

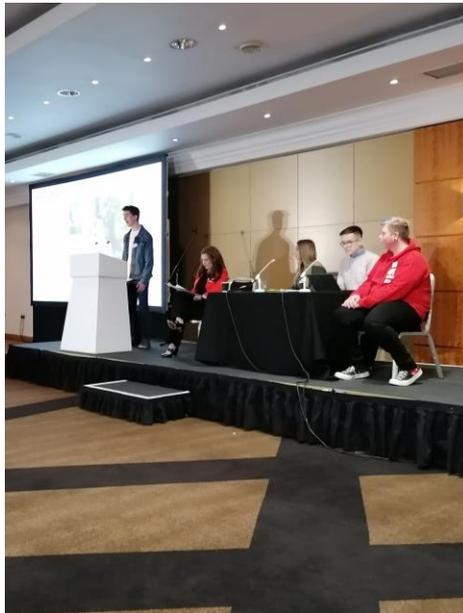


## **EAST LANCASHIRE & CLITHEROE LINE CRPS Action Plan update 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

### **API: Development (CRDS pillars 1 & 3)**

#### **1. DfT & Community Rail Network conference**

The annual DfT & Community Rail Network Conference took place in Nottingham on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March. Presentations were given by Karen Bennett for CRL and the Education Network and Craig Ward for the Lancashire Rail Ramblers on DalesRail.



**DfT & CRN Community Rail Conference**

#### **2. ComREG (Northern's Community Rail Executive Group)**

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. The next meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup> May. Please forward any comments or issues to Richard Watts at [richard.watts.crl@gmail.com](mailto:richard.watts.crl@gmail.com).

#### **3. Calder Valley CRP**

It is great news that the new Calder Valley CRP has appointed Karen Hornby, formerly of Network Rail, as its part time Community Rail Officer. Richard Watts is meeting Karen on the 19<sup>th</sup> April to discuss links between the two partnerships.

#### **4. Local Transport Plans (4)**

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

## AP2: Funding

### Core funding 2022/23:

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

Source	Amount £
Northern	62,006
Trans Pennine	Tbc
Avanti (pro rata)	Tbc
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,006</b>

### Other income and projects

The table shows the projects and grants received for the 2022/23 year.

Project	Budget £	Grant £	Outturn £	Notes

#### 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), set up a one-off funding stream in order to support local community projects along the East Lancashire and Clitheroe lines. It is pleasing to report that 5 groups were awarded grants through this fund including Arts2Heal, Rose Grove Neighbourhood Watch, Burnley Football Club in the Community.

In addition CEL is also supporting a CRL/ELCRP project called '**Lancashire Connects Football Communities**' involving the Blackburn Rovers Community Trust, Blackburn Youth Zone and Preston North End Community Trust.

## AP3: Timetable developments (CRDS pillar 4)

### I. Manchester Recovery Task Force (MRTF)

As reported to the last meeting CRL responded to the consultation by the MRTF to the proposed December 2022 timetables. At the time of writing this no response to the comments has been received.

## 2. Sunday services:

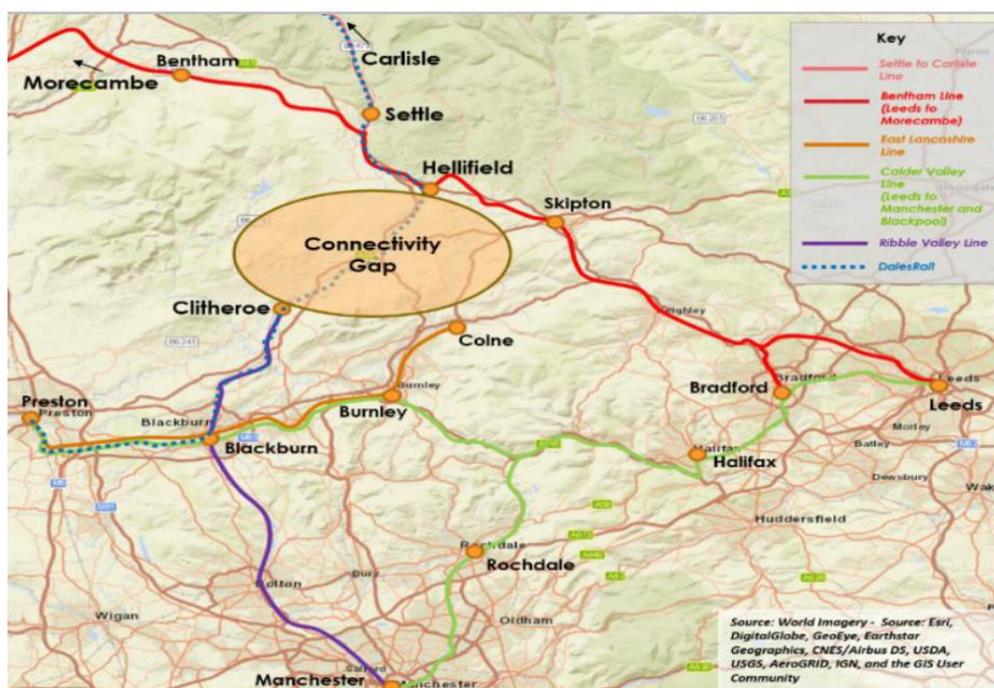
The Sunday Blackpool/Preston to Hellifield winter DalesRail service is having a very mixed season with many services cancelled. A weekly update is put out on @crl\_live and by the Lancashire Rail Ramblers to let walkers know if it is running. Thanks to Owain and the team for the weekly update on this.

