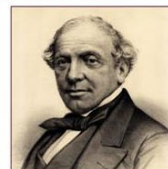


*Raising public awareness of
Thomas Brassey, 'The World's Foremost
Builder of Railways in the 19th Century'*



The
**THOMAS
BRASSEY**
Society

Thomas Brassey Statue



CASE STATEMENT & FUNDING PROSPECTUS August 2022



Joseph Locke in Locke Park,
Barnsley by Carlo Marochetti



Isambard Kingdom Brunel at Paddington
Station by John Doubleday



George Stephenson outside
Chesterfield Station
by Stephen Hicklin

Accessible, Approachable & Authentic



Sir Nigel Gresley at King's Cross Station, by Hazel Reeves



Sir John Betjeman at St Pancras Station, by Martin Jennings



Sir Edward Elgar, Worcester, by Jemma Pearson



Eric Morecambe on Morecambe promenade, by Graham Ibbeson

Educating the public about Thomas Brassey's achievements

Thomas Brassey was born a few miles south of Chester in 1805. After being educated in Chester, he began his career as a trainee land surveyor on Thomas Telford's Shrewsbury to Holyhead road across North Wales. He learned a lot about civil engineering, became a quarry manager on the Wirral and then set up his own construction company based at Birkenhead. An approach by Joseph Locke to quote for a railway viaduct at Penkridge near Stafford marked the beginning of a phenomenal career in which he built one third of all the railways in this country, and 1 in 20 miles of all those on almost every continent. Such were his achievements, both at home and abroad, that Thomas Brassey is now regarded as '*the World's Foremost Builder of Railways in the 19th Century*'.

In line with our educational objective to raise public awareness, our long-standing aspiration for a statue of Thomas Brassey has turned into a determined fund-raising campaign.

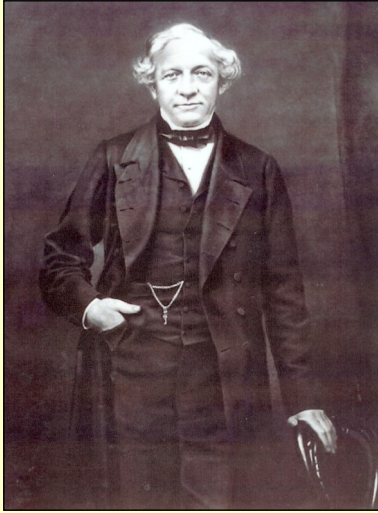
At one time we imagined the statue being a Victorian gentleman standing proudly on a stone plinth outside Chester Station. These initial preconceptions have evolved and changed to the point where we now envisage a sculpture that is accessible and approachable; something people will identify with and want to have their photograph taken alongside.

Above all we want people to know who Thomas Brassey was, not just a man of enormous energy and ability but someone who was trustworthy and fair. Thomas was a quietly spoken master of organisation with astonishing drive, steady in adversity and unfailing scruples. His word was his bond, a gentleman in the truest sense. He affected others with his inner calm and stature.

Contemporary writers tell us that everyone held him in honour and affection.

We are told that he was wonderful with his men. As an employer his concern was the wellbeing of those who served him. They would never find him unresponsive to their needs or indifferent to their plight which won their affection. The inspiration that he brought them was his golden asset. By the mid 1840's his labour force had risen to 50,000 and by the later 1840's to 80,000 in a score of countries on four continents, operating with up to 11 language groups.

Hearing of his impending death from cancer a group of his north country workforce walked for days, gathering their workmates with them, to assemble at his home near Hastings, waiting in vigil to the end.



