

# EDITED PRESS RELEASE

## TRANSPORT FOR LONDON

### LONDON UNDERGROUND UNVEILS PLANS FOR A YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS TO MARK 150TH ANNIVERSARY

24 October 2012

Next year London Underground will celebrate 150 years since the very first Underground journey took place between Paddington and Farringdon on the Metropolitan Railway. To mark this occasion, LU, working in partnership with the London Transport Museum, will be organising a range of events and activities this year and throughout 2013.

Setting the scene for the exciting year to come is the publication of a new lavishly illustrated book, published by Penguin Books, about the history of the Underground. The book *Underground – How the Tube shaped London 1863 to 2013* will be launched by BBC Broadcaster Robert Elms and the authors at London Transport Museum on the evening of 29 October.

A range of other events and activities will follow, including:

- The first Underground passenger journey will be recreated on Sunday 13 January 2013, with a series of specially restored trains including the Metropolitan Steam Locomotive No.1 and the Metropolitan Railway Jubilee Carriage No 353 – the oldest operational Underground carriage in existence – which is being restored with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- A series of heritage rail trips, including the use of steam trains.
- The publication of 12 short stories by well-known authors, published by Penguin Books. The stories, one about each Underground line, look at the meaning of the Underground and the place it holds in the imagination of all those who live and visit the city.
- Two new two-pound coins issued by the Royal Mint which will go into circulation in 2013 to mark the 150th anniversary of the London Underground.
- Poster Art 150: London's greatest Designs – an exhibition at London Transport Museum focussing on the iconic poster art that has been a feature of London Underground for much of its history.
- Train wraps of Metropolitan Line trains for passengers to enjoy.
- A commemorative Oyster card which will serve as a sought-after memento for passengers.
- A series of Poems on the Underground will celebrate 150 years of the Underground.
- A series of theatrical events at the disused Aldwych station.
- In 2013 *Art on the Underground* will present a programme that will include: a major commission by an acclaimed high-profile British artist bringing artworks into every station on the Underground network, a set of posters and limited edition prints by 15 leading contemporary artists, screenings of London Underground themed films at an Underground station from the BFI archive.
- Behind the Scenes events and Open Weekends at the Museum's store at Acton.