

Keswick Penrith Rail Link Update

Proving the demand for the rail link has been one of the biggest obstacles because of the attitude of some managers in the railway industry who do not know Keswick but believe the statistics produced in the 1960s justify closure. An analysis carried out by the Station Master at Keswick showed that the presence of Keswick on the national network drew revenue from all over the country which more than covered the costs of operating the service from Penrith, but the Public Enquiry panel had been instructed to use less complete information and endorsed the closure proposal. From the survey conducted in the February KesMail we have received 118 responses only 3 of which were negative. The main point of criticism is not that it is a bad idea but that people feel it will never happen. However the results of the survey show considerable interest within Keswick itself. The survey conducted was intended to demonstrate the level of use of the railway by local residents.

Results: The responses received represented 278 people (excluding visitors). Who responded? Households 84% Businesses 2% Both 14% What times will people travel? Peak times only 8%, early mornings 27%, middle of the day 70% late evenings 30% and 55% would like the same service to be running 7 days a week. The majority of people said they would use the train for shopping and leisure purposes. There was also considerable support for business trips and less so for commuting and going to college. How frequently would the train be used? Several days a week 20%, Once or twice a week 32%, Once or twice a month 35% and less often 10%

Apart from going to Penrith, the most popular other destinations were, in descending order London, Carlisle, Manchester/Airport, Newcastle, Edinburgh and Glasgow. 57% of respondents said they would consider investing in the scheme if an interest paying bond was issued. From the people that responded to the survey that could raise up to £130,000. Thanks to all those who responded to the survey and keep reading KesMail for further updates.

WIN! A £20 voucher for a Dinner for Two at Tanglewood Restaurant at Castlehead House Hotel

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Simply highlight the words on the right which are hidden in the wordsearch and return your answer to the Primrose Patch in Keswick Post Office before 25th April 1998 to enter. The winners will be drawn from the correct entries on 27th April 1998. Good luck to all who enter.

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| TANGLEWOOD | DINNER |
| RESTAURANT | LUNCHES |
| CASTLEHEAD | TEA |
| TABLEDHOTE | COFFEE |
| ALACARTE | MEAL |

NAME

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CONTACT No.