

Events List 2004

Train times and fares information can be obtained from national rail enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 or www.nationalrail.co.uk

If you are travelling on Sundays please check train times as essential maintenance work is often carried out and revised services are provided.

Crouch Valley Line Events

May 8	Low Tide day	
8/9	Thomas The Tank Engine Weekend	Mangapps Railway Museum Burnham-on-Crouch
31 May/4 June	Wildlife Weekend	Marsh Farm Country Park Sth. Woodham Ferrers

June 13	Burnham Riverfest	Burnham-on-Crouch
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July 3/4	Thomas The Tank Engine Weekend	Mangapps Railway Museum Burnham-on-Crouch
10	Flower Show	Southminster

August 6	Fun Day for 8-12s	Marsh Farm Country Park Sth. Woodham Ferrers
13	Fun Day for 8-12s	Marsh Farm Country Park Sth. Woodham Ferrers
20	Fun Day for 8-12s	Marsh Farm Country Park Sth. Woodham Ferrers

September 25	Carnival Procession	Burnham-on-Crouch
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Gainsborough Line Events

Throughout the year	River Colne Countryside Project, Colne Valley Trails, Chappel Station	01206 282478
	Gainsborough's House	01787 372958
	The Kingfisher Leisure Centre	01787 375656
Sunday & Bank Hols from Easter	River Trips on the Stour	01787 372602 www.riverstourtrust.org.uk

May 2-3, 30-31	EARM Steam Days	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
25	EARM Railway Experience Course	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk

June 2	EARM Ride 'Dennis the Diesel'	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
5	EARM Railway Experience Course	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
6	EARM Teddy Bears' Steam Day	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
10-13	EARM 5th Chappel Cider Festival	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
20	EARM DMU Train Rides & Drive a Diesel for £15	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
26-27	Colne Valley Festival on Chappel Millennium Green, Chappel. Saturday 11am to 6pm. Dance 8pm to 12pm. Sunday 10am to 5pm	01206 240819 01206 242016

July 3	Bures Carnival, Bures	01787 228296
3	Clare World Music Festival, Clare Castle Country Park, Sudbury. Middy onwards	clare-music-festival.co.uk

4	EARM Steam Day	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
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8-11	8th Bures Jazz Festival, Various locations in Bures	01787 227423 www.jazzbythestour.org.uk
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18	EARM DMU Train Rides & Drive a Diesel for £15	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
28	EARM Mini Rail Day	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
31	EARM Railway Experience Course	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk

August 1	EARM Steam Day	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
4, 11 & 14	EARM Mini Rail Days	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk

15	EARM DMU Train Rides & Drive a Diesel for £15	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
26-30	EARM Days out with Thomas	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk

September 7-11	EARM 18th Chappel Beer Festival	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk
25	EARM Railway Experience Course	01206 242524 www.earm.co.uk

Mayflower Line Events

May 15	Model Railway Exhibition, 10am to 5pm	01255 506139
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22	Stour Choral Spring Concert, 7.30pm, Tickets £8.00.	01206 395263
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23	Dedham Parish Church Tour de Tendring, Starts at Dovercourt Recreation Ground.	01255 253208
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29	Essex Youth Brass Orchestra, Tickets £6.00. Mistley Parish Church	01473 730708
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30	Mayflower Charity Walk, Manningtree	01255 423400
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31	Redoubt Fete, Harwich Redoubt, Main Road, Harwich	01255 503429
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June 25	Harwich Festival of Arts, Various Venues in Harwich	01255 503571
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July 3	Manningtree Festival, a Piano Duet, Mistley Church	01206 395020
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8-9	Young Musician of the Year Competition, Manningtree Methodist Church. Entry Forms from	01206 298742
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August 7-8	Fuchsia Show and Display, Park Pavilion, Main Road, Dovercourt	01255 503818
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Gainsborough Line Action Group

A meeting of the Gainsborough Line Action Group was held at Chappel and Wakes Colne Railway Station on 14th January.

Amongst the items discussed were:

An amended constitution

A proposed investigation in to a ESSCRP office at Marks Tey Station Ale Trail Leaflet

Issues relating to poor workmanship on the line at Bures Station

New poster frames for Chappel and Wakes Colne Railway Station Repairs to the damaged poster frame and flower watering at Sudbury station.

The next meeting is on 31st March, Bures Village Hall at 7.00pm.

LOCAL LINES



Newsletter

No. 14 Spring 2004

From rags to riches

Built during the 1890's the station house in Southminster is receiving a much deserved facelift. The refurbishment to the exterior of the building is being funded by the Countryside Agency, the Essex & South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership, First Group and Essex County Council. The refurbishment will include cleaning the roof, repairing and replacing the damaged rendering, guttering and some of the modern windows with period reproductions. All external woodwork will be painted and will include improved security measures.

