

# Grouldle Glen Railway & Sea Lion Rocks Tea Rooms

*The Line that goes  
Uphill to the Sea*



## 2024

TIMETABLE & INFORMATION



[www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)



A Manx Registered Charity operated entirely by volunteers.

# 2024 Timetable

## Calendar codes

- GREEN** Sundays: May-October - 11am to 4:30pm  
**RED** Wednesdays: In conjunction with the Manx Electric Railway Groudle shuttle service - 12th June-28th August - 7pm to 9pm  
**PURPLE** Easter Bunny Trains & FREE Easter Egg Hunt\*\*: 31st March & 1st April: 10am to 4:30pm  
**BLUE** SPECIAL EVENTS\*\*: 11am to 4:30pm (Unless otherwise stated: See Special Events for full details.)  
**YELLOW** Christmas Services\*\*: Santa Trains - 10am to 3.30pm  
 Mince Pie Trains - 11am to 3.30pm

### APRIL 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### MAY 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### JUNE 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
30						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

### JULY 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### AUGUST 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### SEPTEMBER 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### OCTOBER 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### DECEMBER 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**PLEASE NOTE:** The last passenger service on operating days may be operated by Battery or Diesel Locomotive.

**Return Fares** (Return Fares are valid for travel all day)

**ADULT:** £5.00 **CHILD:** £2.50 **DOGS:** 50p

**Single Fares** **ADULT:** £2.50 **CHILD:** £1.50

**Isle of Man Go Explorer Cards** accepted on all services May - October (excl. Hop Tu Naa).

**\*\*Special Fares apply for Easter, Hop Tu Naa/Halloween & Christmas Special Event Tickets with online pre-booking required (limited numbers) at: [www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)**



Welcome...

...to the Groudle Glen Railway, affectionately known as "The Line that goes Uphill to the Sea" This unique line was built in 1896 by Richard Maltby Broadbent as part of the new Groudle Glen pleasure grounds.

It ran as a tourist attraction until the early 1960s when it fell into disrepair. During the 1970s the line was scrapped and the rolling stock sold. The line was saved from total extinction by a band of enthusiastic volunteers in 1982, reopening to passengers in 1986.

Today the line is a Manx registered charity, still run entirely by an enthusiastic group of volunteers. It provides a fun, nostalgic day out for all ages whilst restoring and maintaining an important piece of Manx railway history for this generation and many more to follow.



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**VOLUNTEER!**  
Can you give a little time and join our team?

## More than just a Railway...

### Treat yourself to a unique Steam Tea

Available to book on the majority of Sundays during the summer season. **ONLINE PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED - Limited Numbers**  
Travel by steam train to our Sea Lion Rocks Tea Rooms and enjoy an afternoon tea in beautiful surroundings.



**Booking includes:** Unlimited return train travel on the day, reserved table, unlimited tea or coffee, a selection of sandwiches, cakes, crisps & biscuits. Please make sure you let us know when completing your booking of any dietary requirements.

**£25 per person**  
(Minimum booking - 2 people)  
Bookings are non refundable within 5 days of travel.

### Enjoy Refreshments & take a trip back in time -

Whilst at Sea Lion Rocks enjoy refreshments from our Tea Rooms in stunning surroundings. Check out our visitor centre displays, exhibits and films which give you an insight into Groulle Glen's past as a popular Victorian tourist pleasure ground with its unique cliff top zoo, railway and multiple attractions. Also discover the history of the railway, its decline, closure and subsequent restoration by a small group of volunteers.



