**Press release**

**From [name of CRP or group] | [insert contact email address & phone number]**

**[insert region/county e.g. Yorkshire] community group joins national campaign celebrating 200 years of connecting communities by train**

[insert name of CRP or group] unites with communities across Britain to celebrate 200 years of passenger rail travel, as the national Railway 200 campaign launches.

[Name of CRP/group] will be [add details of CRP/group activity].

The [event/promotion/activity delete as necessary] is part of the nationwide Railway 200 campaign, bringing together the rail industry and its partners to deliver a year-long programme of activity, celebrating 200 years of the modern railway.

Throughout 2025, hundreds of events and activities are being held across Britain to commemorate rail’s remarkable past, its role today, and its importance to a sustainable future. The national Railway 200 campaign aims to leave a legacy beyond 2025 by supporting and enhancing the industry’s efforts to close the skills gap by offering more opportunities for young people to learn about the wide variety of careers the industry has to offer.

[Name of CRP/group] is part of community rail, a grassroots national movement supported by hundreds of community partnerships, groups and volunteers to improve travel confidence, increase access to opportunities, tackle social isolation, give communities a voice, and put railways and stations at the heart of community life, while supporting a shift to sustainable, more social forms of travel, including rail.

**[name of representative] from [name of partnership/group] said: “**[insert quote]**”**

**Community Rail Network, Director of communications and policy, Sarah Chilton said:** “Railway 200 is about bringing people together and empowering new generations. Community rail has an inspiring track record of connecting communities ensuring railways and stations are at the heart of community life. That’s why we’re delighted to see [insert CRP/group name] getting involved in this once-in-a-generation celebration and can’t wait to see what the rest of 2025 has to offer.

**Railway 200, Project manager, Emma Robertson said: *“***From the cradle of the modern railway in North East England, Britain gave birth to a phenomenon that was to change the world forever. The impact of the railways on our lives and livelihoods is akin to the invention of the internet. Both were and are transformative, connecting and creating communities, and changing our lives for the better.

Railway 200 is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shout long, loud and proud about rail’s many achievements and exciting plans for the future. 2025 promises to be an exciting and memorable one. Our partners, inside and outside the industry, have a great programme of events and activities lined up. We look forward to everyone being part of Railway 200 and celebrating the remarkable contribution of this amazing industry and the brilliant people who make great things happen.”

***ENDS***

For further details, images, comments, and interviews, and to attend the [insert name of event if applicable] contact [insert contact details for media enquiries].

**Notes to editors:**

1. Community rail is a grassroots movement spanning Britain that is made up of community rail partnerships, which work along railway lines or across regions, and volunteer station ‘friends’ groups, to connect communities with their railways. There are over 75 community rail partnerships and 1,300 station friends volunteer groups across Britain [www.communityrail.org.uk](http://www.communityrail.org.uk)

2. [Insert basic information about your partnership/group here to give extra background information that editors may need]