



EAST LANCASHIRE & CLITHEROE LINE CRPS

Action Plan update

27th January 2022

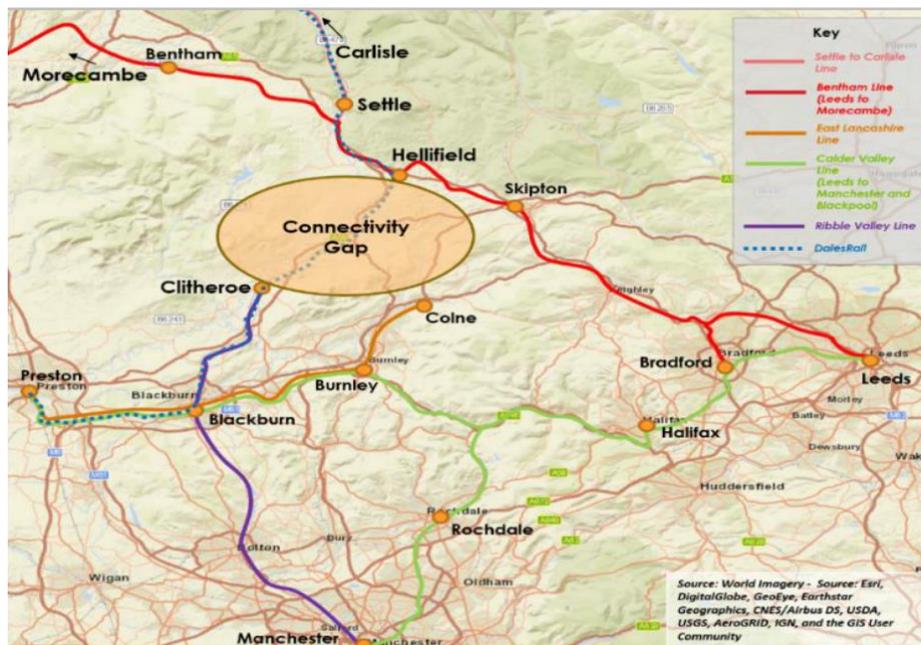
API: CRP Development (CRDS pillars I, 3 & 4)

I. Restoring Your Railway (RJR) (CRDS Pillar 4)

I.1 Clitheroe – Hellifield – Ribble Valley Borough Council

As reported at the CRP meeting on the 22nd April, 2021 the SOBC (Strategic Outline Business Case) has been submitted to the DfT and a decision on whether this will proceed to the next stage of the RJR process is awaited. Below is a link to the CRL news item detailing what has taken place and providing a link to the executive summary of the SOBC:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/restoring-your-railway-clitheroe-to-hellifield/>



I.2 Gannow Junction – Colne: passing loop – Pendle Borough Council

Pendle Borough Council's application to Round 3 of the RJR Ideas Fund for a passing loop between Gannow Jct and Colne along with a more frequent service to Colne was not successful.

2. Accreditation (CRDS requirement)

The re-accreditation meeting took place on the 13th October, 2021 and I delighted to report that CRL and the 4 Lancashire CRPs have been successfully re-accredited for a further year. For more details go to:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/reaccreditation-success-for-2021-22/>

3. ComREG (Northern's Community Rail Executive Group) (CRDS pillar 1)

The CL & EL CRPs regularly update ComREG on the activities of the CRPs. Reports can cover all the good news of which there is plenty as well as any issues that the CRP and/or station partnerships are facing. Richard Watts sits on ComREG as the representative for the Central Area CRPs which includes both our CRPs as well as the adjoining South East Lancashire and the new Calder Valley CRPs.

ComREG met on the 12th January 2022 a verbal report will be given.

4. Calder Valley CRP (CRDS pillar 1)

It is great to see the formation of a new CRP for the Calder Valley line. The following is a link to the recent CRL news item about this:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/calder-valley-crp-job-opportunity/>

Following interviews a CRPO has been appointed and will be taking up post early this year.

