

## Alan Wild - Chairman



Alan was born in Bournemouth in 1941 and educated at Bournemouth (Grammar) School. He started an engineering apprenticeship at Swindon Works in 1958, undertaking an HND sandwich course at Swindon College from 1960-63. He spent 6 months as Special Duties Assistant to the Loco Works Manager (“until Derby HQ found out”, he recalls!) before joining the Works Technical Section. Twelve months later he was deemed to be in overall charge of the section staff, despite being the ‘new boy’ (and the lowest paid!). In 1972 he took on the role of (temporary) Senior Planning Technician. He became Production Controller, Locomotives, in 1983 and Quality Assurance Engineer later that year.

When the Works closed, Alan was on assignment in Sudan. On his return to UK he joined the group of Managers & staff tasked with ‘capturing’ all vehicle components in every BREL workshop. That large group dropped to only thirty or so and was renamed “Technical Manuals Group in 1992; Alan managed the group from 1994 until the last BR staff departed in 1996 and still has the site ‘master key’.

Alan took active roles in the Swindon Engineering Society, the Swindon Branch of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and the Swindon Railway Heritage Trust. In addition to his position with the Friends, he is still Deputy Chair of the Firefly Trust, founding Trustee of the Bournemouth Railway Club Trust and Vice Chair of the Bournemouth Railway Club which he joined in 1956.



**FOSRM Director profile**