

COMMUNITY RAIL

Community Rail Report

2025

E M R

EAST MIDLANDS RAILWAY

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Dear Secretary of State,

Please find enclosed our latest Community Rail Report.

Over the past year, East Midlands Railway (EMR) has continued to demonstrate that the railway is at its strongest when it is rooted in the communities it serves. Community Rail remains central to our purpose, and 2025 has been another strong year in which partnerships, volunteers and shared values have continued to grow in both reach and impact.

Independent research published by Community Rail Network in 2024 shows that Community Rail delivers a substantial return on investment, generating £17.89 of social value for every £1 spent. This value is clearly reflected within our own network.

Since 2023, journeys on EMR Community Rail Partnership routes have increased by 23% over two years, including an 11% year-on-year increase, outperforming national growth of 9%. While it is difficult to attribute growth to a single factor, there is no doubt that the work of our CRPs has played an important role in improving journeys and encouraging rail use.

This year I am especially proud that EMR became the first train operating company in England to achieve the Investing in Volunteers standard. This milestone is far more than an accreditation; it reflects the respect, support and professionalism we extend to the volunteers across our network who give their time to make our stations safer, greener and more welcoming. Their contribution is invaluable, and this award recognises the high standards we hold ourselves to in supporting them.

This commitment runs throughout our Community Rail activity. With twelve active Community Rail Partnerships, a thriving station adoption programme and clear alignment with the Department for Transport's Community Rail Development Strategy, we continue to generate tangible social value across the region. This year alone, the work of our Community Engagement Team delivered £3.2 million in social value.

Our Community Fund has also played a vital role. With a budget of £248,000, we supported a wide range of groups within 15km of the EMR network, alongside our CRPs and station adopters. The volume and diversity of applications demonstrate just how important this fund is. Through match-funding requirements, this investment helped unlock a further £1.7 million for community projects across the network. An incredible figure which really shows the support that is out there in our communities.

2025 also marked a major moment for the industry with Railway 200, celebrating two centuries of railway history and innovation. Our CRPs, station adopters and heritage partners embraced this opportunity with creativity and ambition – from large-scale public art on the Barton–Cleethorpes line to intergenerational theatre, guided walks, heritage interpretation in Derby and Try a Train experiences for hundreds of children and young people.

Together, these achievements reflect the very best of what Community Rail can deliver. They show clearly that Community Rail is central to EMR's values, and I am delighted to share this report celebrating everything our communities, partners and colleagues have achieved together.