5. Education update (see also AP7) (CRDS pillars 2 &3)

See separate report.

Locally CRL is working with Newfield School, CrossHill School, Broadfield School, Padiham Green CoFE Primary School and Nelson & Colne College, see pictures below.



**Students from Nelson & Colne College at Accrington September 2021
finding out about Community Rail**

6. Local Transport Plans (4)

This is covered in the reports from Melanie Taylor and Mike Cliffe.

7. Manchester Recovery Task Force (MRTF) (CRDS pillars 1 & 4)

See AP3

AP2: Funding

Core funding 2021/22:

The East Lancashire and Clitheroe Line CRPs received contributions to its core funding from:

Source	Amount £
Northern	57158
Trans Pennine	5000
Avanti (pro rata)	4238
Total	66396

Other income and projects

The table shows the projects and grants received for the 2021/22 year.

Project	Budget £	Grant £	Outturn £	Notes
Fantastic Plastic at BBN	4000	2500 CRDF	4000	
Dick, Kerr Ladies Film Project Preston Station	8360	8360 Avanti CR Grant		
Preston Station Platforms 3C & 4C	9950	9950 Avanti CR Grant	Expected 9950	Approval awaited from Avanti
DalesRail 2021	1296		1296	
Mini timetables Dec 2021	1014		1014	
AFL station tour films by Huckleberry Films	3290		3290	
AFL Station Tours MCV and BBN	11554	11554 Northern Accessibility Fund	Expected 11554	
AFL Station tour launch	545	545 CRDF		
Amazing Women by Rail Rachel Kay Shuttleworth	9095	4547 CRDF	9095	Expected completion by March 2022
Padiham Greenway trial walk film	900		900	Produced by Huckleberry Films
Darwen Tower walk film Explore Lancashire By Rail	1270	635 CRDF	1270	Pending completion of Tower restoration works
BYM A4A Business Case	2500		2500	Total cost of study £9500
ACR A4A Business Case	11820		11820	LCC contributing 50% of the cost
BYM planters (ARK Plastics)	810		810	LCC contributing 50% of cost
Totals	66,404	38091	66404	

Notes:

CR Community Rail
 CRDF Community Rail Development Fund
 CRN Community Rail Network

The table does not show the costs of maintaining the branded boards, for costs of posters and for maintain the suite of websites/social media channels etc..

Let's Connect the Community

Connecting East Lancashire (CEL), in partnership with Community Rail Lancashire (CRL), have set up a one-off funding stream in order to support local community projects along the East Lancashire and Clitheroe lines. This funding has been provided by Connecting East Lancashire through the Access Fund, a sustainable travel initiative.

Full details and an application form can be found here:

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/news/lets-connect-the-community/>

AP3: Timetable developments (CRDS pillar 4)

I. Manchester Recovery Task Force

CRL and the 4 Lancashire CRPs submitted a response to the MRTF consultation on the proposed timetables for the December 2022. Copies of this can be forwarded on request.

Key points:

Clitheroe Line:

- **Main changes**
- 0652 weekday peak service from Clitheroe to Manchester restored.
- Half hourly weekday Blackburn to Manchester/Rochdale service restored.
- Sundays as now with the additional summer DalesRail and winter Hellifield services.
- **Issues**
- Connections between Preston and stations to Clitheroe worsen due to the retiming of the Preston – Colne service.
- Lack of additional evening peak service from Rochdale/Manchester to Clitheroe.
- No improvement to the last train from Manchester serving Ribble Valley stations.
- Suggested a review of Entwistle as a request stop (it is understood that Entwistle will no longer be a request stop from the start of the May 2022 timetable)

East Lancashire Line (Preston – Colne; Blackpool – York & Blackburn – Kirkby)

