

## NORTHERN ROAD RELAY

Ellen Clayton



The relay was an early start in Chester, where we were sent on our way by our very own town crier: Mike Burns. Mike then followed David Barker and Ellen Clayton through the Mersey Tunnel, heading to Liverpool, stopping at the iconic Liver buildings.

“Oh yay, oh yay, it starts today!

The Northern Community Meals Relay.

David collected the meal from Wales.

He’s always on time and never fails.

We’re travelling today from coast to coast.

It’s a long way,

But we don’t like to boast.

Using cars, trains, and a tram.

It’s all part of our master plan.

We’ve started in Chester,

Then off to Formby, Bolton then Manchester.

We’re then heading East,

To deliver this feast.

We’ll jump on a train,

To shelter from rain

And deliver the message far and wide,

That the elderly are better with a good meal inside!

Councils can create their own wealth

If they keep people in better health!  
This is part of the message we wish to convey,  
So please, please cheer us along our way!”



Bill Rothwell from Blue Workshop Ltd took the meal by bike past all of the Antony Gormley “Another Place” statues at Formby beach.



We then hot- footed it to Bolton, where we met the Mayor and Mayoress at a special Community Meals Luncheon Club. Thanks to Sarah Hindle from Bolton Council for arranging this.



We then took in the sights and had some great photos in Salford Quays. Ellen even got her rollerblades on to whizz onto a tram with a meal!



We were then special guests at Manchester Town Hall.



Next stop was Manchester Piccadilly Train Station. By special arrangement with Transpennine Express trains, Ian Lucas, Lotus Bakeries and Ellen Clayton treated all passengers to drinks and biscuits on the train from Manchester to Hull. Ian and Ellen spoke to all of the passengers and gave out leaflets to promote community meals services.



After Ellen gave a quick interview with BBC Radio Humberside, we then handed over to Hull City Council, and Neil Bottomley took the meal to the East coast.



The meal was then transported by Harrogate Food Angels to be blessed by the Dean of Ripon at the cathedral.



David Barker then made the final leg of the journey to handover at the Scottish Border, via the Angel of the North.