

The Potting Shed March 2017 No. 38



Come and join us on
25 March between
10:00am and 3:00pm
for our Mother's Day
Sale Open Day.
We shall have Early
Spring flowers and a
range of gifts for
Mother's Day.

We shall also be open
on Saturdays 1, 8 and
15 April between
10:00am and 1:00pm.

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Editorial

As I write these notes the sun is shining and it feels as if Spring is just around the corner. After a successful year at the Nursery celebrating 75 years of a railway nursery in Poppleton we can look forward to another successful year. Work is ongoing on the upgrade to greenhouses G7-9, a series of open days including one at St. Crux — here's hoping for good weather. We shall be publicising the Nursery at the National Garden Railway Show and there is news of a wartime relic in Poppleton.

Membership

Subscriptions were due for renewal at the beginning of the year (£3 unwaged and £6 waged) for 2017. The current mailing list will be updated at the end of March. If you have not renewed we hope you will continue to support the Nursery with your membership.

Personal Accident Insurance

We have been trying for some months to arrange Personal Accident cover for members who are aged over 80 with our new insurer. This has proved very difficult and has caused us to look into the broader issue of Personal Accident Insurance and what it provides.

The conclusion we reached

— following consultation with similar organisations — was that we do not need this type of cover, as this is already provided by our Employers Liability Insurance. The nursery also has Public Liability Insurance to protect us against any claims from members of the public, should they have an accident on the site.

Personal accident insurance is designed to protect the organisation financially should a worker (volunteer) suffer an injury from an accident that leaves them unable to work. It does not provide cover for the volunteer i.e. there is no compensation payable directly to the individual.

We therefore advise you — if you feel you need any personal accident insurance — to seek this through your home insurance policy or if necessary through a separate policy.

If you have any questions about these arrangements, you may wish to consult your insurance company or broker. I am also very happy to try and help if needed.

Graham Collett, Secretary

Railway and building work

The main work by the railway and building work team has been the painting of the outside of the engine shed and the construction of a wood

store for the storage of wood currently stored in greenhouses G7–G9.



New woodshed



Newly painted engine shed

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.



Coal bunker with new wooden top

National Garden Railway Show



On Saturday 8 April, 3 members of the railway team will be taking the Nursery's model railway to the 16mm Narrow Gauge Modeller's National Garden Railway Show at Peterborough Arena. The Show, celebrating 40 years of garden railway modelling, is open from 10:00am to 5:00pm. If you are in the area why don't you pop in and see the show.

Over the winter we have been upgrading and tidying up the layout including a new greenhouse and new operating features. The layout gets its first public outing at the Nursery's Open Day on 25 March.

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:

- 1 April
- 8 April
- 15 April
- 29 April
- 6 May
- 13 May
- 27 May

- 3 June
- 10 June
- 17 June
- 24 June
- 14 October
- 21 October
- 28 October

Nursery Open Days

These will be held on the following Saturdays:

- 25 March 10.00–3.00
- 22 April 10.00–3.00
- 20 May 10.00–4.00
- 1 July 10.00–4.00
- 9 September 10.00–4.00
- 7 October 10.00–3.00
- 9 December 10.–3.00

St. Crux Sale



Our annual event at St. Crux will take place on Wednesday 10 May. We need your help to make it a success.

We need a team of drivers to collect from the Nursery on Tuesday afternoon and deliver stuff to St. Crux on the Wednesday morning around 8:00am and people with cars to come back at 3:30pm to take things away and back to the Nursery. We also need

a team to set up the site in time for sales to start at 10:00am. Another group will help on the stalls, refreshments, books, plants and bric-a-brac. We would also be grateful for any donations of books, bric-a-brac and cakes. Contact the nursery — see the details on the front of this newsletter.

Needs list

- Baskets from old flower arrangements, we can recycle 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 appreci-

ated. 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 newsletter.

... and finally



View of site of Poppleton Railway Decoy

The Nursery has obtained information about a Second World War Railway Decoy in the Poppleton area. These were facilities using lighting, fires or mock military equipment to give the appearance from the air of bona fide military or railway facilities and hence divert the attention of enemy bombers from real facilities. Further information about this site, “The Railway

that never was”, is available on the Nursery’s website (follow the Poppleton decoy link). If you have information about the Poppleton decoy or on other decoys we would like to hear from you — contact details on the front of this newsletter.

