

The Potting Shed November 2016 No. 37



Come and join us on
10 December between
10:00am and 3:00pm
for our Christmas
Open Day.

We shall also be open
on Saturday 17
December from
10:00am and 1:00pm.

We shall have
Christmas
decorations, hyacinths
and wreaths for sale.

POPPLETON COMMUNITY RAILWAY NURSERY

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Company Registration number:
06211163

Editorial

As we reach the end of the year we can look back at 2016, the 75th anniversary of the opening of the Nursery in Poppleton, with great pride at the successful events and advances that have occurred at the Nursery. As this is the last Potting Shed of 2016 can I wish all readers of The Potting Shed a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Here's looking forward to the next 75 years.

Publicity vacancy

There is a vacancy for someone to do Publicity for the Nursery. The role covers the following tasks:

- The production, printing and distribution of posters and leaflets for the Nursery.
- Liaising with other media outlets to publicise events at and relating to the Nursery.

There is already expertise within the Nursery in the production of leaflets and posters and we would consider someone who would carry out the remainder of the roles as a job share.

Contact Jo Sullivan-Jones at the Nursery (contact details on the front cover of this Newsletter) if you are interested.

Publicity

A new supply of our general leaflet about the nursery (1000 copies) is now available. If you can help to publicise the nursery, please pick up a few copies.

75th Anniversary of the Nursery



The Anniversary of the Nursery opening was celebrated on September 10 with a visit by the Lord Mayor of York, Councillor Dave Taylor and his partner, the Sheriff of York, Jonathan Tyler and his lady. The red carpet was displayed and Jo Sullivan-Jones was definitely star baker, to

use a quote from The Great British Bake Off, by baking a splendid and tasty cake. After arrival by train the Mayor cut the cake and the civic party was transported round the site using the narrow gauge railway. The civic party said that their visit to the nursery was the best official visit that they had performed.



October Open Day

On the Wednesday before the October Open Day a reporter from **The Press** visited the Nursery. He gave us no guarantee of when his piece was going to appear in the paper, saying it might be in after the weekend. The article appeared in the Friday issue (the electronic version of the article is still available at <http://alturl.com/oxr3a>) and the Nursery was inundated with visitors. Your Editor was 'trapped' demonstrating the model from 10am to 1pm!

Station Adoption

We are still waiting for the new Northern Railways franchise to talk to us about what they require at the station, and how we can continue being station adopters. However

at a meeting in Manchester last week we found out that a new manager had just taken up the post we will report to, so we hope for an early meeting.

However we still need offers of help to look after the station planting, to try and maintain the Nursery tradition. Hopefully once we have spoken with the new manager we will get help to advertise in the village, and also some money to pay for some of the plants. If you can help on the odd half day every so often please let us know so we can keep the station looking attractive.

Greenhouses G7-G9



These are the last buildings on the site we have to restore, and they are the largest and in the worst condition of all we have done, so it is a major job for a small bunch of volunteers.

They were built sometime in the 1960s and originally had a glass roof, they were

rebuilt in the 1980s with the present plastic sheeted roof which has not lasted, particularly the internal joins and guttering. Jarvis proposed to demolish them, but it was never done so they have been left just patched and propped up.

We have been given a generous donation which will enable us to start work by getting the asbestos roof removed, the broken glass windows made safe and lifting and rebuilding the roof on the first house, but we need to agree plans for the middle section as it is hoped to have a room useful for various needs. Our first job is to build a low lean to shed for firewood for the boiler and stove, so we can start clearing the houses of all the wood that has been stored in them.

If anyone can help either on the design or building work their help and advice would be very useful.

Railway and building work

The re-roofing work on S10 and the West end of the Potting Shed has now been completed. Alterations to the steps of the toilets is ongoing, adding an extra step making it easier for those less-agile on their feet. The engine shed is being repainted, the colour is familiar to enthusiasts of the LMS railway — Crimson Lake. On the electrical front various light fittings have had to be replaced and electrical equipment on the site as been

PAT tested, so it should be safe to use. To start the work on greenhouses G7-G9 as described elsewhere in this issue, a wood store is under construction at the West end of G2 replacing a cold frame.

Loweco is still not a runner, if you know of anyone who has a modicum of knowledge about basic diesel engines we would be delighted to hear from them. One of the new chassis is being converted into a vehicle for pushing with seats, this can also be used to store plants when not required for pushing. The wood covering the mechanism of the point nearest to the car park has been replaced, as the timbers were rotten and it is on a direct walkway from the car park. The opportunity was taken to lubricate this point and the other points with smaller levers.

Saturday Sale Dates

The Nursery will be open between 10.00am and 1.00pm Saturday mornings for sale of shrubs, perennials and bedding plants on the following dates:

- 17 December

Nursery Open Days

These will be held on the following Saturdays:

- 10 December 10.00-3.00

Needs list

- Baskets from old flower arrangements, we can re-

cycle them for Christmas decorations.

- Garden plants, shrubs, perennials that you no longer want. We can split them and grow them on for the nursery sales. Also if you are pruning an interesting shrub we'd love a small quantity to propagate from.
- Carrier bags
- Garden tools, woodworking and engineering tools and equipment.

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. Now we are owners of a van we can collect large items. We do not want items that are broken, we are not a disposal service.

Jobs

There are lots of tidying jobs at the nursery — any extra help would be appreciated. There are numerous repair and maintenance jobs on-site, and we need members with DIY skills to take them on. Please do contact us.

For sale

Cookery book

- A recipe book which compares wartime and present day recipes celebrating the fact that the nursery was a product of wartime Britain, they are

on sale at a cost of £2.50 each or £3.25 posted

All items cheques to Poppleton Railway Nursery at the address on the front of the news letter.

... and finally



In the recent photo competition held in Poppleton one of the winning photographs was by Wendy Prendergast. It shows Jo Sullivan-Jones have her first driving lesson on **Terry Stanhope** under the instruction of Bob Brook.

