



### **Stephenson's "Planet" (Replica built 1992)**

"Planet", built in 1830 by Robert Stephenson, was the 9th locomotive he built for the Liverpool & Manchester Railway. It was a development of Stephenson's earlier "Rocket" and was the forerunner of a class of 9 engines, 6 built by Stephenson and a further 3 built by the Leeds company of Murray and Wood. A significant difference between Rocket and Planet was the use of inside cylinders. This apparently came about after a conversation between Stephenson and Richard Trevithick when Trevithick told Stephenson that whilst rebuilding Cornish mine engines, he got a substantial improvement on performance and efficiency if he enclosed the cylinders in an insulating jacket. To achieve this Stephenson moved the cylinders from their outside position and placed them in the smokebox so as to reduce the heat loss through the wall of the cylinders.

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 July

Railway Name	Website	Contact Email	Contact Phone
Bluebell Railway	<a href="#">Bluebell Railway Web site</a>	<a href="#">Bluebell E-Mail Contact</a>	01825 720800
Isle of Wight Railway	<a href="#">IOW-SR Website</a>	<a href="#">IOW Steam Railway Email</a>	01983 882204
Kent & East Sussex Railway (K&ESR)	<a href="#">K&amp;ESR Website</a>	<a href="mailto:enquiries@kesr.org.uk">enquiries@kesr.org.uk</a>	01580 765155
Watercress Railway (WR)	<a href="#">Watercress Website</a>	<a href="mailto:info@watercressline.co.uk">info@watercressline.co.uk</a>	01962 733810
Amberley Museum	<a href="#">Amberley Museum</a>	<a href="mailto:office@amberleymuseum.co.uk">office@amberleymuseum.co.uk</a>	01798 831370
Hayling Light Railway Trust (HLRT)	<a href="#">HLRT Website</a>	<a href="mailto:haylinglightrailway@yahoo.com">haylinglightrailway@yahoo.com</a>	07902 446340
Littlehampton Miniature Railway (LMR)	<a href="#">LMR Website</a>		01903 719876
South Downs Light Railway	<a href="#">South Downs Light Railway</a>	<a href="mailto:info@south-downs-railway.com">info@south-downs-railway.com</a>	07518 753784
Stansted Park Light Railway	<a href="#">Stansted Park Light Railway</a>	<a href="mailto:help@sp-lr.co.uk">help@sp-lr.co.uk</a>	02392 413 324

## RCTS Members Weekend

**Friday 27th - Sunday 29th September 2024**

A golden opportunity for local members to participate in and to meet members from other branches of the RCTS.

Please note that all the events are open to members regardless of whether they stay at the hotel or not.

See page 10 for further details, including a link to the booking form!

**What's on for the Railway Enthusiast in July**

**Part 2: The Events**

RailwayName	StartDate	EndDate	EventText
Isle of Wight Railway	02/07/2024	27/08/2024	Fish & Chip Evenings (TUESDAYS ONLY!!)
Amberley Museum	06/07/2024	07/07/2024	Large Steam Show
Isle of Wight Railway	06/07/2024	07/07/2024	1940s Experience
Watercress Railway	12/07/2024	14/07/2024	Diesel Gala
Kent & East Sussex Railway	13/07/2024	14/07/2024	Traction Engine Display
Isle of Wight Railway	13/07/2024		Real Ale Train
Kent & East Sussex Railway	13/07/2024	14/07/2024	Junior Engineering Experiences
Kent & East Sussex Railway	17/07/2024		Fish & Chip Evening Specials
Amberley Museum	20/07/2024	21/07/2024	Rail Gala Weekend
Bluebell Railway	20/07/2024	21/07/2024	Bluebell Railway - Music Festival
Watercress Railway	20/07/2024	21/07/2024	Art on the Line
Watercress Railway	20/07/2024	21/07/2024	The Guild of Railway Artists - Exhibition
Watercress Railway	20/07/2024		Maker's Markets
Isle of Wight Railway	21/07/2024		Island Highland Gathering
Bluebell Railway	23/07/2024	01/09/2024	Kids for a Quid - Travel Offer
Kent & East Sussex Railway	26/07/2024	28/07/2024	The Doodle Train
Bluebell Railway	28/07/2024		Toy and Rail Collectors Fairs
Kent & East Sussex Railway	31/07/2024		Fish & Chip Evening Specials



D182 Class 46 locomotive seen at Bridgenorth on the 29th September 2022.

It was attending the SVR Autumn Diesel Bash.

© Ian McKey

## Southern Engineering Works - June 2024



**SOUTHERN**

Engineering works likely to affect  
journeys in our area.

