



The Potting Shed
April 2013
Issue No.18
SALE

**Come and join us on
the
27th April 2013
10.00am - 3.00pm**

**FOR A SALE OF
Shrubs, perennials and
spring bedding**

**There will be bric –a
brac, book and video
stalls and our model
railway layout will be on
display**

**REFRESHMENTS will be
on sale**

**POPPLETON COMMUNITY
RAILWAY NURSERY**

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York YO26 6QA

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Mobile: 07800 501382

Website: www.

poppletonrailwaynursery.co.uk

E-mail Address

pcrn.info@yahoo.co.uk

Charity Number 1148341

**Company Registration number
06211163**

**We will be holding short
sales from 10-12 on
Saturdays until July 6th**

**Our next open day
sales will be on the
weekend of 29th and
30th June from
11.00am – 5.00pm
when we will be
joining in the
Poppleton Garden
Trail.**

Getting the nursery known.

Over the last few years I have been trying to gently make people aware of the Nursery and what it has to offer, and these are just a couple of ways I have tried.



A model railway was constructed by David Dawson and I a couple of years ago, and some of you will have

seen it operating at the nursery open days. In March we took it to Narrow Gauge North, a model exhibition at Rawden near Leeds, where we ran it jointly with Neill Clayton's model of his railway at Ripon. We managed to build an additional section based round our car park to join the layouts together.



This enabled us to sell some plants, give out publicity material and talk to many people interested in our Nursery and railway. Hopefully a number will come on our open days and spend some money.

Bob Brook

Needs list

Thanks to those people who regularly bring us pots and other surplus items from their gardens. We are particularly interested in 3.5", 5" 2L and 3L pots, please keep them coming. We would still like the following if anyone has some available:



Garden tools and equipment, woodworking tools, maintenance tools, garden plants, shrubs, perennials that you no longer want, carrier bags, used plant pots, candle ends. Small items can be put in the crate over the fence at the nursery if we are closed. Or contact us on email or phone, we have a van and can arrange to collect large items.

Membership

If you haven't renewed your membership please forward your subscriptions to David Thompson, the membership secretary. A form can be downloaded from our website: subscriptions are: £10 Corporate £5 full membership £2 for students unwaged and over 60's To cope with the postage costs if you cannot supply an email address the minimum subs rate will be £5. For people who do not have an email address and can collect from the nursery the £2 rate will continue. The nursery membership currently stands at 81 people and two corporate members.

Send forms to: David Thompson Membership Secretary at the Nursery address

Volunteers needed

We would welcome volunteers to help with all aspect of the running of the nursery please let us know if you can help either on the plant

side, the railway or with the DIY maintenance of the site. You can make contact by phone or email. To the Volunteer Co-ordinator Jo Sullivan-Jones. An induction is given when new volunteers arrive so that everyone adheres to the nursery H & S policy.

Hanging basket open day

Saturday April 27th was to have been our hanging basket event, where people could come along and get advice and help to make up their own container. Due to the extremely bad weather we have had to postpone it for three weeks to allow time for the plants to grow big enough. So book your session on Saturday 18th May morning or afternoon. Email or phone and leave a message on the ansaphone, please leave us your name, which session you want to join, 11.00am or 1.00pm and a contact number. Prices depend upon what you want to put into your basket. You are welcome to bring your own basket to refill, just let us know. Help will be on hand to advise and to demonstrate good practice.

Poppleton Garden Trail

We will be taking part in the village Garden Trail on Saturday and Sunday, June 29th and 30th, from 11am to 5

pm. For this occasion we will need people to bake cakes and scones, serve tea, sell programmes and plants, and show people round the Nursery. This will be really good publicity for us. Please put the dates on your diary ,and let us know if you can help.

Nursery News

Well what a long and protracted winter we have just come through. We have been held back by the cold weather and so all our bedding plants will be late. It was a team effort to keep the boilers stoked over night to ensure the frost didn't penetrate the glasshouses. Even with the gentle heat we were providing it wasn't until the sun appeared that our seedlings and young plants began to make good growth. It has however meant that we are behind in our bedding plant production but as all gardeners know nature always manages to catch up. We hope to be on target to begin selling bedding by Saturday 11th May. Hope to see many of you at the nursery over the next few weeks.

Disabled-Accessible Toilet

We have recognised for some time that we need to provide a fully disabled-accessible toilet – particularly for wheelchair users. The nursery submitted a grant application for £10,000 for a new disabled-accessible toilet (a



portacabin-type building) to Upper Poppleton and Nether Poppleton Parish Councils last autumn. At their March meeting, Upper Poppleton PC agreed to provide £750 towards the cost, subject to other funders being found. Councillor Gilles (who attended the meeting on behalf of the City of York Council) offered to help us locate other sources of funds and has since arranged for an application to be submitted to the Network Rail grant scheme. Your Management Committee have since discussed the matter and feel that we may be able to build a wooden structure ourselves which would house a disabled toilet next to the current toilets – potentially saving up to half the cost.

Graham Collett Secretary to the Trustees

**Visit by the
London & North Eastern Railway
(LNER) Society**

Eight members of the LNER Society had an enjoyable visit on 6th April, focusing on the narrow gauge railway and other items of railway interest. Bob Brook (leader of the nursery's rail group) gave them an informative talk on the history of the nursery and showed them the recently arrived Lister diesel locomotive "Loweco" (owned by Bob). Surprisingly, two or three of the group had visited the site in the early 90's with the Society and gradually, as the afternoon wore

on, remembered more details on a now and then comparison. They are now looking through their Archives to see what they have! Thanks to everyone who helped with this visit.

Graham Collett Secretary to the Trustees

Giving talks

to various groups has been another way of spreading information, and I have gradually put together a power point presentation, with many pictures of the Nursery from the 1960's to the present day. This has been well received by various people, from Women's groups through U3A and a History group to gardening societies. Again this provides the opportunity to give information and sell a few plants, with usually a donation to the Nursery. So if anyone knows a group which might be interested in a future talk please let us know at the Nursery.

Bob Brook