



On April 30th Geoffrey and Gill Whitaker will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary. Until recently they lived on Carless Avenue living on the Moor Pool Estate for an incredible 66 years. Now both in their 90's they reluctantly decided to move nearer to their daughter in South Wales. Gill says it was the right decision, but they still miss the estate. Geoffrey could be seen in the mornings walking to the shop to collect his newspaper and Gill was still attending keep fit at the Hall walking down Carless Avenue to get there. We send them our congratulations.

Correction

In the last edition of The Duck there was an omission which meant that it was stated incorrectly that the Trust was responsible for the overall management of the Estate. This should have read 'the Trust is responsible for the overall management of the property and land that it owns on the Estate.'

Join us for **Keep Dancing** at Moor Pool Hall, on a Tuesday 13:30-14:30. £5.50 per class



Booking in advance essential. You can book your place at www.xpress-yourself.co.uk/dance-classes

Keep Dancing is a gentle dance class suitable for adults over 55. You'll learn dances from around the world with no need for a partner.

Like to advertise your business here?

Contact the Editor chair@moorpool.org.uk

History Corner

What influenced J.S. Nettlefold's plans for the Moor Pool Estate?



In 1901, housing powers were delegated to a new Housing Committee. Its Chairman was Councillor J.S. Nettlefold whose initial policy was to re-condition back courts by demolishing the two buildings on either side of a court entrance to allow more air and light to penetrate, the so called "Nettlefold Courts". This policy of limited rehabilitation did produce some limited beneficial results.

In 1905, a delegation from Nettlefold's Housing Committee visited Germany to examine the ways in which new houses had been planned and built there. The Committee's basic problem was to find ways of improving inner city conditions as well as to assist in the provision of healthy, cheerful houses on the outskirts of the City, whilst at the same time not unduly increasing housing rents. The German experience where every sizeable town in Germany had adopted a Town Expansion Plan had a considerable impact on the Committee's thinking and some fairly advanced Town Planning principles emerged.

The plan provided for the future development of all land within their boundaries, settling direction and widths of streets and generally controlling the types of development in particular areas. This was quite different to the English haphazard methodology.

The Housing Committee recommended that there should be powers to control development in new areas to ensure a better distribution of houses and provision of roads, and to buy land in the suburbs where private enterprise could be encouraged to build working men's houses at moderate rents. In moving in this direction, Birmingham was emerging as one of the first British local authorities to promote Town Planning ideas which have since been taken as basic principles in influencing the type and direction of development. These ideas were soon to have legislative support in the Housing, Town Planning Act of 1909.

Rob Sutton

Moor Pool History & Preservation Society

www.moorpoolgardensuburb.co.uk

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The Moor Pool DUCK Newsletter



From the Chair of the Moor Pool Residents Association

Spring has Sprung!

It has been cheering to see Spring arriving marred only by the unsightly overflowing rubbish bins. At this stage there is little we can do except keep them as tidy as possible and hope for a resolution to the strike soon.

However, on a happier note, with school holidays and Easter arriving too, there are lots of activities on the Estate to cheer us up. The Easter Chick trail is sure to be as much fun as the Christmas Robin trail was.

Details of all events follow in this newsletter.

See also on the MRA website www.moorpool.org.uk and the Trust website www.moorpoolhall.org.uk.

The first Residents' Association event of the year takes place at the Carless Eco Centre on Sunday May 4th – do come and say hello whilst enjoying a coffee and some cake. A free event which will be themed around anniversary celebrations of VE day. Have your Union Jack flags ready! (mud kitchen for the kids). 10.30 – 12.30.

Did you see?

Moor Pool made it into the Sunday Times where Harborne was listed as one of the best places to live in the West Midlands and Moor Pool one of the best roads(sic) We already know that of course!

We wish everyone a **Happy Easter**.