- **Main changes**
- On weekdays the ‘Lancashire Triangle’ services are revised with Colne linked to the Ormskirk service in both directions. Preston to Blackpool Sth becomes a standalone service.
- Preston to Colne service substantially retimed and operates at xx24 from Preston returning from Colne at xx52.
- 1714 Preston to Blackburn withdrawn.
- Sundays Preston to Colne remains 2 hourly and is linked to Blackpool Sth service.
- Limited changes to Blackpool North to York and Blackburn to Kirkby via Todmorden Curve services.
- **Issues**
- See above for impact of proposed changes to connections at Blackburn for Ribble Valley stations.
- To compensate for withdrawal of 1714 Preston – Blackburn the 1719 Blackpool – York makes additional calls at Lostock Hall, Bamber Bridge and Mill Hill. Does not call at Pleasington or Cherry Tree. Proposed this should be reviewed to at least accommodate call at Cherry Tree.
- Sunday Preston to Colne remains 2 hourly with no immediate plans to restore the hourly service.

2. Sunday services:

The Sunday Blackpool/Preston to Hellifield winter DalesRail service has had a mixed start with services cancelled. A weekly update is put out on @crl_live to let walkers know if it is running. Thanks to Owain and the team for the weekly update on this.

AP4: DalesRail (Blackpool North to Carlisle) (CRDS pillar 2)

Plans for 2022

- Met with with Owain Roberts and Iain Aldred on the 28th October 2021 to discuss fares for 2022.
- Lancashire Rail Ramblers planning guided walk programme at least 3 per week.
- Dedicated coach links planned on 3 Sundays.
- Full details and updates will be posted on www.dalesrail.com and as news items on the main CRL website.

Plans for 2023

- Expanding the Reach of DalesRail – the Wensleydale & Swaledale link will be progressed with the Dales & Bowland CIC.



Amazing what happens on a guided walk!

Virtual DalesRail.com

See: <https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/tales-from-dalesrail/>

AP5: Station & other developments (CRDS pillar 3)

Preston

Platforms 3C & 4C

As you see from AP3 the Ormskirk service will be permanently linked to the Colne service from December 2022. Northern has confirmed that the service will continue to use platforms 3C & 4C at least until HS2 remodelling of platforms 3 & 4 take out the 2 bays. To improve the environment at this 'lonely' part of the station CRL & Lancashire CC have worked on an application to the Avanti Community Rail fund for the provision of seats, planters and information panels. At the time of writing this report the application to Avanti had been submitted and a decision awaited.

Artwork Update:

A small-scale postcard project is being undertaken by a Supported Internship Student group that works out of County Hall, Preston. A larger project is also being developed to display artwork on Platform 7.

Dick, Kerr Ladies

Work continues on the 'Granny' film to celebrate the Dick, Kerr Ladies. Thanks to Avanti for allowing the film crew to film on the train.

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/news/remembering-a-forgotten-womens-football-team/>

East Lancashire Line:

Blackburn

Shahiesta Raja is working with artist Alastair Nicholson and Newfield School on the 'Fantastic Plastic' project. Artwork on the theme of recycling will shortly be ready to display at the station underneath the banner already displayed on platforms 1 & 2. to find out more view the following link:

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/news/fantastic-recycled-plastic-grant-success/>

Katie Musgrove has been working with Crosshill School and an attractive banner has now been produced ready to go up at the station.



A sneak preview of the artwork being produced by Crosshill School

Church & Oswaldtwistle

The Rotary Club of Church & Oswaldtwistle do a splendid job of looking after their station. The group visit the station most weeks on Saturdays are on the look-out for some new volunteers to

add to the team. CRL has put the word out for the group, see news item, which hopefully will encourage some new volunteers to come forward.

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/new-volunteers-wanted-at-local-station/>

CRL has produced a leaflet for the group to help them recruit new members. It may be a template for similar leaflet for other station groups.



Accrington

Improvements to the ramp to platform 1 are due to take place but as yet no date has been given for when this will start.

