



## Issue no 80 October 2015

### From the MRA Chair

#### Dear Residents

Unsurprisingly the focus of my update this month is on the fabulous 7<sup>th</sup> annual Moor Pool festival that took place in the sunshine on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who helped make the day such a spectacle and success: the volunteers who helped organise, set up, run and tidy up and everyone who came along. You all created another memorable Moor Pool event reflecting the pride and spirit that makes our community special and unique.

This was a joint venture by the MRA and the MPHT and raised £3292.50 in total which included £1802.15 from MPHT's 20ps Around The Circle challenge. All profits from the festival will be used to benefit the community.

The entries for the children's competitions were superb. Thank you to Agnes and Thora Thomson for their beautiful paintings. Thank you to Theo Mauser, Andrianna Pavlyshyn, Thora Thomson and Oscar Fellows-Atkinson for your excellent gardens in a shoebox. Thank you also to the scarecrow makers: Humpty Dumpty (Park Edge); Ozzie Osbourne (Carless Avenue); The Tiger Who Came To Tea (The Square), Bing and Goldilocks and The Three Bears (The Spinney); Room On A Broom, Burglar Bill, Alice In Wonderland, The Dingly Dangly Scarecrow (all on Moor Pool Avenue), Charlotte's Web (North Gate), Dorothy and her friends (corner of

Ravenhurst Road and Moor Pool Avenue), and, a witch surrounded by the tallest sunflowers (Ravenhurst Road). The entries for all three competitions were of a very high standard and so, rather than single out individual winners, every entrant received a certificate of thanks. Congratulations to you all and I hope that you will all enter next year's competitions.

Best wishes,  
Sal Bourner (MRA Chair)  
[salbmoorpool@gmail.com](mailto:salbmoorpool@gmail.com)

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

Closing date	For publication in
20 <sup>th</sup> November	December

**To publish in the Duck in 2016 please send items to the editor by**

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

Please send your article or advert to [moorpoolnews@gmail.com](mailto:moorpoolnews@gmail.com) or leave it in the MRA box in Raj's shop. Thanks Paula



Full details of all events are available at [www.moorpoolfundraising.co.uk](http://www.moorpoolfundraising.co.uk)

Keep up to date via social media - @MoorPoolHT or the Moor Pool Heritage Trust Facebook page.

To hire the hall for your own events see [www.moorpoolhall.com](http://www.moorpoolhall.com) or contact Jill Howes, acting hall manager. Tel: 07769406164

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

What?	When & where?
Coffee morning in lower hall	Last Saturday morning of each month, Lower Hall
Moor Pool Halloween Skittles Championship	31 <sup>st</sup> October Skittle Alley, Lower Hall
Moor Pool Memories	8 <sup>th</sup> November 12-6pm Lower Hall
Tinkers Farm Operatic Society	13 <sup>th</sup> November 7pm, Moor Poo Hall
Moor Pool Players A Pack of Lies Hugh Whitemore	18 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> November, Evening performances 7.30 Matinee 21 <sup>st</sup> November, 2pm
Quiz night & Fish and chip supper	28 <sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm Moor Pool Hall. (MPHT event)
Moor Pool Players Christmas charity show	9 <sup>th</sup> December See <a href="http://www.moorpoolplayers.co.uk">www.moorpoolplayers.co.uk</a>
Santa's Grotto	13 <sup>th</sup> December morning (MPHT event)
Christmas Fayre	13 <sup>th</sup> December 11am – 4pm
Annual carol walk	13 <sup>th</sup> December 4pm
Moor Pool Tea Dance Valentine's Day theme	14 <sup>th</sup> February, afternoon



## Moor Pool Needs You!

Every event on the Moor Pool Estate is organised and run by a small band of volunteers and we need more people to help.

We also have vacancies on the MRA committee.

Can you spare some time to help?

Please contact

[salbmoorpool@gmail.com](mailto:salbmoorpool@gmail.com)

or

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

## SECURITY ALERT

### ROGUES POSING AS MEDEQUIP STAFF

A warning has been issued to Birmingham residents who receive occupational therapy products via Medequip which is employed by the city council's Birmingham Better Care service.



Following reports of two incidents of drivers posing as Medequip staff in the Hall Green area (B28), residents are reminded to remain vigilant before allowing anyone into their home.

On Monday 12 October 2015, an elderly woman's home was targeted by a man, dressed in a dark blue outfit similar to a Medequip staff uniform. He asked for her bank details, claiming she now had to pay for the service and the information was needed to set up a standing order to cover the cost. Fortunately, on this occasion, a neighbour intervened and the perpetrator quickly disappeared. Similar incidents have been reported to West Midlands Police.



All drivers wear a Medequip uniform and carry full identification.