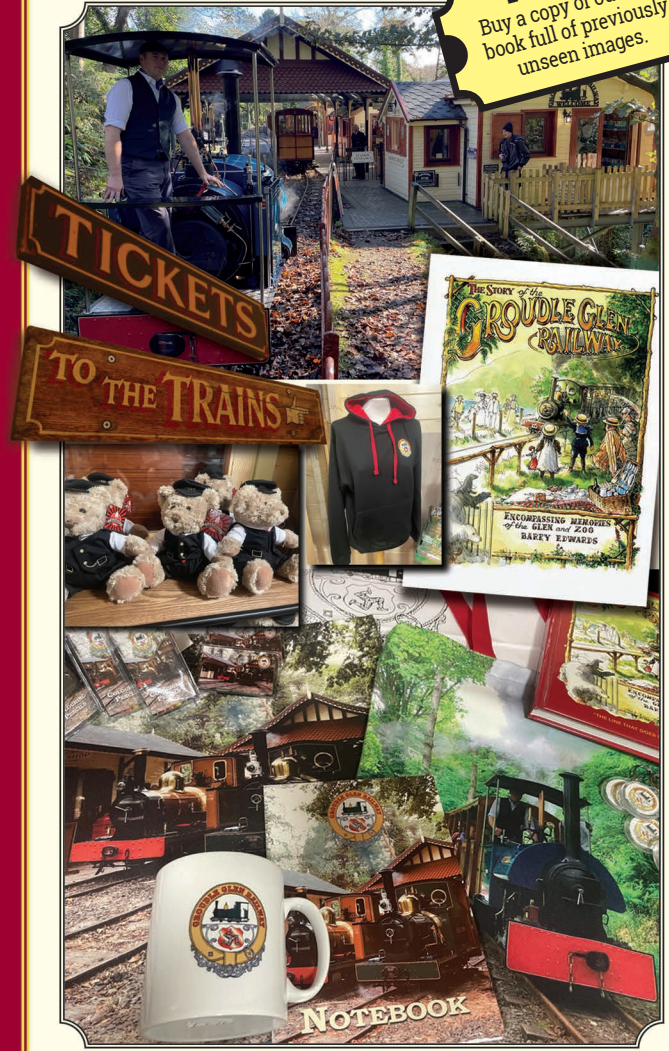
To Site of  
Former Zoo  
&  
Sea Lion Pool

GGRly

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**Take back a souvenir -** Whether you're looking for a postcard to send home or a souvenir of your visit, The new Lhen Coan Souvenir Shop - "Flavell's Emporium" will have something for you or your family. It boasts a wide range of Groulle Glen Railway & Isle of Man souvenirs, a rare collection of railway postcards, heritage books, DVDs, gifts and children's toys. You can now visit our shop online for a collection of Groulle Glen souvenirs and rare railway collectibles at [www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk).

**TOP TIP:**  
Buy a copy of our new book full of previously unseen images.



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## Special Events...

**Easter Bunny Trains & FREE Easter Egg Hunt\*\* Easter Sunday & Monday 31st March & 1st April 10am – 4.30pm**

**ONLINE PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED** (Limited Numbers)

Join us for a steam train trip through the glen to see the Easter Bunny on the cliff tops who has Easter Eggs for all children. Tickets include free tea, coffee and orange juice from the Tea Rooms. Plus join the FREE Easter Egg Hunt to win your own Easter Bunny.



## Diesel & Electric Day 12th May

Trains hauled by the island's oldest Battery Electric locomotive 'Polar Bear' diesels Maltby (the 'Hi-de-Hi' locomotive) and the Island's oldest diesel locomotives; Dolphin & Walrus of 1952.



## Father's Day 16th June 11am – 4.30pm

All Dads, accompanied by their child/children under 16, travel for free.

## Isle of Man Heritage Transport Festival 31st July / 3rd & 4th August

In conjunction with Isle of Man Railways' Heritage Transport Festival. The railway and tea rooms are open all day to welcome visitors to the Festival on Wednesday from 11am to 9pm. Visit the railway on Saturday for the vintage day of Victorian nostalgia with Sea Lion hauling her original 4 wheeled coaches dating from 1896. On Sunday enjoy a gala day of all of the railway's locomotives and rolling stock in service from Steam to Battery and Diesel power.

