

# GB Railfreight Colonel Tom Moore miniature train raises £140,000 for NHS

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GB Railfreight, one of the UK's leading rail freight operators, has teamed up with model manufacture Hornby Hobbies to make a miniature version of the locomotive it named after Capt. Tom Moore last week to raise money for the NHS.

Having seen the reaction to the unveiling of the 129-tonne, Class 66 freight locomotive named in Capt. Moore's honour last Thursday to mark his 100th birthday, Hornby asked GB Railfreight if they could replicate their loco in miniature form with all profits being donated to the NHS as a thank you for the work frontline staff are doing during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Having initially planned to make only 500 models, Hornby found it impossible to keep up with demand, and in less than 48 hours they had sold more than 2,500. Since then, they have added 1,000 more to their stocks, and a percentage of the sales will be given to NHS charities. So far the model of the GBRf locomotive produced by Hornby has raised £140,000.

GB Railfreight is playing its part in supporting the UK's COVID-19 response by helping to keep essential services running across the country and ensuring that warehouses and supermarkets remain stocked, and vital medical supplies are transported across the country whilst ensuring all of our team are being kept as

safe as possible.

The full-size Captain Tom Moore locomotive has already been playing its part to help the COVID-19 recovery by hauling loads, including containers carrying PPE gloves, from Southampton to distribution centres around the country.

Bob Tiller, Engineering Director of GB Railfreight said: “We are delighted that the Captain Tom Moore locomotive ably reproduced by Hornby, has been such a success and sales have helped raise more money for NHS charities supporting our wonderful NHS heroes as we deal with the ongoing pandemic. The popularity of the model shows what an inspiration, Captain Tom Moore has been to us all.

“The speed at which the 3,500 miniature locos had been sold is testament of the whole railway community, including railway enthusiasts’, appreciation for the work of the NHS during this period.

“I hope that this locomotive will be a cherished reminder on model railways for years to come of the debt we owe to the NHS and the important role that the railway and freight services have been playing in helping the UK through this crisis.”

Simon Kohler, Marketing & Product Development Director at Hornby Hobbies, said: “Like others, we at Hornby were inspired by the achievements of the amazing Captain, now Colonel Tom Moore and we were so pleased that GB Railfreight, Porterbrook, Procast Foundry and Railwayana Auctions teamed up to create a special livery on one of GB Railfreight’s Class 66 locomotives.

“As a special thank you to Col. Tom Moore and the NHS, Hornby will be producing as a limited edition, 3500 models of locomotive 66 731, ‘Capt. Tom Moore – A True British Inspiration’ the sales of which will generate £140,000 which will be donated to the NHS Charities with our heartfelt appreciation in what they are doing for us all.”

*Photo credit: GB Railfreight*