## 3. Restoring Your Railway (RYR)

### Clitheroe – Hellifield – Ribble Valley Borough Council

As reported at the CRP meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 still 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/>



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

### DalesRail 2022

Full details about this year's season can be found here:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/lancashire-dalesrail-2022/>

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

There is a comprehensive guided walk programme and also once again some bus links are being provided by the Lancashire Rail Ramblers that extend the reach of DalesRail. Also great news the fares for 2022 have been frozen – many thanks to Northern for this. We hope that this year's season will be less prone to short notice cancellation but with Covid still very much a part of life that cannot be guaranteed.

### 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!



See: <https://communityrailancashire.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 been successful in securing a grant for the provision of seats, planters and information panels for these platforms.

#### 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 the entrance to the station from the Butler Street car park.

#### 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. The film is being launched on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April in London.

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

**East Lancashire Line:  
Blackburn**

Shahiesta Raja worked with artist Alastair Nicholson and Newfield School on the 'Fantastic Plastic' project. The artwork is now on display at the east end of platforms 1 & 2. Big thanks to Euan Hilton and ISS for their help in getting the artwork displayed. To find out more view the following link:

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



**Fantastic Plastic artwork on platforms 1&2.**

Katie Musgrove has been working with Crosshill School to produce the attractive banner welcoming people to Blackburn which can be seen at the east end of platform 4. Take a look the next time you are at or passing through the station.



**Crosshill artwork on display on platform 4.**

**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.



**New planters arrive at Church & Oswaldtwistle and crocus display beside the ramp.**

### **Accrington**

Improvements to the ramp to platform I are scheduled and the first step has been the removal of the trees to make room for the new ramp.

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://communityrailancashire.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>

### **Burnley Central**

CRL is working with a new group of Northern apprentices who started in October 2021 and they are planning a community based project based around Burnley Central station.

### **Brierfield**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March saw a guided cycle ride take place from Brierfield station. Organised by Connecting East Lancashire and Pendle Borough Council the ride attracted 12 riders.



**Ready to go at Brierfield on the guided cycle ride.**

To find out more about this event go to:

<https://communityrailancashire.co.uk/news/pennine-cycleway-map-guided-ride/>

The station is well looked after by the Friends of Pendle Stations.

### **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 have recently been installed at the station.



**One of the new planters at Burnley Man Rd**

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



One of the new 100 Women 100 Journeys panels installed at Clitheroe

### 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.

See also AP6 below 'Explore Lancashire By Rail' for news about our exciting new film.

## 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 23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

The theme for this years Community Rail week is 'Give The Train A Try'. CRL and the 4 Lancashire CRPs have developed plans for the week but we are always on the look out for new ideas and projects that we can help support. Here is what is in the pipeline so far:

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

East Meets West: launch event involving groups of ladies from Accrington, led by Shahiesta Raja, and Bradford, led by Karen Bennett, meeting in Bradford and travelling onto Bingley. The group will be met by Rail Minister Wendy Morton as well as by representatives from the Community Rail Network.

In the afternoon CRL/ELCRP is launching its project about Rachel Kay Shuttleworth with an event involving Padiham Green CE School.

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

CRL is hosting a group from CILT (Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transportation) in Accrington and showcasing what Community Rail does.

### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Launch of the 'Discover the South Fylde Line' leaflet and brochure at St Anne's Station. All about encouraging people to try the train to visit this lovely area of Lancashire.

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

We are planning a Try The Train Trip for a group of school children from Croston to Rufford to then do the walk from the station to Mere Sands Wood. Details to be confirmed.

### **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

Launch of artwork at Garswood Station.  
Guided cycle ride from Brierfield station

Do you have a good idea? If so we would like to hear from you.

### **Guided walks**

The Lancashire Rail Ramblers have started a programme of walks from stations along the East Lancashire and Clitheroe Lines running from the 18<sup>th</sup> January to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The programme can be downloaded here: <https://communityraillancashire.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://communityraillancashire.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. **We have just completed one for the Clitheroe Line describing a walk around Turton/Entwistle Reservoirs** with an option to continue around Wayoh Reservoir. To view the film click on this link:

<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/explore-lancashire-by-rail/>

Full details of all the films can be viewed here:  
<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/lancashire-by-rail/>

CRL has been working with ICG Strategic Marketing Agency to help promote the films and Simon Clarke has become a 'regular' on the programme hosted by Maria Felix Vas. Simon will shortly be recording a walk along the Padiham Greenway.



