



Seen in 2018 at the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway at Haworth Station, LNWR No.1054, an 0-6-2T “Coal tank” is getting into spirit of the “Railway Children”. The engine is a Francis William Webb design built in 1888 and was a mere 140 years old at the time of this photograph! She was due to be withdrawn on the day before WW2 broke out but was reprieved due to a shortage of motive power. She lasted for a further 19 years before entering preservation via the National Trust!. More details can be seen at <https://kwvr.co.uk/1054-lnwr-0-6-2t-coal-tank/> ©

The Monthly Newsletter of RCTS Chichester Branch.

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Front Cover by Ian McKey ©

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What's on for the Railway Enthusiast in June

Railway Name	Website	Contact Email	Contact Phone
Bluebell Railway	Bluebell Railway Web site	Bluebell E-Mail Contact	01825 720800
Isle of Wight Railway	IOW-SR Website	IOW Steam Railway Email	01983 882204
Kent & East Sussex Railway (K&ESR)	K&ESR Website	enquiries@kesr.org.uk	01580 765155
Watercress Railway (WR)	Watercress Website	info@watercressline.co.uk	01962 733810
Amberley Museum	Amberley Museum	office@amberleymuseum.co.uk	01798 831370
Hayling Light Railway Trust (HLRT)	HLRT Website	haylinglightrailway@yahoo.com	07902 446340
Littlehampton Miniature Railway (LMR)	LMR Website		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




Southern EMU 377 431 is about to enter Barnham Station at 09:21 on 20th April 2024.

© Ian McKey

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

RailwayName	StartDate	EndDate	EventText
Watercress Railway	25/05/2024	02/06/2024	A Day out with Thomas
Amberley Museum	01/06/2024		Goodwood Road Racing Club
Kent & East Sussex Railway	01/06/2024	02/06/2024	K&ESR 50th Anniversary Gala
Isle of Wight Railway	01/06/2024	02/06/2024	1960's Weekend
Bluebell Railway	01/06/2024	02/06/2024	Southern at War
Kent & East Sussex Railway	14/06/2024	15/06/2024	CAMRA Real Ale & Cider Festival 2024
Amberley Museum	15/06/2024	16/06/2024	Emergency Services & Father's Day (Steam Day!)
Watercress Railway	15/06/2024	16/06/2024	All Change! - The changes of Road, Rail, Music and more through the '50's & '60's!
Isle of Wight Railway	15/06/2024	16/06/2024	Gin & Steam! - New for 2024
Kent & East Sussex Railway	16/06/2024		Fathers Day Lunch - Steam Specials
Amberley Museum	21/06/2024		Discovery Day - Transport Links
Kent & East Sussex Railway	26/06/2024		Fish & Chips Evening Special
Kent & East Sussex Railway	29/06/2024	30/06/2024	Steampunk Weekend - See website for details!!
Bluebell Railway	29/06/2024	30/06/2024	Model Railway Weekend

Southern Engineering Works - June 2024

		Engineering works likely to affect journeys in our area.
Date From	Date To	
02/06/2024		Buses will replace trains between Three Bridges and Horsham / Pulborough. An amended train service will run between London Victoria and Littlehampton / Portsmouth Harbour, with trains diverting via Hove.
03/06/2024	07/06/2024	Engineering work between Brighton and Worthing, will close all lines on Tuesday to Friday early mornings. The 00:02 London Victoria to Worthing service will terminate at Brighton, with a replacement bus running from Brighton to Worthing.
08/06/2024	09/06/2024	Engineering work is taking place between Brighton and Angmering, closing all lines. Buses will replace trains between Brighton and Littlehampton / Chichester from approximately 23:00 on Saturday until 10:15 Sunday, and from approximately 23:00 on Sunday until the end of service
10/06/2024	13/06/2024	Engineering work is taking place between Brighton and Angmering, closing all lines. Buses will replace trains between Brighton and Littlehampton / Chichester from approximately 23:00 on Saturday until 10:15 Sunday, and from approximately 23:00 on Sunday until the end of service
16/06/2024		Engineering work is taking place between Horsham and Arundel, closing some lines. The 21:35 and 22:35 London Victoria to Bognor Regis services will be diverted to run via Haywards Heath and Hove, running to a revised timetable. Your tickets will be accepted on Thameslink services to travel between Three Bridges and Horsham. Replacement buses will also run between Three Bridges and Bognor Regis via Horsham.
23/06/2024		Engineering work is taking place between Southampton Central and Havant, closing some lines. The 07:30 Southampton Central to Brighton train will start from Havant and run to Brighton from there. A replacement bus will run from Southampton Central earlier to meet the train.
24/06/2024	26/06/2024	00:02 London Victoria to Worthing / Eastbourne Engineering work is taking place overnight between Three Bridges and Brighton, closing some lines. The 00:02 London Victoria to Worthing / Eastbourne service will terminate at Three Bridges. Replacement buses will run between Three Bridges and Brighton / Worthing, and between Haywards Heath and Eastbourne.

