



**The Potting  
Shed  
November 2011  
Issue No.12  
CHRISTMAS SALE**

Come and join us on the  
3<sup>RD</sup> December 2011  
10.00am - 3.00pm

**FOR A SALE OF**

Christmas Hycaniths, and  
Christmas decorations  
There will be a Tombola,  
Book stall and our model  
railway layout

**REFRESHMENTS on sale**  
tea ,coffee, mince pies and  
mulled fruit punch

**Future Plant Sales**

At Poppleton Nursery

**Open Day Sale.**

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

**10.00am - 3.00pm**

**POPPLETON  
COMMUNITY RAILWAY  
NURSERY**

Station Road Upper  
Poppleton York YO26 6QA  
Tel: 01904 797623

Mobile: 07800 501382

**Website:** www.  
poppletonrailwaynursery.c  
o.uk

**E-mail Address**

pcrn.info@yahoo.co.uk

**Needs list**

Thanks to those people  
who regularly bring us pots  
and other surplus items  
from their gardens, please  
keep them coming.. We  
would still like the following

if anyone has some  
available:

**Garden plants shrubs  
perennials that you  
no longer want,  
carrier**

**bags, used plant  
pots, candle ends.  
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,  
we have a van and  
can arrange to collect  
large items.**

**Membership**

Membership renewal is  
due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012.  
A form can be  
downloaded from our  
website: subscriptions  
are: £5 full membership  
£2 for students  
unwaged over 60's £10  
corporate membership  
Please include an email  
address if possible as  
this is the most cost  
effective way of keeping  
in contact with people.

**Send to: David**

**Thompson**

**Membership**

**Secretary** at the  
Nursery address

**Volunteers needed**

We would welcome  
volunteers to help with  
all aspect of the running  
of the nursery please let  
us know if you can help  
either on the plant side

or with the DIY You can  
make contact by phone or  
email. To the Volunteer Co-  
ordinator Jo Sullivan-Jones  
An induction is given when  
new volunteers arrive so  
that everyone adheres to  
the nursery H & S policy.

**Volunteer View**

Gardening has always been  
something that I've  
enjoyed

ever since having a garden  
of my own, (though you  
wouldn't think so if you  
saw my garden at present.)  
Regular visits to Kew  
Gardens-just across the  
river from where I grew up-  
fostered an interest in all  
sorts of plants trees and  
shrubs;  
So when I heard that the  
recently re-opened  
Poppleton Railway Nursery  
was wanting volunteers, I  
jumped at the chance to  
get my hands dirty. For the  
past couple of years I have  
been spending 3 hours or  
so, once or twice a week  
,at the nursery.

Now that I have been  
"translated" to the  
Management Board, I  
realise that the Nursery is  
a bit like a swan,  
seemingly calmly gliding  
across a lake, while all the  
time paddling furiously  
below the water; or an  
iceberg, the major part of  
which is unseen under the

# Poppleton Community Railway Nursery



surface. My eyes have been opened to all that has to go on to keep things running: ordering seeds and plug plants etc. repairing glass in greenhouses, upgrading watering systems, Health and Safety inspections, sourcing parts for the railway line, publicity, planning etc. etc.. There is scope here for people with all sorts of expertise, not necessarily with horticulture, and a lot of office work to be done. Who says that life begins at 40? It sometimes begins at 75 ! Being involved in the PCRN is very rewarding.

Gill Duxbury

## **New Volunteer Co-ordinator**

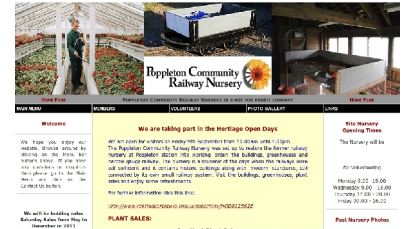
I am writing this piece to introduce myself; I have recently taken over the role of volunteer co-ordinator at Poppleton Community Railway Nursery.

First of all I would like to thank you for giving up your time and energy to come and help out at the nursery, it is always very much appreciated, however big or small your commitment might be. Whether it is by helping with the horticultural activities or with the rebuilding and

maintenance of the buildings or railway line it all goes toward helping to regenerate this historical site.

