

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

“Please mind the gap”



“Why don't we have higher platforms?” - RSSB featured item.

“The risk to passengers at the Platform Train Interface (PTI) is equivalent to nearly 13 fatalities each year, and 48% of the total passenger fatality risk on the mainline railway network. To help manage this risk RSSB has put together a range of resources.” Search for ‘platform train interface’ in <https://www.rssb.co.uk/en>

Come to the branch annual meeting, Saturday 30 April in Wesley's Chapel, City Road, London, and hear our guest speaker from the Rail Safety & Standards Board.

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.*

COVID-19 briefing to Railfuture members

Confidence about travelling safely by train is now at 86% of rail users, and among non-rail users has risen again over the past month to 67%.

Source: Transport Focus weekly [Tracking Research](#).

Click [here](#) to subscribe to “Transport User Voice”.

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

What has @RailfutureLSE been doing?

Since the early-February edition of **inter-railse** no.44, Railfuture's London and South East members have:

~ joined the second **online** session of the new All-Party Parliamentary Group for the South East, hearing five presentations for its inquiry “*Financing for the future – what does levelling up mean for South East England?*”

~ participated in a Localis thinktank ‘Chatham House’ discussion on “*Re-setting the South East: Levelling-up after Brexit, climate change and COVID – what can South East Councils do for Net Zero?*”

~ participated in the **online** annual joint meeting of Southeast CRP's Uckfield / East Grinstead and Tonbridge-Redhill / Reigate CRP Steering Groups.

~ participated in an **online** meeting of the Southeast CRP's MarshLink CRP Steering Group.

~ participated **online** in GTR's annual stakeholder conference.

~ participated **online** in GTR's latest timetable forum.

~ observed the official opening of the step-free access at Eridge station.

~ held regular **online** meetings of our Herts & Beds and Sussex & Coastway Divisions.

~ held regional Branch committee meetings **online**.

Also during February, regional branch committee have co-ordinated and submitted our responses to:

~ TfL's user survey on “*Shaping the future of step-free access on the Tube*.”

~ Lewes District Council with planning policy objections to two more applications for outline planning permissions totalling up to 300 new homes in Ringmer.

All Railfuture submissions can be found in our library via the website's home page, and [here](#)

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.*

What shall we be doing this month?

~ participating in an **online** TfSE joint Area Studies Forum.

~ participating in an **online** TfSE Transport Forum.

~ participating in a London Overground Community Conference.

~ participating in the Southeast CRP's Uckfield / East Grinstead and Tonbridge-Redhill / Reigate CRP Steering Group meetings.

~ contributing to an alternate-monthly **online** meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee.

~ participating in a GTR Sustainability Forum.

~ reviewing the “[Re-setting the South East](#)” research to be published by Localis in the third week of March.

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

~ holding a regional Branch committee meeting **online**.

New – “Railway Club Directory”

<https://www.railwayclubdirectory.com/> set up by new member Richard Bowry, and includes Railfuture.

Britain’s Growing Railway in London & South East: March anniversaries

~ in 1991 (date/s in March uncertain), north and south chords and new Stansted Airport station.

~ in 2008, on 27th, Heathrow Airport T5 extension from Heathrow Central / T1-3, and new Terminal 5 station.

Calendar of forthcoming diary dates

Saturday 15 January - mid-May London Underground Northern line closed between Moorgate – Kennington for Bank station upgrade works.

Tuesday 1 March “RSSB and the Rail Sustainability Strategy.” Free ‘lunch and learn’ [webinar](#).

Tuesday 1 March “Building back better with inclusion – celebrating Zero Discrimination Day.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Wednesday 2 March “Rivers, railways and floods at Cowley Bridge Junction.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Wednesday 2 March “Automating railways – to driverless and beyond.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Thursday 3 March Sussex & Coastway Division evening [online](#) meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Monday 7 March “Crossrail West stations.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Tuesday 8 March “TfL’s Decarbonisation and Environmental Strategy.” Postponed from Tuesday 22 February. Free ‘lunch and learn’ [webinar](#).

Tuesday 8 March “HS2 – full steam ahead.” All-Party Parliamentary Rail Group open [online](#) late-afternoon meeting.

Tuesday 8 March “Overhead line electrification.” Free early-evening [webinar](#).

Tuesday 8 March “Railway communication.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Wednesday 9 March “Synthetic fuels for low-carbon transportation.” Free lunchtime [webinar](#).

Wednesday 9 March “High-speed freight locomotives.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Wednesday 9 March Eastern Division evening [online](#) meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Saturday 12 March Herts & Beds Division morning [online](#) meeting. [Invite non-members!](#)

Monday 14 March “Sustainable travel plans and the big commuter challenge post-COVID.” Evening [webinar](#).

Wednesday 16 March “The new normal – longer-term impacts of COVID on patterns of working and how this impacts transport, work places and town centres.” Evening [webinar](#).

Wednesday 16 March “Revolution Very Light Rail.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Thursday 17 March “Electrification programmes – past, present and future.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Saturday/Sunday 19/20 March London & South East regional branch stall at rail exhibition in Ally Pally, N22.

Monday 21 March “Current development in rail cybersecurity – TfL’s tactics for keeping transport systems safe from ever-changing online threats.” Free evening [webinar](#).

Thursday 24 March “What does SPEED and PACE mean to projects?” Free evening [webinar](#).

Tuesday/Wednesday 29/30 March Planning Inspectorate holds Preliminary Meeting prior to start of Examination of application for Development Consent Order for London Resort.

Thursday 31 March “Railway overhead electrification – can the negatives outweigh the positives?” Free evening [webinar](#).

Saturday 16 April Closing date for nominations for Railfuture’s Rail User Group Awards 2021-22.



See <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/RUG-Awards>

Saturday 30 April London and South East regional branch annual open meeting (with AGM). Speaker from RSSB on ‘step-free journeys from street to seat.’ Venue: Wesley’s Chapel, nearest station Old Street.

Saturday 16 July National AGM with presentations for Railfuture RUG Awards and Railfuture Campaigner of the Year, close to Bristol Parkway station.

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

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](#)

Railfuture Limited is a not-for-profit Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England & Wales no.05011634.
Registered Office: Edinburgh House, 1-5 Bellevue Road, Clevedon, North Somerset, BS21 7NP
(for legal correspondence only). All other correspondence to 14 Ghent Field Circle, Thurston, Suffolk IP31 3UP