



**THE MOSELEY SOCIETY**

Formed to protect a unique area of Birmingham

Charity No. 510211

# **ANNUAL REVIEW 2009 - 2010**

The Society was formally constituted in 1979 and was registered as a charity in 1982 with these objects:

- to promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting Moseley;
- to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of Moseley;
- and to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in Moseley.

## **CHAIRMEN'S REPORT**

As we write this report enormous posts with huge bases and cameras atop are appearing on the eastern side of Moseley. We have learned that they are part of the Safer Birmingham Partnership's 'Project Champion' and that the posts are 'permitted development' and non-negotiable. It is depressing at a time when consultation on Moseley's Big Plan is drawing to an end, there has been lengthy and detailed consultation on the planning application for the Meteor site – that these CCTV cameras and automatic number plate recognition systems can appear outside our houses and affect our Conservation Areas without notice.

We hope you will enjoy reading this Review which covers the wide range of interests and activities organised by the Society. As Co-Chairmen we are glad to have so many talented and enthusiastic people on our Committee. Although Joyce Elliott stood down as Treasurer at last year's AGM she has continued to support our able new Treasurer Mike Marlow and to prepare the accounts included here. We are pleased to welcome Sally Wright as Newsletter editor and we appreciate her lively approach.

The Committee this year also lost the calm, thoughtful and very knowledgeable services of Roy Cockel who served as Co-chairman for a long period but who, we are pleased to report, remains as a stabilising influence in the capacity of elder statesman.

The dovecote, cow house, dovecote garden, and ice house continue to attract visitors from wider Birmingham and all over the country, and the ice house really adds to the Folk Festival. The Society is indebted to Paul Lindley for his excellent methodical and diligent restoration of the dovecote. Not only a talented bell ringer, musician and folk dancer, he was the architect, site foreman and labourer for the restoration work which will enable the dovecote to remain a prominent Moseley landmark for many years to come and his efforts in keeping the management of limited funds well within budget are reflected in the Treasurer's report. The volunteers who tend the garden are well into an ambitious overhaul of the layout and planting, and are glad to have contributed to Moseley in Bloom's award-winning 'Open Gardens' weekend.

We thank John and Irene Underwood for organising another successful Art Competition in conjunction with the Moseley Festival and are grateful

to Helen Minovi for volunteering to manage what we hope will remain an annual event.

The Committee has continued to promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting Moseley. We were disappointed at the refusal of planning permission for photovoltaic panels for St Mary's Church while the Meteor Ford site and charitable activity at the Highbury Trust are ongoing concerns. We were glad to see the much improved display of Christmas lights in 2009 - many thanks to Councillor Ernie Hendricks for his sterling work in making these possible.

Membership levels are still exercising the minds of Committee members; although progress has been made in the redesign and publication of a new form, for which we are indebted to Barry Henley. New membership remains scarce particularly from Moseley residents of non-white ethnic backgrounds and younger people. We will continue to seek ways of improving this situation. We are very pleased to welcome the appointment of Nikki Carr as the Moseley and Kings Heath town centre manager and we look forward to supporting her efforts on behalf of Moseley throughout the coming year.

**GEORGE MACLEOD and GEOFF REES**  
**Co-Chairmen of Moseley Society**

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### **SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

In response to my appeal in last year's Review, Sally Wright has taken over Newsletter production – and I am sure you will all agree that the letters have a fresher and more interesting appearance. Thank you Sally! The Committee took the decision to distribute by email to all members who have given us their email addresses. There is a well recognised digital divide in society with a significant minority of people who will either never have the means or ability to use computers or who have deliberately chosen to avoid all contact. We will continue to treat both equally – although those with email do now get reminders of meetings and other information, such as appeals to sign electronic petitions on the Number 10 website, when there is no time to produce a full newsletter and include these items.

The full Committee has met on ten occasions during the year, while *ad hoc* sub-groups have met as required. Since September, meetings have

[www.moseley-society.org.uk](http://www.moseley-society.org.uk)

been held at the Community Development Trust, rather than in private homes. The Society is represented on