LCC is developing a Levelling Up bid which could include a full A4A scheme at the station. The project has been developed from the earlier work commissioned by CRL to look at how access could be improved at the station.

Rose Grove

A short film shows the delights that can be seen by walking along the Padiham Greenway and can be viewed at:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/stations/rose-grove/>

However, no sooner had the film been completed than a key bridge over the River Calder was closed on safety grounds. The Padiham Greenway film has now been updated and can be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYaq8Wisk8E>

CRL/ELCRP is working on a project based around the life of Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth who resided at Gawthorpe Hall, Padiham. The project includes working with Padiham Green CofE Primary School who will learn something about their local history as well as the benefits of rail travel through CRL's Educating the Passengers of the Future programme. More information about the project can be found using the following link:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/rails-to-recovery-rachel-kay-shuttleworth/>



Padiham Green Year 6 pupils visiting Gawthorpe Hall

Burnley Central

CRL is working with a new group of Northern apprentices who started in October and they are planning a community based project based around Burnley Central station.



The apprentices at Burnley Central with Shahiستا and Paul, Karen Bennett is holding the camera!

Brierfield

Thursday 2nd December 2021:

Connecting East Lancashire, in partnership with Community Rail Lancashire, celebrated the improvements made to Brierfield Station. With support from the local community, Pendle Borough Council and Northern, Brierfield Station now showcases an array of local images featuring some of the Hidden Gems to be found in and around Brierfield. There are also images promoting the Pennine

Cycleway which were also unveiled at the special event. Brierfield Children's Allotment, Leeds and Liverpool Canal and Lomeshaye Nature Reserve are just some of the other images brightening up the cycle store and the station.



2nd December, 2021 launch of the revamped cycle shelter at Brierfield

For further details click on the link below:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/connecting-brierfield-launch/>

Burnley Manchester Rd

Progress continues with the extension to the car park being developed by Lancashire County Council. It is anticipated that this will open later this year.

A decision on the Levelling Up application submitted by Burnley BC is expected shortly.

New recycled plastic planters to be installed at the station.

Clitheroe Line

Clitheroe

As previously reported the Chester Avenue P&R is no longer free to rail and bus users. The link to the news item below sets out the new arrangements.

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/clitheroe-station-car-parking/>

Langho

CRL/CLCRP continues to discuss access improvements to the station with Hallam Land who are looking to develop land immediately to the north of the station.

Darwen

Back on Track artwork was installed in June a full report on the project including a best practice paper, project outcomes can be viewed using the link below:

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/news/back-on-track-2020-darwen-artwork-installed/>

Entwistle

The neighbouring South East Lancashire CRP (SELCRP) is working with CRL/CLCRP to look at the feasibility of developing a recreational hub at Entwistle station.

It is understood that Entwistle will no longer be a request stop from the May 2022 timetable change.

AP6 Marketing & Promotion (CRDS pillar 2)

Much has been covered earlier especially in the report on DalesRail but there are other activities as set out below:

Community Rail Week 18th to 24th October

Monday 18th October saw the start of the first national Community Rail Week organised by the Community Rail Network. Events have taken place across Lancashire. In Lancashire CRL joined the Community Rail Network at Manchester Piccadilly with a group of SEND pupils from Bury College for the launch of the week. Local events took place at Burscough Junction on Monday 18th and at St Annes and along the South Fylde Line throughout the week. A special live meeting of the Education Network took place in Newcastle on Thursday 21st October. An event planned with Padiham Green CE Primary School had to be postponed due to the awful weather on Wednesday 20th October. It has now been re-arranged with a provisional date of the 19th January 2022.

