



Issue no 64 March 2013

## Dear Residents

Welcome to the spring edition of the Duck. There is a great deal happening on the estate at the moment so I hope you will find this issue helpful in bringing you up to date with what is going on.

Thank you to everyone for your help and encouragement over my first issue. This is your newsletter so I would really like to hear from you if you have any news, gardening tips, information you would like to share please contact me at [paulamariamcg156@gmail.com](mailto:paulamariamcg156@gmail.com) or leave a letter at the post box in Raj's shop.

I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, Paula

Please send items  
by 2<sup>nd</sup> May

For publication in  
May

## What's happening?

**Information about the Moor Pool Estate is available at [www.Moorpool.com](http://www.Moorpool.com)**

**Heritage lighting:** Councillor James McKay recently arranged a meeting between Birmingham City Council and representatives from Amey. Representatives from the Moorpool Residents' Association and the Moorpool Heritage Trust were also in attendance with about 10 local residents. The aims of the meeting were to view the current lights along Park Edge and observe a demonstration of the effects of dimming these by 25% and then 50%.

Following a considerable amount of discussion, it became clear that

- i) the current, contemporary lights were too bright for the conservation area.
- ii) heritage lights could be installed at a lower level and no more light columns would be

needed because there was still a high level of ambient light.

John Blakemore, the Director of Highways, confirmed that the standards used to set out the lighting were for guidance only leaving room for adaptations as appropriate. However, there remain some concerns amongst those responsible for lighting that, if the guidance is not followed, Birmingham will be vulnerable to legal action should untoward events occur. This is despite some other authorities around the country actually turning their lights off at night.

The way forward now is to lobby for a risk assessment to be done so that lanterns at a lower height can be justified. Considering that the repositioning of some lights has put steps and passageways into darkness raises a real question mark over whether public safety is really that important an issue.

## How to have your say about heritage lighting:

1. Write to  
Paul O'Day  
Street Services Manager Highways  
Birmingham City Council  
1 Lancaster Circus  
Queensway  
Birmingham B4 7DQ

Please ensure that your letter is headed *Moor Pool Estate, Harborne - Street Lighting*

2. Email  
[highwaysbusinesssupport@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysbusinesssupport@birmingham.gov.uk)  
Please ensure that your email is headed *Moor Pool Estate, Harborne - Street Lighting*

3. Make a service-specific request on the City Council's web site at  
<http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/ssehighways>

Please ensure that your request is headed *Moor Pool Estate, Harborne - Street Lighting*

**Crime and safety:** At the last Police and Community meeting in January 2013, officers emphasised that the Moorpool Estate, indeed Harborne generally, is an area of low crime. Nevertheless there has been a spate of burglaries and car thefts as reported in the last issue of the Duck. In view of this, residents will be pleased to hear about the new Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. If you would like to find out more or to join the scheme please contact. You will be asked to complete a registration form and return it to Kate Rodgers, Partnerships Team, Bournville Police Station.

**Contact:** PCSO 31047 Charlotte Alcock  
Harborne Neighbourhood Policing Team  
South Birmingham Local Policing Team  
[www.birminghamsouthpolice.org.uk](http://www.birminghamsouthpolice.org.uk)  
Tel: 0345 113 5000 Ext: 7863 6667  
Email: [c.alcock@westmidlands.pnn.police.uk](mailto:c.alcock@westmidlands.pnn.police.uk)

**Parking:** The roads on the estate are quite narrow. Please bear this in mind when parking and ensure that your vehicle does not cause an obstruction that may prevent access by emergency services. This advice includes areas such as The Spinney which is part of the road network. Police officers will issue parking tickets to anyone parking illegally or irresponsibly.

#### **Rubbish matters:**

**Green waste:** Collections resumed on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Please note that green sacks will be phased out from March and you will need to buy bags. Please make sure that you use green bags for garden rubbish so that the collectors can separate them from the bags for domestic refuse.

**Compost bins:** You can buy a compost bin on line at <http://www.birmingham.getcomposting.com/> or telephone 0845 130 6090.

**Wheelie bins:** the Council plans to introduce these over the next two years. Further information is available at <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/refusecollection>  
This includes a detailed report in a pdf at the bottom of the page.