- Moseley & Kings Heath Ward Advisory Board [Fiona Adams]
- The Ward's Clean Environment Group [Fiona Adams]
- Moseley Regeneration Group [John Dring, Barry Henley, Fiona Adams – with John Rouse there representing Moseley in Bloom]
- The Society appoints two members of the Moseley Community Development Trust Board [Robert Orme and Fiona Adams]
- Moseley Forum Committee [Constance Perris + Claire Spencer vice-chair of the Forum has recently joined the Society]
- Moseley in Bloom [John Rouse]
- Moseley Park and Pool [Roy Cocker]
- Birmingham City Council's Conservation and Heritage Panel [John Dring]
- BCC Planning Management User Forum [Fiona Adams]
- Highbury Coalition [Barry Henley and Fiona Adams]
- West Midlands Amenity Societies Association [Fiona Adams and Geoff Rees]
- Birmingham Heritage Forum [Rosemary Turner and Helen Minovi]

The monthly public car park clean-up continues to attract a small but enthusiastic team of members, led by Mike Berry. Once again we have been taken by surprise by further drastic pruning – this time of the trees and shrubs by both areas of recycling banks. However Moseley in Bloom volunteers are continuing to take an interest in the car park, and we expect the relocation of the large paper bank to take place shortly. The aim is to improve the appearance of the car park from Alcester Road as well as to rationalise recycling by putting the two areas together. Thanks to the continued vigilance of Moseley Street Wardens anti-social behaviour has diminished and evidence of rough sleeping in the bushes did not persist.

Sharp-eyed members may have noticed something different about the Society's logo – it no longer says 'Registered with the Civic Trust'. Just after we had sent off our subscription a year ago, the Trust went in to liquidation. Discussions are underway to create a successor called 'Civic Voice', but as yet the Committee has chosen not to join. We believe the proposal will create a top-heavy organisation, rather than one based on the existing regional structures run by volunteers. Each Society is asked to contribute £1.50 per member up to a maximum of £500. The Moseley

Society would fall in the top band and be expected to contribute £500, which we find hard to justify. We are hoping that a scaled down proposal will be forthcoming, and are looking to Dr Freddie Gick of Birmingham Civic Society, who has been elected as a Trustee of the new organisation, to try to make changes to the over-ambitious proposals.

Guided Walks. During the year the Society has organised two very successful walks – both attracting around 40 participants. Dr Terry Slater led a group around the St Agnes Conservation Area during the Moseley Festival, and John Rouse's Chantry Road/Moseley Park walk at Heritage Open Days was also very well supported and received.

All who come to our meetings will be aware of the significant changes at the Community Development Trust's Post Office Building. In future we will refer to it as the Moseley Exchange. The Exchange was officially opened on 4 July during the Moseley Festival and is now attracting a growing number of members to share the co-working space. The meeting rooms on the first floor are very well used – so much so that we have had trouble in finding days other than Thursday on which to hold Society meetings.

4 July was a busy day in Moseley in 2009 as the exhibition of the Creative Arts in Moseley competition, which had attracted 88 entries from 43 artists, was on show at Woodbridge Gallery

**FIONA ADAMS**

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### **DOVECOTE and ICE HOUSE.**

Repairs to the dovecote and staircase plus redecoration of the dovecote and cow house were complete in time for the reopening to the public in April 2009. The exhibition of photographs recording the restoration work was shown at the A.G.M. and then put up in the cow house – where the picture of the squirrels nest discovered in the roof proved of particular interest.

The work parties in the garden continued to meet two or three times a month. At the beginning of the season teams of people on Community Punishment or Payback Orders helped clear some of the more over-grown areas of the garden. The more cultivated areas are now looking really well established – the 'sensory bed' and two shrub beds were planted in the spring and most of the plants appear to have survived both summer heat and deluges, followed by the exceptionally long, cold winter,

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including the lily of the valley from Audrey Cauthery. Jane Howell's offer of compost was gratefully received – and the beautiful black, worm filled compost that arrived delighted the gardeners and the songbirds equally. We have employed a local gardener to cut the grass during the year, enabling the volunteer gardeners to concentrate on keeping weeds at bay, pruning and planting.

Throughout the summer the garden as well as the buildings have delighted visitors – and during the Moseley in Bloom Open Day in June over 200 people came through on the route between Amesbury Road and Alcester Road, many going on their way with purchases from the well stocked plant stall. We thank the members who contributed so many items for sale – and hope they are already potting up contributions for the 2010 event.

The ice house continues to attract significant numbers of visitors during normal open weekends and at special events in the Park. The September Folk Festival brings people from all over UK – and from further afield – and those who open the ice house on this occasion are delighted with the interest the building attracts. 'Wow' is the usual reaction, followed by 'Woweeeoow' as musicians test out the acoustics. Other groups who have been delighted to see the ice house include members of a Mothers' Union from Shirley who came despite a July cloud burst, the walkers on Heritage Open Day and most recently the organisers of the Fierce Festival and their colleagues from the Ikon Gallery.

