## Are you a rail user?

Whether you are a London commuter, a child or young person using the train to get to school or college in Cambridge, or an occasional user of our rail service who values its presence, please consider joining the Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group.

We have been lobbying hard on a range of issues for the past two years, and have had some successes – most importantly on abolishing and reducing car parking charges at Shepreth and Meldreth, and in achieving a student rail discount that is £120 cheaper that the county council's subsidized bus. We've been able to help out with all sorts of small problems that people encounter through our direct channel of communication with First Capital Connect. Our primary objective however is to simply ensure the continued existence of these very small stations.

Now, with the First Capital Connect franchise coming to an end in September 2013, our views and wish lists are being sought by prospective franchisees. The German train operator Arriva came up for a visit on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We've been advised by our umbrella organization, Railfuture East Anglia, that we could strengthen our position further by demonstrating a healthy membership. It doesn't matter if you can't manage our quarterly evening meetings – just joining would make a difference. You can pick up our membership form at the Meldreth Station booking office or at the village shop, or download it from <a href="http://melbourn.org.uk/railusergroup/">http://melbourn.org.uk/railusergroup/</a> - or please ring me and I'll drop one through your letter box.

Many thanks.

Susan van de Ven Chairman, Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group <a href="mailto:susanvandeven@yahoo.co.uk">susanvandeven@yahoo.co.uk</a>. 01763 261833