

The Potting Shed June 2016 No. 35

Come and join us on 2
July, the anniversary
of the opening of the
narrow gauge railway.
We are running a buy
one get one free sale.

There will be
refreshments on sale

We shall be selling
plants at the
Poppleton Show on the
village green on 20
August 1pm – 4pm
The next Nursery sale
will be on Heritage
Day 10 September
10am – 4pm.

The Nursery is hoping
to have a members
barbecue in July or
August.

POPPLETON COMMUNITY RAILWAY NURSERY

Station Road Upper Poppleton
York YO26 6QA

☎ 01904 797623

☎ 07800 501382

✉ pcrn.info@yahoo.co.uk



poppletonrailwaynursery.co.uk

Charity Number: 1148341

Company Registration number:
06211163

Editorial

After the Nursery opened in 2009, my first working involvement was on Thursday evenings — I was still working then — clearing the growth from the narrow gauge railway after three years lying idle. The job was completed the Thursday before the clocks went back and the lack of daylight would have prevented completion until the following Spring. I would occasionally stop and watch the traffic on the A59 going nowhere very fast and thinking the Nursery is an island of tranquillity after a hard day's work. So why don't you come down and share this island of tranquillity and volunteer to help run the Nursery, details about volunteering can be found on the website or contact the nursery — details on this page.

There is no Nursery Character this issue, it will be back in the next issue.



Publicity vacancy

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

- The production, print-

ing 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



The Nursery, Station Road, Upper Poppleton, York, YO26 6QA

Summer Open Day

Saturday 2nd July 10:00am-4:00pm

Buy one Get one Free
On all Bedding Plants



Tea, coffee and
cakes will be
available



See the
completed
nursery
railway



View
the
model
railway

Please see the web site for more details
Of Open Days and Sales Mornings

www.poppletonrailwaynursery.co.uk, email pcrn.info@yahoo.co.uk,
or leave a message on 01904 797623
Twitter @PCRNPublicity

Registered in England & Wales No. 06211163
Registered Charity No. 1148341

Posters for the July 2nd Open Days are now available. They are distributed by our volunteers to 11 sites.

If you know of any other locations who would be willing

to display a poster — either in the City Centre or within easy reach of the nursery — please pick up a poster or download a copy from the nursery web site www.poppletonrailwaynursery.co.uk/

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



On September 10 we celebrate the nursery's 75th birthday. From its opening in 1941 through to the present day we will try to put on a photographic presentation from our archive. We would also like our visitors to bring any photos relating to the nursery history so that we can copy them and add them to our record. We would also like help if people can name some of the people and events on our photos.

York's Lord Mayor Councillor Dave Taylor will be visiting the Nursery on the day. More information later in the year about this event.

Railway and building work

The re-roofing of S10 is now finished and we have started on the re-roofing of the Potting Shed. This is proving to be a longer job than S10 as we have had to replace rotten wood before replacing the roofing.



S10 roof

On the railway we have made a start on painting numbers on our railway vehicles, if anybody has a talent as a sign writer and would be prepared to come in and finish the numbering job let us know. *LoweCo* is still not running although we have various leads to follow. Over the next two weeks track maintenance will be carried out as we are having a visit from the Narrow Gauge Society on 14 July. Several of the Thursday team had a chance to meet the NGS a couple of weeks ago at a visit to Neil Clayton's narrow gauge railway in Ripon.

There has been some tentative progress on making a possible push trolley which will have removable seating.

Gardening News

The plant production side of the Nursery has been in overdrive for the past few

months. Seeds have been sown, seedlings transplanted, plug plants potted on and cuttings taken. Now there are hundreds of bedding plants for your garden, not to mention perennials and a good selection of herbs.

Vegetable plants have proved popular (we still have some) and include sweet corn, pumpkins, leeks cabbages and of course various varieties of tomatoes.

As in previous years, people have bought their hanging baskets to be refilled, so our "specialist team" have been kept very busy. They have produced a number of baskets for the Nursery as well not to mention 24 for the Embsay and Bolton Abbey Steam Railway.

Those who haven't visited us for some time will find that the Shop area has changed tremendously. Benches for many of the plants have just been finished courtesy of the Monday pm Group, and other areas for the remaining plants have been changed out of all recognition.

Many more people are getting to know about the Nursery, particularly from Bob Brook's talks to various gardening clubs and the advert in the Community Centre newsletter. We have a faithful, hard working group of regular volunteers but we are always grateful for more pairs of hands. As well as the work, we have a great deal of fun. Do come and join us, you will be made very welcome.

