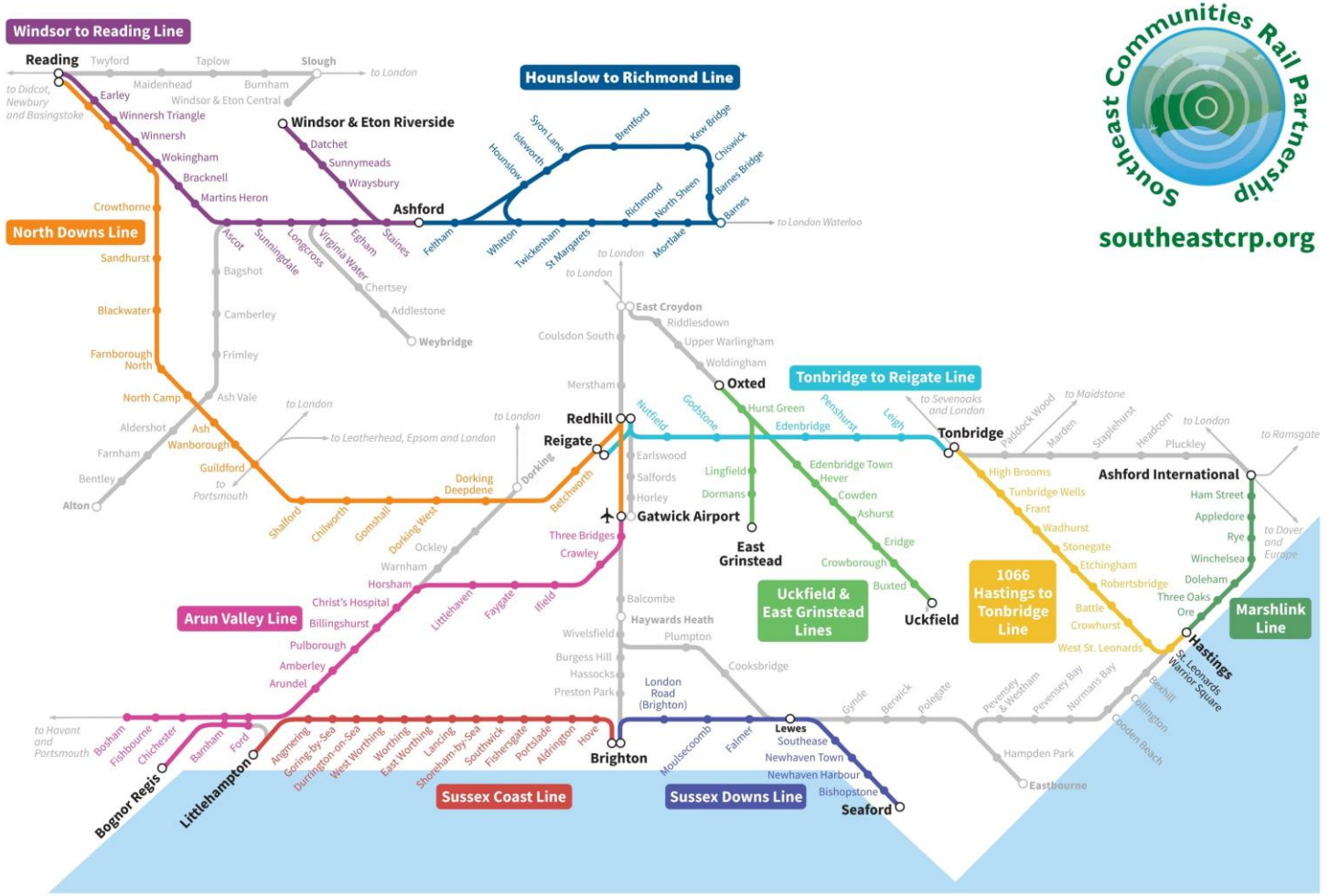
Southeast Communities Rail Partnership Weekly Highlights

