

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

## One-day Travelcards live on!

Thanks to some feisty campaigning by legions of individuals and organisations including Railfuture, the deal has been done to secure this much-valued ticket.



The price to pay is a one-off price increase on Day Travelcards for travel from stations outside Zones 1-6 as part of a National Rail ticket from March 2024 (on average 3%) which will be in addition to any general regulated fares increase at the time.



See Rail Delivery Group's [press release](#), 24<sup>th</sup> October.

## Changes to ticket retailing at stations

On 23<sup>rd</sup> October the House of Commons Transport Committee published the [conclusions of their inquiry](#), including a letter of 20<sup>th</sup> October to Huw Merriman the Rail Minister asking for a response by 13<sup>th</sup> November.



The letter follows a September evidence session on proposed ticket office closures, part of a wider inquiry into the legal obligations of Accessible Transport.

## What shall we be doing this month?

London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, will be:-

~ analysing and responding to the Transport Focus / London Travelwatch reports on ticket office changes due to be published on 31<sup>st</sup> October, and to the ORR's 'final determination' of Network Rail's Strategic Business Plan for CP7 (2024-29) due by 31<sup>st</sup> October.

~ considering our response to City of London Corp on [plans ref.23/00453/FULEIA](#) for Liverpool Street station.

~ anticipating the launch of Lewes District Council's consultation on 'Preferred Options' for its new Local Plan, following a Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

~ participating in Southeastern's Stakeholder Forum.

~ holding regular **online** meetings of our Eastern, Kent, Herts & Beds, and Sussex & Coastway Divisions.

~ holding a regular **online** meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee.

## What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the early-October edition of *inter-railse* no.64, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, have:

~ noted the passing of member John Bigny, from Edenbridge, awarded the MBE in the New Year honours announced on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 "For services to Edenbridge and District Rail Travellers' Association Kent." Then aged 74, he had been EDRTA Secretary for 25 years even then! In December 2005 his name had appeared in [Hansard](#), courtesy of Sir John Stanley MP, then member for Tonbridge & Malling which includes both Edenbridge stations. See more at [BBC News](#) and [Rail News](#).

~ participated in the annual Kent Rail Summit, Southeast CRP's North Downs Line Steering Group, with new line officers, and TfSE's Transport Forum.

~ held a regular evening meeting of our Sussex & Coastway Division **online** and a Herts & Beds Division meeting in Bricket Wood station's new Tea Room.

~ held a regular meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee, **online**.

~ registered with the Planning Inspectorate as an Interested Party in the application for a Development Consent Order for Gatwick Airport Ltd's planned Northern Runway project.

~ noted the naming of Avanti West Coast train 390103 "Asquith Xavier" to mark annual Black History Month.



Asquith's daughter Maria with AWC's MD Andy Mellors

~ submitted our response to the [consultation](#) by Medway Council – "Setting the direction for Medway 2040" for their new Local Plan 2022-2040.

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

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

- ~ 7<sup>th</sup>, in 2007 – London St. Pancras International.
- ~ 8<sup>th</sup>, in 1999 – Braintree Freeport.
- ~ 14<sup>th</sup>, in 1994 – Channel Tunnel, Waterloo Curve / Stewarts Lane Viaduct, Waterloo International.
- ~ 14<sup>th</sup>, in 2007 – Channel Tunnel Rail Link/HS1 phase 2 (Southfleet Junction - London St. Pancras International)
- ~ 19<sup>th</sup>, in 2007 – Ebbsfleet International.
- ~ 21<sup>st</sup>, in 1960 – Southbury, Theobalds Grove, Turkey Street.
- ~ 21<sup>st</sup>, in 1999 – Luton Airport Parkway.
- ~ 25<sup>th</sup>, in 1974 – Basildon (25 years after designation as a New Town!)
- ~ 30<sup>th</sup>, in 2009 – Stratford International.

**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.*

## Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

**Thursday 2 November** Sussex & Coastway Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

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

**Thursday 9 November** ORR publishes (delayed) Passenger rail usage for Q1 2023/24 (April-June 2023) passenger train KM, passenger KM, journeys, revenue.

**Tuesday 14 November** ORR publishes (delayed) Rail Emissions 2022/23 - Annual statistics covering electricity and diesel consumption of mainline passenger and freight operators in Great Britain and estimates of their associated CO2e emissions.

**Tuesday 14 November** Herts & Beds Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**Saturday 18 November** Kent Division afternoon **online** meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

**N.B.** ORR station usage estimates 2022/23 delayed.

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

## Railfuture is 'in the news' / 'making the news' / sharing 'news and views'

- ~ Stay abreast of Railfuture members making, not just watching, things happen in our website [media extracts](#).
- ~ Stay abreast of Railfuture making, not just reporting, the news through our [press releases](#).
- ~ Stay abreast of Railfuture's and others' reports and thoughts published in our [website articles](#).
- ~ Railfuture is active on [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [LinkedIn](#).

## Be in it to win it - join Railfuture's Lottery!

Members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – can support Railfuture by joining our monthly [lottery](#).

## Railfuture publications by email

- ~ All members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation such as a rail user group or similar, or a business – are being encouraged to receive [Railwatch](#) direct to their Inbox immediately on publication by logging-in at [Member services](#).
- ~ receive Railfuture's regular monthly newsletter [Rail User Express](#) direct to your Inbox immediately on publication by emailing [renewals@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:renewals@railfuture.org.uk)
- ~ receive Railfuture's occasional [Rail Action](#) bulletin direct to your Inbox immediately on publication by emailing [renewals@railfuture.org.uk](mailto:renewals@railfuture.org.uk)