

The Moor Pool Duck



www.moorpool.com



Residents' Newsletter for Moor Pool Garden Suburb. No 51 October 2010

MOOR POOL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 15th OCTOBER 2010

in the

MOOR POOL HALL, THE CIRCLE

7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start

The AGM is a chance for you to hear what is happening, what is being planned and what may be planned. This is your opportunity to express your views and ideas as to the way the Estate should progress. The Residents' Committee represents all residents - freeholders, leaseholders and tenants - and it invites your attendance.

**PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING AS WE NEED YOUR
SUPPORT TO KEEP THE INTERESTS OF ALL RESIDENTS IN THE
FOREFRONT OF THE MANY DECISIONS BEING MADE AT
THE MOMENT.**

All Residents welcome

Letter from the Chair

Hello Everyone,

On Friday we shall be holding our AGM when it is your chance to ask questions about what's happening, join the MRA or better still join the Committee. We hold several events during the year and we always need more help of all sorts. But that's not all the MRA does. We also give priority to supporting and improving the fabric of the Estate. This includes meeting local Councillors and Council officers, attending Ward meetings to ask questions and request answers on your behalf. Our Councillors and Officers are very supportive but there are many competing demands and things generally happen if we make our voices heard and maintain gentle but persistent pressure to achieve them. So if there are things you want to see happening on this marvellous Estate, step forward and join us. We need you!

This year I shall be seeking re-election and I hope you will support me. That said, there are other ways in which Moor Pool can move forward and it is always healthy if others are prepared to step forward to provide an alternative. We shall also need a Vice Chair and Secretary, general Committee members and co-opted members too.

Moorpool News and Wine

As well as a wide range of foods and household necessities, don't forget all the other services that Raj provides. Cash machine, fax and photocopier, stamps and stationery, newspapers and magazines with delivery, a drycleaning service, medicines, as well as wines and beers with tempting special offers. Samosas are also available daily. So with so much available at the Circle shop – remember SHOP LOCAL! The shop also has the MRA letter box inside where you can post correspondence to us. Opening times are on the website. The shop is a great asset for the Estate so please do use it whenever you can instead of going to the supermarket.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

I am writing these few lines to express how happy we are to live on the beautiful Moor Pool estate and to receive the most informative 'Moor Pool Duck.'

We read about the festival and decided as fairly new residents it would be the perfect introduction to the area as well as an opportunity to discover just how much it has to offer. Indeed, it did not

disappoint with plenty to see and do. We loved the tea and sandwiches and I joined the snooker club!

My parents came along with us and my mother was overjoyed to meet her friend Norma Mason, who she had not seen for 45 years! A lovely unexpected reunion highlighting the importance of the festival and the Moor Pool Community – bringing people together.

We are looking forward to many happy years living here and can't wait until next year's festival - a fantastic day for us all.
Lucy Humphries. The Circle.

Website News.

If you haven't visited our website, do have a look at it. It is constantly updated and there is a lot of interesting information there – photographs of the Estate and recent events, its history, past copies of the Duck as well as up-to-date details of clubs and societies and useful local contacts. Don't forget that the 'Sale', 'Announcements' and 'Wanted' section on the website is free. There are also links to other sites including old pictures of Birmingham.

Do also have a look at the MRG site www.moorpool.co.uk which carries information re the planning applications etc.

If there is anything you would like to see on the website or if there are parts of it that you find useful please drop us an email and let us know.

Sunflower Competition MiB

Congratulations to Ben Sykes (aged 9) of Moor Pool Avenue for winning the competition. (pics on website)

Subscriptions for 2010-2011

Subscriptions for membership of the Moor Pool Residents Association will be due at the AGM. As we have noted before, a lot is now happening on the Estate through the work of the MRA. However, we can only carry on our work if we receive enough subscriptions from Residents. This is our only source of regular income. Subscriptions of £5 per household or £3 per single person are extremely reasonable. So please show your support and commitment and help us help all Residents by paying this small sub. The subscription year runs from the date of the AGM so subs for 2010-2011 will be due from this October. Thank you.

Please make your payment to either Gill Morgan (Treasurer: 80, Moor Pool Ave) Rob Sutton

(Chair: 64 Margaret Grove), or Mike Frost (Duck Editor: 1 Carless Avenue).

*Siobhan Collins - McCarthy
Dance Academy*

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Festival Day

Our second Moor Pool Festival again had the benefit of lovely weather and many people from both on and off the Estate visited us. This year the Festival was part of Heritage Open Days so received widespread publicity. We are grateful to the Clubs and Associations which took the time and trouble to participate. Hopefully this will help them with membership and also provide the opportunity to show how local funding from the Community Chest has been used to improve facilities. We had the pleasure of Winterbourne putting on a display again and also The Harborne Club which started in 1900 and who support our website. The Festival finished with a superb performance by the Queens Park Sinfonia. Residents are still coming up to me to say how much they enjoyed it. As for the Festival dance, well those that did not come missed a treat. The band were so good that the consensus is to have them back next year. All ages attended and everyone seemed to be up and dancing at one time or another.