If in doubt, please ask to see their Medequip ID.

Residents who are not happy with anyone calling uninvited at their home or who are suspicious of conversations they have with the caller should contact the police via the non-emergency number, 101.

Birmingham Better Care patients, who receive services from Medequip, are being urged to be vigilant should a representative call or visit their home unexpectedly.

#### Vital things to remember are:

- Medequip technicians will **always** drive a fully liveried van with prominent Medequip, Birmingham City Council and NHS logos as shown in the photograph.

**Never let a person into your home without confirming who they are and their reason for calling/visiting.** If in doubt, refuse entry and contact the organisation they purport to represent

Please ring the Medequip Customer Support Team on **0845 340 4430** if you experience any unexpected or unusual contact in relation to the equipment loans service.

Email: [info@cecops.org.uk](mailto:info@cecops.org.uk)

Medequip: <http://www.cecops.org.uk>

## Clubs and societies



### The Moorpool Players

#### PACK OF LIES

A play by Hugh Whitmore, 1983

Moor Pool Hall, The Circle,  
Harborne, B179DY

18th – 21<sup>st</sup> November

How well do you know your neighbours? Do you trust your closest friends? Set in 1961 and based on a true story, the play is based on the real life events that dramatically thrust an ordinary London family into the world of espionage at the time when the Cold War tension between the West and the Soviet Union was at its height. The play exposes the truth about a family's closest friends and neighbours in a way that will change the course of their lives forever.

Evening performances at 7.30pm (doors open at 6.45pm). Tickets cost £7.50  
Matinee performance Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 2pm (doors open at 1pm). Tickets cost £6.50.

All tickets available from Moorpool News & Wine, The Circle Harborne or from the Box Office on 07804 182393.

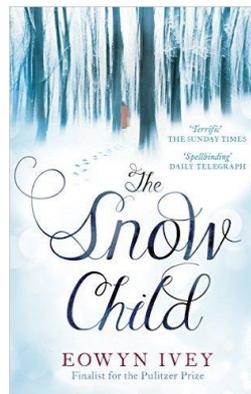
Hot and cold refreshments and wine will of course be available. Doors open at 6.45pm and 1.00pm for the Saturday matinee.

## Reading Group

Our recent meeting on Thursday 17 September was attended by 13 members, and we welcomed a new member, Anne-Marie Flynn. Gill Morgan introduced the *Killing Floor* by Lee Child. She explained that this was a little different to most of the books chosen so far. Although the author was from Birmingham, he had an American wife and the protagonist of this and subsequent novels, Jack Reacher, is a tough American loner, formerly a major in the Military Police. The action, which is considerable, takes place in the States.

Members had very different responses; one fan had already consumed three more Reacher novels; several members did not finish the book or thought it could have lost a 100 pages or so with benefit. Criticism included the endemic violence and the repetitive vocabulary. One member commented on the author's poor attitude to women although Gill disagreed. Several members thought the introduction was great and the language – staccato and observant – provided a symbolic match to the action and the fast situation-assessments associated with Reacher.

### Next meeting



**Thursday 26th  
November 7.30-  
8.30pm in the  
Lower Hall**

The Snow Child will  
be introduced by  
Moirá Herbon

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

## Moorpool Wildlife Group

If your garden is short on flowers why not pop down to your garden centre for some late flowering rudbeckias, michaelmas daisies or sedum spectabile? They provide valuable nectar for late bees and butterflies. Double flowers are difficult for nectar loving insects so choose single flowered varieties wherever possible.

Are you pruning back your buddleias? Why not leave some of the seed heads for the birds? You might spot bullfinches and goldfinches snacking on the seeds during the winter. Any plant with seed heads is worth leaving for the wildlife. And what looks a bit untidy now may look wonderful in a couple of months with a touch of frost or even snow on the remaining plant structure.

Do you have room for an insect hotel? Posh ones can be bought but they are usually tiny and expensive. For 5\* wildlife luxury why not get the kids involved in building a wildlife stack? It's a great way to recycle odd bits of wood and piping and it will help frogs and toads as well as garden insects. For more ideas see

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/makeahomeforwildlife/advice/gardening/insects/wildlifestack.aspx>

Finally, autumn is a great time to plant shrubs. Think about extending the flowering and fruiting seasons of your garden by planting firethorn/ pyracantha flowers spring/ summer. It likes sun or partial shade, is adored by bees and has berries in autumn. Viburnum tinus flowers December to April. It also likes partial shade and has berries in autumn. Mahonia aquifolium likes sun or shade and flowers November to March.

For information about the Wildlife Group please contact [cathyperry22@gmail.com](mailto:cathyperry22@gmail.com)

## Circle Cinema Club

The embryonic Circle Cinema had its first meeting on 29th September with 12 people present and several apologies. We discussed various options and we have set up a working group to consider these further: Nigel Bartram; Fiona Cotton; Andrew Hackett and Andrew Herborn. This will report back at the end of October.

