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HAZ/2018/05/23/2312) | 2 | pass | 2312 |  |  |  | 3½ |  |
| [Edgeley Jn No1](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/STKPE1/2018/05/23/2320) |  | pass | 2320 | FL |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Stockport [SPT]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPT/2018/05/23/2324) | 3 | 2322 | 2324 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Heaton Norris Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HTNOJN/2018/05/23/2327) |  | pass | 2327 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Ash Bridge Junction](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ASBRDGE/2018/05/23/2328) |  | pass | 2328 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Denton Station Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/DNTOSTJ/2018/05/23/2333) |  | pass | 2333 |  |  |  | 8 |  |
| [Denton Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/DNTONJN/2018/05/23/2352) |  | 2342 | 2352 |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| [Guide Bridge [GUI]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/GUI/2018/05/23/2356) | 1 | pass | 2356 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Hyde Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HYDEJ/2018/05/23/2359) |  | pass | 2359 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Dinting [DTG]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/DTG/2018/05/24/0008) | 1 | pass | 0008 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Hadfield [HDF]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HDF/2018/05/24/0018) |  | 0010 | 0018 |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| [Dinting [DTG]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/DTG/2018/05/24/0021) | 1 | pass | 0021 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Newton for Hyde [NWN]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/NWN/2018/05/24/0028) |  | 0028 | 0028 |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| [Hyde Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HYDEJ/2018/05/24/0031) |  | pass | 0031 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Guide Bridge Up & Down Pl](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/GIDBURL/2018/05/24/0037) |  | 0033 | 0037 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Hyde Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HYDEJ/2018/05/24/0038) |  | pass | 0038 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Woodley [WLY]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WLY/2018/05/24/0043) |  | pass | 0043 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Romiley [RML]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RML/2018/05/24/0046) |  | pass | 0046 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Marple Wharf Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/MARPLWJ/2018/05/24/0049) |  | pass | 0049 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [New Mills Central [NMC]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/NMC/2018/05/24/0058) | 2 | pass | 0058 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [New Mills South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/NWMILSJ/2018/05/24/0113) |  | 0102 | 0113 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Chinley North Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHNLYNJ/2018/05/24/0122) |  | pass | 0122 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Chinley East Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHNLYEJ/2018/05/24/0123) |  | pass | 0123 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Edale [EDL]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/EDL/2018/05/24/0130) | 2 | pass | 0130 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Edale Signal Ee16](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/EDALE16/2018/05/24/0131) |  | pass | 0131 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Earles Sdgs S.B.](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ERLESDG/2018/05/24/0135) |  | pass | 0135 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Bamford [BAM]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/BAM/2018/05/24/0139) |  | pass | 0139 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Grindleford [GRN]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/GRN/2018/05/24/0148) | 2 | 0144 | 0148 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Bamford [BAM]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/BAM/2018/05/24/0153) |  | pass | 0153 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Earles Sdgs S.B.](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ERLESDG/2018/05/24/0156) |  | pass | 0156 |  |  |  | 2 |  |
| [Edale [EDL]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/EDL/2018/05/24/0203) | 1 | pass | 0203 |  |  |  | 4 |  |
| [Chinley East Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHNLYEJ/2018/05/24/0214) |  | pass | 0214 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Chinley North Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHNLYNJ/2018/05/24/0215) |  | pass | 0215 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [New Mills South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/NWMILSJ/2018/05/24/0219) |  | pass | 0219 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Hazel Grove H.L.Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HAZLGHJ/2018/05/24/0226) |  | pass | 0226 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Hazel Grove [HAZ]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HAZ/2018/05/24/0227) | 1 | pass | 0227 |  |  |  | 9 |  |
| [Edgeley Jn No1](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/STKPE1/2018/05/24/0241) |  | pass | 0241 | SL |  |  |  |  |
| [Stockport [SPT]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPT/2018/05/24/0242) | 4 | pass | 0242 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Heaton Norris Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HTNOJN/2018/05/24/0244) |  | pass | 0244 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Slade Lane Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SLDLJN/2018/05/24/0248) |  | pass | 0248 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Longsight Down Goods Loop](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/LNGSDGL/2018/05/24/0255) |  | 0251 | 0255 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Slade Lane Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SLDLJN/2018/05/24/0258) |  | pass | 0258 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Heald Green [HDG]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HDG/2018/05/24/0305) | 2 | pass | 0305 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Heald Green South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HLDGSJ/2018/05/24/0306) |  | pass | 0306 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wilmslow [WML]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WML/2018/05/24/0310) | 2 | pass | 0310 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wilmslow Down Rev Sdg](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WLMSDRS/2018/05/24/0315) |  | 0311 | 0315 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wilmslow [WML]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WML/2018/05/24/0317) | 1 | pass | 0317 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Heald Green South Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HLDGSJ/2018/05/24/0321) |  | pass | 0321 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Heald Green [HDG]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HDG/2018/05/24/0322) | 1 | pass | 0322 |  |  |  | 2 |  |
| [Slade Lane Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SLDLJN/2018/05/24/0331) |  | pass | 0331 | SL |  |  |  |  |
| [Longsight Down Goods Loop](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/LNGSDGL/2018/05/24/0342) |  | 0333 | 0342 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Slade Lane Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SLDLJN/2018/05/24/0344) |  | pass | 0344 |  |  |  | ½ |  |
| [Heaton Norris Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/HTNOJN/2018/05/24/0349) |  | pass | 0349 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Stockport [SPT]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SPT/2018/05/24/0350) | 1 | pass | 0350 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Edgeley Jn No1](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/STKPE1/2018/05/24/0351) |  | pass | 0351 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Adswood Road Jn](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ADSWDRD/2018/05/24/0352) |  | pass | 0352 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Cheadle Hulme [CHU]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CHU/2018/05/24/0353) | 2 | pass | 0353 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Wilmslow [WML]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/WML/2018/05/24/0357) | 4 | pass | 0357 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Alderley Edge [ALD]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/ALD/2018/05/24/0359) |  | pass | 0359 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Sandbach [SDB]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/SDB/2018/05/24/0412) | 1 | pass | 0412 | FL |  |  |  |  |
| [Crewe Sydney Bridge](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CREWSBG/2018/05/24/0417) |  | pass | 0417 |  |  |  |  |  |
| [Crewe [CRE]](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/CRE/2018/05/24/0420) | 1 | 0420 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[Less detail](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/train/H41523/2018/05/23)

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