For the latest updates on Engineering work please follow the link below :-

[Planned Changes to Train Times | Southern Railway](#)



West Coastway Timetable Revision Starting 2nd June 2024

From Sunday 2nd of June, a new timetable will come into operation on Southern's West Coastway trains. Last year, Southern took the opportunity of revamping the timetable for East Coastway, so this year it is Coastway West's turn for more substantial changes.

Below is a summary of the changes taken from Southern Rail's website.

From Monday to Saturday, there will be changes on the West Coastway route. This is to improve the reliability of the service in this area and to provide faster regional journeys between Brighton, Chichester and Southampton, and for connections to the West of England.

The new Monday to Saturday timetable will be formed of:

- Half-hourly service between Brighton and Southampton Central
- Hourly service between Brighton and Portsmouth & Southsea
- Half-hourly service between London Victoria and Portsmouth Harbour/Bognor Regis. These trains attach and detach at Horsham.
- Half-hourly service between London Victoria and Littlehampton via Hove
- Hourly stopping service (all station) between Brighton and Chichester via Littlehampton
- Half-hourly shuttle services between Bognor Regis and Barnham

Customers travelling between Southampton Central and London Victoria via Gatwick Airport will need to change trains at Barnham or Chichester.

The Sunday service will remain largely unchanged, except for some minor re-timing.

Modern Railways magazine's James Abbott interviewed Phil Hutchinson, Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR)'s Head of Strategic Planning, about the changes. Below is a precis of the rationale behind the changes.

1. The new local services will enable regional services to be speeded up, which in turn will enable better use of the existing resources and hopefully reduce overcrowding.
2. Passengers travelling between Southampton and Brighton have a two trains per hour (a doubling of the current number) as well as being faster. By including Woolston as a stop for these trains, passengers will also have access to local bus networks in that area.
3. This will enable a journey time from Southampton to Brighton of 1h:45m against a car journey of 2h:15m which with projected roadworks in the Littlehampton area will only get worse.
4. Under the previous timetable, the London -Southampton trains were frequently held up and as they already had tight turnround times at Southampton it often built up delays with the inevitable knock-on effects. The new timetable will help to enable a more reliable service.
5. Southern Rail has recognised that Portsmouth Harbour is in demand as a destination serving Gunwharf Quay, The Isle of Wight Ferry service, The Gosport Ferry and the Royal Navy tourist attractions. More trains will now terminate there rather than at Portsmouth and Southsea station.

West Coastway Timetable Revision ..continued

6. Surveys showed that three out every four passengers leaving Southampton on the Southern services for the east required the Brighton Line rather than the Arun Valley Line. The changes will also enable the Southern Rail eastbound departures from Southampton to be spaced out at half hourly intervals rather than the old timetables 15m:45m gaps.
7. A similar timetable revision was previously undertaken for East Coastway which was introduced a year ago. The experience gained in that project was used to help the development of West Coastway's timetable revisions. Evidence from East Coastway is encouraging with improved reliability of services and a 14% increase traffic in just the first six months.

The following hyperlink will take you to Southern Rails website and more detail on the changes.

[Train Timetable](#) | [Train Times](#) | [Southern Railway](#)

May's Miscellany: by Geoff May ©



Maunsell's Schools Class 4-4-0 was arguably the finest example of the wheel arrangement ever built. On 9th September 1961 30901 'Winchester' reposes at Bricklayers Arm MPD. 30901 was withdrawn as part of the massive cull of the class in December 1962 - an exercise that satisfied the BR accountants but certainly not the enthusiast!

Watercress Line Spring Gala - 26-28th April 2024 © John Barrowdale



Above: On shed the day before! Time for the engines to get a bit of “Spit & Polish” in readiness for the Gala on the following day!

