

Introduction

In March 2022 the DfT instructed GWR to save costs and, in consequence, GWR announced that Bedwyn's hourly off-peak services would, from May 2022, become diesel shuttle services to Newbury.

Within the scope of GWR's brief the Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group negotiated a number of improved connection times at Newbury and the reinstatement of the 1907 direct from Paddington.

However, with only one diesel shuttle train allocated to Bedwyn it is almost impossible to form a timetable which connects hourly with trains running east of Newbury. Operationally freight and West of England services are given priority over the Bedwyn service. Coupled with no west facing bay at Newbury, there are regular problems with missed connections at Newbury.

The Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group continues to press for a full restoration of the hourly off-peak services to Paddington. However, we have calculated that the return of one of our IET sets for the December 2022 timetable change, would considerably improve the current situation.

Proposed December 2022 Timetable

The following two pages are Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group's proposed timetable for December 2022. For clarity the timetable only shows services east of Bedwyn and some stations are omitted.

The timetable retains the May 2022 stops on the peak IET through services with the rest of the timetable giving a workable evening peak and off peak direct service. This is achieved by the reintroduction of one dedicated five-car IET (for Bedwyn to Paddington) supplemented by one two-car diesel turbo shuttle between Newbury and Bedwyn.

Of particular note is: (i) the first off-peak service of the day will be an IET direct to Paddington (ii) the last off-peak return train of the afternoon will be an IET direct from Paddington (iii) the first off-peak of the evening will be an IET direct from Paddington and (iv) this resolves the problem of 1132 and 1321 Newbury to Bedwyn services not calling at Kintbury or Hungerford.

Most of the trains shown in this suggested timetable have either already operated in the December 2019 version or are operating currently.

Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group's would also ask GWR to consider, if this proposal is implemented, whether the turbo shuttle in the hour preceding two of the off-peak IET Bedwyn departures (10XX and 13XX) could run to Reading and return in to Bedwyn approximately two hours later (12XX and 15XX). This would still give an hourly service but also reduce the number of services connecting at Newbury by four.

Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group

Weekday Bedwyn to Paddington Services

	I	I	I	I	T	E	I	T	I	I	T	E	T	E	E	I
Bedwyn	0534	0600	0626	0651	0700		0729	0749	0803	0831	0924		1042			1141
Hungerford	0540	0606	0633	0657	0706		0736	0755		0837	0930		1048			1147
Kintbury	0545	0611	0638	0702	0710			0759		0842	0935		1053			1152
Newbury(a)	0551	0617	0644	0708	0717		0744	0806	0813	0848	0941		1059			1158
Newbury(d)	0552	0618	0645	0710		0724	0745		0814	0849		0947		1106	1123	1159
Thatcham	0556	0623	0650	0715		0730				0853		0954		1112		1203
Theale	0605	0631	0702	0723		0742				0901		1003		1124		1211
Reading	0614	0641	0708	0731		0751	0801		0830	0909		1011		1136	1138	1222
Paddington	0638	0709	0736	0801			0835		0901	0934		1039			1206	1252
			H	I					E						E	

	T	I	T	E	I	I	T	E	T	I	I	T	E	T	I	T
Bedwyn	1252		1347		1441		1550		1655		1741	1755		1855		1955
Hungerford	1258		1353		1447	1524	1556		1701	1717	1747	1801		1901		2001
Kintbury	1303		1358		1452		1601		1706		1752	1806		1906		2006
Newbury(a)	1313		1405		1458	1531	1608		1713	1724	1758	1813		1915		2012
Newbury(d)		1327		1422	1459	1532		1632		1724	1759		1847		1938	
Thatcham				1427	1503			1639			1804		1853			
Theale				1434	1511			1646			1813		1905			
Reading		1342		1444	1522	1547		1655		1742	1825		1915		1954	
Paddington		1407		1524	1552	1614		1729		1807	1854		1954		2019	
		F				G				G					E	

	E	I	T	I	T	E	T	Key (top of table):	
Bedwyn		2042	2116		2225		2317	E – Class 387 EMU.	
Hungerford		2048	2122		2231		2323	I – Class 800 or 802 IET	
Kintbury		2052	2126		2235		2327	T – Class 165 Turbo	
Newbury(a)		2058	2133	2141	2242		2334		
Newbury(d)	2017	2101		2143		2247	2334		Key (bottom of table):
Thatcham	2023	2105				2253	2342		E – from Plymouth
Theale	2035	2113				2304	2356		F – from Paignton
Reading	2044	2121		2200		2313	0006		G – from Exeter St David's
Paddington	2124	2152		2229		0016	0013		H – from Bristol Temple Meads
				F					I – from Frome

Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group

Weekday Paddington to Bedwyn Services

	I	E	T	E	T	I	E	T	E	T	I	I	E	T	I
Paddington						0707	0730		0832		1007	1035	1107		1233
Reading	0512	0550		0637		0734	0803		0913		1038	1101	1137		1301
Theale		0556		0644		0742	0812		0920		1047		1144		
Thatcham		0604		0656		0749	0824		0932		1055		1152		
Newbury(a)	0527	0611		0704		0754	0832		0940		1101	1115	1200		1315
Newbury(d)	0528		0624		0722	0755		0856		0956	1102	1116		1208	1316
Kintbury	0534		0630		0729	0801		0903		1003	1108			1215	
Hungerford	0539		0635		0733	0805		0908		1008	1112	1126		1220	1325
Bedwyn	0544		0641		0740	0811		0916		1016	1118			1228	
												A			A

	T	I	I	T	E	T	I	I	T	I	T	I	I	T	I
Paddington		1307	1436		1507		1607	1636		1736		1808	1836		1907
Reading		1337	1502		1537		1637	1702		1803		1838	1901		1936
Theale		1345			1545		1644					1846			1943
Thatcham		1352			1553		1656					1854			1951
Newbury(a)		1357	1516		1602		1703	1716		1817		1859	1915		1957
Newbury(d)	1320	1358	1517	1522		1616	1707	1717	1724	1819	1824	1900	1916	1924	1958
Kintbury	1327	1404		1529		1623	1713		1731		1831	1907		1931	2004
Hungerford	1332	1408		1534		1628	1717	1726	1736		1836	1912	1925	1936	2009
Bedwyn	1340	1414		1542		1636	1723		1744		1844	1917	1930	1944	2015
			B					C		C		D	C		

	I	T	I	T	E	T	I	Key (top of table):	
Paddington	2003		2104		2133		2222	E – Class 387 EMU.	
Reading	2029		2129		2210		2301	I – Class 800 or 802 IET	
Theale					2219		2310	T – Class 165 Turbo	
Thatcham					2231		2326		
Newbury(a)	2043		2143		2239		2334		
Newbury(d)	2044	2049	2144	2153		2245	2336	Key (bottom of table):	
Kintbury		2056		2200		2252	2342	A – to Exeter St. David's	
Hungerford		2101		2205		2256	2346	B – to Paignton	
Bedwyn		2108		2213		2303	2351	C – to Plymouth	
	C		C					D – to Frome	