

## Share your Hammersmith & City line stories

NEXT year marks the 150th anniversary of the Paddington to Hammersmith branch of the Hammersmith & City line.

To mark the occasion, Transport for London (TfL) is asking customers and staff to share their memories of the line for a new commemorative book.

Some fantastic emails and letters have been sent in so far. One customer fondly recalls helping someone sitting opposite her to wrap a present he was clearly struggling with on his own. Not only was he touched by her kind gesture, she in turn, felt refreshed by the experience after a tiring day and



Photography: Glenn Cockrell

One of the images sent in for inclusion in the book was of this dress, made entirely from used Tube tickets.

urged others to 'keep helping'.

Another passenger reminisces about a

staff member who passed away earlier this year and whose

'hilarious anecdotes will be missed by all'.

Staff member Wally Maidment not only has vivid memories as a child of catching steam trains at Westbourne Park, but also remembers the journey of the last British Rail train to depart from the station in 1993, after which he said 'within a few weeks the platforms had vanished forever'.

Paul Bloomfield, also a TfL employee, recalls using the Hammersmith & City line from Latimer Road to travel to school. He later began working on the line, and others, in various roles. He added: 'I returned to Edgware Road in July 2005 to help my colleagues on the morning of 7/7 and was proud to have been able to be a part of the three-week recovery operation before returning to my



day job, which is rolling out the new state of the art trains on my 'home' (Hammersmith & City) line.'

■ To join in the celebrations, email your ideas, photos and personal experiences to 150H&Cbook@tube.tfl.gov.uk. The deadline for contributions is December 31, and the book will be published next June.

### Improvements at Vauxhall

THE Wandsworth Road exit at Vauxhall Tube station has been closed as part of work to increase the station's capacity and make it step-free.

Customers should use the Vauxhall Bridge exit instead until the Wandsworth Road exit re-opens in spring 2015.

The number of passengers using the station is set to increase by 40 per cent over the next few years. To create the extra space needed, the ticket hall will be re-configured to allow for more ticket gates and wide-aisle gates.

This will allow wheelchair users and those with buggies or heavy luggage to travel more easily and reduce congestion within the station.

The mainline station is also being upgraded, and once the Tube station lift is completed in 2015 it will create a fully accessible interchange between rail, bus and Tube.



### Christmas on Trafalgar Square

FROM today until December 22, there will be carol singing beneath Trafalgar Square's famous Christmas tree.

More than 50 groups will be taking part, with performances from 4pm to 8pm on weekdays and from 2pm to 6pm on weekends.

The tree is an annual gift from the Norwegian capital Oslo to commemorate Britain's support for the country during World War II.

■ The nearest station is Charing Cross (Bakerloo and Northern lines). To plan your journey, go to [tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner](http://tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner)

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