Thanks must go to all those who gave their time and effort to help make both days such a success especially our tea ladies, ticket sales, stall holders, barman Dave, washer uppers, sandwich and cake makers with special thanks to Anna Hayden, Rachel New, Maureen Mauser and Jan Sutton.

Moorpool Players

Rehearsals are now well underway for the Players' next production of Alan Ayckbourn's celebrated comedy, 'Confusions'. The show will be staged from 24th - 27th November at 7.30 with an additional performance on 27th at 2.00. For the last three years, tickets for most performances for the November production have sold out before the night and The Players recommend that tickets are obtained well in advance. They are on sale now priced £6 at Moorpool News and Wine on The Circle or from the Box Office on 0121 426 2134.

John Healey

Allotment Association AGM.

The MAA are holding their AGM in the Lower Hall at 7.30 on Tuesday 9th November. BCC have approved the MAA starting restoration of the allotments and we are now awaiting Graingers permission to start this work. Please come along to find out, discuss, and put forward your views about Moor Pool's allotments or to support your Association.

The Circle Kids Club

Local activity club inspiring children's creativity and imagination through arts and sports.

The Circle Kids club is open to children aged between 3 and 12 years old. Sessions will be held Monday to Friday during 25th - 29th October 2010 at Moor Pool Hall, The Circle, Harborne.

Created by a Community Artist and Events Organiser alongside qualified and experienced childcare professionals The Circle Kids club will offer an exciting range of arts activities, from taking part in making a real den to face painting and mask making. Children will find it's a real creative boost to the holidays.

As well as taking care of the creative mind The Circle Kids club also aims to give children an active experience; with outdoor activities, mini-Olympics and bat box making. The Kids club will burn up that stored energy and ensure that children go home each night having enjoyed themselves in a fun safe active environment.

To find out more information call Elise Duncan 0755 444 7332..

Advertising

A scale of charges is available for placing an advertisement in the Duck newsletter and on the website. The Duck is delivered to over 500 homes on and around the Estate. Details can be downloaded from the website. Sponsors are also invited for the forthcoming events.

Dates for your Diary

AGM

Friday 15th October 2010. 7.00pm for 7.30pm Moor Pool Hall

Coffee Morning

Sat 30th October 2010

Hall Centenary

Friday 5th November 2010.

Unveiling of Civic Society Plate by Lord Mayor.

Carol Walk

Sunday 12th December 2010
From the Moor Pool Hall

Hall Centenary 5th November

The Moor Pool Hall was first opened in November 1910 and to celebrate its Centenary we are having a "Civic Society Plate" unveiled. The Lord Mayor of Birmingham will be coming to help us with this celebration and of course we would like as many Residents as possible to be there. This is only the third such plate to be dedicated in Birmingham and is a tribute to Harborne Tenants Estate being the first co-partnership housing Estate in Birmingham.

Obviously, we have a problem with the number of people the hall can accommodate and so we have to limit the invitations. We are hoping to invite Residents who were born on the Estate as children of original tenants, or who have lived a long time on the estate (50 years plus) or who have contributed to the life of the Estate; but also we want to include newer Residents who are interested in the Estate and share a love for it as older Residents do. Hopefully in 50 years time they will be able to say "I was there".

We are currently in the process of submitting a planning application to affix the Plate to the wall of the old Post Office and hope to persuade Grainger to change their mind and approve this.

If you would like to come and be part of the celebration on Friday 5th November 2010 from 3.30pm – 5.00pm please contact Rob Sutton 64, Margaret Grove or Mike Frost 1, Carless Avenue or Eugene Hayden 16, High Brow on the form provided here in the Duck.

We are sorry there isn't space for everyone on the Estate to come, but we will do our best to accommodate as many as possible.

Thank You Grainger.

The MRA would like to thank Grainger for letting the MRA have free use of the Moor Pool Hall for the Hall Centenary event that we are staging. It is a great help – thank you.

B & Q funds Moor Pool in Bloom's (MiB's) new greenhouse

We now have a community greenhouse thanks to **B & Q's Selly Oak store**. This greatly aids our plans for an annual plant fair on the Estate as we are now able with the greenhouse to increase the range of plants we can offer and help interested residents in learning the art of taking cuttings and sowing seeds. It will also help in overwintering tender plants like pelargoniums.

A number of residents were involved in erecting and equipping the 8x6 greenhouse. The biggest heroes were those who moved the paving

slabs! The greenhouse is well designed with an aluminium frame and polycarbonate glazing, a sliding door, window and inbuilt gutters. Frank who was in charge of putting it together, found it easy to assemble. Our 97 year old adviser on the art of taking cuttings has donated much of the plant material, now potted up and on the shelves – thanks Ron. Other residents are experimenting: the greenhouse is ready to use and the materials are there. (If you want to use it, please tell Liz, Mike Hayward or Mike Frost the first time you go). We hope to have a session with Elise's Circle Kids Club at half term.

