

## Harborne Banking Hub to open in July

Many Harborne residents have approached me with concerns that Lloyds Bank, our last bank branch on the High Street, will be closing in October. This is a real blow for customers who rely on face-to-face support, and disproportionately impacts the elderly, disabled and low-income individuals. Local businesses are also adversely affected.

It's therefore welcome news that a banking hub will be opening in Harborne in late July. Banking hubs are shared spaces offering face to face banking services in areas where traditional bank branches have closed. They're a tried and tested model, with over 200 banking hubs now operating nationally. They're run by Cash Access UK, a not-for-profit company owned by the major banks.

The Harborne banking Hub will be located at 93a High Street, next to the Post Office, and will be open 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Fridays. There are two elements to a banking hub, a counter service available throughout opening hours, and one to one personal banking services. The counter service, run by the Post Office, will be available to customers of all banks. We'll be able to pay in cash (notes and coins) and cheques, withdraw cash check balances, pay utility bills and top up gas and electricity. Businesses will also be able to access change-giving services.

Five banks – in Harborne likely to be HSBC, Nat West, Lloyds, Halifax and Barclays – will each be providing personal banking services one day a week. This means that you'll be able to talk face-to-face with a community banker from your own bank in a private space within the hub about more complicated banking enquiries like payments and transfers, managing your account, and how to use online banking.

**Cllr Martin Brooks**

[Martin.J.Brooks@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Martin.J.Brooks@birmingham.gov.uk)



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](http://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/>

## We've Just Been Told It's Dementia – What Do We Do Now?

Receiving a diagnosis of dementia can be frightening and overwhelming. Many people describe feeling shocked, anxious and unsure what to do next. Family members and friends often experience similar emotions and may worry about what the future holds.

The first thing to remember is that you are not alone. Whilst there is currently no cure for dementia, there is a great deal of support available and many people continue to lead fulfilling and meaningful lives for years after diagnosis.

It can help to take things one step at a time. Not everything has to be sorted immediately. Maintaining familiar routines, staying socially connected, keeping physically active and eating well can all help people remain independent for longer. Simple measures around the home, such as improving lighting, removing trip hazards, using reminder notes and calendars, and encouraging regular hydration, can make a real difference.

Family members and carers often tell me that they feel they need to have all the answers or cope alone. In reality, dementia is a journey that no one should have to face without support. Reaching out early and accepting help can benefit both the person living with dementia and those closest to them.

Over the past 20 years, I have met many families who have discovered that life does not stop with a diagnosis. People living with dementia still need friendship, purpose and meaningful relationships. Small things, such as continuing hobbies, attending local groups or simply enjoying a cup of tea with friends, can have a huge impact on wellbeing.

Earlier this year, Home Instead was pleased to support the Fun Family Day at Moor Pool Hall alongside Age UK and the Alzheimer's Society, where I had the privilege of delivering a Dementia Awareness session. It was wonderful to see local residents, families and organisations coming together to raise awareness and support one another.

If you or someone close to you has recently received a diagnosis of dementia and are unsure where to turn, please remember that support is available. Home Instead is always happy to offer advice and signpost people to appropriate organisations and services, whether or not they require home care. Sometimes, just having a conversation with someone who understands can make all the difference.

### Useful contacts



**Alzheimer's Society**

Alzheimer's Society  
[www.alzheimers.org.uk](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk)  
Dementia Support Line:  
0333 150 3456



**Home Instead**  
[www.homeinstead.co.uk](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk)  
For further information  
of support at home:  
0121 456 5559

*Terry Cheung has worked in dementia care for over 20 years and regularly delivers free Dementia Awareness talks within the local community. He is also a Mental Health First Aid England Instructor. Please call 0121 456 5559 for any free dementia awareness training.*

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# The Moor Pool DUCK Newsletter



## What's On

**22nd June - 13th September Moor Pool 5k Summer Challenge** (You can run, walk, or complete the challenge in a wheelchair anywhere in and around Moor Pool, in one go or spread the distance out over the 12 weeks. It's all about getting active and enjoying the outdoors and Moor Pool at your own pace, whether you're aiming for a personal best or enjoying time out with the family and friends, the challenge is for everyone of all ages and abilities. Register at <https://www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/moor-pool-5k-2026/>

**Tuesday 30th June 7-8pm Heritage Talk: Collars, Corsets and Social class, part 2** - Connor McGrath and Willow Pinchin, vintage clothing experts and collectors, return to further explore social history through fashion. Tickets £3 on the door. Refreshments from 6.30pm.

**12th July - 21st September - The Worker Bees of Moor Pool trail** - The worker bees of Moor Pool are busy helping the garden suburb run smoothly, each with an important job to do. Visit all 9 stops on the map, complete the mini challenges, and discover how people worked and lived in the early days of the Moor Pool Estate.