## **Amazing Women By Rail**

We continue to work with adjoining CRPs to promote this project. To find out more click on the link below:

<https://communityrail Lancashire.co.uk/amazing-women/>

This also has the film produced by Huckleberry Films about **Ethel Carnie Holdsworth** who is one of the women featured in the booklet. Why not watch the film? It tells the remarkable story of Ethel, who was born in Oswaldtwistle, a great author and champion of women's rights as well as highlighting the working conditions in the Mills of the time.

## **Mini timetables**

Mini timetables will be produced for the May 2022 timetable changes::

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

In addition timetables will also be produced for the:

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

Grateful thanks to the volunteers who help distribute the timetables.

## **Branded Boards**

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

## **AP7: Web Development**

Below are the key web site statistics for the main Community Rail Lancashire website.

5,774 users

7,461 visits

14,232 page views

Top 10

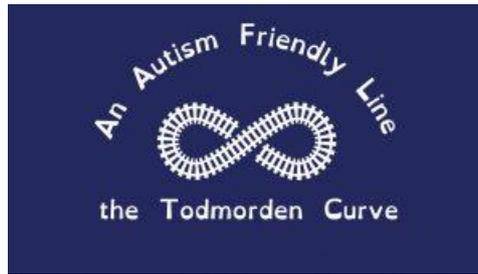
1. Home page
2. DalesRail
3. Bentham Line
4. News
5. Lancashire by Rail
6. Walks
7. News/fantastic-job-opportunity
8. East Lancs Line
9. Clitheroe Line
10. Self guide walks

Full details in appendix I below.

## **AP8 & 9: School, college, university & apprentice engagement & Diversity & Inclusion**

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 has created 10 station walk through films for each of the stations called at by the Blackburn to Manchester Todmorden Curve service.
- 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://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/funding-success-for-the-autism-friendly-line/>

To highlight autism an event was arranged at Todmorden station as part of autism acceptance Week.

See: <https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/autism-acceptance-week-cake/>



**A successful Try the Train Trip for Padiham Green Primary School Head Teacher, Mark Dixon is in the centre.**

## 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)

Entwistle Reservoir Walk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZIajo2idXA>

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)

### 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 to Darwen Tower and the West Pennine Moors.



## Appendix 1: web site statistics:

### Website performance dashboard

1 Jan 2022 - 3 Apr 2022

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

All Users  
100.00% Sessions

#### Users

5,774

% of Total: 100.00% (5,774)



#### New Users

5,655

% of Total: 100.00% (5,655)



#### How many visits this year

7,461

% of Total: 100.00% (7,461)

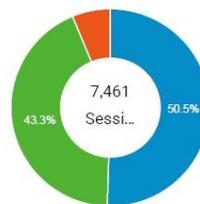


#### Which City did they come from

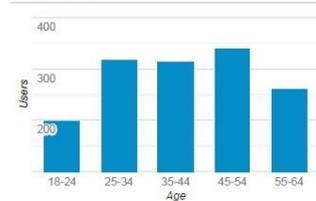
City	Sessions	Pages/Session
London	660	1.58
Preston	417	2.66
Blackburn	407	2.39
Zhengzhou	360	1.00
Lytham St Annes	295	1.95
Manchester	292	1.84
Leeds	251	1.63
Liverpool	180	1.92
Blackpool	146	2.47
Birmingham	119	1.27

#### Desktop or mobile

mobile desktop tablet



#### Age of visitors



#### Where did they come from

Source/Medium	Users	Avg. Session Duration
google / organic	2,979	00:01:33
(direct) / (none)	1,429	00:00:53
m.facebook.com / referral	451	00:00:23
lm.facebook.com / referral	249	00:00:58
bing / organic	192	00:02:25
t.co / referral	95	00:01:10
l.facebook.com / referral	70	00:03:23
discoverfylde.co.uk / referral	69	00:00:49
baidu / organic	32	00:00:00
yahoo / organic	32	00:01:35

#### Most popular news

Page Title	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page
News   Community Rail Lancashire	678	00:00:22
Fantastic Job Opportunity At Community Rail Lancashire   Community Rail Lancashire	286	00:06:19
Clitheroe Station Car Parking   Community Rail Lancashire	89	00:00:49
Let's Connect The Community   Community Rail Lancashire	78	00:02:32
Dales Railcard Winter Offer   Community Rail Lancashire	76	00:01:13
Skelmersdale To Become Rail Linked Again   Community Rail Lancashire	71	00:11:35
Restoring Your Railway – Clitheroe To Hellfield   Community Rail Lancashire	70	00:03:39
Shifting Sands Exhibition   Community Rail Lancashire	65	00:01:32
Engineering Works This Weekend   Community Rail Lancashire	57	00:01:26
Explore Lancashire By Rail   Community Rail Lancashire	57	00:02:45

#### Top 10 most popular pages

Page	Page Views	Unique Page Views
/	1,525	1,227
/lines/dalesrail/	844	607
/lines/bentham-line/	601	496
/news/	494	381
/lancashire-by-rail/	353	294
/walks/	292	228
/news/fantastic-job-opportunity-at-community-rail-lancashire/	232	205
/lines/east-lancashire/	223	192
/lines/clitheroe-line/	215	184
/walks/self-guided-walks/	200	164