

RCTS Chichester Branch 2023-2024 Meetings



2023

Wednesday 27th September 19:15
American Rail Rover - John Day

Wednesday 25th October 19:15
The Mid Hants Railway Film Unit
Will Stratford

Wednesday 22nd November 19:15
The coming of the railway
to Southampton - David Brace

Wednesday 13th December 19:15
Railways of Col Holman Stephens
Chris Jackson
Follows a short Chichester branch AGM

2024

Wednesday 24th January 19:15
The North Yorkshire Moors Railway
Chris Price

A virtual Zoom meeting only

Wednesday 28th February 19:15
That was the year that was - 1962
Geoff Plumb

A virtual Zoom meeting only

2024

Wednesday 27th March 19:15
History of Eastleigh and it's railways
Gordon Adams

Wednesday 24th April 19:15
The Hixon High Speed Crash of 1968
Malcolm Garner

Wednesday 22nd May 19:15
Ulster 1958-65 The Great Northern
Railway Lines - Leslie McAllister

A Special afternoon meeting at the Bassil Shippam Centre

Thursday 8th February 2024 at 14:00
108 Years of Southern Electric - Stuart Hicks

Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, Chichester, PO19 7LG

Suggested Small Donation, Guests £4 Members £3. Interval refreshments

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Further Details at

www.rcts.org.uk/branches/branch-chr-chichester

and www.facebook.com/chichesterrailrcts

Email chichester@rcts.org.uk

The Monthly Newsletter of RCTS Chichester Branch.

Editor: Ian McKey

Distributor: Roger Sandford

Contributors: Roger Sandford, Joe Whicher,
Nigel Tregoning, Ian McKey

Additional Proof Readers: Geoff Adams, Geoff May
& John Barrowdale

**Front Cover Poster by
Roger Sandford ©**

Front Cover Poster Image :-

313 unit 219 working the
10:29 Portsmouth to Brighton on
02 September 2022 is seen arriving at
Chichester.

What's on for the Railway Enthusiast in August - Part 1: The Railway Contacts.

Railway Name	Website	Contact Email	Contact Phone
Bluebell Railway	The Bluebell Railway in Sussex - A heritage steam railway (bluebell-railway.com)	enquiries@bluebell-railway.com	01825 720800
Isle of Wight Railway	Isle of Wight Steam Railway – The 10 Mile Museum	info@iwsteamrailway.co.uk info@iwsteamrailway.co.uk	01983 882204
Kent & East Sussex Railway	Kent & East Sussex Railway – Tenterden – Northiam –	enquiries@kesr.org.uk	01580 765155
Watercress Railway	Watercress Line - Heritage Steam Railway	info@watercressline.co.uk	01962 733810
Amberley Museum	Amberley Museum	office@amberleymuseum.co.uk	01798 831370
Hayling Light Railway Trust	The Hayling Light Railway Trust	haylinglightrailway@yahoo.com	07902 446340
Littlehampton Miniature Railway	Home (littlehamptonminiaturerailw		01903 719876
South Downs Light Railway	South Downs Light Railway	info@south-downs-railway.com	07518 753784
Stansted Park Light Railway	Stansted Park Light Railway	help@sp-lr.co.uk	02392 413 324



National Rail

Beta

Industrial action to affect National Rail services in August

The ASLEF union, have announced action short of a strike affecting some train operators from Monday 31 July to Saturday 5 August and again from Monday 7 to Saturday 12 August.

This action involves ASLEF members withdrawing from working overtime during this time.

Whilst not yet fully confirmed, it is **likely** that Southern Rail will be affected and is not expecting to be able to run their full timetable. **Please check before you travel:**

(Update: On Saturday **5 August**, you will not be able to travel to or from Brighton station by rail and the station will be **closed**. Trains on the Brighton mainline will start/terminate at Three Bridges, and there will be no trains on our coastway routes, except a **possible** Barnham to Victoria reduced service via the Arun Valley Line)

