

## Estate Trees Plan

Recently an original hand-annotated map from 1971 of every tree on the Moor Pool Estate was passed to the MRA by a long time resident of the estate. This plan was annotated by a draughtsman in the City Engineers Dept to show all the trees on the Moor Pool. The estate which comprises around 500 houses was championed by the pro-active city councillor J S Nettlefold, of GKN the screw maker. Started in 1907 the land was away from the then polluted centre of Birmingham and was planned with green spaces and many trees.

The paper used for this map was low quality and although it is still intact it has deteriorated. The Association wanted to have a copy of the map on display in the Moor Pool Hall for all to see. The team at a company called Genusit very kindly offered to do a scan on a SMA hi-res scanner and do some careful digital re-touching. Local company Precision Imaging printed, mounted and over-laminated the plan, and an aluminium frame came from another local company LION PFS Ltd.

It will be donated to the Trust. Thanks go to all three companies for their generosity in carrying out the work and donating the scanned, printed and framed map.

## Streetwatch- news from our Streetwatch Group Darker Nights Home Safety Tips



Moor Pool StreetWatch is 6 years old in December so here's a big thank you to all our volunteers for giving up their free time to patrol and build community spirit in our area. We've put together some useful tips to help keep you safe this winter by layering up your home security:-

- Criminals take advantage of insecure windows and doors. Close and lock them even if you're just popping out. Upgrade back door lock barrels to TS007 3-star Kite mark anti-snap cylinders. Find out more here: [www.locksmiths.co.uk/faq/lock-snapping-most-secure-lock-cylinder/](http://www.locksmiths.co.uk/faq/lock-snapping-most-secure-lock-cylinder/)
- Fit a doorbell cam, sensor spotlight cams or consider a home security system with visible cameras and alarm box.
- Fit timer lights to come on at dusk - socket plugins are great for lamps or WiFi bulbs fitted to ceiling lights can be switched on/off using an app.
- Keep your valuables out of sight - close blinds or curtains to prevent prying eyes.
- Tell a trusted neighbour when you're away; give them a spare key or invest in a secure key lockbox.
- Store bikes and garden equipment away from view in sheds or garages; place wheelie bins away from

low fences or outbuildings. Upgrade shed security to hardened steel hasp-style locks.

- Secure your boundary gates by upgrading bolts and padlocks to a key barrel throw lock, and add trellis to fences under 6ft.

For advice from West Midlands Police visit [www.westmidlands.police.uk/police-forces/west-midlands-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/27-station-road/](http://www.westmidlands.police.uk/police-forces/west-midlands-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/27-station-road/)

To report crime or anything suspicious call 101 or please visit [www.westmidlands.police.uk](http://www.westmidlands.police.uk)

In an emergency always dial **999**.

We also ask you to please check up on your neighbours especially elderly and vulnerable during the colder weather. If they are struggling to get out, offer to put their bins out, fetch their groceries or medicines. If there's an immediate risk of harm, call the emergency services on 999. If you're very concerned about someone's health or welfare but don't think it's an emergency, call 111 for NHS advice, 24 hours a day.

Wishing you all a sparkly StreetWatch Christmas and Happy New Year!



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# The Moor Pool DUCK Newsletter



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Join The Residents Association for **Carols In The Hall** on  
Sunday December 15th 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.



Free to all  
Mince Pies and Mulled Wine(or a hot drink)



## From the Chair of the Moor Pool Residents Association

### Santa is bringing Christmas!

Come and celebrate with the Moor Pool Trust and The Moor Pool Residents Association. Santa will be leaving the Moor Pool Hall at 5.00 p.m. on Saturday December 7th – follow his sleigh around the Estate. Santa will be in his Grotto on Sunday December 8th £5 per child including a gift. There will be refreshments and craft too. Find him in the main hall.



### Like to sing Carols and Christmas songs?

Like mulled wine and mince pies? Then come to the Association's Christmas Event 'Carols In The Hall'. Singing will be led in inimitable style by Jules Bellingham and on the piano will be our very own Geoff Salminen. Sunday December 15th 2.00-4.00.

There have been public meetings about two proposals that will interest everyone on the Estate. Inside you will find further details from The Circle Tennis Club who wish to install lighting so that playing time can be extended. There is also information from Better Streets about proposed traffic calming measures in Harborne which if implemented will have an impact on all of us.

## Association AGM

A date for your new diaries!  
January 25th 2025 12.30 p.m. Main Hall.

