The Glory of North London's Four Historic Railway Termini

This short course revels in the design, architecture, history and romance of the four iconic railway termini that were built in the mid-1800's to transform the speed and comfort of travel between London and the north and east of Britain. The four stations under the spotlight are Euston, St Pancras, King's Cross and Liverpool Street, and we will explore their histories through a wealth of photographs, famous paintings and references from the literature.

The course shows how these structures have enriched the cityscape of London through the last 180 years, first with their original monumental architecture and engineering and then with more modern design as they were expanded and improved to meet the changing requirements of the travelling public. Not all the developments of these stations have been universally admired, and we will discuss some of the major controversies that have led to stormy newspaper headlines and heated parliamentary debates.

We will discuss the great engineers and architects of the Victorian period and beyond who have designed, built and developed them. The course will celebrate how many of these pioneers and champions of the railways have become remembered in station sculpture, such as Robert Stephenson at Euston, Sir John Betjeman at St Pancras and Sir Nigel Gresley at King's Cross.

CALL is a 'not for profit' independent group interested in promoting lifelong learning in Cambridgeshire.



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A Short Course with Mike Grundy

Saturdays 10th and 17th April 2021 Fee £10 per household.

On Zoom, 10.00 – 12.30.