



Issue no 69 February 2014

Dear Residents

A belated Happy New Year to all residents. I hope you had a pleasant time and a break from routine over Christmas and New Year.

Now that the holiday season is over it's down to business, raising money to purchase the community facilities and doing as much as possible to ensure that Moorpool remains a good neighbourhood in which to live. This issue provides information about what has been happening to date about fund raising but also brings you up to date with some of the latest initiatives from some of the younger residents. Whilst Moorpool retains a wide variety of clubs and societies, it is great to see younger people starting new ventures. Fancy joining a band? Keen on wildlife? Want to meet new people? The Duck is here to help.

Best wishes, Paula
paulamariamcg156@gmail.com

To publish in the Duck in 2014 please send items to the editor by

Closing date	Publication
31 st March	April
31 st May	June
31 st July	Late August/September
30 th September	October
20 th November	December

Dates for your diary

Event	Date
Coffee mornings in the lower hall	Last Saturday in every month
100 Square Draw	25th February 2014 at the coffee morning
Moor Pool Has Talent *	29 March 2014
MiB plant sale	10 May 2014
Moorpool Heritage Trust Charity Ball	5th July, 2014
20ps Around The Circle Fun Day	13 July 2014

*Contact Margaret O'Hara on 07939 415343.

What's happening?

Security: Happy New Year to all residents. Whilst this remains an area of low crime, there are still problems with opportunistic vehicle crime. Property is still being left on display inside vehicles, which, in some cases, have not been locked securely. This has resulted in many cars being targeted. Over the Christmas period, a couple of garages were targeted, locks were broken and property taken. Please pay attention to security. Fit locks, alarms or lighting if possible. We need to make it as difficult as possible so that thieves do not target your area.

A reminder about parking: I am approached daily with complaints about parking - double parking, parking too close to junctions and parking on pavements. This behaviour is not really acceptable and can cause danger to other road users and pedestrians as well as causing difficulties for emergency vehicles and refuse wagons. We all need to be able to use the roads on the estate without danger or unnecessary obstructions.

If you have any problems or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me and, if you see me, please stop and say hello.

Kind Regards, Charlotte
 PCSO Alcock 31047
 Harborne Team
 0345 113 5000
 Ext 7863 6667

www.facebook.com/harborneneighbourhoodwatch
www.twitter.com/harbornent

Moorpool toddler group: meets in the upper hall every Friday. The Chair, Elise Duncan, would like to hear from anyone who has information about the history of this group and how long it has been in existence. It may be the oldest running toddler group in Birmingham. Elise is planning to start a Bumps and Babes class very soon. For more information please contact Elise Duncan eliseduncan@yahoo.co.uk

Clubs and societies

Has your club or society been featured in The Duck?

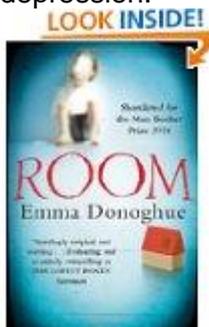
Does your club want new members?

Contact the Editor

paulamariamcg156@gmail.com

Moor Pool Reading Club

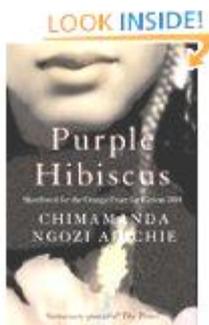
We had another great meeting on 19 December, when Janine introduced Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*. It was lovely to meet two new members, Kirsten and Jenny. Most of us thought *Water for Elephants*, about a travelling circus in the US and the college boy who unwittingly joins it, was a splendid yarn, though not everyone was so taken with it. We discussed various other aspects of the story, such as the food, how these illuminated different social settings and the vivid picture of the ruthless environment of the circus during the depression.



**Thursday 20
February**

Room
Emma Donoghue

To be introduced
by Sally Bourner



Thursday 8 May.

Purple Hibiscus
Chimamanda
Ngozi Adichie

To be introduced
by Carlyn Freeman

New members are always welcome: email me, or just turn up. We meet in the Small Hall, The Circle, Moor Pool on a Thursday, 7.30pm-8.30pm. There is a small annual charge of £10. Contact: Tricia Cusack
triciacusack@gmail.com

Want to join a band?

