

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

Another month makes no difference!



COVID-19 briefing to Railfuture members

As we continue to stay at home, more events go virtual and can be found shown as **online** in our [events page](#). They include meetings of two of our local Divisions.

Happy railway birthdays in May, and there are many! 13 new/reopened stations, 3 new services and 2 links:

1979 West Ham Low Level – 14th

1980 Hackney Central, Hackney Wick – 12th

1982 Watton-at-Stone – 17th

1983 Dalston Kingsland – 17th

1984 Bedford St. Johns – 14th

1985 Homerton – 13th

1986 Kensington Olympia <> Willesden Junction – 12th

1986 Winnersh Triangle – 12th

1988 Farringdon <> Blackfriars – 16th

1990 St. Paul's (later City) Thameslink – 29th

1994 Mitre Bridge and Sheepcote Lane Curves – 29th

1995 Chafford Hundred – 30th

1999 West Brompton, West Ham High Level – 30th

2010 New X Gate<>Crystal Palace/W. Croydon – 23rd

2016 Lea Bridge – 16th

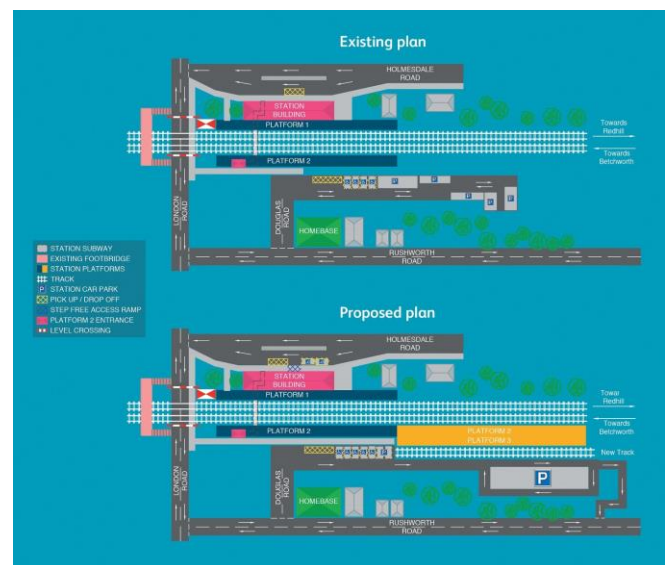


Our vision for rail: A railway system that provides services which travellers and freight forwarders want to use, and which offers more journey opportunities to more people and more freight.

What have we still been doing?

Since the early-April edition no.22 of *inter-railse* Railfuture in London and the South East has:-

~ [responded](#) to Network Rail's consultation on "Connecting Reigate to Thameslink", the planned [Reigate station upgrade](#) which closed on 6 April.



Network Rail public consultation presentation diagrams

~ [responded](#) to the Department for Transport's consultation on Network Rail's proposed [Closure of Newhaven Marine station](#) which ended on 19 April. No more ghost trains; click [class 313](#) or [class 377](#) to watch!



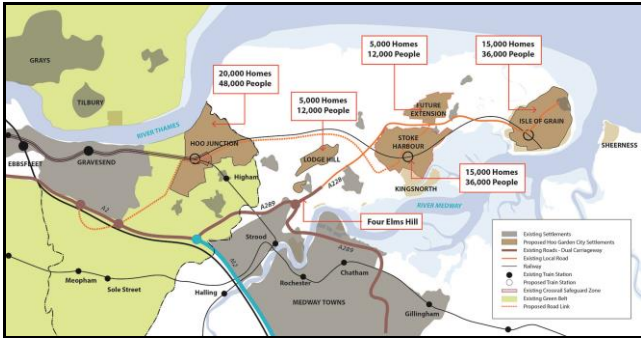
Newhaven Harbour level crossing in the foreground, and the signal box, have both closed since completion of Network Rail's [Lewes to Seaford re-signalling](#) project.

