

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

Rail past? Rail future!

200 Years? For our 'rail future' campaigning purposes let's instead contemplate 200 months (almost 17 years ahead, to end-August 2041) or maybe just 200 weeks (ie within 4 years, to end-October 2028).



After national [Whistle Up](#) at noon on New Year's Day, how do we wish to blow our own Railfuture trumpet over the next 200 weeks and months? Every recipient of this bulletin is either a member of one of our six regional branch's local divisions, or maybe another branch, and so your New Year resolutions for practical support to existing or potential campaigns to deliver a Railfuture success for a bigger better railway will be most warmly received by division and branch officers!

What shall we be doing this month?

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

- ~ attending the final six [drop-in and online events](#) for East West Rail's latest non-statutory consultation.
- ~ running a L&SE regional branch / Kent Division campaigns stall at the [annual show](#) of Erith Model Railway Society, near Abbey Wood station.
- ~ participating in the third in-person Transport Forum of Transport for the South East.
- ~ holding regular meetings of our Herts & Beds and Eastern Divisions [online](#), Sussex & Coastway and London Metro Divisions in-person.
- ~ contributing to composite Railfuture responses to the non-statutory [consultation by East West Rail](#) and to the DfT's Call for Ideas to support the development of an [Integrated National Transport Strategy](#) for England.
- ~ responding to Brighton & Hove City Council's consultation on [Key Issues for City Plan 2041](#).

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 and South East: January birthdays


~ 5th, in 1981 – restoration of passenger services from Barking into Gospel Oak instead of Kentish Town, after a 55-year break.

~ 8th, in 1996 – Ashford International connected to the European high-speed network when Eurostar began serving the station, but withdrawal of services from Kent's two stations continues indefinitely.

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-December edition of **inter-railse** no.78, Railfuture's London and South East regional branch members, and / or committee members, have:

- ~ participated in a GTR reception for stakeholders.
 - ~ participated in a Brighton & Hove Transport & Travel Partnership for a presentation on [City Plan 2041](#).
 - ~ attended a meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Rail Group on the future for rail devolution.
 - ~ participated in Southeast CRP's North Downs Line Steering Group.
 - ~ participated in a [webinar](#) to launch TfSE's new [Transport Strategy](#).
 - ~ participated in a GWR [webinar](#) for stakeholders.
 - ~ attended a test run of GWR's class 230 battery train along the West Ealing-Greenford branch line.
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- ~ responded to Network Rail Property's consultation "It's time" for Liverpool Street station. "Overwhelming support" from passengers subsequently [reported](#) – for the station improvement elements of the proposals.
 - ~ attended further public drop-in events for the latest non-statutory consultation by [East West Rail Company](#).
 - ~ held regular meetings of our Sussex & Coastway and Herts & Beds Divisions [online](#).
 - ~ held a regular monthly meeting of the L&SE regional branch committee, in-person for a change.

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates



Tuesday 7, Thursday 9, Friday 10, Wednesday 15, Friday 17, Saturday 18, and Tuesday 21 January Final public drop-in and **online** events for latest non-statutory [consultation by East West Rail Company](#).



Thursday 9 January Public drop-in session in Brighton for Brighton & Hove City Council consultation on [Key Issues for City Plan 2041](#).

Thursday 9 January Sussex & Coastway Division evening social meeting, Lewes. [Invite non-members!](#)

Monday 13 January Public drop-in session in University of Sussex, Falmer for Brighton & Hove City Council consultation on [Key Issues for City Plan 2041](#).



Tuesday 14 January Evening **webinar** for Lewes District Council's [Local Plan consultation](#) - Lewes 2040.

Wednesday 15 January Eastern Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Thursday 16 January London Metro Division evening meeting, Farringdon. [Invite non-members!](#)

Monday 20 January Brighton & Hove City Council consultation on [Key Issues for City Plan 2041](#) closes.

Tuesday 21 January Herts & Beds Division **online** evening meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Friday 24 January latest non-statutory consultation by [East West Rail Company](#) closes.

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

Saturday 25 / Sunday 26 January Regional branch / Kent Division campaigns stall at annual Erith Model Railway Society exhibition, in the different venue of



Harris Garrard Academy, DA18 4DW (nr Abbey Wood station)

Monday 27 January Copy date for your campaign news / reports for the London & South East regional branch Local Action column in April's *railwatch* no.183, and for March's *railse* no.167. Send to londonandsoutheast@railfuture.org.uk

Wednesday 29 January Public drop-in session in Ringmer for consultation by Lewes District Council on [Local Plan - Lewes 2040](#).

Thursday 30 January Public drop-in session in Seaford for consultation by Lewes District Council on [Local Plan - Lewes 2040](#).



Friday 31 January Copy date for your campaign news, letters, articles, photos to appear in April's *railwatch* no.183. Send to editor@railwatch.org.uk

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](#).

Railfuture publications by email

- ~ All members – individual, joint, affiliated organisation eg 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](#); it's accompanied by branch newsletter [railse](#).
- ~ All members can receive Railfuture's regular monthly newsletter [Rail User Express](#) and occasional [Rail Action](#) bulletin direct to their Inbox upon publication.



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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