

**Wednesday 18th February 2015**

Last year to mark the centenary of the First World War local volunteers, community groups and schools gathered together to plant 100,000 snowdrop bulbs across a number of sites in Manchester.

Snowdrops were chosen as they were planted at war graves during the First World War to remind soldiers of home. The small white flowers - a symbol of hope and peace, are now starting to bloom and will leave a lasting legacy when they flower each year for the enjoyment of many who visit, work and live in Manchester.

This is accompanied by a dramatic war-themed snowdrop installation imitating a First World War bunker outside the entrance and inside the foyer of Manchester Art Gallery. The display is designed to showcase the city wide project by featuring snowdrops growing out of the bunkers as if the war is over, leading visitors to the Stanley Spencer art exhibition currently showing at Manchester Art Gallery.

