

THE MOOR POOL DUCK

Residents' Newsletter for Moor Pool Garden Suburb



Issue no 77 April 2015

Dear Residents

Welcome to the spring edition of the Duck. Spring is a time of new beginnings and for the Duck this means a change of arrangements for printing arrangements. Andrew Hackett who printed this newsletter, retired at the beginning of March this year. Andrew, thank you very much for all your support for the Duck and best wishes for your retirement.

This and future issues of the Duck will be printed by the Parish Office at St Peter's Church in Harborne. Thank you to Maggie Davies for agreeing to provide this service. The Moorpool Residents Association is pleased to support a local organisation.

The change will mean a small rise in costs. I hope to cover these by generating revenue from advertisements, particularly for local businesses associated with the estate. Details of advertising costs are printed on p5. If you know of anyone who might like to advertise please pass on this information.

Best wishes to everyone for Easter,
Paula Paulamariamcg156@gmail.com

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

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

What?	When & where?
Coffee morning in lower hall	Last Saturday morning of each month, Lower Hall
Fish & Chip Quiz Night	18 th April 7.30 Moor Pool Hall (MPHT event)
Moorpool in Bloom Plant sale	9 th May
Moor Pool Players	'Groping For Words' May 13 th to 16 th Moor Pool Hall
Moor Pool Tea Dance -	14 th June 3pm until 5.30pm Moor Pool Hall.
Moor Pool Sports Day	28 th June (MPHT event)
Moor Pool Summer Charity Ball	4 th July Edgbaston Golf Club.
Pimms Party	30 th August (MPHT event)
Moor Pool Heritage Festival + 20ps around the Circle + Scarecrows	13 th September (MRA and MPHT joint event)
Quiz night	26 th September 7.30pm Moor Pool Hall. (MPHT event)
31 st October	Halloween Bonfire & Ghost Walk
Moor Pool Memories event	14 th September (TBC)
Moor Pool Players	Production TBC 18 th -21 st November
Quiz night	28 th November 7.30pm Moor Pool Hall. (MPHT event)

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Santa's Grotto and annual carol walk	13 th December (MPHT event)
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Interested in finding out more about any of these events/getting involved in helping out? Get in touch at moorpoolht@gmail.com.

Full details of all 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.

From the MRA Chair

Moor Pool is a beautiful and unique place to live throughout the year, but seeing the daffodils and crocuses blooming throughout the estate certainly gives me an extra spring in my step.

This year the Moor Pool Residents Association plans to focus on particular issues and I am delighted to present the new action plan.

Action plan for 2015

Preparing a leaflet to signpost tenants to where they can obtain information about rents. This will be available at the coffee morning on Saturday 25th April.

Planning and maintenance in line with Moor Pool's conservation status Rob Sutton is leading on this.

Supporting isolated older people living on the estate. Norma Mason and Maureen Mauser are leading on this. If you know of anyone on the estate who would appreciate an occasional visit or help with shopping, please let us know.

Working to support membership of the clubs to grow and thrive.

We recognise the value of posting a printed Duck through every door as it is an easy way for you to stay updated. I am delighted that St Peter's Church are now doing our printing – a perfect example of local community groups working together to support each other.

The Duck is also available on line at <http://www.moorpool.com/>

Our website will be an increasingly key part of our communication going forward. Please take a look at our website www.moorpool.com and let us know what you think.

We have also decided on a theme for the annual Heritage Festival on Sunday 13th September – "The Moor Pool Garden Fete". If you want to help out just get in touch and keep watching for more info nearer the time.

As always if you have any thoughts or feedback, feel free to send me an e-mail salbmoorpool@gmail.com or pop a note in the MRA post box at Raj's.

May I take the opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter and I hope you all get some time to relax.

Sal Bourner, Chair Moor Pool Residents Association salmoorpool@gmail.com

Parking

This is a constant issue on the estate especially in narrow roads. Inappropriately parked vehicles

- restrict residents' access to their homes prevent fire and ambulance services from reaching people who need urgent help
- prevent refuse vehicles from collecting rubbish
- may cause accidents by obstructing the view of other drivers.

Please park with consideration for others

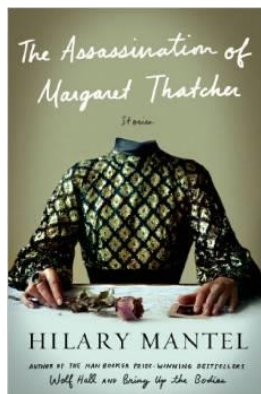
Garages are available on the estate. Contact

Igor Cusack,
137, Ravenhurst Rd
Telephone 01214262462
Email: ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk

Clubs and societies

Moor Pool Reading Group

Next meeting



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

Northern Lights by
Philip Pullman

To be introduced
by Lindsay George

The Reading Group will meet on **Thursday 21 May, 7.30-8.30pm** in the Small Hall, Moor Pool.

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

Moorpool Skittles Club

Our summer season is about to start and is a good time for prospective new members to come, have a look and have a go! The season starts on Monday 13th April at 7.30 in the skittles alley next to the Lower Hall and will run through until September. Do come along and see us. The evenings are run in a friendly, informal way - we love showing off 'our alley'. There will be a nominal £1 charge to cover tea/coffee. We are also planning an Open Evening, probably a Wednesday at the end of July.

For more information contact Tina Hackett via tsuzanne@virginmedia.com

Moorpool Wildlife Group

The next meeting is on Thursday, 16th April at 7.30 in the Lower Hall. Igor Cusack will be giving a talk on some water colour flower prints he inherited, and we shall also be

discussing our contribution to the Moor Pool in Bloom plant sale.