#### **How to have your say about wheelie bins:**

Fill in the on-line survey at <https://www.ors.org.uk/online/index.php?sid=891449&lang=en>

#### **Contact your local councillors**

##### **Councillor Elaine Williams**

Email: [elaine.v.williams@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.v.williams@birmingham.gov.uk)  
Tel: (0121) 303 2039 (Group Office)

##### **Councillor James McKay**

Email: [james.mckay@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:james.mckay@birmingham.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0121 303 2039

##### **Councillor Mike Whitby**

Email: [mike.whitby@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:mike.whitby@birmingham.gov.uk)  
Tel: (0121) 303 2130 (Group Office)

**Advertise in the Duck:** The Moor Pool Duck newsletter is delivered to over 500 houses on the estate which is a conservation area.

#### **Rates for 12 issues**

1/8 Page (63H x 86w)	£45
¼ Page (127H x 86w)	£67.50
Half Page (127 H x 180w)	£101.25
Full Page (254H x 180w)	£151.90

#### **Rates for 6 issues**

1/8 Page (63H x 86w)	£30
¼ Page (127H x 86w)	£45
Half Page (127 H x 180w)	£67.50
Full Page (254H x 180w)	£101.25

Pre designed adverts should be supplied as a jpeg.

Alternatively please send copy in Word for formatting.

Advertisers are responsible for ensuring they have rights to any copyright images.

The Moor Pool Residents Association reserves the right to withdraw or refuse adverts.

### Sponsor an event:

The Moor Pool Residents Association organises several events each year including the Scarecrow Competition, Moor Pool Festival and Carol Walk. If you would like to sponsor any of these events and feature in associated publicity please contact the Chair of the Association. Details of past events are available on the website

### What's on?

**Coffee mornings:** take place in the small hall, 10am-12, on the last Saturday of every month except December. Everyone is welcome.

**Open gardens:** Mike Foster will again be opening his garden as part of the Pereira Road group. The date is 28th April, between 2 and 5 pm; on this occasion Nos 14 and 50 will be open. Two further gardens open at the end of June. The entrance fee of £2.50, plus money from the sale of teas, will all go to charity; most to the National Garden Schemes charities but we have arranged for 20% to be donated to St Mary's Hospice in Selly Oak.

### Moorpool in Bloom (MiB)

**Plant sale:** This will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May at East Pathway from 11am-2pm. Do please make a note of it. It's a great occasion so bring friends and family; there are plenty of bargains. Refreshments will be available. Help is always welcome so if you feel you can give an hour or two to help with the plant sale – particularly with managing the plants and potting up or if you can help with odd jobs, please contact Liz Muir.

**Valley allotment:** Severn Trent is putting in a tank on the Valley site over the next 12-14 weeks. The tank is adjacent to the MiB Valley allotment. It can't be helped but we decided it would not be easy to work there and so we are in the process of removing the polytunnel and whatever is needed to Ron Pearson's allotment off Wentworth Gate. I think this will work well and we are most grateful to Ron. Most of the preparation for the plant sale will be done there.

We also have to shift some of the plants at the Valley; they will all go to the plant sale in due course. We are not abandoning the Valley site as we plan to sow summer annuals, sweet william and wallflowers in early May. These proved popular last year when Raj sold them for MiB at the Shop. They should be ready for early autumn. The valley allotment is in excellent condition because it was double-dug by Igor Cusack and the soil there is very good – we need to value it.

**Donations:** If you have spare plants or plants you would like to get rid of, we are always glad of donations. In particular we welcome summer annuals, vegetables, herbaceous plants and shrubs. We can arrange collection.

**RHS:** It was decided not to attempt last year's level five success with the RHS. The possibility was raised of submitting some of the allotments as an entry but these are not yet ours. Instead we have a number of projects planned to improve the estate of which more details in the next Duck.

**Liz Muir** Tel: 07792473975 or 0121 427 3973.  
Email: [e.muir276@btinternet.com](mailto:e.muir276@btinternet.com)

### Letters

#### From Caroline Smith

Thank you for once again including a mention of my company in the Moorpool Duck – always appreciated! Before Christmas I received a wedding cake order saw the advert in the Duck – so thank you!

#### Caroline's Cake Company

Moor Pool based cake designer creating tiered and sculpted cakes for those special times when only cake will do.

