

# THE Riviera Edition

The Cornwall Rail Forum - on the right lines

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How to contact us:

Cornwall Rail Forum

Planning, Transportation and Estates

Cornwall County Council

County Hall

Truro

Cornwall TR1 3AY

Email enquiries@cornwall.gov.uk

## Cornwall Rail Forum

The Riviera Edition is a publication of the Cornwall Rail Forum (CRF), a strategic partnership group, led by Cornwall County Council.

The principal aims of the CRF are to:

- Provide advice on strategic rail issues relevant to Cornwall.
- Maximise investment in the local rail network through the 'Riviera Project'
- Optimise transport integration with the rail network through innovative thinking.

Partner organisations are shown on page 6 at the end of this newsletter.



## Riviera Project - What is it?

The Riviera Project is an initiative for the upgrading and improvement of rail and public transport interchange facilities throughout the Cornish rail network. The programme stems from the findings of a study commissioned in 1997 by the Cornwall Rail Forum, which included a comprehensive survey and investigation at all Cornish stations.

The outcome will be a safer and more attractive experience for rail passengers.

The underlying aims of the Project are to:

- Assist economic regeneration
- Further local transport objectives
- Help promote sustainable travel



## Awards

Two of our station projects were nominated and shortlisted for awards during 2003.

### Redruth Station

- National Railway Heritage Awards Finalist
- Cornish Buildings Group Annual Awards Finalist

### Bodmin Parkway Station

- National Integrated Transport Awards 2003 Finalist
- National Rail Awards - Small Station of the Year Finalist



# Jobs Done! - Roundup of Riviera Project Work

As well as delivering some of the more routine projects, two major public transport interchange schemes have been completed in the past year.

## Penzance Public Transport Interchange

Penzance station provides important links between bus, rail, taxis, cars, pedestrians, cyclists and air and sea connections.

The recently completed scheme includes:

- Improved pedestrian areas, fencing and crossings
- Additional lighting
- Remodelling of the bus station
- Provision for cycles, motorcycles, and disabled drivers
- General upgrade and balancing of space for all users
- Signage and information



- Redesign of car parking and entrances for improved safety
- Enhanced CCTV coverage for personal safety and security
- Enhanced planting schemes
- Upgrading and refurbishment of the station toilets
- Elements of public art resulting in a high quality and pleasing layout



The scheme was managed by Penwith District Council and is one of the first transport schemes in the County to include public art.

## Perranwell Station

In conjunction with a local community initiative, which has provided a footpath to connect the rail station with the village, two bus shelters - one of which is solar powered - have been provided at the station entrance. The result is improved comfort and safety at this bus/rail interchange location.

## St Columb Road Station

St Columb Road station has lacked investment for some years and has been looking a bit sorry for itself. It is now in line for much needed refurbishment and this is well underway.

Improvements include:

- New shelter
- Signing
- New lighting
- New fencing
- Seating
- Landscaping
- Resurfaced car park & footpaths

## Bodmin Parkway Station Improvements

Work on the Bodmin Parkway interchange improvement was completed early in 2003. The project has attracted national interest and was shortlisted in the 'National Transport Integration Awards' and 'National Rail Awards - Small Station of the Year' competitions.

The project included:

- Improved traffic management and safety measures
- Upgraded and resurfaced access road
- New car park, lighting and drainage
- CCTV for improved protection and security
- Improved disabled access and facilities
- New toilets
- Information and signing improvements
- Landscaping
- New benches and seating
- Platform and fencing renewal
- Facilities for cyclists and motorcyclists
- New shelter and information for bus users
- Upgrade of the ticket office



This work has radically improved the station which previously had a muddy, potholed car park which regularly suffered from crime. The customer facilities were also below par.

The project complements the bus infrastructure improvements which have been made along the Bodmin Parkway to Wadebridge/Padstow route. The bus service has real-time information and links to demand-responsive services.

## Hayle

Station improvements are currently underway at Hayle station, including:

- Refurbished shelters
- New fencing
- Signing
- Landscaping



## Seeing the Light!

After considerable effort over a number of years, platform lighting has been provided at St. Keyne, Causeland, Sandplace & Luxulyan stations.

At long last trains will now be able to stop during darkness hours and this will be reflected in future winter rail timetables.



## What Investment Has Been Achieved by the Riviera Project So Far?

The Riviera Project continues to be the main catalyst for ongoing investment in the County's rail station network. Enhancement work, amounting to nearly £4 million, has now been achieved since the project commenced in the late 1990's, and the programme is set to continue into the new LTP period up to 2011. Funding has been provided for this vital work from a wide range of committed partners.

