



Street art at Birmingham City of Colour Festival

HEART OF THE RAILWAY

HOW WEST MIDLANDS WILL LEAD THE WAY TO THE FUTURE

Saturday 12 November 2016

Priory Rooms, Quaker Meeting House, 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF

PROGRAMME

- 10.00** **Registration desk opens.** *Coffee/tea and biscuits available*
- 10.45** **Welcome and Introduction**
 Christian Wolmar, Honorary President of Railfuture, welcomes Lord Mayor of Birmingham Councillor Carl Rice to open the conference (*delegates are requested to stand as he enters*)
- 11.00** **Driving Improvement in the next West Midlands Franchise**
 Toby Rackcliff *Rail Policy and Strategy Manager- Transport for West Midlands*
- 11.30** **Powering the Midlands Engine**
 Maria Machancoses *Midlands Connect*
- 12.00** **Questions**
- 12.20** **LUNCH**
- 13.15** **Railfuture Annual Draw** *Chris Bates*
- 13.20** **Rail User Group Awards**
 Roger Blake *Railfuture director*
- 13.40** **Challenges in a devolved rail sector, capacity, investment and access issues**
 Tony Berkeley OBE MICE *Railfuture Vice President*
- 14.10** **The Class 230 - a new train for a new franchise**
 Alice Gillman *Vivarail*
- 14.40** **Questions**
- 15.00** **TEA & COFFEE BREAK**
- 15.15** **Priorities for the Railways, a CBT perspective**
 Stephen Joseph *Campaign for Better Transport*
- 15.45** **The digital age of railways**
 Professor Clive Roberts *University of Birmingham*
- 16.15** **Questions**
- 16.40** **Final questions and closing remarks**
 Christian Wolmar *Railfuture Honorary President*
- 16.55** **Announcements on future events**
- 17.00** **Conference close**

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How to get there

Walking from Birmingham New Street: Exit the station by following the signs to Metro and Way out to New Street. The exit goes up a ramp with a railing and you should follow the exit on the right which goes past Joy and The Body Shop. On exiting the station go right for a few yards and cross the road / tram lines and proceed uphill following the tram lines. Cross New Street and continue up Corporation Street passing House of Fraser on the left. Shortly after passing the entrance to the North Western Arcade bear left again following the tram lines into Bull Street. When you reach the tram stop cross the road and you will see the entrance to the Priory Rooms with a green sign "The Priory Rooms, Meeting Conference Centre, Bull Street Quaker Meeting House" - see picture below right. Go through the Courtyard to the entrance. *10 minutes walk*

Tram from Birmingham New Street:

Exit the station as above. The tram stop is opposite the exit to the station in Stephenson Street. It runs every 8 minutes and Bull Street is the second stop. Alight at Bull Street and you will see the entrance to the Priory Rooms on the right hand side of Bull Street. Pay conductor on Tram. *Allow 12 minutes*

Walking from Birmingham Moor Street: Walk out of the main entrance to Moor Street station and turn right passing the front of the station and a newspaper stand. At this point cross over the road by a pedestrian crossing and you will see Carrs Lane Church on the right. Walk up Carrs Lane with Marks and Spencer on the left passing bus stands. Turn right into High Street (away from the pedestrian area) and after about 100 yards go left into Bull Street which goes uphill to meet Corporation Street. Cross Corporation Street at a safe point and continue into Bull Street following the tram lines to Bull Street Tram Stop. On the right hand side of Bull Street by the tram stop is the entrance to the Priory Rooms. *Walking time 10 minutes*

Walking from Birmingham Snow Hill: If you are travelling to Birmingham Moor Street and your train terminates here continue on a London Midland Service to Birmingham Snow Hill (frequency every 10 minutes). Exit the station across paved area and cross over Colmore Row at Pelican Crossing. Turn left for a few yards and there is a Tesco Express with a walkway between it and Philpotts Cafe. Go between these two premises in tunnel beneath office block. This goes into Bull Street. Ahead is the Bull Street Metro tram stop. Turn left into Priory Rooms. *5 minutes walk*

Parking: Please note there are very limited parking facilities. If you require a parking space please contact William Whiting on 0121 572 9236.

