



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Date: 17th January 2010

Contact: Kate Tilley, Great Central Railway
Tel: 07515 596835

BURNS NIGHT ON THE LINE

**Special Dining Train with Scottish Chef In Charge!
Go 'north of the border' without leaving Leicestershire.**

Friday 22nd January 2010

Burns Night is coming to the Great Central Railway. It's as traditional as New Years Eve - and some would argue even better! Among them, the on train chef at the railway who is on a mission to prove the Scots can hold a better party than anyone.

The Great Central Railway heads north of the border, for a Burns supper celebration on the 22nd of January. Revellers can expect Haggis, Neeps, Tattys and all the trimmings including a bagpiper.

Kate Tilley from the Great Central Railway said, "**James McIntosh, our chef is a real character and is determined to pull out the stops to prove Scots know best when it comes to celebrating. When you add the bagpiper and a welcoming hot toddy for passengers into the mix, well we think lots of people might suddenly discover Scottish roots!**"

While it might still be a bleak midwinter, the blues will be well and truly blown away on the train. It runs on the 22nd of January and will be pulled by a vintage steam engine. The train departs from Loughborough Central station at 7.30pm, returning around 10.15pm

A first class ticket including the five course meal costs just £57 per person (or £45.50 for first class members of the Friends of the Great Central Main Line.)

'Burns Suppers' are traditionally held on January the 25th to mark the birthday of Robert Burns, the Scottish poet whose work includes Auld Lang Syne, the traditional Hogmanay song. The train menu will reflect some traditional flavours for the time of year.



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Advance booking for dining services is essential. There's more information on the Great Central Railway website at www.gcrailway.co.uk

ENDS
WORDS 301

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

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

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