

The Potting Shed September 2017 No. 41



Come and join us on 7
October 10:00am –
3:00pm for our
Autumn Open Day for
plant sales, narrow
gauge and model
railways. Teas, coffees
and homemade cakes.

The Nursery will also
be open for plant sales
only on Saturdays 14,
21 and 28 10:00am –
1:00pm

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06211163

Editorial

The oasis of calm that is the Nursery once again produces major events with the updating of the website and a successful heritage day open day with the mayoral visit and driver experience. There are some potential gray clouds on the horizon, Northern are keen to expand the car parking at Poppleton which could affect the coal drop site or our car park, the lease on the site is also due for renewal early next year.

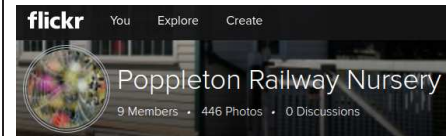
Website



The Nursery's website has had a major revamp, Andrew Gillatt at Cicada Studios in Queensland, Australia has re-designed the entire site for this upgrade. While much of the content remains from the old site, the new site will give more readable output on mobile phones and tablets. The address of the new site is the same as the old one (see the column on the left). The new site can be edited wherever it is possible to obtain an internet connection instead of exclusively on the webmaster's laptop. It means that with a small amount of training other people than the webmaster will be able to edit the site. Over the next few months we shall be expanding the information on the website. If you haven't had a look at the

new site, why not go and have a look.

Flickr Site



The new web site has meant the loss of the some of photos of the Nursery that were available on the old site. This means that the Nursery's Flickr site (<https://www.flickr.com/groups/poppletonrailwaynursery/pool/>) becomes the main source of photographs. The site is available from the Flickr icon at the bottom of every page on the Nursery website. The site provides a pictorial record of Nursery, it also proves that people sneaked into the Nursery and took photos in between the closure of the Nursery in 2006 and our taking it over in 2009. The site is also open to anybody to upload photographs of the Nursery, so if you have any go ahead.

Heritage Open Day

The weather was a mix of sunny intervals and heavy showers. The railway group offered driver experiences on the Lister locomotive LoweCo using the straight track near the mainline railway. The Lord Mayor of York Councillor Barbara Boyce visited the Nursery, during her visit

Jo Sullivan-Jones showed her round the site and Bob Brook supervised a drive on the Lister locomotive. A steady stream of visitors resulted in another successful open day.



Bob Brook gives driver tuition to York's Lord Mayor, Councillor Barbara Boyce

Railway and building work

The driver experience on the heritage open day was very much a trial for future events and the railway group has gained experience from the event. The need to keep casual visitors away from the moving train dictated the straight line next to the mainline railway. This was roped off at either end and barricaded off in the middle. The use of the braked large chassis P20, which has been modified with a rudimentary seat, enabled the trainer to ride with the locomotive as LoweCo is only a one-person vehicle. Starting from the York end of the straight and running as far as the start of the loop at the Harrogate end gave a satisfactory length of run, the pricing structure enabled the driver to experience several return trips.

The new roof on S2 is now on, however further work is required before the

work is finally finished.



Driver experience on the heritage open day

With the nights starting to draw in the group is thinking about jobs to be done over the winter when we are not keeping warm over the stove in the Potting Shed.

Gardening News



A lot of people seem to think that the Nursery goes into "shut-down" in the autumn. Not a bit of it! We have been very busy potting hyacinths individually, and putting them to bed in the cold frames under a thick blanket of peat. Winter pansies and ornamental kale are going into pots or hanging baskets—for sale at very reasonable prices. Weeding is a constant, and many

shrubs and perennials are in need of re-potting.

And if you want a fresh wreath at Christmas, do put your order in soon. Thank you.

Gill Duxbury

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:

- 14 October
- 21 October
- 28 October

Nursery Open Days

These will be held on the following Saturdays:

- 7 October 10.00–3.00
- 9 December 10.00–3.00

The Nursery then...

This undated view is taken from the site of the wind break at the Harrogate end of the site looking towards York.



... and now



The now photo is taken a short distance to the right of the then photo. The fence on the right has been pushed over to give more area for the Nursery, the Old Potting Shed has had an extension to the end nearest to the camera, the area just in front of the camera has been converted to cold frames and the glasshouses have been replaced with larger ones... oh yes there's a narrow gauge railway.

Needs list

- Baskets from old flower arrangements.
- Garden plants, shrubs, perennials that you no longer want.
- 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.

Annual General Meeting 4 October 2017

The annual general meeting for 2017 will be held at the Nursery at 1:30pm. The Nursery will be open for viewing from 1:00pm and refreshments will be available.

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.

... and finally

At a recent GW Railwayana Auction in Pershore a BR (NE) enamel station totem sign for Poppleton was sold for £1550. This is the smaller station name sign designed to be affixed to lighting stanchions. Several years ago a similar Poppleton sign was sold for £1200.



*A reminder of our first mayoral visit back in 2010 —
Councillor Sue Galloway*