## Cliff Top Concerts 11th August

Enjoy a steam train trip to Sea Lion Rocks Tea Rooms to be serenaded in beautiful surroundings. Join us for a day of FREE musical concerts out on the cliff tops from a host of Manx musicians and groups.

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## Steam Gala Day 15th September

An extravaganza of all steam locomotives at the railway performing a two train, passing service for a bumper day of photo opportunities and chance to travel behind all the railway's steam locomotive power.

## 'Not So Scary' Hop Tu Naa Trains\*\* 26th & 27th October 4pm – 8pm

**ONLINE PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED** (Limited Numbers)

Bring the kids to our family friendly Hop Tu Naa trains to enjoy a child-friendly spooky atmosphere, surrounded by turnips and pumpkins. Enjoy refreshments and come and meet Jinny the Witch who has spooky surprises for all the children.



## Family Trainspotting Challenge Available on all summer running days

A challenge for the whole family. Answer the challenge questions by keeping your eyes peeled whilst visiting the railway. No additional charge, simply ask for a competition form at the booking office when purchasing tickets. Enter for a chance to win a family ticket to the 2024 Santa Trains.

## CHRISTMAS SPECIAL EVENTS -

**ONLINE PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED** (Limited Numbers)

## Santa Trains\*\* 14th, 15th, 21st & 22nd December 10am – 3.30pm

Our ever popular Santa Trains – Bring the family to take a trip on the train from the festive North Pole Halt to see Santa in his grotto in the winter wonderland of Santa's Halt. Ticket includes return train trip, refreshments for all and a present for every child.

## Mince Pie Trains\*\* 26th December 11am – 3.30pm ONLINE PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

On Boxing Day unwind after the Christmas Day festivities with a trip on our Mince Pie Trains.



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1 THE THATCH OLD TOLL HOUSE

2

3

4 LHEN COAN THE ISLANDS ONLY NATURAL CANYON

5

6

6

LHEN COAN RAILWAY STATION & SOUVENIR SHOP



4

OLD WATER WHEEL



SCULPTURE TRAIL AND LILY PONDS



Groudle Glen Cottages

MANX ELECTRIC RAILWAY

**GROUDLE GLEN POINTS OF INTEREST**

- 1 MANX ELECTRIC RAILWAY STATION
- 2 OLD GROUDLE GLEN HOTEL - DESIGNED BY BAILLIE SCOTT
- 3 MANX ELECTRIC RAILWAY VIADUCT
- 4 THE OLD WATERWHEEL "LITTLE ISABELLA"
- 5 THE OLD BANDSTAND
- 6 LHEN COAN STATION AND SOUVENIR SHOP
- 7 RAILWAY DEPOT
- 8 THE OLD LIME KILN
- 9 LIME KILN HALT (REQUEST STOP)
- 10 HEADLAND PASSING LOOP
- 11 SEA LION ROCKS TEA ROOMS AND VISITOR CENTRE
- 12 SITE OF FORMER ZOO

10 HEADLAND PASSING LOOP



12 SITE OF FORMER ZOO



**Groudle Glen:  
Victorian  
Pleasure Grounds...  
explore the glen**

When you visit the railway, take time to explore the Victorian Pleasure Ground which is Groudle Glen, look out for the vintage waterwheel, the ornate bandstand and the Island's "only natural canyon!".

RUINS OF FORMER CAFE

11 SEA LION ROCKS STATION TEA ROOMS AND VISITOR CENTRE



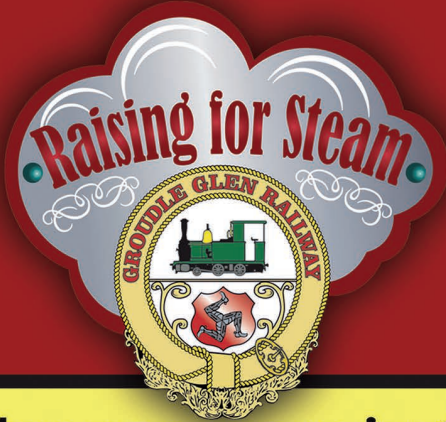
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# Can you help us?

