

The Moor Pool Project – Initial Update

Amy Sanghera a member of the newly formed project team writes :

‘A Moor Pool Project Working Group has recently been formed to explore the possibilities of improving and safeguarding the future of the pool. The group brings together trustees, residents, fishing representatives and ecological advisers who are examining the condition of the pool and what practical steps may be required to restore it. Early investigations are focusing on understanding the build-up of sediment, the long-term water supply to the pool, and options for ecological improvement. At this stage the group is gathering information and assessing what might realistically be achievable. Further updates will be shared in future editions of The Moor Pool Duck as plans develop.

In the meantime, residents are warmly invited to support a community clear-up day, **“Your Moor Pool Needs You,”** on **Sunday 19th April from 10am to 1pm.** This will be a chance for volunteers to help tidy the pool area, meet members of the working group and contribute to the care of this much-loved local feature. Even an hour of help would make a real difference, and everyone is very welcome to come along and lend a hand.’

Spring
2026
edition 141

The Moor Pool DUCK Newsletter



What's On

Friday 27th March, 24th April and 29th May 12-1.30pm - Creative Wellbeing Session (LEAF Creative Arts CIC)
LEAF Creative Arts CIC uplifts, empowers and connects people through art, music and creative reminiscence. Join them for free monthly Creative Wellbeing sessions at Moor Pool Hall. These sessions are dementia friendly, carer friendly and accessible. To book, please email leafcreativearts@gmail.com or call 07746642387.

Saturday 28th March 10am-12pm Nettlefold Garden Spring Tidy-Up! - It's time for the Nettlefold Garden annual spring tidy-up! Please wear stout boots and gardening gloves. Bring a trowel, secateurs or border fork if you can.

Monday 30th March-Monday 20th April - The Great Moor Pool Chick Rescue - Last year, the crochet chicks hatched...but this year they've wandered off exploring Moor Pool! Can you help Mama Hen find the cheeky chicks and guide them back to the nest in time for Easter? Pick up your free trail map from outside the Hall or download one from 30th March on the Trust's website.

Thursday 9th April and Thursday 28th May 10am-12pm Let's Do Lego! - We have lots of different bricks so there's something for everyone to play with, from toddlers to teens. These sessions are free and open to all. No booking required, just turn up! Parents and carers can enjoy refreshments while the kids dive into a world of imagination. If you would prefer a quieter environment to play in, we will be opening from 9am for a limited number of people.

Friday 10th April and Saturday 11th April at 7.30 pm Luke Players present Rashomon - Tickets £12 (£10 concessions) available on Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/rashomontickets -1984376224706 . Limited number available at the door. Please note: Not suitable for children.

Friday 10th April and Friday 29th May 10am-12pm Springtime Crafts - Join us for a morning of seasonal crafting this Easter break and May half term. £5 per child. No booking required, just turn up! Cakes and drinks available to purchase.

Saturday April 18th An Evening With the Brandhall Community Choir - 7.30 p.m. Free Entry with Tea Coffee Cake and Snacks. BYO drinks. Come and enjoy songs games and cake. Moor Pool Main Hall.

MOOR POOL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
An Evening with the Brandhall Community Choir
An interactive evening of songs, games and of course cake!
Saturday April 18th 7.30
Moor Pool Main Hall
Tea and coffee will be served, cake and savoury snacks
Any other drinks - BYO
Free Entrance

Sunday 19th April 7.15pm Circle Cinema - A Robert Redford Film TBC. Doors open 6.15 for supper and refreshments.

Saturday 25th April and Saturday 20th June 7.15pm Fish & Chip Quiz Supper - Gather the gang and get competitive for our ever-popular quiz night. Tickets are £15 per person and are available to book through www.moorpoolhall.org.

uk/shop. Ticket price includes your choice of fish or halloumi and chips. Bring your own drinks.

Tuesday 28th April 7-8pm Heritage Talk: The Austin Village - Hazel Griffiths of the Austin Village Preservation Society. Tickets £3 on the door. Refreshments will be available to purchase from 6.30pm.