Guided walks

The Lancashire Rail Ramblers have started a programme of walks from stations along the East Lancashire and Clitheroe Lines running from the 18th January to 7th June 2022. The programme can be downloaded here: <https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CRL-Guided-Walks-spring-2022.pdf>

Details of other guided and self-guided walks can be viewed here:

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/walks/>

Explore Lancashire By Rail

This is the name being given to a series of mini films describing easy walks that can be reached using our local lines. The first film described the Padiham Greenway, see Rose Grove above for more details, and a further film is currently nearing completion describing a walk between Burscough Junction and Rufford along the Leeds & Liverpool and Rufford Branch canals on the West Lancashire Line. Other films include a walk from Darwen station to Darwen Tower and, to be confirmed, the St Annes Town Trail.

Full details of all the films can be viewed here:

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/lancashire-by-rail/>

Mini timetables

Mini timetables have been produced for the December 2021 timetable changes for the:

- Ribble Valley Line – Manchester – Clitheroe; and
- Blackburn to Manchester/Kirkby - Todmorden curve service along with timetable posters.

In addition timetables have also been produced for the:

- Preston – Ormskirk; and
- The south Fylde Line - Preston – Blackpool south.

Grateful thanks to the volunteers who help distribute the timetables.

CRL website statistics (see appendix A)

CRL Website Statistics Year 2021

Users 26,332

Visits 34,559

Page views 66,739

Top Ten+

1. Home page
2. DalesRail
3. Bentham Line
4. News
5. DalesRail Timetable
6. News/DalesRail 2021
7. DalesRail Walks
8. Walks
9. Clitheroe Line
10. DalesRail Fares
11. Events
12. East Lancs Line
19. West of Lancs Lines

Twitter

Followers 1,049

Tweets 268

Winter Warmers:

Working with Love to Ride CRL has been helping with promoting cycling across the county by displaying posters in its branded boards that encourage people to get involved and with a chance of winning some interesting prizes.

Branded Boards

CRL has 89 branded structures with a total of 242 panels for either poster displays or community use.

AP7: School, college, university & apprentice engagement (CRDS pillars 1, 2, 3 & 4)

This is covered in the attached education update report.

Below is a summary of what we have been doing to develop the Autism friendly Line:



Below is a summary of recent developments:

- Northern Accessibility Fund to create 360 degree tours of Manchester Victoria and Blackburn Stations.
- CRL funding to create walkthrough films of each of the 10 stations on Todmorden Curve – completed with the exception of Todmorden due to works taking place.
- Partner in a ‘Serious Game’ project to create a virtual station environment – funded through the DfT’s A-TRIG (Accessibility - Transport Research & Innovation Grant) programme.
- Collection of interviews with people with lived experience to celebrate Autism Awareness Week.
- CRL is also involved in a further project being funded through the DfT’s FOAK (First of a Kind) scheme.

Recently the project was awarded a CRDF grant details can be viewed here:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/funding-success-for-the-autism-friendly-line/>

COMMUNITY RAIL AWARDS

Thursday 9th December, 2021 was a good night for CRL and the 4 Lancashire CRPs with the following awards achieved:

- First prize in the Involving Children and Young People category for: the Community Rail Education Networks ‘Backtrack – create it, share it, save lives’ anti trespass campaign.
- First prize in the Best Community Engagement project category for ‘100 Women 100 Journeys’
- Second prize in the Involving Diverse Groups category for the ‘Bonded Together with a Prayer Bead’ project.
- Joint third prize in the Community Creative projects and Station Arts category for ‘Along the Line’ (Ramsgreave & Wilpshire station).

For full details of all the entries click on the link below:

<https://communityrail.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2021-Awards-Winners-Booklet-FINAL-FOR-WEB.pdf>

COLLECTORS CORNER

Have you read our Best Practice papers? If not click here

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/best-practice/>

Memorable Journeys – Accrington
Along the Line – Ramsgreave & Wilpshire
Back on Track - Darwen

Have you watched the Let's Connect films produced by Huckleberry Films? If not click here:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/lets-connect/>

Other films to watch:

Padiham Greenway

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/padiham-greenway/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYaq8Wisk8E> (avoids the closed bridge over the River Calder)

Rufford to Burscough Junction along the Leeds and Liverpool & Rufford Branch canals:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8CkGdwUC7KE>

The DalesRail taster can be seen on the homepage of www.dalesrail.com

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/lines/dalesrail/>

The Virtual DalesRail call to action film:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/tales-from-dalesrail/>

By the way its not too late to send in your favourite story, picture or anecdote about DalesRail to communityraillancashire1@gmail.com

West Lancashire Audio Tapes

The audio files are from a project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund around ten years ago for The Lancashire Society called 'The Noise We Mek' which focused on the way people speak around Lancashire. The files remain the copyright of the Lancashire Society and may not be used without permission.

