



## **PRESS RELEASE**

---

### **ART AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL**

Artists will be painting a picture of Standedge Tunnel to permanently display in the Visitor Centre when they present an exhibition of their work next week.

The Leeds Fine Artists (LFA) will be heading to Standedge Visitor Centre on the 17<sup>th</sup> June to begin an exhibition which will run until 10<sup>th</sup> July.

The club, which was founded in 1874 and includes a range of professional artists, will be displaying their work at the centre and taking part in an opening event on the 18<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00pm. The event will see the LFA working together to create a large picture of the tunnel entrance. The picture will then be displayed in the Visitor Centre as an attraction for the public.

Malcolm Barton, chairman of Leeds Fine Artists said: "Members of Leeds Fine Artists are very excited at the prospect of exhibiting at this splendid venue located as it is in such a striking Pennine landscape - a landscape that has been and remains a source of inspiration for generations of artists."

The exhibition will be taking place on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Opening hours for Fridays are 10.30am until 4.00pm and for Saturdays and Sundays 10.00am until 5.00pm.

James Dean, visitor services manager at Standedge Tunnel & Visitor Centre said: "The work of the Leeds Fine Artists is really special and I'm so glad it is going to be displayed in the centre for our visitors. I hope everyone comes down to take a look.

"I'm really looking forward to the picture they create of the tunnel entrance; it will be a great addition to our centre when complete."

The exhibition comes as part of a year of special events to help celebrate Standedge Tunnel's 200th anniversary. Standedge will be host to a selection of art activities including a monthly gift and craft fair, which will see local craft workers displaying their work, a Roses & Castles painting course from local artist Pat Osborne and this year's celebration of local art from over 30 artists at the Artsfest.

For more information about Standedge and the event calendar visit [www.standedge.co.uk](http://www.standedge.co.uk)

**Ends**

#### **North East Waterways**

British Waterways Fearn's Wharf Neptune Street Leeds LS9 8PB

T 0113 281 6860 F 0113 281 6886

[www.britishwaterways.co.uk](http://www.britishwaterways.co.uk)



**For media enquiries please contact**

Laura Hutchinson, PR Assistant, British Waterways (North)

Tel: 0113 2816802 or email [laura.hutchinson@britishwaterways.co.uk](mailto:laura.hutchinson@britishwaterways.co.uk)

**Notes to editors**

**Standedge Tunnel & Visitor Centre** – for more information visit [www.standedge.co.uk](http://www.standedge.co.uk).

Guided boat trips into the tunnel last around 30 minutes and run 11.00am - 3.00pm on the hour weekdays and 10.00am - 4.00pm on the hour weekends. Admission to the visitor centre is free.

**British Waterways** cares for the nation's 200-year old network of canals, rivers and docks, which attract over 13 million people each year for walking, cycling, angling, boating or simply the peace and quiet. The Government has backed British Waterways' plans in England and Wales for its canals and rivers to leave state control to become a 'national trust' for the waterways. This exciting new charity, which is targeted to be up and running in 2012, will attract new investment and give local people a greater role in how their waterways are run.