Margaret Harrold chair@moorpool.org.uk

MRA Event Dates for your Diary

Coffee Cake and Chat Sunday May 4th at the Carless Eco Centre 10.30 – 12.30

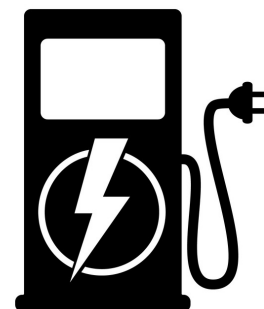
Summer Garden Party at Nettlefold Garden. Major Mustard will be there to entertain

Macmillan Coffee Morning Saturday September 27th in the Hall. 10.30 – 12.00

Carols in the Hall Sunday December 14th 2.00 – 4.00

Shocking Developments: Kerbside Charging Arrives in Moor Pool

On-street Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points have started to appear on the estate! At the time of writing there are three street lamp chargers on Margaret Grove. Given the branding on the charge points it seems that we are gifted these charge points due to a partnership between Birmingham City Council and Shell/Ubitricity. They have a scheme rolling out on-street charging provisions to residential areas where off-street parking is limited. Other on-street charge points can be found locally on Rose Road, Albany Road and High St.



Why these locations?

Without confirmation from the council it's hard to say, but owners (or potential owners) of an EV have been allowed to register interest as data is compiled on locations where publicly available charge points and innovative charging solutions would be most useful. The Residents' Association was not consulted in the selection of these sites.

Are the charge points safe?

On-street charge points are installed according to local health and safety standards. Street lamp charge points are installed near the edge of the kerb meaning that the traditional trip hazard of trailing cables is reduced. Ubitricity also provides guidance on avoiding foot path obstructions and how minimize trip hazards caused by charging cables.

Who can use these charge points?

On-street charge points are publicly available. Instructions on how to use the charge point are attached to the street lamp. Drivers are required to provide their own charge cables.

Can I still park there?

As noted previously, the charge points are publicly available. The expectation will be that space near the charge point be available to anyone wanting to use it. This may not be you or even your immediate neighbours.

The Hackett Co-Working Space at the Circle

Having work done at home and need a place to work or fancy a change from your home office? Book a desk in the Hackett Suite, our bright and warm co-working space in the Estate Office (next to the Circle tennis courts).



We have comfortable chairs, reliable Wi-Fi and free unlimited Fairtrade tea and coffee. Rates start from £7.50 for a half-day. Find out more at www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/our-spaces/hackett-suite/

Easy Fundraising For The Moor Pool Heritage Trust



Raise money for Moor Pool Heritage Trust while shopping online with easyfundraising! Over 8,000 brands will donate part of what you spend to us and the best part is that it won't cost you any extra. Go to www.easyfundraising.co.uk to sign up, choose Moor Pool Heritage Trust as your cause, and then shop as normal through the easyfundraising website or app. You can also enable a Donation Reminder through the app, which will pop up automatically when you visit a participating retailer's site.

What's On

All events apart from the plant sale take place in the Moor Pool Hall

Easter Chick Trail. 1st - 30th April - Nine colourful chicks have hatched around Moor Pool this Easter! Can you find them all and complete our trail? Collect your trail map from the front of the Hall or download it from the MPHT website.

Fish & Chip Quiz Supper. Saturday 5th April 7.15pm - Gather the gang and get competitive for our ever-popular fish and chip quiz supper. Book your tickets at www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/shop This popular event is often sold out so register your interest. Next date is in June.

Let's Do Lego! Thursday 17th April 10am - 12pm - FREE Easter holiday Lego play session in the Main Hall. No need to book, just turn up!

Springtime Craft. Friday 25th April 10am - 12pm - Join us for a morning of seasonal crafting this Easter in the Main Hall. £5 per child. Places are limited so we recommend pre-booking at www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/shop

Heritage Talk: Battlefields of World War 1. Tuesday 29th April 6.30pm - 8pm - Paul Jaques and Dave Vaux from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment give an armchair guide to the WWI battlefields. Tickets £3 on the door.

Plant Sale at the Carless Eco Centre. Saturday 24th May 11am - 3pm - Selling flowers, fruit, veg and herb plants. Cash and card payments accepted.

Heritage Talk: Bertha Bracey, Holocaust Hero. Tuesday 27th May 6.30pm - 8pm - Dr Sian Roberts tells the story of Bertha Bracey, a Quaker from Bournville who saved 100's of children during the Holocaust. Tickets £3 on the door.

