



CROYDON & SOUTH LONDON BRANCH NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022

Dear Member

Welcome to the Autumn Branch Newsletter.

We are now well into the new season of Branch indoor meetings. All the meetings held so far have been of great interest and presented by excellent speakers.

This Newsletter brings details of this year's **Branch Christmas Dinner**. As announced in the previous Newsletter, this will take place on Tuesday 6 December at 1900 for 1930 hours at the Porter & Sorter public house in Croydon. We hope that you can join us, and if you have a spouse, partner or friend you would like to bring please do so.

We will be partaking of their 2022 *Festive Menu*. The price of the meal is £18.45 for two courses, £21.45 for three (including VAT, but excluding drinks and gratuities). The enclosed Booking Form, downloaded from the Porter & Sorter's website, shows the choices available, all described in detail. If you intend to come, please indicate on the Booking Form, in the section headed "NAMES", your name and that of your companion, if appropriate, and show, by ticking the relevant boxes, which dish for each course you wish to order. **Please fill in your personal details at the top of the Booking Form (ignore "Organiser name") and return the completed form to Peter Wilson, 111 Chipstead Way, Banstead, SM7 3JJ, together with a non-refundable deposit of £5 per person. PLEASE NOTE: We have to confirm our booking and chosen dishes with the Porter and Sorter by Wednesday 30 November. So, in addition to posting the completed form and non-refundable deposit to Peter, please telephone or email him (details below) with your contact details and requirements by Tuesday 29 November.**

Please make cheques payable to Peter Wilson and please don't send cash in the post. The balance of the cost of the meal will be payable on the night by cash or cheque.

If you don't know the Porter & Sorter, the pub is a few minutes' walk from East Croydon station, tram and bus stops, on the east side of the station in Billinton Hill (aka Station Road East), CR0 6BT, down the road and over the pedestrian crossing from the line of waiting taxis. If you need further directions please get in touch with one of us.

The next meeting in the Branch Programme will take place at East Croydon URC on Tuesday 13 December when Ian Capewell, Inspector, RAIB, will give a presentation on *The Work of the RAIB*. We had booked Ian to come to us in April 2020 but the Covid-19 lockdown required us to cancel his visit for a face to face meeting. We offered him a place in our programme of virtual meetings on Zoom instead but he much preferred to wait until he could give his presentation in person.

As we announced in the September Branch Newsletter, our first two meetings in the New Year 2023, will both be virtual meetings using the Zoom platform. For the first, on Tuesday 10 January, Robin Mathams will give us a presentation on *Railways at the Dawn of Nationalisation, 1946-49, from the Sutton Coldfield Railway Society's Moseley Collection*. For the 14 February meeting we welcome the online return of Geoff Plumb with another year's worth of his excellent photography. This time it is *That Was the Year That Was - 1965*.

Details of our Branch meetings for the remainder of the current season will be set out in the next Branch Newsletter, due in January/February, and can also be found on the CSL Branch page of the Society's website.

We do hope that we will see you at one or more of our future meetings, if not in person then perhaps on our screens at one of the virtual meetings in the New Year.

Finally, we would like to take this early opportunity to be possibly the first to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

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