



## An Introduction to operating the Almond Valley Light Railway.

The Almond Valley Light Railway is a short, uncomplicated, narrow-gauge railway operated by modern diesel locomotives that are relatively straightforward to drive.

It should be fairly easy to acquire the skills and experience needed to drive a locomotive over the course of a few training sessions. It is absolutely essential however that in addition to "knowing which levers to pull", potential drivers, (and everyone one else involved in operating the railway) are fully familiar with, and fully understand, the basic rules for operating the railway contained in the RAILWAY RULE BOOK

Although our railway is short and uncomplicated, it is governed by exactly the same legal and safety requirements as any main line railway. The construction of the railway, our methods of operation, and our Rule Book, meet the requirements of HM Railway Inspectorate and have been approved by them.

### *Age & health requirements*

The Rule Book, and national legislation, require that all drivers must be aged 21 or over, and that all guards and shunters must be aged 18 or over.

Drivers, guards and shunters must not suffer from medical conditions or sensory impairments that would affect their capacity to carry out their duties safely. Those applying for training as drivers, guards or shunters are required to disclose any relevant medical conditions, and subsequently notify Almond Valley of any relevant changes to this. As a general rule, a person suffering from any condition that would prevent driving an unmodified road vehicle would not be permitted to serve as either a driver or guard.

### *Driver training*

The training provided to potential drivers will include

- Care, maintenance and operation of service rolling stock
- Train operation & understanding of the rule book
- Track inspection
- Record keeping

The person delivering training will assess when the trainee has reached a sufficient degree of competence to be considered for examination. This oral examination, conducted by a second person will assess the trainee's familiarity and understanding of the rule book. On successful completion, the person will be authorised to operate passenger trains

### *Guard training*

The training provided to potential guards will include

- understanding of train operation
- understanding of the rule book
- customer care

On completion of this training, they will be assessed (by a second person), on their familiarity and understanding of the rule book, particularly sections related to the role of the guard



# Volunteer Application Almond Valley Light Railway.

your name

your address

postcode

Phone No.s

home

work

mobile

date of birth

e-mail

How, and at what time is it best for us to contact you?

What duties are you interested in ?

Driver

Guard

Other duties

please detail

Do you suffer from any medical conditions or sensory impairments that might affect your ability to work trains. In general, any condition that would disqualify you from driving an unmodified road vehicle would prevent you from operating trains.

Yes  No

Are you a member of the Friends. (We strongly encourage all volunteers to join the "Friends of Almond Valley")

Yes  No

Any special skills, experience or interests?