DATE 20th Nov 2026



1066: Hastings to Tonbridge

Kanna Ingleson, Line Officer
kanna@southeastcrp.org

- I met with Robertsbridge Community College to plan station Christmas activities as part of their station adoption programme. This promises to bring some musical festive cheer to morning commuters and to people who live nearby. Details to follow next week.
- On Friday Crowhurst volunteers started cleaning the concrete walls at the station in preparation for the installation of an 80m mural celebrating local history, landmarks and nature. Getting to this point has not been easy and I appreciate the help and patience of SER colleagues as well as project volunteer coordinator Sonia Plato.
- Station Manager Damien Collier and I met with an artist, a printer and a gardener to plan the details of a heritage project at Frant. It will tell the story of the old coal yard that once occupied the area that is now the station carpark. (pic top right).
- I didn’t expect to find lots of gloriously aromatic mint thriving in wintery conditions at Robertsbridge Station. Who knew? (pic bottom right).





Arun Valley: Gatwick Airport to Bosham

Rowena Tyler, Line Officer
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- I had a planning Bognor Station Square meeting with Arun District Council & HMP Ford. A few details to iron out with the hope that work can begin at the station in January 2027.
- Christmas tree planning is well underway, with one of the first to be delivered next Monday.
- The rest of the week was taken up with delivering resource packs to all the stations on the Arun Valley Line which are participating in the White Hearts handout day – Thursday 26th November. Click on the link to see the times and supporting organisations. Copy of Station Volunteers List AV Line 261126 for PPT slide



Marshlink Hastings-Ashford International
Paul Bromley Line Officer
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Southern

Poetry exhibition highlights Rye's river connections

A new exhibition about the rivers in the Rye area has gone on display at the town's railway station.

The 'Write by the River' project features poems and illustrations, and was designed to give a voice to the various waterways. It includes verses about the River Rother and River Tillingham.

Writer Morgan Greenhalf said: "The idea was to take people who had never written before, along with people who had, to introduce them to the river and to write poetry or creative writing about the river. I hope people enjoy the exhibition."

Artists from the Rye area have provided their artwork to illustrate the poems. Posters have been printed by Southern and are now displayed in the ticket office waiting area.

The project was facilitated by StrongBack productions and funded by Arts Council England, Chalk Cliff Trust, the Bernard Nevill Estate and Friends of Rye Harbour Nature Reserve.

The exhibition was supported by Marshlink community rail partnership, which connects communities to their railways on the line between Hastings and Ashford International.

Marshlink community rail line officer Paul Bromley commented: "It is wonderful to work with the writing group once again to produce an exciting set of poems and illustrations about the area. We hope it provides some education and enlightenment for passengers."

Paul Bromley, SCRP

Writer Morgan Greenhalf at Rye station
Photo and article courtesy of Paul Bromley, SCRP


Rail station poetry exhibition highlights river connections

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Rye Harbour Writers Morgan Greenhalf. Pics by Paul Bromley

- Excellent steering group meeting in Ashford last Friday with good representation and balance of discussions between Community and Rail. Lots of ideas for next year.

- Great to see widespread publicity for the Rye poetry exhibition on the theme of rivers and waterways including GTR's Partners Platform (top) and Hastings Observer print edition (bottom).

- Also this week we received the welcome news from GTR that Sussex Wildlife Trust/Rye Harbour Nature Reserve are now an official station partner at Rye.



Sussex Downs Line Seaford to Brighton
Michael Olden Line Officer
michael@southeastcrp.org

- Rain has stopped plenty of gardening activities this week, so I've been catching up with admin tasks.
- I've been preparing for next weeks steering group meeting and White Ribbon Day.
- We're starting a foodbank collection at Lewes station for Landport community. If you're passing through you can donate at the Enquires office.



Uckfield - East Grinstead – Oxted & Ton - Reigate

Samantha Lear Line Officer
samantha@southeastcrp.org







- It was fascinating and informative to join WSCC and their consultant at East Grinstead station for a few hours this week. The brief was to explore upgrades to active travel opportunities. The current physical layout of the road network and station access fall short of current guidelines and a feasibility study will be prepared. Along side this the town have long had aspirations to improve the connection to the town from the station and to further develop the tourism potentially of the Bluebell Railway link. This was explored in detail, the consultants were very grateful to SCRP for all the local knowledge and information we were able to share.

- Whilst planned meetings to explore the anniversary celebrations for The North Downs Way were cancelled this week, it gave a great opportunity for some research into the opportunities.