[Community Rail Network](#) is the new name, with logo, for the old Association of Community Rail Partnerships. It is currently producing e-newsletters weekly rather than monthly, and the sign-up to subscribe is [here](#).

What shall we be doing (remotely)?

Continuation for a month more of *modus operandi* shift.

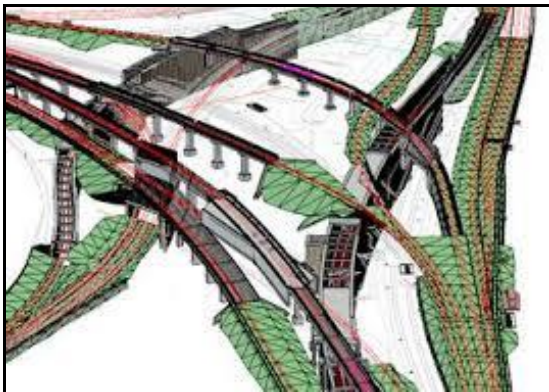
Medway Council's consultation on "[Planning for growth on the Hoo Peninsula](#)" will now close on Monday 11 May (extended from Friday 17 April).



Masterplan from [Shelter for Wolfson Economics Prize, 2014](#)
See a summary and full report for [Stoke Harbour Garden City](#)
60,000 new homes / 144,000 people would need trains!

See the [Kent Division](#) web page for a couple of videos!

1 June 2020 "Unblocking the Croydon bottleneck" – Network Rail have confirmed the start of the second round of public consultation on the [Croydon Area Remodelling Scheme](#), until Sunday 20 September.



Indicative view of Selhurst Triangle, 'Croydon unblocked'

We shall **ask our audience**, you our members! **Your comments** to roger.blake@raifuture.org.uk who will forward them to whoever is leading on our 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.

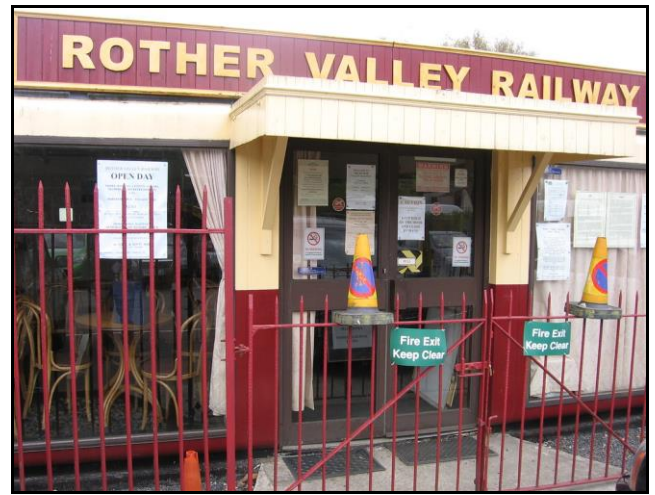
This branch e-newsletter is free, published monthly and distributed to branch members with their GDPR consent items for our newsletters, and our branch Local Action column in *railwatch*, to londonandsoutheast@raifuture.org.uk

raifuture

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

Website: [Welcome to Raifuture](#) Twitter: [@RaifutureLSE](#)

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One thing which we shall not be doing is engaging with the Public Inquiry for unresolved objections to the application for a Transport & Works Act Order for Robertsbridge Junction-Bodiam, which had been due to start on 26 May but has been postponed *sine diem*.

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

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

Thursday 7 May "Timetable planning." **Online** talk.

Thursday 7 May Sussex & Coastway Division **online** meeting.

Monday 11 May Bexhill Rail Action Group **online** meeting.

Wednesday 13 May "High Speed Rail: a comparison between European and Japanese approaches." **Online** talk.

Thursday 14 May Virtual railway pub quiz. **Online** event.

Saturday 30 May Herts & Beds Division **online** meeting.

Saturday 27 June Raifuture national AGM, and presentations of RUG Awards and of Raifuture Campaigner of the Year 2020 award. **CANCELLED**.

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