Harborne Nature Reserve is accessible via the Pereira Road allotment gates every Saturday and Sunday between 10 and 12. Just ask at the shop for directions.

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.

Moor Pool in Bloom (MiB) 6th Annual Plant Sale 2015

As always, we are looking for additional plants for the Plant Sale on 9th May. If you have any to offer please contact me on 01785 660861 or 07792473975. You can also leave plants at the Wentworth Gate or Valley Allotments, with Mike Foster or Rob Holder at 6 East Pathway. If you can pot them up and label them, it really helps!

The plants will go from Wentworth Gate to East Pathway on Friday 8th May around 10.30 am. The Ward Crew are moving them for us – so many thanks to Kevin, Russell and team for their support.

The Sale starts at 11am and finishes about 2.30 pm. We hope to see you and we hope for better weather this year!

If anyone would like to help do let me, Mike or Rob know.

Please do not leave plants at my flat.

Jan Scott has two composting bins on offer. They can be collected from 31 Moor Pool Ave.

For further information about MiB please contact

Liz Muir

Tel: 07792473975 or 0121 427 3973.

Email: e.muir276@btinternet.com

Conservation Matters

Your Residents Association continues to monitor development on the estate and provide help and guidance. Moor Pool is a designated Conservation Area with an Article 4(2) Direction to help preserve and enhance the character of the area. This means stricter requirements are in place to control changes and development.

The Council has produced a Character Appraisal and Management Plan as Supplementary Planning Guidance and this can be downloaded from the MRA website.

It is important residents follow the guidance as the penalties for unlawful development are severe. Recently an owner was fined £5000, costs to the City of £2165 and a victim's surcharge of £500 for failing to comply with requirements concerning replacement windows.

Planning applications are required for windows, doors and roofs and owners should always seek advice from the planning officers regarding any change particularly to the front of properties and rears for ones which overlook the Bowling Green.

Many residents have gone to great expense to comply with the Article 4(2) direction and it is unfair on them if others attempt to avoid the same requirements and erode the character of the Estate in doing so.

Do contact me if you need help in ascertaining information on conservation matters.

Rob Sutton. rob@moorpool.com

From Bill Taylor

If you walk into the centre of Harborne, you may have noticed the deterioration of the tarmac surfacing on the path between Park Hill Road and Frencham Way – the path leading to the steps.

Unfortunately this path is not a designated Public Right of Way, and as such it is not the responsibility of Birmingham City Council to maintain it. The path was originally an access from Park Hill Road to the old Railway Station, and is probably not now owned by anyone. It would however most probably meet the requirements to become a public right of way, and I understand the Council are responsible for carrying out investigations to check whether paths meet the criteria for this.

I have highlighted the deteriorating state of the path to the local Councillors at the Harborne Ward meetings in the past year, hoping that the little Ward Community Chest Funding still available could be used to resurface it. At the ward meeting on 23rd March however, the chairman Cllr McKay stated that the outstanding community chest money would be rolled over into 2015/16.

As I am the only one that raises this issue at the meetings, then I doubt this scheme would carry much weight for consideration against other suggested funding requests.

For those who share my concerns, then I suggest we badger the local Councillors, Gisela Stuart MP (contacts below) to secure some funding to get the path repaired/resurfaced in the short term, before it becomes too unsafe to walk through; and in the long term to get it registered as a Public Right of Way as it most definitely should be, so that the Council will be responsible for inspecting and keeping the path in a safe state of repair for ever.

james.mckay@birmingham.gov.uk

john.alden@birmingham.gov.uk

stuart@parliament.uk

Thanks Bill Taylor.

0121 426 6726 bill.anntaylor@talktalk.net

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

Size	6 issues	12 issues
1/8 Page	£32.50	£60.00
1/4Page	£45.50	£85.00

Prices for larger advertisements available on request.



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 .

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Moor Pool Heritage Trust news

Third Annual General Meeting, Sunday 17 May 11.00-12.30.

All Trust members are invited to our Third AGM, which will take place on the 17 May. If you are not a member, and have lived on the Estate for more than three years, please do join us now, and come along to the meeting. Six of the clubs have also joined and have a vote. Contact the secretary and we will get an application form to you. It costs you nothing to join. We are assembling a mini-empire here so we need your input as to what we should do next, and lots of help dealing with what we already own.

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.

Fund raising

The Trust continues to fundraise to support the restoration work to the Hall and the educational delivery plan. If you can help please visit our fundraising website www.moorpoolfundraising.co.uk

New classes

Over the summer we hope to start two new classes – Children's Karate and Adult Yoga.

Lower hall

We need to do some work in the Lower Hall to enable more classes and events to take place there. We intend applying for grants to

restore the floor there – and already have some quotations for the work - but over the short term, we hope to fit a temporary floor-covering there.

Garages and Allotments.

If you wish to lease a garage or an allotment contact the secretary. There are two reasonable garages on The Square block which will soon be available. There are a few vacancies on the allotments especially for those off the Circle/West Pathway and off Winterbourne Lane. We hope by the AGM to own the allotments, the Orchard and the Community Garden - and possibly the new garages. The delay has been caused by Banner Homes being taken over by Cala.

For all enquiries concerning MPHT please contact the Secretary

Igor Cusack,
137, Ravenhurst Rd
Telephone 01214262462
Email: ticusack@blueyonder.co.uk

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.

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

MOORPOOL NEWS & WINE

Your friendly family-run corner shop 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 | cash machine | cashback up to £20 | rents, rates & utility bill payment | small ads & notices | residents post box | Health Lottery | UPS parcel drop & collect

Monday–Friday 7am–7pm

Sat 7.30am–7pm & Sun 7.30am–1pm

0121 428 1061
26–27 The Circle B17 9DY

moorpoolnews@hotmail.co.uk

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