

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 2019

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.

February 18th Friends AGM 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 Hawksworth to the End of Steam. Speaker: Brian Arman

In Part 4 of his history of Swindon Works, Brian will cover the Second World War, the post-war period, the locomotive testing done by Sam Ell, the last year of steam, and the eventual run down and demise of the Works.

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.

September 16th 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.