



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY
LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Winner "Best Tourism Experience - East Midlands" 2007

Date: 18th August 2008

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THOMAS IN TOWN
FOR A BANK HOLIDAY TREAT

**Tank engine favourite brings Toby the tram
and Daisy the diesel railcar along too**

**Possible 'in steam appearance' from
Britain's brand new steam engine "Tornado"**

A bank holiday weekend of family fun is guaranteed at the Great Central Railway when everybody's favourite blue engine tears up the tracks! Thomas the Tank Engine, the Fat Controller and Daisy the Diesel Railcar are just some of the characters who will be appearing at the event which runs from August 23rd to August 25th 2008.

Thomas will also be bringing along Toby the tram along to Quorn station where there will also be a small funfair.

"Our August Thomas event is always really popular," said the railway's marketing assistant Lynn Hill, "and we look forward to welcoming families and Thomas fans of all ages. As normal Thomas will be working shuttle trains and will be more than happy to pose for pictures. The Fat Controller, "Sir Topham Hatt" will be running the show and making sure

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



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the other really useful engines behave.”

Meanwhile – there could be an extra special engine on display for railway fans young and old. The Fat Controllers brand new express steam engine called “Tornado” might be in steam. Sir Topham Hatt has set some tests for Tornado to pass and if it does then it will be making some runs along the line by itself. If you are coming especially to see Tornado please check the engine is in steam before travelling to the railway by calling the booking office on 01509 230726

Lynn, concluded, “It’s going to be a fantastic Saturday, Sunday and Monday. There’s no better way to finish the summer holidays than a family trip on the railway to meet Thomas and friends”

ENDS.

WORDS: 296

Images to accompany this story can be downloaded from www.greatcentralrailway.com
Follow the links “More” and “News” to the press gallery section

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further general information, details on the above and all forthcoming events can be found on the Great Central Railway's extensive website: www.greatcentralrailway.com
Additional information can also be obtained from the Booking Office, Loughborough Central Station, (Daily 9.00 - 5.30) on 01509 230726

NOTES

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 25 years, and is manned by around 700 volunteers and a small team of permanent staff. Originally the Sheffield to London main line, the 8 mile section between Loughborough and Leicester is fully operational and the 4 stations reflect a different period of the railways 107 year history.

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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 silver award for the East Midlands best visitor experience.

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