What's on for the Railway Enthusiast in August - Part 2: The Events

Railway	Date(s)	Event
Bluebell Railway	22/Jul/2023 - 22/Aug/2023	Shaun the Sheep at The Bluebell Railway
Bluebell Railway	1/Aug/2023 - 2/Aug/2023	Dinosaurs at The Bluebell Railway!
Bluebell Railway	1/Aug/2023 - 31/Aug/2023	Various Dining Trains at The Bluebell Railway (See Website)
Amberley Museum	5/Aug/2023 - 6/Aug/2023	Retro Wheels + Steam Narrow Gauge Running
Bluebell Railway	5/Aug/2023 - 6/Aug/2023	Teddy Bear's Picnic featuring Peter Rabbit™
Hayling Light Railway Trust	8/Aug/2023	Alzheimer's Charity Day
Watercress Railway	12/Aug/2023 - 20/Aug/2023	Day out with Thomas
Bluebell Railway	12/Aug/2023 - 13/Aug/2023	Peppa Pig at The Bluebell Railway
Kent & East Sussex Railway	13/Aug/2023	Bus Rally at Tenterden Town Station
Kent & East Sussex Railway	19/Aug/2023	Steampunk Day
Bluebell Railway	20/Aug/2023	Aston Martins at Sheffield Park
Amberley Museum	20/Aug/2023	Commercial Vehicles + Steam Narrow Gauge
Bluebell Railway	23/Aug/2023 - 3/Sep/2023	Flying Scotsman at The Bluebell Railway (See Website)
Isle of Wight Railway	25/Aug/2023 - 28/Aug/2023	Island Steam Fair
Kent & East Sussex Railway	26/Aug/2023 - 28/Aug/2023	Teddy Bears Picnic
South Downs LightRailway	26/Aug/2023 - 28/Aug/2023	Steam Gala
Amberley Museum	27/Aug/2023 - 28/Aug/2023	Ale & Crafts + Steam Narrow Gauge Running



Respryn Bridge, near Bodmin is the location

Circa 1976. and an unidentified Class 47 heads for Penzance with 1V76 Liverpool to Penzance Express.

© Ian McKey

INN NAMES AND THEIR SIGNS RELATING TO RAILWAYS

By Joe Whicher © All Text & Images

Almost simultaneously with the demise of the steam locomotive on the mainline railways of Britain the disappearance or change of railway named inns and their interesting signage began to happen. The remarkable statistic for the south of England in the 1960's is that as rail routes were being cut back and with few pubs closing (or changing their name) at that time, the result was an average ratio of 16 railway themed pubs to every mile of standard gauge track.

Today a far lesser number of pubs are displaying signs. Many use simplified artwork or perhaps just a worded sign. No doubt it is cheaper to produce simple signs, to say nothing of finding an enthusiastic artist capable of painting an authentic railway picture on a sign to impress potential customers.

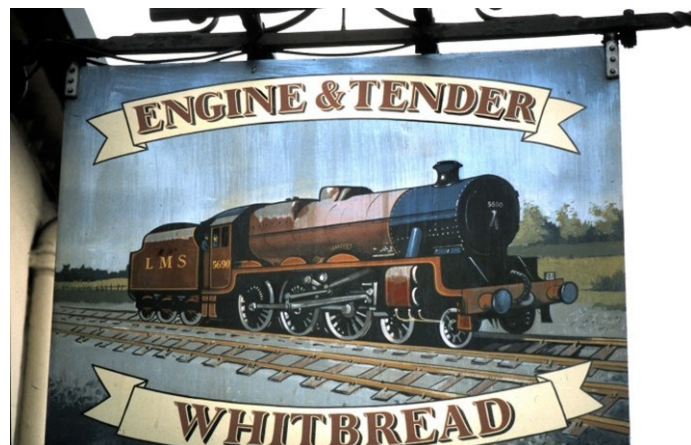


In some cases railway themed inns went further than displaying just an excellent painted swinging sign. Terrier locomotive No.46 Newington stood outside the pub named the "Hayling Billy" at Hayling Island before enthusiasts rescued it for the I.O.W. Steam Railway at Haven Street.

Of the hundreds of Inn Signs with a railway theme the majority displayed a locomotive and in their heyday the illustration could be a beautiful painting of an engine relevant to the district and displayed in the company livery. There were far too many to include in this article but below is a small selection. Some signs have different pictures on either side. The opposite side of the Marlow Donkey sign shows the train as it was in 1961 with a 1400 class 0-4-2T number 1471 wearing its British Rail livery.



At Cardiff the "Holiday Inn" put a GWR pannier tank No.9629 on their forecourt.