I'm thinking of starting a band and wondered if anyone in Moorpool is interested in joining. It's mostly just for fun but I'd love to be able to perform and raise funds for the Moor Pool Heritage Trust. I'm a drummer and last played in a band at school/uni a while ago (let's just say we covered the 'newly' released Smells like Teen Spirit!). Having been separated from my drums for some time, I've recently been reunited with them but they're not so much fun on my own! Any singers, bass, lead/rhythm guitar or keyboardists who'd like to do something a bit different in 2014, please contact Kate Nancarrow

kate.nancarrow@hotmail.co.uk.

Moor Pool wildlife conservation group

Thank you for your support in green tokens at Waitrose this January – we await the count!

Spring looks exciting, with a visit to Harborne Nature Reserve and continued work on our Wildlife Allotment and Forest Plot. We're growing food-plants for caterpillars and butterflies for May's plant sale just now. Looking forward to learning about amphibians next meeting. Please join the fun: 8pm Wednesday February 19th, Lower Hall, The Circle, or contact rag@doctors.org.uk for further information. Watch out for toads crossing the roads in March.



Rich display and discussion of local fungi – November's meeting. Thanks to Igor Cusack.

Harborne Village Butchers

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Enhanced CRB available, for your peace of mind.

Moorpool in Bloom (MiB)

Disposing of green waste on allotments and open spaces:

Since September, we have been lucky enough to have the help of Lee Herrington and his trainees from BCC in removing green waste from the estate. (They replaced the Hit Squad when Harborne ceased funding them.) Things have changed a bit but we hope some of the Community areas (see below) will still have this help. We have to be careful not to over-extend Lee's group who cover a large part of south west Birmingham. Initially areas suggested for the Estate are:

- Moor Pool in Bloom
- The community allotment
- The open spaces

To assist with dealing with green waste from the allotments it would be useful to pilot a community composting project and the J allotment plots (off the Circle, next to the orchard) would be a good place to start. We hope it works well and can be extended around the estate as recycling green waste is the best way forward.

A major concern is that bags and piles of waste attract dumping by contractors and others. Please let me or Igor Cusack know if you see this happening. It must be discouraged.

BCC allow the use of bonfires on allotments to dispose of *waste at any time* **PROVIDING** they are managed with consideration for other residents. Keep them small and non-toxic; they can be a good way of managing waste.

For information about MiB contact Liz Muir
Tel: 07792473975 or 0121 427 3973.
Email: e.muir276@btinternet.com

The Salon

A long established local hair salon where clients receive a warm and friendly welcome from Michele and her experienced team.

6 Lonsdale Road Tel: 0121 428 4284



Golf Tuition

Local resident Alison Nicholas is a PGA qualified teaching professional available for lessons at Hagley Golf & Country Club on Mondays & Wednesdays (including evenings). All ages and abilities welcome.

As a tournament professional Alison won 18 events worldwide including the 1987 British Open and the 1997 US Open. Alison represented Europe six times in the Solheim Cup, with victories in 1992, 2000 and 2003. She was the European Team Captain in 2009 & 2011 when Alison captained the European Team to a dramatic and memorable victory over the USA team at Killeen Castle.

To book a lesson telephone: **01562 883852**
For more information about Alison and prices please visit www.alisonnicholas.co.uk .

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. As agreed at the AGM on 11 November, subscriptions for 2013/2014 will remain £5 (individual) and £8 (family).

Membership form

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

You can pay cash.

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

You can pay by standing order

Complete the form below and send it to your bank.

To Bank

Please pay the sum of £8/£5 (delete inapplicable) annually onto:
Lloyds, University of Birmingham
Sort Code 30-19-14

For account of Moor Pool Residents Association A/C 03808193
Quoting reference
(No of house & initials of road e.g. 190 High Brow = 190HB)

.....
Signature
.....
Account Name
.....
Account Number
.....

