

Chair's Report 2023 / 2024



- **This is us!**
- **Church and Oswaldtwistle Railway Station platform artwork**
- **Alastair Nicholson, Rotary Club and Rotakids, Hippings Methodist, St Pauls CE School year 5s**
- **Artwork displaying pupils' favourite local landmarks**
 - **Complementing 268 Begonias in 14 planters**

Steam to Green

- **Accrington Station booking hall artwork**
- **Karen Allerton, Year 8 The Hollins Accrington**
- **Progress of railways over the last 200 years**
 - **Visit to National Railway Museum**
- **Merseyrail Kirkdale Depot – new battery units**



By Train to Clitheroe Castle

- Community Artwork by Gosha Gibek
- Exhibition “On Track - a glimpse into Lancashire’s Railways Past and Present”
- Ran from February 2023 and extended to the end of January 2024
 - Over 20,000 visitors
- Sell out talks inc. Steve Williams “Rails to the Dales”
- Visits by Whistle the Dog in June 2023 handing out prizes



Lets Connect Communities

- 9 projects with community groups across East Lancashire
 - Saliheen Scouts: Sounds of the Railway and camping
 - Brave Church: Young people / families / refugee / asylum seeker community integration
- Chatting Chimmers: Small groups of disabled young people



Integrated Sustainable Travel Grant Awarded



- Promote active travel by walking and cycling
- Linkages between Accrington Bus and Rail stations
 - New highways wayfinding signs
 - New maps at bus and rail stations
- Highlighting routes inc Hyndburn Greenway and Baxenden Trail



Accrington station

- Raising awareness of Accrington as an eco-station
 - Eco-station artwork
 - Prospects group clean-up
- Stations of Welcome: new gardeners introduced from local communities



East Lancashire Rail Studies

- **CRL has provided input into a series of studies focussing on future service uplifts**
 - **Improving rail connectivity across East Lancashire**
- **Future increased demand including housing, employment and education growth**
 - **Operational solutions: resourcing, staff, units and stabling**
 - **Route capacity and infrastructure**
 - **To better inform medium term planning for the railway**
 - **Published December 2023**



Yorkshire Dales Explorer



- The popular DalesRail Sunday service linking Lancashire and the Yorkshire Dales for guided walks was withdrawn in May 2023
- Consultants commissioned by Lancashire County Council and CRL
- Working group set up with LCC, CRL, Northern Trains, North Yorkshire CC and Rail North Partnership
- Options to reinstate the service from Summer 2024

Community Rail Awards 2024

- 2nd Place “Empowering Diverse Groups” East Meets West bringing diverse communities together
- Shortlisted: “Tourism and Leisure” By Train to Clitheroe Castle
- Shortlisted: “Influencing Positive Change and Sustainability” Try the Train with Northern Trains



Thank you



- **Input into re-accreditation process**
 - **All volunteers**
- **Friends of Stations – clean ups / station upkeeps**
 - **Lancashire Rail Ramblers**
 - **Northern Trains**
 - **Network Rail**
 - **CRP officers**

Looking forward into 2024/25

- **Accrington and Church and Oswaldtwistle phase 2: Angie Thompson, Year 5 RotaKids St Andrew's Oswaldtwistle**
 - **Nelson subway artwork**
 - **Burnley Central youth art project**
 - **Ribble Valley Line Guide**
 - **Promotion of services and events**
- **Building on strong passenger growth in East Lancashire**

