



# Press Release

7 December 2010

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## **TRAIN COMPANY HELPS WITH FESTIVE CHARITY DONATION**

Kind-hearted train company CrossCountry has entered the Christmas spirit early this year and donated £1,500 to children's charity Chicks (Country Holidays for Inner City Kids).

The money was raised by CrossCountry staff through events and collections for the popular 'Dress Down Friday' at the company's Birmingham head office.

Chicks, which provides life-enhancing respite breaks in the countryside for disadvantaged children and their carers, have recently expanded their operations from Devon and now boast a new Birmingham office – which was recently opened by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Cllr Len Gregory. It adds to their network of offices with the hope of opening a respite centre in the Midlands in the coming years.

Andy Cooper, CrossCountry's Managing Director said: "Our employees have been extremely enthusiastic during 2010 in raising funds for Chicks. Chicks provide an amazing, and often unseen, expert service to disadvantaged children across Britain so we're happy to be making this donation and helping promote their work."

Roy Endacott, Chief Executive of Chicks added: "We are delighted to receive this very generous cheque for £1,500 which the staff of CrossCountry raised through a number of different fundraising events. Their generosity of spirit has ensured that many disadvantaged children have enjoyed a break away from their difficult lives which can often be filled with despair and a lack of hope. I would like to thank the management and staff at CrossCountry for their hard work and dedication in support of CHICKS."

Aside from the £1,500 donation, during 2010 CrossCountry has also donated over 70 free train tickets for children and their carers to travel by train to Chicks' respite centre in Devon.

ENDS

**Please find notes to Editors, CrossCountry facts and figures below.**  
**For more information feel free to contact us on 0121 2006115 or by email to [communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk](mailto:communications@crosscountrytrains.co.uk)**

### **Notes to editors**

Pictured left to right: Jennifer Mould (Chicks), Pauline Oddy (CrossCountry) and Elanor Hoskin (Chicks)

CrossCountry started operating on 11 November 2007. The franchise, which is the most extensive in the UK, will run until 31 March 2016. For further information on CrossCountry services and future franchise plans log on to [www.crosscountrytrains.co.uk](http://www.crosscountrytrains.co.uk)

CrossCountry is part of the Arriva group, which is owned by Deutsche Bahn. Arriva is a leading pan-European public transport operators with more than 42,000 employees and operations across 12 European countries. The link to Arriva is <http://www.arriva.co.uk>. The link to Deutsche Bahn is <http://www.deutschebahn.com>

CrossCountry is now live on Facebook [www.facebook/crosscountrytrains](http://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 anticipated

ANNUAL TRAIN MILEAGE: Approximately 16 million

EMPLOYEES: Approximately 1,600

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

