

WEST SUSSEX RAIL USERS ASSOCIATION

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RMT 2 day strike Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 November and 3 day strike Tuesday 6 to Thursday 8 December

Southern has been advised by the RMT Union that its conductor members will strike on the above dates. This will have a significant effect on Southern services on the whole of the days affected, with no service on some routes and only a limited service between approximately 06.30 and 22.00 on others. The lines with no service include: Clapham Junction to Milton Keynes via Kensington Olympia; Preston Park to Hove and Chichester to Portsmouth Harbour and Southampton Central (but there will be buses between Chichester and Havant).

For these strike days, Southern is making good use of those conductor and other resources available to them and there will be trains into the late evening on most lines rather than ceasing at 18.30 as on previous strike days. So for the 5 strike days there will be an improved but still limited service between approximately 06.30 and 22.00 between Chichester and Victoria via Horsham, Gatwick and Redhill; Brighton to Bognor via Littlehampton; Horsham to Victoria via and Sutton and Brighton to Eastbourne via Lewes. Trains between Redhill to Tonbridge will run from 06.00 to 20.00. There will also be buses every 30 minutes between Chichester and Havant between 06.00 and 18.30.

Timetables of these services are at <http://www.southernrailway.com/your-journey/strike/what-services-are-running/> on the Southern website. These trains are expected to be extremely busy especially in the peak hours and Southern cannot guarantee there will be space for you to travel. Southern strongly advise you to travel outside peak times where possible. Also, try to avoid planning to travel on the last trains of the day – if you are unable to board services they will not be able to arrange alternative transport. On all Southern and Gatwick Express trains first class accommodation will be declassified. Similarly first class on Thameslink will be declassified between Brighton and London. Normal peak hour ticket restrictions will remain in force.

The timetables are basically similar to those for previous strike days and show that there will be a train every 30 minutes along the Arun Valley from Victoria to Chichester calling at all stations and starting around 06.30 but with the last train from Victoria through to Chichester at 21.39 (Bognor's last connection will be off the 21.09 from Victoria). In the opposite direction the last train from Chichester to Victoria will be at 21.23 (Bognor's last connection will be at 20.50) followed by a 21.53 to Horsham. Along the West Coastway there will be a train every 30 minutes between Brighton and Bognor via Littlehampton. This connects with the Chichester to Three Bridges trains at Barnham. There will be no direct trains between Littlehampton and Victoria via Hove, so a change of train at Brighton will be necessary for those travelling from stations between Littlehampton and Hove. I have tried to simplify the Arun Valley timetable with its onward connections into the table on the next page and I hope you will find it helpful. But remember to keep your eye on the website in case there are last minute changes

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting took place on 29 October in Horsham. The formal business of the Chairman's report, approval of accounts and approval of the revised Constitution was followed by the election of the following officers and Committee members: Roger Keyworth as Chairman and Trevor Tupper as Secretary/Treasurer. Committee – Valerie Webb, Michael Gill, James Marchant, Antony Fletcher and Kevin Gordon. This is a slightly smaller Committee than in previous years but all major stations are represented

The formal business was followed by an address from Alex Foulds, Southern's Business Improvement Director. Mr Foulds brought us up to date on the current industrial action and plans for the future largely around the new timetable for May 2018 on which we were urged to contribute to. He then answered the questions from members. A full report of the AGM will be posted on our website in due course.

Membership Renewal

A few members have not yet paid their subscription and if you have not paid, a renewal form is enclosed. The subscription remains at £2 and can be paid by cheque through the post, by direct bank credit or by standing order, the renewal form gives details of all these options. A few did not pay their subscription for last year and rather than deleting them as members, we are asking them to pay for two years and for those members the payment slip shows £4.

May 2018 Timetable Consultation

Your Officers have attended a Forum on the GTR proposals a few weeks ago and we met some of the team last Thursday to discuss those changes affecting the Arun Valley and West Coastway lines. There will be further discussion on the detail in the spring, but we can tell you that there will be additional trains from Horsham to London Bridge in the peak, some of which will be Thameslink running through to Peterborough, and an extra and earlier London Bridge train from Bognor. On Sundays, the existing hourly services to Victoria from Bognor and Portsmouth will combine at Horsham and run in the same stopping pattern as weekday off-peak trains giving a faster service than currently. We will keep you up to date on developments.