**Saturday 18th July 10.30am-1.15pm Pitstop Playtime x Train Time** - Two extended sessions of non-stop car and train play! £13.95 per child. Book tickets at <https://pitstopplaytime.co.uk/pages/book-tickets>

**Thursday 23rd July, 6th and 27th August 10am-12pm Let's Do Lego!** - Free Lego play sessions. We have lots of different bricks so there's something for everyone to play with, from toddlers to teens. All you need to bring is enthusiasm and imagination.

**Tuesday 28th July 7-8pm Heritage Talk: The history of sanitation and public health in the 19th and 20th century in Birmingham and the West Midlands** - With Professor Justine Pick. Tickets £3 on the door. Refreshments from 6.30pm.

**Friday 31st July and 14th August 10am-12pm Summertime Crafts** - Join us for a morning of seasonal crafting this summer. £5 per child. No booking required, just turn up!

**Sunday 6 September 7.15pm Circle Cinema: The Penguin Lessons** - Moor Pool's resident film club. Tickets on the door are £6 for non-members or £1 for members.

**Sunday 13 September 10am-3pm Harborne Handmade Autumn Market** - 25 of the best local makers selling their unique and handmade products, as well as cake and hot drinks.



and

## Nettlefold Garden Garden Party



### Sunday July 5th

2.00 to 4.00

At Nettlefold Garden on Margaret Grove  
Children's Fancy Dress  
Major Mustard – back by popular demand  
Music, Children's Games, Refreshments



**Sunday 20th September 11am-3pm Moor Pool Heritage Festival** - Join us for this annual celebration of the unique heritage and vibrant community spirit of the Moor Pool Estate! Taking place in the heart of one of Birmingham's 'best kept architectural secrets' (according to English Heritage), the festival offers a fun-filled day for all ages. Explore the charming architecture, lush green spaces and heritage buildings that make Moor Pool so special.

**Saturday 26th September 7.15pm Fish & Chip Quiz Supper** - Gather the gang and get competitive for our ever-popular fish and chip quiz supper! Tickets are £15 per person (incl. your choice of fish or halloumi and chips) and will be available to book online soon. Bring your own drinks.

**Tuesday 29th September 7-8pm Heritage Talk: Birmingham's Dad's Army** - With Paul Jaques and Dave Vaux from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Tickets £3 on the door. Refreshments from 6.30pm.

**Saturday 3rd October 7.15-10pm Silent Disco** - Dance like no one is watching, sing like no one is listening! We will have three different music channels to choose from so there will be something for everyone to groove to! Tickets are £10 per person. Tickets must be pre-booked and will be available to book online soon.

## From the Chair of the Residents Association | [www.moorpool.org.uk](http://www.moorpool.org.uk)

### From the MRA Chair

Well summer has well and truly arrived with another heatwave! There is so much to enjoy at this time of the year, plus this year football fans have the World Cup too. In our own backyard the MRA is preparing for a Garden Party in partnership with Nettlefold Garden and this year we are determined not to be rained off as we were last year! Major Mustard will be back with his puppet show and there will be lots of games for the children who are invited to come in Fancy Dress. 2-4 on Sunday July 5th.

### Update on the Traffic Calming proposal for Ravenhurst Rd

The proposed scheme for Ravenhurst Rd beside the pool was, it seemed accepted, but after a late petition was sent to the Council objecting on the grounds that parking spaces would be lost and potential noise there is to be a further consultation. The MRA had supported the proposal on road safety grounds whilst noting that some residents were concerned about a loss of parking and potential noise from proposed speed cushions. The MRA will respond again when the new consultation comes out. Whatever your view is please respond, as the number of responses matter when a decision is taken.

### Banking Hub coming to Harborne High St.

Those that bank with Lloyds will be aware that the branch on Harborne High St is to close in October. However, there will be a Banking Hub which will serve the major banks in a limited way. In this edition our local Cllr. Martin Brooks has written a piece describing where it will be and how it will operate.

### Living with Dementia

Recently Terry Cheung of care providers Home Instead supported the Dementia Fun Day which took place at Moor Pool Hall last month alongside Age UK and the Alzheimer's Society. He told me 'I also had the privilege of delivering the dementia awareness session on the day, and it was encouraging to see so many local residents attend and engage with the event.' He has written a positive and helpful article for the Duck which also signposts where help is available if you or a family member is facing a dementia diagnosis.