Below: The long awaited bottom half of 35005 was delivered from Eastleigh Works on the night before the Gala.



Watercress Line Spring Gala - 26-28th April 2024 © John Barrowdale ..continued



Above: LMS Stanier Jubilee Class “Leander” 45690 at work during the Watercress Line’s Spring Gala. This image was taken on the 26th April when John was on board as crew that day!.

Below: Another image of “Leander” at the Gala. After Leander’s visit to the Watercress Line she went to the Epping & Ongar Railway. It was her final visit to a preserved railway, as her 10 year boiler certificate ran out in May 2024!



The Chapel Tramway – Pre War

from Alan Wallbank ©

Information about this tramway can be found online, but there is an article in the Narrow Gauge 'Link' Magazine winter 1966 which I thought would be of interest to readers.

THE CHAPEL TRAMWAY - PRE-WAR

by N.S. Bryant.

The article in the Summer "Link" on the Chapel Tramway by Mrs. Curl reminded me of the much more interesting activities to be seen in the vicinity of the Gas Works during the nineteen thirties.

Yes, I know that old men are always saying "Things were much more interesting when I was a boy", but I will describe the scene that I remember and leave you to judge for yourselves.

The Chapel Tramway was much busier then. Instead of working for an hour or two in the early morning, the Locomotive was kept at it all day. As well as serving the Gas Works, the Tramway also served the Phoenix Coal Wharf, a Timber Yard and a Builder's Merchants Yard.

As all the gas then came from coal and three retort houses were in use, there was plenty of traffic from coal in and coke out, even though much of the coal came in by sea and was unloaded by cranes for conveyance across Marine Parade by conveyor belt.

The Phoenix Coal Wharf, now closed, was then very active. Coal was unloaded by hydraulic cranes from ships lying on one or both sides of the Wharf. Coal was stored in large concrete hoppers served by railway lines. Immediately inside the Wharf gates was a wagon turntable and two weighbridges. The Chapel Tramway Locomotive was too heavy to work over these, so that shunting in the Wharf area was performed by a hydraulic capstan.

The capstan was driven round by four hydraulic rams set in a pit in the ground, and controlled by a foot pedal. Two men were required for shunting, one wound the rope on and off the capstan and controlled the latter with the pedal. The other man attached the rope to the Railway wagons by means of a hook which he slipped over any convenient projection on the side of the wagon.

There were a lot of pulleys and rollers placed alongside the track so that wagons could be moved anywhere within the Wharf or immediately outside.

Transport facilities within the Gas Works included conveyor belts, a mono-rail and battery electric trucks. The Gas Company was a big user of electric transport and had its own Power Station with four horizontal gas engines, each of four cylinders, driving

The Chapel Tramway – Pre War ..continued
from Alan Wallbank ©

200-Volt D.C. Generators.

The mono-rail served mainly the horizontal retort house, the single rail was supported by a framework of steel joists and the two self propelled cars hung underneath. There were four wheels on each car mounted on two bogies, the two wheels above the cab being driven by an electric motor. Power supply was by two short trolley poles from bare wires mounted alongside the running rail.

The body was a tipper which could be raised and lowered by an electric winch. The main duty of the mono-rail was to collect the red hot coke as it left the horizontal retorts. After the coke has been quenched with water sprays, it was conveyed to stock piles elsewhere in the Works.

Among the electric trucks used by the Gas Company were two Electricar end tippers of about 2½-tons capacity, with batteries mounted each side below floor level. Two Ransome's trucks of similar capacity had some of their batteries in a low "bonnet" in front of the driver. All these vehicles were on solid rubber tyres which was old fashioned even then.

These electric trucks did not venture very far from the Gas Works, but at an earlier period a Yorkshire steam wagon was used for coke deliveries. This wagon had a horizontal boiler across the front with the firebox and chimney in the middle. The engine was placed behind the driver, and drove the rear axle by chains.

Yes, in those days many a happy hour could be spent watching the varied forms of transport in use in and around the Gas Works.

ARTISTS.....ARTISTS.....ARTISTS

Ideas are being gathered for a suitable poster to help publicise The Hampshire Narrow Gauge Railway Society, and your comments, suggestions, and possible sketches will be welcome. Please send your contributions to:-

Mrs. Jo. Curl,
Public Relations Officer,
Four Winds,
Durley, Southampton,

as soon as possible.

