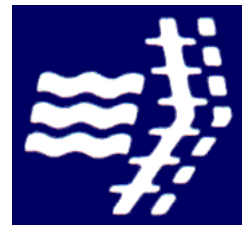


MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 182 December 2019

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New GWR timetables

Hopefully you will be aware of the major timetable changes coming to Great Western Railway services on Sunday 15 December. From this date, TfL Rail (CrossRail) will take over 50% of GWR stopping services between Paddington and Reading.

Don't forget that Crossrail trains (class 345) are NOT equipped with toilets – You have been warned.

Those members who have opted in will find new timetables with this newsletter.

Not only will train times be changing, the calling patterns for many services may also be different. We encourage everyone to check their journeys after 15 December before travelling and to spread the message about the changes, Details are on: GWR.com/timetable2019.

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Timetable Update

For fast trains from Maidenhead to Paddington in the morning peak the new timetable shows 14 trains taking 23.00 minutes on average compared with 15 trains averaging 24.67 minutes. There will be one fewer fast train in the morning - the 0806 is withdrawn; other departures are altered by a few minutes.

Two fast evening services from Maidenhead to Paddington (16.42 and 17.47) have been withdrawn from the new timetable.

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Fares confusion

GWR have had a fares policy in the London Thames Valley that has allowed off-peak fares at peak time on the return from London. This is changed in the new timetable. TfL afternoon services are all off-peak.

TfL Rail (stopping services between Paddington and Reading) offer off-peak fares on their services except those east-bound from Maidenhead before 09.16 Monday to Friday.

GWR is peak before 09.58. GWR services for Reading, including those calling at Maidenhead and Twyford will operate on peak fares before 09.00 from Maidenhead Monday to Friday.

This does not affect season ticket holders who will continue to travel on peak services for no extra charge, or holders of peak tickets.

The following afternoon departures from Paddington are peak restricted at Paddington only, not from subsequent stops:

- 1650 (connection to Bourne End)

- 1656
- 1708 (fast to Twyford)
- 1719 (connection to Bourne End)
- 1737 (15Mins booked first stop Maidenhead)
- 1751 (connection to Bourne End)
- 1807 (fast to Twyford)
- 1820 (connection to Bourne End)

GWR do recognise however that this is a significant change for customers who travel to London in the morning on off-peak tickets returning in the afternoon. GWR have taken a second look at the decision to make the change. Having done so, GWR took the decision to allow off-peak tickets on the 1849 and 1907 (First stop Twyford) services from London Paddington which had initially been set as peak services.

These GWR services are not restricted:

- 1727 to Maidenhead
- 1756
- 1826 and all subsequent departures.

GWR advise there could be further changes to peak/off-peak fares.

Peak fare restrictions differ between the printed timetable T10 and the GWR app (and possibly National Rail etc.). GWR may have made some easements since the timetables were printed.

From 2 January 2020 contactless payment may be used at all stations on the main line from Paddington to Reading. Other destinations e.g. on the Branch will require a normal paper or e-ticket to cover that part of the journey. Contactless travel between Reading and Paddington on the TFL route will be available from 2nd January BUT:

- ☒ GWR E-tickets are not available to/from TfL managed stations on the route (e.g. Taplow).
- ☒ Oyster not being extended west of West Drayton.
- ☒ Travelcard zones not being extended.
- ☒ Contactless not available from the branches.
- ☒ Contactless doesn't recognise Railcards.
- ☒ Children aged under 11 travel free on TfL Rail but not on GWR.

☒ Evening peak fares apply Mon-Fri on GWR departures from Paddington connecting with the branch. Note that most GWR peak trains will be 12 coaches so capacity shouldn't be a problem.

☒ You can't book online to travel up to London on an off-peak service and return on a peak service. The 09.05 from Maidenhead, 09.08 from Taplow is peak fare but the same train from Burnham and Slough is charged off-peak!

Timetable T12 covering Marlow and Bourne End

doesn't show any peak restrictions Monday to Friday but they do apply!
Just to add to the difficulties regulated fares will increase by 2.7% from January!

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Christmas Upgrade Work

As well as the big changes from 15 December, there will also be a temporary timetable in place while Network Rail work on infrastructure upgrades over Christmas and New Year.

This will affect services from Tuesday 24 December to Wednesday 1 January 2020 and includes the closure of Paddington station on Tuesday 24 December and Friday 27 December.

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All Day half hourly Marlow Services

Network Rail are yet to get agreement on the signalling design for the proposed track reinstatement at Bourne End. The proposed design does not fully meet current standards. Network Rail are awaiting the formal minutes of a meeting to determine how much further design is likely to be required.

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Development in Cookham

MMPA has been made aware of a proposal to build 270 new houses in Cookham.

As you may know, there can be issues with over crowding on Branch services. It is not clear if potential plans for development have taken this into account.

There was a meeting with Councillor Coppinger on 25th November at Moor Hall. MMPA attended to find out more particularly with regard to the impact on local public transport. No conclusion was reached but we will report on developments in due course

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Mill Lane Footpath Crossing

Network Rail have confirmed that they are installing Miniature Stop Lights (MSLs) for the Mill Lane Footpath Crossing, to improve safety at the crossing, The Installation will start over the Christmas period with the MSLs being in operation use by the end of March 2020. In respect of illumination the walking approaches to the crossing, there are no currently planned or funded works for the near future.

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Station Updates

High Wycombe

The drop off bay has a 20 minute limit and is now equipped with ANPR (automatic number plate recognition) for enforcement. Overstayers risk an £85 fine.

MMPA has been unable to get any progress on the issue of the extended transit time to Platform 1.

Maidenhead.

Extensions to Platforms 2 and 3 appear to have been completed and work continues on the extension to Platforms 4 and 5.

Taplow.

MMPA representatives attended the MTR (Crossrail operator) Crossrail customer meeting at Paddington on 24 September. Numerous slides had been presented, several of which pertained to the station. However, it was not clear whether it was still the plan to install gatelines at both sides of the station. One slide indicated they would be, by spring 2020, but there was some doubt as to how the southern entrance could be controlled by the single station clerk based on the north side. It was not clear why Burnham – a much more heavily patronised station – was not to have gatelines when Taplow was. Access ramps for the use of disabled customers would still be required.

It was stated that GWR and TfL tickets would be valid on each others' services. It is not clear how this will operate with the difference in peak and off-peak fares between the two operators.

It is reported that the station clerk's starting time had reverted to 06.30 so the issue of the locked ticket machine before then has come to the fore.

It is reported that the new footbridge may be open before Christmas though it is not clear if that includes the lifts.

The new timetable sees the introduction of a half-hourly service on Sundays.

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TRAVEL INFORMATION

Arriva Buses Beds & Bucks	01622 697000	0900-1700 Mon-Fri
Chiltern Railways	03456 005165	0830-1730 Mon-Fri
Carousel Buses	01494 533436	
Courtney Buses	01344 482200	
First Berkshire & Thames Valley Buses	01753 524144	
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	24 hours
Traveline (premium rate)	0871 200 2233	0800-2000 daily
Traveline London	0343 222 1234	24 hours
Transport for London & MTR Crossrail	0343 222 1234	24 hours
BBC Radio Berkshire Travel	01189 311333	
Car Parking (APCOA)	01249 444538	

Also see our web site www.mmpa.org.uk for links.

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Contact MMPA

If you have any issues or comments regarding public transport in the area that you would like to raise please use the *Contact Us* links on the MMPA website www.mmpa.org.uk.

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