



**We need  
YOU**

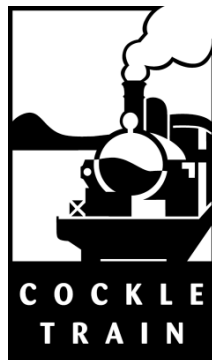
**as a Volunteer  
to keep our railway operating!**

The **SteamRanger Tourist Railway** preserves an important facet of South Australia's transport heritage whilst providing tourists with an exciting holiday experience. The railway is operated almost entirely by volunteers and receives only limited financial support from the taxpayer.

**It can only continue** if more volunteers join the stalwarts that have worked for over 25 years to make the venture the popular tourism icon it is today. Our sturdy rolling stock continues to roll past its 85th birthday, but unfortunately many of the ex-railway employees and volunteers that helped us to set up the service now need to hand over to younger men and women who can take us into the new millennium!

Most volunteer positions do not require special railway skills; where special training is required we can provide appropriate courses and mentored on-the-job training.

*Read through this booklet to see what we do and then make contact with us using the slip provided*



## Workshops and Depots

Our main workshop at Mt Barker is well equipped with a range of machines and equipment. Volunteers assist with locomotive and carriage maintenance and rebuilding according to their skills and inclination. Trade skills in fitting and turning, welding, carpentry & joining, painting and decorating, diesel engine maintenance, electrical fitting and general workshop support would be especially valuable to us. Supervised tasks can be arranged for those without trade training but with reasonable "handyman" skills.

On-the-job training in specialist railway skills is provided where necessary. Volunteers assist with preparing locos and rolling stock for scheduled services and may be offered opportunities to train for railway operating positions such as driving and firing.

Volunteer work can be arranged to suit individuals during working hours Monday to Friday and on most Saturdays. A minimum useful commitment would be a half day once a fortnight.

Less intensive workshop tasks are undertaken at our Goolwa depot on one or two days a week. Volunteers preferring to contribute there can negotiate a work program with our Depot Manager.

Rolling stock cleaning teams are rostered at both Goolwa and Mt Barker prior to each train operation to ensure that locos and carriages enter service in the pristine state that our passengers expect and these volunteers often later travel on trains as passenger assistants.



## Locomotive Crew

All SteamRanger trains are operated with volunteer crews. A structured in-house training programme is conducted to train volunteers to become accredited as diesel or steam firemen and enginemen. Candidates for training are chosen from volunteers who have been prepared to contribute to workshop maintenance tasks for at least 12 months.

**For steam loco duties**, the initial stage of training is the gaining of a boiler attendant's certificate. This qualifies the candidate to light up locomotives and after further study to progress to duties as a fireman under supervision. Further study and supervised training leads to accreditation to operate as a fireman and then as an engineman on increasingly more complex locos and over more challenging sections of line.

**Training as a diesel observer and then engineman** involves study and examination on various railway subjects together with structured supervised on-the-track training.

## Station Masters

Stationmasters and mistresses are responsible for overseeing the efficient running of stations at Mount Barker, Victor Harbor and Goolwa. SteamRanger provides training in railway rules and regulations (safeworking and train braking systems) and assists volunteers to gain necessary First Aid qualifications. SMs are usually drawn from volunteers that have demonstrated their abilities as Passenger Attendants or other station staff.

## Guards

After gaining experience as a Stationmaster, those interested can undertake further training in shunting and railway operations to become a trainee guard, working under supervision of a more experienced guard.

Newly qualified guards first operate the "Cockle Train" between Goolwa and Victor Harbor and later progress to trains on the more difficult track to and from Mt Barker.



## On Train and Station staff

These important front line positions require no formal railway qualifications and would suit volunteers with an aptitude for communicating with and assisting our passengers. If you like people - this is you!

Most volunteers commence as an on-train **Passenger Attendant**, assisting passengers to find assigned seats, answering queries about the service, drawing attention to points of interest en-route and checking tickets.

**Buffet and shop attendants** are also needed, both on-train and at our shops at Goolwa and Victor Harbor stations. You need to be able to handle sales accurately and confidently. From time to time BBQs and on and off-train special catering is provided and volunteers are also needed to assist in preparing food and serving at these functions.

**Ticket Officer positions** at Goolwa, Mt Barker or Victor Harbor will suit volunteers with a particular ability in customer relations and in handling cash and who have some experience on-train. Duties involve issuing tickets, answering passenger queries regarding train times and facilities, reconciling cash against ticket stocks and banking



## Track and Infrastructure Maintenance

SteamRanger volunteers are responsible for maintaining over 80km of track between Mount Barker Junction and Victor Harbor, two electric turntables, station buildings and bridges.

The track team use on-rail and road vehicles to regularly inspect track,

clear undergrowth and rebuild sections as necessary. Patrols are conducted on most Saturdays and mid week as required. A specialist electrical team maintains crossing lights, signals and communications facilities.

The Infrastructure Manager and his team are responsible for ongoing and major maintenance on buildings and bridges and other infrastructure.

## Where are we based?

We operate trains along the full length of the preserved Victor Harbor branch line from Mt Barker Junction, just north of Mt Barker, to Victor Harbor.

We have a major workshop and depot at Mt Barker and a smaller workshop and depot at Goolwa. Enginememen, firemen, guards and passenger attendants operate from both of these locations. Track maintenance teams are based at Mount Barker, Strathalbyn and Goolwa.

Volunteers staff stations at Victor Harbor and Goolwa when trains operate from there and less frequently at Mt Barker.

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

If you would like to discuss joining us as a volunteer, please complete this form and forward it to

**Human Resources Manager  
SteamRanger  
PO Box 16 , Melrose Park 5039**

If you need further information please ring  
1300 655 991  
or email [info@steamranger.org.au](mailto:info@steamranger.org.au)

## Volunteering can be Fun!

### Our volunteers usually work in teams

- at workshops and depots
- on-train (loco crews, guards, attendants)
- at stations (stationmasters, shop staff)
- along the track and in building maintenance
- providing off site administrative support

*You can choose to work in one or more of these areas.*

You will have the opportunity to build friendships with other like minded volunteers, to learn new trade, railway operations or customer service skills or to use your own abilities to help train others. Social functions and special "volunteer only" excursions are organised from time to time to which partners and families are most welcome.

Free backpacker type overnight accommodation is available at both Goolwa and Victor Harbor for those not living on the south coast. A concession travel scheme offers free or discounted travel to regular volunteers.

Some duties are scheduled through monthly rosters with volunteers invited to indicate their availability and job preferences in advance. Other tasks are less rigorously scheduled and can be contributed to on an ad-hoc basis by negotiation with team leaders.

**Join us; - add a new dimension to your lifestyle!**

Volunteers with previous railway experience and qualifications are most welcome to volunteer in appropriate positions and will be assessed against SteamRanger's accreditation standards.

Your name: .....

Address: .....

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Phone: Day ..... AH .....

Present or past occupation .....

Are you retired? ..... Under 18? .....

Which area of our activities interests you?

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List any special skills or qualifications you may have

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Please call us if you do not receive an acknowledgment within 14 days.

Visit our website at  
"www.steamranger.org.au"  
to gain an appreciation of our activities