- Plans for the 2 community led Christmas trees at East Grinstead and Lingfield continue and have been so well received by the local community groups it's been a real delight to facilitate.

- Next week will concentrate on White Ribbon, White Hearts and Try the Train events.

Windsor to Reading
Sandy Mahon, Line Officer
sandy@southeastcrp.org

- Attended the South Western Railway Stakeholder Conference this week at St John's Church in Waterloo.
- We heard from the various teams how they are focused on improving the basics and delivering long-term improvements for customers by getting the 'four T' fundamentals right: Trains, Tracks, Timetable and Team.
- Meeting with colleagues Sam regarding article to highlight CRP for CrossCountry.
- Useful Reading underpass project meeting, made progress on timescales.



Go Learn Education
Cath Reed Education Officer
cathreed@southeastcrp.org

Three Go Learn Planning a Journey workshops at Northbrook College in Goring. Planning trips to Bognor and to Portsmouth. (32 SEND students)

2 Try a Train trips with The Mary Rose Academy in Portsmouth for Go Learn , taking students from Fratton to Chichester (13 SEND students)



Students from the Mary Rose Academy Waiting for their train home from Chichester

Go Train GWR Education Maddy Mills Education Officer

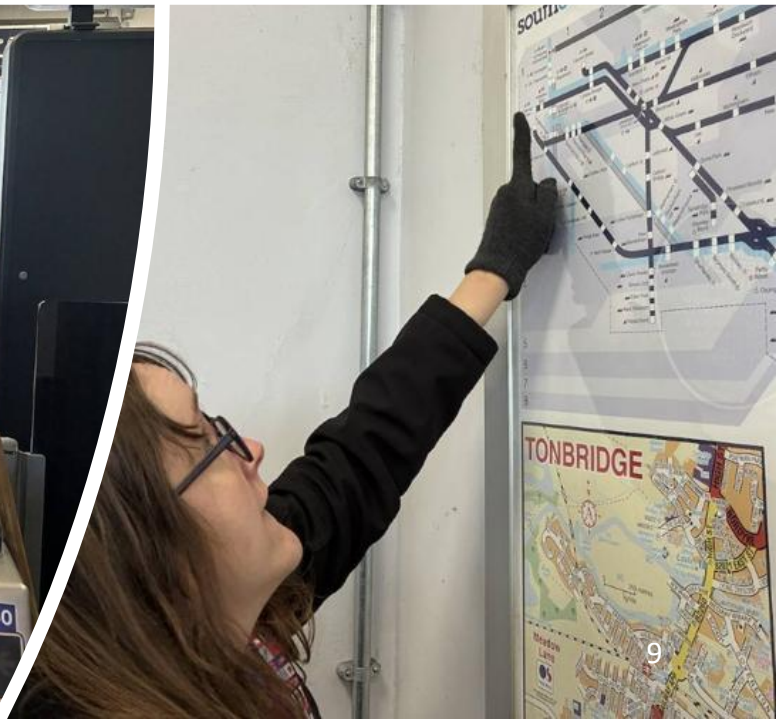
maddy@southeastcrp.org

- Delivered a ‘Travelling with Confidence’ trip for The Oaks Specialist School in Tonbridge. 9 x young people travelled from Tonbridge to Hastings for a coffee in a hotel on the sea front. For one young person it was their first trip on a train. See photos.
- Delivered a ‘Travelling with Confidence’ workshop for Surrey Choices in Guildford. The group of 9 young people have decided to travel to Reading for a tour of the bus depot and a trip to the Isle of Wight to practise using a passenger ferry. The group were using apps such as Google Maps and National Rail to plan these trips.
- Delivered a ‘Sustainable and Healthy Travel’ workshop at Westende Junior School in Wokingham to 60 x Year 6 pupils.
- Had a training session from CRN on how to use Impact for creating surveys.
- Attended the CRN Education Network meeting and heard speakers from Network Rail talking about their social mobility projects.









