

CELEBRATING



175

YEARS OF

WATERLOO



# Celebration Station

Between the Lines special edition | August 2023



South Western  
Railway

# Waterloo 175

We had a fantastic celebration of London Waterloo's 175th birthday on Tuesday 11 July 2023, with a variety of activities around the station. During the event, we showcased and named one of our brand new Class 701 *Arterio* trains "Waterloo 175", while our colleagues and Community Rail Partnership (CRP) officers greeted customers in period costumes. Guests were also serenaded by a choir of South Western Railway and Network Rail colleagues, plus a local community choir, who sung a medley of Waterloo-related songs on the Platform 19.



The choir singing to VIP's after emerging from an *Arterio*.

London Waterloo opened as 'Waterloo Bridge' on 11 July 1848, and today it is the busiest railway station in the country, with over 40 million entries and exits in 2021/22. It also has 24 platforms which is the most of any railway station in the country.



On the concourse there was a very popular exhibition, compiled by historian Mike Lampert, showcasing the history of Waterloo from day one to the present, and featuring a glimpse into the future. It is fascinating to see how the hub of our network has changed over the years.

Another highlight for our customers was the opportunity to be superimposed into a historic railway-related scene via a bit of photo magic and a green screen. We were thrilled that over 500 people had their photograph taken and joined in with the Victorian spirit.



Various members of South Western Railway staff and customers took part in the activities at the station during the day, including Claire Mann, Managing Director, and Chico Couliboly, Regional Manager Waterloo, pictured on the left.



# We've Reached a Century

We're also delighted to have reached another significant milestone, with 100 station adoption groups now set up across our network. This includes our first ever group at Christchurch, set up in 2007 by Fred Neale (who is still actively planting and pruning), through to our newest group in Staines created this year.

Thank you for putting our stations into the heart of their communities whether it's through your artwork, gardening, free shops, organised walks, or one of your endless array of activities. Keep on being amazing!



Havant station adoption group



West Byfleet station adoption group



Brookwood station adoption group



Lake station adoption group



Paul Ebbutt, Alton station adopters



Mel Lucas, Hamworthy adopters



Brentford station adoption group



Whitchurch station adoption group



Aldershot station adoption group



Bitterne station adoption group

Effingham Junction station adopters

Optalis, Windsor & Eton Riverside





Fred Neale, the first station adopter on the network at Christchurch