



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

e-mail: 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

Winter 2020 Newsletter

We may be into a few weeks of the New Year, but we would still like to send you greetings for 2020 and hope it will be a good one for you.

Volunteers in Moseley continue to try and improve things for residents, including the team of Moseley Litterbusters who took time off from tidying the streets to try and correct the right leaning Christmas Tree to a more upright and neutral position!



Membership

Subscriptions are due. If you haven't already set up a standing order, you will receive a reminder from the Membership Secretary in due course. We are always grateful for your support.

Moseley Society meetings

This year there is much of interest to look forward to. All meetings are at 7.30 at the Moseley Exchange unless otherwise stated.

Thursday 6 February – afternoon meeting at 2 pm.

The Gallipoli Campaign and WW1 – a Moseley History Group team talk.

Thursday 20 February – *Those Damn Tin Cans* – the story of Birmingham prefabs by David and Pam Humphries.

Thursday 12 March – *Macaroon Makes a Difference* – Another evening talk, co-sponsored by Moseley in Bloom.

Rosie Ginday was awarded the MBE last year for her services to the community as her company, Miss Macaroon, offers training and employment opportunities to unemployed young people, those with mental health problems as well as single parents.

She originally trained as a pastry chef and worked in a Michelin-starred restaurant. She started her macaroon making in 2011 as a 'community interest company' which is a form of business set up to serve the community.

On **9 January** Stephen Alabaster gave us a fascinating *Stroll through the world of Alabaster & Wilson* - The story of the family's jewellery business and its connections with Moseley. The room was packed with people who had come to hear the history as well as learn how the designs had developed from the Victorian era to the present day. Alabaster & Wilson has recently been wound up, but there is still one craftsman using the old workroom at the premises in the Jewellery Quarter. Stephen brought a selection of samples of jewellery that the firm had created over the years. Anyone at the meeting in possession of rings and brooches will probably have rushed home to check if there was an AW beside the hall mark.

The Moseley Society Quiz was on **17 January**, with a good turn out of the regular as well as two new teams.

Moseley Society History Group



Some time ago Chris Holloway gave the Moseley Society some items that had belonged to his parents who lived at 41 Amesbury Road. One was an image of St Chad's Cathedral by the Handsworth artist Joseph Frank Pimm (1900-1972) who studied at the Birmingham School for Art in Margaret Street and was a member of the RBSA. With the agreement of Chris, this picture was offered to and accepted by the Cathedral.

Representatives of the Moseley History Group made the presentation on Friday, 10 January, at St Chad's cathedral followed by a tour of the cathedral.



The History Group would like to find out more about the artist and the picture. If you have any information do get in touch with them at moseleyhistory@gmail.com.

Moseley Society 40th Anniversary Posters are on display at the Moseley Exchange

Do take a moment to have a look at them as they are a wonderful record of the Society's involvement in Moseley.



The recycling of bread bags, crisp packets and toothpaste tubes is doing well. Staff at the CDT have some wonderful volunteers who sort the recycling.

The CDT (Moseley Exchange) is now a drop off point for the **Bike Project** (www.thebikeproject.co.uk). They take second-hand bikes, fix them up and donate them to refugees and asylum seekers. If you have a bike that you would like to donate via the Moseley Exchange, do contact them on 0121 449 8585.

The Village

St Mary's Row is looking a bit sad with the sudden closure of Village News, the 'Sorry we are closed' notice in the window of Saponi di Sole and the refusal of planning permission for Pottery and Pieces.



However, there are signs of life with the opening of **Tabule** – the Lebanese and Moroccan Kitchen.

Moseley Haven. It's due to open at the beginning of February. Alison Knowles, who has been running her natural beauty salon from home, is taking over from Zen in St Mary's Row in Moseley.

The Painted Room, which has been closed for several months after it was flooded, is due to reopen on 27 January.

HSBC building (Davenports) has finally been granted renewed planning permission and so work can progress.

