



## **GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY**

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

### **PRESS INFORMATION**

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010

## **STANDARD FOUR 80072 TO VISIT GCR IN MARCH**

**The Great Central Railway is welcoming a 'first time' visiting engine in March 2010.**

Standard 4 number 80072 will be visiting from the Llangollen Railway. It is expected the engine will stay for a month and work weekend passenger trains.

It will also be a second guest for the four day 1960s gala on the 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th March 2010. The gala also features Celebrity Peppercorn A1 no 60163 "Tornado" at the event.

Event co-ordinator for the Great Central Railway, Steven Chapple said, "**80072 is a welcome visitor, a perfect size for the railway and very versatile. Previous visiting BR Standard 4s have proved very popular and I'm sure this will be no exception. Adding it to the roster for the our four day 1960s gala in March makes the event very special.**"

80072 appears courtesy of its owning group and the Llangollen Railway. Having recently returned to traffic, this will be only its second visit to another heritage railway.

ENDS  
WORDS 170

#### **NOTES**

Voted number 12 on the list of the 50 greatest railway journeys in the world the Great Central Railway is the UK's only double track, main line heritage railway. It's the only place in the world where full size steam engines can be seen passing each other – just as it was when steam ruled the rails. The preserved railway celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2009, and is manned by around 700 volunteers and a small team of permanent staff. Preservation of this section of the Great Central Railway began in 1969. The route was originally part of a main line from Sheffield to London. The 8 mile preserved section between Loughborough and Leicester is fully operational and the 4 stations reflect a different period of the railways 111 year history. Around 100,000 visitors a year come to the railway from all over the world.

Trains run every weekend of the year, bank holidays and daily in the summer. In addition, First Class Restaurant Car Services provide famous dining experiences course, whilst passengers travel between Loughborough and Leicester. Childhood engine driver dreams can come true with a Drive a Train

**BRITAIN'S ONLY DOUBLE TRACK, MAIN LINE HERITAGE RAILWAY**  
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Experience. We also run a number of family events, including Santa Specials.

The railway has won a number of awards including “independent railway of the year”, and a gold award for the East Midlands best visitor experience and is a quality assured visitor attraction as designated by Enjoy England.