Saturday 9th May 11am-2.30pm Carless Eco Centre Plant Sale - Early access from 10am for Friends of Moor Pool. We'll be selling plants, cakes, drinks and tools. There will also be a free mud kitchen and sunflower seed planting for the kids. Cash and card payments accepted. All profits going back into conserving Moor Pool Estate.

Sunday 17th May 10am-12.45pm Pitstop Playtime - Join Pitstop Playtime for two extended sessions: 10am-11.15pm and 11.30-12.45pm. With a wide range of exciting car-themed equipment to fuel endless fun! Book tickets through Pitstop Playtime.

Tuesday 26th May 7-8pm Heritage Talk: Sweet Heritage - We will be joined by historian, Emma Barron-Scott, who will explore the history of sweet making in the West Midlands, with free samples and old school sweets to buy. Tickets £3 on the door. Refreshments will be available to purchase from 6.30pm.

Sunday 7th June Circle Cinema: 10th Anniversary Double Bill - Moor Pool's resident film club, Circle Cinema, are screening a double bill to celebrate their 10th anniversary. Films TBC.

Sunday 14th June 10am-3pm Harborne Handmade Summer Market - 25 of the best local makers selling their unique and handmade products, as well as cake and hot drinks. Entry is free.

CARLESS ECO CENTRE PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 9TH MAY
11-2.30

Entry from 10am for
Friends of Moor Pool

We'll be selling plants, tools
and cakes!

Free mud kitchen and sunflower
seed planting for children.

CASH OR CARD



Keep Dancing

Whether you are a beginner, haven't danced in a while or dance regularly, Keep Dancing is the perfect class for you. You'll learn many different dance routines from around the world and you don't need a partner.

Our classes will remain socially distanced and the space well ventilated. We want you to continue to feel confident to come along to our classes.

Places are limited so booking in advance is essential
Book here www.xpress-yourself.co.uk/dance-classes

Tuesday's 13:30-14:30
Moor Pool Hall, The Circle, Harborne
Classes are £6.



Special offer for NEW DANCERS! 6 classes for £12
<https://xpress-yourself.co.uk/product/new-dancer-keep-dancing-harborne-dance-class-6-week-booking/>

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From the Chair of the Residents Association | www.moorpool.org.uk

Am I a member?

There can be confusion between membership of the Residents Association and membership of the Moor Pool Heritage Trust. To be a member of the Trust you must have lived on the estate for three years and there is no charge for membership although you may have made a donation since it is a charity. The Residents Association is open to anyone living on the estate – no time limit for eligibility, and the cost of membership is £10 annually per household.

We hope that if you are a member, you would have set up a standing order for your subscription and updated it to reflect the current membership fee. Our bank details can be found on the website: www.moorpool.org.uk

What do your subscriptions pay for?

If we have a free event with refreshments (such as Carols In The Hall) we use the money to pay for those refreshments. There is a cost to the printing of The Duck. The MRA pays for that with a contribution from the Trust. Committee members have some modest expenses. Recently we were able to offer to pay if a contractor was required to take away the leaf debris volunteers had collected – see story below. This proved to be unnecessary in the end but that the offer was there, made the clean-up possible.

West Pathway Clean Up!

On Sunday March 1st a volunteer group of 40 residents of all ages met, armed with brooms and spades, to clear the huge piles of leaf debris which were filling West Pathway, reducing it to single carriageway and causing blocked drains and slippery unsafe pavements. At the MRA



AGM in January this issue had been raised, and a decision was taken to ask for volunteers to form a work party to clear the leaves with the MRA agreeing to pay for a contractor to take the bagged debris away if the Council did not.

Sunday was a dry day, and the volunteers set to and there were enough people also to do some clearing in upper Moor Pool Avenue and Ravenhurst Rd by the pool.

West Pathway was clear by the early afternoon with a huge pile of bagged up leaves ready on the verge for collection.

Cllr Martin Brooks was contacted later the same day and in turn he contacted BCC's Street Cleaning team and they turned up on Monday afternoon to take all the bags away. So good to see West Pathway clean and tidy. Congratulations to the volunteers who did all the hard work and many thanks to Sal Bourner who organised the whole thing.



