

The Potting Shed July 2024 No. 79



The Buy-One-Get-One-Free Sale of Bedding Plants is on Saturday 6 July, 10:00am to 4:00pm. Buy bedding plants, perennials. Narrow gauge and model railways.

POPPLETON COMMUNITY RAILWAY NURSERY

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Editorial

I was reminded of the Nursery during the recent series of BBC's Spring Watch programmes from the RSPB Arne reserve. A robin had nested in their tool shed next to the long spades.

We may not have robins in our tool sheds but there is plenty going on, the new building has been formally opened, we have had a very successful sales day together with sales at the sports day and Network Rail volunteers have visited the Nursery.

Railway and building work

Due to illness/holidays attendance at the Nursery has been sporadic. Some painting has been carried out in the new building as well as fitting of electrical fittings. A start has been made on painting numbers on the railway vehicles. It is a shame that attendance has been small, if you are interested in joining us no matter what your expertise is, we meet at the Nursery on Thursday afternoons between 2:00pm and 5:30ish. There are refreshments in the middle of the afternoon.

The new building

The new building was formally opened at the Spring sales day. As can be seen

from the pictures at the end of this issue, the building looks very impressive. However there are still some finishing touches to be made before it is complete.

Station adoption

We *finally* managed to plant the bedding plants, in monsoon-like conditions and just in time for the visit of Danielle Clarkson from Northern Trains. This planting marks the start of the bowser-run season to keep the water butts topped up.

Danielle visited on Monday 3 June and was very positive about our work at the station which augurs well for future co-operation. An immediate result is the replacement of the perspex in the Harrogate display board which has considerably improved its appearance. We also gave Danielle a tour of the nursery including, of course, the railway activities.

As always, weeding, trimming, litter picking, and now watering, continues as usual.

Ten Years Ago

The Potting Shed No. 24 from June 2014 was 3 sides of A4. Over £1250 had been raised at the first of several sales at St. Crux church in York. This involved selling books, bric-a-

brac and food. Other sales had been held at Network Rail's offices at George Stephenson House and Aviva offices at Yorkshire House as well as the Poppleton Sports.

The management committee were considering the future for greenhouses G7-G9 and were looking for grants to fund the project. Ten years later we have a new building as reported elsewhere in this issue.

Progress was being made on the museum in S7 and Ann Dixon was making a start on cataloguing the collection. A £300 grant from Charity Lands and Unknown Donors Dole of Upper Poppleton, had been received for this project.

The railway team had undertaken work on the retrieved point, this entailed converting it from being left-handed to right-handed, and were hoping to have it laid by the autumn.

Some students from the University were working on a Heritage Trail guide for the Nursery.

The Nursery had a stand at the Rural West "Community Conversations" meeting receiving favourable reviews.

Sales days

The Nursery's Heritage sales day will be on Saturday 14 September, 10:00am - 4:00pm.

The first of the year's sales days in April was very successful with over £2,000 pounds taken. More than £200 was taken by a small team at the Poppleton vil-

lage sports on Spring Bank Holiday Monday.

An extra sales day was held to coincide with the Poppleton Garden Trail on 29 June. There was a small number of visitors, but two of your editor's colleagues from the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway and the Nursery's accountant gave very favourable comments.



The Nursery Team (and Oscar) at the Poppleton Sports

Network Rail group visit

On 27 a group of 3 from Network Rail visited the Nursery. Despite the small number they tidied up the seating area in the garden and also the track opposite the main portacabin. This was useful as it was two days before the Garden Trail sales day.

In the museum there is half of an old railway sign indicating ramps.



Half of the RAMPS sign...

The other half has been buried under greenhouse parts/old water pipes and other stuff behind S5 near the mainline railway. Two of

the group made it more accessible. This half of the sign is fastened to a length of rail and the size of the group and its weight meant that it could not be lifted out — work for another day.



...the other half.

Donated books

We still have several railway books for sale. A recent donation of books included some railway tickets. The collection covers North London, Lancashire and Cumbria and Dublin. If anybody is interested in the collection could they contact the Nursery. It has been suggested that it could be used as a display in the new building, however the absence of local tickets I think precludes this.

We have had several donations of railway books to sell at the Nursery. The Nursery welcomes such donations to help the Nursery, however the small amount of space available to store these items and the small footfall for these items means that the Nursery becomes a dumping ground. If you have books etc. to get rid of, please contact the Nursery first with a list of items rather than bringing the items to the

Nursery. If we aren't able to | you to organisations who |
take the items we can direct | can.

Opening of new building