### A Reminder

Your annual membership subscription of £8 per household will be due on January 1st 2025. If you haven't yet set up a standing order that is the easiest way for you and the association to keep track! If you prefer cash please put it in an envelope with your name, address and contact details and leave it at the Trust Office marked for the attention of the MRA Membership Secretary. However a payment direct to the Association's bank account is simpler for us if you can arrange it. Sort code: 30-19-14; Account Number: 03808193. Don't forget to use your surname as a reference so that we can match your payment to our records.

What does my subscription pay for you might enquire? The modest amounts we have allow us to pay for our website, any event costs, printing of The Duck and Committee expenses. Recently we also funded the printing of the Estate Design Guide which was delivered in early October, with The Duck, to every house on the Estate and to local Estate Agents, our Councillors and the Conservation Officer of Birmingham City Council.

The Design Guide can also be viewed on the Association's website.

**Margaret Harrold**  
[chair@moorpool.org](mailto:chair@moorpool.org)  
[www.moorpool.org](http://www.moorpool.org)

## Moor Pool Traffic Calming Measures

### The following message is from the Group Better Streets for Harborne and Quinton

‘Do you want safer streets and cleaner air? Better Streets for Harborne & Quinton, a community group of local residents, has identified a unique funding opportunity to improve the traffic situation in Moor Pool. Every year it gets worse, and we have the chance to trial something to make it better.

We want to:

- lower the amount of through traffic on the estate
- prioritise access for local residents to their own houses
- make the streets safer for our children
- improve the air quality

Traffic interventions are extremely expensive, and the funding isn't huge. So we've put together a map of how two different low cost interventions might look using modal filters. Any changes implemented would be on a 12-18 month trial. We've been round door knocking to gauge feeling, and hosted a couple of community events, but we want to share these ideas further.

Please take a look at the plans at <https://betterstreetshq.com>

On the Better Streets website you can also find contact information, all the data collected, ideas and images, as well as a form on which you can provide comments.’

## What's On

**Sunday 1st December 11-3 - Harborne Handmade Winter Market** 25 of the best local makers selling their unique and handmade products, as well as cake from the fabulous Lil's Parlour. Free entry.

**Sunday 1st December 7.15pm - Circle Cinema: The Holdovers** A 2023 Christmas comedy directed by Alexander Payne and written by David Hemingson. Tickets £5 on the door or £1 for members.

**Thursday 5th December 8pm - Sound Healing Session** A new weekly session that invites you to unwind, releasing stress and promoting a sense of calm and connection through the power of sound. Lower Hall, bring your own yoga mat.

**Saturday 7th December 5pm - Santa comes to Moor Pool!** Follow his sleigh tour of the Estate starting at 5pm from Moor Pool Hall. More details and the route can be found on [www.moorpool.org.uk](http://www.moorpool.org.uk)

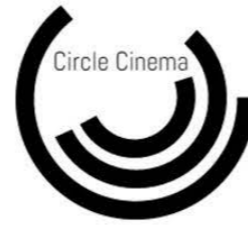
**Sunday 8th December 11-1 - Santa's Grotto** Meet Santa in his Grotto in the Main Hall. £5 per child including gift. Crafts and refreshments also available.

**Sunday 15th December 2-4pm - Carols in the Hall** Join the MRA for Christmas carols in the Main Hall.

## News From Clubs and Societies

### The Circle Cinema Club

On Sunday December 1st the club will be screening **The Holdovers** which is the members choice. The proceeds from this screening will go to two charities, Lets Feed Brum and SIFA Fireside.



Instead of a fixed price the Club will be asking for donation. Every single penny will go to the chosen charities as the Cinema Club will cover all the screening costs. Thanks go to the Moor Pool Heritage Trust who kindly let the hall free for this event.

Doors open at 6.15 p.m. for the usual refreshments, including hot food and hot drinks. The film starts at 7.15p.m.

The Club is always looking for volunteers to help run the screenings. If you can help with setting up beforehand and/or clearing away afterwards they would love to hear from you.

Contact Eloise Lewis [ehjr201@googlemail.com](mailto:ehjr201@googlemail.com)

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

### Moor Pool Reading Group

*Sue Scholes writes... Despite the brevity of Small Things Like These by Claire Keegan (discussed by The Reading Group on 12 September), it produced animated discussions which more than filled the meeting time. Set in Ireland in 1985, the book considers the power of the Church in a small community. There was universal praise for the beautiful writing and the handling of the moral dilemma faced by the main character.*



The Group met on 14th November and discussed 'Foster' again by Claire Keegan", which was thoroughly enjoyed by the group, although everyone struggled to understand the ending! This was later revealed by reference to notes made by the author herself.