Date From	Date To	
1/7/2024	5/7/2024	The 22:35 Victoria to Chichester service will terminate at Barnham. A rail replacement bus service will operate between Barnham and Chichester. The 23:45 Portsmouth Harbour to Bognor Regis service will be diverted to terminate at Littlehampton. A rail replacement bus service will operate between Barnham and Bognor Regis.
8/7/2024	11/7/2024	The 22:52 Portsmouth Harbour to Brighton service will run fast between Littlehampton and Worthing. A replacement bus will operate from Littlehampton to Brighton to cover last connections between Littlehampton and Worthing, departing Littlehampton at 23:47 The 23:40 Brighton to West Worthing service will terminate at Worthing. A replacement bus will run between Worthing and West Worthing, departing at 00:17.
9/7/2024	12/7/2024	The 00:10 Brighton to West Worthing service will terminate at Worthing. A replacement bus will run between Worthing and West Worthing, departing at 00:47.
14/7/2024		Before 09:10, buses will replace trains between Littlehampton and Bognor Regis / Chichester, and between Havant and Southampton Central.
21/7/2024		From approximately 00:30 until 08:30 on Sunday morning, buses will replace trains between Barnham and Chichester / Havant / Portsmouth Harbour / Southampton Central. Some trains will be diverted to run to a from Bognor Regis.
22/7/2024	26/7/2024	From approximately 23:30 until the end of service on Monday to Thursday evenings, buses will replace all trains between Brighton and Worthing / West Worthing. Trains from London Victoria will be diverted to Brighton, for connection to a replacement bus towards Worthing.
28/7/2024		Engineering work is taking place between Southampton Central and Woolston, closing some lines on Sunday morning. As a result, the 07:30 Southampton Central to Brighton service will start from Woolston at 07:38. A replacement bus will run from Southampton Central to Woolston, starting <b>earlier</b> in order to connect with the train at Woolston.

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

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

**May's Miscellany: by Geoff May ©**



As a follow-up to the recent talk given by Gordon Adams (March 2024) on the development of Eastleigh as a railway centre, here is a picture of 'Battle of Britain' Class 34089 in Eastleigh Works on 15th September 1966 (coincidentally Battle of Britain Day). It emerged from the works the following month on the 3rd October as the last steam locomotive to be given an overhaul there.

**The Chichester Stone Trains - Roger Sandford ©**



A pair of Class 59s met at Chichester today. At 09:00 Class 59 101 had arrived on the 06:16 Westbury Tarmac to Chichester Recep. At 11:52 Class 59 005 passed with the 09:11 Westbury Tarmac to Crawley F.Y. 17 June 2024

## The Lavender Line at Isfield by Alan Wallbank ©

Just prior to Covid, I drove over to Isfield as I wanted to make a short film about the railway. I arrived about 08.30 on a beautiful sunny morning and so I was able to gather some really good footage, but just about everywhere looked run down and unkept with peeling paint, rotten woodwork, not a very welcoming sight. I interviewed the manager and he said that the general appearance was mainly down to a lack of volunteers and the fact that the Uckfield to Lewes line could be reinstated in the future. This could see them losing everything, so any money had to be spent wisely.



The manager also spoke about 'Lady Lisa', from Belgium an 0-4-0 shunting engine. The intention was to go back and film it in steam, but this did not happen due various reasons and then Covid.

The railway also has several Hampshire Units which I drove while at Fratton, so I hopped aboard for the short return journey. Late last year I found out that Lady Lisa would be in steam, so I made another visit and to my surprise the station area was much improved. The peeling

paintwork on the station signs were now looking like new, while the buffet had been completely refurbished including a rewire, a huge improvement from my previous visit. While the whole area was much more inviting, the society still lacks volunteers and visitors. Once Lady Lisa had worked its first train of the day, I had to reluctantly leave as I had to go to the Bluebell Railway to video some scenes for my film about Lavant Station.



## The End of Southern Steam— 09 July 1967 to 2024 57th Anniversary in miniature by Roger Sandford ©

As every year passes memories of main line steam operated services in the South of England become an increasingly distant memory for those fortunate enough to remember. The occasional appearance by preserved locos jogs the memory, but often forgotten is the ability to create your own little world in miniature, through the world of model railways. So, we present a few images briefly tracing the relevance of each back to the days when steam was king on the railways in the South.



