

Chapter 2

Railroad Through Leire



When Sue and I volunteered for this project we wondered what we had let ourselves in for. The railway only runs a short distance through the parish and a train travelling at 60 mph would have passed through in about 80 seconds. Having thought about it we focused on beginnings and one item led to another and so on until we had to say stop in order to meet the deadline for the booklet. In the 80 seconds it would take to pass through the parish we have researched historical records and material relevant to the parish. The line commenced service on 30th June 1840 and after nearly 122 years of service the section south of Wigston was closed to all traffic on 1st January 1962.

The Midland Counties Railway came into being in June 1836 during the reign of King William IV. The major object of the line appeared to be the inter connection of the three towns of Nottingham, Derby and Leicester and to link them to London by way of Rugby and the London and Birmingham Railway.

MIDLAND COUNTIES RAILWAY COURSE OF LINE

