



CRL EDUCATION UPDATE

September 2021 to January 2022

4 Year Education Strategic Plan

Review meetings with Carolyn Watson will now take place four times a year involving Karen Bennett & Richard Watts. The group will discuss the 4-year plan and look at which objectives are being met and what additional support NTL can provide CRL to help achieve their goals.

Best Practice Sharing

Education Network

The Community Rail Education Network now meets monthly, and attendees come from all areas of the UK. These include officers, station adopters, chairs, and reps from TOCs and organisations like Network Rail. Over the last period there have been some interesting themes: September: Linked in with Sonya Barlow (Part one), October: A Physical meeting at Safety Works in Newcastle, November: Linked in Part two and a Community Rail Shared Calendar with Julia Singleton-Tasker

Down the Line

The education team is working on a new website and branding to market the education offer. They are currently looking at quotes for building the website.

Ongoing Education Engagement

Northern Apprentices

Karen and Shahiesta welcomed the group to the bunker in September. Since then, the group have looked around Burnley Central Station and the apprentices did some research on Community Rail Projects they thought would work well there. The group have also taken a tour on the West Lancs and South Fylde Lines to see great station work in action.

Education Programme

With restrictions easing, the team are once again continuing with their face-to-face education programme. Shahiesta Raja is engaging with schools in the East Lancashire area with Woodnook Primary visiting the bunker at the end of September. Karen has been visiting some

Primary and PRU (Pupil Referral Unit) schools in the West Yorkshire area. She is specifically focussing on the Bradford Interchange to Leeds route which has seen a spike in trespassing. A number of schools have also taken local rail trips. Rail Safety workshops are also starting to resume face-to-face with SEND groups such as Broadfield Special School, Accrington and Bury College SEND department. Bury SEND students also took part in the Community Rail Week event at Manchester Piccadilly.

Nelson and Colne College

The Business Studies students at the college have been planning events that will take place on the East Lancashire Line in the early part of 2022. There have also been plans made to work with the Northern Apprentices during careers week in December.



Nelson & Colne students at Accrington

Rail Confidence: BSL Supported

With funding from CRN Small Grants, we are celebrating Deaf Awareness Month (September) with three BSL supported rail confidence trips. d/Deaf people's experience of rail travel can be incredibly challenging and, as a result, many people avoid it. We believe rail travel should be for all and are looking at ways in which we can support this community of people. To date two BSL community groups have taken part with a rail trip to York and another to Morecambe. CRL intends to submit a Seedcorn funding application to run further BSL supported rail experience days January - March 2022.

Autism Friendly Line Development

A lot has been taking place to develop the Autism Friendly Line project as the following summarises:

- 1) A local film company (Huckleberry Films) did the filming for our walkthrough station tour films for each of the ten stations along the line. A specific local focus group has been brought together to share their invaluable lived-experience knowledge.

2) CRL is also collaborating with Northern and Chrome Angel Solutions to develop a Virtual Reality Simulation 'Serious Game' that will provide a highly interactive and immersive experience of travel. This is now being reviewed by the focus group participants before a wider group of people are invited to test it. In addition, interviews have been taking place to share the thoughts and feelings of those with lived experience.

3) Granted funds from Northern's Accessibility Fund to create 360-degree digital tours for the start and end of the Autism Friendly Line (Manchester Victoria and Blackburn) that will allow users to explore the specific detailed arrangements of the stations.

4) In conversations with partners to create a Serious Game based around the railway environment. Primarily the game will be used as an early assessment tool to help diagnose symptoms of Autism in young people (as the purpose of the grant funding is to develop digital technology for the health sector to improve mental health outcomes for young people), but this will also build a platform which will be utilised for promoting safe railway travel for young people.

To find out more about the Autism Friendly Line go to:

<http://downtheline.org.uk/projects/autism-friendly-line/>

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/serious-announcement-serious-game/>

Focussed Projects

Backtrack 2021

The competition closed at the end of September. During October the main working party looked through the entries and selected winners. Go Pro Hero 9 bundles have been sent to the 7-11 Winner and the 11-18 Winner. A special experience day is being planned for the award for continued support to the competition. Thoughts will soon be turning to the competition for 2022. Entries still remain low - with 30 however there is thought that next year more will be done with pupils whilst in schools.

For more information about Backtrack go to:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/backtrack-2021-launched/>

100 Women 100 Journeys

Dibond Boards and double royal posters have been finished and are now in the process of being erected at stations in the North. We also have one thousand more books and hundreds of posters to share with schools, community groups and other CRPs.

Mosque Development Project

We are in the process of creating a map and guide to some of the mosques that can be visited along the East Lancashire Line. East Lancashire is a very diverse area in terms of Faith groups and the Muslim communities along the line have had a significant part to play in the

development of the towns in which they live. Mosques are an integral part of life for these communities but are also places of interest for many people. This guide will highlight the mosques that are accessible via rail in Accrington, Brierfield and Blackburn and include some information about Islam and Muslims as well as a guide about what to do when visiting.

Rachel Kay Shuttleworth Project with Padiham Green Primary School.

CRL and the East Lancashire CRP are working with artist, Cath Ford and Huckleberry Films to produce an animation about Rachel Kay Shuttleworth and her textile link to the railway. The Year 6 children from Padiham Green Primary School visited Gawthorpe Hall to experience the life and work of Rachel Kay Shuttleworth and to learn about the types of textiles work she pioneered. They are now in the process of creating various pieces of art using different painting and drawing techniques which will be used by the film makers as part of the animation.



