

London transport workers remember the fallen



This Sunday, London Transport Old Comrades will take part in the annual Remembrance Parade in honour of the 4,500 transport workers who died in the First and Second World Wars.

RETIRED London bus driver and ex-serviceman, John Norris, will lead 50 Old Comrades in the parade. He said: 'It is an absolute honour for me to be given the privilege to lead the TfL contingent again at this year's Remembrance Parade. As we march towards the Cenotaph, we will remember all our fallen colleagues who gave their lives in both world wars and other conflicts.'

In 1920, London Transport Old Comrades were given the right to march by King George V in recognition of the unique contribution of hundreds of transport workers who went with their buses to the front line from 1914 to 1918. They played a vital role by moving troops, delivering supplies and taking the wounded to safety.

Transport workers also made a huge contribution during World War Two, with 20,488 employees joining the forces. So many workers signed

up that London Transport had its own regiment - the '84th'.

Vehicles helped too, with buses and coaches used to move troops, converted to ambulances and evacuating inner city children, hospital patients and expectant mothers. More than 1.35million people were carried to safety.

Tube stations also played a part, with many used as air raid shelters complete with feeding stations, washing facilities and bunk beds.

The network continued to operate throughout, helping Londoners to get around during the conflict.

Groups of generous black cab drivers will be offering a free taxi service, 'Poppy Cabs', to take veterans to and from Westminster Bridge to a number of veterans' clubs on Sunday.

Eric Reeve, a Tube customer service manager, will lay the London Transport Old Comrades Association wreath at the Cenotaph.

Eric (pictured below) joined the army as a junior soldier and bandsman at the age of 17 and spent time in Cyprus, Kenya, Israel and Turkey. He said: 'I feel honoured and proud to be laying the wreath on behalf of TfL and the London Transport Old Comrades Association. Remembrance Sunday is a particularly special time to pay our respects to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for us to be free to do what we want.'



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Bikes get a Mo makeover

HUNDREDS of Santander Cycles are sporting special handlebar moustaches this month to raise funds and awareness for men's health.

The hire bikes are joining the millions of men around the world who grow moustaches in the month-long campaign to support Movember.

Take a snap of one of the specially disguised bikes and post the picture on Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #MoCycle. Santander will donate £1 to the Movember Foundation for every picture - and £3 for photos of bikes bearing limited edition gold moustaches.

■ For more details and to see some of the pictures people have shared, visit Santander.co.uk/cycles



Have your say at TfL Youth Day

YOUNG people aged between 13 and 25 are being invited to help shape the future of London's transport this Saturday at London Transport Museum. Find out more and sign up at www.cvent.com/d/9fqnnq.

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