



WAIHI METAL STUDIO

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The NZ Engineers Tunnelling Company Memorial in one sentence:

“We honour the Tunnellers as they had honoured their own with a miner’s cross representing the horizontal, temporal, neighbourly axis riven by the hierarchic, sublime, spiritual void as the vertical axis.” Nick Brumder



The Memorial was designed and created by Nick Brumder and his son Nicholas of Waihi Metal Studio. They drew on many sources for their inspiration. “It was our honour to be chosen to create the World War One Tunnellers Memorial, and to honour the Tunnellers’ bravery, intrepidness, and sacrifice.”





There is a great rift in the comity between nations during the Great War. The forms on the top, the rough arms, rise up to hands entreating grace, with a longing for peace on earth, a return to the paradise lost. The globe is off centre. The centre does not hold.



As a chorus may sing many narratives in harmony, so the World War One Tunnellers Memorial welcomes individual interpretation.



“The poem *The Second Coming* by W B Yeats obtruded itself into my imagination during the design of the memorial and informs some of the less overt detail. Represented are also elements of poetry by the Inkling, Charles Williams.”



The cross also represents the letter T for Tunneller. The scroll patterns are vortex streets reminiscent of weather patterns connecting all parts of the globe.

The overall sword form indicates that this is a military monument. It may also be considered an Arthurian sword in the stone. The cross rises from a round basalt columnar table to a globe with the war theatres on the front and the home front on the back.