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LOCAL NEWS



Memorial unveiled

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New coach bombing memorial unveiled

A new memorial for 12 people, including two young children, who died in an IRA motorway coach bombing, was unveiled on Wednesday in England.

Around 500 people attended the moving ceremony at Hartshead Moor Service Station on the M62, near Bradford - about a mile from where the IRA bomb exploded in February 1974.

The coach was carrying soldiers and their families back to Catterick Garrison, in North Yorkshire, when it was blown apart.

Survivors and relatives of those killed were joined by dignitaries, religious leaders and military personnel at the plaque dedication.

An oak tree was also planted to commemorate the victims on the 35th anniversary of the bombing.

During the dedication service, the Bishop of Wakefield Steven Platton told the crowd:

"It is a most unusual and tragic event that we remember."

He added: "Today we look forward, not backwards. We do pray for those who died but we pray too for hope for a less violent world."

An original plaque, located inside the service station, will be moved to the Imperial War Museum North, in Manchester.

Relatives of those who died felt the original memorial was not in an appropriate place as it was surrounded by merchandise.

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