

16 October 2018

PRESS RELEASE

October half-term family fun

Brand new 'Future Engineers' gallery opening and 'Battle Bus' activities

London Transport Museum



- **From 19 October: Discover the fascinating world of engineering through a series of interactive exhibits, including a state-of-the-art palm scanner – the latest in ticketing technology – and an Elizabeth line train driving experience**
- **20-28 October: Battle Bus inspired Storytime sessions and Make & Take activities**
- **Iconic Battle Bus now on display in Covent Garden**
- **Kids go free**

This October half-term, families visiting London Transport Museum will be spoilt for choice, with the chance to be among the first to explore interactive exhibits in a brand new permanent gallery, Future Engineers, as well as see the magnificent Battle Bus now on display, and join storytime sessions and make and take activities inspired by the iconic vehicle.

Future Engineers gallery opening, 19 October

Families, young people and 'big kids' can get hands-on and have fun exploring the fascinating world of transport and engineering in the new Future Engineers gallery, which opens to the public on 19 October as a permanent interactive display.

Visitors can test their skills, solve transport conundrums faced by modern day engineers, and enjoy a series of interactive exhibits. The new gallery inspires an interest in STEM subjects and highlights the creativity, social value and sheer range of jobs available in engineering, with one exhibit asking you to choose the type of engineer you could become: a dreamer, planner or fixer.

Highlights include:

- **‘Go With The Flow’ ticketing exhibit with state-of-the-art palm scanner**, in partnership with Cubic Transportation Systems and Mastercard. Discover how, in a future world, a human being might become their ticket.
- **Elizabeth line AVENTRA 345 train driving experience**, in partnership with Bombardier Transportation. Climb into a recreated train cab, use control buttons and a computer system to drive through tunnels, pull into a platform and find out how clever engineering can solve challenging scenarios.
- **Future Job Generator**, in collaboration with Microsoft. Match your personality type to a cool futuristic job before taking the ultimate selfie that will put a photo of you in your new engineering role on a digital cover of The Engineer magazine.
- **Shape Your City** interactive table-top game in partnership with Jacobs. Race against the clock to build a successful, sustainable and well-connected city with this urban planning jigsaw.

Half-term family activities: Battle Bus, 20-28 October

To commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War, one of the most iconic vehicles in the Museum’s collection is now on display in Covent Garden in its khaki green livery for the first time. The 1914 Battle Bus is one of the last surviving B-type buses – the world’s first reliable, mass-produced motor bus – that was commandeered for use during the First World War. Family activities inspired by the story of this impressive heritage vehicle will take place throughout October half-term. Visitors will also be able to explore a small related temporary exhibition where they can read letters sent by transport workers to their loved ones back home, try on transport uniforms, and leave a message of remembrance. A newly commissioned artwork, ‘Forget Me Not’, will also be unveiled (see notes to editors).

Storytime sessions for all ages

Sessions take place at 11:00 and 14:00 and last approximately 20 minutes

One hundred years ago, the Battle Buses returned to London from the Western Front. They had been there to carry troops and cargo, serve as ambulances and even carry pigeons. Take part in a story time session to commemorate the end of First World War and meet an important bus driver, Joe Clough, who went from driving the Route 11 in East London, to driving an ambulance in France.

Make & Take, ages 3 - 12

Sessions from 11:30 to 12:45 and 14:00 to 15:45

Women went to work in factories, men became soldiers on the front line, and the red London buses were painted khaki and travelled to Europe. In 1914, the First World War meant there were a lot of changes to life in the Capital. Create your own changing picture to commemorate the end of the First World War and celebrate the arrival of the Battle Bus to London Transport Museum.

Save money by booking tickets in advance online at www.ltmuseum.co.uk.

Advance tickets booked online are priced at £16.00 for adults and £13.50 for concessions, and allow unlimited daytime entry to all Museum galleries and temporary exhibitions for a whole year. When purchased on the door, tickets are priced at £17.50 for adults and £15.00 for concessions. Kids go free.

The partners for the new Future Engineers gallery are: Bombardier Transportation, DCMS/Wolfson Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund, Luke Rees-Pulley Charitable Trust, Cubic Transportation Systems, Jacobs, Mastercard and Microsoft.

The Future Engineers gallery is part of the Year of Engineering programme which has also been made possible thanks to Biffa Award and Association of Independent Museums, Mott MacDonald and London Transport Museum Friends.

Ends

For media requests and images please contact:

London Transport Museum	
Candice Jones – PR and Marketing Manager Phone 020 7565 7448 Email candice.jones@ltmuseum.co.uk	For further information, please see: www.ltmuseum.co.uk Follow us on Twitter and Facebook at: https://twitter.com/ltmuseum

Claudia Pearson – Marketing Assistant
Phone 020 7565 7423
Email claudia.pearson@ltmuseum.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/ltmuseum>

Editors notes:

About London Transport Museum:

- London Transport Museum is situated in the heart of Covent Garden and filled with stunning exhibits; the Museum explores the powerful link between transport and the growth of modern London, culture and society since 1800. Historic vehicles, world-famous posters and the very best objects from the Museum's extraordinary collection are brought together to tell the story of London's development and the part transport played in defining the unique identity of the city.
- The Museum is a charity and the world's leading museum of urban transport and a place for everyone to come to understand and enjoy the story of London's journey. No other capital city is defined and shaped so much by its transport as London. Yet the scale of influence of transport can be invisible to those who use it every day. The Museum and its collections are a window into the past, present and future of how transport keeps London moving, working and growing, and makes life in our city better. The Museum's charity number is 1123122

Forget me Not (On permanent display from 20 October 2018)

Between 2014 and 2018, London Transport Museum has worked with 200 volunteers to explore the impact of war on London's transport system and its workers. From the role of women conductors, young men called to arms, and even the contributions children made to the war effort. A legacy of these incredible stories is represented by a newly commissioned artwork 'Forget Me Not' which will go on permanent display at the Museum in October 2018. The artwork is made from over one hundred flowers which represent the hand embroidered postcards that soldiers sent to their loved ones from the front line. Each flower is screen printed with illustrations created by Battle Bus project participants, project staff and today's transport workers.

Travel to London Transport Museum:

Address: Covent Garden Piazza, WC2E 7BB.

The nearest stations to London Transport Museum are:

- **Underground:** Leicester Square, Charing Cross, Embankment and Covent Garden
- **Bus:** Strand or Aldwych
- **National Rail:** Charing Cross and Waterloo
- **Boat:** Embankment or Westminster piers

Public information:

- Talks & events bookings: +44 (0)20 7565 7298
- Switchboard: +44 (0)20 7379 6344 - general information
- 24 hour information: +44 (0)20 7565 7299
- www.ltmuseum.co.uk