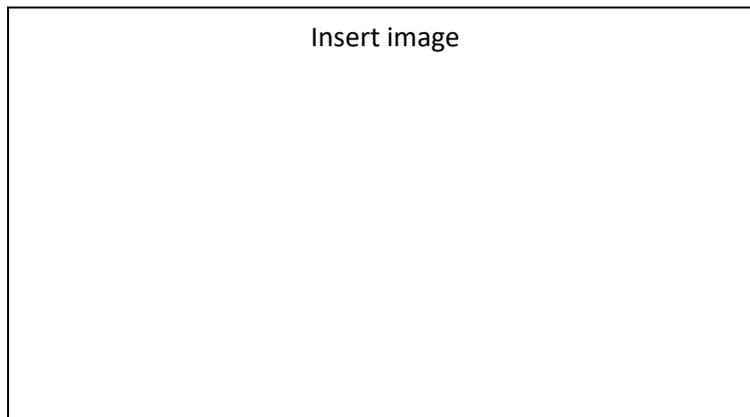


EMBARGOED UNTIL 08.11.18

St Pancras International unveils a permanent war memorial on the centenary of the end of WWI

- St Pancras International station's rail community and artist and poet Fabian Peake today unveils a 4-metre tall tribute ahead of Armistice Day
- The artwork is inspired by those that worked at St Pancras Station, Hotel and Goods Yards and died in the conflict
- Wartime choir D-Day Darlings performed as part of the special unveiling service



8th November 2018: This morning, St Pancras International unveiled its permanent war memorial, the first ever in the station, created by artist and writer Fabian Peake, to commemorate all those associated with the station who lost their lives during the two World Wars.

This year, on its 150th anniversary and the centenary of the end of World War I, St. Pancras International is dedicating the 4-metre high memorial as a poignant reminder of the fundamental role the railways played during the wars and conveying the deeper significance of and connection to those who were killed in conflict associated with the station; reflecting on the lives of those who fought and died serving in the armed forces as well as civilians.

The memorial sits on St Pancras International's Grand Terrace, close to the location of bomb damage from two prominent air raids on the station in 1918 and 1941 - the first of which claimed the greatest number of casualties suffered in any air raid on a London station during the First World war. Going forward, the artwork will also mark the location of the annual Armistice memorial held at the station on 11th November.

Three artists were invited to take part in a competition to design the station's permanent memorial. After presenting their proposals to a panel comprised of representatives from HS1 and industry partners, Fabian Peake was selected for demonstrating a clear engagement with the public and a creative approach to the brief.

Fabian studied painting at Chelsea College of Art and at The Royal College of Art. His work has largely diversified during the past ten years and incorporates cut-outs, photography, drawing, writing, poetry and tailored wall pieces.

Inspired by the roles of the men and women that worked at St Pancras (Station, Hotel & Goods Yard), the 4-metre tall memorial is comprised of a series of job titles that represent those who left their work to fight and die for their country. Fabian has used vitreous enamel which has historically been used for signage by railway companies and is still frequently used today.

Dyan Crowther, Chief Executive Officer HS1 Ltd (owners of St Pancras International) comments: “There were plans to erect a memorial at St Pancras following the First World War, but a lack of funding in 1921 meant this never happened. The centenary was the perfect moment for all of the station’s rail community to come together to ensure we pay fitting tribute to those who lost their lives in the conflict.”

Fabian Peake, memorial artist and poet, says “When I discovered the Midland Railway Book of Remembrance, I was fascinated with the list of occupations. It really brought home that these were ordinary people, just like you and me, doing jobs that we still do today but they went to war and did not return. I’m delighted to have been selected to design this important memorial and hope that the piece will show that one hundred years on, we are all still remembering those who fought in the World Wars.”

For more information on the war memorial and other arts, culture and events at St Pancras International, 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

Sponsors of the war memorial

The war memorial at St Pancras International has been commissioned by HS1, Bechtel, East Midlands Trains, Eurostar, Govia Thames Link, Manhattan Loft Corporation, Network Rail, South Eastern and UK Power Network Services

Manufacturers of the war memorial

The memorial has been made by Links Signs, Hastings - Specialists in the Design, Manufacture and Installation of Vitreous Enamel

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
- 178 staff from the Midland Railway Company that were based at St Pancras station, hotel and goods yards 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 six bombs were dropped on or near the station and hotel killing twenty-one 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>.