Gill Duxbury

Poppleton station flowers



As you probably know for the last 6 years the Nursery has been responsible for the planting and upkeep of the flower beds and pots on the station. This work has been mainly done by Rachel Baker, and we are very grateful to her for the amount of work she has put in keeping the station looking so good and attracting many positive comments.

With the change in the franchise for running the train service through Poppleton, the new franchisee wants to change the way station adoption is carried out, and we have had some discussions with them. Although they want us to continue looking after the beds, at present they do not know fully what they want and are prepared to offer, so no agreement has been made.

After doing this work for many years Rachel feels it is time to hand over to others for next year, so we are looking to you to offer to help preferably as part of a small group who can share the work. It would be nice to have new volunteers for this, but if any existing volunteers would like to take it on that would be fine.

If you are interested please contact the Nursery (contact

details on the cover of this newsletter), and we can give you more details.

Bob Brook

Do you Tweet?

The nursery's Twitter account is now attracting new visitors and we have over 300 "followers" to date. If you or your family or friends use Twitter, please follow us @pcrnp publicity, and "like" or re-tweet our messages to help spread the word.

Saturday Sale Dates

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

- 8 October
- 15 October
- 22 October
- 29 October
- 17 December

Nursery Open Days

These will be held on the following Saturdays:

- 2 July 10.00–4.00
- 10 September 10.00–4.00
- 1 October 10.00–3.00
- 10 December 10.00–3.00

Membership

We welcome the following new members:

- Antonina Rayson, Poppleton
- Janet & Byron Bayley, York
- Susan Barker, Acomb
- Stephen Greenaway, Appleton Roebuck
- Lesley Leathley, Poppleton
- Malcolm Frost, Pannal
- David Leonard, York

Ways to Wellbeing (Social Prescribing)

This is a new initiative, funded by York Council, which is being piloted by the Priory Medical Group. The Group has a number of GP surgeries across York.

Instead of prescribing medication etc. GPs can refer anyone registered with them for alternative activities and services, including volunteering and skills development. Referrals are made to the Coordinator at the York Centre for Voluntary Service (York CVS), who interviews the person and helps direct them to the most suitable activity or service.

Graham Collett met with Jasmine Howard, the Coordinator, recently and drew her attention to what the nursery can offer. She already has one person in mind who might benefit from joining us as a volunteer.

If the pilot is successful, it is hoped to extend it across York.

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.

Annual General Meeting Date 2016

The nursery company annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday 5 October at 2.00pm at the nursery. Please put the date in your diary.

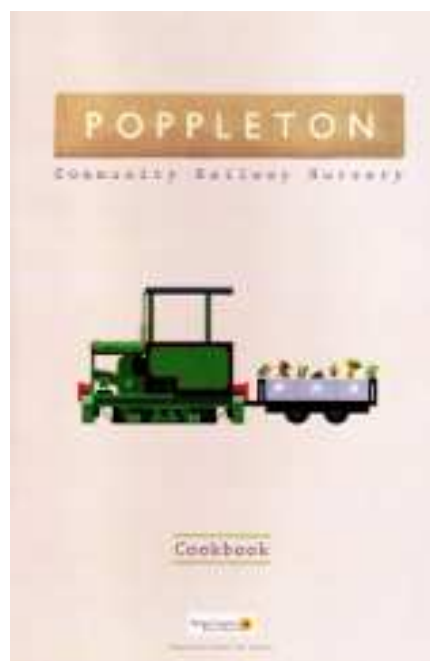
Jobs

There are lots of tidying jobs at the nursery — any ex-

tra 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



The above photo, which we obtained from the Poppleton History Society has intrigued us for some time. We have found further information from the book **Voices from the Railways** edited by Julian Holland and published by the AA in 2013. In a piece from that book entitled *The Young Entrepreneurs of Poppleton*, Dick Smith details how in 1960 with several of his friends he started 'Poppleton General Transport' and built several carts on old pram chassis. These were used to transport railway passengers' luggage from Poppleton station. A fare was not charged but users were asked to give a contribution to a children's charity. A special 'low loader' with 3" wooden side members was also built to transport peat from the Gardens' Guild store. The charity's magazine featured the lads complete with the above photograph. Dick can't remember how much money was raised but he says they never had anything but kind support. As he says in the book this sort of thing would not be allowed today on health and safety and insurance grounds.