

CRL

Community Rail Lancashire



Community Rail
Accredited Partnership
2024-25

East Lancashire & Clitheroe Line CRPs Annual General Meeting Activity Plan Update Thursday 17th April 2025





General updates

- **CRP core funding for 2025/26 received from Northern**
- **CRL Annual Report issued see <https://indd.adobe.com/view/1ba4cb80-13e0-47b2-b01a-d3b96df2e35c>**
- **CRL general leaflet launched see: <https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/community-rail-lancashire-generic-leaflet/>**
- **CRL launches new newsletter see: <https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/community-rail-lancashire-newsletter/>**
- Sophia Sanderson welcomed to the CRL team
- Sonja Gottomer will be working with stations initially in the Hyndburn area
- YDE was second in the Community Rail Awards under the leisure & Tourism category:
- **<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/yorkshire-dales-explorer-takes-silver-place/>**
- **2025 YDE CHECK OUT THE guided walk programme**
- **Saturday 15th March launch of the Picturesque Line project Blackburn Market: see**
- **<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/a-picturesque-railway-journey/> & Best practice paper drafted**
- Community Rail Network agreed to become a charity limited by guarantee at its AGM on the 28th January
- **Stations of Welcome featured on TV see:**
- **<https://communityraillancashire.co.uk/news/stations-of-welcome-featured-on-tv/>**



East Lancashire & Clitheroe Line CRPs updates

Clitheroe Line – A Picturesque Railway Journey:
brings communities together through art and rail travel

Hyndburn Greenway – Through the Seasons
Rotakids - White Ash Specialist School working with local artist
Gosha Gibek.

Padiham Green CE Primary Sch year 4 Railway Project
Visit to Accrington station & taking part in The English Queen pilot

Looking ahead
Sept 25 – April 26 - Tracks of Life
Working on an exhibition at Clitheroe Castle showcasing the
photographs of Ken Roberts

The English Queen pilot sessions
3 schools from East Lancashire taking part
from Nelson, Oswaldtwistle & Padiham a
and Preston schools visiting Accrington
station



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Future Plans

- Saturday 26th April Derek Jennings memorial bench to be unveiled at Brierfield
- Saturday 3rd May walk in the Ribble Valley as part of the FoSCL Ride to Stride Festival
- Saturday 17th May Lancashire Rail Ramblers YDE guided walk programme starts
- Monday 19th to 25th May 2025 Community Rail Week
- Wednesday 21st May Launch of 2 new EcoEscapes itineraries during Community Rail Week
- Tuesday 27th May special station adopters meeting

COMING UP

- Mid September 2025 to April 2026 **Tracks to life** – a special exhibition at Clitheroe Castle linked to Railway 200



Education Team Update



TrainEd

Numbers we've engaged with (excluding FGFT and Try The Train) January – April 2025

Age	Amount
KS1 & Early Years (5-7)	274
KS2 (7-11)	454
KS3 (11-14)	860
KS4/GCSE (14-16)	815
KS5/Post 16	423
18+	189

Male	Female
1545	1669



3,214 in total

29% of pupils FSM

24% of participants EAL



January - April 2025

- Community Rail Awards
- Northern Education Meetings
- Ramadan water handouts at stations
- Hyndburn Greenway Through the Seasons
- 200 Stories of Railway Pride
- Girlguiding badge launch
- World Hijab Day
- Global Rail Pals
- Feel Good Field Trip Parliamentary Reception
- Career fairs
- Rail safety talks/trips

About TrainEd

Our mission is to connect the community to the railway and educate them about safety, careers and sustainability whilst giving them the confidence to travel. We offer fully-costed sessions to schools and community groups across parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire.



The Try The Train project is expanding across the Northern network with CRPs being trained up to deliver the programme for us. 48 groups have been involved in Try The Train with the current funding. Funding from Northern has been confirmed for 25/6 and facilitators are already finding groups to work with.



**83% became
more
confident
planning a
journey**

3 months later most participants tell us they have travelled by train to various different locations across the Northern Network. We have also had some people travelling to London and telling us they have bought a railcard and/or used a ticket vending machine.