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The National Transport Trust

A series of monthly items provided by Joe Whicher ©

The National Transport Trust is a charity dedicated to the preservation of all modes of Transport and its infrastructure. The organisation supports significant transport heritage sites by funding and by the issue and fixture of a red plaque which they term “Red Wheels”.

As the RCTS is interested in the history of railways it is appropriate to take a look at the *Red Wheel* scheme and pick out railway related information.

So to examine the *Red Wheels* story we’ll present articles in chronological order of the subject’s construction date, in this and forthcoming newsletters.

National Transport Trust Red Wheel Plaque TRANENT–COCKENZIE WAGGONWAY of 1722

Scotland’s earliest railway, built to carry coal on wooden rails, using gravity and horse power. It is old enough to have been fought across its tracks during the Battle of Prestonpans.

This waggonway in East Lothian was built in 1722, from Tranent to Port Seton Harbour, via the Cockenzie Salt Pans. It was re-routed in 1815 to a new terminus at Cockenzie Harbour.

Recent archaeological excavations have shown the early wooden “plateway” formation is intact with evidence of the iron railway built by Robert Stephenson in 1815 overlaid on top. The plateway was to the Willington Waggonway gauge of 4’6” (known as the Scotch gauge), but the later iron railway is 3’ 3”.

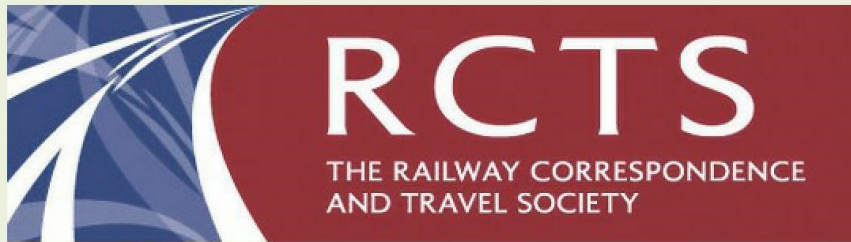
Further extensions at Cockenzie Harbour have unearthed evidence of Stephenson’s wagon tipping mechanism and wagon turntables, drawings for which exist along with plans for Cockenzie Harbour in the early 19th century.

The 1722 Waggonway Heritage Group have established an excellent small museum at Cockenzie Harbour which includes copies of the drawings from various Scottish national archive sources. They are continuing with their annual excavations plan and hope to open up a hundred-foot length in the area of their trial pit. The Heritage Group have also resumed the making of salt.



Pictures taken at the plaque’s unveiling.





2024 Members Weekend

Friday 27th - Sunday 29th September



Royal Maritime Hotel



The Harbour & Spinnaker Tower



Old Portsmouth / Spice Island



I K Brunel Born Portsea 9 April 1806

WELCOME TO PORTSMOUTH

The Great Waterfront City

The Royal Maritime Hotel

75-80 Queen Street

Portsmouth PO1 3HS

www.royalmaritimehotel.co.uk

Telephone: 023 9298 2182

Members should not contact the hotel direct unless in an emergency.

Portsmouth has something to offer everybody

The home of the Royal Navy, our hotel is literally a stones throw from The Naval Base and Heritage Dockyard where such treasures as The Mary Rose, HMS Victory, and HMS Warrior are on view. The Royal Navy Museum & Action Stations Commando Experience are among other attractions within the heritage area.

Adjacent to Portsmouth Harbour railway station is the Gunwharf Quays leisure and retail complex, including the 180 metre high Spinnaker Tower. The viewing platforms give visitors panoramic views across Portsmouth Harbour, the Isle of Wight and surrounding area.

A few minutes bus ride away and you are in Southsea with its extensive seafront and green open spaces. Included in the attractions are Southsea Castle, two piers, the D-Day Museum and Blue Reef Aquarium.

Don't miss the opportunity to join the RCTS group on Sunday afternoon, 29th September, to hop on a ferry from alongside Portsmouth Harbour station for the five minute crossing to Gosport. We will visit The Royal Navy Submarine Museum and go aboard HMS Alliance, the only remaining second world war era submarine of its type.

There is plenty to attract and enjoy in the local area, more information at:

www.visitportsmouth.co.uk

Weekend Programme of events

All events must be booked in advance as numbers are limited.

