



THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

Formed to protect a unique area of Birmingham

Charity No. 512211



LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

December 2012

Chris Sutton: Moseley Exchange, 149-153 Alcester Road, Moseley B13 8JP **Tel:** 0121 449 8585 **Email:** vcqcbham@yahoo.co.uk

Web: www.moseleyhistory.co.uk

Moseley Memorial

Graham Underhill asked if we could find out more about a gravestone in the churchyard of St James the Great in Harvington, Worcestershire. The stone reads:

In Loving Memory
of
MARIE,
DAUGHTER OF
JAMES & CATHERINE LILLEY,
OF MOSELEY,
BORN NOV. 30 - 1868,
DIED JULY 9 - 1895.
BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART
FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD.
MATT.V.8.



Adrian

King took this lovely seasonal image in 2010.

It is the homepage image on our website for the festive season.



We have some insight into **Marie Lilley** and her family from the 1891 census which tells us that the Lilley family lived at 47 Kingswood Road, in Moseley. James Lilley (a Printer) was born in Thorpe le Soken, Essex, in 1839. His wife, Catherine, was born Manningham, Essex, in the same year. There are three children listed at home, these being Marie, who was born in Harborne in 1868, James, Clerk in Newspaper Office, born Kings Norton 1876 and Catherine, who, intriguingly, is an Artist (painter) born in Edgbaston 1865.

In 1901 the rest of the family are living back in Essex. The death certificate might reveal what Marie Lilley's occupation was and therefore what she was doing in Harvington. The likely situation is that she was working in a large house as a domestic.



Sycamore House Home For Boys, 13 Park Road

Sycamore House Home for Boys started life as an independent children's home at 37 Highgate Street established by **Miss Emma Simcox** in 1904. Unfortunately within three years the existing building had become unsuitable for the children's needs, and the 26 boys aged 7-12 moved to Sycamore House 13, Park Road (*left*). The Archdeacon of Birmingham dedicated this new Home on 12th February 1907. Regrettably, Miss Simcox passed away on 7th February and a brass tablet was placed in her honour in the Home's hall.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, the boys were evacuated to Matlock. After the War the home reopened, and in 1949 it started caring for girls as well as boys. Sycamore House finally closed in 1967.

GARFIELD MORGAN I found out was born in Birmingham and, even better, is the latest celebrity to be added to the roster of those born in Moseley. He was born at the Sorrento Maternity hospital on Wake Green Road on 13th March 1931. His parents lived in Walford Road, Sparkbrook and Morgan was initially apprenticed to a dental mechanic before he got his teeth into acting. His professional debut was in July 1953, in Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, as part of the Arena Theatre Company, for the city's sixth summer theatre festival. He had many parts on stage and television but will always best remembered for playing Frank Haskins – the boss of Regan and Carter - in *The Sweeney*. He was married to the actress Dilys Laye and he died in 2009.

January 23rd 7:30 in the Red Room *The Ledsam Street dynamite conspiracy*

In 1883 Victorian Birmingham was shocked to learn that a painting and decorating shop in Ladywood was playing host to a Fenian conspiracy to blow up major targets in London. The trial of the conspirators was openly reported with every detail eagerly devoured by the public. The Illustrated London News went into great detail, with some wonderfully evocative drawings of the key events and the participants.

Chris Sutton will be talking about the case – at times dramatic, mysterious, humorous and tragic. As will be revealed the consequences proved to have serious repercussions much later for the government.