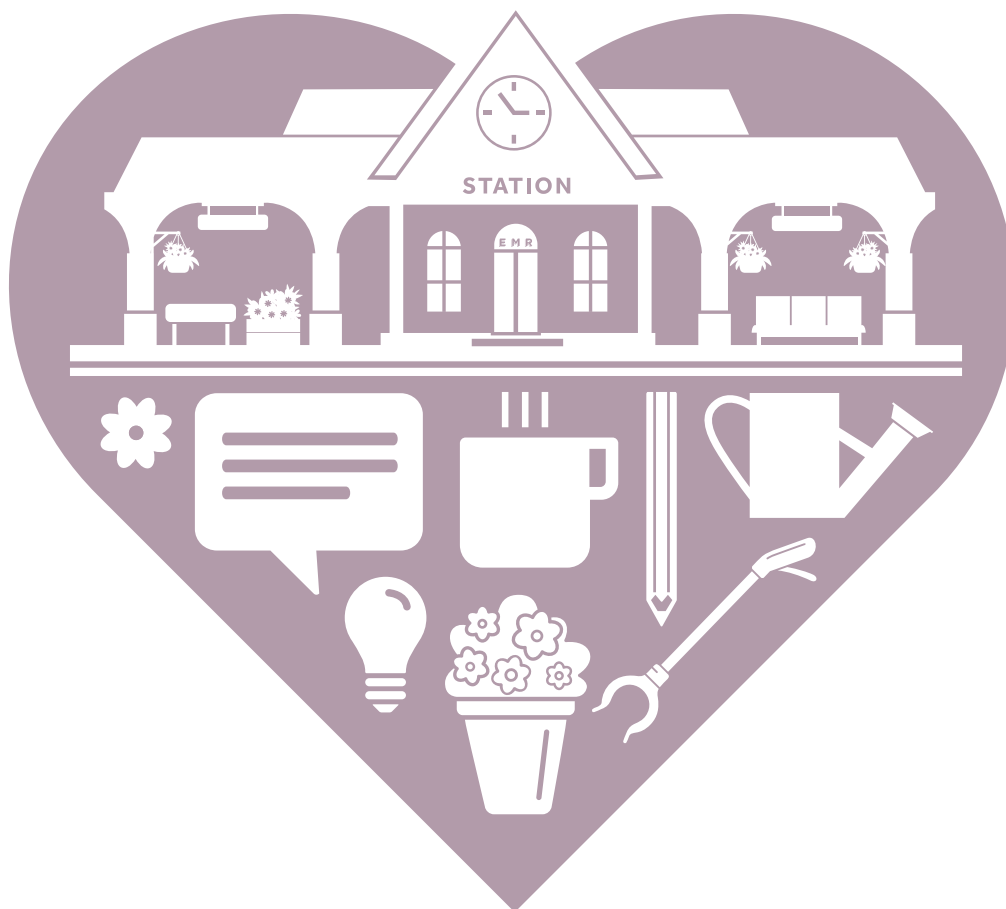
Will Rogers, Managing Director

What our Report Covers

Over the past 12 months, EMR has supported our Community Rail Partnerships, Station Adopters and local communities we serve.

The 2025 report is set out to demonstrate how this has been achieved and how EMR can continue to support, learn and strive to improve our community engagement activity, in line with the DfT's Community Rail Strategy.

- Community Rail Partnerships:
 - Allocating core CRP funding
 - Feedback from our CRPs
 - Community development fund and non-financial support
- Station adoption
- Social value and sustainability
- EMR community rail case studies



Community Rail Partnerships (CRP)

Allocating The Community Rail Partnership Fund

EMR are committed to provide core funding for the twelve current CRPs listed below that are either wholly or partly served by EMR. This is to support the delivery of the Secretary of State's Community Rail Development Strategy.

- North Staffordshire CRP (Derby–Crewe)
- Derwent Valley Line CRP (Derby–Matlock)
- Poacher Line CRP (Nottingham–Skegness)
- North Notts and Lincolnshire CRP (Lincoln, Saxilby, Gainsborough Lea Rd and Market Rasen stations)
- Barton Cleethorpes CRP (Barton–Cleethorpes)
- Robin Hood Line CRP (Nottingham–Worksop)
- Hereward Line CRP (Peterborough–Ely)
- High Peak and Hope Valley CRP (Buxton, Hope Valley and Glossop lines)
- Marston Vale CRP (Bedford–Bletchley)
- Penistone Line Partnership (Sheffield–Huddersfield)
- Beds & Herts CRP (Bedford–St Albans)
- Erewash & Trent CRP (Stations on the Mainline and Nottingham to Derby route)

Since 2023 we have consistently improved journeys on our CRP routes across the business with a 23% increase in two years and 11% YoY v's a national growth of 9%. Additionally, in relation to earnings, CRP routes have grown by 36% in two years, out performing National levels by 5ppts. This is a testament to the impact CRPs have on their communities, the funding mechanism allows CRPs to complete key engagement activities that promote transition to multi modal journey's further supporting the DfT's Community Rail Development Strategy.

EMR have a close relationship with Community Rail Network, working with the area representative, meeting on a quarterly basis, to discuss CRPs and station adoption within the EMR region.

Our relationship with the East Midlands Railway Community Engagement Team builds on firm foundations as we continue to collaborate on supporting the development and impact of community rail across the network. We have jointly discussed the funding of the Community Rail Partnerships and are pleased to see that sufficient account of our views has been taken, with an index lined increase in core funding being provided this year for the CRPs.

Over the last 12 months the increased number of station adoption groups, who are also members of Community Rail Network, shows a strong local focus on connecting communities to the railway and together maximises the groups' funding opportunities. We have been delighted to attend community events with EMR and to speak and exhibit at the 2025 Community Rail Conference linking together Community Rail Network and EMR's activities as set out in the Secretary of State's Community Rail Strategy. This clearly demonstrating EMR's commitment to support of the local, regional and national rail landscape.

