Shipton Station Improvement in Memory of the late Ian Matthews

A replica of an Edwardian Great Western Railway bench has been installed at Shipton-under-Wychwood station in memory of a committee member of the Cotswold Line Promotion Group.

Mr Ian Matthews, who died last December at the age of 69, lived in Shipton-under-Wychwood and was a committee member of the CLPG for 18 years, representing Kingham.

The CLPG teamed up with Thames Trains to install the bench, painted in Great Western Railway's colours of chocolate and light stone, on the Paddington-bound platform in memory of Mr Matthews, who was managing director of Shipton-based flour millers F W Matthews Limited.

The bench was jointly presented by the CLPG chairman, Mr Ian Baxter, and the general manager of Thames Trains, Mr Terry Worrall. The ceremony was attended by Mr Matthews's widow, Mrs Anne Matthews, and other members of his family and friends and members of the CLPG.

Mr Baxter said: "Ian brought a quiet gentlemanly wisdom to the work of the CLPG, a strong belief in the contribution to be made by the railway to modern transport needs, an acute business eye and genuine grass roots representation from this area of the Cotswolds."

