

Participants: Please add or delete information as appropriate and distribute to your local media as soon as possible to ensure they have advance notification of your plans.

News Release

Name of your organisation and location.

**We are part of Battle's Over – commemorating 100 years since the end of WWI
November 11th 2018**

Name of your organisation is playing its part in Battle's Over, an international commemoration marking 100 years since the guns fell silent at the end of World War I.

Organised by Pageantmaster Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR, Battle's Over takes place on November 11th 2018, with events throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, and at scores of locations overseas, including New Zealand, Ireland, Australia, Bermuda, France, Belgium, Canada, the United States and Germany.

It begins at 6am with over 1,000 **lone pipers** playing Battle's O'er, a traditional Scottish air played after a battle, outside cathedrals and other individual locations throughout the country and overseas, following which a specially written tribute will be read out.

At 6.55pm buglers will sound the **Last Post** at more than 1,000 locations, where at 7pm WW1 Beacons of Light will be lit in a tribute signifying the light of peace that emerged from the darkness of four years of war.

Then at 7.05pm over 1,000 churches and cathedrals will ring their bells as part of **Ringling Out for Peace** organised in association with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, which represents 65 societies of ringers from the British Isles and overseas. Also at 7.05, more than 140 town criers will perform a specially written **Cry for Peace Around the World**, the first of them in New Zealand and then across the globe through the various time zones.

Name of your organisation is taking part in the following events:

Activity: (eg Lone Piper, Last Post, Beacons of Light, a Cry for Peace Around the World)

Location:

Time:

Contact Name:

Contact Email:

Contact Tel No:

You may include a quote from one of the organisers. For example:

Person's name, your organisation, said: "We are proud to be playing a part in this historic international event to commemorate the centenary of the end of the Great War, and to recognise the contribution and sacrifice made by the men and women from our own community."

Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute has been devised and planned by Pageantmaster Bruno Peek. He has organised major royal celebrations and international events for more than 36 years and has been working on Battle's Over for more than four years.

"It's wonderful to see the event being embraced by so many organisations and communities in this country and around the world. The centenary of the end of the Great War is an opportunity to acknowledge the enormous sacrifice made by the millions of men and women who died or were wounded, as well as those who worked tirelessly at home in our fields and factories. It has been a privilege to work on this project with the support of so many amazing organisations," said Mr Peek.

Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute also features special tributes to two groups of unsung heroes – the Chinese Labour Corps and the WW1 Tunnellers.

About 95,000 volunteers made up the Chinese Labour Corps, who dug trenches, repaired tanks, laid roads and tracks, transported supplies and assembled shells to free up British soldiers for the front line. Their work was a vital part of the war effort but is rarely acknowledged in the history of the 1914-18 conflict. The official guide to Battle's Over dedicates a page to the work of the Chinese labourers, most of whom were illiterate peasants.

Tai Wee Kuang, a Director of Hong Kong-based L Holding Limited, said: "It is hugely gratifying to see the work of the Chinese labourers recognised in this way. They made a massive contribution to the British war effort and I'm sorry to say that this has not always been recognised or appreciated. I am, therefore, delighted to support this unique commemoration and have the opportunity to pay tribute to my fellow countrymen."

The work of the WW1 Tunnellers has been acknowledged in a Lamplight of Peace, commissioned by Mr Peek and lit at a special service at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior, Westminster Abbey, London, on August 4th 2018. It sheds light on a special breed of men who fought on the Western Front, digging tunnels and laying explosives beneath enemy trenches.

The British Army had about 25,000 trained tunnellers, mostly volunteer coal miners, but they operated in such secrecy that little was known of their exploits for years after the war.

The Lamplight of Peace includes a miners' lamp from the period, a replica Victoria Cross, British and German barbed wire, coal from a Yorkshire coalfield, trench post fragments and a soil sample from the trenches, and ballast from the railway line where the WWI Armistice was signed.



The lamp is currently being kept alight by the event's four official charities – the Royal Naval Association, ABF The Soldiers Charity, the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund and the Merchant Navy Association, before being returned to the Grave of the Unknown Warrior, Westminster Abbey, for 6am on 11th November 2018, where a lone piper from the Air Training Corps will play Battle's O'er.

More information on Battle's Over can be found at www.brunopeek.co.uk/battles-over.

Bruno Peek may be contacted at brunopeek@mac.com or on + 44 (0) 7737 262913.

Ends

For further information or interviews on the *Your Organisation's* event(s) please contact:

Your name

Your organisation

Your email

Your telephone number