



**SOUTH
DEVON
RAILWAY**

Carriage and Wagon Manager

Responsible to: - Engineering Manager

Hours: - 40 hours per week.

Salary:- Dependant upon skills and experience. Please get in touch to discuss!

Location: - Predominantly Buckfastleigh Station, but travel to other SDR locations and, occasionally, nationally, will be required.

Role Overview

The Carriage and Wagon Manager plays a pivotal role in preserving and maintaining the historical integrity of our railway carriages and wagons. This position combines technical expertise with leadership skills to ensure the safe operation and authenticity of our rolling stock.

This is an exciting opportunity to join the small team of paid staff, alongside the large team of volunteers, at the South Devon Railway, in a crucial role that will lead the ongoing maintenance, repair and restoration of our heritage carriages and wagons.

We are looking for a vibrant individual with a holistic knowledge of the key engineering principles involved in carriage and wagon restoration, including mechanical, fabrication and joinery, who also has the ability to safely and effectively lead a team of paid and volunteer staff, whilst complying with all required legislation.

The South Devon Railway provides a varied workplace, operating a 7 mile steam railway, a model shop and a major engineering business that carries out contract work for other heritage railways along with mainline operators. The SDR has a small team of paid staff along with a large base of dedicated volunteers, and is currently looking to expand business.

The successful applicant will also benefit from enrolment onto the company pension scheme, free travel on SDR train services, quarter price travel on National Rail services and free on-site parking.

Key Responsibilities

- Ensure that all fitness to run examinations and all maintenance and overhaul work is carried out and recorded as per the SDR's Safety Management System.
- Ensure that the correct quality assurance standards are applied to examination, maintenance and overhaul procedures.
- Assist with the development and introduction of improved competence management and enhanced training.
- Ensure that all staff within their department are trained and competent on any items of machinery, plant etc that they may use.
- Provide line management to those working within the Carriage and Wagon department.
- Monitor work performance and attendance of Carriage and Wagon staff and authorise their leave where required.
- Plan and instruct staff in the department on work priorities and tasks to be undertaken.
- Oversee all repair, restoration and maintenance work carried out on carriages and wagons on the SDR.



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- Manage the carriage and wagon restoration timeline to ensure vehicles are returned to traffic in a timely manner.
- Ensure that there is sufficient availability of rolling stock to meet the requirements of railway operations, and provide additional vehicles that are available for hire where possible.
- Identify where assistance from other departments (e.g Traffic) is required and planning such items in conjunction with the Operations Manager or other relevant manager.
- Actively seek to increase the number of volunteers working alongside the paid staff within the department, including the development of weekend and evening working parties.
- Ensure the historical accuracy of any work undertaken, with suitable regard for the balance between preservation, cost and the expectations of the modern customer, with reference to the General Manager as required where changes are made to the historical design or appearance of vehicles.
- Ensure that historical accuracy is preserved so far as is reasonable practicable whilst balancing budgets and the availability of materials when repair work is undertaken.
- Coordinate work impacting on other teams within the SDR (e.g. PW, Ops etc).

Benefits

The South Devon Railway provides a varied workplace, operating a 7 mile steam railway, a model shop and a major engineering business that carries out contract work for other heritage railways along with mainline operators. The SDR has a small team of paid staff along with a large base of dedicated volunteers, and is currently looking to expand business.

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Qualifications and Experience:

- Engineering: A thorough understanding of mechanical, fabrication and woodworking principles, with a specialisation in at least one area.
- Experience: Previous work in railway carriage and wagon maintenance, restoration, or a related field.
- Heritage Knowledge: Familiarity with heritage railway practices, regulations, and preservation principles.
- Leadership Skills: Strong leadership, communication, and organizational abilities.
- Passion for History: A genuine interest in preserving railway history and sharing it with passengers and enthusiasts.

To apply, please email your CV along with a covering letter to:
generalmanager@southdevonrailway.co.uk

Applications will close by Friday 11th October, but may close earlier.