**The Reading Group will meet again on 23rd January 7.00 p.m. for its AGM. The book under discussion will be 'The Vanishing Half' by Brit Bennett**

If you would like to join the group please contact [gillianmorgan1952@gmail.com](mailto:gillianmorgan1952@gmail.com). New members are very welcome.

### Nettlefold Garden

Nettlefold Garden - **Tai Chi** class every Tuesday morning (whatever the weather!) 10am to 11am. Attendance fee £4. Suitable for beginners and seniors.



Nettlefold Garden - **Yoga with Janette** every Sunday morning 9am to 10am. Attendance fee £5.

The Nettlefold Garden annual Spooktacular was a great success - it was seriously spooky to see the garden filled with small children having fun! Thanks to everyone who came and everyone who helped and congratulations to the winners of the pumpkin and fancy dress competitions. If you have any suggestions for other events you would like to see in the garden please email the committee [nettlefoldgarden@gmail.com](mailto:nettlefoldgarden@gmail.com)

### Wildlife-friendly planting at Moor Pool Hall

I hope you've been enjoying the new planting by the steps to Lower Hall and the Estate Office! The plan is to gradually move round The Circle getting the shrubs under control so that the Halls can be more easily maintained. At the same time the aim is to make the planting better for wildlife so we'll be removing some of the laurel and replacing it with flowering shrubs. Any comments or if you'd like to help, please contact Cathy Perry [greengardengateway@gmail.com](mailto:greengardengateway@gmail.com)



### Moor Pool Skittles Club

If you have not yet seen our wonderful skittle alley with both a flat and crowned playing surface, then do come and pay us a visit. We are a small but friendly club, always happy to show off this amazing asset.



We play most Mondays from 7.30p.m. till about 9.00 p.m.; within the club there is an element of competition between members but you are welcome to come and have a go. The competition element is around a championship, one each for ladies and men, in both our Winter and Summer season.

The Alley has a great deal of history so do come along and let us share some stories! Please be aware that the club is for over 16 yrs only for insurance reasons; access is via the steps to the lower hall and then up steps from the kitchen area, which can be difficult to negotiate.

All the Club members Wish You A Very Merry and Peaceful Christmas and New Year. For more information contact;

Tina [tsuzanne444@gmail.com](mailto:tsuzanne444@gmail.com) or 07757 967264

## The Circle Tennis Club - Lighting Proposal



The Club would like to install lighting to extend the playing time and have sent the following information;

“The Circle Tennis Club is exploring a non-intrusive court lighting solution called ‘TWEENER’. These are ‘strip’ lights that would be attached to the inside of the fence surrounding the courts. The lights are designed to be subtle, ensuring they do not disrupt the surrounding environment. The reasons for the lights are three-fold.

Firstly, **Mental and Physical Health Benefits**. As winter darkness shortens our days, the opportunity for outdoor exercise fades. But tennis, a dynamic and heart-healthy sport, can thrive under floodlights, keeping us active, fit, and connected. Playing during the winter months helps combat Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) by lifting spirits and improving mental well-being, making sure the darker days don't dim our health.

Secondly, **Community Engagement and Relationship Building**. Floodlit courts bring more than just evening games - they create a hub for social connection and community. Evening play offers the chance to organize tournaments, social matches, and gatherings that strengthen bonds and foster friendships. In a world where connection matters more than ever, these lights will help us come together.

Thirdly, **Enhanced Security**. Better lighting means a safer community. Floodlights deter crime and increase visibility, not just for players but for everyone in the neighbourhood. More activity around the club keeps it vibrant, welcoming, and secure. The lighting will be switched off at a designated time to respect the local area's peace and quiet.”

If you have any questions or comments contact: Matt Hillman, Chairman of The Circle Tennis Club,

Email: [MattHillmanTennis@hotmail.com](mailto:MattHillmanTennis@hotmail.com)

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



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.

Ready to create your future?  
Fed up with mediocrity?  
From tech to law, I empower people with psychological DNA secrets.  
Locally based here in Moor Pool, trusted by Deloitte, The British Army and DPD UK.  
**Confidential 1:1 Coaching:**  
Contact: [hello@danigrieveson.com](mailto:hello@danigrieveson.com)