

BRANCH LIAISON OFFICER

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Officers' Newsletter 201

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Dear All

First some good news:

EASING out of LOCKDOWN – Four steps

In the first step of the prime minister's roadmap, all pupils in England's schools were expected to return to class from 8 March, with mass testing and wider use of face masks in secondary schools.

There will be a further easing on 29 March, with groups of up to six people or two households allowed to gather in parks and gardens. Formally organised outdoor sports - for adults and under 18s - can also restart and will not be subject to the gathering's limits.

Shops, hairdressers, gyms, **Public Libraries (including Leatherhead?)** and outdoor hospitality, as well as self-contained holiday accommodation, could reopen on 12 April. A review of international leisure travel restrictions could also be announced.

From 17 May, two households or a group of six may be able to meet indoors in a pub or other hospitality venue such as restaurants. Cinemas, museums, hotels, performances and sporting events will also reopen, with up to 30 people able to attend weddings, receptions, funerals and wakes.

The final step from 21 June will potentially see all legal limits on social contact removed, with the final closed sectors of the economy reopened - such as RCTS meetings.

Please note that these dates are dependent on infection levels etc continuing to fall and the continuing successful vaccination roll-out. For members in Scotland and Wales, the programme of easing restrictions will be slightly different so please check the details before resuming activities.

The information on some branch pages of the website is unclear about the current suspension of all face to face meetings so PLEASE MAKE SURE THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO YOUR BRANCH. If you need help updating your branch website pages please ask by contacting webmaster@rcts.org.uk.

And some more good news on page 2

Make the most of this opportunity to receive your member discount. Please share this with all your branch members so that they can benefit too.

The information contained in this newsletter is for use of RCTS Officers and Members only and should not be communicated outside of the Society

NEW for 2021 - our latest book

**Brush Traction
Brush Diesel and Electric Locomotives 1980 - 2020**

RCTS Publications present our latest publication, this time on Brush Traction, a major builder of locomotives for export and within the UK. Written by George Toms, a life-long employee of Brush Traction, this work covers the period from 1980 to 2020 and covers all aspects of the Brush output of Diesel and Electric locomotives during that period plus the many changes experienced in work practice, management control and ownership of the brand name. In addition to the export orders this work covers the large orders for BR Class 60, Class 92 and Eurotunnel. Later chapters explore the changes in outlook which led to the development of re-engineering as the main-stay of work undertaken by the works at Loughborough. Detailed appendices are provided for all those locomotives built in 1980-2020 plus completely up-to-date tables on those built pre-1980 (Class 31, 47 etc).

Presented casebound in 184 pages with 73 accompanying photographs.

Take the opportunity to purchase this book through the RCTS website www.rcts.org.uk at a members' price of £20.00 plus £3.00 for p/p. Normal retail price £24.50.

Kind regards

Irene