Contact:

[www.carolinescakecompany.co.uk](http://www.carolinescakecompany.co.uk)

#### From Banner Homes:

Hello and welcome from Banner Homes. As we will be living with you for the next 12 months or so, I am keen that you are kept updated on our progress.

As you are aware, we obtained Planning Consent for the scheme in July 2012 and started production works in November 2012.

Due to the sewer diversion works required on the valley site we have cleared and started work on foundations on the smaller site C. You will now see progress as the scaffolding is being erected. The diversion works at the valley site are now complete, apart from the connection to the public sewer, which is underway in Ravenhurst Road and foundations have been dug on the southern side of the site. We are hopeful that once the sewer connection and services have been completed, we will be able to keep our construction works within the confines of our site apart, obviously, from deliveries of materials.

We appreciate that there may be some difficult weeks ahead while we carry out what is considered to be the most disruptive element of our works and are grateful for your understanding and patience. Our Site Manager, Tim O'Toole, is on site to help. If you have a genuine concern, I am sure he will be more than happy to assist.

In the meantime I hope you watch with interest as our scheme develops.

Regards

**Mark Booth**  
**Managing Director, Banner Homes**  
**Midlands & Regional Land Director**

To contact Mark, please email [booth@bannerhomes.co.uk](mailto:booth@bannerhomes.co.uk)  
 Information about Banner Homes can be found at <http://www.bannerhomes.co.uk>

## Clubs and societies

### Moorpool Players

In May the Moorpool Players will be staging Jim Cartwright's celebrated play; 'Two'. The play follows a landlord and lady of a local pub as they serve their regulars with drink, merriment and a touch of warmth, sympathy and understanding. One night, however, a haunting memory threatens to destroy their relationship as they struggle to come to terms with the past.

The play will be presented at the Moorpool Hall, The Circle, Harborne, B179DY from 15th -18th May at 7.30pm, with an additional performance on the 18th at 2.00pm.

Tickets cost £6.50 and are available from Moorpool News and Wine, The Circle Harborne and from the Box Office. Please visit [moorpool.org](http://moorpool.org) for more details.

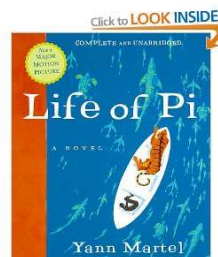
### Moorpool Players Christmas fund raising:

In the last issue of the Duck it was reported that the Christmas show raised £400. This was a mistake. They actually raised £800! Congratulations to the Players for their hard work. Apologies to all concerned and thank you to John Healey for pointing out the mistake (Editor).

### Moor Pool Reading Club

Meetings are held every two months in the Small Hall, The Circle, Moor Pool on a Thursday, 7.30pm-8.30pm. There is a small annual charge of £10 to cover room bookings.

### Forthcoming Reading Club events



*The Life of Pi*

Yann Martel

To be introduced  
 by Ann Griggs (11  
 April 2013)

For more information contact Tricia Cusack ([triciacusack@gmail.com](mailto:triciacusack@gmail.com)).

**Recipe slot: Pasta Florentine**

This is a good recipe for using up left overs

**Essential ingredients**

- Pasta
- Black olives
- Anchovies (tinned)
- Olive oil
- Lemon juice

**Additional ingredients**

- Red/green peppers
- Tomatoes
- Onions
- Broccoli (cooked)
- Mushrooms

Cook the pasta in the usual way and then leave to stand on a very low heat so it does not go cold.

Chop all the additional ingredients, olives and anchovies. Keep the oil from the anchovies.

Put the olive oil and anchovy oil into a saucepan and sauté the mushrooms, peppers, tomatoes and onions for 3-4 minutes.

Drain the pasta and add it to the pan.

Add the rest of the ingredients and sauté for another 2 minutes.

Garnish with fresh basil and grated cheese and serve.

**Please support our shop.** Raj stocks a very wide range of groceries, wine, beer, cleaning product, freezer goods and greetings cards. You can drop off your dry cleaning, order samosas, buy a newspaper or draw out some cash. You can advertise things you want to sell (I sold a car last year, Ed), pick up a bargain and catch up with announcements on the Residents' Association's noticeboard. Many residents depend on the shop especially in bad weather. Please help to keep this vital resource going.

