



Northampton Male Voice Choir will be performing a special set at Northampton station for this year's BBC Music Day

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Northampton station to host special BBC Music Day performance

Northampton station will be hosting a special choral celebration later this week, as part of this year's BBC Music Day.

Northampton Male Voice Choir will be performing at the station as part of the nationwide 'Platform to Perform' themed spectacle.

On Friday 28 September, 40 railway stations across the country will be taking part by hosting local choirs throughout the day.

The local collective of 85 singers have performed in a range of venues and have been instrumental in raising money for local charities. The choir wear the Northampton Coat of Arms badge, which was awarded to the group in 1980 for their fund-raising contributions.

London Northwestern Railway will also be hosting a 'Platform to Perform' concert at Milton Keynes station, where female a capella group, Junction 14, will be performing.

The initiative is part of this year's BBC Music Day. The annual event celebrates music of all genres and looks to find new and innovative ways of bringing communities together.

Cheryl Harrison, duty operations manager at Northampton station said: "It's a real privilege to be hosting this special performance and it will be a wonderful use of the space we have available at the station. The choir will be sure to put a smile on people's faces as they pass through the concourse on their way to work! It's been great to get to know the group better, and hope that this might inspire others to suggest ways in which we can use the station to support other local groups and events."

John Waller, chairman of Northampton Male Voice Choir said: 'We are delighted to be taking part of the fabulous BBC Music Day at the impressive Northampton Station. A great place to perform. It is good to be part of a country-wide celebration of music and singing. We look forward to entertaining travellers and brightening up their journeys'

Northampton Male Voice Choir will be performing on the concourse at Northampton station on Friday 28 September between 0800 and 0900. The group will be singing a 45 minute set to entertain commuters and anyone who would like to attend the free performance.

For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk

About Northampton Male Voice Choir

Northampton Male Voice Choir was formed in 1946 and was originally known as the 'Northampton Men's Own Male Voice Choir'. The group's name was changed in 1980 when they were awarded the Northampton Coat of Arms badge, in recognition of their fund-raising efforts for local charities.

The group enjoy singing to large audiences, frequently in the surroundings of magnificent buildings and on occasions, alongside other choirs.

2018 has been a very exciting year for the choir. A highly successful recruitment campaign has increase numbers to 85 choristers making NMVC one of the largest male voice choirs in the country. Associated with the campaign the choir held a concert that raised £15000 for Prostate Cancer UK, continuing the Choir's commitment to raising money for charity.

For more information visit http://www.nmvc.co.uk

About West Midlands Trains

West Midlands Trains operates both West Midlands Railway and London Northwestern Railway services.

- **London Northwestern Railway** services operate between Liverpool and Birmingham, and on the West Coast mainline to and from London Euston.
- West Midlands Railway services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street.

For more information on these services visit<u>westmidlandsrailway.co.uk</u> or <u>londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk</u> The West Midlands Trains franchise started on 10 December 2017 and will run until 2025/26.

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The franchise is a joint venture between Abellio (70.1% share) and East Japan Railway Company / Mitsui & Co., Ltd (29.9% share in a 50:50 split). Abellio is the international passenger transport subsidiary of the Dutch national railway company, Nederlandse Spoorwegen. In the UK, Abellio operates ScotRail and Greater Anglia train services, Merseyrail services in a joint venture with Serco and buses through Abellio London. For more information visit www.abellio.com

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