Try The Train allows participants to incrementally develop confidence and independence over a sustained programme of journey planning and familiarisation workshops and rail excursions.

**82% can now
take a train
independently**

Number of groups completed	48
Number of people involved	417

Community Rail Lancashire Celebrates Feel Good Field Trips at House of Commons Reception

On Monday 13th January – Community Rail Lancashire marked the success of the Feel Good Field Trips initiative with a special Parliamentary Reception at the House of Commons, hosted by Avanti West Coast. The event brought together colleagues, stakeholders, pupils, teachers, and Community Rail Partnerships along the Avanti West Coast route to celebrate the project's impact.



Feel Good Field Trip facts January 2023 – January 2025

5289 students been on a Feel Good Field Trip

877 staff to support the students

215 trips at **45** different venues

455 Avanti West Coast train journeys

50,000+ miles covered on the WCML



Feel Good Field Trips – East Lancashire Schools

- ▶ 28 trips for Schools along the East Lancashire Line
- ▶ 673 students aged 5-18
- ▶ Trips include visits to Parliament in London, outdoor cooking in the Lake District and theatre trips

'This is such a fantastic project. It is so difficult to find the time and money to get pupils on trips now, but this makes it easy and provides experiences our pupils will remember for the rest of their lives.'

'The way the trip was organised was clear and had a purpose. It was great being able to broaden our student's horizon by showing them how easy it is to get on a train and explore.'



Education at Accrington Eco Station

At Accrington Eco Station we have a resource centre in the 'bunker'

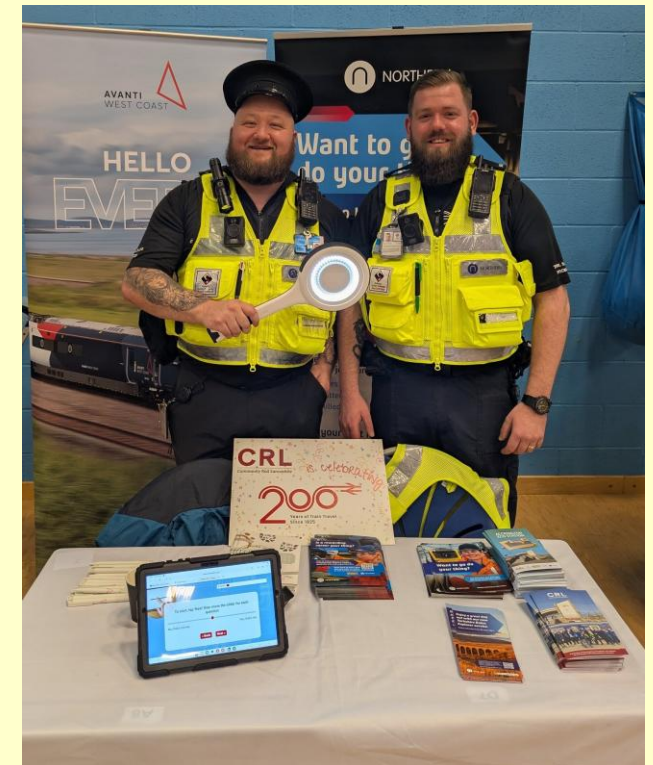
Sessions include:

- Rail Safety
- Careers (dressing up)
- Sustainability (what makes Accrington an eco station)
- History of rail - Steam to Green (Rail 200)
- Gardening



What's coming up?


- Steam to Green – English Queen
- Community Rail Week
- Lancashire Science Festival
- Eco Fest
- Careers development
- Continue to develop the Eco Station
- Work on the Community Garden




TrainEd

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Insights & Events
Ramadan on the Railway!
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Insights & Events
A Trip to Hope – Northern Education Meeting
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Insights & Events
Girlguiding Railway Challenge launched
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Insights & Events
My Whole Self Day – 11th March 2025
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Insights & Events
International rail safety project launched
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Insights & Events
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