



Message from your new Moor Pool Resident's Association chair – Sal Bourner

Dear Moor Pool residents,

After what has been a truly momentous 2014 for our community I am proud and delighted to have been appointed as the new chair of your Residents' Association at the recent AGM. I have lived on the Moor Pool estate for nearly 17 years and am passionate about ensuring that your voice, as local residents, continues to be at the heart of our thriving community. We may be a small community but we certainly have a big heart, which is summed up by the dedication and commitment of so many local people who, together with people from wider Harborne and Birmingham, gave over 31000 volunteer hours in 12 months to raise the £325k that was needed to Save Moor Pool. Now we have saved Moor Pool we have the opportunity to build on the community spirit that has been increasingly evident over recent years. People often ask about the difference between the Residents' Association and Moor Pool Heritage Trust (MPHT). Put simply, the Residents' Association is about the people who live on the estate and MPHT is about the place, namely, the community facilities and cherished environment that lie at the heart of our garden suburb. The two go hand in hand because it is the people who make Moor Pool and it is our community facilities that bring us and people from beyond Moor Pool together.

Over the next year all of us on the Moor Pool Residents' Association are here to listen to and support you on issues that affect your lives whilst also ensuring we have plenty of fun doing things together as a community. To this end we will be planning a series of events, including of course our monthly coffee mornings; the legendary and well established annual Heritage Festival in September and the carol walk. Keep watching this space for some new ventures on the social calendar.

At the AGM I asked residents to share with us those local issues on which you wish us to focus. Topics included rent increases for tenants, particularly our older residents; the responsibilities of private landlords and owner-occupiers on planning and maintenance in line with our conservation status, and inconsiderate parking. Residents also shared thoughts on learning from other garden suburbs; on the importance of supporting Raj whose shop on The Circle provides an invaluable service to local residents and on supporting isolated older people neighbours. Another theme that came up at the AGM was the importance of communication – something I know all of us on the committee are eager to focus on. The Duck is a key part of how we communicate with you and we will also explore other ways to keep you involved and updated. As a starter for 10 I have created a new e-mail address salmoorpool@gmail.com through which you can contact me directly. You can also leave a note in the MRA post box in Raj's shop. We have our first committee meeting of 2015 on February 12th where we will start to develop our focus and a calendar of events for 2015. I will keep you updated on what we are doing throughout the year. If you want to volunteer and get involved in helping (and having a lot of fun!) just drop me a line.

Recently Moor Pool was described as 'the jewel in Harborne's crown' (The Sunday Times, 25th January 2015). What a perfect description! And to add to the bejewelled theme.....all of us on your Moor Pool Residents' Committee are going to do our utmost with you to bring ever more sparkle to your lives as Moor Pool residents.

With my very best Moor Pool wishes, Sal
salmoorpool@gmail.com

MRA Committee members:

Sal Bourner, Sarah Copley, Mike Foster, Maureen Mauser, Mike Frost, Norma Mason, Jill Howes, Paula McGee, Jayne Millicheap, Helen Nicholas, Rob Sutton



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

From the editor

A happy new year to all our readers.

Congratulations to Sal Bourner on her election as Chair of the Association. 2015 looks set to be a very exciting and busy year for the estate for the Moor Pool Residents' Association – see dates for your diary. Looks like there is something for everyone this year. Hope to see you there.

Best wishes, Paula
Paulamariamcg156@gmail.com

To publish in the Duck in 2015 please send items to the editor by

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

Christmas hamper winner 2014

Sarah Copley

The amount raised was £73.00.

Thank you to all of you who purchased tickets and for the many donations to the hamper.

