



36 Grove Avenue, Moseley  
Birmingham, B13 9RY  
0121-449 2133

e-mail: [all-enquiries@moseley-society.org.uk](mailto:all-enquiries@moseley-society.org.uk)  
website: <http://www.moseley-society.org.uk/>

## THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

Caring for an historic area of Birmingham

Charity no. 512211

### Summer 2015 Newsletter

The holiday season is approaching. In the meantime, there is plenty going on in Moseley to keep us occupied. The Moseley Society will be at most of these activities, so we hope to see you there. 27 June is going to be a busy day. It's the start of the Open Gardens Weekend, the Community Open Day at St. Mary's Churchyard and the Farmers' and Arts' Markets. Most of the events coming up are run by volunteers, so in the course of the Newsletter we may be asking for your help to make these events even more successful.



Volunteering can be fun! A team from MiB doing their bit to clean and tidy the Car Park. All part of the task for keeping Moseley winning awards.

### Moseley Society Meetings

Since our last newsletter we have enjoyed talks by Dr Michael Wolffe and Dr Terry Slater. We are in the early stages of planning the programme for 2015/16. Do let us know if you have any suggestions for speakers.

### AGM

If you were unable to attend the meeting, but are on our emailing list, you will have received the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 May. Please contact the secretary at

the address above for a paper copy. One of the items for approval was the proposal to make the executive committee smaller and invite Moseley Society members to join the various sub-committees. We are delighted to welcome Carolyn Hicks to the Planning and Licensing Group. We particularly need volunteers to join the Dovecote and Icehouse sub-group.

After the formal business was concluded, Geoff Rees introduced the commander of East Birmingham LPU (Local Policing Unit), Chief Superintendent Richard Moore.



Chief Superintendent Moore was frank about the effect of the current austerity measures and the changes they have necessitated. However he was upbeat about the ability of the West Midlands Police to rise to the challenges. Among the changes that had taken place were the centralisation of phone calls, and the removal of the response team from Kings Heath to Stechford. He did assure the meeting that Neighbourhood Policing would still exist. This was very reassuring as we value our regular updates from the Moseley and Kings Heath neighbourhood team. However, there is no doubt that the police will be relying on local street watch groups to help them with low level crime.

A note of the talk and the questions that followed has been sent out with the AGM

Minutes. Although the audience praised Chief Superintendent Moore for his presentation there were concerns about the effects of the cuts on wider social problems.

### **Local History Group**

Since the last Newsletter the Group organised three talks and a visit to St. Mary's. Looking forward - the Group will have a Local History display at St Mary's as part of their Open Day on 27 June.

On Friday 3 July, at the start of the Moseley Festival, Ray Tier will be leading a walk around Moseley Park and Pool, describing the history and pointing out features of historical interest. Meet at the main gate at 18.30. On Saturday 4 July, there will be a local history section on the Moseley Society stall on the Green.

WW1 research continues and there have been a number of articles about local people's contributions to the war effort, which are now on display in the foyer of the Exchange and will be appearing on the newly refurbished website. Also on Friday 3 July at 16.00 there is an organised visit for 15 people to King Edward's School in Edgbaston to see their exhibition on the Great War. If you would like to join the group please e-mail Edwina Rees at [ganderees@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ganderees@blueyonder.co.uk)

We continue to meet on most Monday mornings from 10.30-12.30 at the Exchange, answering people's enquiries, cataloguing the collection and doing other research.

### **Dovecote**

We have been very busy at the Dovecote, spring cleaning and getting the garden ready for visitors and especially looking ahead to the MiB Open Gardens weekend when the Dovecote will be open on Saturday 27. As usual, we will be selling tickets and plants. Doors open at 12.30.

We have entered the Dovecote garden in Britain in Bloom 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category. This requires extra work and the team really needs help to prepare for these events and to welcome visitors on Open Days. There are regular gardening sessions on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday mornings from around 11 am.

While you are at the dovecote have a look at the exhibition to illustrate how horses were used in the area in Victorian and Edwardian times. This is centered round a horse bridle that was given to the Society by Dominic Gauden and restored by John Newson.

**Icehouse** in Moseley Park and Pool has been open three times so far this season. There is always great interest in the building and as the lights are now working again visitors can see it better.

The scheduled opening dates for both buildings are:

Saturday 27 June - which is also a MiB Open Gardens day

Icehouse only Saturday 4 July 13.30-16.00 - during the Festival Street Fair

Saturday 25 July

Saturday 29 August

Saturday 26 September

On Sunday 13 September, for **Heritage Open Day**, there is an opportunity to learn about the history of Moseley Hall and its estate. A self-guided circular walk will include the Hall, icehouse and dovecote.



Moseley Hall will be open, for the first time, and there will be an opportunity to see parts of the old building. Leaflets will be available and the buildings and park will be open between 14.00 and 17.00.

### **Moseley Park and Pool**

There will be plenty of other opportunities to visit the park over the next few weeks. In the meantime, you could visit their smart new website

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

### **Moseley Forum**

held its AGM recently with a debate on transport options for Moseley. There were discussions on shared space and the cycle

routes, but the most unexpected and exciting news came from Toby Rackliff of the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority. He said that things were coming together in a positive way to make financing of the chords, needed at Bordesley to take the Camp Hill line into Moor Street Station, a more realistic possibility. We expect an opportunity to respond to a consultation on this later in the year so we will keep you informed.

### **Planning and Licensing**

The newly enlarged sub-group is now working much more closely with the Regen Group, convened by Moseley Community Development Trust. The group is reviewing the Society's planning policy and hopes to report more in the next newsletter.