Paul Webster, Community Rail Network – Region Support Manager (13/11/2025)

As per the Annual Business Plan submission, the table below sets out our funding plans for core contributions to Community Rail Partnerships:

COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP	2025-26	2026-27*	2027-28*
Derwent Valley Line (Derby – Matlock)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
Poacher Line (Nottingham – Skegness)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
North Nottinghamshire & Lincolnshire (Lincoln, Saxilby, Gainsborough Lea Rd and Market Rasen stations)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
North Staffordshire (Derby – Crewe)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
Barton Cleethorpes (Barton – Cleethorpes)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
Robin Hood Line (Nottingham – Worksop)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
Erewash & Trent CRP (Stations on the Mainline and Nottingham to Derby route)	£27,290	£27,290	£27,290
Penistone Line (Sheffield – Huddersfield)	£7,337	£7,337	£7,337
Marston Vale (Bedford – Bletchley)	£7,337	£7,337	£7,337
High Peak & Hope Valley (Buxton, Hope Valley and Glossop lines)	£7,337	£7,337	£7,337
Hereward (Peterborough – Ely)	£7,337	£7,337	£7,337
Beds & Herts (Bedford – St Albans)	£7,337	£7,337	£7,337

*Non indexed value

Feedback from our CRPs

EMR and the Community Engagement Team, work in close partnership with CRPs to maximise social value impact. The below testimonials from the CRP officers show the collaborative nature of our industry and how the funding supports their initiatives.

BARTON CLEETHORPES CRP

Dawn Branton, Community Rail Partnership Officer

East Midlands Railway (EMR) is a core funder of the Barton Cleethorpes CRP, and their support has been instrumental in enabling us to deliver a wide range of community – focused projects over the past year.

Their funding has directly contributed to:

- *Railway 200: Art Along the Line – the installation of five large hand-painted murals and three weatherproof artworks at stations along the route has become a fantastic talking point, inspiring greater community interest and involvement on the line.*
- *Rail Safety Awareness – EMR's backing made it possible to deliver engaging rail safety talks in local schools, reaching more than 4,000 children, young people, and school staff.*
- *Station Adoption – EMR supported improvements to station gardens, including new planting, planters, and bug houses, enhancing the appearance and biodiversity of our local stations.*
- *Community Involvement – EMR provided complimentary travel for volunteers who supported our on-train community events such as the Santa and Easter Specials, as well as Try the Train Safely sessions, helping children experience rail travel for the first time.*
- *Advocating Community Rail – EMR has installed new notice boards at all stations to help promote our work, and our volunteers now wear EMR designed branded workwear, making them easily recognisable at community events.*

Our partnership with EMR is founded on strong collaboration and shared objectives. Together, we have enhanced awareness of community rail through meaningful engagement with the communities we serve. EMR's ongoing support makes them not only a key funder but also a valued partner, working alongside us to create a positive impact along the Barton to Cleethorpes route.

ROBIN HOOD LINE CRP

Justyna Majer, Community Rail Partnership Officer

As Community Rail Officer for the Robin Hood Line CRP, I'm proud to highlight the invaluable support provided by EMR throughout the year – not only financially, but also through hands-on collaboration with local initiatives. One standout example is the Try a Train programme, which gave children their first experience of rail travel ahead of a rail safety talk. This initiative helped build confidence, awareness, and excitement around train travel, while delivering a measurable social value. For every £1 spent on the project, £6.39 of social value was generated – a meaningful impact for the children.

EMR staff also played a key role in enhancing biodiversity at Hucknall Station, volunteering their time and energy to help transform the site into a greener, more welcoming space. Working alongside station adopters and local partners, they supported the installation of pollinator-friendly planters and native wildflowers, contributing to a station environment that benefits both passengers and wildlife. Their commitment to community and sustainability continues to set a strong example for rail-led regeneration.

HIGH PEAK AND HOPE VALLEY CRP

Helen Wright, Community Rail Partnership Officer

EMR supports our CRP as the Hope Valley line runs into Sheffield station and EMR trains operate from there through to Manchester Piccadilly. With EMR's support we have created the Steel Cotton Rail Trail, a station-to-station walking route from Sheffield station to Manchester Piccadilly which launched at Sheffield station on 27 September. Staff at EMR have been a huge help; Station Manager Esther helped us to organise the launch event, Community Engagement Manager Kaye volunteered to test route sections for us. Sheffield station has proved to be the hub for trail booklets which are flying off the leaflet rack!

Thanks to EMR's support we have promoted rail travel into the Peak District from Sheffield at face-to-face events as well as through our leaflet distributor who stocks up the Sheffield station leaflet rack with our Hope Valley line guides. We have worked with students from Hope Valley College to install their artworks at Hope station, supported Friends of Grindleford station with a newly designed welcome and information poster for the station and supported Friends of Edale with their community-linked Railway200 projects.

