

Volunteering for WHR track work - Your questions answered

What do I need if I come?

Clothing: You need work clothes including safety boots and work gloves - these are usually supplied. It is for the supervisor to decide if hard hats have to be worn. If so they will be provided. On straight forward track work they are not normally needed.

Hi-vis: Hi-vis must be worn on site. The correct colour is orange. The waistcoat type is quite adequate and can be purchased for a fiver from the Society (Contact Elwyn Jones – ejones@crhe.uk). It is preferable for volunteers to bring their own as our stock of loan items is very small.

Waterproofs: It is wise to bring a waterproof jacket or coat and trousers. We work when it rains as well as when the sun shines. Many volunteers have acquired a hi vis waterproof jacket & trousers.

The working day usually starts at about 8:00 and finishes at around 16:30 to 17:30, this dependent on the gang and the job.. The supervisor will tell you what the joining arrangements are. For most volunteers who come from a distance and intend to join a weekend working party that means they need a bed in the locality on Friday and Saturday nights. Some people stay on into the following week and make their services available for other duties. For example the PWay gang can usually make good use of extra pairs of hands.

Accommodation: There is accommodation available at Station View, Dinas – see Volunteer Accommodation section. Volunteers may also be able to stay at the Minffordd Hostel operated by the Ffestiniog Railway Society but it is essential to book in advance as sometimes the hostel can be oversubscribed.

Before you come for the first time please complete the volunteer registration , read the Guidance Notes and return the form it along with the signed declaration on Page 13 of the Notes to: Mrs. Rebecca Whalley at the Infrastructure Office, Harbour Station, Porthmadog. LL49 9NF or email rwhalley@ffwhr.com

You can download the form from: http://whrsoc.org.uk/images/Documents/IN_GNN_001_-_Infrastructure_Volunteers2145.pdf.

Reading the Guidance Notes and signing the declaration is your induction, mainly concerned with health and safety aspects so, please ask your supervisor if you are unsure of anything.

Please "book" your visit as far ahead as possible. Do not simply turn up without advance notice. We need to know how many people can be expected so that the work can be planned. So get in touch beforehand by phone, email or letter. Remember to "sign on" when you arrive.

Finally, on the day, don't forget your lunch and bring plenty of enthusiasm with you. We provide the tea and coffee. However you may want to bring a flask with you against the possibility that the mess or mess coach is some way away from where we are working and you want refreshment without having to go back to the mess coach.

And one more point. I am afraid that unfortunately we cannot take volunteers who have not reached their sixteenth birthday.

Information about working party dates can be found in the latest edition of The Snowdon Ranger and on the website here: <https://www.whrsoc.org.uk/index.php/volunteer-with-us/activities-2/track-work/track-work-working-party-dates>.

If you have any other queries, get in touch. My contact details are set out below. It is best to phone or email me. We look forward to your joining us.

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