



## Sir Chris takes a heritage spin...

SIR Chris Bonington visited Kirkby Stephen to unveil plaques at two award-winning heritage projects.

Both projects won their acclaim in the National Railway Heritage Awards 2005.

The restoration of Merrygill Viaduct was the last stage of a project for the Northern Viaduct Trust in opening a one-and-half-mile length of the former Stainmore Railway as a public path and cycleway. For this project, the Northern Viaduct Trust won the Virgin Trains Volunteer Award.

Kirkby Stephen Station the Settle to Carlisle Railway Trust won the Railway Heritage Trust Award for its restoration of the former Midland Railway station building to provide two office suites and accommodation for a caretaker.

The awards were presented by John Armitt, Chief Executive of Network Rail, at a ceremony at the Merchant Taylors' Hall in London on December 6 last year.

● Sir Chris is pictured on a borrowed bicycle trying out the cycle and walk way over the Merrygill Viaduct.

*(Glen Gater photo)*