We begin on shed after a hard days work — left nearest camera Merchant Navy Class 35023 Holland Africa Line, remembered for heading the last steam hauled Channel Island Boat Train from Weymouth Quay to Waterloo on Saturday 08 July 1967. Alongside in poor condition, complete with chalk messages of steams demise on the smoke box door, is BR Standard 4 75075. Furthest from camera is another Standard 4 75070. In the background a Class 03 diesel shunter has already taken over duties from steam on local shunting duties. On the right a USA Class 30064, renowned for working in the large Southampton Docks rail complex has been relegated to minor shunting duties and is seen repositioning two Chichester Brick wagons. In the background, on the main line a Pullman train overtaking a Southdown Motor Services Leyland PD3 on the nearby busy link road.



BR Standard Class 4 76063 pulls away from a station stop, recalling their use on Portsmouth - Cardiff services until June 1965. In the background West Country Class 34091 Weymouth awaits departure before heading towards Waterloo. Many of the South Coast branch lines were worked by the veteran M7 Class. In latter years, until early April 1967 the Lymington to Brockenhurst branch was in the hands of Ivatt Class 2s, (right)

Continued Overleaf..



Castle Class 5006 Tregenna Castle on shed, recalling when in 1962 5050 Earl of St Germans arrived in Portsmouth on a schools excursion and was impounded at Fratton shed, being out of gauge for the area, allegedly scraping a platform in the Fareham area. A1X on the Hayling to Havant branch line until line closure in early November 1963. 32670 represents the Class with a typical light load of just one carriage.



Until December 1966 the Class O2 was king on the Isle of Wight. No. 16 Ventnor passing the junction signal about to reach journeys end. A busy aerial shed scene, visible to camera—H2 32424 Beachy Head, WC 34051 Winston Churchill E4 32500 BB 34061 73 Squadron, P 31323, Std 3MT 82016, WC 34036 Westward Ho, T9 30310, Std 4 75027, N 31406, LN 30863 Lord Rodney, MN 35016 Elders Fyffes. What's that in the background!!!!



Beattie Well Tank 30585, latterly used on rural services in the South West. The end is near as Merchant Navy Class 35030 speeds past, the last steam hauled service to arrive at Waterloo, the 1407 from Weymouth on Sunday 09 July 1967. In the background the new order stands waiting. Electro-Diesel E6003 (later classified Class 73) hauls a 4TC unit in original dark blue, as BRCW Type 3 (Crompton) D6508, later classified Class 33, awaits its next turn of duty. We end a short nostalgic look at how things were back in the 1960s and still can be with a little imagination.



**The National Transport Trust - No.2**  
**A series of monthly items provided by Joe Whicher ©**

National Transport Trust Red Plaque

**1768 ALLOA WAGGONWAY,**

This was a successful early Scottish railway, using gravity and horsepower on wooden rails to transport coal from local pits to harbour and glassworks. Edinburgh was the biggest market for coal in the area and it could easily be carried along The Firth of Forth by boat, but getting the mineral to the shore of the Forth was the problem.

The Earl of Mar built this waggonway in 1768 to carry coal from his coalfields to the Forth and on the way it traversed the centre of Alloa.

The waggonway ran from Alloa harbour in Clackmannanshire to coal mines in the Sauchie area and was an expansion of an original line between the Alloa Glassworks and Alloa Harbour.

Originally constructed with wooden rails, it was changed to wood and iron strip in 1785 and to cast-iron in 1810. The route through Alloa passes under two tunnel-like bridges.

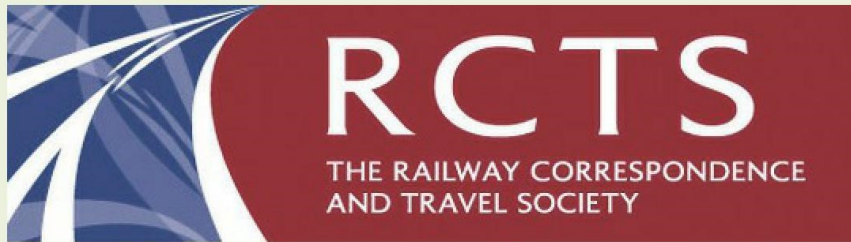
The route of the waggonway was first shown on a plan drawn for the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar c1710 and described as the “new coal road”.

The waggonway was later established along the same route as the 1710 plan. At its southern end it would have run on more or less level ground but as the land

rose gently to the north cuttings and earthworks were necessary to enable the horses pulling the wagons to manage their task without too great a struggle. No roads crossed the alignment at the time.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century Alloa expanded and John Wood’s map of 1825 shows a new road has been built with what looks like a bridge over the waggonway, but by the time the first edition of the OS map was surveyed c1858/9, it looks as if the tunnel which still exists had been built.





# 2024 Members Weekend

## Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.royalmaritimehotel.co.uk)**

**Telephone: 023 9298 2182**

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

**[Click here to book for the Members Weekend](#)**

## 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, 29<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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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