

# SOUTH WESTERN CENTRE

## Centre Chair

Tom Moore

## Centre Secretary

Mick James  
rdswwsec@imechenearyou.org

## Centre Committee

John Batty  
Prasad Bhawe  
David Cunningham  
Rory Everett  
Kieran Golding  
Ashley Grostate  
Mick James (Secretary)  
Chris Kinchin-Smith  
Andy Mellors  
Tom Moore (Chair)  
Rowan Phillips  
Matt Prosser  
Louis Schmandt  
Andrew Skinner (Treasurer)  
Ben Woods

## Western House

1 Holbrook Way, Swindon SN1 1BD

Western House is five minutes' walk from Swindon station. Turn right outside the station into Station Road, turn second left into Beales Close, first right into Cheltenham Street and Western House is directly in front of you.

## STEAM Museum

Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2TA

The STEAM Museum is about fifteen minutes' walk from Swindon station. Turn right outside the station into Station Road, and after 600m, opposite the Mechanics Institute, turn right into the former Swindon Works Access Tunnel under the railway. At the end of tunnel follow signs to the STEAM Museum.

Further details available on our **website**:

<http://nearyou.imeche.org/near-you/UK/Western/south-west-rd-centre/about-us>

or **Facebook** page:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=imeche%20railway%20division%20south%20west%20centre>

or **LinkedIn** page:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/imeche-railway-division-south-western-centre/>

Institution of  
**MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERS**

## Headquarters Contact

### Member Networks

t: +44 (0)207 304 6996

e: [membernetworks@imeche.org](mailto:membernetworks@imeche.org)

[www.imeche.org/railway](http://www.imeche.org/railway)

## 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/railway](http://www.imeche.org/railway)

If you should have any queries about the Railway Division, please email:

e: [membernetworks@imeche.org](mailto:membernetworks@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](http://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 [rdswwsec@imechenearyou.org](mailto:rdswwsec@imechenearyou.org)

Cover photo courtesy of Chiltern Railways, depicting the Chiltern Railways' (Porterbrook's) class 168 diesel-battery hybrid train.

# RAILWAY DIVISION SOUTH WESTERN CENTRE

Institution of  
**MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERS**

## Programme 2021-22



**Improving the world through engineering**

# SOUTH WESTERN CENTRE

Please note that the dates and times are accurate, but the venues are provisional. Please check website for latest information.

## Programme 2021-22

### Monday 27 September 2021

#### Chairman's address

Western House, Swindon 17.00 for 17.30

New railway division chairman James Collinson gives his chairman's address entitled "Dots and Boxes: What it can teach railway engineers and organisations".

### Tuesday 12 October 2021

#### History of London Underground

UTC Swindon 19.00

Malcolm Simpson of Transport for London will present his view of the history of the London Underground system.

Joint event with IET

### Monday 8 November 2021

#### Class 69 – from the ashes a phoenix arises

Western House, Swindon 17.00 for 17.30

GBRf Engineering Strategy Director Bob Tiller explains the re-engineering of a 1970's class 56 locomotive to modern standards.

### Monday 6 December 2021

#### History of rail incidents

STEAM Museum, Swindon 17.00 for 17.30

Dr Greg Morse of RSSB gives an entertaining and comprehensive insight into how previous incidents have shaped today's railway.

Xmas family lecture followed by complementary buffet.

### Wednesday 5 January 2022

#### On-train infrastructure inspection

Davidson House, Reading 17.15 for 17.45

How the inspection of track and overhead line equipment can be achieved from service trains is explained by Jason Saxon (Director Asset Information Systems - NR) and David Eveleigh (GWR).

Joint event with PWI

### Monday 2 February 2022

#### TOPS from cold war to coal trains

Steam Museum, Swindon 17.00 for 17.30

Dr Jonathan Ayles, immediate past-president of the Newcomen Society, talks about the origins of the TOPS traffic management system in America being born from cold war defence computing.

Joint event with IET

### Wednesday 2 March 2022

#### 387 ETCS fitment

University of the West of England (UWE), Bristol

16.00 career fayre

17.30 lecture

Railway industry employers' careers fayre followed by Simon Lawson - Taylor Airey and John Batty - GWR speaking about the reconfiguration and installation of ETCS onto class 387 EMUs. From project initiation to daily operation, the talk will cover various aspects and challenges including design, authorisation and service introduction. Explaining the experience gained and the lessons learned for future ETCS rollout.

### Monday 28 March 2022

#### 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.

### Monday 25 April 2022

#### AGM followed by New tube stock

Western House, Swindon 17.00 for 17.30

Project Engineer from Siemens introduces the design challenges and technological innovations associated with London's new deep tube stock.

### Saturday 30 July 2022

#### Summer social at West Somerset Railway

Traditional summer event, at a new location meeting at Taunton Station. Pre-booking ESSENTIAL.

More details will be available on website in 2022.

## CHAIR'S NOTE

I would like to welcome you to our new programme of events in this my first year as chairman of the SW Centre. The past eighteen months have been very strange times for all of us and as I write this in June we are hoping that the restrictions on our daily life will have been eased by September 2021 and we will be permitted to hold actual meetings again. However, the uncertainty about the further easing of the national restrictions means that some meetings may be held virtually as webinars – you can join us by logging in with a computer, tablet or smartphone. Please check our website at the address below for the latest information. Although we have all missed meeting each other the opportunity given by holding virtual meetings has led to larger attendances for us and other Centres so we are looking at ways of broadcasting live meetings to reach more people, again the latest details will be on the website.

Our AGM for 2020-21 will be held on 28 April 2022. 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.

**Tom Moore**

South Western Centre Chair

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