We successfully applied to EMR for project funding to work with Sheffield-based Whitworks Adventures in Theatre (WAT) who develop theatre productions with young people based on historical research. EMR have provided funding for the drama project 'I am George Stephenson' to mark Railway200. Graves Youth Theatre is part of the legacy from the EMR funded project 'The Exploits of Ethel' and they have worked with WAT on the new George Stephenson project. The premiere performance of 'I am George Stephenson' took place at Barrow Hill on 12 October and further performances take place in Chesterfield and Hope Valley throughout November.

DERWENT VALLEY LINE CRP

David Clasby, Community Rail Partnership Officer

EMR are fundamental to the success of the Derwent Valley Line (DVL) Community Rail partnership. The funding from EMR is critical but the success is due to the support, advice and expertise that EMR and its key officers bring to work of the DVL. Following a significant gap since the previous rail officer left, I joined the DVL in Spring 2025. Kaye Robinson, Sam Smith and the wider team at EMR have provided essential continuity, knowledge and support which has helped to deliver a positive and successful transition.

Railway 200 has been a big focus with the delivery of a three-day event in Derby to support The Greatest Gathering run by Alstom in the city. All our station adopters have been proactive and working with a local plant nursery delivered stunning displays at their stations. Longer term plans have been developed with EMR and Network Rail looking at improvements to the stations on the line. We have engaged with local attractions and businesses to support economic growth along the line. It has been a delight to deliver this programme, and I am proud to be a part of the EMR family.

EMR Community Fund

With a Community Fund budget of £248,000, EMR has helped support many groups that are within a 15km radius of the EMR network as well as CRPs and station adoption groups. The variety and amount of applications show the importance of having this fund available. Match funding rules enabled the generation of £1,472,272 for these groups across the EMR network.

The below table detail the amount of funding that has been awarded to 104 projects, so far during this financial year 2025/26*. A full list of projects is annexed at the end of this report.

	2025/26	
	EMR FUNDING	THIRD PARTY FUNDING
AVAILABLE FUNDS	£246,875	£1,472,272

*Correct as of 6 December 2025

Stations, Social & Commercial Development Plan

EMR reopened the Stations, Social & Commercial Development Plan (SSCDP) in the 2024/25 financial year and supported 5 projects as detailed in the table below, these were completed by March 2025.

PROJECT	EMR FUNDING
Goxhill Waiting Shelter	£47,220.99
Blythe Bridge bench	£1,620
Wainfleet new Customer Information Screen and water harvesting system	CIS £8,800 and Water Harvesting £3,660
Narborough Station Planters	£3,678.59 for compost and planters
Saxilby Station gate	£1,480
Total	£66,459.58

The SSCDP is a vital part of our commitment to continuously improving our stations for local communities and passengers.

Non-Financial Marketing Support

Throughout the year EMR support CRP and Station Adoption groups with non-financial marketing support, this could be through advice, support with suppliers, designing work.

The in house design team provide a valuable service and projects supported this year include:

- **History boards – Derby, Bottesford**
- **Metheringham station – car park sign and banner**
- **Poppy wreath**
- **Walking maps**
- **CRP leaflet**
- **Key rings**
- **Knotty Line booklets**

CASE STUDY: Railway 200 Derby Station history boards – Derwent Valley line CRP

In August 2025, Alstom in Derby hosted the flagship Railway 200 celebration, 'The Greatest Gathering'. This major national event was expected to attract thousands of rail enthusiasts travelling through Derby Station. With such high footfall anticipated, the Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership (CRP) and the Community Engagement Team identified an opportunity to enhance the station environment and create a legacy.

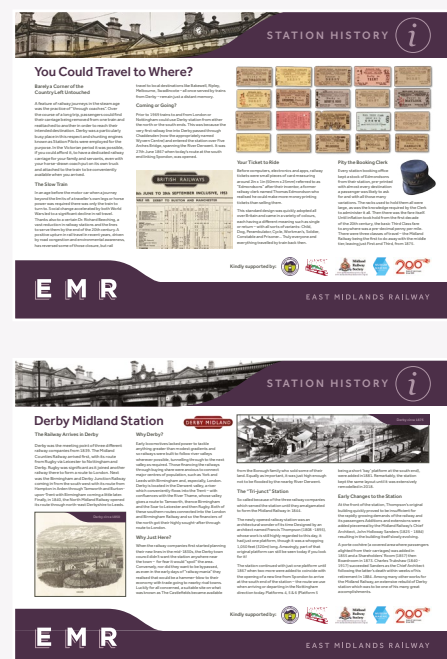
The station's underpass – one of the main thoroughfares for passengers – was functional but visually tired, offering little in terms of engagement or sense of place. The challenge was to transform the underpass into a brighter, more welcoming, and informative space ahead of the event, while keeping costs to a minimum.

