



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Date: 12th April 2011

Contact: Richard Patching, Commercial Manager GCR: 07515 597055
David Haarhaus, Sales Manager, Bachman: 07734 559005

GREAT CENTRAL - NOW A MODEL RAILWAY!

Bachmann Models latest range includes a OO scale Rothley Station

Visitors to the award winning grade II listed Rothley station can now take it home! The model maker Bachmann has unveiled a range of scale models of the popular Great Central Railway location for OO railways.

Their Scenecraft range now includes a collection of buildings which depict Rothley station. The station was opened in 1899 as part of the Great Central Railway's grand extension to London Marylebone. Most of the stations on the route were built to the distinctive 'island platform' layout.

The model buildings can be configured to reflect many of them, including those which were accessed by steps from below (as opposed to the stairway arcade which descends from road level at the prototypical Rothley).

A donation will be made to the GCR for every item sold from the new range.

“Rothley station is a particular gem on GCR and retains virtually all of its late Victorian features”, said Richard Patching, Commercial Manager of the Great Central. **“Knowing that Bachmann are just about to introduce a full set of buildings for Rothley is wonderful news, not just for GCR, but especially for all the visitors who have admired this station. The fact that they initiated a donation from the sale of each item is a wonderful gesture which GCR's supporters will appreciate greatly”**

The eight items in the range are finished by hand and include a booking office and canopy, a water column and lamp hut.



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

David Haarhaus, Bachmann's Sales and Marketing Manager said **"The Great Central Railway is local to our offices in Leicestershire and has been a great help in researching and developing items from their impressive collection of preserved rolling stock. We at Bachmann, recognise the tremendous effort and hard work carried out by the railway's staff to operate this heritage railway situated in the heart of England. We are therefore keen to produce a model of their popular Rothley station."**

Rothely station has won railway heritage awards and is grade II listed. While built at the end of the Victorian era, it has been carefully restored by a dedicated team of volunteers to reflect early Edwardian times. It is often used as a film set and hosts period themed events.

The collection will be launched at the Great Central Railway's Mail By Rail gala on 23rd & 24th July. Items will be available to purchase following July's launch.

ENDS

WORDS 411

NOTES

GCR;

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 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.

BRITAIN'S ONLY DOUBLE TRACK, MAIN LINE HERITAGE RAILWAY

Great Central Railway, Great Central Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 1RW

Tel: (01509) 230726 Fax: (01509) 239791