What?	When & where?
Coffee morning in lower hall	Last Saturday morning of each month
Fish & Chip Quiz Night	21 st February 7.30 Moor Pool Hall
Table Top Sale	22 nd February 11am – 3pm, Moor Pool Hall
Police and community meeting	15th March Harborne swimming baths
Plant sale	9 th May
Quiz Night	18 th April 7.30pm, Moor Pool Hall
Moor Pool Sports Day	28 th June
Moor Pool Summer Charity Ball	4 th July Edgbaston Golf Club. For further information, please contact Jayne on: 0121 427 1673.
Pimms Party	30 th August
Heritage Festival + 20ps around the Circle + Scarecrows	13 th September (MRA and MPHT joint event)
31 st October	Halloween Bonfire & Ghost Walk
13 th December	Santa's Grotto

For full details events are available at
www.moorpoolfundraising.co.uk

Ticketed events: Tickets will be available to buy from Raj and at the monthly MRA coffee mornings.

Security: Happy New Year all.

Over the last few months crime has been low, may it continue! Unfortunately car crime does continue to be a problem, I cannot stress enough the importance of removing all valuables from your vehicles and making sure they are locked and secure.

Also, during the cold spell please do not leave vehicles unattended when defrosting windscreens. Thieves will be on the lookout for car engines running and no sign of the owner.

We have had a few burglaries over the last few months. It is extremely important to make sure all your property is secure. Do not leave properties in darkness, use timer switches where possible. Leave a bathroom or bedroom light on. Please do not advertise that nobody is at home! Please contact the team if you would like a timer switch.

As always any problems or concerns please do not hesitate to contact myself on the below numbers,

Kind Regards,
Charlotte Alcock
PCSO 31047
Harborne Ward
101
Ext 7863 6007

Police and community meeting - A chance to meet the local team, get updates or raise issues.

7pm 31 March, 2015

Harborne Swimming baths

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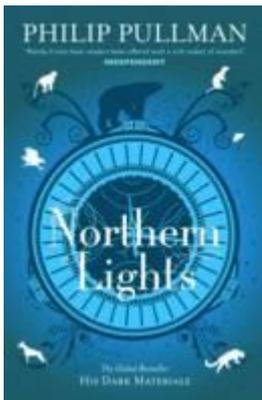
Locations : **Bearwood and Bromsgrove**

Clubs and societies

Moor Pool Reading Group

We had another impressive attendance at the Reading Group meeting on Thursday 15 January. Jean Mc Entire led a discussion of Alice Munro's short story collection, *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage*. Jean presented an interesting and comprehensive introduction to Munro, her family and her short story work. Munro may be unusual in keeping to the short story form instead of adding in a novel somewhere. Munro's stories do not conform to the usual constraints of the short story format, such as unity of time and place; they often have more than one time framed. Members concluded that clear plots and neat conclusions gave way to complexities of events and unexpected interactions among characters.

Next meeting



**Thursday 19
March 7.30-
8.30pm in the
Small Hall**

Northern Lights by
Philip Pullman

To be introduced
by Lindsay George

New members welcome: contact
triciacusack@gmail.com or just come along.
There is a small annual charge of £10.

The Circle Tennis Club



Open Event

**12~3pm Saturday
28th March '15**

New members welcome!

**Find out about your local tennis club
and have a free hit with us ☺**

The Circle Tennis Club is one of the oldest and happiest clubs around. We've had a full season of inter-club matches and, although we are only a small club, we fielded three men's and one ladies teams. This year we are entering a mixed-doubles team for the first time.

For less competitive members the monthly Saturday or Sunday afternoon mix-ins are very popular with an afternoon of tennis, tea and cake! There is also general adult tennis every Sunday morning and the Club offers junior coaching on Saturday mornings at a very reasonable cost.

For full details please visit www.circletennis.net or call our membership secretary Joyce on 0121 427 2151.

We need your help!

We would very much like to know which year The Circle Tennis Club was first established. Any information gratefully received. Please ring Louise on 07956 208956 or email louise-paris@hotmail.com



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Moorpool Wildlife Group

Harborne Nature Reserve will be open to visitors 10 am - 12pm on Sunday February 15th 22nd and 1st March

Snowdrop walks

Residents are invited to see the snowdrops which are planted around the reserve. Entrance is via the allotment entrance between 31 and 33 Pereira Rd; there is limited parking on site. Access is available through the gates as the allotment shop will be open after the winter closure; a good opportunity for gardeners to see what is on offer there. Please contact Mike Foster on mikefosterwork@gmail.com for any further information.

