

## EAST LANCASHIRE & CLITHEROE LINE CRPS

### Action Plan update 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021

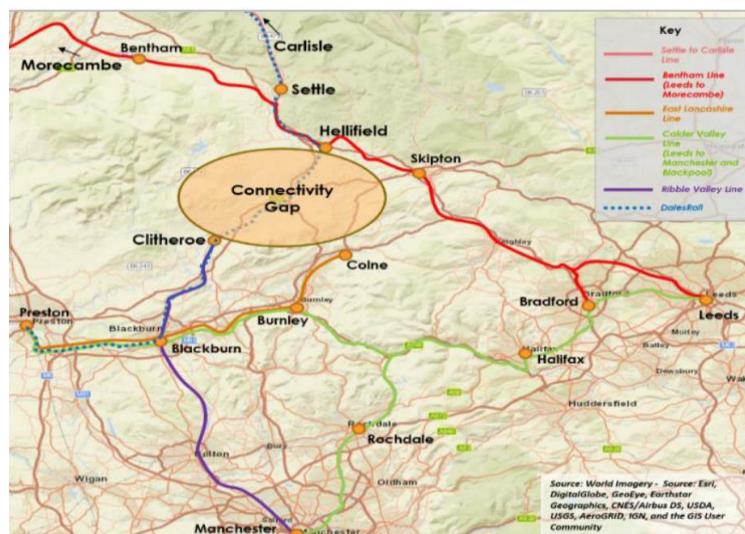
## API: CRP Development (CRDS pillars I, 3 & 4)

### I. Restoring Your Railway (RYR) (CRDS Pillar 4)

#### I.1 Clitheroe – Hellfield – Ribble Valley Borough Council

As reported at the CRP meeting on the 22 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 RYR 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://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/news/restoring-your-railway-clitheroe-to-hellfield/>



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

Pendle Borough Council has submitted an application to the RYR Ideas Fund as part of the DfT's round 3 call for projects. The project seeks to improve the rail service to Pendle through the provision of a passing loop to enable a more frequent service to operate.

A decision on this and all other round 3 applications is expected shortly.

### 2. Accreditation (CRDS requirement)

The accreditation meeting for CRL and the 4 Lancashire CRPs including the CL & EL CRPs took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> October at Burnley Manchester Rd. The meeting was chaired by Martin Clarke from the Community Rail Network. Martin is now drafting a report and will recommend to the DfT

whether or not to reaccredit us. Thanks to all those who helped prepare for the meeting and attended the session.

### **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 CRP and the new Calder Valley CRP.

Seed Corn and station adoption grants are available so make sure you get your bids in. For more information about them use the link below:

[www.northernrailway.co.uk/community/2433-funding](http://www.northernrailway.co.uk/community/2433-funding)

**The next ComREG meeting is taking place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

### **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/>

This item includes details about the post being advertised for a community rail officer as well as a link to more details about the CRP. The CRP is currently being hosted by Rochdale Council.

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

A separate report setting out recent educational engagement activity is being separately circulated.

Locally CRL is working with Newfield School, Cross Hill 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. 100 Women, 100 Journeys. (CRDS pillars 2 & 3)**

As a significant number of women along the East Lancashire and Clitheroe Lines contributed to this project. For more information and to view the book click on the following link:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/100-women-100-journeys/>

## **8. Manchester Recovery Task Force (MRTF) (CRDS pillars 1 & 4)**

CRL on behalf of the 4 Lancashire CRPs submitted a response to the consultation issued by the MRTF. A report detailing the outcome of the consultation was issued by DfT, Network Rail and TfN in September. The response can be viewed at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/timetable-options-to-improve-rail-performance-in-the-north-of-england?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=7750d17e-3dd9-446c-8f8e-726e74d62b19&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/timetable-options-to-improve-rail-performance-in-the-north-of-england?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=7750d17e-3dd9-446c-8f8e-726e74d62b19&utm_content=daily)

Following a considerable amount of political pressure a revised option called Option 3b has been drafted and is likely to be consulted on later this month or early November. The main change affecting the Lancashire CRPs is the proposal to operate Southport services to Manchester Oxford Rd and Stalybridge via Manchester Victoria. CRL will respond to the further public consultation.

Mike Cliffe will be able to provide a further update at the meeting.

## **9. Rochdale to Clitheroe services (CRDS pillar 4)**

One of the most frustrating aspects of the post covid timetable recovery is it's almost total absence on the Clitheroe line. With the exception of one up morning peak service from Clitheroe and one down evening peak hour service to Blackburn the timetable has stuck at the hourly frequency. Efforts to break through this and restore the pre covid service are being made partly through the MRTF process and also separately through TfN/DfT and local MPs.

