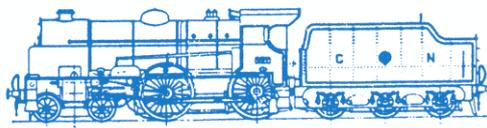


# IRISH RAILWAY RECORD SOCIETY

## LONDON AREA



[www.irrslondon.com](http://www.irrslondon.com)

[irrslondon@hotmail.com](mailto:irrslondon@hotmail.com)

### **PROGRAMME FOR 2022/23 – including the London Area 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration**

The London Area of the IRRS provides a forum in England for those interested in Irish transport, particularly railways. We hold monthly speaker meetings from **19.00 – 22.00**. The Oct meeting will be available via Zoom only. The Nov and Dec meetings will be held live in the Function Room of the **Calthorpe Arms**, 252 Gray's Inn Road LONDON WC1X 8JR (room accessible by stairs only) but will also be broadcast via Zoom. Irish transport books are usually on sale.

- Entry is £3 for IRRS members, £5 for non-members, except £3 in December (cash only)
- The non-member entry fee is refunded if you join the IRRS on the night

Arrangements for 2023 will be announced later. Those on the London Area e-mail list will be sent further details of all meetings. If you would like to be added to our e-mail list, please apply to [irrslondon@hotmail.com](mailto:irrslondon@hotmail.com) Please also check our website [www.irrslondon.com](http://www.irrslondon.com) for updates.

#### **ZOOM - Thursday 20 October 2022 “Dundalk Works 1880 to 1959 Revisited” by Charles Friel**

Irish railway preservationist, photographer, and author, Charles Friel, brings us an updated and lavishly-illustrated talk on the GNR's Dundalk Works, opened in 1880. The Works maintained steam locomotives (including 47 built there) and built and maintained hundreds of carriages, wagons, railbuses, railcars and road vehicles. The pictures will include the workshops and the people who made them tick as well as stories from behind the scenes. Some pictures date from the 1890s, many having been rarely seen in public, if ever! The talk will explain what happened after the Works became privately-owned in 1959 and what remains of the once-great institution today.

#### **LIVE - 12.00 Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022 - IRRS (London Area) 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

bar : lunch : presentation by Jim Meade (CEO Irish Rail) : Q&A : bar until 18.00  
See our website or the separate Flyer for details.

#### **LIVE & ZOOM - Thursday 17 November 2022 “Recording Irish Railways Line by Line” by Jim Edgar**

Author and photographer, Jim Edgar, is producing a series of books illustrating a 35-year period of change on CIE and Irish Rail, from 1974 to 2008, a period dominated by diesel locomotives between the “end of railcars and the arrival of railcars”. As well as passenger trains, we will also see many long closed lines and the transition from loose coupled goods trains to mechanical handling and eventually to the present day block freight operation. During this period virtually everything on our railways, from the rails and sleepers to the tickets and signals, changed completely.

**LIVE & ZOOM - Thursday 8 December 2022 "Reflections on being CEO of Irish Rail" by Dick Fearn  
+ London Area AGM**

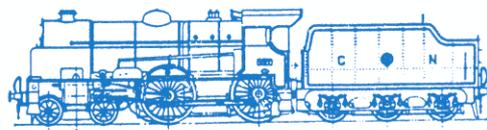
Dick will reflect on his time with Iarnród Éireann/Irish Rail, initially as Chief Operating Officer from 2003 to 2005, but more particularly as Chief Executive from 2006 until his retirement in 2013. Having previously spent 30 years with the railways in Britain before moving to Ireland, Dick recalls the very strong political support he found for the railways in Ireland, compared with the post-privatisation fragmentation of the rail industry in Britain. He will look back on the job satisfaction he gained from overseeing Irish Rail's major growth and modernisation programme of the time, including the reopening of closed lines and greatly increasing the frequency and quality of service on others.

*followed by the London Area AGM at 21.00*

*continued overleaf*

## **IRISH RAILWAY RECORD SOCIETY**

### **LONDON AREA**



[www.irrslondon.com](http://www.irrslondon.com)    [irrslondon@hotmail.com](mailto:irrslondon@hotmail.com)

#### **PROGRAMME 2021/22 (continued)**

Further details of meeting arrangements from January onwards will be announced later.

#### **Thursday 19 January 2023**

##### **"Digitising the IRRS Archives + GNR(I) carriage design" by Richard McLachlan**

Richard spearheads the photographic digitisation of IRRS archives. He will explain the technical challenges and the use of modern camera technology to produce top-quality readable images, particularly of text and dimensions on old drawings when graphical standards were variable. He will then use internal papers passed between the General Manager and the Locomotive Superintendent to illustrate the design process for new carriages, followed by Diagrams and photographs of the resulting vehicles, including innovative internal features and the introduction of bogie coaches.

#### **Thursday 16 February 2023 "On Tour with Lance King 1961-70" by Leslie McAllister**

Lance King left a collection of quality images. To-night, Leslie bases his presentation on Lance's coverage of railtours starting with the 1961 Joint Tour, then the 1964 tour, plus IRRS tours and the RBAIRS tour to Ballylinan. After 1964, Lance covered the early RPSI tours extensively, especially after 1968 when there was little or no main line steam in Great Britain. En route, Lance also photographed the modern railway evolving, turned his camera away from steam on many occasions. The usual mix of steam, diesel and remarkable photography by the revered Founder of the London Area.

#### **Thursday 16 March 2023**

Our previously advertised speaker has withdrawn for family reasons.  
A replacement speaker and subject will be advertised soon.

**Thu 20 April 2023 "Rails through Connemara" by Jon Beaumont**

Lifetime enthusiast, preservationist and author, Jon Beaumont, draws from his recent book about the life and times of the shortlived Galway-Clifden line, open from 1895-1935, setting it in the economic and social circumstances of the time. The line was opened to support (abortive) plans for a major fishing industry and a transatlantic shipping terminal at Clifden. Compounded by the burning down of the railway hotel at Recess in the 'Troubles', the line struggled to an early demise, even though it had stimulated early development of a local tourist industry. Jon will show many rare photos.

**IRRS (LONDON AREA) SALES STANDS** featuring digitised Irish railway drawings

**SCALEFORUM** (Cressex Community School, Holmers Lane, High Wycombe HP12 4QA)

Sat 24 Sept (10.30 – 17.30) and Sun 25 Sept (10.00 – 16.30)

**Warley National Model Railway Exhibition** (NEC, Birmingham)

Sat 26 Nov (09.45 – 18.00) and Sun 27 Nov (09.45 – 17.00)

**TRANSPORT COLLECTORS' MARKET (TCM)** organised by the IRRS (London Area)

Our proposed March 2023 Market has been cancelled. Our next Market will be in March 2024.

See our website [www.irrslondon.com](http://www.irrslondon.com) for further details