

WWI 'Tommy's' make first public appearance at St Pancras International

- The London station launches a year of commemoration with the installation of three 'There But Not There' Tommy's
 - The three, ghostly six foot statues are the first to be on public view in London
 - They will remain in place on St Pancras International's Grand Terrace until November

06 March 2018: Three ghostly figures of First World War soldiers or 'Tommy's' have popped up at St Pancras International today as the iconic station lends its support the nationwide 'There But Not There' centenary campaign.

Launching a year of commemoration as the station marks its 150th anniversary, the 'Tommy's' are the first to go on public display since the campaign's launch last week; giving Londoners, commuters and visitors the chance to see the statues up close for the first time.



Now standing on the station's Grand Terrace until November 2018, the six-foot-high silhouettes are part of a new fundraising campaign led by former Chief of the General Staff, General The Lord Dannatt and supported by Birdsong novelist, Sebastian Faulks.

They serve as a poignant reminder of the fundamental role British railways played to the First World War effort, including the transportation of troops, aircrafts, munitions, and supplies. They also commemorate the integral role women played in the conflict, employed by the rail industry in positions previously occupied by men.

There But Not There Patron, Lord Dannatt said: "Unveiling the haunting figures at St Pancras International gives the public an opportunity to commemorate the sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of British and Commonwealth soldiers at a destination which played a crucial role during this time, and was itself hugely affected by the conflict."

Designed by Martin Barraud, 10-inch versions of the Tommy's made by military veterans are on sale for members of the public to remember their own relatives affected by the conflict. Hoping to raise in excess of £15 million, proceeds raised from the sale of these commemorative figures, will be donated to affiliated charities.

The 'There But Not There' installations form part of 'Celebrate St Pancras – the people, the place, the journey' - a series of events, exhibitions and installations commissioned by HS1 Ltd for the 150th anniversary year.

Wendy Spinks, Commercial Director at HS1 Ltd (owners of St Pancras International)

comments: "The installation of the Tommies at St Pancras International recognises the crucial role the railways played in the First World War. As a destination well-known for putting thought-provoking art on public display, it feels only right to be the first location to host these ghostly statues. We hope our visitors will take a moment to stop and think about what they represent and to get behind the campaign to raise funds for these worthwhile charities."

For more information on the Tommies at St Pancras International and the music, arts, culture, and retail events happening in the station, visit <http://stpancras.com> and follow @StPancrasInt.

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For further information about St Pancras International contact Clarion Communications on 020 7479 0910 or email HS1@clarioncomms.co.uk

Notes to editors

About There But Not There:

There But Not There is the 2018 Armistice project for the charity Remembered. Remembered aims to:

- Inspire communities to purchase and install our silhouettes of their local Fallen wherever they are listed for the Armistice Period, 2018, and/or to buy our 6' Tommy figure for use in a public space at any time through 2018
- Educate all generations about why they made the ultimate sacrifice
- Raise very substantial funds to help heal those suffering from the hidden wounds of war
- <https://www.therebutnotthere.org.uk/>

St Pancras International's connection to the First World War:

- The Midland Railway Company based in Derby employed 66,839 people in 1907, of which 21,941 enlisted to support the war effort
- During the course of the conflict, 2,833 Midland Railway Company employees lost their lives.
- Some railway workers were considered essential to the war effort and their roles identified as 'Reserved Occupations' which meant they were exempt from conscription
- Around 100 staff from the midland Railway Company that were based at St Pancras lost their lives in WW1 with further loss of life resulting from the Air Raid on the station and hotel in 1918
- The Midland Railway Company, like other railway companies played a significant role during the wars moving goods, troop and ammunitions, as well as employing women in the rail industry in roles previously occupied by men
- On the night of February 17th 1918 five bombs were dropped on or near the station and hotel killing twenty people, injuring a further thirty-three. This was the greatest number of casualties suffered in any air raid on a London station during the war
- In May 1941, 5 bombs fell on the station, one of them causing serious damage as it penetrated through the platform and the floor to the undercroft and exploded against the side wall of the tunnel connecting into the Metropolitan railway
- The Midland Railway company erected a permanent memorial to their staff, designed by Edward Lutyens in Derby which was the headquarters of the company

About St Pancras International Station:

St Pancras International station is a unique Grade I listed building owned by HS1 Ltd. Offering a wealth of stylish and premium shops, bars and restaurants all under one iconic roof, the venue is a destination, in its own right, as well as a world-class station.

Known for its calendar of new and exciting arts and music experiences, there's always something new to discover.

Visitors can also experience St Pancras International's free-to-play jukebox and station pianos, played by world famous stars including Elton John and John Legend, as well as the public day to day.

For more information about the station and its premium retailers, including Fortnum & Mason, Searcys, Whistles, kikki.K, plus recently launched Ted Baker, Chanel, and Calvin Klein visit <http://stpancras.com>.

150th anniversary

Celebrate St Pancras – the people, the place, the journey' – is a series of events, exhibitions and installations commissioned by HS1 Ltd for the anniversary year. It will showcase the transformation of the station, the entry and role of women into the railway workforce, St Pancras' role in the trade of goods, food and beer into London, the station's wartime history and the people and journeys that have been shaped by it.

St Pancras International has launched the St Pancras IPA to mark the anniversary, on sale now at station pub, The Betjeman Arms.

About HS1 Ltd:

HS1 Ltd has the 30-year concession to own and operate High Speed 1, the UK's first section of high speed rail, as well as the stations along the route: St Pancras International, Stratford International, Ebbsfleet International and Ashford International.