We thank our many volunteers who have helped with the garden work as well as in opening both sites to the public during the summer months. Many work hard – but it is very rewarding and we often receive enthusiastic praise from visitors who thank us for maintaining these buildings and telling them about how they illustrate the history of the area.

**PAUL LINDLEY**

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### **EVENTS AND MEETINGS REPORT.**

The first speaker of the Year was Phillada Ballard who addressed a full house on "Highbury Hall and its History". She gave a beautifully crafted and illustrated talk which was particularly well received against the background of the controversy over the future of Highbury.

[www.moseley-society.org.uk](http://www.moseley-society.org.uk)

In November we arranged a joint forum with local Residents' Associations to hear Chief Superintendent Phil Kay talk about local policing issues and the radical plans for a total reorganisation of administration throughout the city. The evening was one of the wettest of a forgettable winter but was highly informative with a lengthy and helpful question and answer session.

January saw another sharply contested annual Quiz Night when the reigning champions 'Any Fule Kno' triumphed again. Despite comments about the difficulty of some questions the overall scores were very high. Needless to say the winners had no complaints!

In February a well attended meeting heard a talk by Rachel Macgregor, senior archivist at the Birmingham Archives and Heritage Service. In a superbly researched presentation Rachel took us from 12<sup>th</sup> century records through collections recording ordinary family lives, city architecture, early businesses and famous citizens, including intriguing stories of old Moseley journals. This was followed in March by an absorbing address "Going for Gold" by Niels de Vos, CEO of UK Athletics and Olympic Board member. He outlined the hopes and strategies for the forthcoming Olympics, covering controversial aspects such as the costs and the locations of the events followed by fascinating insights into the often tiny margins at the top end of world wide competition between the much feted winners and those destined for deep disappointment.

Our April speaker was John Yates, from the City Register Office who spoke on "The History of Civil Registration" and gave a highly entertaining talk to a good sized and appreciative audience.

**GEORGE MACLEOD AND ROBERT ORME**

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### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

The tables show the number of memberships for the current and previous years, and a breakdown of membership type for the year 2009/10. We are glad to have welcomed twenty one new members during the membership year (thirteen in the previous year), and sad to have lost others who have died or left the area. Included in the figures are several members who have not yet renewed their memberships. Due to pressure of other business they have only just been sent reminders.

[www.moseley-society.org.uk](http://www.moseley-society.org.uk)

We are trying to collect as many email addresses as possible – this cuts costs for the Society, saves paper and also enables us to send out reminders and other items of information at short notice.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of paid-up households</b>	<b>Number of people represented</b>
2004/05	428	1382
2005/06	439	1406
2006/07	434	1401
2007/08	428	1386
2008/09	418	1324
2009/10	407	1321

<b>Membership type</b>	<b>Number of households</b>
Ordinary	225
Senior Citizen	158
Business	16
Other	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>407</b>

**FIONA ADAMS**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT.**

A copy of the Society's Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the year to 31 December 2009 is presented in this report.

As the Society's new Treasurer, I should like to thank my predecessor, Joyce Elliott, for all her diligent service over many years, helping to ensure that the Society's finances remain healthy and the accounts in good order. I am also indebted to Joyce for her continued support and expert advice as a qualified accountant, which I am not.

The Balance Sheet shows fund balances totalling £5,452 at the end of the year, compared with £5,849 at the start. Increased costs during 2009 included room hire for Committee meetings and printing the new membership forms. The current subscription levels, agreed at the 2008 AGM, are still taking effect as most members join for three year periods.

Expenditure on the dovecote and garden from the funds restricted for that purpose amounted to £3,473, including the remaining costs of the repair to the dovecote roof and plants for the garden, leaving a balance of £2,564. See also Paul Lindley's report on the Dovecote and Ice House.

We continue to thank those members who have agreed to pay their subscription via Gift Aid – this enables us to reclaim tax, as is shown in the accounts. We would be very pleased if members who are able to do so would sign the Gift Aid declaration on the back of the membership form when they pay their next subscription.

