

Press Release

26th August 2015

Owl Aboard! Charity Owl Swoops onto CrossCountry Service

Passengers on board the Manchester to Exeter CrossCountry service on Tuesday 25 August had an unusual travelling companion, as the Big Hoot Owl swooped in to join travellers on their way down south.

The giant owl took to the tracks at Birmingham New Street Station to celebrate The Big Hoot Trail, a mass public art exhibition that has captivated Birmingham this summer, and has been winging its way across the country.

The trail was created by Wild in Art in partnership with Birmingham Children's Hospital, and features almost 100 decorated owl sculptures that can be found nestled away in different parts of the city.

As sponsors of The Big Hoot Trail, CrossCountry have contributed three of their own owls to the trail, all featuring original designs.

Train travellers can look out for the special Big Hoot train for the duration of the trail which will remain open until 27 September, after which the owls will be auctioned to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

-ENDS-

For further information, please contact Kelly Mortlock or Becky Riffel on 020 7025 7522 or email crosscountry@grayling.com.

Notes to editors

The CrossCountry network is the most extensive passenger rail franchise in Britain. Stretching from Aberdeen to Penzance and from Stansted to Cardiff, it calls at over 100 stations. Based in Birmingham, CrossCountry connects seven of the Britain's 10 largest cities and delivers 295 services every weekday, equating to some 32 million passenger journeys a year.

For further information on CrossCountry services visit crosscountrytrains.co.uk or follow them online via Twitter at [@crosscountryuk](https://twitter.com/crosscountryuk), [Facebook.com/crosscountrytrains](https://www.facebook.com/crosscountrytrains) and their student Facebook page, [Facebook.com/studentraildeals](https://www.facebook.com/studentraildeals).

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