The station house is fast becoming a centre of activity; it is now the healthy living centre for Maldon & South Chelmsford, it will shortly become the Dengie Cycle Centre and it will boast a mural created by the local residents and well known local artist Lisa Hawker.



Before



After

"One" is the word



First Great Eastern has been pushed into the siding "One" Great Eastern is now on the main line. National Express created a new look and name after feedback from staff, customers, passenger groups and local authorities. 'One', will reflect the new integrated and seamless operation which is being introduced across East Anglia. 'One' is about unity, clear direction and clear responsibilities, and the

introduction of one single management structure to lead the new business. In listening to our people, our customers and our stakeholders we will enhance 'one' with the local identities - Anglia, Great Eastern, West Anglia and Stansted Express.

One can be contacted on
08459 50 50 00

Or by email:
customer.services@onegreatern.co.uk

Great Eastern Customer Service Centre
North Station, Colchester CO1 1XD

Contacts

If you would like to assist us or need further information on bus/rail services, please contact one of the following numbers.

Brian Harker
Community Rail Partnership,
Mistley Railway Station,
High Street,
Mistley,
CO11 1HH
Tel: **01206 397061**

John Perry
Community Rail Partnership,
Station House,
Station Approach,
Southminster,
CM0 7EN
Tel: **01621 773895**

One Great Eastern
Tel: **08459 50 50 00**
(calls charged at local rate)

Network Rail Helpline
Tel: **08457 114141**

Traveline
Tel: **0870 6082608**
(calls charged at local rate)

Timetable and Fares
Tel: **08457 48 49 50**
www.nationalrail.co.uk

ESSEX & SOUTH SUFFOLK COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP is made up of:-
Essex County Council, Suffolk County Council, Babergh, Braintree, Maldon and Tendring District Councils, Chelmsford and Colchester Borough Councils, First Great Eastern, Network Rail and the Countryside Agency

Pedal power rules in the Dengie Peninsula

A cycle hire, repair and maintenance facility will be based at Southminster Station House and is expected to be fully operational in late May, in time for the long summer holidays and tourist season. This innovative project comes from the Essex & South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership (ESSCRP), in co-operation with the Countryside Agency, Essex County Council, First Group and the Maldon Primary Care Trust.

The scheme funded by the Countryside Agency will join the already successful healthy living centre, which offers a citizens advice bureau, information on pensions, choices for women projects, support groups and much more.

Southminster is ideally suited for the project because of its existing



network of quiet lanes from the station house. It also provides sustainable tourism opportunities in the area and provides employment in the rural environment. It promotes the use of local buildings, a healthier lifestyle and community involvement.

Cllr Rodney Bass (Con. Tollesbury), Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation, welcomed the new centre. 'We have always encouraged the safe use of cycling, which helps cut road traffic, and also brings important health benefits, something which other partners based at Southminster Station, Right Tracks and the Maldon & South Chelmsford Primary Care Trust, are helping to promote', he said. 'This is a very good example of organisations, the County Council, local Health Authority, transport providers such as First Group, Countryside Agency and the voluntary sector, all working together'

Nigel Hampton has been appointed as the Cycling Development Co-ordinator. His role, being funded by the Countryside Agency, will include advice on cycle safety issues,

cycle maintenance, development of routes across the Dengie Peninsula, and the supervision of the cycle hire scheme. Nigel said: 'I am excited to get this project off the ground, it's a great opportunity and as a keen cyclist I can see the potential and look forward to opening the cycle hire centre in the summer'.

The cycle hire facility will operate from May 2004 and be available between 5 - 7 days per week during the summer months (July - August) and at all other times, weekends and by pre-booked arrangements. For further information please contact Nigel Hampton on 01621 772777.



Southminster Mural

With funding from The Children's Fund, Lisa Hawker Ltd has been commissioned by Maldon & South Chelmsford Primary Care Trust to create a mural in ceramic and mosaic materials with input from community groups around Southminster. The high quality 'landmark' mural will be installed as a permanent tribute to the community's artistic contributions alongside the platform wall at Southminster Station and will be viewed by everyone leaving and arriving the town by train.

As all the community will have the opportunity to feel part of the mural project, whether through consultation or direct participation, it is hoped that community spirit will be enhanced, with opportunities created for mutual respect and understanding that underlie the theme of the whole project.

The project provides opportunities for young people who socialise around the station, families, schools and older people to take part in the murals creation, working together to achieve a high quality artwork of which the whole community can take proud 'ownership'.

Most of all, by taking part in this project all age groups will be working together on a really fun activity that will create an atmosphere of communication and empathy between groups.

The mural aims to convey the uniqueness of Southminster through its landscape, people, and heritage, using colourful quirky images

to tell the story and create a mural that will relate to its location, surrounding environment, community and to the cycle hire centre.

