

FELLSMAN - PRESS RELEASE

This summer for the first time in over 40 years a regular timetabled steam hauled train is set to depart from stations in Lancashire offering a unique 260 mile return day trip over the world famous Settle and Carlisle line.

Departing every Wednesday from 29th July through to 2nd September "*The Fellsman*" will leave from **Lancaster** and then pick up passengers at **Preston, Bamber Bridge, Blackburn** and **Clitheroe** and will be hauled throughout by steam giants from the past including the recently rebuilt LMS Royal Scot class 46115 'Scots Guardsman' or LMS Jubilee class 5690 'Leander'.

Using carriages from the 1950's & 60's with all seats around a table and panoramic opening windows passengers will be able to hear and feel the engines working hard to pull the heavy train up the steep gradients of the spectacular Settle and Carlisle line and over the impressive 24 arch viaduct at Ribbleshead, with unsurpassed views of the three peaks, then on to the summit of the line at Ais Gill whilst passing through the Yorkshire Dales offering memorable views. There will be the opportunity to leave the train at the pretty Westmorland market town of Appleby for a four hour break, or, carry on through the pretty Eden Valley to the border city of Carlisle for a two hour break while the engine takes on coal and is serviced ready for the return journey. There will be a chance for photographs as the engine stops for water and perhaps have a chat to the driver and fireman who will explain the workings of the engine and show children the roaring coal fire.

"The Fellsman" is aimed primarily at the family market (with prices to match) and is an unashamedly nostalgic glimpse back to the glory days of Britain's heritage with the opportunity to spend a unique and memorable day out away from motorway traffic jams and the hustle and bustle of modern daily life. **Operated by 'Statesman Rail' in partnership with 'Northern Rail' there is the opportunity to leave the car at home and connect into "*The Fellsman*" using direct local rail services from numerous stations across the north - further details are available from staffed Northern Rail stations or www.northernrail.org**

Reserved seating is available in Standard or 1st class with a buffet car open throughout the journey for beverages and light refreshments, but for anyone wishing to live it up a little there is even the opportunity to enjoy a freshly cooked full English breakfast and three course dinner in the opulence of Premier class – prepared freshly on board by chefs in the kitchen car and silver served by liveried stewards this is certainly the way to travel whilst enjoying the passing spectacular scenery.

Reservations may be made through 'Statesman Rail' on 0845 310 2458 and all website bookings www.statesmanrail.com will attract a 5% discount over the normal fares. There is also a family of 4 ticket available for any combination of adults and children offering even further savings.

Operations Director Peter Watkinson says "We are pleased to introduce this very special train, with prices starting at an equivalent of just 17p per mile. It is an opportunity for young and old alike to re-live a travel experience they thought had vanished forever with a steam hauled journey over what is regarded by many as one of the great railway journeys in the world – the famous Settle to Carlisle line. "

Statesman Rail Ltd
Po Box 83
St Erth
Hayle
TR27 9AD
0845 310 2458
reservations@statesmanrail.com
www.statesmanrail.com