The Moor Pool Residents' Association of which MiB is part, would like to thank **B&Q** for making this scheme possible; in particular we would like to thank Linda Booth and Annette Postill at the Selly Oak Store for their help. MiB plans to have another Plant Sale next May.

Moor Pool in Bloom RHS Award

Resident's efforts to restore the Moor Pool Estate paid off with an excellent first time result in the Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom competition. Moor Pool, entering the competition for the first time, scored a level 3 out of 5 in the Neighbourhood Award section. Liz Muir and Rob Sutton collected the certificate at a ceremony at Leominster Priory from Sir William Lawrence. This result and success would not have been achieved without all the hard work put in by Residents and supporters. Thank you.

Moor Pool Reading Club

We had a terrific response to our initial call for interest in the reading club, with 17 potential members and we haven't properly advertised it yet! Igor and I have booked the Small Hall at The Circle, Moorpool, for our first meeting. This will be on **Thursday 2 December 2010, 7.30-9.00pm**. We have made the first meeting a bit longer than the normal one hour proposed to allow time to sort out a few preliminaries. We have also provisionally booked the Hall for the second meeting for Thursday 27 January 2011, 7.30-8.30pm.

We will cover the cost of the hall for the first meeting, then we suggest an annual club fee of perhaps £10 per member per annum to cover future hire costs with a little over for other expenses/events later. This is based on a membership of 20 and of course we may have more.

For this meeting, we propose **Colm Tóibín's Brooklyn (2009), London: Penguin**. (This can be purchased for £4.70 with free delivery from the Guardian Bookshop online at www.guardianbookshop.co.uk or tel. 0330 333 6846).

We hope to set the readings a couple of meetings in advance, so please do bring suggestions for the meetings on 27th January and around the end of March 2011.

Please let me know whether you will be able to attend on 2nd December – thanks. Look forward to seeing you!

Tricia. triciacusack@gmail.com : tel. 0121 426 2462
Tricia and Igor Cusack, 137 Ravenhurst Road.

Mugging and Car Theft

A most unpleasant and distressing incident took place on Monday 4th October when two hooded men robbed a lady of her bag and car keys and then stole the car. This took place at 9.30pm near the corner of Margaret Grove and Ravenhurst Road. If anybody knows anything or can help the Police, please get in touch with Rose Road Police Station Tel: 0345 113 5000

Rose Road Police Response

We have had a spate of crimes where the target appears to be the theft of high performance Audi vehicles. Two males in balaclavas approached the victim as she was parking her car, dragged her out of it and made off with it. Enquiries are continuing. We have had incidents where burglaries/attempted burglaries have taken place where there is a high performance/value Audi parked outside. These are taking place generally in the area from Hagley Road down to Rose Road on our ward. My team have been tasked to identify such vehicles on that area and give relevant crime prevention advice. We are also working in collaboration with our local CID officers to investigate these crimes.

Your newsletter will greatly assist us in making the community aware of the problem. As for general crime prevention, lock doors and windows in your house, especially at night. Leave a light on. Ensure that sheds are secure and tools are not left lying around as these may be used by criminals. Lock car doors and make sure the car windows are closed. Do not leave property on display in vehicles, we have lots of thefts from vehicles where sat navs are on display(!), laptops(!), handbags(!) - I actually did a basic survey recently and roughly 30% of vehicle crime involved theft of property on display.

If your newsletter reaches anyone with an Audi or other high value/performance vehicle they are welcome to contact us for crime prevention advice (tel 0345 113 5000, ext 7863 6722), or on the team email account. (link via Moor Pool website) Sgt John Proudman.

Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 30th October. Do come along for a cuppa, a cake and a good chat. It will be in the Lower Hall as usual from 10.30am.

The Way Forward?

This document is an update of 'An Alternative Way Forward' which was given to Alex Greaves from Graingers. It is available on the website and feedback would be appreciated. It gives ideas and proposals for the future of the Moor Pool Estate.

Final Quack

Don't forget the AGM – do come along and show your support for the Committee and the work it is doing on your behalf. Please also think whether you might be able to help, either as a committee member or as someone who is prepared to give a little time to assist running the various events put on by the MRA. At the moment, owing to various committee members moving off the Estate, the committee is quite small in numbers and really needs some extra hands. If you think you would like to join or help in any way have a word before the AGM meeting or email Rob Sutton.
rob@moorpool.com

Mike Frost (Editor)

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MOOR POOL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MOOR POOL HALL CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

FRIDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2010

Please reserve me, if available, 1 or 2 (circle as appropriate) tickets for the opening ceremony at Moor Pool Hall on Friday 5th November 2010 at 3.30 pm.

NAME/S.....

ADDRESS.....

Number of Years Resident on the Estate

Please return replies to the MRA post box at the shop "Moorpool News and Wine" or Rob Sutton, 64, Margaret Grove, or Eugene Hayden, 16, High Brow or Mike Frost, 1 Carless Avenue, by October 25th.

Tickets will be delivered to you by 1st November if application successful.