



## PRESS RELEASE

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24 August 2011

### STANDEGE SCHOOL MOSAIC PROJECT COMPLETE

A community project to install mosaics inspired by the history of Standedge Tunnel & Visitor Centre and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal has reached completion and is now available for public viewing in the recently opened wildlife garden and children's playground.

Over recent months visitor services manager, James Dean has been working alongside artists from Bradford based Artworks Creative Communities to develop six new mosaics which have been based on themes of industry, leisure, the traditional form of 'Legging', Standedge legend Thomas Bourne, wildlife and the official tunnel opening date.

The artist overseeing the project on behalf of Standedge was Melanie St. Clair who worked with children from Marsden Junior School, Linthwaite Ardron Primary School, St Chad's School Church of England Primary School in Uppermill and Diggle School.

James Dean, visitor services manager for Standedge Tunnel said: "This has been a great project to involve local schools on as it's important for new generations to know about the rich history in their area. We're really pleased how the new mosaics have turned out and it will be a great addition to the visitor centre. The exhibition will now be on permanent display for members of the public to come and enjoy."

The new art installation comes as part of a year of special events to help celebrate Standedge Tunnel's 200th anniversary year.

This month's celebration of local art from over 30 artists at the annual Artsfest event is also reaching its conclusion with Bank Holiday weekend the last chance to come and buy some fantastic local art.

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

**Ends**

**For media enquiries please contact**

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## Notes to editors

**Standedge Tunnel & Visitor Centre** – 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.