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Or drop in to see us: Mondays & Thursdays 10am – 4pm
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www.bcacupuncture.co.uk



Advertise in the Duck

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

Pre designed adverts should be supplied as a jpeg or 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.

For further information contact paulamariamcg156@gmail.com

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



Moor Pool fundraising

Santa's grotto: Santa visited Moor Pool Hall for the first time on December 15th. He spent a couple of hours chatting to children and each child left with a present from his elves. This event enabled us to raise a total of £ 195 (including entry fees, side stalls, coffee & cake sales). We will be inviting Santa again next year.



Santa and his elves



Carol walk: On December 15th, the annual carol walk, which gets bigger and better each year, raised a total of just over two hundred pounds. Thank you to the Harborne branch of the Guides who made the lanterns for the carol-walkers. Thanks also to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make the day a success.

100 Square in November winners: Nigel and Louisa (Carless Avenue).

Christmas Hamper winner: Becky (Carless Avenue).

Help needed

Educational allotment: This will help children in three local schools to grow their own vegetables. Gardening gloves and equipment needed. Contact Jayne Millicheap 0121 427 1673.

Website development: volunteers needed to help develop MPHT website.

Educational programme: volunteers with teaching expertise needed to advise on educational activities related to the estate's amenities.

Please contact Margaret O'Hara, Chair of the Moor Pool Fundraising committee on 07939 415343 or moorpoolht@gmail.com

Sponsorship: Alex Millicheap is planning to raise funds for Moor Pool by gliding a plane. Tel: 0121 427 1673



MPHT News

Community Facilities purchase from Grainger: Before Christmas, a package was delivered to every house and flat on the estate to inform residents about ways of raising the money needed to purchase the community facilities from Grainger plc. The response so

far has been very encouraging. Thanks to everyone who has donated so generously and those who have undertaken or are planning fund-raising activities.

The fund-raising committee is working on many initiatives, for example, making applications for grants, planning events and raising money from residents in roads adjoining the estate and from businesses. Please support as many of the events as possible and, if you have any suggestions for fund raising, contact Margaret O'Hara, Chair of the Moor Pool Fundraising committee on 07939 415343 or moorpoolht@gmail.com

Garages: Thanks to the generosity of Banner Homes, MPHT now owns the eleven refurbished garages at The Spinney. Banner Homes has built another twelve new garages; ownership will be transferred to MPHT.

Acquisition of the Builders' Yard: should be completed by the time you read this, so all those garages will belong to MHPT.

Allotments: MPHT has appointed lawyers to acquire, from Banner Homes, the 65-70 allotments, the Orchard and the proposed community garden at the bottom of Margaret Grove. Most allotments have now been allocated in preparation for issuing leases but there will probably be a few vacant plots. If you are interested in having an allotment, please contact the secretary.

AGM: The Annual General Meeting will be held in the near future and - if you have not been already been informed – all individual members and club representatives will be given at least 21 days notice of the meeting. If you are not a member of the MPHT and have lived on the Estate for more than three years **please** do join us. If you are a member of a club do encourage your club to join as well. It will cost you nothing and give you a chance to have a say in how we move forward. For all enquiries concerning MPHT please contact the Secretary
Igor Cusack,
137, Ravenhurst Rd
Telephone 01214262462
Email: ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk

Moorpool News & Wine

Raj and her family stock an excellent selection of foods and household necessities, and also provide an unbeatable range of services, now including the Health Lottery and UPS parcel drop & collect, all right at the heart of our community. From fresh samosas, mobile top-ups, stamps, and dry-cleaning, to cash facilities, medicines, a copier / fax, and tempting offers, there really is something for everyone, so please... shop local. Credit cards accepted. Orders welcome. Deliveries made.

Open Mon to Fri 7am - 7pm, Sat 7.30am - 7pm & Sun 7.30am - 1pm.

Tel: 0121 428 1061.

Email: moorpoolnews@hotmail.co.uk

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

MOORPOOL NEWS & WINE

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

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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

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Sat 7.30am – 7pm & Sun 7.30am – 1pm

0121 428 1061

moorpoolnews@hotmail.co.uk

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