

The Potting Shed October 2025 No. 88



**The next sales day will be
our Autumn Sales Day on
October 18 10:00am to
3:00pm**

**Autumn Baskets and Pots
are ready to buy now.**

**We have a large range of
shrubs, perennials, herbs,
succulents, alpines and
winter bedding plants.**

**Books, bric-a-brac craft
items as well as our deli-
cious home-made cakes
and refreshments.**

**Model railway will be run-
ning and our narrow
gauge railway will be on
display**

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Editorial

Welcome to the latest issue. We have news of various visitors, work carried out at the Nursery and a closure on the Harrogate line.

Volunteering

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the Nursery. We are particularly short of people to help on railway side or those who have mechanical knowledge. If you are interested pop along to one of the sales days and make yourself known. You don't need any previous experience and I am not only asking a male audience so come along ladies!

Unwanted Christmas Decorations

We are looking for old Christmas decorations to recycle into new ones, to sell at our Christmas Open Day. If you have any items please drop them off at the nursery. We are also looking for old picture postcards for our writing group.

The Nursery needs an Advert- ising Organiser

Could this be you? Someone who can take initiative on the weeks running up to a sale to make sure posters are created, checked for the correct information and printed.

Then distributed either by email, to a list of contact email addresses, (which we have but needs updating). Making sure that the village noticeboards have the poster displayed. Ensuring that our local village and church contacts have the up to date information and ensuring the village diary is updated. Contact a committee member or use the nursery email pcrn.info@yahoo.co.uk

Station adoption

Not too much to report this time except that our regular contact at Northern Rail (Danielle Clarkson) has returned from maternity leave and she has invited us to apply for funds for next year and also to attend the Northern Rail one day conference in Salford in November. We will be meeting soon to decide how to fill in the appropriate forms and to confirm attendance at the event.

Our display of geraniums and herbs has continued to look well due to the mild weather.



Our new Water Bowser was delivered to the Nursery last week see picture above. Although up to 5 of us finished off putting it together (thanks to all who lent us some very welcome hands) it will not really come into frequent use until sometime in the New Year when we need more water on the station again.

Sales days

The Heritage Day open day dawned showery, however the Nursery had a very successful day. The day was primarily to celebrate 40 years since the narrow gauge was started, the showers prevented outside display of the carpet although a length was put into the new building together with a couple of lengths of poles and rope outside. The same demonstration train as used for the Photography Society was run. A couple of trucks were displayed on the track in front of the mess room which was the first length of rail laid in 1985.



Demonstration goods train

Visiting groups

Seven members of the York Photographic Society visited the Nursery in September.

The group split up to photograph different aspects of the Nursery. The railway group ran a demonstration train around the site. After a tea break the group photographed the railway group shunting the wagons away. The visitors were very pleased with their visit, one member is interested in filming a video about the narrow gauge railway, we are meeting in a few days to proceed.

The most recent visit of a group from Network Rail shows that even with a small group much can be achieved. Groups from Network Rail are always hard working and the three who attended in September were no exception. The main work carried out was moving earth from the coal drop site across Station Road to fill in the rough ground behind G1. Many barrowfuls of earth were wheeled across from the coal drop to the Nursery. This area will be covered with gravel to create a walkway on the field side of the Nursery behind G1. The sunken greenhouse was also cleared out. Further working groups are visiting in the next 2 weeks.

Line closure



The excavator pictured above in the car park, I wonder if they paid their parking charge, signals that the railway line between York and Knaresborough will be closed from Saturday 25 October until Sunday 2 November with no passenger trains running. In addition Nether Poppleton level crossing on Millfield Lane will be closed over the weekend 25/26 October for resurfacing.

Horticulture

Autumn has been a busy time with much activity propagating various perennials from roots, cuttings and seeds. A large number of bulbs have also been potted up ready for spring, including Daffodils and Snowdrops, while Hyacinths have been earthed up in the new frames in preparation for the Christmas orders. Another important task for this time of year has been moving our delicate plants into the pit houses, where there is more protection from frost. During this work it was found that the pump was not working properly so it has been replaced — a vital piece of equipment with walkways below ground level! Meanwhile work on replacing the collapsing benches in G2 has been going well, with the side bench taking shape alongside the new centre bench. All buildings now have LED lighting with the old fluorescent tubes now all removed thanks to the grant we obtained from the Two

Ridings Community Foundation earlier in the year. As we go to press a delivery of gravel has been delivered for surfacing the area behind G1 that was levelled by the Network Rail volunteers last month. This will be a useful piece of ground, previously wasted.

Railway and building group

Work carried out has mainly involved getting things ready for the sales days and supervising the Network Rail group. Replacement of fluorescent lighting with LEDs has also

been carried out. This was particularly difficult in S9, which involved replacing the entire light assemblies working from the Nursery's inspection platform, on lights hanging from the roof. The job wasn't made any easier by the fact that the wiring in S9 is armoured cable!

Nursery work



The Network Rail group move soil from the coal drop site to behind greenhouse G1.



The area behind G1 ready for surface gravel