



The Southern Six Meets Again!

24th May 2023

Last week, saw the second meeting of 'The Southern Six' at the Kent & East Sussex Railway at Tenterden.

"The Southern Six" are working on promoting cooperation and solidarity between their respective railways, becoming a strong and united group. At a time of economic change and ever-increasing demands on the heritage industry, the idea of this alliance is to generate solutions and put those ideas into action. The alliance hopes to adopt a united approach, with the overall aim to produce the best possible results for all parties concerned.



The second meeting was again very positive and constructive. It has once more produced much debate and discussion on the direction that each railway takes as a collective; with the intention formed to execute strategies and methods designed to meet the challenges which all railways are facing at this time and those we face in the future.

The group will continue to meet every two months. The positive feedback and outcome of the last two meetings have given this alliance further strength to grow. It is providing the platform required for support, guidance, and debate that each railway can benefit from and take forward with the current demands the industry is facing.

The group consists of:

The Bluebell Railway, The Kent & East Sussex Railway, The Mid Hants Railway, The Spa Valley Railway, The Isle of Wight Steam Railway & The Swanage Railway

Photographed here at Tenterden after the first meeting (L to R)

Steve Backhouse (IOWSR) Alison Houghton (Mid Hants) Robert Patterson (Swanage Railway) Rebecca Dalley (Mid Hants) Lisa Boyle (Bluebell Railway) Robin Coombes (KESR) Jonnie Pay (Spa Valley)