

LNER partnership raises more than £400,000 for CALM

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London North Eastern Railway (LNER) is proud to reveal that more than £400,000 has been raised for its partner charity Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM) thanks to fundraising activities supported by customers and colleagues.

The major milestone has been achieved less than four years since the partnership was launched, with the money raised helping to support the charity's work to help prevent suicide through its life-saving helpline. CALM has seen unprecedented levels of demand for services over the past couple of years.

Customers have generously donated £196,997 through Delay Repay compensation and many have donated credit built up through LNER's loyalty scheme, LNER Perks.

LNER colleagues have fundraised through various events such as the Edinburgh and Leeds Half Marathon, and LNER's Directors have been taking part in CALM's flagship fundraising event, the 'Lost Hours Walk' since it launched in 2019. During Covid, LNER launched its own 'Cooking for CALM' cook book and created its own range of regionally-inspired face masks with the proceeds going to the charity.

More than £50,000 was raised through two auctions of retired InterCity 125 nameplates held in 2020 and 2021 as enthusiasts bid to own their own piece of East Coast history.

David Horne, Managing Director of LNER, said: "It is truly inspiring to see how our customers, colleagues and communities have united to raise this tremendous amount of money and I'm immensely proud that it will help CALM continue its vital work, supporting people when they need it most. We'd like to thank everyone who has donated their time or money. They are helping to make a real difference."

Simon Gunning, CEO of the Campaign Against Living Miserably, said: "Each week in the UK 125 people die by suicide and CALM exists to change this. LNER has helped raise awareness and move forward the conversation around suicide prevention by ensuring CALM has a presence at train stations, at Pride events and within the rail industry, reaching high risk communities and providing them with support. Thanks to LNER's incredible colleague fundraising and customers donating through the innovative Delay Repay scheme, more than £400,000 has been raised, which could fund 50,000 potentially life-saving calls or chats."

Fundraising will continue with many LNER colleagues running in the Great North Run on Tyneside next month in aid of CALM.