

The Friends of Swindon Railway Museum Ltd

Patron Dr Pete Waterman OBE

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www.fosrm.org.uk



STEAM Museum of the GWR

Fire Fly Avenue

SWINDON

SN2 2EY

Lecture Programme 2018/19

Friends and Guests are warmly invited to these lectures, held at STEAM on Mondays, starting promptly at 7.00 pm. (Cold drinks available from 6.45 pm)

Free parking is available in front of the Museum for those attending the lectures – please email friendsofswindonrailwaymuseum@gmail.com for the access code, or to find out more about the Friends.

Whilst the lecture is free, we ask for voluntary donations to The Railway Children Charity on the night. We look forward to seeing you.

2018

September 17th Swindon Works – The Collett Years 1922 – 41. Speaker: Brian Arman.

Brian will cover the challenges facing the Works after the First World War, the impact of amalgamations and the Grouping, and Collett's locomotive legacy and engineering developments.

October 15th Minor railways connected with the Great Western. Speaker: Colin Brading

Colin will describe the Weston, Clevedon & Portishead Railway and the Wantage Tramway. Also featured will be the Swansea & Mumbles Railway which in 1807 was the first railway in the world to carry passengers.

November 19th Around the Western Region by Diesel Hydraulic. Speaker: Joe Turner.

Joe will cover the interesting 20 year period from the late 50's to late 70's.

2019

February 18th Friends Annual General Meeting followed by Members slides

The Annual General Meeting is a chance to hear what your Executive Committee has been doing and discuss plans for the future, as well as receiving the accounts and other formal business. Members are invited to bring a selection of slides on railway topics for showing after the formal AGM.

March 18th The Railway Navy: Prince of Labourers. Speaker: David Gilks.

This talk will explore the origins, deployment, exploits and life of the British Navy both here and overseas in the great age of railway building. David is a lifelong railway enthusiast with his origins deep in LMS territory. Since moving to Wiltshire some 10 years ago he has been a volunteer at Steam, largely working in the library. He has a particular interest in the social impact of railways and has written several articles for BackTrack magazine.

April 15th Railways in Burma, together with the 'Death Railway' in Thailand. Speaker: Brian Frank May

The Harry Roberts Memorial Lecture

Harry Roberts was captured by the Germans at Arnhem and became a Prisoner of War. Brian May's father was a prisoner of the Japanese army and put to work on the Burma – Siam Railway. Brian is thus well placed to describe the 'Death Railway' in Thailand. He has visited the surviving remnant in Burma and also explored more of the present day Myanmar Railway.