My aim is to try to keep you all informed of the things we are working on and events that will be taking place which you might feel you would like to get involved with over the coming months. At present there is very little horticultural work going on because the plants are fairly dormant but the work on installing the railway line and general maintenance of the site goes on. For those of you who are creative we are making Christmas decorations and Holly Wreaths to be sold during the month of December on the open day and sales at the nursery and local hospitals. Please feel free to come along and join us.

I look forward to meeting you over the next few months.  
Jo Sullivan-Jones  
The New Web Site



The old web site had been written on Dreamweaver which is the Rolls Royce of web site writing software. Unfortunately it comes at a Rolls Royce price, which I could not afford nor could I see the nursery buying it for me. The editing of the old site without Dreamweaver would be problematic also the old site was very "busy" and



navigation on the site was not always apparent. I therefore resolved to write a new basic site with simple navigation. Conveniently I had used a similar style on



the Department of Chemistry web site at the University several years ago. With a bit of tweaking of the chemistry style the basis for the nursery site was written.

The heart of the site is the navigation bar which is on the left of the screen and stays with the reader as they navigate through the site. The contents of the old site were written on the new site under the following headings:

- Home page
- Horticulture
- History
- Railway
- Membership
- Plant Sales
- Gallery
- Visiting Us
- Contact Us
- Links

Additional content was written for Horticulture, History and Railway. The information about when the nursery is open and directions to the nursery are grouped under the Visiting Us heading, the information about contacting the nursery with one minor exception is grouped in the Contact Us heading. The contents of the galleries is identical to the old page and the code

is copied direct from the old site. The Membership page opens into two restricted pages for members only and management on input of usernames and passwords.

The banners at the top of each page reflect the contents of the page,

Tim Elsworth

## **Railway Notes**

There has been quite a lot of activity on the railway at the Nursery recently. The point which we have had for 2 years is now being put in position as the first stage of our projected track extension, and should be usable by the time you read this. Help from the community payback team with the heavy work has been very useful, spreading the load on our not so young volunteers.



It is hoped to get most of the extension in position by next

summer but we still need to acquire some rail. If anyone feels like some exercise please come and join us on a Thursday afternoon or evening.

The other advance is that the motorised wagon given to us last winter, has at last moved under its own power. After many people trying to get the old diesel motor into life, we have decided to replace it with a petrol engine of about the same size. Thanks to Ken's skills we now have movement, although more work is needed before it comes into regular service.

We have also recently been told the NRM has agreed we can have some surplus equipment from their store in Foundry lane, before it is moved to Swindon. Some small ground signals and point levers should add to the railway surroundings. They will need some cleaning and restoration so any offers of help would be welcome.

Bob Brook

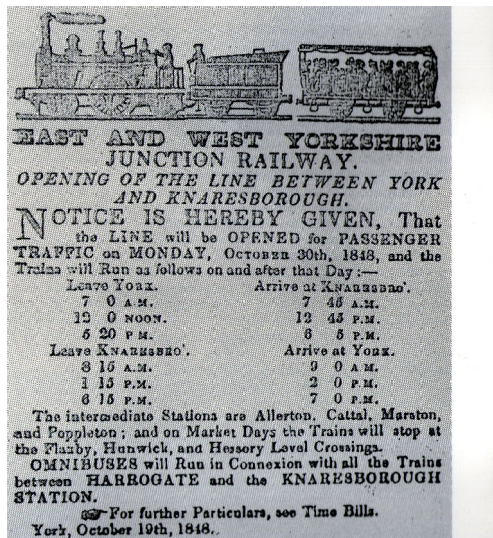
**Anniversary 30.10.2011**





Last month saw the 163rd anniversary of the opening of the rail line through Poppleton. The line from York initially terminated at Knaresborough, following the

collapse of the first viaduct. Passengers wishing to continue their journey to Harrogate had to use the connecting omnibus service for the first 3 years. The present viaduct at Knaresborough was completed in 1851.  
Tom Bushell



improvements. Gill Duxbury explained the work involved to residents attending the October Ward meeting and the result should be known next Spring. Also a combined bid to Upper Poppleton and Nether Poppleton Parish Councils for a grant of £1500 (ie £750 from Upper Poppleton and £750 from Nether Poppleton) for the purchase of a new computer and related software and other office equipment, together with power tools. The application was due to be discussed by both Parish Councils at their November meetings and it is hoped to receive a response fairly soon.  
Graham Collett

## Grant Applications

We have recently applied for two further grants: An application to the City of York Council (Rural West Ward) for a grant of £1591 to put in three disabled access ramps and for other minor access