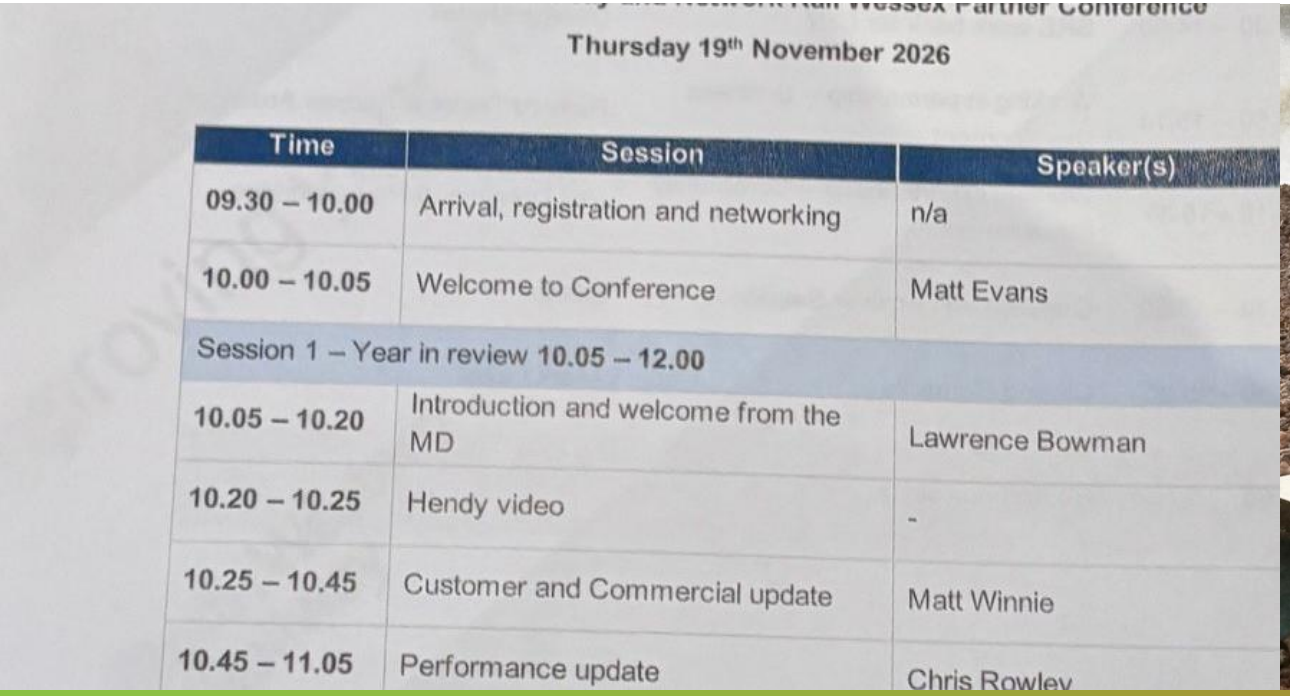
Marketing and Communications
Samantha Lear Comms Officer
samantha@southeastcrp.org

- With events for White Ribbon in planning for next week materials for this have been produced by the team.
- An agreement in principle has been secured for some external social media training for the staff team.
- And a series of posts about station partners is being worked up to cover the run up to Christmas (Tonbridge & Uckfield lines).



SCRP CIC News
Fiona Morton CEO, Trevor Field Finance Officer

- It has been a rough week for many of our colleagues with several serious trespass incidents and some challenging weather on the coast.
- SWR and NR conference was excellent again this year focusing on gains from service integration and addressing challenges ahead.
- Next week we are concentrating on making journeys safer with White Hearts/Ribbon events at Eastbourne, Tonbridge, Reading and stations across the Arun Valley and Sussex Coast with Wokingham the week after.
- Pictures: SWR conference agenda and rough seas at Seaford Nov 26 .



Thursday 19th November 2026

Time	Session	Speaker(s)
09.30 – 10.00	Arrival, registration and networking	n/a
10.00 – 10.05	Welcome to Conference	Matt Evans
Session 1 – Year in review 10.05 – 12.00		
10.05 – 10.20	Introduction and welcome from the MD	Lawrence Bowman
10.20 – 10.25	Hendy video	-
10.25 – 10.45	Customer and Commercial update	Matt Winnie
10.45 – 11.05	Performance update	Chris Rowley

