

# PRESS RELEASE



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## GB Railfreight hosts Remembrance service

GB Railfreight (GBRf) hosted an Act of Remembrance on Thursday 11 November at Marlyebone Station in front of its locomotive 66715 'Valour'. Dressed with a large poppy, Valour pulled into platform five at the station to mark the start of the memorial proceedings.

The ceremony was held in conjunction with ATOC, Chiltern Railways and The Great Central Railway Society (GCRS) to honour all the servicemen and women, past and present, who have lost their lives in conflict.

Guests were welcomed to the event by Ken Grainger of GCRS, with an address provided by Dave Burley, head of safety at GBRf, and an exhortation by veteran Joe Eva. Following a two-minute silence guests partook in a prayer with Andrew Hall from The Railway Mission.

Wreaths were laid in front of the locomotive by Kevin Walker of GBRf, Stephanie Atkinson and Jo Kaye of Network Rail, John Rissbrook, Chiltern Railways, Keith Norman of ASLEF, Michael Roberts, ATOC, Ken Grainger and Bill Ford, Great Central Railway Society, Mick Stevens of Unite, Paul Bulley, British Transport Police, Andrew Hall of The Railway Mission and FS Andy Gillet and FS Andy Furness RAF.

Kevin Walker, operations director, GBRf, who provided the closing address for the event, said: *"We would like to thank the staff and children of St. Edward's School for their help in the remembrance service.*

*"It's a great honour to be here today. As ever it remains incredibly important to remember those who have lost their lives in conflict and the sacrifices they made."*

### **About 'Valour'**

GB Railfreight named locomotive 66715 'Valour' in November 2003, as part of a special ceremony that celebrated the removal of the Great Central Railway War Memorial from under the Wicker Arch to its present position in the square at the front of the Royal Victoria Hotel, following rededication of the war memorial. After the rededication, 66715 was named Valour by Mike Hartley, Chairman of the Great Central Railway Society and Ward Simpson then General Manager of GB Railfreight.

The locomotive was dedicated as a war memorial by the Dean of Sheffield, The Very Reverend Peter Bradley. 66715 'Valour' continues to honour the railwaymen and women who fell in the First World War and subsequent conflicts.

### **About GB Railfreight**

GB Railfreight (GBRf) is one of the UK's leading specialist rail freight companies, operating a wide ranging portfolio of intermodal and bulk traffic services in commodities such as coal, petrochemicals, and construction materials. Its innovative approach and focus on flexibility, reliability and customer service has led to a raft of rail industry awards and a number of recent significant contract wins.

GBRf is part of Europorte, the rail freight arm of GET (Groupe Eurotunnel SA).