Heavenly Desserts, which was planning to take over the ground floor of the flats adjacent to the Prince of Wales has been given permission to open until, but not later than, 11pm.

Moseley Station

Planning applications for Kings Heath and Hazlewell Stations have been submitted, the one for Moseley is still in development.

You may have been following the news about the application for development at Camp Hill in Digbeth. There is concern that this could affect the construction of the Camp Hill chords which would be needed to take trains stopping at Moseley and the other stations into Birmingham Moor Street, avoiding the congestion in the approach to New Street. The decision has been deferred for further discussion.

The Dovecote – in the Autumn



The Dovecote is coming to life again with snowdrops. The excellent team has been working non-stop with only a break at Christmas. The Dovecote and garden will be open to the public again from the last Saturday in March, on the afternoon following the Farmers Market.

The Chamberlain Highbury Trust



As you can see from their poster, Highbury Hall is running tours of the house. For the next six months or so, the tours will be every other week on Mondays between 10am and 3pm starting on 20 January.

Highbury Oral History Project is underway! If you have a connection or memory of Highbury, please email chamberlainhighburytrust@outlook.com

Highbury Park Friends

They will meet on January 29 at 11 am at Highbury Park car park to count how many birds can be spotted and recorded in the Park, as part of the annual RSPB Big Garden Watch. The event will be led by Alf Dimmock, Senior Park Ranger. Everyone is welcome and it's free of charge. Suitable footwear and warm clothing essential and bring your binoculars if you have any.

Other events include a Winter Wildlife Walk on 9 February at 10.30 and an Introduction to Improving Your Photography on 22 February at 11 am.

Moseley in Bloom

The message from MiB is that they are extending the Schools Project by funding more primary schools to get involved in designing their garden projects. Uffculme School wrote: *"The opportunities provided by the Moseley in Bloom project have inspired pupils love for planting and gardening, encouraging us to create more areas in the school grounds for pupils to become involved. Pupils have taken their ideas into the classroom to inspire further learning and these have been used across the curriculum including researching what they want, going out to purchase what they need and bringing their design ideas to life."*

If you know of any local primary school which would love to get its children involved in all things green, do get in touch. Applications will be going out in February/March and judging in early summer.

For many years MiB has been responsible for the glorious hanging baskets in the village centre. Some of the funding for the baskets and their maintenance comes from the proceeds of Open Gardens, but some have been sponsored by local businesses. Moseley in Bloom would like to extend sponsorship to individuals or groups. Each basket costs approximately £200. The baskets can be credited to the sponsor or dedicated to groups or individuals. They have created a new Just Giving Page (Just Giving for Moseley in Bloom) where you can pledge your contribution and leave your details and messages which can be included in one of the baskets. You can also leave a contribution without a message.

For more information about their projects or opportunities for volunteering go to www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk

School Road

We haven't had any further news about plans to solve the traffic problems in School Road. The residents at the Kings Heath end have taken matters into their own hands to discourage car drivers using the pavement as an extension to the road!



Garden Waste Sales for 2020

You may have received an email reminding you to order your garden waste subscription at the early bird price of **£45**, for fortnightly collections between early March and early December. From 1 February the price will be £50. If you have had problems signing up, you're not the only one!

St Agnes Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

We reported in the last newsletter on the progress of the plan which was submitted to the newly appointed Senior Conservation Officer, Julie Shaduwa. There have been some alterations and revision of the text, but the document is almost ready for public consultation. Notices announcing this should be going up round the Conservation Area at the start of February and the period will last 4 to 6 weeks culminating in a public exhibition in early March. It is proposed that the boundary of the Conservation area would be extended to include parts of Grove Avenue and details of what this entails will be included in the 60 page document.

New Members

In our previous Newsletter, we invited members to recruit one new member. This plea was largely unsuccessful, but we welcome these new members – Ann Coleman; Jenny Banks-Bryer and Jan Russell.