

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

“Attracting passengers back to rail”

[Register now](#) for our [free webinar on Saturday morning](#).



Charlene Wallace
Director for National
Passenger &
Customer Experience
Network Rail

Jacqueline Starr
Chief Operating Officer
(pre-recorded video)
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Ali Chegini
Director of Systems
and Health
RSSB

Peter Sargant
Head of Rail
Development
**West Midlands
Rail Executive**

Linda McCord
Senior Stakeholder
Manager
Transport Focus

#ReturnToRail

Railfuture's first webinar to be chaired by Mark Valleley.



TfSE Technical Lead Mark Valleley and Railfuture Chair Chris Page

[COVID-19 briefing to Railfuture members](#)

Stay abreast with Railfuture's web [articles](#) and [tweets](#).

One September birthday was NOT Braintree Freeport, on the 8th (in 1999)! Two months early!

Happy October railway birthdays

~ Arlesey, in Central Bedfordshire, reopened on the 3rd in 1988 after a BBC (Before Beeching Closure) in 1959.

~ Kentish Town West reopened on the 5th in 1981 after a fire a decade earlier had necessitated its closure.

~ How Wood opened as a new station on the Abbey line on the 22nd in 1988 as the line was electrified. Hopes now are for a passing loop at Bricket Wood to enable a more attractive, higher-frequency service.

~ new Chiltern services between London Marylebone and Oxford Parkway, via the new Bicester chord and reopened stations at Islip and Bicester Village began on the 26th in 2015 – a first glimpse of East-West Rail!

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-September edition no.27 of *inter-railse* we've all continued to limit our travel, and events have stayed virtual. Shown as **online** in our [events page](#) including meetings of three of our local Divisions, Railfuture in London and the South East has:-

~ held a virtual Sussex & Coastway Division meeting with a focus on our emerging draft Prospectus for the post-TSGN / GTR era.

~ held an alternate-monthly virtual meeting of our Eastern Division.

~ hosted a virtual meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee, of which Railfuture is a member.

~ participated in the virtual 4th annual conference of England's Economic Heartland.

~ submitted our response to “Unblocking the Croydon bottleneck” – Network Rail's second round of public consultation on [Croydon Area Remodelling Scheme](#)

~ submitted our response to the statutory consultation by London Resort Holdings which has to precede their application for a Development Consent Order.

~ held a virtual monthly meeting of our Herts & Beds Division.

~ participated in a virtual meeting of the grouping of all CRPs in the TfSE area.

~ participated, as one of the six rail groups in the Hastings & Rother Rail Users Alliance, in a virtual quarterly liaison meeting with GTR timetablers on the development of East Coastway / MarshLink services.

~ held another two fortnightly virtual meetings of your branch committee.

What shall we be doing (remotely)?

~ participating in virtual meetings of TfSE's Transport Forum, its first Outer Orbital Area Study Forum, and its annual conference.

~ participating in the virtual Kent Rail Summit and the All-Party Parliamentary Rail Group meeting on HS1.

Your comments to roger.blake@railfuture.org.uk who will be taking the lead on Railfuture's response.

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

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

For any regular updates on “Decarbonising Transport”, the DfT’s [Transport Decarbonisation Plan](#) due to be published ‘later in 2020’, email TDP@dft.gov.uk

Kent County Council’s “[Kent Rail Strategy 2021](#)” is open for consultation until Tuesday 17th November.



Our usual t’s and c’s apply: please respond individually as private citizens without making any reference to Railfuture, and contribute your ideas to Railfuture’s response via Kent Division Convener Chris Fribbins.

See Railfuture submissions in [Consultation responses](#).

Thursday 1 October Office of Rail and Road publish passenger rail usage data for April-June 2020.

Thursday 1 October Sussex & Coastway Division **online** evening meeting. Guest speaker Paul Best, Network Rail, on [West Coastway Connectivity Study](#).

Saturday 3 October “Attracting passengers back to rail” – free Railfuture national morning **webinar**.

Monday 5–Sunday 11 October Rail Week. Various **online** events.

Monday 5 October “Britain Back on Track - Railways at the Heart of a Green Build, Build, Build.” Free **online** conference.

Tuesday 6 October Close of consultation on draft Transport Strategy for shadow sub-national transport body England’s Economic Heartland.

Wednesday 7 October “Kent’s railways look to the future.” Guest speaker: James Abbott, consultant editor for Modern Railways. Evening **webinar**. **POSTPONED** to Monday 16 November.

Thursday 8 October “Zero carbon and infrastructure.” Free evening **webinar**.

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

Thursday 8 October “Electrification for the future – the ‘green’ engineering challenges for Britain’s Railways.” Free evening **webinar**.

Friday 9 October “Fundamentals of project management.” Morning **e-class**.

Tuesday 13 October Kent County Council’s 12th annual Rail Summit. Free evening **webinar**.

Tuesday 13 October “The long history and exciting future of railway systems thinking.” Free evening **webinar**.

Thursday 15 October “Hybrid diesel and battery-powered trains.” Free evening **webinar**.

Monday 19 October “Evolution of Hitachi trains.” Free evening **webinar**.

Monday 19 October “Unlocking innovation – routes to zero carbon rail: driving electrification.” Free afternoon **webinar**.

Tuesday 20 October “Unlocking innovation – routes to zero carbon rail: decarbonising self-powered rolling stock.” Free afternoon **webinar**.

Wednesday 21 October “Unlocking innovation – routes to zero carbon rail: zero carbon operations, maintenance and renewal.” Free afternoon **webinar**.

Thursday 22 October “Unlocking innovation – routes to zero carbon rail: generation decarbonisation.” Free afternoon **webinar**.

Saturday 24 October Copy date for your campaign news, letters, articles, photos to appear in December’s **railwatch** no.166. Send to editor@railwatch.org.uk

Saturday 24 October–Sunday 1 November Schools half-term holiday. Support your local heritage railway!

Sunday 25 October Copy date for your campaign news / reports for London & SE branch Local Action column in December’s **railwatch** no.166, and for December’s **raise** no.150, to londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk

Tuesday 27 October Herts & Beds Division **online** evening meeting.

Thursday 29 October “Decarbonising long haul road freight – opportunities and challenges.” Free evening **webinar**.

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

railfuture

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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