If you would like to be added to the emailing list for meetings, please contact [triciacusack@gmail.com](mailto:triciacusack@gmail.com)

## Moor Pool Skittles Club

The new season has started and will run until March 2016. Access is via the Lower Hall.

There are three sessions each week all beginning at 7.30p.m.

Mondays from 5th October onwards - mixed play; Wednesdays from 7th October onwards - ladies; Fridays from 9th October onwards - men

There will be a short break over Christmas and New Year.

New members welcome.

Membership is £25 per year.

Visitors £2 per session.

For more information contact Tina - 0121 250 5385 or [tsuzanne@virginmedia.com](mailto:tsuzanne@virginmedia.com)

### Please support our shop

Raj's shop provides important, valuable services for the estate: groceries, newspapers, stamps, dry cleaning, cash machine and many other essentials. Raj supported our efforts to raise money to buy the community buildings. Please support our shop in return.

## Moorpool Memories Event

Come to the Moorpool Hall on Sunday 8th November between 2pm and 5pm for an afternoon of memories of the estate and its surrounding area. Noted local historian Edward Chitham will be giving one of his fascinating talks on the Harborne and Moorpool area. Harborne Library is kindly helping put on an exhibition of old photos, maps and plans of the area and there will also be a chance to see various photos and memorabilia which have been loaned or donated to the Moorpool Residents' Association.

If any residents have photos of the estate or its activities which they would allow us to copy we hope to be able to do that on the spot.

Light refreshments will be provided and entry is free.

For further information please contact Norma Mason (427 6795) or Mike Frost (426 4329).

## MRA AGM 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015

The full minutes of the meeting will be available in due course but here are the edited highlights.

The Chair reported on the activities and priorities for 2015.

**Rents:** increases are leading some residents to consider leaving the estate. If you have a problem with your rent please seek advice as soon as the problem arises. Please see the MRA leaflet about rents for sources of information.

**Inconsiderate parking:** the MRA committee has printed postcards that will be placed on the windscreens of drivers

who persistent park inconsiderately. Residents are asked to contact committee members if they believe a particular vehicle parked inappropriately. Registration numbers will be recorded.

**Security:** MRA receives regular bulletins from the neighbourhood police team. These are published in the Duck.

**Dangerous trees:** MPHT is planning a survey of all the trees on the estate to identify those that require attention or are unsafe. If you can help with this survey please contact Rob Sutton [rob@suttides.freestate.co.uk](mailto:rob@suttides.freestate.co.uk)

**Finance:** MRA holds current assets of £4985. These will be allocated to specific projects which will include

- MRA activities as suggested by residents.
- Support for selected (by the MRA committee) aspects of MPHT's planned work.

**Treasurer:** Mike Foster, the current treasurer is stepping down from his post. The Chair thanked him for his work with the MRA. A new treasurer is needed. If you are interested in this voluntary position please contact the Chair.

[salbmoorpool@gmail.com](mailto:salbmoorpool@gmail.com)

**New hall manager:** the new manager will take up her post in December 2015.

## MRA committee members 2015-16

Sal Bourner (Chair)  
Sarah Copely (Vice Chair)  
Mike Frost  
Jill Howes  
Paula McGee (Duck Editor)  
Norma Mason  
Maureen Mauser  
Jayne Millicheap  
Rob Sutton (MPHT)  
Mike Foster (Cop-tee member until a new Treasurer is appointed)

## Advertisements

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Email: [/Stu-Gilbert@sky.com](mailto:Stu-Gilbert@sky.com)

### Willow Acupuncture

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BA LicAc MBAC



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[info@willowacupuncture.co.uk](mailto:info@willowacupuncture.co.uk)

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Moorpool  
resident



## Christmas events in Birmingham

<b>Frankfurt Christmas Market and Craft Market 2015</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> November to 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 10am -9pm daily
<b>St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>Birmingham Botanical Gardens Christmas Carol service and fair</b> Includes Santa's Grotto	5 <sup>th</sup> December all day
<b>St Mary's hospice Light up a Life</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> December 4.30pm and 7.30pm

### Advertise your business in the Moor Pool Duck

The Moor Pool Duck newsletter is a local newsletter delivered and published on line 6 times each year to over 500 homes and businesses on the Moor Pool Estate in Harborne.

We provide advertising space for local businesses and organisations.

Prices start at £45.50 pa for 1/4page.

Contact us at [moorpoolnews@gmail.com](mailto:moorpoolnews@gmail.com)

### 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 on .....to:  
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.....



## 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](mailto:moorpoolnews@hotmail.co.uk)

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