**MIKE MARLOW**

THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2009

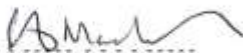
	Unrestricted Notes Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2009	Total 2008
	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
Grants and donations	99	2,999	3,098	6,899
Membership subscriptions	1,170	-	1,170	1,053
Tax refund (Gift Aid)	260	231	491	156
Interest received	3	-	3	90
Other income - Sales of posters, local history books, etc	358	-	358	197
Art Competition	569	-	569	448
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>3,230</b>	<b>5,687</b>	<b>8,843</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Meetings and events	561	-	561	263
Art Competition expenses	420	-	420	515
Dovecote garden and restoration	-	3,473	3,473	4,033
Dovecote expenses	119	-	119	101
Donations to Moseley projects	-	-	0	50
Management and administration	2 1,511	-	1,511	1,147
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>3,473</b>	<b>6,084</b>	<b>6,109</b>
<b>Net (outgoing) incoming resources</b>	<b>(154)</b>	<b>(243)</b>	<b>(397)</b>	<b>2,734</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2009	3,042	2,807	5,849	3,115
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2009	3 2,888	2,564	5,452	5,849

THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2009

	2009		2008
	£	£	£
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks	270		330
Debtors	-		25
Bank and cash balances	7,124		6,752
		7,394	7,107
<b>Deduct: Current Liabilities</b>			
Subscriptions received in advance	1,879		1,215
Creditors and accrued charges	63		43
		1,942	1,258
<b>Net assets</b>		5,452	5,849
Represented by:			
<b>FUNDS</b>			
<b>Unrestricted Fund</b>			
General fund		2,888	3,042
<b>Restricted Fund</b>			
Dovecote garden and restoration		2,564	2,807
<b>Total Funds (note 3)</b>		5,452	5,849

Approved by the Trustees on 12 April 2010  
and signed on their behalf by

.....  


Co chairman

.....  


Treasurer

## THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

#### 1 Accounting Policies

##### a Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005), issued in March 2005 and the provisions of the Charities Act 1993.

##### b Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income.

##### c Stocks

Stocks of cards, local history books, maps, etc. are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

##### d Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions laid down by the donors as to how they may be used.

##### e Accounting statements of smaller charities

In accordance with SORP 2005 (Appendix 5.3) the trustees have taken advantage of the provision which enables them to choose classifications in the Statement of Financial Activities of incoming resources and resources expended to suit the circumstances of the charity.

2 Management and administration expenses	2009	2008
Printing, stationery and postage (including newsletters)	1,042	741
Public liability insurance	110	110
Subscriptions - Civic Trust & Heritage Forum	260	220
Miscellaneous expenses	99	76
	<u>1,511</u>	<u>1,147</u>

## THE MOSELEY SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 (CONTINUED)

#### 3 Movements in Funds

	At 31.01.09 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31.12.09 £
<b>Unrestricted Fund</b>				
General Fund	3,042	2,457	(2,611)	2,888
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Dovecote garden & restoration	2,807	3,230	(3,473)	2,564
<b>Total fund balances forward</b>	<u>5,849</u>	<u>5,687</u>	<u>(6,084)</u>	<u>5,452</u>

#### Purpose of restricted funds

The Dovecote garden & restoration restricted fund is for the creation of an 18th century style garden at the dovecote and work in connection with the restoration of the dovecote.

#### 4 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

No remuneration or reimbursement of expenses have been paid to any of the trustees during the year.

## PLANNING AND LICENSING REPORT.

We use this report to note trends in Moseley and last year it was the standstill in building on major sites affected by economic recession that was most noticeable. A year later there is little change - the site next to the Prince of Wales pub remains empty, although work on digging foundations appears to have started recently. Also still empty is the site of 50 School Road, together with land where Woodnorton House once stood and there has been no change in Anderton Park Road. Chamberlain House, adjoining Highbury, has been vacated by its City Council tenants and has been boarded up. However the number of planning applications we take an interest in has remained high – 153 – with alterations to and enlargement of domestic property remaining the main feature. And not all large non-domestic sites are unaltered. Work is underway to construct the new mental health hospital at Moseley Hall – indeed the roofs are now tiled. Redevelopment of the members' stands and clubhouse is underway at Warwickshire County Cricket Club, and rebuilding of the Midlands Arts Centre is nearly complete, while twenty two new flats are being built on the corner of Trafalgar Road and Alcester Road. As this report is being written, consultation is taking place on a revised scheme for the Meteor site – still including a new home for the Wake Green GPs practice, a Metro-sized Tesco and 14 'sheltered' flats. Although there is rarely any obvious sign of the Scientologists who now own Pitmaston, the adjoining land has been sold to a developer and slightly revised plans approved to build apartments there.

