

Carriage and Wagon Works



CARRIAGE & WAGON

WANTED

Volunteer

PAINTERS

CARPENTERS

UPHOLSTERERS

METAL WORKERS

GENERAL HANDS

Looking for a pastime that's truly rewarding or something interesting to add to your CV?

Here at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway we are proud of our unique collection of historic wooden bodied carriages and wagons. Some of these were saved when steam ended in 1966 but many have been restored after many years as holiday chalets or garden sheds.

None of this could have happened without the dedication of our volunteers over the last forty years. They have put in countless hours to restore these historic vehicles to their original condition. However, we have many others still in a near derelict state and would welcome any help you can give us. That wonderful paint finish on the carriages doesn't just happen. Many hours are spent on the careful preparation, rubbing down and painting to achieve the end result. Interior varnish, upholstery and trim also take up many dedicated hours.

What can I do? Whether you like the idea of upholstery, painting, carpentry or even a little welding we can find a job for you. Even helping to keep the workshop tidy would ease the workload! Experience, while welcome, is not necessary as full training will be given. **Some of the skills we need no longer exist outside the heritage railway world but we can teach them to people with the right aptitude.**

Our enthusiastic team includes people from a wide variety of backgrounds, men and women, young and not-so-young, so whatever your background you can be assured of a warm welcome.

The Railway has a dedicated Carriage and Wagon Workshop, financed largely by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which provides comfortable working conditions whatever the weather.

Our youngest carriage celebrates its 90th birthday this year and most are well over 100 years old, the oldest being built in 1864! Please consider helping us ensure they continue to delight our passengers for many years to come!

If you are considering joining the Carriage and Wagon Department a useful first step is to attend one of the railway's Volunteer Recruitment Days and the dates are usually published on our website blog. Come along, meet the team and find out how you can fit in.

Or, to find out more, you can email: volunteer@iwsteamrailway.co.uk or telephone: 01983 882204



Outside on the C&W inspection pit, Steph Hollis prepares 2403's paintwork for varnishing. 23rd February 2014.



Applicants must be physically fit and will be required to attend an induction course. The usual background checks will also be carried out.