



THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

Formed to protect a unique area of Birmingham

Charity No. 512211



LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

October 2013

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‘BRUM BRUM History and Memorabilia Fair’ Sunday 20th October The All Services Club, Church Road, Moseley.

The All Services Club is situated at Highfield House, the home of the notable philanthropist, John Avins, from 1858 until his death in 1891. Janet Berry produced an illustrated display in the Entrance Hall about John Avins, which was transferred to their notice board at the end of the day.



The Moseley Society Local History Group had a stall showing some of our artefacts. We gave out copies of the booklets ‘Victorian Moseley’ and ‘New Communities’, sold books and other items that we have culled from the archives and also sold Moseley Society items, including Christmas Cards. The day was a great success. We attracted considerable attention, raised awareness of the Group and the Moseley Society, made a number of very useful and interesting contacts and responded to queries. Many thanks to all those who came along and helped.

What Next for the Local History Group?

The HLF funded project may be ending but our work goes on! We still need volunteers to help with the ongoing digitisation of 'The Collection'; these are the archives of the Moseley Society Local History Group. This is a wonderful resource for those interested in the history of the area, one which we'd like to make more easily accessible, through the website. Digitisation also protects this resource for the future by preserving a record of documents and pictures. There is something in the collection to interest everyone so come and get acquainted! If you would like to help us with scanning, creating excel databases or in any other way please contact Christine Mann or come along on Monday between 10.30am and 4pm in the Green Room at The Exchange.

We are also planning 2 new exciting projects, and we'd welcome volunteers for either of both of them!

'Moseley Now and Then'

This project will consist of two parts and begin in October 2013. Firstly, a collection of photographs of 'Moseley Now' taken by Moseley people/ volunteers, including perhaps an image of a favourite spot in Moseley or memory of your time in Moseley, with captions/explanations attached. This will be a 'What Moseley Means to Me, Modern Heritage Project'. Please contact us with your favourite Moseley spots or memories. The second aspect will be postcards and photographs of Moseley in the past and quotes from and about Moseley people and writings about Moseley in the past. This will be a 'What Moseley Meant to People in the Past Heritage Project'.

We're looking for any memory you have of Moseley and are especially interested in everyday life so don't worry if your memories of Moseley aren't about important events!

This memory from Verity Montague-Smith, one of our lovely volunteers, is a fantastic example:

The toy balloon



Towards the end of the war I was given a blue balloon on a stick. Mummy and I walked down to the library accompanied by my baby sisters Bethany (born 1942) and Penelope-Ann (born 1944) in the pram. As we went along we collected a train of children all fascinated by the balloon, they stood in a circle around us solemnly passing it from hand to hand. Of course it shrivelled in due course and was tidied away. At a party a few weeks later a balloon appeared, children pounced on it, it burst, the boys cheered and the girls cried.

Photograph: Verity, Bethany and Penelope-Ann in 1944

Want to get involved?

Let us have an image of an aspect of an aspect of Moseley which has some meaning for you, together with a caption explaining your choice. This could be a photo or drawing of a place of event. If you can't bear to part with original photos, we would be happy to scan and return them to you. No matter your age, or how long you've known Moseley, and even if you don't have an image, we'd love to include your reminiscences. This project will form part of our website (and social media sites e.g. facebook), and may be included in future displays, articles and presentations. If you'd like to participate, please complete a permissions form to accompany your image/caption (available at www.moseleyhistory.co.uk or in our memory boxes) and

e-mail to moseleyhistory@moseleyexchange.com

or

**post to The Local History Group at Moseley Exchange, 149-153 Alcester Rad,
Moseley, B13 8JP**

or

**put them into the memory boxes which will soon be located in Wetherspoons
'Elizabeth of York', The Prince of Wales, The Cross and reception in The
Exchange**

or drop into the exchange between 10.30 and 4 on Mondays

Please note: Time and space will dictate what is included in this project. The Working Group reserves the right to decide what will and will not be published.

Even if you don't have any memories of Moseley you'd like to share, you can still get involved. We are always looking for volunteers to help in many ways; from scanning items from The Collection to assisting on stalls at events. Please contact us on moseleyhistory@moseleyexchange.com or drop in on Mondays to find out more!

'Moseley and WWI'

This project will begin in January 2014 and also consists of two parts. Firstly we plan to provide a central 'data-base hub' on those from Moseley who served at the Front in whatever capacity along with information on particular individuals, working in collaboration with local churches, community groups and schools. Secondly, we plan to investigate the impact of WWI on Moseley - 'The Home Front', looking for example, at the role of Moseley women, conscientious objectors, land use (allotments requisitioned for food production) and support from Moseley people for local auxiliary hospitals. We are also considering looking at Chamberlain in connection to WWI, an angle which has hitherto been largely ignored.

Birmingham History Day **Saturday 23rd November 2013**

10am – 5pm

Large Lecture theatre, Arts Building, University of Birmingham, B15 2TT.
£19

Birmingham History Day provides an opportunity to hear about new publications, projects and heritage in the city. There will be several presentations about new books (also available for sale) including a new studies of George Dixon, the pioneer of the civic gospel, the Birmingham Pen trade, the archaeology of Sutton Park and Moseley Baths. There will be a screening of the latest DVD by the 'News Team of Ladywood' a group of children lead by Norman Bartlam, about their latest local history investigations. There will be updates on project developments from both the Library of Birmingham and Birmingham Museums and a range of other local activities including a free DVD from the John Baskerville project. Forthcoming projects about the 200th anniversary of James Watt's death in 2019 and the 100th anniversary of Joseph Chamberlain's death in 2014 will also be publicised.

Booking in advance is essential. Please telephone Dr Malcolm Dick on 0121 415 8253 or email m.m.dick@bham.ac.uk to check availability.

Heritage Skills Courses at Black Country Living Museum

The Black Country Living Museum are running heritage skills course throughout November, with the aim of promoting and preserving traditional skills from the region. Why not try your hand at Willow Basket Weaving, Canal Art, Glass Fusuon or Enamelling? A great way to try out a new hobby and make some lovely things in time for Christmas gifts! Full details on the website at <http://www.bclm.co.uk/whatson/heritage-skills-courses--talks-programme/7.htm>.



EVENING TALK

Tuesday November 26th 2013

7.30pm in the Red Room at Moseley Exchange

Our last meeting of the year, so we'll be feeling Christmassy! There will be a talk (speaker TBC), a local history quiz and a chance to discuss your memories of Moseley. We're encouraging those who attend to bring a plate of festive goodies to share, so we can celebrate the end of a wonderful year for the local history group with some festive cheer!