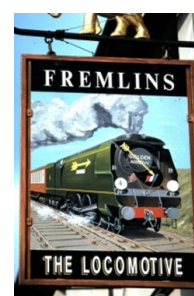
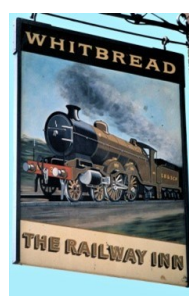
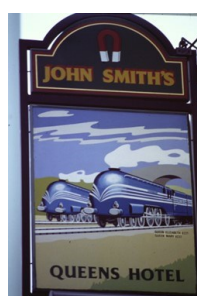
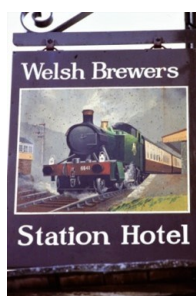
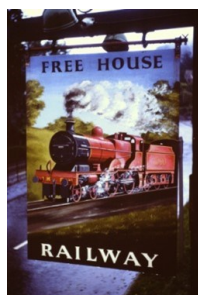


Engine & Tender at Bedford



Marlow Donkey at Marlow, Bucks.

INN NAMES AND THEIR SIGNS RELATING TO RAILWAYS Continued

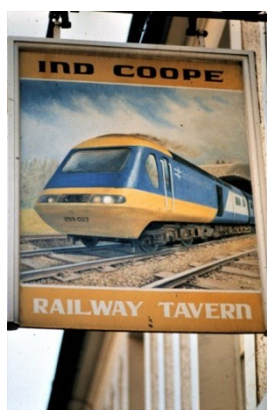


When I was in Weyhill Road, Andover, in 1994 I spotted a lovely sign at The Railway Tavern Inn. The sign showed a frontal view of “West Country” pacific No.34003. I took the opportunity to ask the landlord why that particular number loco was chosen. To which his response was; “Do you know the name of the engine with that number?” My reply was *Plymouth*. “Now you know where I was born” said the Landlord. This incident confirmed how often personalised features are hidden in a sign taken for granted.

The variety of steam locomotives displayed is all embracing from Rocket and Locomotion to engines produced at the time of the end of steam on British Rail.

Standard Gauge subjects predominate but there are plenty of narrow gauge themed signs too. It will be no surprise that the best hunting ground for narrow gauge signs is to take a look around Wales but there are other places and a trip to The Isle of Man will produce several more.

The demise of steam has been tackled by sign artists with pictures of real or fictional locomotion as below: -



Reading



Barnham



Burgess Hill



Bognor Regis

Actual coaches have on some occasions been used by pubs to add space or provide a themed dining area.

A few signs pictured passenger coaches with Pullman's being the most common. Other rolling stock such as goods wagons or brake vans could occasionally be spotted in paintings of distant scenes of a whole train.

INN NAMES AND THEIR SIGNS RELATING TO RAILWAYS Continued

Railway company coats of arms, both before and after the grouping, make up another interesting subject adopted by some pubs for their names and signs. During the 1980's and 90's I photographed 25 different Inns displaying coats of arms of great variety. One could check out what a railway company's coat of arms was like if you could find a pub displaying one. There was a good selection of Great Western Railway to choose from, but The Midland, The West Midland, The London Midland & Scottish, The Great Eastern, The North Eastern, The Great Northern, The London, Tilbury & Southend, The London and South Western, The London, Brighton & South Coast and The Somerset & Dorset were all featured



GWR at Theale



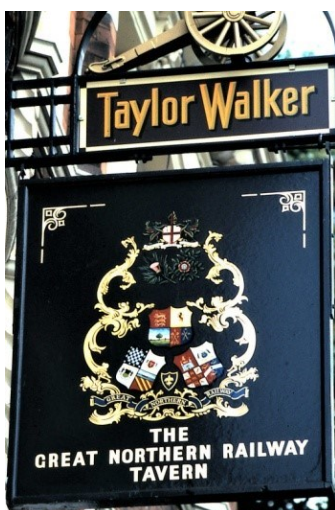
S&D at Burham-on-Sea



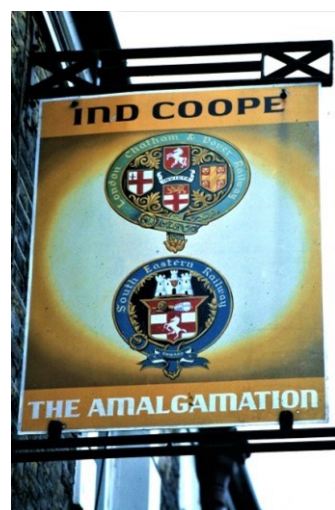
GER at Saffron Walden



L&SWR at St Denys



Gt Northern at Hornsey



LC&DR + SER at Strood

The Strood, Kent, Inn named *The Amalgamation* must be unique with two coats of arms on its sign. By adopting the name the pub is therefore celebrating the amalgamation of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway with the South Eastern Railway in 1899.