Padiham Green year v6 pupils at work in the classroom (left) and at Gawthorpe Hall (right)

Blackburn Station Subway Art

Arts2Heal is a charity based in Blackburn that works with the local community to help with mental health issues through art therapy. We are working with Arts2Heal to brighten up the subway area at Blackburn Station by designing a piece of art that will aim to make the area feel more welcoming for passengers. Banu Adam and her team of artists have been visiting different stations for inspiration and are in the process of designing an uplifting piece of art.

Women4Women Health and Wellbeing by Rail

A new group of women are learning about the benefits of rail travel on our mental and physical health. Each week we are introducing new local walks and train journeys to a group of women from Accrington and Blackburn, many of whom had never travelled by train. Some of the women in the group have rarely left their homes since the first lockdown and this series of trips is helping them to gain confidence and improve their mental and physical health as well as become more independent.

Dick, Kerr Ladies: Preston Station

During October half term filming took place at Preston Station and on an Avanti West Coast train for the making of a film about one of the Dick, Kerr Ladies football legends, Lizzy Ashcroft. The film is now being edited.

Community Rail Lancashire has been working alongside Avanti West Coast and Railway Chaplin Mike Roberts to arrange a Remembrance Service at Preston Station on Friday 12th November. The Remembrance Service will include a short talk written by Dick, Kerr Ladies historian Gail Newsham and will be attended by representatives from the English Football League, Preston North End, family and friends of the Dick, Kerr Ladies and those involved in the making of the film 'Granny'. Members of the public are also very welcome to attend, and the event has been shared via social media, CRL's website and a poster in the station's waiting room. As well as marking this important moment of reflection, it is hoped that this event will spark an interest in the Dick, Kerr Ladies' significant role in the war effort.

A youth engagement project is now in place for early January. Katie Musgrove, CRL Special Educational Needs Officer, will be working with a group of Supported Internship Students based at County Hall to create a series of postcards about the Dick, Kerr Ladies. The group will be visiting the National Football Museum in Manchester, taking a tour of the Deepdale Stadium, hearing from Gail Newsham and working with a local artist.

To find out more about the Dick, Kerr Ladies' go to:
<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/dick-kerr-ladies/>

Other activities

Community Rail Week 18th to 24th October

For the inaugural community rail week in October, CRL's education team took part in a range of activities:

- Katie Douglas took part in the launch of the week at Manchester Piccadilly station with students from Bury College along with Network Rail, TfN, the Community Rail Network and local CRPs.
- Karen Bennett visited four primary schools and did a segment about sustainable travel.
- The Education Network met in Newcastle to continue the theme of sustainable travel and to check out Safety Works facilities.
- Shahiesta Raja and Caroline Holden took a group of children from Burscough St John's Catholic Primary School to Rufford on the train and then walked along the Rufford Branch and Leeds & Liverpool canal back to Burscough. A memorable day for the children and staff as it rained heavily most of the day but enjoyable nevertheless.



Burscough St John's Catholic Primary School 'Try the Train' and go on a walk
 Launching Community Rail Week on the West Lancashire Line



Karen's visit to Stanningley Primary School on the 18th October

To find out more about CRL's and the West of Lancashire CRPs engagement with Burscough St John's Catholic Primary School click below and read the best practice paper about the 'Positive Train of Thought' project or the film showing the pupils taking part in Community Rail Week.

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Positive-Train-of-Thought-Report.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFJdVp0-eNQ>

Careers Game

The Education Team have begun working on their next joint project. The idea is to create a card game for pupils to play to engage them with rail careers. During the spring of 2022 they will visit different industry employees and interview them about their roles. The game will then be designed and printed onto cards. It will be launched during the summer.

East Region Monthly Meetings

Karen now attends a monthly meeting with other CRP officers in the East organised by Richard Isaac. The meetings give the officers an opportunity to update each other on the projects they

are working on and there will also be opportunities to meet different members of the Northern Business – including the marketing and social media team.

Engineering Virtual Tour

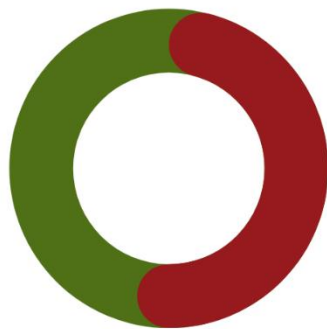
Engineering students at Blackburn college participated in a virtual workshop with Northern engineers who gave them a virtual tour of the depot at Newton Heath and helped them to understand some of the work they do. The students gained a lot from the experience, and many were interested in the apprenticeship schemes offered by Northern. When restrictions are reduced, we hope to be able to take some of the students to the depot.

The Community Rail Network's Impact Tool

On the next page is a sample of the data that has been put into the Impact Tool managed by the Community Rail Network. It is hoped that future reports will include graphs as well.

CRL Education Report

Sept 2021 - November 2021



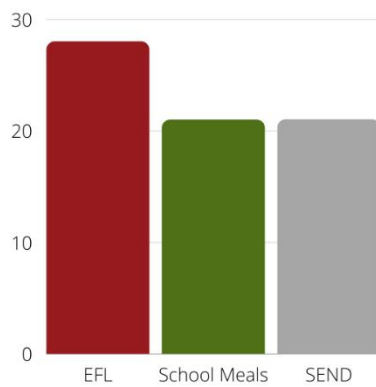
307 MALE

267 FEMALE

Total no. of participants = 574

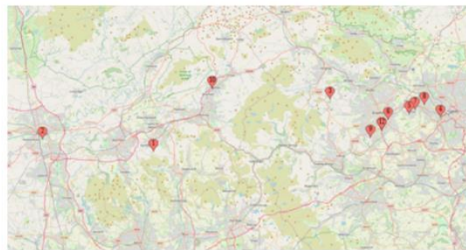
Overall Stats

English as a foreign language,
Free school meals, SEND (%)



Location

of engagement



Means

of engagement

In person