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War memorial window throws light on hope



AN ARTIST who has created a new memorial to the sacrifice of those affected by war says it offers hope for the future.

The stained glass memorial window and plaque will be dedicated at a service at Southwell Minster on July 10.

Oxford-based artist Nicholas Mynheer said: "It acknowledges the darkness of despair and loss as well as, for many, the loss of faith, but it hints ultimately that it is through selfless sacrifice and service to others that the darkness of despair is turned into the light of hope."

The window and plaque, which have been installed in the quire of the minster, are a memorial to the sacrifice of members of Southwell Diocese in war, from the outbreak of the first world war to the present day.

They were commissioned in 2014 by the then Dean of Southwell, the Very Rev John Guille, and the Cathedral Chapter, with the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, Sir John Peace, and Vice Lord-Lieutenant, Colonel Tim Richmond, who led fundraising for the project.

Financial support has come mainly from private benefactors with additional help from regimental associations and Royal British Legion branches.

Mr Mynheer was selected from 12 contenders to produce the work.

His tribute to selfless sacrifice acknowledges those who went to war and those who were left to care for families and maintain life at home.

The design seeks to reflect the need for forgiveness and reconciliation, giving glimpses of combatants from both sides and seeking common ground between them.



THE final touches are put to the memorial window at Southwell Minster. PHOTO: Richard Jarvis.