

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

Britain's Growing Railway in London and the South East: happy birthdays in July

~ on the 15th, King's Cross Midland City, re-opened in 1983 (opened 1863, closed in 1979, re-named King's Cross Thameslink in 1988, closed 9th December 2007).



Credit: creator afc45014 – 16-08-83

~ on the 18th, Southend Airport, in 2011.

~ on the 23rd, Stevenage, in 1973 (second station, a mile south of the original – below – opened in 1850 and closed to coincide with its successor's opening).



Credit: Stevenage Locomotive Society

~ on the 25th, in 2015, a 'soft opening' to passengers of London Overground's Hackney Interchange walkway.



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 shall we be doing this month?

- ~ participating in the official opening of a second access to Hackney Central station, and an additional footbridge staircase facing the Hackney Interchange.
 - ~ contributing to the AGM and Steering Group meeting of the Southeast CRP's North Downs Line.
 - ~ participating in the conference launching Transport for the South East's draft Strategic Investment Plan.
 - ~ participating in an invitation-only Parliamentary Reception by South East Councils hosted by Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the South East Sally-Ann Hart MP for Hastings & Rye.
 - ~ submitting comments to the Planning Inspectorate, additional to our objection to Lewes District Council, for an appeal on an application for outline planning permission for up to 100 homes in a key gap site between Ringmer and Broyle Side, East Sussex
 - ~ participating in an alternate-monthly **online** meeting of the Brighton Transport Partnership.
 - ~ participating in a seminar organised by Transport for New Homes.
 - ~ running our "Bridge the gap" campaign stall at the Uckfield Festival's 'Big Day.'
 - ~ contributing to an alternate-monthly meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee.
 - ~ enjoying the opening day of London Overground services extended to new Barking Riverside station.
 - ~ holding regular **online** meetings of our Herts & Beds, Eastern, and Sussex & Coastway Divisions.
 - ~ hosting an **online** tri-branch meeting with TfSE guest speaker to discuss the draft Strategic Investment Plan.
 - ~ by invitation, addressing Lewes Town Council on latest developments in our "Bridge the gap" campaign.
 - ~ holding a regional Branch committee meeting **online**.
- ## What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?
- Since the June edition of *inter-railse* no.48, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members have, amongst various other activities:
- ~ been our representatives participating in meetings of Southeast CRP's Steering Groups for the Tonbridge Redhill and Reigate line, the Uckfield and East Grinstead lines, the MarshLink line, and the 1066 line.

~ run our “*Bridge the gap*” campaign stall at the Uckfield & District Lions Club’s Jubilee Picnic.

~ held regular **online** meetings of our Herts & Beds and Sussex & Coastway Divisions.

~ participated in a second Community Rail Partnership Showcase, Southampton Harbour.

~ held a regional Branch committee meeting **online**.

Also during June, regional branch committee has:

~ considered our response to Lewes District Council’s notification of an appeal against the non-determination of an application for outline planning permission for up to 100 homes in Ringmer, East Sussex.

All Railfuture submissions can be found [here](#)

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.*

Coronavirus insight

Confidence about feeling safe when using trains, in relation to Covid-19, continues to improve, now up to 91% of rail users and to 78% among non-rail users who would feel safe if they had to make a train journey. Source: Transport Focus weekly [Tracking Research](#).

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Saturdays 3, 10 and Saturday/Sunday 23/24 July
Service alterations / suspensions for track-works on Gospel Oak-Barking, Liverpool Street-Cheshunt lines.

Tuesday 5 July Transport for the South East conference, Guildford.

Tuesday 5 July Closing date for representations to Planning Inspectorate for appeal on Ringmer gap site.

Saturday 9 July Railfuture L&SE “*Bridge the gap*” campaign stall at Uckfield Festival’s Big Day.



10.00-16.00. Luxford Field, Civic Approach or Library Way off High Street, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 1AL.

Monday 11 July TfSE mid-morning **webinar** on draft Strategic Investment Plan.

Tuesday 12 July TfSE early-evening **webinar** on draft Strategic Investment Plan.

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

Thursday 14 July Herts & Beds Division morning meeting, **online**. [Invite non-members!](#)

Friday 15 July Close of RSSB consultation on the [Sustainable Rail Strategy \(SRS\) Prototype](#),



an initial version of the leadership plan which will shape an even cleaner and greener railway.

Saturday 16 July Railfuture national AGM. Venue: close to Bristol Parkway station.



Saturday 16 July After the AGM, presentations of the 3rd ‘Railfuture Campaigner of the Year’ award, and Railfuture’s 8th Awards for Rail User Groups.

Thursday 21 July Joint L&SE, Wessex, and Thames Valley branches’ **online** meeting with TfSE speaker on



“TfSE’s draft Strategic Investment Plan consultation.”

Saturday 23 – Sunday 31 July Services amended / suspended between Brixton and Beckenham Junction for track-works in Penge Tunnel.

Saturday 23 July-Sunday 4 September Schools’ summer holiday: >95% of the rail network remains open for business!

Thursday 28 July Office of Rail & Road publishes Key 2021/22 Statistics for Train Operating Companies: passenger usage, performance and complaints, with reference data on number of employees, route kilometres operated and number of stations managed.

Saturday 30 July Close of applications to GTR’s “*Your station, your community*” Improvement Fund.

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

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

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