### Trees and TPOs

It was recently brought to the attention of the MRA that a tree had been taken down on the Estate without the reason being apparent. As chair of the Association, I contacted the Council's Tree Preservation Officer to enquire what procedures the Council has when permission is sought – as it should be – to take a tree down. All the trees on the Estate are under Tree Preservation Orders. He explained

that as it would be both impractical and very expensive for a full assessment to be carried out by the Council on each tree where there is a request to remove it, the Council is guided by photos and information which they receive from contractors. All reputable tree surgeons will do this as they could be liable if they removed a tree without permission. The request for removal is assessed by the qualified Council Arboricultural Officer. In the case mentioned he had observed himself from the photos submitted that the tree was damaged as well as growing around a fence which would lead to more damage and perhaps disease which could cause the tree to fall.

The Association was pleased to have the reassurance that all requests are properly considered before permission for removal - or not - is granted.

Margaret Harrold [chair@moorpool.org.uk](mailto:chair@moorpool.org.uk)



### Become a Friend of Moor Pool!

If you love Moor Pool and want to keep its historic character, please donate!

You can become a Friend of Moor Pool by making a regular monthly donation of £5, £10 or £20. By donating to Moor Pool Heritage Trust on a regular basis, you will help to: conserve the character of our beautiful garden suburb and listed buildings; maintain the green environment of trees, pool and parks; help us to deliver our educational programme. You will also receive priority notice of MPHT activities, including early booking for our ever-popular Santa's grotto!

Find out more at <https://www.moorpoolhall.org.uk/get-involved/friends-of-moor-pool/>



## News from Clubs and Societies

### Book Club

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm in the Lower Hall on 2 July, when we'll be discussing A Long Winter by Colm Toibin. We are a friendly group and welcome new members – please contact [gillianmorgan1952@gmail.com](mailto:gillianmorgan1952@gmail.com) for further information.



Having read Small Pleasures by Clare Chambers in March, the choice for May was The Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton, written in 1920. The book looks back to the vanished world of upper class New York in the 1870s. It forensically examines the social rules of the time and what happens when they are potentially challenged. Although the first chapter seemed initially offputting, the book was widely enjoyed because of its clever, observational and witty writing, vividly drawn characters and the insight it gives into this period in history.

### Circle Cinema

After a very successful double bill in June to celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the club the next screening will be on September 6th and the chosen film is **The Penguin Lessons** starring Steve Coogan and Jonathan Pryce. Doors open at 6.15 for refreshments and tea and coffee (BYO drinks) and the film starts at 7.15. [www.circlecinema.co.uk](http://www.circlecinema.co.uk)



### Moor Pool Skittles Club

Our Summer season is well under way, even if in recent weeks weather has not been as summery as we'd like! However, there is always a warm and friendly welcome in the Skittle Club. So do come along and join us for some mild exercise, good fun and lots of good humour!



We generally play on Monday from 7.30pm finishing around 9pm. Please be aware that the club is for over 16yrs only and access to the alley is via steps down to the Lower Hall which can be difficult to negotiate. Contact us before coming along contact Tina at [tsuzanne444@gmail.com](mailto:tsuzanne444@gmail.com) or 07757967264

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## MOORPOOL BOWLING CLUB

Have you ever thought of trying Crown Green Bowling. It is a great way to meet new people and do some gentle exercise in a beautiful setting.

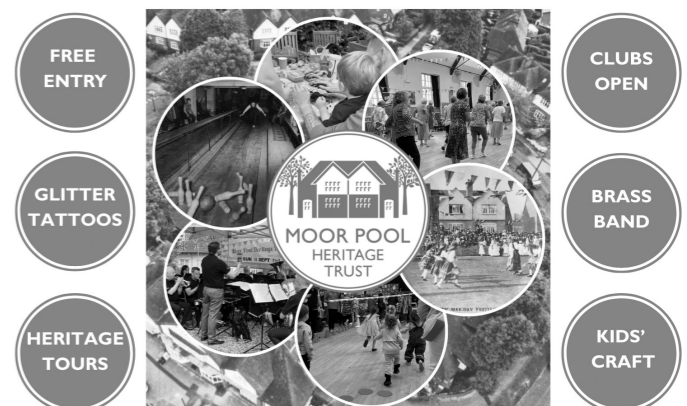
For more information use Google and search for Moor Pool Bowling Club.

We are offering 2 free lessons, bowls will be provided, to book your first lesson email [moorpoolbowling@gmail.com](mailto:moorpoolbowling@gmail.com)

You will find us in Ravenhurst Road behind the pool.



## MOOR POOL HERITAGE FESTIVAL Sunday 20th September 11am-3pm



Join us as we open the doors of our heritage community facilities to celebrate life on the Moor Pool Estate. This year's Heritage Open Days theme is 'Everyday Working Lives' and you can discover what the original residents of Moor Pool did for a living, as well as exploring this unique garden suburb's history, hidden spaces, clubs and societies. Fun for all the family with demos, performances, tours and trails across the Estate, with its green spaces and Arts & Crafts buildings.

Find out more at [www.moorpoolhall.org.uk](http://www.moorpoolhall.org.uk)



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