Moor Pool Wild Life Group photography competition 2015

This is advance warning of the Wild Life Group photography competition, closing date 31st July. Open to all residents, there will be two categories:

- Young people up to 15yrs
- Adult: 16 and over.

We are looking for pictures of wild life – animal or vegetable – seen round the estate, in gardens or in open areas.

Further details on submission of entries and prizes will appear in future issues of the Duck.

Prize winners will have their photos displayed at the Heritage Festival in September, and if there is sufficient response we will put together a calendar for next year.

Moorpool in Bloom (MiB)

Plant sale: The annual plant sale will take place on 9th May 2015.

This is a wonderful opportunity to show off the Moor Pool and estate. The sale has increased in size each year and brings in a lot of visitors to the estate.

Donations: Can you donate any plants for the sale? We can arrange collection if necessary. Please contact Liz Muir.

MiB wishes to thank Grainger for funds to cover the cost of mowing The Spinney and The Square. Regular mowing of these areas contributes to their improvement and supports the efforts of residents to maintain these areas.

Wentworth gate allotment: It is hoped that the Wentworth Gate site can be developed to facilitate older adults who might otherwise be unable to take part in gardening activities.

MiB has worked closely with the Moor Pool Wildlife Group during the last year. This collaboration has helped both groups and we hope it will continue in 2015.

For further information about MiB please contact

Liz Muir

Tel: 07792473975 or 0121 427 3973.

Email: e.muir276@btinternet.com

Moor Pool Summer Charity Ball Saturday 4th July Edgbaston Golf Club

The evening will include reception, a four-course home cooked dinner, a raffle and dancing to Mathew Long (2014 runner at Moor Pool's Got Talent)

For further information contact
Jayne Millicheap: 0121 427 1673

Membership of the MRA

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.....

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

Rates for 12 issues

1/8 Page (63H x 86w)	£45
1/4 Page (127H x 86w)	£67.50
Half Page (127 H x 180w)	£101.25
Full Page (254H x 180w)	£151.90

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Moorpool News and Wine

Message from Raj

My family is proud to have served the Moorpool community from this corner shop for nearly a decade. In light of recent changes on the estate we are keen to extend a warm welcome to the many new residents and invite them to come in and see everything we have to offer as there really is something for everyone. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our loyal customers for their continued support and ask any remaining residents who have yet to shop local to please... just give us a try because

WE RELY ON YOUR REGULAR CUSTOM.



Moor Pool Heritage Trust news Now that we own the Community Facilities ... what next?

The Trustees with the help of all our members and the clubs – need to plan the next stage and decide what to focus on first: developing the education and heritage project funded initially by the Heritage Lottery Fund, acquiring the Estate Offices, advancing the plans for the Builders Yard, improving and /or replacing some of the garages or developing the Community Garden?

If you have not done so already, please join the Trust. Your input would be very helpful and the active programme of fund-raising will need to continue.

Hiring the halls

Contact Jill Howes, Acting Hall Manager.

Tel: 07769 406164,

Email moorpoolhall@gmail.com

A hall manager will be appointed later in 2015.

Community Garden.

Martin Underwood and Mike Foster have done sterling work on clearing this area. If you are interested in helping contact Jim Tucker at jtucker1929@gmail.com. There will be a community action day there on Saturday 21st February, starting in the morning, so do come along then.

Igor Cusack (Secretary)

ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk 01214262462.

For all enquiries concerning MPHT please contact the Secretary

Igor Cusack,

137, Ravenhurst Rd

Telephone 01214262462

Email: ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk

Issue 75 February 2015

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

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Sat 7.30am–7pm & Sun 7.30am–1pm

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26–27 The Circle B17 9DY

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