

## **Visit to Network Rail Holgate Depot, York 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

21 members attended the visit around Holgate Depot which is Network Rail's largest depot carrying out maintenance on the specialist track treatment fleet.

We were given a detailed tour of specialist maintenance trains and equipment within the 12-acre maintenance buildings which included the leaf 'busting' trains which deal with the autumn leaf fall. The complete fleet is decommissioned for maintenance after autumn and then serviced and tested at the depot before going back into service across the country.

Other specialist equipment and systems we looked at included ballast cleaning, track renewal, tampers, rail grinders, wheelset overhaul and assembly.

Outside the buildings is the impressive 130 tonne traverser which moves vehicles between the workshops.

It was a really enjoyable visit and good to see heavy rail engineering continuing in York.

The Society is very thankful to Network Rail for arranging this visit.