



## **P-Way 'Track Ganger' Job Description**

The Permanent Way or P Way, can be defined as a pair of rails typically laid on wooden sleepers embedded in ballast, intended to carry the ordinary trains on the Railway. The role of the P-Way team (commonly known as the 'track gang') is to build and maintain the P-Way or track including all the lineside and fencing, to ensure our trains and visitors enjoy safe passage along the length of our 6 mile railway.

After an initial Personal Track Safety course when you first join the gang, you will be expected to watch and learn, working alongside an experienced team member for the first few weeks. You will find that, before long, you know exactly what is needed and the safe way to undertake the work.

As you might expect, the work is entirely outdoors and in all kinds of weather. The materials and tools are often heavy and dirty so protective footwear and clothing are essential. When at the trackside you will need to wear (orange) High Visibility Clothing. Although much of the work is manual, mechanised assistance is now more readily available than in the early years. Teamwork is an important part of getting the job done and volunteers can 'pace' themselves during concentrated jobs. Indeed, many have been with the "gang" since the very beginning and although well over normal retirement age, still play a very active and invaluable role, trackside.

The P-Way Coach or Brake Van provides warmth and shelter when required as well as a place for stimulating conversation. Members of the gang come from a wide range of backgrounds and the blend makes for interesting company whatever your interests. If you like fresh air, exercise, an occasional touch of banter, the odd sticky bun and a sense of achievement then you have the option of joining the P-Way teams either on a Thursday.