

The Potting Shed July 2022 No. 65



The Nursery will be open on Saturday 10 September, 10:00am–4:00pm for our Heritage Day Sale. Autumn bedding plants from the new season range will be on sale.

Tea, coffee and homemade cake will be available. Model and narrow gauge railways on display.

Our Autumn Sales day will be on Saturday 22 October.

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Editorial

This issue comes at the end of the Spring sales season which have been successful. We have a new website, a craft group producing things to sell. Work continues on the railway with a visit from a group from Network Rail. Network Rail have also been upgrading the railway next to the Nursery and through them we have some sleepers to upgrade our railway. Have a great Summer.

Co-op Local Community Fund

The Co-op Local Community Fund is open until 22 October.

Visit

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/60495> for details and to enrol. At the time of writing the fund stands at over £900.

The Nursery has already applied for £1000 from next year's fund to purchase new heat mats for our incubation greenhouse and the related electrical work.

The AGM

The AGM will be on Wednesday 5th October at 1.30pm at the nursery. Papers will be issued closer to the date, including nominations for Trustees.

There are currently six Trustees, who have general

oversight and responsibility for the running of the nursery.

Most of us have been in post for several years and it would be good to have some new trustees with new ideas.

To find out more, please have a word with any of the current trustees or officers.

Graham Collet, the Company Secretary and a trustee, is at the nursery on most Wednesdays and would be happy to provide more information.

The website

The nursery's new website recently went live. Its structure now provides increased coverage of the nursery's ethos and history as well as giving more information about its horticultural activities. New pages have been added and virtually all the content carried over from the old site has been rewritten. Thus this is a major makeover of the old site which, although it had served the nursery well for many years, now needed some major refreshing. To reflect modern trends, the new site is primarily designed for browsing using phones and tablets, but still looks great on desktops and laptops as well!

The nursery has been incredibly fortunate that Andrew Gillett, who developed the old website

(and lives in Australia!), has continued his support by freely giving his time and expertise to the development of the new site. The nursery is extremely grateful to Andrew for all his hard work.

Go to www.poppletonrailwaynursery.co.uk and see what you think!

Sales Days

The sale at the Poppleton Sports was very successful. The event was held in very hot weather on the Jubilee Holiday Friday. Your editor was very surprised with the very large number of people attending due to it being cancelled for the previous two years.

The Buy-One-Get-One-Free sale while not as successful as the first sale of the year resulted in very satisfactory takings.

Ten Years Ago

There were no issues of the Potting Shed between July 2012 and September 2012.

Engineering work at Poppleton



On 19 June a length of track opposite the Nursery was refurbished. This involved replacement of the ballast and tamping the track. Several of the railway group made independent visits over the weekend. On the Thursday there were a couple of road-rail diggers parked on the coal drop site. The level crossing on Station Road was closed to through traffic on the Sunday although there were a couple of the dayglo army opening the gates for pedestrians. A train of wagons with ballast in was parked in the Harrogate platform, this had arrived after the last Harrogate train at 11:30 pm on the Saturday night. The last York-bound train on the Saturday night was cancelled. The work resulted in the Nursery being covered with a covering of stone dust. Your editor had to clean several of our railway trucks with the power wash on the Thursday after the work.



Dayglo army removing ballast, it is sucked up by the machine in the background

As a result of the engineering work the Nursery has obtained more than 30 railway sleepers which will be used on the Nursery's railway.



The completed trackwork

Craft and woodwork sales

We have a new regular craft shop on sales days. Hand made items, paintings, cards, pens and jewellery will be for sale, all made by the people who attend our craft workshop.

The Nursery will also making some woodwork items — wheelbarrow planters, auricular theatres, bird tables feeders and bird boxes. These can be viewed and ordered at the Nursery. Photos of some of the products produced by the Craft Group are at the end of this Potting Shed.

Social Media Publi- city

Nursery volunteers operate our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts. These are attracting an increasing audience and are an excellent way to promote the nursery and its activities — especially Open Days. If you use any of these media, please re-tweet or forward our postings to your family, friends and contacts and help us spread the word!

Railway and build- ing work

A start has been made on painting The Potting Shed, this will clearly be a lengthy job.

The engineering work on the Harrogate has provided us with more than 30 sleepers which will be used to re-ballast sections of the narrow gauge railway. These are designed for a railway 4ft. 8½ ins. wide and will be cut in half for the narrow gauge railway. The group has ac-

cess to an electric chain saw and Colin has refurbished the petrol generator which will be used to power the saw on the coal drop before moving the the sleepers to the main Nursery.



Bob Brook applies a trial colour to the Potting Shed



Sleepers on the coal drop site

We had a visiting group from Network Rail who were very enthusiastic about working and achieved all the jobs we had planned for them. These were moving some sleepers from the coal drop site to the main site; re-stacking the metal pipes on

the truck removing the broken plastic decking which was preventing the truck from moving. Finally a new sleeper under a rail joint near the boiler house near G8 which was showing signs of movement was replaced.



Digging out the track to replace the sleeper

Poppleton station adoption

All our hard work with the planting has paid off and the station continues, after the Jubilee Celebrations, to look colourful. At the time of writing we are just about keeping up with our watering—and getting more of it over to the station—but we could really do with some rain and—dare I say it—some less hot days!

Our notice board is in place and even with its temporary content has created some interest. We are working on a professional approach for its contents (words and photographs) and have been

to Knaresborough recently to see how they do it.

...and finally

While painting S2 the following wood panel turned up. It is clearly from a condemned railway vehicle.



At first we thought it was from the container S2 which was moved to Poppleton. However closer inspection revealed at the top right and particularly the bottom right, the wood has been shaped and had holes drilled for a window with a metal frame. S2 would not have had any windows, we are therefore baffled as to what type of vehicle it came from. Any experts out there who can provide answers?

Craft products photos