**On average it costs up to £2000 a month to maintain our locomotives at Groudle.**

**We need your help to support our new appeal, the 'Raising for Steam' campaign, to ensure we have the funds to keep our locomotives in service into the future.**



**Can you spare just £5 per month to help us?**

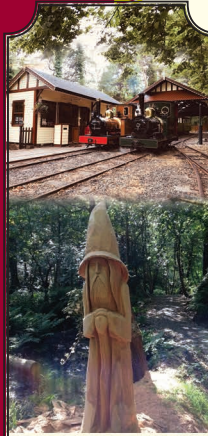
**Find out more about the benefits of supporting the campaign and sign up online at [www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)**



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# Along the line!

**Lhen Coan Station** - The start of your journey - The line's original station from 1896, built at the mouth of the island's only natural canyon. The station canopy is a replica of the original railway's main station building of 1896 which survived until after the railway's closure in 1963, and was demolished in the 1970s. It is here you can find our souvenir shop along with the railway's main locomotive shed, carriage shed and works. Once you depart the station look down to the river to catch a glimpse of the Groudle Wizard, one of the wood carvings in the sculpture trail.



**Blue Lagoon** - A long sweeping right hand curve which marks the start of the steep climb uphill to the sea. As our steam locomotive works hard to tackle the gradient, to your right you can spy through the trees the Groudle Glen Cottages Holiday Village and the view out to sea.



**Lime Kiln Halt** - Once a cart crossing for the main old road from Lonan to Onchan, now this is the railway's only intermediate request halt. Alight here to explore the ancient Lime Kiln alongside the track from which the halt gets its name.



**Headland Loop** - Back in the heyday of Manx tourism this loop was a lot longer and two trains packed with tourists would have passed here at high speed allowing an intensive two train service to take place. If you're lucky on your visit you may have the chance to pass another train at this picturesque location.



**Sea Lion Rocks** - The original terminus of the railway, opened in 1896. Check out the visitor centre for a look back into the past before exploring what remains of the original zoo which contained sea lions, polar bears, brown bears and exotic birds.... then relax with afternoon tea at this stunning cliff top location.



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## Your railway needs your help! Come and join us....



By giving a little of your spare time, meet new friends, enjoy yourself and learn new skills whilst helping to continue the restoration and operation of Groudle Glen Railway and the Sea Lion Rocks Tea Rooms. Our volunteers come from all walks of life and get involved in a variety of interesting areas from catering to engineering! Whenever and wherever you fancy lending a hand, we look forward to welcoming you into our team.

**Contact us via our website: [www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)**

## Leaving a legacy to Groudle Glen Railway

### Help safeguard our future with a Gift in your Will

The volunteers at Groudle Glen Railway have many plans for the future to enable it to continue to restore and maintain this unique family attraction and piece of Isle of Man Heritage, but to do so they will need supporters to leave a lasting legacy to the charity.

Making a Will is your only guarantee that the content of your estate will go to the people and causes that you care about. Astonishingly, only one in three people make a Will, but without an up to date Will, there is a risk that your estate will not go where you intend and could even end up going to the Government!

Legacies provide funds for the future and many of our pioneering supporters have chosen to leave, as their lasting contribution to the Railway, a legacy.

If you are in a position to – please join them.

Thank you.

