



Howtown Pier facelift will be welcomed by walkers



Ullswater 'Steamers' can now stop at Howtown Pier during high water levels thanks to an £18,000 investment.

The pier has undergone a lift of almost 2ft to make it the same height as both Pooley Bridge and Glenridding Piers.

Rachel Bell, Ullswater 'Steamers' marketing and events manager, said it would be a popular addition with those passengers who like to sail and walk.

"In the past when lake levels have been high the steamers have not been able to stop at Howtown due to boat safety. We have warned them in advance but it's meant that those who wanted to walk the beautiful route from Howtown to Glenridding would have had to change their plans," she said.

She added: "This investment will mean that the hardy welly-wearing walkers can still continue to use the service whatever the weather, and will therefore improve our customer journey."

The upgrade also demonstrates the firm's continuous commitment to environmental sustainability, with the pier lift being constructed by local contractors from Watermillock who used Cumbrian Larch.

Rachel said: "We want to support our local businesses and British Forestry through not importing wood, and we are always committed to the environment.

"Due to the length of the wood needed there were three planks from each tree so it was a large-scale operation. We are really pleased with the result though and now walkers will have year-round use, lessening the need for car travel even further."

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

- Ullswater 'Steamers' awards include Gold at CREA's 2014 and 2015 Green at Heart Award, Gold for the 2013 and 2014 GTBS Visit England award and winner of Cumbria Tourism's 2011 Sustainable Tourism award, among many others.