



Press Note

From this May, a new lakeside jetty will provide passengers with an extra stopping point on the beautiful shores of Ullswater .

Starting from Glenridding pier, passengers can now sail in style to a new stop at Aira Green.

The new 46-metre long timber jetty is the first new stopping point on Ullswater for more than 50 years and a new boardwalk has been built at Aira Green to help passengers disembark.

The jetty will be formally opened by Sally Balcombe, Chief Executive of Visit Britain, alongside David Little, Chief Executive of Lake District Estates and Jeremy Barlow, General Manager, National Trust Central & East Lakes on 20th May.

Members of the media are invited to join Sally, David & Jeremy on a brief cruise from **Glenridding** to the new Aira Green Jetty **departing at 10.30am, arriving at Aira Green at 11.00am** where there will be an opportunity for a photo call as the new jetty is formally opened. There will also be an opportunity for interviews.

After which members of the media are invited to join NT rangers on brief a guided tour of falls and new paths at Aira. After which further opportunities for interview will be held in the new tea room facilities at Aira during a break for tea and cakes.

The return cruise to **Glenridding will depart Aira at 1.30pm, arriving at 2.00pm**

The new pier is a joint project between the National Trust, which owns and manages the area around Aira Force, and Ullswater 'Steamers' creating a new stopping off point for the steamers, near to one of Ullswater's most visited attractions, Aira Force, which receives 250,000 visitors a year.

The development is part of a wider "masterplan" for the Aira Force site, aimed at protecting the quality and character of the 17th century attraction, while responding to modern day expectations, including footpath and interpretation upgrades, enhanced carparking and modern tea room facilities at the Aira site and the development of a surfaced footpath from Aira Force to Glencoyne.

This jetty allows visitors to disembark close to Aira Force and take the short walk, up to and around the waterfall before walking back to Glenridding Pier (around 3 miles), or cruise from the Aira Pier to Glenridding and then walk back to Aira Force. The new jetty provides lake access to the western shore and the waterfall in a way that visitors have not enjoyed in the past.

Ends

Notes to Editors:

Ullswater Steamers is a family-owned business that has been operating in the tranquil Ullswater Valley since 1859. Today, the company provides a sustainable and environmentally friendly way of linking some of the most iconic walking routes and views in the Lake District National Park.

Aira Force was developed in the 18th century by the Duke of Norfolk as a picturesque pleasure ground for visitors to the family's hunting lodge at Lyulph's Tower. The National Trust has cared for Aira Force since 1906 when it acquired the land from the Howard family.

The **National Trust** is Europe's largest conservation charity and we believe in the importance of nature, beauty and history in people's lives. We care for 20% of the Lake District National Park, including England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike, its deepest lake, Wastwater, its precious wildlife, 90 tenanted farms, and the cultural heritage within a dozen historic buildings. We support 300 jobs in Cumbria and the Lake District and each year we work with local volunteers, who help us look after one of England's most inspirational landscapes. The Trust is dependent on the support of its members and the visitors we welcome to our special places each year: every penny we raise in Cumbria is invested in caring for this special place, for ever, for everyone.