Arun Valley timetable for 22 and 23 November and 6,7 and 8 December

Chichester				0653	0723		2023	2053	2123	2153
Bognor Regis	<i>b</i>		0620	0650	0720		2020	2050		
Barnham			0631	0701	0731	and	2031	2101	2131	2201
Ford			0635	0705	0735	then	2035	2105	2135	2205
Arundel			0641	0711	0741	every	2041	2111	2141	2211
Amberley			0646	0716	0746		2046	2116	2146	2216
Pulborough			0652	0722	0752	30	2052	2122	2152	2222
Billingshurst			0658	0728	0758	minutes	2058	2128	2158	2228
C. Hospital			0705	0735	0805	until	2105	2135	2205	2235
Horsham		0641	0710	0740	0810		2110	2140	2210	2239
Littlehaven		0644	0713	0743	0813		2113	2143	2215	
Ifield		0651	0720	0750	0820		2120	2150	2220	
Crawley		0654	0723	0753	0823		2123	2153	2223	
Three Bridges	Arrive	0701	0731	0801	0831		2131	2201	2231	
Three Bridges	Depart	07t08	07t38	0808	0837		2138	2208	2238	
Gatwick Apt		07t12	07t43	0813	0841		2142	2212	2242	
Redhill		07t21	07t51	0821	0850		2151	2221	2251	
E Croydon		07t33	08t06	0834	0901		2202	2234	2307	
Clapham Junc		07t47	08t17	0845	0911		2213	2243	2319	
Victoria		07t55	08t24	0853	0918		2221	2255	2326	
London Bridge	<i>e</i>	0802	0832	0908	0931		2303	2334		

Victoria			0637	0707	0739	0803	0840	0909		2109	2139
Clapham Junc			0646	0716	0745	0809	0847	0915		2115	2145
London Bridge	<i>e</i>		0606	0652	0729	0802	0824	0852		2059	2127
E Croydon			0657	0727	0757	0819	0858	0927		2127	2157
Redhill			0710	0739	0809	0831	0910	0939		2139	2209
Gatwick Apt			0718	0747	0817	0839	0918	0947		2147	2217
Three Bridges	Arrive		0722	0752	0822	0843	0923	0952	and	2152	2222
Three Bridges	Depart		0726	0756	0826	0856	0926	0956	then	2156	2226
Crawley			0730	0800	0830	0900	0930	1000	every	2200	2230
Ifield			0732	0802	0832	0902	0932	1002		2202	2232
Littlehaven			0739	0809	0839	0909	0939	1009	30	2209	2239
Horsham		0713	0743	0813	0843	0912	0942	1013	minutes	2213	2243
C. Hospital		0717	0747	0817	0847	0916	0947	1017	until	2217	2247
Billingshurst		0723	0753	0823	0853	0922	0953	1023		2223	2253
Pulborough		0729	0759	0829	0859	0929	1000	1030		2230	2300
Amberley		0735	0805	0835	0905	0935	1006	1036		2236	2306
Arundel		0741	0811	0841	0911	0940	1011	1041		2241	2311
Ford		0747	0817	0847	0917	0945	1017	1047		2247	2317
Barnham		0852	0822	0852	0921	0949	1021	1051		2251	2321
Bognor Regis	<i>b</i>	0802	0832	0902	0932	1001	1031	1101		2301	
Chichester		0800	0830	0900	0930	0958	1030	1100		2300	2330

b – change Barnham; e – change East Croydon; t – change Three Bridges; g – change at Gatwick

The **West Coastway** timetable is an all stations service starting from Bognor at 0650, Barnham 0705, Littlehampton 0718, Worthing 0738 arriving Brighton 0806. The service is repeated every 30 minutes with the last train from Bognor at 2050 arriving Brighton 2206. In the opposite direction the first train is 0716 from Brighton arriving Bognor at 0831. The last one is 2146 from Brighton arriving Bognor at 2301. The replacement bus service between Chichester and Havant will leave Chichester at 0648, 0719, 0805, 08.40 and then every 30 minutes until 1910. From Havant at 0610, 0640, and then every 30 minutes to 1740. The buses will have an approximate overall journey time of 35 minutes and will serve all stations with stops at Southbourne, Nutbourne and Fishbourne at the railway stops on the A259.

There is an hourly service (with some bus replacement) between **Horsham and Victoria via Dorking** calling at all stations. Trains leave Horsham at 0549, 0621 0653, 0720,0753, 0841 bus to Dorking, 1004 and hourly to 1404, 1441 bus to Dorking, 1604, 1707, 1734, 1741 bus to Dorking, 1904 and 2006. From Victoria trains leave at 0552, 0617, 0706, 0819, 0931,1031, 1132, 1232, 1331 (bus from Dorking), 1431, 1531, 1617 (bus from Dorking), 1720, 1750, 1820, 1920 and 2326

Trevor Tupper
Secretary