During August of 2009 the Planning Department installed a new 'Planning Online' database which has proved time-consuming and frustrating to use. We do not suggest there is a direct correlation between the eyestrain caused by squinting at large plans reduced to fit onto a small screen with the opening of a third optician's business in St Mary's Row, but we note the coincidence. Meanwhile the Moseley Society records are still kept in filing drawers and logged in notebooks. It is these notebooks that are used to reveal annual trends and this year the 153 applications tell us that:

- Just over a third were for house extensions large enough to attract our attention, which means anything other than single storey rear extensions;

- Twelve were for the building or retention of large front boundary walls, hard paving of front gardens or alterations to the fronts of houses where Article 4[2] Directions apply;
- Eleven were for new houses – this does not mean that there are eleven additional sites on which new houses will appear in the area, as some of the applications were for revisions to plans of houses already under construction - at the top of Anderton Park Road, in Billesley Lane, Goodby Road and off Trafalgar Road. Others were applications for backland development off Prospect Road and Augusta Road and have been refused planning permission;
- Eight applications related to proposals to increase the number of flats in properties that are already sub-divided, or in the case of the Gables Hotel in Oxford Road, to convert it to flats. Permission has been given to divide the Hotel into three 'flats' – but as one is shown on the plans as having 12 bedrooms spread across three floors, 'flat' does not seem an adequate description;
- Four applications concerned alterations to care homes or other such institutions;
- Seven involved shop or restaurant properties in the shopping centre, where we are pleased to welcome some new retail businesses. Oxfam has opened a book and music shop in Victoria Parade, Maison Mayci boulangerie is pulling in the crowds in the former Sage wholefood shop, Encore Dress Agency has moved to the long-empty shop between the Junction pub and Domestica while the shops vacated by the dress agency now house a Fine Art gallery run by artist Reuben Colley;
- This year has seen applications for additional classrooms at Uffculme, St John and St Monica and at Moseley Church of England schools, while King David's boasts an eye-catching new classroom projecting out at first floor level;
- Only one application on the list was to return a house previously divided into flats into single family occupation.

Other notable events during the year included extension of the St Agnes Conservation Area with an Article 4[2] Direction covering the whole Area. However the Character Appraisal and Management Plan has yet to be published, and the specialist Conservation Group within the Planning Department has just been disbanded. We do not know what chance this document has of being produced in the foreseeable future, and there are many Conservation Areas across the City without such appraisals. The Moseley Conservation Area's document was only produced after Society volunteers collected much of the information and Roy Cockel photographed the buildings. It may be that the active residents in the St Agnes area will have to do the same – using the draft document already prepared by Dr Terry Slater which the Conservation Group has had in its in-tray since 2006.

The disbanding of the Conservation Group also throws into doubt the future of the Conservation and Heritage Panel. While the recession may have reduced the number of threats of demolition of historic buildings, it seems the opportunity of this breathing space is not being seized to record and strengthen protection of Birmingham's heritage – which could have such an important effect in leading regeneration if well supported now.

Addresses in Moseley that have caused particular concern include 37 Oxford Road, where enforcement action has seen the removal of part of the canopy at the front, but the extension of the property onto public land is still unresolved. 40 Russell Road has had an enormous outbuilding erected in its back garden – justifying fears expressed by planners in October 2008 when carefully defined permitted development rules were relaxed and made less precise, as it appears that little can be done to prevent such building, even in Conservation Areas.

The Appeal system has also been streamlined and in the case of householder appeals, third parties can no longer add any information before an Inspector adjudicates. Instead neighbours and Amenity Societies such as the Moseley Society are expected to include all relevant information when they respond to an initial application in the 2000 characters available for comments through the new Planning Online website. Of course longer letters can still be sent in by post – but brevity is encouraged.

Notable appeals in the year have included one for permission to build a terrace of houses at the rear of 5 and 7 Park Hill. Paul Dean represented the Society and others at the hearing, and the application was rejected. Another long-running case has been the proposal to build houses at the bottom of the gardens at 118 and 120 Swanshurst Lane, with access from Thirlmere Drive. The Inspector's decision in this case upheld the Council's Mature Suburbs policy. It is a great shame that this policy cannot also protect back gardens from development such as that at 40 Russell Road.

Residents in the habit of walking through the grounds of Moseley Hall Hospital to shorten the journey to and from home and the shops and bus stops in Alcester Road won their application for a Right of Way to be declared, and a path has now been formally recognised and added to the map. At present anyone venturing through the grounds will witness building work on the new hospital in progress. The Society was glad to send representatives to join other residents at the multi-faith blessing arranged to mark the start of the work. Residents were greatly outnumbered by the faith representatives – none had been forgotten!

