

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

**Keith Dyall**  
former L & SE branch Chairman



Our former branch Chairman Keith Dyall, born in 1934, passed away on 28 November. He was believed to be the last surviving member of the Railway Development Association, which was founded in 1951 and merged in 1978 with the Railway Invigoration Society to become the Railway Development Society, now Railfuture.

Among Keith's other interests was local history, via the Mill Hill Historical Society, and so it was fitting that the reception after his funeral on 19 December was held nearby in Finchley's Stephen's House and Gardens -



home of the Stephens Collection from the ink magnate and one-time local MP Henry 'Inky' Stephens.

## Britain's Growing Railway in London & the South East: January birthdays

~ on the 5<sup>th</sup>, in 1981, restoration of passenger services from Barking into Gospel Oak instead of Kentish Town, after a 55-year break.

~ on the 8<sup>th</sup>, in 1996, Ashford International connected to the European high-speed network when Eurostar began serving the station, but withdrawal of services from Kent's two stations continues indefinitely.

**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.*

**Adrian Shooter CBE**  
former Railfuture Vice-President



The front page of September's issue of the quarterly branch newsletter *railse* no.157 carried news of the ceremony in August at London Marylebone to honour Adrian's career. Born in 1948, he passed away at a clinic in Switzerland on 13 December, with a memorial service at the Fawley Hill Railway due on 7 January. Railfuture's national Board of Directors has agreed a donation to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Elected a Vice-President at the national AGM in 2012, held in Worcester on 5 May, Adrian had been awarded his CBE in the 2010 New Year Honours "for services to the rail industry." He was a member of the panel of Vice-Presidents which judged the annual Awards for Rail User Groups from their inception in 2012, through to the revived awards in 2022 in which he reviewed all the nominations for Best Website.

## What shall we be doing this month?

~ holding regular meetings of our Sussex & Coastway and Eastern Divisions (**online**), Herts & Beds Division in-person; Kent Division will be at Longfield Academy.

~ participating in an alternate-monthly **online** meeting of the Brighton Transport Partnership.

~ participating in an alternate-monthly meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee.

~ participating in East Midlands Railway's annual conference for stakeholders.

~ participating in Southeast CRP's North Downs Line Steering Group, and the Stakeholder Advisory Board.

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

## What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the early-December edition of *inter-railse* no.54, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members have, amongst their various other activities:

~ participated in an East Anglia branch presentation and discussion of a Railfuture Fighting Fund-supported independent East Anglia Rail Strategy (EARS).

~ participated in an informal 'catch-up' for GTR stakeholders.

~ held regular meetings of our Sussex & Coastway (seasonal social) and Herts & Beds Divisions.

~ enjoyed the final weekly service from West Ealing to West Ruislip, operated by Chiltern Railways.

~ contributed in an [online](#) TfSE Transport Forum, looking ahead to the Delivery Action Plan for the Strategic Investment Plan once it has been adopted by the shadow Partnership Board in March.

Also in December regional branch committee members:

~ held a regional Branch committee seasonal social.

~ represented Railfuture at the funeral and reception for former L&SE branch chairman Keith Dyall.

~ responded to East Sussex County Council's initial consultation on Local Transport Plan 4.

***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

**Until Tuesday 31 January** "Time is running out – help us engineer a net zero world." Free exhibition at Institution of Civil Engineers, London SW1P 3AA.

**Thursday 5 January** Sussex & Coastway Division evening [online](#) meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Tuesday 10 January** "Gatwick Airport in 2023 and beyond." Evening [webinar](#).

**Wednesday 11 January** Eastern Division evening [online](#) meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Monday 16 January** "Managing change." Free morning [webinar](#).

**Tuesday 17 January** "Treasuring the planet's resources for the future – what should you do?" Free lunchtime [webinar](#).

**Wednesday 18 January** Start of public inquiry for refusal of proposals around South Kensington station.

**Saturday 21 January** Herts & Beds Division daytime meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Tuesday 24 January** "The Rail Freight Group." Evening [webinar](#).

**Friday 27 January** "Effective negotiation." Free afternoon [webinar](#).

**Friday 27 January** Copy date for your campaign news / reports for the London & South East branch Local Action column in April's *railwatch* no.175, and for March's *railse* no.159. Send to [londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk)

**Saturday 28 / Sunday 29 January** Railfuture L&SE regional branch stall at the Longfield Academy during Erith Model Railway Society's exhibition.

**Tuesday 31 January** Nominations close for L&SE regional branch committee officers and members.

**Tuesday 31 January** Copy date for your campaign news, letters, articles, photos to appear in April's *railwatch* no.175. Send to [editor@railwatch.org.uk](mailto:editor@railwatch.org.uk)

**Wednesday 1 February** Nominations close for national Board of Directors.

**Saturday 18 / Sunday 19 March** Railfuture L&SE regional branch stall at Alexandra Palace during the London Festival of Railway Modelling.

**Thursday 30 March** "Turning point for the railway." Railfuture national conference, Leeds.

**Saturday 8 April** Nominations close for RUG Awards.

**Saturday 22 April** Railfuture L&SE regional branch members' meeting ([invite non-members!](#)) and AGM.

**Sunday 21 May** Nominations close for Railfuture Member (formerly Campaigner) of the Year Award.

**Saturday 15 July** National AGM, and presentations of RUG Awards and Member of the Year Award.

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](mailto:londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk)

The logo for Railfuture, featuring the word "railfuture" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The "rail" part is in black, and the "future" part is in a vibrant green. A small red dot is positioned above the letter "i" in "rail".

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

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

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