



# ESK VALLEY RAILWAY

## PASSENGERS' NEWSLETTER

### Autumn 2017

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#### Do you need assistance on-board?

Do you know about BlueAssist? Blue Assist is a simple way of asking for assistance, for people who have difficulty communicating.

Northern have joined BlueAssist in trying to make travel easier for those who need it. All you have to do is write out a card with your question or request and present it to a member of our staff, who will be happy to help.



You can download a [BlueAssist template here.](#)

[Find out more about Blue Assist >>](#)

#### Green Sunday, 15th October

To celebrate and promote the **un-interrupted year round Sunday Service**, we are running a "Green Sunday" event at Whitby Station on Sunday 15th October, 12:30 to 15:30.



The event is being run by **Moor Sustainable**, a local Community Interest Company, who will also be looking at the positive impacts of rail travel and other green modes of transport.



Local businesses with a green motive are welcome to get in touch and provide promotional material. Contact [trythetrain@es山谷railway.co.uk](mailto:trythetrain@es山谷railway.co.uk).

There will be a prize draw for **free Northern Tickets** on the day so come along and find out more. You can find out more about Green travel on our ["Go Green" web-page.](#)

[Go Green on the Esk Valley Railway >>](#)

#### Whitby Goth Weekend

There will be a **Late Friday Train** for the start of Goth weekend. Running on Friday 27th October there will be a train down from Middlesbrough leaving at 20:49 and one going back from Whitby at 22:25.

#### Travel contacts

##### TrainTracker

National Rail Enquiries  
0871 200 49 50

##### Esk Valley live arrival and departure times for all stations

[Visit mobile-friendly webpage](#)

##### Traveline

0871 200 22 33  
Daily 7am to 9pm

##### North Yorkshire Public Transport Information

[Visit webpage](#)

##### Connect Tees Valley

[Visit webpage](#)

#### Twitter



[Follow EVRDC on Twitter](#) to keep up to date with the Esk Valley Railway and find out about events along the line.

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This e-newsletter is sponsored by the Association of Community Rail Partnerships



[More about Whitby Goth Weekend >>](#)

## MusicPort

Come to Whitby for the week-end to enjoy the annual feast of international and local music.

Starts **Friday 20th October** so catch the 17:40 from Middlesbrough on Friday and stay the week-end or come for one of the day sessions.



MusicPort is also heading out into the surrounding Villages on 23rd to 25th October with performances at Lythe (Bus X4), Goathland , Danby Moors Centre (12:15 Train from Whitby, plus a walk), Boggle Hole (Bus X93 & a walk), Robin Hoods Bay (X93) , Hinderwell (Bus X4), Staithes (Bus X4), Saltburn (Bus X4). For all the details see [Music Port On Tour page](#).

[Visit MusicPort Festival website >>](#)

## Customer Feedback

Thank you to Philip Dennett who sent us this photo and said 'I would like you to pass on my thanks to one of your conductors for making a trip on your Esk valley line such a pleasure.' It is so nice to get positive feedback which we are always delighted to receive.



## Music Train

The relaunch of the Music and Ale Train this summer proved a huge success. From the start there was good support and week by week we were able to build on this.

Thanks must go to Andrew Waller of the **Station Inn, Whitby** who provided a 'pop-up' bar specially for the train which was a huge improvement. He served real ales from **Whitby Brewery** along with some good quality wines and soft drinks.

The music proved very popular and turned out to



be a pleasant surprise for some that were just catching the train! Thanks must also go to **Northern** and **NYMR** who, along with the **Station Inn**, funded the music. Our first joint venture and the start of many more to come between North York Moors Railway and Esk Valley Community Rail Partnership.

[Visit the Station Inn website >>](#)

## Rural Shows

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This year Esk Valley Railway had stands at Danby and Egton shows as usual but also added Castleton Show, and all were a great success. The shows were well attended though sadly Egton did suffer from some dreadful weather. We all felt that we had positive feedback from people and that everyone we spoke to was really interested in the improvements that are being made both to the service and the stations. Next year we hope to have stands at a several more shows along the line

[Visit the Events page >>](#)

## Pigeon Netting

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Delighted to say that the netting is now complete and Whitby Station is looking much better. Some of the pigeons have unfortunately relocated to just outside the Station but we are now working on getting some additional spikes installed to help with that problem.

[More about Whitby station >>](#)

## 2018 Calendar

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Many thanks to those who have submitted pictures for possible use. However, due to a high workload at present, we have decided to postpone the calendar idea until next year (i.e. for 2019). This will give everyone a far better opportunity to go out and take photos throughout the year to enter the competition for a 2019 Calendar. We will keep those already submitted for 2019.

## Along the Line – News & Events

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### Egton Station

Lots of work has gone into re-painting borders and the “Egton” bench sign along with re-designed flower beds which have been re-planted to represent a rural branch line station in the early 1900s.

### Lealholm Station

The Friends of Lealholm Station Group took delivery of six new wooden flower tubs to replace the life expired ones which were past best and succeeded in securing a modest grant from Northern to plant these and the station borders with summer bedding plants. This has added some colour to the station which is the gateway to what is arguably the prettiest village in the Esk valley. The group has received many positive comments from passengers awaiting their trains, many of whom take photographs of the station.

### Danby



Danby Moors Centre: To find out what events and exhibitions are coming up, visit the [Inspired by Gallery web page](#).

#### Commondale Station

Commondale Station Adopters have been shortlisted for an **Association of Community Rail Partnerships (ACoRP) award** for their work. It is under the 'Involving Children and Young People' Category – Sponsored by Rail Media and is titled 'Beyond Boundaries North Yorkshire – Making Commondale Station the Heart of the Community'. We wish them every success for all their hard work. **Beyond Boundaries** provide inclusive activities ranging from archaeology to volleyball. We will find out on 5th October how the awards ceremony went for them.

#### Kidale Station



Here, the station adopters have been busy tidying up, cutting back branches, putting in new planters and keeping the platform looking clean and smart. If anyone has any spare plants, please get in touch as they would like to plant more. Contact [trythetrain@eskvalleyrailway.co.uk](mailto:trythetrain@eskvalleyrailway.co.uk)

#### Great Ayton Station

There is now additional parking and an improved picnic area, which is being well used. In the coming year, better cycle facilities and a new shelter are also planned.

**To all our volunteers out there keeping the stations tidy and letting us know of any problems, thank you for your support and hard work.**

[View the Along the Line map >>](#)

#### What's on along the line?

*If you are planning an event anywhere along the Esk Valley line tell us about it and we will publicise it. We will be running bi-monthly newsletters to be published at the beginning of Oct, Dec, Feb, April etc. Deadline for copy, by 20th of each month prior to publication.*

*Email us on [trythetrain@eskvalleyrailway.co.uk](mailto:trythetrain@eskvalleyrailway.co.uk) or send us a tweet to [@EVRDC](https://twitter.com/EVRDC).*

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Visit [www.eskvalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.eskvalleyrailway.co.uk) for inspiration about days out and practical information to help you plan your journey.



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