Friday 27th September

Portsmouth City museums have agreed to re-arrange their September opening day to accommodate RCTS at the Beam Engine Houses in Eastney. The visit is arranged for 14:00, Stagecoach bus 25 from opposite Portsmouth Harbour station, close to our hotel, runs to the attraction.

FirstBus routes 1 & 2 also run frequently to Bransbury Park, a five minute walk to the Engine Houses. A unique opportunity to visit this Victorian site.

A pre-booked hot single course meal has been arranged for 18:30 in the Nelson Room at our hotel The Royal Maritime. An evening presentation will follow at 19:30. Part one an excellent 40 minute film, with sound, depicting the history, people, and ultimate closure of the Havant - Hayling Island branch line. In the second half, an hour of 'Southern Miscellany' steam, diesel and electric images. It is unlikely members will have seen either of these presentations before and sure to invoke many fond memories. A donation of £4.00 including raffle ticket appreciated.

Saturday 28th September - Isle of Wight Steam Railway Visit

This is the 2024 gala weekend at the Steam Railway providing enhanced train service and attractions.

After breakfast we travel to the Isle of Wight to visit the Steam Railway, departing by Wightlink Ferry from Portsmouth Harbour station for the 22 minute voyage to Ryde Pier. We then join the Islandline train for the short hop to Smallbrook Junction, where we transfer to the Steam Railway at its eastern terminus. There are various fare options for travelling between Portsmouth Harbour and Smallbrook Junction, including reduced senior rates. Members are therefore asked to book their own travel tickets and ferry reservation.

We will be enjoying a special group rate at the Steam Railway. Ferries depart hourly from Portsmouth Harbour. Our train departure from Smallbrook will be confirmed at time of booking.

We will have reserved compartments on the Steam Railway from Smallbrook to Wootton and back to Havenstreet, where an optional (paid in advance) packed lunch will be available for collection. Members will then be free to explore the Havenstreet complex and railway, returning to Portsmouth as they wish.

Alternative Option Visit Eastleigh Railway Works and the Watercress Line

As an alternative there is the opportunity in the morning to enjoy an escorted visit to the Eastleigh Railway Works Complex, our hosts Arlington Fleet Services, followed by a visit to the Watercress Line in the afternoon, including optional escorted shed tours at Ropley (£5 donation on the day). This full day option is restricted to 30 people, advance booking recommended to avoid disappointment. An optional pre-paid packed lunch will be available for collection at the Watercress Line.

Portsmouth has many attractions as alternatives to the group railway options, but don't forget to book for our Sunday afternoon visit to the Submarine Museum in Gosport.

Members Dinner

On the Saturday evening we will have a three course dinner together in the hotel Trafalgar Ballroom (19:00 for 19:30), with a special guest speaker. Members will have the option of purchasing their own drinks from the Trafalgar Room bar. The booking form will give members the opportunity to select, in advance, from three options for each dinner course.

Sunday 29th September

Officer's Conference

The Officer's Conference will be held in the hotel Nelson Room 09:00, for a prompt 09:15 start. Tea / coffee & biscuits will be supplied.

Further details will be provided nearer the event.

Afternoon visit to Royal Navy Submarine Museum

<https://www.nmrn.org.uk/visit-us/submarine-museum>

An afternoon group visit has been arranged to the Royal Navy Submarine Museum at Gosport. This includes the opportunity to go aboard the only World War II submarine of its type still in existence and also look through an original periscope.

We will cross the water to Gosport on the harbour ferry adjacent to the transport interchange, and walk (12/15 minutes) the scenic promenade route from the ferry to the attraction, via the Haslar Marina. Members purchase their own ferry ticket prior to boarding. Return prices currently £5.10 Adult and £3.30 Concession.

It is a free-flow, non-guided tour of the complex, which includes a cafe.



A Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with The Charity Commission.
Registration number 1169995.

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**RCTS Chichester Branch - Summer Visit to :-
Volk's Railway, Brighton - 26th June 2024**



Unmistakably we are in Brighton, on the seafront,
admiring The Volks Railway.

Members only visit to the Volks Railway, Brighton to include escorted tour of shed and workshops.

You must book this event in advance as numbers are limited.

Further details and bookings at :-

chichester@rcts.org.uk

Please note: The [RCTS Privacy Policy](#) applies to everyone participating in, or registering for, this event.

Your Editor enjoying a quiet trip on Volk's Railway in 2015.

© Rosemary McKey