Click on the link below to find out more and to listen to the tapes:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/audio-files/>

Coming soon:

The Clitheroe Line walk from Darwen Station and the South Fylde walk between Lytham and St Annes.



Appendix A

Website performance dashboard

1 Jan 2021 - 31 Dec 2021

Some data in this report may have been removed when a threshold was applied. [Learn more](#)

All Users
100.00% Sessions

Users

26,332
% of Total: 100.00% (26,332)



New Users

26,189
% of Total: 100.00% (26,189)



How many visits this year

34,559
% of Total: 100.00% (34,559)

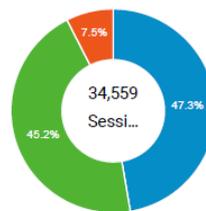


Which City did they come from

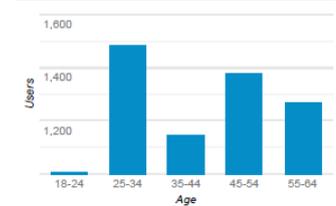
City	Sessions	Pages/Session
London	2,819	1.72
Blackburn	2,572	2.48
Preston	1,911	2.66
Manchester	1,713	2.08
Leeds	819	1.78
Shanghai	665	1.01
Liverpool	656	1.71
Lytham St Annes	619	2.50
Blackpool	605	2.27
Bolton	551	2.03

Desktop or mobile

mobile desktop tablet



Age of visitors



Where did they come from

Source/Medium	Users	Avg. Session Duration
google / organic (direct) / (none)	15,876	00:01:25
m.facebook.com / referral	4,936	00:01:29
google / organic	1,500	00:00:36
baidu / organic	805	00:00:01
bing / organic	684	00:02:26
settle-carlisle.co.uk / referral	435	00:01:32
t.co / referral	359	00:01:12
traffic24.xyz / referral	343	00:01:04
lm.facebook.com / referral	328	00:01:29
bbc.co.uk / referral	215	00:01:41

Most popular news

Page Title	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page
News Community Rail Lancashire	2,652	00:00:21
DalesRail 2021 Community Rail Lancashire	1,491	00:02:36
Skelmersdale To Become Rail Linked Again Community Rail Lancashire	617	00:09:31
Class 769 Driver Training Community Rail Lancashire	374	00:02:11
The Bentham Line – A Public Consultation Community Rail Lancashire	373	00:04:52
Restoring Your Railway – Have Your Say Community Rail Lancashire	204	00:01:59
Rivington Bus Helps Economy Recovery Community Rail Lancashire	196	00:03:26
Restoring Your Railway – Clitheroe To Hellifield Community Rail Lancashire	176	00:03:17
Tales From DalesRail – Graham Nuttall Remembered Community Rail Lancashire	149	00:02:22
Success At The Community Rail Awards 2021 Community Rail Lancashire	146	00:01:27

Top 10 most popular pages

Page	Page Views	Unique Page Views
/	8,494	5,792
/lines/dalesrail/	6,313	4,356
/lines/bentham-line/	2,867	2,277
/news/	2,666	1,895
/dalesrail-timetable/	2,298	1,864
/news/dalesrail-2021/	1,678	1,240
/dalesrail-walks/	1,259	1,041
/walks/	1,143	796
/lines/clitheroe-line/	964	796
/dalesrail-fares/	905	762