

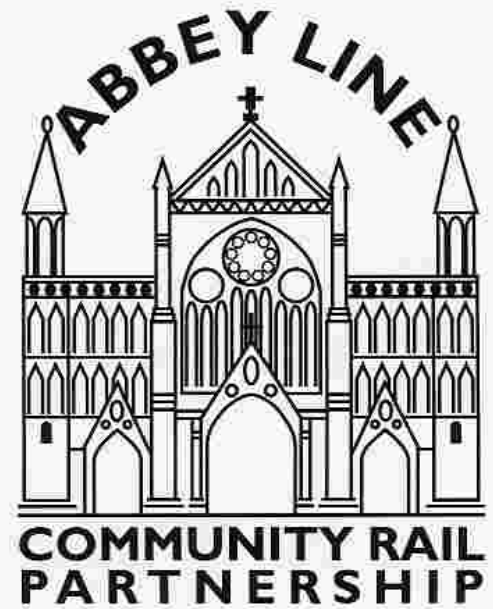
# ABBNEY LINE

## Community Partnership Newsletter

Issue Number 1 - April 2006

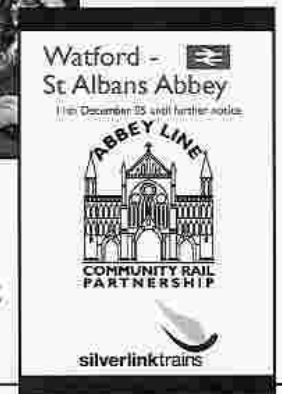
*The Abbey Line Community Rail Partnership (CRP) was launched in June 05. It aims to bring together a range of people from the local community, businesses, local government and the railway. The overall objective is to secure the long term future of the Abbey Line railway by a number of positive measures to increase passenger numbers and community involvement.*

*The CRP is supported by a part time Community Rail Partnership Officer - Maria Cutler.*



## Achievements of the CRP to date include:

- Installation of new pedestrian and cycle signage near Watford North, and Garston Stations, other signs are soon to be installed in the St Albans area.
- Resurfacing of the pavement at Abbey Station
- Re-surfacing of the footpath at Garston Station
- Production of a pocket size Abbey Line timetable
- Community Notice Boards at Stations
- Santa Special Train
- Station Adoption at Watford North Station. A group of local people in North Watford have become the eyes and ears of their local station. It is hoped that this will be rolled out to other stations soon.



## Networking and working with others is key to the success of the CRP

Throughout 2005/06, the CRP has made substantial links with:

- Local primary schools - to date the CRP has made links with How Wood School in Bricket Wood and Berrygrove School in Garston. Children from How Wood Nursery and Reception class have already enjoyed a trip on the train and older pupils at Berrygrove have taken part in the production of an Abbey Line film for schools which will be released shortly.
- Community Safety Partnerships in both the St Albans and Watford areas. The aim here is to co-ordinate with the British Transport Police on minor/low level vandalism issues and help alleviate fear of crime on the railway.
- Local businesses - the CRP aims to encourage more workers to use the line as a means of travel to work.
- Local Residents' Associations and Community groups - the CRP is urging them to get more involved with their local station.

## Plans for the next few months include:



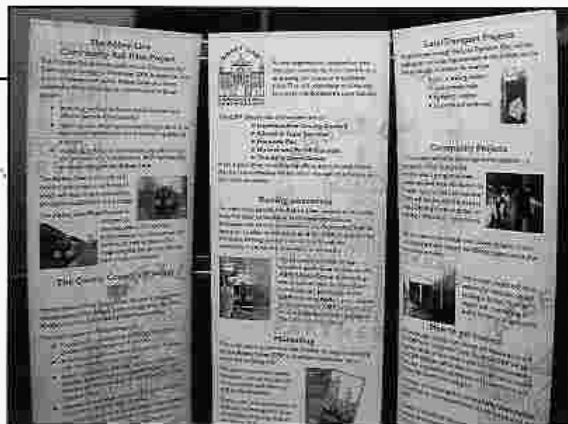
- Easter Eggspress - Easter Bunny on Train -Saturday 15th April - with "bunny hop on the bus" at Watford Junction and a Vintage Bus at Abbey Station.
- Community Rail Day - 20th May - on this date we will launch an events list covering "A Summer of Fun on the Abbey Line".
- Small scale environmental improvements at the Station along the route involving Herts Probation Service - watch this space ....
- Results of Crime Prevention Survey for the Line.
- School trip via the Abbey Line to Bletchley Park (other schools outings can be arranged through Maria).
- Display of children's train artwork at the stations.

**ABFLY** - the rail users group have their AGM on Thursday 20th April 2006 at St Stephen's Parish Centre at 7.30pm. Please let John Webster (ABFLY Chair) know if you would like to attend via email on [john.w.webster@ntlworld.com](mailto:john.w.webster@ntlworld.com) or telephone **01727 752613**.



## CRP Roadshow

The CRP has a roadshow which can be displayed at many venues. If your organisation would like to have access to this display, please let Maria know.



**If you have any questions about the CRP, want to get involved in any local project or have any ideas, please contact:**

**Maria Cutler**

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