New Gas Pipes

I think everyone will be aware that Cadent have been back on the Estate again putting a new gas main down Carless Avenue. I spoke to the team leader and reminded them that the verges needed to be repaired with good soil and the kerbstones replaced. The conversation was amicable. Whether we can get the damage to the verges opposite where heavy vehicles have gone over the kerbs and verges because the road was narrowed remains to be seen.

A sociable, musical evening on April 18th

The Association's Spring event will be an evening with the Brandhall Community Choir in the Moor Pool main hall on April 18th at 7.30 in the evening. Those of you who came to Carols in the Hall before Christmas know how entertaining the choir is and they are coming back by popular demand. This will be a chance to socialise, enjoy the music with snacks and cake, tea and coffee (or BYO if you would prefer something stronger!)

Margaret Harrold chair@moorpool.org.uk

Heritage Festival September 2026

Do you have memories of working life at Moor Pool?

The butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker - what did previous residents of Moor Pool do for a living and what was their daily life like? This year Heritage Open Days 2026 is exploring everyday working lives and we are delving into Moor Pool's working past.

Did you, your parents or grandparents work at Chad Valley, teach at a local school or factory, or something else? Did you work at the Builder's Yard or for Harborne Tenants? Run a business or trade from home? Do you remember what your neighbours did? How did they travel to work? Do you have any stories you can share about working life at Moor Pool?

We would love to hear your stories! Please get in touch with Barbara at manager@moorpoolhall.com.

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 25th / 26th April 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.

Moor Pool Reading Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday May 14th in the Lower Hall at 7.30 p.m.

The book for discussion is 'The Age of Innocence' by Edith Wharton.



New members welcome.

For further information please contact Gill Morgan gillianmorgan1952@gmail.com

Moor Pool Skittles Club

Moor Pool Skittles Club Mondays 7.30 p.m - 9.00 p.m.



Come and join us for a friendly welcome, mild exercise and lots of good humour. We have the occasional session on a Wednesday evening and a variety of social evenings throughout the year. During the evening hot drinks and biscuits are available for a modest sum. Within the club there is a competitive element, though fairly lighthearted and visitors are always welcome to join the fun.

Please be aware that the club is for over 16yrs only and access to the alley is via steps down to the Lower Hall and then up steps from the kitchen area, all of which can be difficult to negotiate. It's a good idea to contact before coming along as we do sometimes have to cancel a session at short notice.

For more information contact Tina at tsuzanne444@gmail.com or 07757967264

The Circle Cinema Club

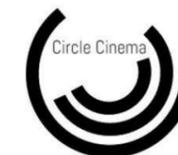
Next Showing is on Sunday 19th April.

The next Circle Cinema screening will be a film starring Robert Redford. This is a members' choice screening so the film title will be confirmed after the vote has closed.

Doors open at 6.15pm for refreshments and tea and coffee (BYO drinks) and the film will start at 7.15pm.

2026 Future dates for your diary

Sunday June 7th, Sunday 6th September; Sunday 18th October; Sunday 6th December



The Circle Cinema Club celebrates its 10th Anniversary

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Circle Cinema will be showing a special event double bill on Sunday 7th June.

3pm Family Film
(title to be confirmed)

7.15pm Cinema Classic: Casablanca

Delicious refreshments will be available before both films. For more information please visit: www.circlecinema.co.uk



Nettlefold Garden

The garden volunteers have been busy tidying borders and re-seeding parts of the lawn ready for spring and from 28th March the garden will be open every day from 10am to 6pm until the end of October. We hope you enjoy your visit!

Nettlefold Garden is a wildlife friendly space with plants for pollinators and plenty of habitat where creatures can live. It's nesting time now; birdsong is pepping up and will reach its peak in early May. One way to enjoy the singing is through the Merlin app. Merlin listens for birdsong and tells you what's singing. I'm always amazed at how many species are around!

City Nature Challenge

This another way to enjoy our local nature. It's a global bioblitz that takes place April 24th to 27th. Using the iNaturalist app, we can record all our local species and learn about them at the same time. Worth doing, and fun to help push our region up the global chart of cities taking part!

Find out more on the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust website: www.bbcwildlife.org.uk

Any questions about Nettlefold Garden? Email us at nettlefoldgarden@gmail.com