Summary of Brassey's achievements

- During his civil engineering career, Brassey built a recorded distance of over 6,500 miles of railway, with all the many bridges, stations, viaducts etc included.
- This represented over half a mile of track for every day of his railway building life of some 36 years.
- At times he employed in the region of 80,000 people. During the Crimean War, Brassey and his partners built a 39 mile railway (Balaclava to Sevastopol), at no profit to the company, to transport essential supplies and munitions to the British troops and their allies.
- Despite the scale of his activities, he initially had no office or office staff, but did all of his correspondence himself.
- Brassey co-owned Brunel's ship, the SS Great Eastern, which laid the first transatlantic telegraph cable.
- The 2 mile long Victoria Bridge, Montreal, was prefabricated in Brassey's Canada Works, Birkenhead before being shipped across the Atlantic as part of the 540 mile Grand Trunk Railway project.
- His was a personal company with no limited liability, where he personally carried all of his financial commitments and obligations.
- His main bank was the "Chester bank" of Messrs Dixon and Wardell, based on the Town Hall square, Chester and at times there was more money going through the Thomas Brassey accounts with that bank than through the exchequers of some of the smaller European countries.



Placed by Wirral Council to commemorate Brassey & his Canada Works in Birkenhead.



Cefn Mawr viaduct, built 1848
Chester to Shrewsbury line

Costs & Donations

Bronze Statues are expensive! Based on our research into other statues and an informal quotation two years ago, we have set a fundraising target of £80,000.

The breakdown of this is very roughly as follows:

Design, casting, delivery & installation	£65,000
Management and quality assurance by an Art Curator appointed by the Society	£ 6,500
Planning permission, insurance and contingencies	£ 8,500

This estimate is provisional and will be subject to review and refinement as the commissioning process proceeds.

However, we are delighted to record an offer to match funds to the value of half of the cost of the statue from the Tyrer Charitable Trust managed by Aaron & Partners in Chester. This fundraising appeal is, therefore, seeking to match the existing offer and bring us to our target as soon as possible. Please use the Donation form below to help us achieve our objective.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

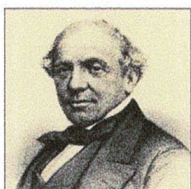
- 1 All donations, of any size, will be gratefully received.
- 2 If you are able and prepared to make a Gift Aid declaration, please do so.
- 3 The Society will do everything in its power to fulfil its aspiration for a statue and to complete the project expeditiously.
- 4 Donors will be kept informed about the progress of the appeal but any decision not to proceed will rest with the Trustees of the Society.
- 5 In the event of us being unable to proceed with the statue, for any reason, the collected funds will be used to further the Charitable Objectives of the Society.

Please use the following form to record the details of your donation. If you have any queries, wish to discuss any aspect of this appeal with us, please do not hesitate to make contact via the Treasurer, David Bebb at dv.bebb@gmail.com or any officer of the Society.

www.thomasbrasseysociety.org

Registered charity No 1195546





The
**THOMAS
BRASSEY**
Society

Donation to The Thomas Brassey Society

05.22

SECTION ONE – Contact Details		
Title (e.g. Mr/Ms)	First Name(s)	Surname
Home Address		
Postcode:		
Home Telephone Number	Mobile Number	
Email Address		
Your personal details will be held in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), as set out on our web-site http://www.thomasbrasseysociety.org		

SECTION TWO – Declarations and Confirmation	
I am making a donation of £ <input type="text"/> to The Thomas Brassey Society	
Please tick here	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I attach a cheque made out to The Thomas Brassey Society
<input type="checkbox"/>	or I will send/have sent my donation to the bank account of The Thomas Brassey Society by BACS/Standing Order - Sort Code : 01-07-02 Account No: 56481608 (Please add 'Statue' followed by your own name, as Reference)
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have signed the Gift Aid declaration overleaf (if appropriate) <i>giftaid it</i>
Signed	
Date	

PLEASE RETURN to David Bebb (TBS Treasurer) - 2 King's Crescent East, Chester CH3 5TH
or a scanned copy of a completed form by e-mail to :- dv.bebb@gmail.com



Registered Charity No. 1195546

Gift Aid can be reclaimed by the Society from the tax you pay for the current and future tax years. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

- I wish my donations to The Thomas Brassey Society (TBS), including donations I make in the future or have made since 18th August 2021, to be treated as Gift Aid Donations.
- I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in each tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand that the TBS will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Signed Date

Please notify the TBS Treasurer if you :

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains