



# #ShowTheLove

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## Local WI to share a message of love with passengers at Wellington

A special display at Wellington station will be sharing a message of love with rail passengers this Valentine's day.

The local Women's Institute (WI) are working with The Climate Coalition for their annual 'Show the Love' project. This year's initiative will be based on the platforms at Wellington station from Monday (11 Feb) onwards.

Show the Love is about community based climate change action and has been running for four years at various local landmarks across Shropshire. The display aims to highlight plastic waste, by using milk bottles to create trees on the platforms.

Shropshire WI members will make heart shaped leaves from the bottles, which will be coloured green using alcohol inks. These will be attached to wooden tree shapes positioned around the station, with boards explaining the project and the background behind it.

Fay Easton, head of stakeholder and community for West Midlands Railway, said: "Show the Love has been a feature of the local community for a number of years and we are delighted to have the group choose Wellington station as their base this year. Station displays are always popular with travellers and our volunteers do a fantastic job of making these happen."

Paula Pierce, member of Shropshire WI, said: "Climate change is impacting on many of the things we love. WI members across the country are stitching, knitting, painting and baking beautiful green hearts to show the love for all they want to protect from it. Show the love encourages us to work with our community to raise awareness and take action to make a difference to the world we live in. We want to ensure changes happen to maintain a safe and beautiful environment for future generations."

Councillor Cindy Mason-Morris, Mayor of Wellington, said: "We are delighted that the Shropshire WI Federation have chosen Wellington for this year's Show the Love Campaign. As a town, we are proud of our many community and voluntary groups that do vital work protecting our nature reserves and local park areas and who work to tackle climate change locally".

In 2018, hearts made from fabric and wool were attached to mannequins in Shrewsbury shopping centre.

#### **ENDS**

#### **About West Midlands Trains**

For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email <a href="mailto:press.office@wmtrains.co.uk">press.office@wmtrains.co.uk</a>

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

- London Northwestern Railway services operate between
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   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.

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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