The CRP officer proposed a collaborative community project to rejuvenate the underpass and celebrate Derby's railway heritage.

Key actions:

- **Historical Interpretation:**
The DVL officer partnered with a local historian to develop content showcasing the station's rich railway history. This material was used to create a suite of heritage interpretation boards.
- **Professional Design Work:**
EMR's design team produced 10 high-quality history boards, blending accurate historical information with engaging visuals.
- **Community Collaboration:**
 - Station adopters and young people from Engineer Learning were joined by Catherine Atkinson MP and Philippa Creswell, EMRs Customer Experience Director to repaint the underpass. They used the colours of Intercity and Regional trains, adding vibrancy while reflecting Derby's railway identity.
 - EMR technicians installed the heritage boards, ensuring a professional and durable finish.

The project delivered a significantly brighter, more welcoming underpass that now provides permanent historical and educational information for passengers. The enhanced space contributed positively to visitor experience during The Greatest Gathering and continues to do so beyond the event.



EMR Station Adoption Scheme

EMR's Station Adoption Scheme continues to go from strength to strength, with 718 Station Adopters across 101 Stations. Due to the success of the scheme, the Community Engagement Team work closely with station adoption groups at a local level to manage and maintain the number of volunteers registered. This enables a higher standard of care for those taking part in the scheme and ensures the volunteer experience is valuable for individuals. The station adoption scheme is a testament to the hard work of our EMR Community Ambassadors, who ensure the Station Adopters Health and Safety is a priority, and support groups with funding, projects and enhancing their stations.

Due to the amount of Station Adopters now part of the scheme, procedures were reviewed and in 2025 a new database was introduced. This has enabled the Community Engagement team to streamline work, save time and it provides a user friendly solution in order to maintain critical information about the volunteers.

In a milestone EMR is proud of, the company gained the Investing in Volunteers standard in 2025, being the first train operating company in England to achieve this. This award ensures that processes are reviewed, regulated, and excellent standards are maintained when managing volunteers, it also shows to the station adopters that EMR value them and strive to provide the best possible experience for them when they are volunteering.

In October 2025, EMR held the Annual Community Rail and Station Adopters Conference, at the Motorpoint Arena in Nottingham. Over 170 guests from across the network were present for a day of informative speakers, workshops, and networking. Hosted by Simon Pready, Commercial Director, the day started with Will Rogers MD, thanking the adopters for their hard work, and provided industry updates. This was followed by three workshops with a variety of speakers, based around three subjects: EMR's December 2025 timetable change, EMR's collaborative work with The Veterans Charity and Funding.

Each workshop had an informative presentation and our adopters in attendance were tasked with painting a poppy to become part of a larger piece of work with EMR staff members. The individual poppies were shaped into a poppy wreath to create a visual art piece to go up at 25 stations across the EMR network.

After surveying the attendees, some fantastic feedback was received as set out below with a satisfaction rate of 99% for engagement with the team.

COMMENTS:

"The mural artwork on one station was stunning and is helping to prevent anti-social behaviour."

"An excellent idea and one we would probably like to have on our station. The funding presentation gave me ideas we could consider."

"It was all very good, including the bus transfer from and back to the station. Very good venue. Workshops etc well organised. I also found the Business Update session (Will Rogers) useful, even though not specifically about station adoption etc. EMR and its train services make up the context within which station adoption and community rail operates, so it is good to know what is going on and what is planned."

"Great venue. Last year we found workshops that gave case studies a little more useful to our roles. More of this would be good."

"All EMR staff, were very pleasant and ready to lend assistance if needed."



Social Value and Sustainability

Community Rail plays a significant role in EMR's Sustainability Strategy. Using the Rail Social Value Tool, Community Engagement generated £3.2 million in social value for the communities it serves.

