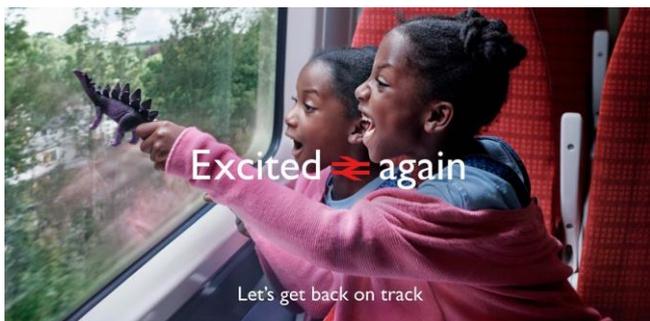


The **monthly** branch newsletter of **railfuture** in London and the South East

Britain's leading *independent* campaign for a bigger better railway for passengers and freight

Attracting passengers back to rail "Let's get back on track"

The rail industry, through the Rail Delivery Group, in mid-August launched this campaign specifically aimed at [leisure travellers](#), including a 40-second [video](#).



As the Railfuture branch which has a surface rail link with continental Europe, we take a very keen interest in passenger and freight traffic via the Channel Tunnel.



We therefore welcome Eurostar increasing its daily services to eight each way from Monday 6 September, five Paris and three Brussels including one Amsterdam.

A large majority of rail users (now 90%) feel confident about travelling in safety, despite trains being busier. Most rail non-users (now 59%) remain confident that they would travel in safety if they had to go by train. Source: Transport Focus weekly [Tracking Research](#).

"Transport User Voice" – the national watchdog's monthly newsletter. Click [here](#) to subscribe.

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

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

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-August edition, no.38, of *inter-railse*, Railfuture's London and South East members have:

~ contributed to Railfuture's responses to consultations on East Coast Main Line services from May 2022.



~ led on Railfuture's responses to the House of Lords Built Environment Committee's Call for Evidence, post-Williams Shapps review, on ticketing costs and the new flexi-season tickets.

~ contributed to the Railfuture response to South Western Railway's December 2022 timetable.

~ completed the Croudace Homes survey for new community facilities and homes at Ringmer.

~ completed Transport for the South East's survey of stakeholders on its current and future role.

All Railfuture submissions can be found [here](#).

~ contributed in the second meeting [online](#) of TfSE's South West Radial Area Study Forum.

~ held informal liaison meetings with Southeast Communities Rail Partnership personnel, including the new Community Rail Line Officer for Brighton-Seaford.

~ participated in SCRP's celebration for Eridge station's 153rd birthday, marking its heritage restoration



SCRP's Sharon Gray, Community Rail Development Officer for the Uckfield and East Grinstead lines, based in Eridge station, with invited guests

What shall we be doing this month?

- ~ finalising our branch responses to Lewes District Council's consultation on 'Issues and Options' for its next Local Plan, and to Greater North Kent / AW2E Partnership's second consultation on 'Improving transport links between Abbey Wood and Ebbsfleet'.
- ~ contributing to an alternate-monthly meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee, in Buxted.
- ~ participating in an **online** alternate-monthly meeting of the Brighton Transport Partnership.
- ~ contributing to **online** SCRPs Steering Groups for the Uckfield and East Grinstead lines, the Tonbridge-Redhill-Reigate line, and MarshLink.
- ~ participating in the official launch of a SCRPs project at Farnborough North station.
- ~ representing Railfuture in the quarterly **online** Transport Forum of Transport for the South East.
- ~ holding regular **online** meetings of our Herts & Beds (maybe live), Eastern, Sussex & Coastway Divisions.
- ~ holding a regional Branch committee meeting **online**.
- ~ drafting for next month our responses to Surrey CC's and West Sussex CC's draft Transport Plans.

Our usual **t's and c's** apply: **contribute your ideas** for Railfuture's 'single voice' responses to **consultations** to roger.blake@railfuture.org.uk who will be co-ordinating them, and respond individually as private citizens but please **without** making any reference to Railfuture.

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.*

Britain's Growing Railway in London & South East: September birthdays

- ~ London Fields, Welham Green – 35th anniversaries of 1986 re-opening and opening respectively.
- ~ Channel Tunnel Rail Link phase one to Waterloo International (via Fawkham Junction and Southfleet Junction) – 2003
- ~ Shepherd's Bush – 2008
- ~ Imperial Wharf – 2009

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'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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Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Thursday 2 September "Kent and East Sussex Coastal Connectivity Programme." Sussex & Coastway Division **online** evening meeting, with speaker from Network Rail. [Invite non-members!](#)

Friday 3 September Close of Lewes DC consultation on "Issues and Options" for draft Local Plan.

Friday 3 September Close of Greater North Kent / AW2E Partnership's new consultation on "Improving transport links between Abbey Wood and Ebbsfleet."

Saturday 4 September Railfuture Thames Valley branch AGM, Oxford, with guest speakers John Ellis, Chair of Cotswold Line Promotion Group, and Chair of Witney Oxford Transport Group Charlie Maynard.

Saturday 4 September Railfuture London & South East branch Herts & Beds Division, in St. Albans (or **online** if adverse weather). [Invite non-members!](#)

Wednesday 8 September West Sussex CC's draft Transport Plan 2022-36, afternoon **webinar**.

Wednesday 8 September Eastern Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Monday 13 September Farnborough North station project launch event, postponed from July, under auspices of SCRPs North Downs Line Steering Group.

Tuesday 14 September "A vision for British railways." All-Party Parliamentary Rail Group evening **webinar**.

Wednesday 15 September "Transport for New Homes: what's new." Evening event in London.

Saturday 18 September-Friday 1 October Southern and GWR West Coastway services suspended between Brighton and Hove: cutting stabilisation works.

Sunday 19 September Close of South Western Railway's December 2022 timetable consultation.

Wednesday 22 September National Car-Free Day.

Saturday 25 September Railfuture East Anglia branch open meeting, Norwich.

Sunday 26 September Close of further consultation by Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea on latest amendments to proposals for development around South Kensington station, including step-free access.

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