



5 May 2017

## All aboard the Stepney express!

The last train departed from Stepney Station in Beverley Road, Hull, in 1965 but on Friday 16 June 2017 at 2pm, the first new arrivals in over 50 years will appear on the platform as pupils and guests of Stepney Primary School unveil a brand-new art installation.

Having obtained funding from Hull UK City of Culture 2017's Creative Communities Programme, which is being delivered in partnership with the Big Lottery Fund; pupils, parents, staff and friends have been uncovering the history of the station and the branch line railway it once served.

Headteacher Paul Browning said: "In February, we spent a week dedicated to listening to local experts who helped our pupils to develop concept art work and models for a series of permanent steel statues that represent people who either worked or travelled on the railway. Their designs and are being manufactured and erected on the north platform of the station.

"With final designs from Neil Cameron, one of our teachers, the statues have been manufactured by W. Campbell & Son in Harplings Road, Hull, who also produced the St. Andrews Quay Trawlermen Memorial and the Lissett Air Memorial."

Martin Green, Director of Hull 2017 said: "Getting youngsters, families and schools involved in cultural projects is a key driving force for our Creative Communities Programme.

"The sculptures symbolise the roots and routes of Hull's residents, depicting the people who used the station for a variety of purposes across its lifetime. It's an installation that will leave not only a lasting physical legacy of Hull 2017, but also a personal one for the young people from Stepney Primary School, who will have great memories of how they contributed to their city's time in the spotlight."

Occupying a prime location, adjacent to Beverley Road, these statues will form yet another series of iconic landmarks for the city in this important year.

Prior to the unveiling, groups of pupils will visit the Campbell's factory on 8 and 9 May to watch the manufacturing of the statues.

**ENDS**

For press information, please contact: Paul Browning at Stepney Primary School on 01482 343690 / [pbrowning@stepney.hull.sch.uk](mailto:pbrowning@stepney.hull.sch.uk)

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Stepney Station is one of 60 new projects to receive funding through the Hull 2017 Creative Communities Programme, which is being delivered in partnership with the Big Lottery Fund, a Principal Partner of Hull 2017.

A total of £750,000 is being invested in the programme, which was set up to celebrate, nurture and support local talent and develop opportunities for emerging artists.

In addition to cash from Hull 2017 and the Big Lottery Fund, the projects will receive staff support to build capacity in the arts sector, helping to create a legacy. The Creative Communities Programme is also being supported by Hull and East Riding Charitable Trust.

The projects - which range from photography exhibitions to music and food festivals and choral and orchestral concerts to audio-visual installations - will see local artists, community groups, cultural and other organisations in the city working with local people of all ages to create new artistic work, events, installations and other activity throughout 2017.

For a full list of projects visit: <https://www.hull2017.co.uk/discover/article/sixty-community-projects-inspire-creativity-across-hull-2/>

### **About Hull UK City of Culture**

Hull UK City of Culture 2017 is a 365 day programme of cultural events and creativity inspired by the city and told to the world. Hull secured the title of UK City of Culture 2017 in November 2013. It is only the second city to hold the title and the first in England.

Divided into four seasons, starting with Made in Hull, this nationally significant event draws on the distinctive spirit of the city and the artists, writers, directors, musicians, revolutionaries and thinkers that have made such a significant contribution to the development of art and ideas.

Hull 2017's second season, Roots and Routes, runs from April to June and explore Hull's unique place as a gateway to Europe and one of the world's busiest ports. Its maritime history and global connections inspire the stories of the city; this season of work will also celebrate Hull's international links, including Rotterdam, Reykjavik and Freetown.

Freedom runs from July to September. Building on the legacy of Hull-born anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce MP, *Freedom* will explore the concept of freedom in all its many forms. The final season, Tell the World will run from October to December.

The Culture Company was set up to deliver the Hull 2017 programme and is an independent organisation with charitable status. It has raised £32 million, with over 70 partners supporting the project, including public bodies, trusts and foundations and local and national businesses.

Key contributions are coming from: Host City – Hull City Council; Principal Partners - Arts Council England, BBC, Big Lottery Fund, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, KCOM, KWL, Spirit of 2012, Yorkshire Water and the University of Hull; Major Partners –Associated British Ports, Arco, BP, the British Council, British Film Institute, Green Port Hull, Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, MKM Building Supplies, P&O Ferries, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Sewell Group, Siemens, Smith & Nephew and Wykeland Group. The National Lottery has contributed more than £10m of this funding, making it the largest single funding body for Hull 2017.

68 per cent of the funding is dedicated to public facing activities, including the widest range of cultural events in every corner of the city, with a further 11 per cent for legacy and contingency. More than £5 million is being invested in volunteering, learning and community engagement. £1.6 million is being invested to ensure a legacy after 2017. This includes capacity building, such as supporting existing events so they can grow, staging curtain-raiser events, developing future programming for after 2017 and building a new platform to support a unified ticketing system for the city.

Hull 2017's International Partners are: Aarhus, Denmark, which is European Capital of Culture 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland; Rotterdam, The Netherlands; and Freetown, Sierra Leone (twinned with Hull). These relationships are reflected in a number of events throughout the year.

For information go to [www.hull2017.co.uk](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)

Follow us on **Twitter** @2017Hull **Instagram** @2017hull **Facebook** HullCityofCulture