The Community Engagement Team works closely with the Environment & Sustainability Manager to enhance biodiversity across the network. In 2025, two station-based biodiversity projects were delivered collaboratively, involving the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Community Rail Partnerships, Station Adopters, and local businesses.

Hucknall Station Biodiversity

Hucknall Station, located in a primarily urban area, was selected for a pilot biodiversity survey by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. Working with the Robin Hood Line CRP and local station adopters, the team installed a seated planter and four parade planters, all filled with sustainable, wildlife-friendly plants.

These additions have brought valuable greenery to the station and will help attract a variety of wildlife. Local station adopters will maintain the planters, and further biodiversity improvements are planned for 2026.

East Midlands Parkway – Nature Recovery Day

East Midlands Parkway Station sits on a large area of wild land, including two ponds. In partnership with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, EMR Green Ambassadors, and East Midlands Airport, a Nature Recovery Day was held to enhance the area for the local wildlife. During the event, 30 bird boxes were installed, three bug hotels and hibernacula/rock trenches for lizards were created, and brambles were cleared to make space for a wildflower area. These improvements enhanced habitats for local wildlife and engaged the community in ongoing biodiversity efforts.



Getting There Greener: Introducing EMR's Social Value Report

Link as follows: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQo2tjzXT8>





Community Rail Case Studies

EMR remain committed to CRPs, Station Adopters and Heritage Railway Lines to provide opportunities that support the DfT's Community Rail Development Strategies (CRDS) 'Four Pillars,' some of these are detailed in the below case studies.

The Community Development Fund has remained open throughout 2025, and EMR are delighted to have been able to support over 104 projects, year to date.

The five case studies below highlight some of the projects that we have been fortunate to fund and support during 2025.

CASE STUDY ONE: Barton–Cleethorpes CRP – Railway 200 Artwork along the line

PARTNERS	Barton–Cleethorpes CRP (BCCRP), EMR and Community Rail Network
FUNDING	EMR £2,950, third party funding £2,950, Total £5,900
DFT CRDS FOUR PILLARS	Providing a community voice, uniting communities, and supporting Diversity, Inclusion, social and economic development.

The CRP identified several stations along the Barton–Cleethorpes route that could benefit from artwork. Many of these stations have large unused spaces that are prone to anti-social behaviour, trespassing, and unfortunately, a higher incidence of suicide. Enhancing these spaces with artwork offered an opportunity to improve both the environment and community engagement.

To mark the Railway 200 anniversary, the BCCRP commissioned Nikita Spires, a local artist, to create five pieces of artwork celebrating the communities, railway, and rich local history that connect them.

The stations involved included:

Stallingborough – Two brick waiting shelters were revitalised with vibrant artwork.

Great Coates – Features a trompe l'œil mural,

recreating the look of the original ticket booth doorway and window.

Cleethorpes – The ticket office now showcases a striking mural depicting the station's platforms by the sea and the trains that served the line over the years.

Grimsby Docks – A large, vivid mural celebrates the town's proud fishing heritage and long-standing relationship with the railway.

New Clee – Installed a replica of the artwork from Cleethorpes ticket office. To extend the project's impact, the CRP also turned each piece of artwork into a postcard set, which was distributed at events throughout the year to celebrate the Railway 200 anniversary and share the story of the stations and their communities.



CASE STUDY TWO: Just Good Friends – Compostable Toilet at Whitwell Station

PARTNERS	Robin Hood Line CRP, Just Good Friends(JGF), East Midlands Railway, Community Rail Network
FUNDING	EMR £1,000, third party funding £1,530, Total £2,530
DFT CRDS FOUR PILLARS	Providing a voice for the community, bringing communities together and supporting Diversity and Inclusion

Just Good Friends had created a fantastic sustainable community garden next to the station in 2024. The garden is open to the whole community and is tended to by adults with learning disabilities. The garden has exceeded expectations in terms of popularity with visitor numbers over 5 times forecasted numbers.

As several events are held at the garden, the group decided it needed a toilet, to keep with the sustainable theme a compostable one was funded and installed. This is a huge benefit to those using the garden and allows users to remain at the garden longer now more appropriate facilities are available.



