

This was the route taken on Saturdays in the summer of 1959 by the 07.28 from Wolverhampton to Brighton, Eastbourne and Hastings. This had no booked stops between Birmingham (Snow Hill) and Brighton. The same was the case with the 10.10 from Birmingham Moor Street, which called at Banbury at 11.10 and officially stopped next at Ramsgate. Both trains changed engines at Kensington (Olympia). In the opposite direction the 08.48 from Hastings ran along the coast to Brighton departing at 10.10 to make its next booked stop at Leamington Spa at 14.03. Most trains between the West Midlands and the south-east coast went via Reading and Redhill, but these services ran for the last time in the summer of 1964. From 1951 until 1960 a Friday night train from Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham and Leicester travelled via Woodford, Banbury and the Bicester cut-off en route to the West London Line and Eastbourne.



5. Another special working, 4300 class 2-6-0 and a 2251 class 0-6-0 leave Banbury before taking servicemen home on leave from Bicester North.

The ordnance depot at Bicester, begun in the month after the Dunkirk evacuation and described as 'the most ambitious single project every attempted for military purposes in the United Kingdom', was connected