



Volunteer Liaison Department
Swanage Railway Trust Ltd.
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USEFUL INFORMATION FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS CRANE DEPARTMENT

OUR CRANES

There are several cranes on the Swanage Railway, the largest being a Stothert and Pitt, 15 ton, diesel-electric, rail-mounted crane. This crane was built in 1948 for the Southern Railway for use at Southampton Docks. This is the Railway's main working crane and arrived on the railway in about 1983. It is a valuable asset and has helped to rebuild much of the railway. Besides laying track panels, positioning line-side cabins, lifting bogies and many other tasks, it's most notable recent success has been lifting the footbridge into position at Corfe Castle station.

After many years of continuous use on the railway there are some significant repairs required, and at the same time, work is underway to restore original equipment, which would allow the crane to be self-propelling.

This crane's sister, a Stothert and Pitt which has a 10 ton lift, is also under the care of the crane department. It is currently undergoing cosmetic refurbishment to ensure it is visually acceptable but it is expected that when work is complete on the railway's main operating crane this 10 ton example will be refurbished so that it can also become operational.

Additionally on the railway there are some platform mounted hand-operated cranes and a rail-mounted hand operated crane which need attention.

The department has the responsibility for maintenance of Trust owned operational cranes but is also responsible for ensuring that regular inspections and safety checks are carried out on all the railway's operational cranes and lifting equipment, and to ensure that the cranes are appropriately insured for use.



CRANE DEPT - VOLUNTEERING

The department is based at Norden's Lakeside sidings where both Stothert and Pitt cranes are berthed. There are regular working parties which meet weekdays and weekends by prior arrangement. We have a small core team of volunteers dedicated to the refurbishment and preservation of these cranes and who will be pleased to welcome new members with no previous experience. You will be given training in all safety matters and in engineering aspects of the work in which you are interested. We also welcome those who already have good engineering skills, which they would like to share with others, and feel sure that you will find working in the crane department a rewarding experience. The Swanage Railway operates a documented Youth Protection Policy to safeguard children. The policy of the Swanage Railway Trust is that all Volunteers should be Members. For further information please contact:

The Crane Department Manager is Fraser White Telephone: 01202 573081 or Email: fraser_w@lds.co.uk
Or contact the Volunteer Liaison Department as above.

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