Project	£'000s
Leaflet Dispensers	40
Branch line Traffic Signs	94
Falmouth Branch line Stations	271
Newquay Branch line Stations	383
Tamar Valley Line Stations	286
Looe Valley Line Stations	132
St Ives Branch line Stations	233
Liskeard Station Phase 1	235
Redruth Phase 1 - Platform 3	360
Redruth Phase 2 - Platform 1	276
Bodmin Parkway	700
Camborne Shelters	50
Station Lighting	85
Penzance Public Transport Interchange	750
Hayle Station	25
<b>Total Invested to Date</b>	<b>£3,920</b>

## Forthcoming Projects

### Liskeard Station - Project Underway!

After much delay, we are very pleased to announce that contractors, Midas Construction, commenced work on site during February 2004.

Elements of this major interchange project include:

- A redesigned main building with new toilets, café area, ticket windows, viewing platform, waiting area and a new canopy.
- Refurbished Looe platform building with a new information centre, waiting area, toilets and refreshment facility.
- Bus shelter, bus boarder, and pedestrian links on Station Road
- A new downside platform shelter
- CCTV coverage

The project is valued at over £800,000 and has been made possible by a variety of funding organisations, including Cornwall County Council, Strategic Rail Authority, Objective One, Railway Heritage Trust, Wessex Trains, Network Rail, Caradon District Council, Liskeard Town Council and the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership.

### Looe

Some refurbishment work has already been completed at the station. An opportunity has now arisen for the setting up of a tourism ticket sales office within the existing station building and proposals are in hand to deliver this in time for the 2004 summer season.

Projects in the pipeline	£'000s
Liskeard Station Phase 2	835
St Ives Bay Line	200
St Austell Public Transport Interchange	2,100
Falmouth Town - for Maritime Museum	50
Branch Lines	100
Looe Station Ticket & Tourism Office	15
St Columb Road	75
<b>Total Investment Proposed</b>	<b>£3,375</b>

# What's Next?

## St Austell Public Transport Interchange

A project team is now in place to take this next major project forward. The design concepts have been agreed in principal and funding arrangements are actively being sought with an anticipated scheme delivery in early 2006. Scheme contents include:

- Removal of existing bus offices to open out views over the town
- New bus station layout
- Revised station car parking
- Improved pedestrian facilities
- New ticket offices for bus & rail
- New café & toilets
- CCTV
- New waiting rooms
- Better information
- Improved facilities for the disabled including new passenger lift & bridge crossing



## Falmouth Town - For the National Maritime Museum for Cornwall



The Maritime Museum has now opened and is attracting a considerable number of visitors, many of them by rail. The proposal is to 'brand' the station to provide a welcome for rail travellers. Proposals include:

- Upgraded lighting
- Information & signing
- Improved platform surface
- New seating
- Themed fencing



## St Ives Bay Line

As part of the Strategic Rail Authority's proposals for the inclusion of this branch line as a potential pilot community railway line, a series of improvements have been identified for implementation during 2004/05. The programme includes work at each station along the line and will address:

- New station signs
- General repainting & maintenance
- New information boards
- Landscaping
- Car parking improvements
- New fencing & railings
- New litter bins
- New & improved shelters
- Additional seating
- Extra ticketing facilities
- Public artwork



# Connecting Cornwall

Connecting Cornwall is Cornwall's strategic action plan for transport, supported by a range of public and private sector organisations. It is intended that projects in the programme help to sustain economic development and regeneration for the County.

What is Connecting Cornwall trying to achieve?

- Improve journey times to encourage inward investment
- Improve accessibility to markets
- Improve reliability in delivery of goods
- Reduce negative effects of congestion and poor journey time reliability on tourism
- Creation of robust strategic and local rail connections.



## Probus to Burngullow

Work started in January on the upgrading of the main railway line in Cornwall. It represents the latest piece of a multi-million pound jigsaw to improve transport links to the County.

The £14.3 million project to dual a seven and a half mile stretch of track between St Austell and Truro will remove a notorious bottleneck which causes delays and limits the frequency of services.

The project, led by the County Council and supported with £3 million of investment from Objective One, will also help the economy by building confidence among potential inward investors.

## Falmouth - Truro - St Austell

We are looking at further railway enhancements. Development work is progressing on a proposed £5 million scheme to create a new junction and passing loop on the Truro to Falmouth line, enabling a train service between Falmouth-Truro-St Austell every 30 minutes. It is hoped to have the scheme in place by 2006.

This could potentially make a huge difference to traffic congestion in and between Falmouth, Truro, and St Austell, making it much easier for commuters and visitors to get around. Making the most of Cornwall's internal rail network is a key priority, and can take a large volume of cars off the roads during peak periods.

## Comments by Partners

### Rail Passengers Committee

Customers deserve the best possible facilities and through the Cornwall Rail Forum passengers' views and requirements can be realised. I am delighted that the Riviera Project continues to deliver these important community improvements throughout our rail network.

Colin Griffin, Rail Passenger Committee for the West of England



### Wessex Trains

The Riviera Project clearly demonstrates the benefits of effective partnership between the rail industry and local authorities in order to deliver real benefits. This is good news for rail passengers.

Alan Wilson, Managing Director, Wessex Trains



TRURO & CORNWALL RAIL PARTNERSHIP



The National Trust