INN NAMES AND THEIR SIGNS RELATING TO RAILWAYS Continued

Personalities of the railway industries on Inn Signs make another subject worth investigating. *The Porter* at Bath, *The Jolly Porter* at Reading and at Exeter, *The Men of March* (servicing a loco) at March, *The Trevithick Arms* at Camborne, *The Brunel* at Saltash and elsewhere, Passengers on the platform at *The Station Hotel*, at Easington Colliery, *Timothy Hackworth* at Shildon, *The Station Master* at Warmley, *The Engineer* at Dover, *Captain Howey* at New Romney, *Little Driver* at Bow Road E3, *The Daniel Gooch* at Porchester Terrace W2, *The Railway* at Edington Burtle shows Porter Mogg ringing a hand-bell of 1862 wearing the cap badge of The Somerset Joint Committee.

It can be satisfying to consider the bracket and metalwork from which a sign hangs. The *Brunel* sign at Saltash hangs from a large metal replica of Brunel's twin span masterpiece, his railway bridge across the Tamar River which is in view from outside the Inn. At Matlock Bath are a couple of oddly shaped signs. The *County and Station* is oval and *The Midland Hotel* sign (with LMS No.1000 on it) is diamond shaped.

Semaphore signals on their posts were also adapted as an eye catcher outside an inn. Examples could be found at "*The Railway Signal Inn*", at Bromley South and on the pavement outside of "*The Golden Arrow*" in Beckenham. Another example together with a mock crossing gate as fencing was to be seen at "*The Railway*", Wheatly, Oxfordshire. Sometimes semaphore posts were used to carry the Inn sign as for "*The Railway Inn*" at Banwell, Somerset.



Bromley South



Beckenham



Wheatly



Banwell

Not only are there actual signals to be admired but many signs incorporate pictures of semaphores both single arms or complete gantries, however distant signals are conspicuous by their absence.

The endless variety of railway related artwork employed by pubs and their brewery owners provided me with a most satisfying hobby as I set about finding and photographing them from 1977 onwards until the present day.

Alas the hobby would yield only a small fraction of the interest today which it gave me. An enormous number of pubs have gone out of business and many of those that remain have changed their name but some of those left still call themselves *Railway Inn* but only by the use of a worded sign with no illustration.

INN NAMES AND THEIR SIGNS RELATING TO RAILWAYS Continued

Even in July 1978 some pubs didn't have a pictorial sign as here on the left, at Gosport, but they had realized their omission by December 1980 and hung the colourful royal train picture reminding onlookers that Queen Victoria had used Gosport Station on her regular visits to the Isle of Wight.



You can still find interesting inn signs. Keep looking you may discover something really exciting!
Joe Whicher ©



Honiton, on a summer Saturday (August 23rd 1980,) 33015 draws to a halt with the 12:20 Exeter St Davids – Waterloo service. © Nigel Tregoning

THE COASTWAY CLASS 313 FINAL FAREWELL

By Roger Sandford © All Text & Images

In the early spring of 2023 when a farewell tour was advertised for Saturday 29 April it became apparent there would be no further reprieve for the Class 313 EMUs.

Built in 1976 at York, 19 of the units were transferred to Southern in 2010, refurbished and branded exclusively for both the East and West Coastway services. Eastbourne, Seaford, Brighton, Littlehampton, Bognor Regis & Portsmouth and points between regularly served, plus less often to Hastings and occasionally, in their early years with Southern, to Southampton.

The operator confirmed the last day of service for the 313s was expected to be Saturday 20 May. The number of weekday 313 diagrams had been reduced to nine at the December 2022 timetable change, giving theoretically ample slack in the fleet during their final days.

313 217 was stopped in mid-summer 2022, never re-entering passenger service, by early 2023 313 202 & 214 were stood down. Into May and further members of the class were prepared for their final journey to storage and ultimate demise, remaining units serviceable until the planned end in May, although many saw periods of short term storage at Lover's Walk and Hove Yard. Rail blue 201 in fact did not carry passengers again following the farewell tour when it was coupled to 213.

The last planned day in service unfortunately coincided with industrial action being taken by members of the RMT union. Their ongoing action also caused further timetable disruption during the preceding week resulting in a gradual reduction in 313 diagramming. It became obvious the end of the 313s passenger service would probably come on Friday 19 May.