Let's Do Lego! Thursday 29th May 10am - 12pm - FREE half-term Lego play session in the Main Hall. No need to book, just turn up!

Half-Term Crafts. Friday 30th May 10am - 12pm - Join us for a morning of seasonal crafting in the Main Hall. £5 per child. Places are limited so we recommend pre-booking at www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/shop

Harborne Handmade Summer Market. Sunday 8th June 10am - 3pm - 25 of the best local makers selling their affordable art. Free entry.

Heritage Talk: 200 Years of Birmingham Medical School. Tuesday 24th June 6.30pm - 8pm - Professor Jonathan Reinartz gives a history of Birmingham Medical School, which celebrates its 200th anniversary this year. Tickets £3 on the door.

Fish & Chip Quiz Supper. Saturday 28th June 7.15pm - Gather the gang and get competitive for our ever-popular fish and chip quiz supper. Book your tickets at www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/shop

News From Clubs and Societies

Moor Pool Bowling Club

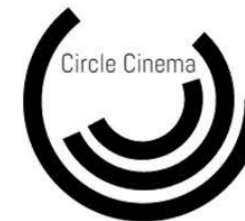
Crown Green Bowling is a great way to meet new people and do some gentle exercise in a beautiful setting. If you would like to give it a try come along to our open week-end on Saturday and Sunday 3rd/4th May between 2 and 4pm. Bowls will be provided and members of the club will be there to offer tips and instruction. If you are unable to make it but are interested in joining e-mail moorpoolbowling@gmail.com to arrange a visit. For more information use Google and search for Moor Pool Bowling Club. You will find us in Ravenhurst Road behind the pool.



The Circle Cinema Club

The club is planning to hold its next screening on Sunday 27th April. It will be one of the following films, depending on the outcome of members' votes:

- Loving Vincent
- Persepolis
- The Red Turtle



However, the club has had a problem with its projector which is currently being looked at by a specialist. It is possible that the screening may have to be rescheduled. Please check the website www.circlecinema.co.uk closer to the time for confirmation that the screening is going ahead or look out for posters around the estate. If you would like to join the club's mailing list, please email info@circlecinema.co.uk.

www.circlecinema.co.uk

Moor Pool Reading Group

Tim Davis writes 'The reading group met on 13th March to discuss *Trumpet* by Jackie Kay.



Set in the 1960s, the story is about jazz trumpeter Joss Moody and his family. It begins just after his death at which point he is found to be a woman. His wife knew but his adopted son did not. The book explores aspects of love, death, gender and sexuality with refreshing directness told by different characters in turn. We all enjoyed the book and had an interesting discussion about some of the issues it raised.

Our next meeting is on May 1st at 7.30pm, Moor Pool Lower Hall. We will be discussing *Death at the sign of the Rook* by Kate Atkinson. If you'd like to come, please contact gillianmorgan1952@gmail.com. New members are very welcome.'

Nettlefold Garden Summer Opening Hours 7 days a week 10-6

When the clocks change, so do Nettlefold Garden's opening hours. It's now officially summertime in the garden! From Monday 31st March the garden is open 7 days a week, 10am till 6pm. Huge thanks to the rota of volunteers who open and close the garden. If you'd like to lend a hand with this, please email nettlefoldgarden@gmail.com



Tai Chi classes take place in Nettlefold Garden every Tuesday, 10am - 11am, fee £4. Ideal for seniors, the classes help with breathing, coordination and balance.

Join us for

TAI CHI

in the peaceful surroundings of

Nettlefold Garden

Every Tuesday 10am to 11am
Attendance fee £4 per class
Beginners welcome

nettlefoldgarden@gmail.com

Yoga classes with Janette take place every Sunday, 9am - 10am, fee £5. The Nettlefold Garden is a great space for meditation at the start of a fresh, new day.

Enjoy a new YOGA CLASS with Janette

in the peace and tranquillity of Nettlefold Garden

Every Sunday morning
9am to 10am

Attendance fee £5 (cash)
Suitable for all abilities
Bring a mat and a blanket

Nettlefold Garden
Margaret Grove,
Harborne B17 9JH

What3Words:
loving.broom.boxing

For info contact: 07792 799423