

The **monthly** branch newsletter of **railfuture** in London and the South East

Britain's leading *independent* campaign for a bigger better railway for passengers and freight

West Coastway – all change please!



GTR / Southern timetablers have turned their attention to the route which was the subject of a Network Rail connectivity study to which we contributed, in the era before the pandemic, during 2019-20. Network Rail's *West Sussex Connectivity Modular Strategic Study* was published during the pandemic in July 2020. Full details can be found in [Sussex & Coastway Division](#).

The current consultation is about proposals reflecting the new post-pandemic world and which are intended for introduction with next year's summer timetable from Sunday 19th May. An all-too-familiar weakness, especially for a coastal area heavily reliant on its visitor economy, is the absence of any proposed changes to Sunday services, leaving visitors on weekend breaks with contrasting outward and return levels of service.



Southern representatives will be at the next meeting of Sussex & Coastway Division, Thursday 7th September at 16.00 in Brighton's Brighthelm Centre.

Britain's Growing Railway in London & South East: September birthdays

- ~ 20th, in 2021 - Nine Elms, Battersea Power Station.
- ~ 27th, in 2009 - Imperial Wharf.
- ~ 28th, in 2003 - Channel Tunnel Rail Link phase one to Waterloo International (via Fawkham Junction and Southfleet Junction).
- ~ 28th, in 2008 - Shepherd's Bush.
- ~ 29th, in 1986 - London Fields (closed since 1981 fire).
- ~ 29th, in 1986 - Welham Green.

Our vision for rail: A railway system that provides services which travellers and freight forwarders want to use, and which offers more journey opportunities to more people and more freight.

What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the early-August edition of *inter-railse* no.62, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, have:



~ contributed to the national and regional responses to Transport Focus and London TravelWatch on the proposed changes to ticket retailing at stations. Click the links to see what we said to [London Travelwatch](#) and to [Transport Focus](#).

~ held a regular **online** meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee.

~ joined an in-person meeting of our Kent Division, which took the form of a tour of the Hoo Peninsula and Isle of Grain (+ drinks in Upper Upnor's *Tudor Rose*!)

~ participated in GTR's summer event for stakeholders.

What shall we be doing this month?

London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, will be:-

~ anticipating the launch this autumn (September-November) of Lewes District Council's consultation on 'Preferred Options' for its new Local Plan.

~ presenting our "*Bridge the gap*" campaign stall at the revived Lewes Societies Fair.

~ holding regular evening meetings of our Eastern and Herts & Beds Divisions **online** and Sussex & Coastway Division in-person in Brighton.

~ holding a regular meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee, **online**.

~ finalising our response to GTR / Southern's proposals for changes to the [West Coastway timetable](#).

Our vision for Railfuture: An independent organisation whose views are respected by the rail industry, to which decision makers come for advice, which rail users are proud to join and recommend.

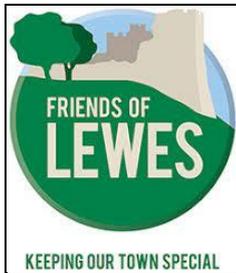
Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Thursday 31 August Close of ORR's consultation on their 'draft determination' of Network Rail's Strategic Business Plan for Control Period 7, 2024-29.



(image: Lucy Marshall)

Friday 1 September Revised date for consultations to close on "Customer-Focused stations" / "Proposals to update the railway for how passengers use it today" run by Transport Focus / London TravelWatch.



Saturday 2 September Railfuture's "Bridge the gap" campaign stall at Lewes Societies Fair.

Thursday 7 September Sussex & Coastway Division afternoon meeting, in-person. [Invite non-members!](#)

Friday 8 September ORR publishes Passenger rail performance: P-coded train cancellations (ie changes to train services caused by non-availability of staff or rolling stock) data for Period 5, 23 July – 19 August.

Tuesday 12 September Herts & Beds Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Wednesday 13 September Eastern Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Monday 18 September Close of Kent County Council consultation on its Emerging Transport Plan 5.

Thursday 14 September ORR publishes Passenger rail performance data for Q1 2023/24 (April-June 2023).

Thursday 21 September ORR publishes Freight rail usage and performance data for Q1 2023/24 (April-June 2023).

Saturday 23 September East Anglia branch open afternoon meeting, Norwich.

Wednesday 27 September Close of GTR / Southern consultation on their proposals for new timetable for West Coastway services.

Full details in our [Events](#) and [Rail dates](#) web pages.

Railfuture is 'in the news' / 'making the news' / sharing 'news and views'

~ Stay abreast of Railfuture members making, not just watching, things happen in our website [media extracts](#).
~ Stay abreast of Railfuture making, not just reporting, the news through our [press releases](#).
~ Stay abreast of Railfuture's and others' reports and thoughts published in our [website articles](#).

~ Railfuture is active on [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [LinkedIn](#).

Be in it to win it - join Railfuture's Lottery!

Members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – can support Railfuture by joining our monthly [lottery](#).

Railfuture publications by email

~ All members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – are being encouraged to receive [Railwatch](#) direct to their Inbox immediately on publication by logging-in at [Member services](#).

~ receive Railfuture's regular monthly newsletter [Rail User Express](#) direct to your Inbox immediately on publication by emailing renewals@railfuture.org.uk

~ receive Railfuture's occasional [Rail Action](#) bulletin direct to your Inbox immediately on publication by emailing renewals@railfuture.org.uk

This branch e-newsletter is free, published monthly and distributed to branch members with their GDPR consent Items for our newsletters, and our branch Local Action column in *railwatch*, to londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk

railfuture

Railfuture's mission: to be the number one advocate for Britain's railway and rail users

Website: [Welcome to Railfuture](#) **Twitter:** [@RailfutureLSE](#)

Railfuture Limited is a not-for-profit Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England & Wales no. 05011634.
Registered Office: Edinburgh House, 1-5 Bellevue Road, Clevedon, North Somerset, BS21 7NP (legal correspondence only).
All other correspondence to 14 Ghent Field Circle, Thurston, Suffolk IP31 3UP