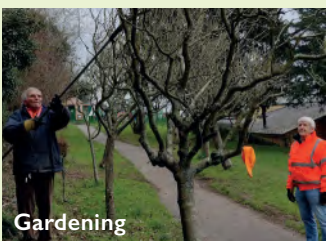
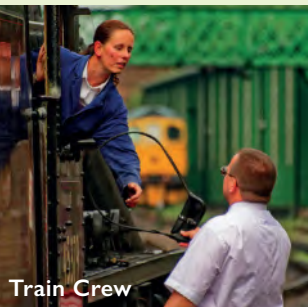


Many opportunities await



Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service

The Watercress Line is a proud recipient of the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service. The award’s objectives are the celebration of:

- 1. Groups that are truly outstanding and making a big difference to their local community.
- 2. Groups where volunteers, rather than paid staff, are in the driving seat.
- 3. Groups that have highest standards in everything they do.



“Being an onboard steward you are part of the face of the railway and an open buffet is a welcome sight for our visitors. I do enjoy talking with our customers while going up and down the line.”

Jake
Catering / Train Crew

THE WATERCRESS LINE

The Railway Station, Station Road,
New Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9JG
TEL: 01962 587058

volunteer@watercressline.co.uk
watercressline.co.uk



What Three Words [///iron.recap.miles](https://www.what3words.com/iron.recap.miles)

Charity number 284406

The Watercress Line is committed to encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion among our volunteers and staff. We look forward to hearing from you soon.
Please note: Any application will be subject to approval by our recruitment team.
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JOIN THE
WATERCRESS LINE
COMMUNITY



The Watercress Line – 160 Years in the making

The Watercress Line, one of mid-Hampshire's most exciting tourist attractions, is a 10-mile-long, heritage railway that winds its way between Alton and Alresford. First opened in 1865, the line originally connected Alton and Winchester as an alternative route for rail traffic between London to Southampton. The line passed through the Itchen Valley at Alresford, creating an opportunity for local watercress growers to access important London markets.

The Line closed in 1973 but, following a campaign by enthusiasts and volunteers, was re-opened to steam trains by the newly formed 'Mid-Hants Railway', now known as 'The Watercress Line'.



Volunteering at The Watercress Line

Volunteering at The Watercress Line is a great opportunity to meet teams of like-minded people working in a wide-range of roles. Even if you've not done anything like this before, or aren't a railway enthusiast, we're a friendly bunch and happy to help 'train' you!

All you need is to have a few hours spare each month and in return we can offer you fun, friendship, and the satisfaction of helping families to have a great day out.

There are volunteering opportunities for all ages from 16 upwards, gaining real-life work experience on the way, and improving career opportunities beyond the Watercress Line.

What's in it for you?

Following a 3 month qualification period you can become a fully-fledged Watercress Line Volunteer and enjoy the perks that go with the title including:

- Free Travel on Watercress Line standard services and on many other UK heritage railways.
- Free tea & coffee together with discounted food while you're on duty.
- Access to late standby tickets on some Watercress Line Fine Dining services.
- A dedicated webpage keeping you up to date with activities across The Watercress Line
- Proven mental wellbeing and physical health benefits of working in a team environment.



For more information about our various roles, scan the QR code here for direct access to our website role descriptions.



"Volunteering on the Watercress Line offers me lots of opportunities. I can be volunteering in the shop one day, and on the "Watercress Belle", the fine dining train, the next. It is a welcome opportunity to make friends & meet people"

Julian – Retail Assistant

Wider Benefits

Becoming a volunteer at The Watercress Line also offers many broader benefits too:

- Being part of a sociable team of like-minded volunteers with common goals.
- Knowing that you're helping to maintain an historic heritage railway.
- Satisfaction of helping visitors to enjoy family days out.
- The chance to learn new skills and brush-up on existing ones.
- Gain valuable experience applicable to all aspects of life.

.... and if you're already experienced, it's a great opportunity to become involved again.



Meeting the Team

If volunteering at The Watercress Line appeals to you, why not come along to one of our Volunteer Welcome sessions? Join us for half a day, have a look around, chat with other volunteers, and get an idea of what's on offer. There's no commitment – just a fun few hours. And joining in is simple; complete an online application form (see the QR barcode) and let us know your preference – there's usually a Welcome session every month. We look forward to meeting you.

If you decide that The Watercress Line is for you, all we ask is that you offer a regular commitment to a number of shifts over an agreed period.