

The Permanent Way

Words and Music by Kevin Adams

Verse 1:

Granite for ballast and sleepers of pine
Cut through the country in a very straight line.
Depart and arrive on the very same day
On the London to Birmingham Railway

Chorus

On the Permanent Way! (x3)
London to Birmingham the very same day!

Verse 2:

Train coming out of Linslade Tunnel,
White smoke streaming from the funnel,
Pistons pumping, drive wheels hum,
Folks in Fenny sure hear us come!

Chorus

On the Permanent Way! (x3)
London to Birmingham the very same day!

Verse 3:

Look down there that's Denbigh Hall,
Hardly a sign of life at all,
Turned round here when the line was new,
Now we just keep rolling through!

Chorus

On the Permanent Way! (x3)
London to Birmingham the very same day!

(Instrumental verse)

Chorus

On the Permanent Way! (x3)
London to Birmingham the very same day!

Verse 4:

Slow goods up, fast mail down,
Rattling the windows through Wolverton Town.
Never mind the cinders, never mind the smoke,
'Cos Wolverton people are Railway Folk!

Chorus

On the Permanent Way! (x3)
London to Birmingham the very same day!

Verse 5:

Steam train coming, powerful sound!
Darken the sky and shake the ground!
If you live to a hundred and three,
It's the fastest thing you'll ever see!

Chorus

On the Permanent Way!
On the Permanent Way!
On the Permanent Way!
London to Birmingham,
London to Birmingham,
London to Birmingham the very same day!