CASE STUDY THREE: Friends of Metheringham Station – Welcome to Metheringham

PARTNERS	East Midlands Railway, Community Rail Network
FUNDING	EMR £739.95, Total £739.95
DFT CRDS FOUR PILLARS	Providing a voice for the community and bringing communities together

Friends of Metheringham Station identified a problem for rail passengers when entering the car park, there was no clear signage to state they were at Metheringham station or directional signage for the platforms. The station adopters were granted funding to create a 'Welcome to Metheringham' sign, that was placed on three old Network Rail poles as well as a planter underneath it.

The signage included directional information to help customers on arrival. Additionally, after some anti social behaviour a banner was created to show that the station is looked after by volunteers. EMR had tried this approach previously with success.



CASE STUDY FOUR: Hereward CRP – Railway 200 Activities

PARTNERS	Hereward CRP, LNER, EMR, Cross Country Trains, Greater Anglia, Community Rail Network
FUNDING	EMR £2,662.50, third party funding £2,662.50, Total: £5,825
DFT CRDS FOUR PILLARS	Bringing communities together and supporting Diversity and Inclusion, promoting sustainable, accessible and healthy travel

Hereward Line CRP wanted to celebrate Railway 200 by hosting Try a Train, arts and culture along their route.

They identified key groups along the line they wanted to work with as well as supporting their own Marketing and Tourism Strategy for 2025.

With an audience of around 270 people they ran the following events:

Try a train for Damson Dementia Group, Ely Beaver Scouts, March Beaver and Cub Scouts, March Brownies, FACET students and a Young Carers Group.

Guided walks from the mini maps they had created in 2024.

School poetry and Heritage train trip and a 'Memories' train trip which was recorded to capture the journeys on the train as well as creating artwork to install at the three fen stations along the line (Manea, March and Whittlesea).

These events not only encouraged train travel but also allowed the groups to access places they may never have visited before, supported sustainable travel options as well as local heritage organisations.



CASE STUDY FIVE: Great Central Railway – Lift Renewal

PARTNERS	Great Central Railway, East Midlands Railway
FUNDING	EMR £11,780.50, third party funding: £11,780.50, Total cost: £23,561
DFT CRDS FOUR PILLARS	Promoting sustainable, accessible and healthy travel, supporting social and economic development and supporting Diversity and Inclusion.

Loughborough Central station, built in 1899, is constructed over two levels with a very steep staircase providing access from the booking office to the platforms below. Access for the disabled or for those with mobility issues, along with families using pushchairs and prams, is almost impossible without the use of a lift. The current lift had reached the end of its life so a new lift was installed so the heritage rail line could remain accessible for all.

It is also being used by volunteers some of which are elderly and struggle with accessing the platform, the new lift has greatly enhanced the visitor and volunteer experience and is essential for the future of the heritage line, which is the only double track heritage railway in the UK.





The Future of Community Rail in the East Midlands

Once again, this Railway 200 year has highlighted the value of supporting Community Partners, not only in enhancing stations but also in benefiting the communities across the EMR network.

Over the past year, EMR has delivered several exciting developments, including the launch of a new volunteer database, achieving the Investors in Volunteers standard, the introduction of the new Erewash & Trent CRP and a series of fantastic celebrations to mark Railway 200.

EMR remains committed to finding new ways to connect communities with their railways. This includes increasing social value through collaboration with wider community groups, supporting staff volunteering, and engaging young people through educational initiatives that introduce them to rail.

EMR actively use the Rail Social Value Tool to monitor the impact of our engagement activities and commit to expanding its use, ensuring all community engagement work is tracked and evaluated effectively.

We will continue to showcase the outstanding contributions of CRPs and Station Adopters through press coverage and social media, bringing Community Rail to the forefront of the industry. The dedication of volunteers is central to improving stations for passengers, delivering significant impact at minimal cost to the business.

APPENDIX

Appendix A – List of Community Projects funded in 2025/26 financial year.

