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“Stanfords print-on-demand maps of London railways”
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The Charles Close Society was founded in 1980 to bring together all those with an interest in the maps and history of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and its counterparts in the island of Ireland. The Society takes its name from Colonel Sir Charles Arden-Close, OS Director General from 1911 to 1922, and initiator of many of the maps now sought after by collectors.

The Society publishes a wide range of books and booklets on historic OS map series and its journal, Sheetlines, is recognised internationally for its specialist articles on Ordnance Survey-related topics.
A series of railway maps using Ordnance Survey’s StreetView data (available under the ‘Open Space’ initiative), has been released by Stanfords, created by their resident cartographer Piotr Czapik.

Customers can choose between a variety of underlying data and features, such as fare zones, congestion charge zone and bike-hire stations, with combinations of rail networks. Railways are shown black-dashed for National Rail and in the standard colours for tube, DLR and Overground, and are (approximately) in their true positions. Railway buffs will enjoy spotting the differences between convention and reality! Freight-only lines are not included.

Background StreetView data starts as 1:10,000, but in most cases will end up as approximately 1:14,000. Definition is 254 dpi. The maps are printed on demand to customer specification and can be up to a maximum of 2m by 1m on waterproof paper. One version covers an area stretching from Ealing in the west to Stratford in the east, another Shepherd’s Bush to Whitechapel. Czapik has personally established the locations of many London stations using GPS.
Piotr Czapik is a photogrammetrist as well as cartographer, and recognised the opportunity for creating user-specified on-demand maps. He published some London Borough maps last year, as well as one showing all London boroughs and relief.

The standard set of five maps mentioned on Stanfords’ website\(^1\) is available from stock. Variations to suit your own requirements are printed while you wait, taking about twenty minutes each. The cost is £14.99 per sheet, but CCS members contacting Mr Czapik are offered 10% discount.

\(^1\) www.stanfords.co.uk/series/stanfords-tube-maps-print-on-demand-flat-maps