



## Lakes Line Community Rail Partnership

In Feb 2006 the Oxenholme to Windermere railway became a Community Rail Partnership. Known as the **Lakes Line**, the Community Rail Partnership seeks to "protect the future sustainability of the route."

The Community Rail Partnership was formed out of the commitment of local people who supported the line, and realised its potential. Among those at the forefront of the development were members of the Lakes Line User Group: "In 2005 the Lakes Line User Group decided to encourage the formation of a Community Rail Partnership which would



involve local businesses, and be able to look at ways of increasing the use of the Line. The CRP is already proving a success in raising awareness about the line and what it offers."

**Dick Smith Lakes Line Rail User Group**

The CRP aims to invigorate the line by seeking to increase passenger numbers, engage the local community, find imaginative ways to work with local business and support the line's long term future.

"The Lakes Line is a valuable asset to the South Lakes. Promoting the line can directly benefit the local community, local business and visitors to the area."

**Emma Aylett Project Officer Lakes Line CRP**

The Lakes Line may only be 10 miles long but ever since it opened in 1847 it has played an important role in the life of South Lakeland. A beautiful journey from Oxenholme towards the Lake District mountains, the line links the destinations of Kendal, Burneside, Staveley and Windermere to the West Coast Mainline.

The Lakes Line provides for many thousands of visitors each year a scenic journey straight to the heart of the Lake District.



The Lakes Line benefits greatly from the major investment made in the line by its rail operator TransPennine Express. This has included the refurbishment of Windermere Station, the installation of CCTV and destination boards, the introduction of the new 185 class trains as well as direct support for local community projects.

*"We believe that this vital rail link delivers real benefit to Windermere and the surrounding area, carrying thousands of British and foreign visitors into the heart of Cumbria every year. This year TransPennine Express has invested in new trains, customer facilities at our stations and the promotion of the Lakes Line through community rail ensuring that the Lake District is more accessible to more people."*

**Edith Rodgers Customer Services Director TransPennine**

- Planned for early 2007
- New Lakes Line website**
- Community projects**
- Sustainable transport conference**
- Information boards**
- Book of walks from the line**

If you have any questions about the Lakes Line or suggestions for its future development contact:

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The Lakes Line Community Rail Partnership is supported by:



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