



Scouts Broumgrove members from Finstall Scout Troop with their Cross City Heroes plaque. This will be displayed at Barnt Green station this summer. Credit - Peter Dodman

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Scouts Broumgrove celebrate Cross City Heroes win

Members of Scouts Broumgrove have been celebrating their Cross City Heroes win.

Children from the group took a trip on the Cross City Line over the weekend (Sat 9 June) to take a look at their plaque, ahead of it's permanent display at Barnt Green station this summer. The young people, from Finstall Scout Troup, which is part of Scouts Broumgrove, visited Steelhouse Lane Lock-up in Birmingham City Centre. The group spent the night at the disused police

station after visiting the on-site museum to learn about the history of local policing.

The group has been chosen as one of 24 community organisations to receive a plaque of recognition at local railway stations on the popular Cross City Line between Redditch / Bromsgrove, Birmingham and Lichfield.

Nominations for Cross City Heroes winners were put forward by passengers, residents and railway staff as part of a competition to celebrate 40 years of services on the Cross City Line. Examples of various influential local clubs, charities and other community groups were received as part of this process. These nominations were then judged by representatives from West Midlands Railway and West Midlands Rail Executive to form the final list of 24 winners.

Fay Easton, head of stakeholder and community for West Midlands Railway, said: “The Cross City Line connects communities across North Worcestershire to Birmingham, and is a big part of many people’s lives. Getting young people to use the train with confidence can open up so many opportunities for them, so it is always great to be able to welcome groups like this onto our stations and trains. Scouts Bromsgrove, along with other local groups, clearly make a positive impact on those around them, so it is a pleasure to be able to recognise the group with a plaque at Barnt Green station as part of our Cross City Heroes competition.”

For the list of winning Cross City Heroes groups visit <https://bit.ly/2WuPPcb>

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The West Midlands Trains franchise started on 10 December 2017 and will run until 2025/26.

West Midlands Trains operates 1,300 services a day, manages 150 stations and provides over 70 million passenger journeys a year. Over the course of the franchise, West Midlands Trains will be investing £1 billion into the rail network to deliver new trains, improved routes and station upgrades. This will include 400 new train carriages across the network and space for an extra 85,000 passengers into Birmingham and London at peak times.

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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