### **St Mary's Churchyard**

Earlier this year the St Mary's Churchyard Heritage and Access Project was awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant of £69,100, this widens the scope of the original proposals (landscaping, planting and access works) to include a more community focussed project with plenty of activities and opportunities to be involved over its three year duration.



The Churchyard with a view through to St Mary's Row and the newly refurbished Indigo Wholefoods.

The Heritage Committee invite you to join to them at a **Community Open Day** on 27 June (10.00 – 16.00) to launch the project. Go along and find out about the plans for the Churchyard, the importance of preserving St Mary's heritage and the opportunities the project will present.

On the day there will be guided tours, live music, artists at work, the Moseley Society History Group will have a display, there will be a craft tent, a self-guided heritage trail and homemade cakes and scones. The Opening at 10.00 will be assisted by The Rt Revd David Urquhart, the Bishop of Birmingham and our MP Roger Godsiff. In the meantime, there are opportunities galore for volunteering - from gardening to family history research, event planning or acting as a guide.

If you are unable to get along to the Community Open Day but would like to chat to a member of the Churchyard Heritage Committee then please e-mail [stmarysheritage@livings.me.uk](mailto:stmarysheritage@livings.me.uk) and either the Project Manager, Becky Greenhill or one of the Committee will contact you.

You can check the website for details of the works as they will be posting a weekly update ([www.moseleybenefice.org.uk](http://www.moseleybenefice.org.uk)).

If you rely on the telephone rather than the computer, ring Fiona Adams on 449 2133 and she will pass your details on.

### **Moseley in Bloom**

The other major event starting on 27 June is the ever-popular MiB Open Gardens' Weekend with private gardens and Moseley's green spaces uncovered for all to see. On Saturday gardens in Moseley Central and West will be open. On Sunday 28 June, it's the turn of Moseley East side. Full details can be found on the website. [www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk/](http://www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk/)

If you are a regular visitor, you will know what a delight it is to see these gardens, from the small treasures to the designer models. There are always tips to pick from just wandering around or chatting to the devoted owners.

Should you be feeling weary, you can always stop for a cuppa. There will be a raffle, plant sales and something for the younger members of the family. The weekend is a major fund-raising event for MiB and any help you can give would be welcome. If you are happy to make a cake or have a surplus of plants you can donate, please get in touch with Carol Miller on 0121 449 4550.

Tickets for MiB Classical Concert with Curry at Piquant in St Mary's Row on Monday 6 July, starting at 7 pm, are £25 and are available from the Painted Room, Piquant Restaurant and the Moseley in Bloom stall at the Farmers' Market.

The judging for the Heart of England awards is on the morning of 22 July. If you are free there is always a lot to do before the judges arrive.

MiB want nominations for their annual awards for the '**Most Flourishing Front Gardens**'. Is your front garden, or your neighbours, attractive? Why not nominate at [info@moseleyinbloom.co.uk](mailto:info@moseleyinbloom.co.uk) by 12 July.

**Moseley Gardens South** Other garden delights await you on Sunday 21 June with some gardens in South Moseley opening for the National Gardens Scheme.

<http://www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/find-a-garden/garden.aspx?id=17914>

### **Moseley Festival 3 - 12 July**

The Festival Programme is out and as usual there is an exciting variety of activities on offer from a chance to use a *camera obscura* to a talent competition.

The Moseley Society will be joining other voluntary groups on the Village Green on Saturday 4 July - a chance to meet local community groups which all help to improve the quality of life in Moseley.

As already mentioned Ray Tier of the Local History Group will lead a walk through the Park and Pool on Friday 3 July at 18.30.

On the final weekend from Friday 10 - Sunday 12 Mostly Jazz, Funk and Soul Festival will happen in the park.

### **Moseley Village**



**Congratulations to Keith and Diane Marsden - Prince of Wales licensees -**

who have been awarded the British Institute of Innkeeping 'Licensee of the year for 2015' award. Sue Allen of the Institute said 'they went the extra mile, with innovative ideas, together with sheer passion for the industry and a huge focus on their people. The couple really stood out from the crowd'.

As we mentioned in our last Newsletter, the Bristol based group who run the **Boston Tea Party** eatery were planning to move into the **Halford's** garage site. It has been confirmed that they will be coming to Moseley.

**Indigo**, the wholefood shop, has successfully moved across St. Mary's Row. The new shop has plenty of room. No need to knock over the organic veg as you head for your chosen purchase.

**HSBC has now closed** - An ATM is to be installed in front of the Co-op by the bus stop and a new ATM has also appeared in the wall of Select & Save.

If you wander down **Woodbridge Road**, you will notice a couple of shutters permanently pulled down, half completed renovations and a pile of bricks outside what used to be the hardware shop and latterly the bike shop **Moseley Mechanix**. The owner was given short notice to leave, but has managed to install himself in Alcester Road not far from Cafephilia. Sean Durrant is open for bike business, but says he misses the old shop.

Just next to the cafe, **The Painted Room** has recently opened. It's a new home furnishings, art and craft shop.

**NEW MEMBERS** We are glad to welcome Richard Farmer, Robin Ferner & Celia Moss, Rob & Carol Townsend, Alison & David Kett, Mr A Kazi and Carol & Roger Brown as members of the Society.

### **SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL**

It would be a great help if members could set up a standing order for the annual subscription of £10, together with a donation if you wish to add one. The Moseley Society banks with Lloyds Bank. Sort code: 30-94-74 Account number 01127987. 1<sup>st</sup> January is the date when subscriptions are due.