



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Date: 15th April 2010

DELTIC TO VISIT GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY FOR SUMMER SEASON 2010

Driver Experience packages announced

The sound of powerful Napier engines will fill the air at the Great Central Railway this Summer. The railway is welcoming back the Deltic Preservation Society - but this time with D9009. The green liveried machine has never visited the railway.

Following the successful 'flying visit' of 55019 to the GCR last Summer for the September diesel gala, the railway and the DPS have been in negotiations to arrange a longer stay by one of the society's machines.

Deltic D9009 (in green livery) will arrive mid July to take a starring role at the Mail By Rail gala weekend (24th and 25th July). Following that it will feature at the September diesel gala (11th and 12th September) and depart in October. Extra special events featuring the locomotive are also being considered.

Great Central Railway President Bill Ford said, **"We are very much looking forward to a return by the Deltic Preservation Society. D9009, resplendent in green will look very much at home on our double track. The locomotive will be the star of the summer at a number of events."**

While it's visiting the railway and in conjunction with the DPS, the railway is offering a strictly limited number of Drive a Locomotive Experience packages
The DELTIC BRONZE package will be available of four weekends:

31st July and 1st August, 7th and 8th August, 21st and 22nd August and 4th/5th of September.

You'll share the sixteen mile return trip with another driver and spend most of the day at the railway including lunch. The day costs £310 per person.

If you'd like more miles with your hand at the controls, then the locomotive will also be available for longer diesel driver experience packages of 32 and 64 miles (£650 and £995 respectively).



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The railway will also operate a Deltic Pullman train on the 30th of September. Tickets will cost £60 per head and include a four course meal and travel on a special train incorporating the new Pullman bar car.

Peter Kennan of the DPS said: "We are excited to be returning to the GCR for a longer stay in 2010. Having Alycidon on a double track main line railway should be great for all Deltic fans and we look forward to a range of events over the summer. Thanks go to the management at the GCR for asking us back and suggesting an interesting programme."

Advanced booking is essential for Drive a Locomotive services and the Deltic Pullman train on 01509 230726.

D9009 will also clock up miles on passenger trains during its Leicestershire stay. Details will appear on the GCR website.

ENDS

WORDS 451

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Details on the above and all forthcoming events can be found on the Great Central Railway's extensive website: www.gcrailway.co.uk
Additional information can also be obtained from the Booking Office, Loughborough Central Station, (Daily 9.00 - 5.30) on 01509 230726

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 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

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