The Society commented on the revision of Planning Policy Strategy 15 on the Historic Environment. Designed to amalgamate previous advice from a variety of documents, the new PPS cannot hope to provide the same protection that the Heritage Bill would have done if it had not been dropped from the legislative programme in 2008. We are glad that the recently published final document offers more protection to the historic environment than did the draft on which we commented.

The Highbury Coalition convened by the Moseley Community Development Trust has continued to seek an increase in the range of charitable activity and a widening of the governance to include people with special interests and knowledge to support the City Council, which is both sole trustee and tenant of Highbury. The City has in response re-ordered the way its Trusts and Charities Committee acts in order to clarify the role of Councillors as Trustees, and following two public meetings, it has invited the Coalition to help form an Advisory Group to assist the Highbury Trust. Meanwhile the state of the building – where blocked gutters are causing water damage – continues to deteriorate and a boarded-up Chamberlain House adds to the problem. Local interest in the Hall and Park was demonstrated at the packed talk given by Dr. Phillada Ballard as well as in the attendance at both of the City-organised public meetings.

Other items of note include the appointment of a Town Centre Manager for Moseley and Kings Heath. Nikki Carr has been invited to speak at our A.G.M. She is supporting Moseley businesses to strengthen their association so that it may be possible to seek Business Improvement District status. Moseley once again had Christmas lights in 2009, thanks to the persistence of Councillor Ernie Hendricks who co-ordinated the fundraising and commissioning of the lights. It is hoped that this will lay the foundations for lights to be assured each year from now on and without desperate last minute appeals. Two speed cameras have been installed in Alcester Road on either side of the shopping centre and the campaign to have the railway line reopened to passenger traffic received widespread support. We have yet to hear if the railway line will be given the priority we think it deserves in plans for regional improvements.

The Special Licensing Policy has continued to prevent much change in the number and extent of drinks licences. The Cross achieved a permanent planning permission during the year – it had been operating on a series of temporary permissions but its planning status has been confirmed, with many conditions. The Village Kebab House in St Mary's Row gained permission to remain open until 3 a.m. after Friday and Saturday nights but an application for the off-licence at 44 St Mary's Row to remain open until 1 a.m. was refused, and the new owners agreed to think of an alternative name to 'Moseley Booze'.

Despite the economic gloom, Moseley continues to be a place where people are keen to live – the good primary schools and generously proportioned houses play their part, and there seems no end to the desire of many residents to increase the size of their homes, and reduce the planting in front gardens in order to park more and more cars outside. We applaud Moseley in Bloom's efforts to highlight front gardens where cars and plants can happily co-exist.

**JOHN DRING, BARRY HENLEY AND FIONA ADAMS**

## **MOSELEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY.**

Members meet to discuss items of local historical interest or to try to help people who have written to ask for information concerning where their family lived or whether some local person may be a relative. Some of our members have written about local people, some famous, others who have made their mark on Moseley and these are published in a series of booklets entitled *Moseley Personalities*.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at Laurel Court, 25 Oxford Road, Moseley, in their Day Room. New members are always welcome.

**ROY THOMAS**

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### **2009/2010 COMMITTEE**

George Macleod	- Co-Chairman
Geoff Rees	- Co-Chairman
Mike Marlow	- Treasurer
Fiona Adams	- Secretary
Roy Cockel	
John Dring	
Joyce Elliott	
Barry Henley	
Paul Lindley	
Helen Minovi	
Robert Orme	
Constance Perris	
Michael Potter	
John Rouse	
Rosemary Turner	
John Underwood	

+ co-opted members

Sally Wright from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009

Claire Spencer from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010

# **AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MOSELEY SOCIETY**

**to be held at 7.30 p.m.  
on THURSDAY 20th May, 2010**

**at the Moseley Exchange,  
149-153 Alcester Road.**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Presentation of the reports
4. Adoption of accounts and Treasurer's Report
5. Election of officers and committee members
6. Any other business

Following the formal meeting NIKKI CARR, Town Centre Manager for Moseley and Kings Heath, will talk about her work, including the possibility of introducing a Business Improvement District in Moseley.

The Moseley Society is a Registered Charity, No 512211. The Society can be contacted via the Secretary at 36, Grove Avenue, Moseley, B13 9RY. Subscriptions and letters may be handed in at Moseley Travel, 172 Alcester Road - near the public car park entrance in Moseley, while information about the Society is available next door at Domestica, or across the road at the Moseley Exchange.