



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY
LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Celebrating 40 years of preservation in 2009

Date: 26th October 2009

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SPOOKY TIMES, CREEPY CRAWLIES AND TRAINS THAT GO SHUNT IN THE NIGHT

**Calling all magicians apprentices to a special weekend
at the Great Central Railway**

Wave that magic wand and hop aboard a real steam train for Halloween weekend to remember. The Great Central Railway, Leicestershire's award winning heritage line, is staging a wizards weekend with all sorts of family fun.

Steam trains will be running on Saturday 31st and Sunday 1st of November. Anyone dressing up and really getting into the spirit of things, be they young or young at heart will magically shrink their ticket price.

Kate Tilley of the Great Central Railway said, "**We're looking out for a magic weekend. Families can meet real live creepy crawlies thanks to our friends at Twycross Zoo and on Sunday we'll have owls on display at Loughborough Central station.**"

On Saturday night there is an extra late train for passengers who dare to ride into the night. For just £5 each the suitably spooky diesel multiple unit will take them on a return trip to Rothley, leaving Loughborough at 5pm, 6pm and 7pm.

Refreshments will be available all day including Pumpkin Soup!

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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,



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(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 has been operating for over 36 years, 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 110 year history.

Trains run every weekend of the year, bank holidays and daily in the summer. In addition, First Class Restaurant Car Services provide 4 or 6 course meals, whilst travelling between Loughborough and Leicester or childhood dreams can come true with a Drive a Train Experience. We also run a number of family events, including "Days Out with Thomas the Tank Engine", Bonfire Night and 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.