CRP/COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT NAME
Poacher Line CRP	Wainfleet planters
NNLCRP	Hykeham Arts Project
HPHVCRP	George Stephenson Theatre Project
Rhubarb Farm	Rhubarb Renew
Hereward Line CRP	Railway 200 activities
Poacher Line CRP	Bingham Rail Safety Posters
BCCRP	Stallingborough and Grimsby Docks Art
BCCRP	Train, Paint and Pollinators
RHLCRP	Rail Trails
NSCRP	Reopening Spotters Tea
SENSE adopters	Luggage trolley renovation
Artworks	Artworks together art commission
Lowdham Railway Heritage Trust	History boards
Friends of Metheringham Station	Planter and welcome board
Poacher Line CRP	Skegness Planters
Friends of Metheringham Station	Welcome board
BCCRP	Safety Barrier
BCCRP	Healing planters
Friends of Spalding Station	Artwork for station
Friends of Newark Castle	Car park improvements to green spaces
EVR	Duffield Car Park improvements
BCCRP	Harborough Garden
NSCRP	The Knotty Line Souvenir book
Friends of Burton Joyce and Lowdham	Pens for Newark brake trial
Friends of Burton Joyce and Lowdham	Trip to Lincoln
Beds & Herts CRP	Prepare for Take-Off
BCCRP	Promo Merchandise
Derwent and Wye Valley Railway Trust	Darley Dale planter replacement
Friends of Spalding Station	Feasibility study
Holy Trinity Church with HPHV	George Stephenson museum
NSCRP	Derby Station History boards
CR awards leaflet and promo	All CRPs
NNLCRP	Lincoln Station
RHLCRP	Merchandise
RHLCRP	Creswell Railway Art project
RHLCRP	Bolsover Pride
NSCRP	Painting for Underpass
RHLCRP	Hucknall Station Bio Diversity
Sense adopters	Gardening project
NSCRP	Derby replant
Poacher Line CRP	Netherfield & Carlton History boards
Friends of Lowdham & BJ	Photographic Competition
Poacher Line CRP	Bottesford History Boards

CRP/COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT NAME
High Peak and Hope Valley CRP	Ethels resources
DVLCRP	Matlock soil & membrane
Hereward Line CRP	Tourism and Marketing
Friends of Beeston Station	Drought resistant and Bee Friendly Planting
Market Harborough in Bloom	Sleeper planters
Derwent Valley Line CRP	Leaflet printing and delivery
DVLCRP	Belper Tool Bin
Friends of Spondon Station	Spondon Sleeper bed revival
Barrow on Soar Station adopters	Raised bed and Mosaic revival
Stamford Station adopters	Secure storage
Beds & Herts CRP	Railway 200 commemorative bench
Chesterfield Station Adopters	CRN membership
RHLCRP	Sherwood Observatory visit
Just Good Friends	Compostable Toilet
NNLCRP and Engineered Learning	Table centre pieces
Friends of Burton Joyce and Lowdham	VAT for items
Robin Hood Line CRP	Remembrance posters
Marston Vale CRP	Lidlington Youth Project
Friends of Narborough Station	Self-watering baskets
Melton Mowbray adopters	CRN membership
Market Rasen SAG	Liability insurance
Brightwayz	Harrys Way
Engineered Learning CIC	NEET into the workplace
The Reconnect Education Project CIO	Expanding Horizons project
Gainsborough Men's Shed	Cultivating Community: The Allotment Project
Menphys	The Menphys Hub
Freedom Community Project	St Bernadettes Toilet Block Installation
Helping Kids Achieve	Helping kids achieve in Nottingham
Derby Youth Alliance	On the right track youth mentoring
Derby Kids Camp	Transferable Skills through outdoor learning
Great Central Railway	GCR Loughborough Lift Replacement
Guardian of Strutts	Strutts Community Centre Heating Renewal
SNaP Youth	Youth Work in Huthwaite
Little Miracles	Inclusive Activities for families in Holbeach
University of Derby Theatre LTD	Communities Care Home Roadshow
Over the Wall Camp	Residential Camp for Children with Serious illnesses
The Princess Royal Class Loco Trust	Terminus Park
Deltic Preservation society	Enhancement of DPS museum
Watersafe UK search and rescue	Recruitment 25
West Marsh Development Trust	Food bank
Rebuilding futures alliance	Rebuilding futures alliance
Belvoir Education & Trust	Inspiring children through sport and the UN Global Goals
Lifeworks Staffordshire	Healthy Lives for Autism and ADHD
Charlotte Nursery and Infant school	Community Reading Project
Sequence	The Sisterhood Collective

CRP/COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT NAME
Runspire Nottingham	Volunteer Run Leader Training and Development
Opal Arts and ED	Welcome to Leicester
Acts Trust	Lincoln Foodbank
Boston Indoor Bowls Club	Refurbishment of Kitchen
De Montfort Uni	Autism support fund



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The information in this booklet was correct at the time of creation in December 2025 but may be subject to change without prior notice. East Midlands Railway does not accept liability for any inaccuracy of this information.