Railway Division Lecture Programme

The Railway Division produces a very busy programme including lectures, visits, workshops, conferences and seminars at its seven centres throughout the UK, in India and the Institution’s headquarters. Please visit the full list of events at: www.imeche.org/events/eventsupcoming?topic=railway

If you should have any queries about the Railway Division, please email: e: railway@imeche.org

Railway Challenge

A highlight of the Railway Division’s programme is the annual Railway Challenge. Teams of young engineers design and develop a 10¼” gauge locomotive to compete against other industry and university teams, culminating in a weekend of tests and dynamic performance challenges, vying to win the coveted trophy. Further information is available at: www.imeche.org/events/challenges/railway-challenge

This programme may be subject to change. Please check on Near You for amendments. Updates are sent to those on our distribution list: if you wish to join the list, please email rdswsec@imechenearyou.org
My first thought as I write this note for our new programme of events is that I hope and trust that this finds you and your family fit and healthy. It has been a very strange time for all of us and we continue to struggle with guessing what the future will hold. I apologise our latter meetings of last season were cancelled including the AGM on 28 April. We will hold the AGM for last season at the start of the first lecture of the new season on 29 September. We do not yet know what the Government advice concerning meetings such as ours so we have made the assumption they will not be permitted until after the New Year. Therefore, our meetings for the remainder of 2020 will all be held virtually – you can join with us by logging in by computer or smart phone. Please see the joining instructions on our website, at the address below.

We have taken this decision along with other Railway Division centres, who will likewise be holding virtual meetings until the New Year. This gives you the opportunity to attend other Centre’s meetings from the comfort of your own home – details of their events are shown overleaf.

Our AGM for 2020-21 will be held on 20 April 2021. If you have any suggestions for future lectures, technical visits or other matters, or would like to be considered for a position on the Committee, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Matt Prosser
South Western Centre Chair

Latest details are available from the IMechE website: nearyou.imeche.org/near-you/UK/Western/south-west-rd-centre/about-us

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**SOUTH WESTERN CENTRE**

**Programme 2020-21**

All lectures are free and open to all

All meetings until the end of 2020 will be virtual. Please register beforehand and login 15 minutes before the start time.

Light refreshments are provided prior to physical meetings but please book, if you can to assist with catering numbers, using ‘near-you’ on website.

**Tuesday 29 September 2020**
AGM (2019/20) followed by Railway Division Chairman’s address
Virtual meeting 17:30
New railway division chairman Felix Schmid gives his chairman’s address about the railway as a system.

**Tuesday 13 October 2020**
System integration and system engineering
Virtual meeting 17:30
Nasser Majothi of WSP Rail UK explains the myths and legends of the ‘system’.

**Tuesday 10 November 2020**
History of London Underground
Virtual meeting 19:00
Malcolm Simpson of Transport for London will present his view of the history of the London Underground system.

**Tuesday 15 December 2020**
P2 locomotive progress
Virtual meeting 17:30
Graham Nicholas will update us on the progress of this innovative project to construct a brand new LNER design P2 locomotive. The team that successfully built the A2 go one step further.

**Wednesday 6 January 2021**
Auckland rail transport – history & development
Davidson House, Reading 17:15 for 17:45
Matthew Savastano will outline the history of the rail network in Auckland, New Zealand, before describing the changes as a result of the introduction of electric trains to improve capacity.

Joint event with PWI

**Wednesday 3 February 2021**
New GWR depots
14:00 Technical visit to Exeter Depot
16:00 Career fayre at Exeter University
17:30 Lecture at Exeter University
Railway industry employers’ careers fayre followed by lecture on the GWR depot strategy.

Pre-booking is ESSENTIAL for the technical visit.

**Tuesday 23 February 2021**
Future power
Steam Museum, Swindon 17:00 for 17:30
David Shirres will present his considered take on the future direction for on-board power for trains and locomotives.

Joint event with IET

**Tuesday 16 March 2021**
Future of rail presentations
Western House, Swindon 17:00 for 17:30
Aspiring young engineers describe the technical challenges they have addressed in a presentation competition with monetary prizes and the chance to progress to the national final at Birdcage Walk.

**Tuesday 20 April 2021**
AGM (2020/21) followed by Symposium on future on board power
Western House, Swindon 17:00 for 17:30
Mike Muldoon will explain the scope and limitations of hydrogen trains and Euan Smith will be talking about the case for battery hybrid technology.

**Saturday 10 July 2021**
Summer social at West Somerset Railway
Our traditional summer social moves to a new location for a trip on the West Somerset Railway, meeting at Taunton Station.

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**CHAIR’S NOTE**

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