To provide further opportunities for discussion on general environmental concerns and re-emphasise the theme of respect, it is intended that the mural will be made from a combination of recycled elements, together with ceramic and mosaic work.

The final mural is being planned to co-inside with the Burnham Music Festival and the Jazz train that travels between Wickford and Southminster in June 2004.

Lisa Hawker Ltd Design, Architectural Ceramics & Sculpture can be contacted as follows
15 Clarence Rd, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8SJ
Tel: 01268 741352
Tel/Fax: 01268 743652
Email: lisa@lisahawker.com www.lisahawker.com



Althorne Station is blooming marvellous

Residents of Althorne are proud of the newly finished community garden at the village's railway station. Volunteers led by Ursula Benjfield have undertaken the work and between them they have created a tidy and colourful garden.

Last year First Great Eastern (FGE) extended the car park and the Essex & South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership approached FGE to leave the garden at the entrance to the station so it could be turned into a community garden. A large number of people were involved with the design and development of the low maintenance garden. Maldon District Council and Writtle College landscaped the garden, which is sponsored by Ashwaste Environmental.

F.G.E's sales & marketing director, Martin Dean, is delighted that the residents of Althorne are taking such pride in their station and said: "Unfortunately stations and rail services on the Crouch valley line have been vandalised by youths. The problem has been progressively getting worse over the past few months, which led to the cancellation of the service on 22nd January. British Transport Police and F.G.E. are working hard to stamp out vandalism and the efforts made by the community are very rewarding. We are delighted that Althorne Station has been adopted by local residents and it is good to see a community taking pride in their village".



Engineering excellence for Britain's railway

Manningtree Station to get a facelift

Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership working with One Great Eastern, Network Rail will improve Manningtree station's in the current face lift.

Many areas around the station were identified for renewal, replacement and repainting. All the activities will be finished in time for the Ipswich tunnel closure when the number of passengers using the station will rise dramatically.

The work being under taken includes:

- Relining on the station forecourt to improve the bus/rail integration
- The installation of a brand new bus shelter

- Extending the cycle parking area
- The installation of CCTV cameras around the station
- Refurbishing the toilets
- Installing security mirrors in the subway
- Re coating, in yellow-gripping safety paint, the Subway stairs
- Refurbishing the Subway handrails
- Transforming the old waiting room on the Ipswich-bound platform into a new customer service office/small waiting room
- Reopening and refurbishing the old boarded up ticket window

Mark Livock, Network Rail Project Director said: "Network Rail is delighted that these improvements will be undertaken at Manningtree station. All parties have been involved in securing funding and special thanks goes to the Community Rail Partnership for their valuable contribution. Over the coming months we will be managing the changes which will improve journeys for the hundreds of passengers who use the station every day."

Harwich Model Railway Exhibition



The Essex & South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership (ESSCRP) exhibited at the Model Railway Exhibition presented by the Harwich and District Railway Society at the Harwich Community Primary School on Saturday 14th February. The Harwich and District Railway Society was founded in 1980 and meetings are held in Dovercourt Central Church every third Friday of the odd month.

The exhibition boasted working layouts, trade stands and models. The exhibition was well attended and there were a number of raffle prize winners. The ESSCRP organised a free draw to give away three clocks which were kindly donated by First Great Eastern. The Partnership will be attending a similar exhibition at the Church Hall in Mistley on May 15th.

New Men for Essex & South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership

Bryan Harker and John Perry are the two new members of the Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership team. Bryan is based in the Mistley railway station building, whilst John is based in the Southminster railway station building.

Bryan's background is in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Manufacturing &

Marketing. He has lived in and around Essex & South Suffolk for most of his life and knows the area well.

He will be responsible for the Gainsborough line and will be looking for suitable premises at Marks Tey station in order that the Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership has additional presence in the area.

Bryan will produce a new Ale Trail leaflet to promote the use of the railway so that all can enjoy the rail to the ale.

John's background is in telecommunications in the UK and overseas. He has lived in Essex all of his life and although being an 'Essex Boy' admits to not understanding Essex as well as he ought.

He will be responsible for the Crouch Valley line and to raise the profile of the Partnership is developing links with local business organisations and parish councils. John has also established links with schools in the rail corridor to organise talks to the children on rail safety issues.

Farmer market at Harwich

The Dovercourt Farmers Market is held on the second Saturday of the month at the Kingsway Hall 9am - 1pm, and the Mistley Farmers Market is held on the third Saturday, 9am - 1pm, in St. Mary with St. Michael Church Hall, New Rd, Mistley. - 'the train station is 5mins walk from the Kingsway Hall Dovercourt and 10mins from Mistley station. Exception to the Mistley dates is May 22nd.