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PRESS RELEASE

Museum Stands on Ceremony for War Memorial

A Wolverhampton war memorial honouring soldiers who lost their lives in both world wars was at the centre of a Remembrance Service held at the Black Country Living Museum today.

The eight-ton bronze figure, nicknamed 'Tommy', commemorates the sacrifices made by former Springfield Brewery workers. Moved by crane from the Territorial Army Barracks at Fallings Park to the Tipton Road Museum on Monday 26th October, the memorial will stand testimony to the bravery of local heroes and bring their stories to the attention of younger generations as they visit the Dudley attraction.

David Eveleigh, Curator of the Black Country Living Museum said: "We are delighted to be able to pay tribute to the men and women of the region and to honour the great sacrifice they made. War brings out extraordinary acts of courage in ordinary men and women. It is important their stories are told and that we ensure their memories lives on."

The Springfield Brewery Retired Employees Association has held a service at the monument each year since 1923. A band master from the Mercians sounded the last post at this year's service, which was attended by members of the Springfield Brewery Retired Employees Association and staff from the Black Country Living Museum.

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TIPTON ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY1 4SQ. TEL: 0121 557 9643 FAX: 0121 557 4242
www.bclm.co.uk email: info@bclm.co.uk

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Bill Blower, Chairman of the Springfield Retired Employees Association said:
“We’re very pleased that the memorial has found a new home at the Black Country Living Museum - it is the best place for it. The memorial will educate children who visit the museum about the two World Wars. It has been a lovely service. We have met relatives of servicemen listed on the memorial and have been reunited with a number of ex brewery staff.”

-Ends-

Fiona Carding, Media Relations Officer Tel: 0121 521 5692

Email: fionac@bclm.co.uk

Emma Middleton, Marketing Manager Tel: 0121 521 5603

Mobile: 07747 312196

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