

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

Welcome to a 'new station' edition

Not quite as heralded in the May edition, the opening of the new station at [Meridian Water](#), on Greater Anglia's West Anglia route in the Lea Valley, has been deferred from the May timetable change and is now due to be on Monday 3rd June. Its initial services are then due to be the weekdays peaks-only services transferred from Angel Road station a few hundred metres north, which correspondingly was due to close on Friday 31st May; Railfuture's Milligan-esque 'part in its downfall' came via our [independent report](#) and the 'STAR' project.

The annual Field Day Festival is at Meridian Water this year, on 7th-9th June, and Saturday 8th June is due to see special services using the new Lea Valley line third track and the third platform at the new station to handle the crowds, safely separated from the two through main line platform faces. New half-hourly weekend and off-peak services are due to start in September.

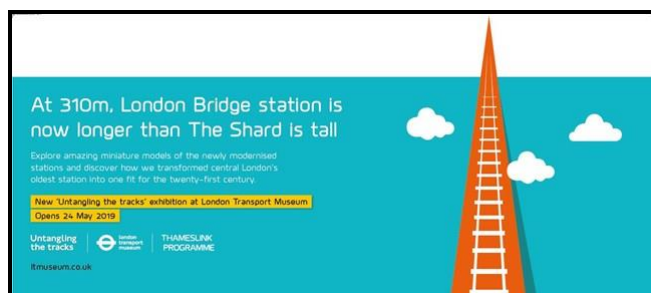
Calendar of current consultations

DfT's [Rail Review](#) – published 6 December; see our [article](#) by Policy Director Ian Brown CBE, including our [briefing](#) and [response](#) to the 'initial listening phase'. The 'call for evidence' was open until Friday 31 May.

HM Treasury/Infrastructure & Projects Authority's [Infrastructure Finance Review](#) – "how best to support private investment in infrastructure" – published 13 March, closes Wednesday 5 June.

Transport for the South East (TfSE)'s [Becoming a statutory body](#) – published 7 May, closes Wednesday 31 July.

We're **asking our audience**, that's **you**, our members! What do **you** wish us to say? **Your comments** please to roger.blake@railfuture.org.uk who will forward them to the Railfuture member leading on our response.



"Untangling the tracks" – Thameslink Programme exhibition at London Transport Museum, Covent Garden, until 2020.

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.



£15 million Passenger Benefit Fund

This arises from the [DfT's announcement in December](#) in which Govia Thameslink Railway were fined for the problems arising from last May's timetable introduction. Investing in schemes to benefit passengers is where the fund will be spent, over the next two years before the GTR management contract is due to expire. A [dedicated website](#) has been set up for full details. Every single GTR-managed station, and several others served by Thameslink, have an allocation of either £30k, £50k or £80k based broadly on the degree of service disruption experienced.

Railfuture is playing its part in facilitating discussions through our own regional branch's Divisions, through rail user groups, with community rail partnerships, and with individual members. After exploring the website do please email londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk with your own ideas and suggestions. There may be a 'Meet the Manager' session at a station near you where you can discuss the fund with a member of GTR staff. While the online Submission Form enables individual proposals, evidence of wider support could be vital. Closing date for submissions is Wednesday 31st July.

What have we been doing out there?

Since the previous, early-May, edition Railfuture has:-

~ participated in the second of three transport users' stakeholder workshops by [Transport for the South East](#) preparing a draft Transport Strategy for consultation.

~ participated in a London Overground Community Rail Forum by operator Arriva Rail London.

~ tweeted a [YouTube of our Honorary President](#) Christian Wolmar in full flow at the national AGM in Cardiff on 18th May.

~ published [Rail User Express](#) for May. Get it direct to your Inbox as soon as it's published, either as a link or a pdf, just by emailing ruglink@railfuture.org.uk

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

Full details behind these dates can always be found in our national website's [Events](#) and [Rail dates](#) pages.

Saturday 1 June HS2 Colne Valley Viaduct. Daytime mobile engagement roadshow in Uxbridge.

Monday 3 June "Fundamentals of Project Management." Morning webinar.

Tuesday 4 June "Building a modern metro on a brownfield site." Free evening talk in Crawley.

Wednesday 5 June "An overview of Kent County Council's involvement in public transport provision and promotion." Free evening talk in Ashford.

Wednesday 5 June "Airport capacity in the South East." Free evening talk in London.

Thursday 6 June Sussex & Coastway Division.

Thursday 6 June "Big data: what do transport planners really want?"

Free afternoon workshop in London.

Thursday 6 June HS2 Colne Valley Viaduct. Evening mobile engagement roadshow in Uxbridge.

Monday 10 June Bexhill Rail Action Group.

Monday 10 June "HS2 overview/Old Oak Common update." Free evening talk in London.

Thursday 13 June HS2 evening mobile engagement roadshow in Swiss Cottage, London.

Saturday 15 June East Anglia branch open meeting, Ipswich.

Saturday 15 June Thames Valley branch stall at Didcot-Oxford GWR 175th anniversary, Oxford.

Monday 17 June Norwood Junction station upgrade. Evening consultation event in Croydon.

Monday 17 June "Airport railways." Evening talk in Shenfield.

Tuesday 18 June Norwood Junction station upgrade. Evening consultation event in Croydon.

Tuesday 18 June Chesham & District TUG.

Wednesday 19 June Norwood Junction station upgrade. Daytime consultation event in Croydon.

Wednesday 19 June HS2 daytime mobile engagement roadshow in Uxbridge.

Wednesday 19 June "Signalling change! Modernising the London Underground." Free evening talk, Guildford.

Friday 21 June HS2 daytime mobile engagement roadshow on Ealing Green, west London.

Saturday 22 June "Rebirth of the railway." Railfuture annual national summer conference, Darlington.

Saturday 22 June Norwood Junction station upgrade. Daytime consultation event in Croydon.

Saturday 22 June HS2 daytime mobile engagement roadshow at Croxley Revels Festival, Rickmansworth.

Thursday 27 June "Bakerloo line extension." Free evening lecture in London.

Saturday 6 July Railfuture's 'Bridge the gap' stall at the annual Uckfield Festival's Big Day.

Monday 8 July Bexhill Rail Action Group.

Wednesday 10 July Eastern Division, Stratford.

Wednesday 10 July "More than pioneers: amazing women, terrific engineers, great stories." Free evening seminar in Luton.

Thursday 11 July Campaign for Better Transport, London group. Non-members welcome, Farringdon.

Thursday 18 July Sussex & Coastway Division. Guest speaker from [Transport for the South East](#).

Friday 19 July "Introduction to management." Morning webinar.

Monday 29 July "Leading and developing successful teams." Lunchtime webinar.

Saturday 17 August Kent Division.

Saturday 21 September "Every passenger matters." Railfuture annual national autumn conference, Bristol.



Norwood Junction station – major upgrade planned

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

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

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