**For more details please email us on [ggr@ggr.org.uk](mailto:ggr@ggr.org.uk)**

**VOLUNTEER!**  
Can you give a  
little time and  
join our team?



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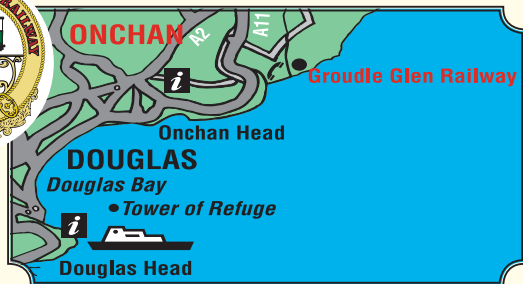
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[@GGRailway](https://twitter.com/GGRailway)

[www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)

## How to find us



**By Rail** – Catch the Manx Electric Railway from Derby Castle to Groudle Station (we accept IOM Explorer Go Cards). Alight at Groudle and take a short walk through the glen following the signs to the railway's main Lhen Coan station.

**By Car From Douglas** – Take the main A11 coast road North from Douglas passing Port Jack and follow the Manx Electric Railway line along the King Edward Road to Groudle. The entrance to Groudle Glen is less than two miles from Douglas Promenade, opposite the Groudle Manx Electric Railway station.

**Parking** – Parking at the Groudle Glen entrance is limited. Alternative access is provided via the Groudle Beach road (500 yards towards Douglas from the Glen entrance). Follow the road through the holiday village to the beach car park.

**Access for the Less Able** – Due to the railway's location within a National Glen accessible via uneven pathways, access can be limited for those who are less able. Access direct to the railway can be arranged in advance, please contact us via our website [www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)

**Talking Timetable 01624 670453 or Email: [ggr@ggr.org.uk](mailto:ggr@ggr.org.uk)**  
Groudle Glen Railway Co. Ltd. c/o Ballacallin Cottage, Foxdale Rd, The Braaid Isle of Man IM4 2HL Member of Heritage Railway Association.

The company does not guarantee that the trains will operate at times stated and reserve the right to cancel, alter or suspend any train without notice, or to substitute a different train should this be necessary for whatever reason.

Groudle Glen Railway Co. Ltd. Company Number 127140C  
Isle of Man Registered Charity No. 1117 VAT Registered No. 000 526046

**Generous major sponsors of recent developments at Groudle Glen Railway:**  
The Scheinberg Family, The Elizabeth Clucas Trust, Tower Insurance, Culture Vannin, Manx Lottery Trust, Home Strategic, Gough Ritchie Charitable Trust, The Alan Chinery Charitable Trust & Quine and Cubbon Printers.



LOTTERY FUNDED



Groudle Glen Railway operates  
with the permission of



Groudle Glen Cottages

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## Friends Of

# Groudle Glen Railway



If you are a regular visitor to the line, have an interest in Groudle Glen Railway or simply wish to show your support for the continued restoration and operation of this unique piece of Manx Heritage by our volunteers, join the supporters group.

## The Friends of Groudle Glen Railway

### Benefits for Friends include:

- Unlimited free travel on all standard services
- Exclusive discounts on special event services
- Twice yearly newsletter

Membership is an ideal gift and offers excellent value for families

**Annual Membership Prices (Payable 1st April)**

**Adults £20 (16 years +) • Child £10 (5-15 years)**

**Family £35 (2 Adults, 2 Children) • Dog £7**

**BECOME A FRIEND NOW ONLINE AT: [www.ggr.org.uk](http://www.ggr.org.uk)**

**Or complete the form below and post to:** Groudle Glen Railway,  
c/o Ballacallin Cottage, Foxdale Road, The Braaid, Isle of Man IM4 2HL

**Cheques made payable to: Groudle Glen Railway Co. Ltd**

Name

Address

Email

**Digital Membership** (receive a digital newsletter) Adults £20  Child £10

Family of 4 £35  Family of 5 £43  Dog £7

**Postal Membership** (receive a newsletter in the post) Adults £25  Child £15

Family of 4 £40  Family of 5 £45  Dog £7

**Donation to GGR Funds** £  **TOTAL** £





*Proud to Sponsor Groudle Glen Railway*

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