

EAST LANCASHIRE'S HISTORICAL COMMUNITY STATIONS

CLITHEROE



Clitheroe circa 1961



Clitheroe circa 1964



Clitheroe circa 2008 - photo courtesy Simon Clarke

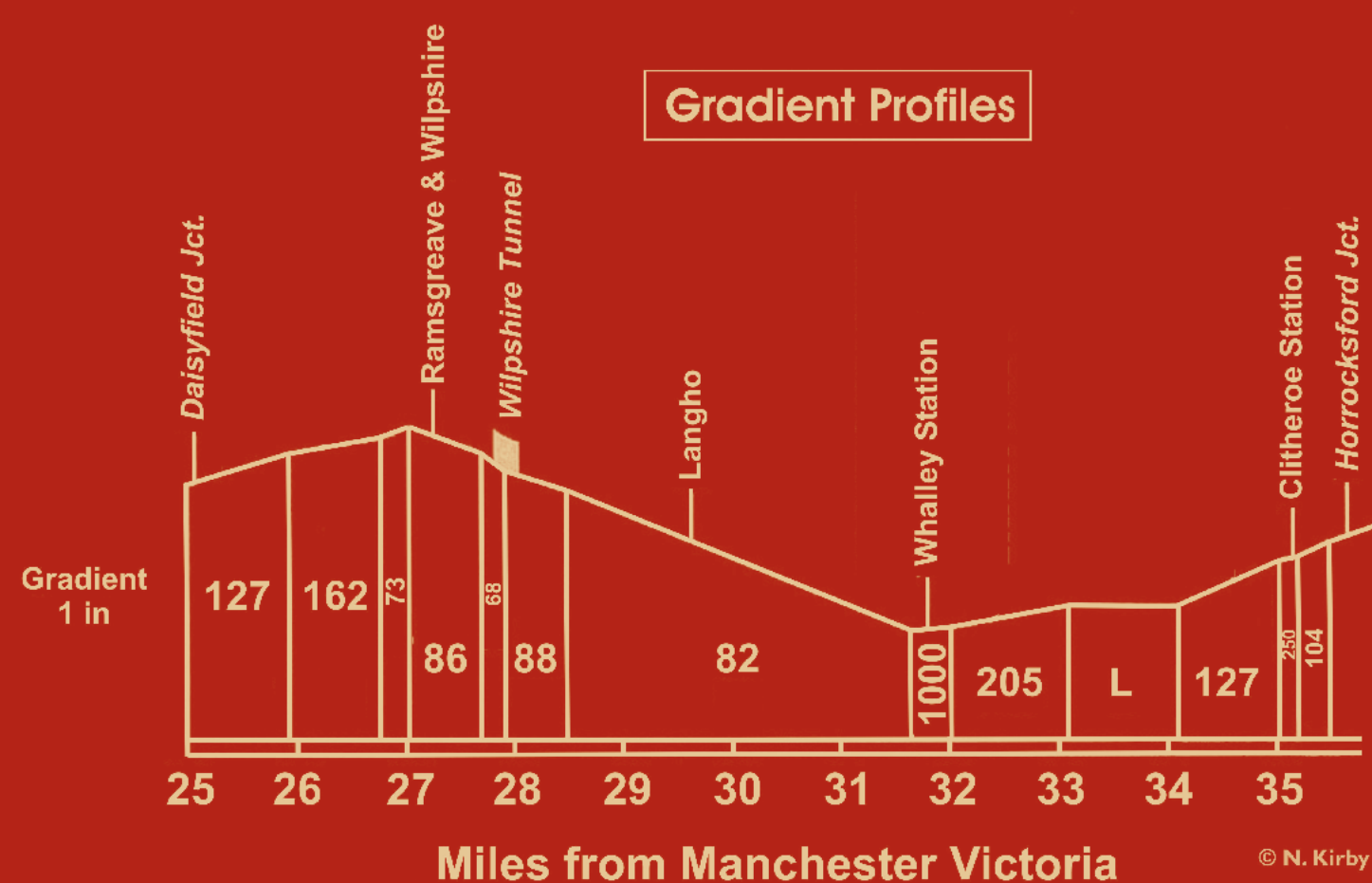
CLITHEROE RAILWAY STATION

The line through Clitheroe Opened on 21st June 1850 and was built under the Blackburn, Clitheroe and North West Junction Railway Act of 27th July 1846.

On 6th March 1847 the company amalgamated with the Blackburn Bolton company to form The Bolton, Blackburn, Clitheroe and West Yorkshire Railway Company. Stations on the line were poor when the line first opened and a new station was opened at Clitheroe during 1869/70 costing £2,500 opening in January 1871. The first station master was a gentleman called Mr Wiggin Blackband. The station was extended with a new platform roof fit in 1882 and goods offices were constructed at the same time. The goods yards at Clitheroe were very busy dealing with cattle, coal, milk, agricultural goods and livestock for the large cattle market situated close to the station. Goods traffic expanded and by 1904 Clitheroe was listed as having seven goods yards, at Clitheroe station, Bankfield sidings, Bellman Park sidings, Foulseykes sidings, Gas works sidings, Primrose sidings and the Horrocksford branch. The main sidings adjacent to the station boasted a ten ton crane. Clitheroe signal box, a brick based box 18 foot x 12 foot x 8 foot structure, had a 23 lever frame in 1873.

The gas works branch trailed off to the left on the approach to Clitheroe station and the stone arched bridge which the branch ran through adjacent to the road bridge can still be seen. The branch was worked by a small electric locomotive owned by the gas works.

Clitheroe featured in several plans for railways that were never built including a scheme by The Fleetwood, Preston and West Riding Railway which would have seen a line from Fleetwood passing through Ribchester to Clitheroe.



CLITHEROE STATION

