

Press Release

29 June 2011

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CROSSCOUNTRY REWARD FOR VETERAN'S LOST DIARY

Train operator CrossCountry has announced it is offering a £500 reward for information leading to the safe return of the diary belonging to retired Staff Sergeant Leslie James Bowles.

Mr Bowles' diary was lost from a CrossCountry train on 4 April while being taken to Cornwall by a relative. The diary was in a bag that was left onboard when the relative got off the train at Truro. Having enquired, the bag was not found when the train finished its journey and is presumed to have been taken from the train.

Informed of the loss, Jeremy Higgins, CrossCountry's Customer Service Director and a Major in the Territorial Army, has appealed for the diary's return and is offering a £500 reward for information leading to its recovery.

Commenting, Jeremy said: "I appreciate just how important these memories are to our service personnel as I kept a similar diary when serving in Iraq. Even in this modern technological age a handwritten diary can offer a personal and more touching record of events and I can understand Sergeant Bowles' desire for its return.

"I would appeal to anyone who knows where the diary is to contact the British Transport Police so he can be reunited with this treasured record of his time serving our country."

Anyone with information is asked to contact British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40, quoting incident reference B3/WWA of 27/06/2011, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

- Ends -

Notes to Editors:

**For more information feel free to contact us on 0121 200 6115
or by email to communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk**

CrossCountry is now live on Facebook www.facebook/crosscountrytrains

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CrossCountry facts and figures:

STATIONS SERVED: 118

ROUTE MILES: 1,478

WEEKDAY SERVICES: 295

PASSENGERS CARRIED: Over 30 million passenger journeys a year

ANNUAL TRAIN MILEAGE: Approximately 16 million

EMPLOYEES: Approximately 1,600

LONGEST TRAIN SERVICE: 08.20 Aberdeen to Penzance (774 miles)