On the final Friday 207, 209, 211, 213 & 215 were all noted in service. All those on West Coastway were replaced in their diagrams during the morning by class 377s. 215 the last in passenger service with the 12:05 Littlehampton to Brighton, earlier in the day having worked the 07:17 Portsmouth Harbour to Brighton service. However, 211, removed from service after working the 10:52 Barnham to Bognor Regis ran ecs to Lover's Walk at 13:45, effectively the last unit home from the West. The diagram earlier included the 08:57 Portsmouth & Southsea to Littlehampton.

The other side of Brighton the Seaford branch was still 313 operated and the final service at 23:41 from Brighton was covered by 213, the unit that accompanied 201 on the 29 April farewell tour. This diagram normally required the unit to run ecs back to Brighton. However, on this final night the 00:23 from Seaford was advertised as a passenger service non-stop to Brighton resulting in the final 313 working being on Saturday 20 May as originally intended.

Following withdrawal the remaining units were formed up in pairs ready for their final journey to the 'breaker's yard', Arlington Eastleigh Works yard chosen as their final resting place. The first three to make their final journey were towed by Class 37 800 North via the Brighton Main Line to join the South West Main Line in the London suburbs. All the remaining units travelled in pairs under their own power from Lover's Walk / Hove Yard via Preston Park (reverse) and the West Coastway via Chichester and Botley. A full listing is shown below.

THE COASTWAY CLASS 313 FINAL FAREWELL Continued

During the storage process 203 and 210 ran ecs from Lover's Walk / Hove to Littlehampton and back on Tuesday 23 May.

Work began to scrap the units in mid-June, the first being 214. By mid-July 202 and 220 had followed with the first carriage of 207 extinct, the next unit in line being 204. Various including unit numbers being removed and items auctioned / sold for charity.

It had been expected 313 201 the celebrity blue unit would be preserved by the NRM. However, it became apparent earlier this year they had declined the unit, preferring another of the class in non-passenger use with Network Rail. Our South Coast star may be reprieved, as efforts are currently underway to keep it operational, based and maintained at Eastleigh. Details of this effort and how you could help can be found at www.400series.co.uk/?page_id=413

As of mid July 201 is stored at the far East end of the storage sidings on the Eastleigh site, three of the other units waiting scrapping immediately in front.

The timetable for disposal of the units by Southern to Arlington, Eastleigh

Date	Day	Units	Comments
10 March 23	Friday	202 214 217	Hauled by Class 37 800
10 May 23	Wednesday	201 208	Under Own Power
17 May 23	Wednesday	206 212	Under Own Power
06 June 23	Tuesday	220 204	Under Own Power
13 June 23	Tuesday	207 216	Under Own Power
21 June 23	Wednesday	209 215	Under Own Power
27 June 23	Tuesday	219 213	Under Own Power
04 July 23	Tuesday	210 203	Under Own Power
11 July 23	Tuesday	211 205	Under Own Power

THE COASTWAY CLASS 313 FINAL FAREWELL Continued



Class 313 201 & 208 approach Cosham on their final working to Arlington, the 09:42 ecs departure from Lover's Walk to Eastleigh. 10 May 2023

The 09:46 Hove Yard to Eastleigh. The final pair of 313s 211 & 205 to depart Southern, about to leave the Coastway at Havant Junction. In shot SWR 450 013 is working the 10:19 Southampton Up Goods Loop to Woking driver familiarisation service, 11 July 2023



Class 313- 210 and 203 make their final journey as the 09:46 Hove Yard to Eastleigh, crossing the River Wallington at Fareham. 04 July 2023

THE COASTWAY CLASS 313 FINAL FAREWELL Continued



Arlington Eastleigh - Class 313 - 213, 217 and 219 all clearly visible. Rail blue 201 can be seen at rear line of 313s headed by 213. 08 July 2023



Class 313 - 219, 210 and 203 at rest awaiting scrapping at Arlington Eastleigh. 08 July 2023



The last two 313s 211 & 205 to leave Southern stand at Arlington Eastleigh awaiting their fate amongst several other members of the class. 15 July 2023



Arlington Eastleigh, dark clouds threaten rain as left to right 313s 209, 204, 211 & 205 amongst other members of the Class awaiting scrapping. 204, in the scrap line has already lost it's front number identifier. 15 July 2023



Circa 1976 and Gloucester R&CW class 119 DMU, P588, is seen on an up service approaching Respryn Bridge near Bodmin, Cornwall.

The unit is made up of :-

DMBC W51079

TSLRB W59437

DMSL W51107

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