*Raj says "Please... SHOP LOCAL at the Circle"*

# MOORPOOL NEWS & WINE

**Your friendly family-run franchise with competitive prices and regular promotions**

**We offer a wide range of goods:**  
 fresh fruit & veg | samosas & onion bhajees (orders next day) | groceries & frozen foods | bread, milk & eggs | hot & cold drinks | snacks, sweets & ices | household items & hardware | toiletries & medicines | stationery & stamps | cards & gifts | newspapers & magazines | beers, wines & spirits | tobacco

**We also provide the following services:**  
 orders & delivery | dry-cleaning | mobile top-ups | photocopier & fax | credit cards accepted | cashback up to £20 | cash machine | rents, rates & utility bill payment | small ads & notices | residents association post box

**Monday–Friday: 7am–7pm**  
**Saturday: 7.30am–7pm**  
**Sunday: 7.30am–1pm**      **0121 428 1061**  
 moorpoolnews@hotmail.co.uk

*Raj says "Please... KEEP THIS AD to remind you"*

**Membership of the Residents Association**  
 The MRA works to look after the environment of the estate and provide community social events. You can help by joining the MRA.

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 I/We should like to join the Moor Pool Residents Association. I enclose my payment of: £5.00 Individual..... or £8.00 Family..... (Tick which applies)

Cheques should be made payable to **Moor Pool Residents Association**. Please complete the form below and send it with your cheque to **The Treasurer, C/O 4, High Brow**.

-----  
 I/We should like to join the Moor Pool Residents Association. I enclose my payment of: £5.00 Individual..... or £8.00 Family..... (Tick which applies)

Cheques should be made payable to **Moor Pool Residents Association**.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Tel .....

Email .....



**Moor Pool Heritage Trust:** The Trust was set up to take over and manage assets that are currently owned by Grainger plc. The purpose of the Trust is to promote for the public benefit

- i) The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment within the Area
- ii) The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation for the benefits of residents of the area through the use of community facilities;
- iii) The advancement of education, including promoting knowledge of the social and architectural history and heritage of the Area.

**If you have lived on the Moor Pool Estate for more than three years you are eligible to join the Trust for free!**

**For information about membership please contact**

Igor Cusack (Secretary), Moor Pool Heritage Trust  
 137, Ravenhurst Road, B17 9HR. Tel: 0121 426 2462  
 Email: [ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Dates for your diary**

Event	Date
Moorpool Dance	7 <sup>th</sup> September 2013
Moorpool Festival	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2013
Scarecrow competition	TBC
Carol walk	15 <sup>th</sup> December 2013

**Fund raising**

**Quiz Nights**

Quizzes take place on the last Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm at the Bowling Club. The date for the next quiz is Jan 31st.

Teams of up to 8 and £3.50 per head entry fee. If you don't have a full team, come along and join with others on the night. Soft drinks and snacks will be available to buy.

The path to the Bowling Pavilion runs along the side of the duck pond at the back of 50 Moorpool Ave. It is not lit so don't forget to carry a torch with you. If you've never been to the Bowling Pavilion, you might want to check how to get there some time in advance during daylight hours.

## Affordable Acupuncture for all



We are an Acupuncture Clinic based in Bearwood Birmingham with a focus on affordable and accessible treatments for the community. We do this by providing treatments in a multibed setting. Beds are divided by screens for privacy but you will be treated in a room alongside other people. You may be coming to us because you have a long term condition that needs extra attention, a recent problem that requires immediate help such as an injury, or to generally look after yourself. Whatever you require from an acupuncture treatment we aim to do this with care and professionalism. All our practitioners are fully qualified and members of the British Acupuncture Council.



**First consultation & treatment £25**  
**Follow-up treatments £20**

**St Mary's Church Hall, Bearwood High Street**  
**Birmingham B67 5DG**

Appointments: Mondays & Thursdays 9am-7pm  
 Saturdays 9am- 12noon

Or drop in to see us: Mondays & Thursdays 10am – 4pm  
 Saturdays 9am- 11am

# 07749 414888

[www.bcacupuncture.co.uk](http://www.bcacupuncture.co.uk)



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COMMUNITY AND MULTIBED  
ACUPUNCTURE CLINICS

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[www.acupuncture.org.uk](http://www.acupuncture.org.uk)



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