## **AP2: Funding**

Core funding:

Northern towards the 2 CRPs:	£57,518
TransPennine Express: :	£ 5,000
Avanti West Coast:	£ 4,235

**Other grants:**

### **Community Rail Development Fund:**

Fantastic Plastic	£2,000 (Blackburn station)
Explore Lancashire By Rail	£1,450

### **Avanti Community Rail Fund**

Dick, Kerr Ladies	£18,360 (Preston station)
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## **AP3: Timetable developments (CRDS pillar 4)**

### **1. Manchester Recovery Task Force**

See above API (8).

### **2. Timetable recovery**

See API (9)

### **3. Sunday services:**

Whilst most Sunday services have been restored the pre Covid hourly service between Preston and Colne hasn't been and currently remains 2 hourly.

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)**

**The 2021 DalesRail season has ended and here are the key outputs:**

- 18 services BUT 6 cancelled and 1 affected by engineering works
- Over 1000 passengers
- 42 guided walks led by the Lancashire Rail Ramblers
- Own website: dalesrail.com - updated weekly along with tweets etc
- Brochure & poster produced and distributed by CRL and the Lancashire Rail Ramblers – the brochure had to be reprinted.

**Forward planning:**

- 2022: Expanding the Reach Of DalesRail – the Wensleydale & Swaledale link
- Meeting planned with Owain Roberts and Iain Aldred for the 28<sup>th</sup> October



Amazing what happens on a guided walk!



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

## **AP5: Station & other developments (CRDS pillar 3)**

**Preston**

**Dick, Kerr Ladies**

Avanti has agreed funding towards a film about the Dick, Kerr Ladies, Preston's women's football team formed in 1917 from workers at the Dick, Kerr factory on Strand Road Preston. The football

team raised funds for war veterans, around £2million in today's money. However, once the first world war ended and the soldiers returned, the popular women's professional football was banned in 1921 and it is this anniversary and their achievements that are going to be recognised at a number of events. They include a train trip to the Manchester Football Museum new women's football exhibition and a **Remembrance Day Service at Preston Station between Platforms 3 & 4 on Friday 12th November at 10:45** when the Dick, Kerr Ladies achievements will be shared and passengers/general public are invited to come along to the service. There is a call out for relatives and friends of Dick, Kerr ladies with information and memorabilia to come forward so we can learn more. **If anyone has links to local Preston organisations or families, please contact Caroline Holden at [caroline.holden.crl@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.holden.crl@gmail.com).**

## **East Lancashire Line:**

### **Lostock Hall**

A replacement notice board has been installed following severe damage to the previous one. New recycled plastic planters have been installed along with some colourful 'Welcome to Lostock Hall' running in boards.

### **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://communityraillancashire.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 is currently developing a leaflet for the group to help them recruit new members. It may be a template for similar leaflet for other station groups.



### **Accrington**

The wooden eco shelter at the station has recently been given a make-over which has significantly improved its appearance. It is hoped to get the PVs to work so the shelter has lighting as the dark nights draw closer.



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.

### **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://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/rails-to-recovery-rachel-kay-shuttleworth/>

### **Burnley Central**

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



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

### **Brierfield**

Promoting active travel at Brierfield



**The new look to the cycle shelter at Brierfield**

**Take the train to Brierfield and take a look and the do a walk along the Leeds & Liverpool canal which is only 3 minutes from the station and is well signposted.**

## **Colne**

A new 3 panel branded notice board has been installed at the top of the ramp to the platform

## **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.

## **Clitheroe Line**

### **Clitheroe**

It is sad to note that the free railway P&R in the Chester Avenue car park has now been withdrawn by RVBC. See the link to the news item below:

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

The former Interchange booking & information office is in the process of being transferred from LCC to RVBC.

An additional 3 panel branded notice board has been installed on the Hellifield bound platform.

### **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://communityrailancashire.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.

## **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 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> October. An event planned with Padiham Green CE Primary School had to be postponed due to the awful weather on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October. It has now been re-arranged.



## **Guided walks**

The Lancashire Rail Ramblers have started a programme of walks from stations along the East Lancashire and Clitheroe Lines running from the 9<sup>th</sup> October until the 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2021. The programme can be downloaded here: <https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CRL-Guided-Walks-October-to-December-2021.jpg>.

## **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.

## **Mini timetables**

Having been put on hold during the pandemic it is now possible to restart these with the first being for the Todmorden Curve, South Fylde Line and Preston to Ormskirk services. Others will follow.

## **CRL website statistics**

**Users – 20,955**

**Page Views – 54.425**

Top 10 pages

1. Home
2. DalesRail
3. News
4. DalesRail/Timetable
5. Bentham Line
6. News/DalesRail 2021
7. DalesRail/Walks
8. Walks
9. Dalesrail/Fares
10. Clitheroe Line

## **@crl\_live**

Followers – 1,008

Tweets – 187

Impressions – 264K

## **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.

## **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](http://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](mailto:communityraillancashire1@gmail.com)

### **Coming soon:**

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