



the blooming news



Welcome to the newsletter for March. We hope you are now starting to enjoy your gardens as Spring sees the blossom returning and swathes of daffodils, tulips and crocuses bringing much needed colour to our green spaces. Our AGM is also fast approaching and we would love you to come along and hear more about our work. If you have any items of news, photographs or information about events to come please send an email to doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you, Kerry Jenkins and Carol Miller (Editors).

Introducing Naima

I am Naima and I love making our local area look lovely and litter free. Sian and I manage the planters on Church Road and Stoney Lane. I'm hoping to start growing plants from seeds once the weather warms up.



It's always exciting to choose the flowering plants and bulbs to get started at this time of year. Being part of Moseley in Bloom helps us coordinate gardening activities and similar interests with the area of Balsall Heath. I am delighted to come on board for this reason. Such a lovely group of dedicated community gardening enthusiasts.

SAVE

10 APRIL
THE

DATE



MIB AGM

WED
10TH
APRIL

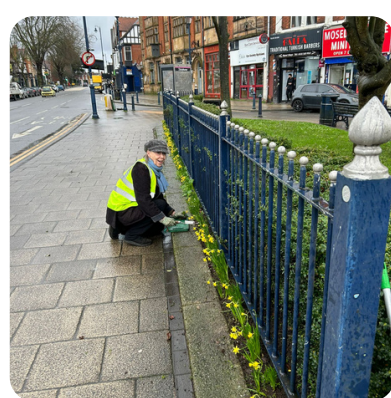
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At Moseley Hive,
B13 8DD
ALL WELCOME

Clean Up Weekend

If you were in Moseley on the weekend of 18 February, you might have noticed lots of people in high viz jackets cleaning up and greening up the streets. Moseley in Bloom volunteers joined the Litter Busters and the Council Graffiti removal team in a Big Moseley Clean Up. The Council team removed unsightly scribble from buildings and volunteers repainted some parts of shop fronts. Litter Busters swept and cleared while Moseley in Bloom volunteers weeded round the Green so that the little Tête-a-Tête daffodils can now be seen in their full glory. Thanks to everyone who came out. You really made a difference!



Tree News

Last Autumn several street trees in Moseley were removed because they were dying or diseased. As well as some smaller trees, this included a beautiful copper beech that had been standing at the corner of Woodbridge and Church Roads for perhaps 150 years. It was believed to be as old as the house on that corner. The Red House was originally The School Master's House linked to the school that is now 106 Church Rd and although not sited within the Moseley Conservation Area, it is a Grade II listed building. Sadly, the tree was identified with a fungus called *Meripilus Giganteus* which causes a white rot in various types of broad-leaved trees, particularly beech and oak. The mycelial threads of the fungus can spread up to several metres away from the host tree and so infect other trees if the source tree is not removed quickly. Local resident, Ros Cruickshank said 'we are devastated that it has got to go, it's such a beautiful iconic beech tree. It will change the whole character of the house and road junction'. Indeed, it will but please keep a lookout for any other sign of this deadly fungus in Moseley or beyond as we need to act quickly if it is seen again. In better news, the middle of February saw the tree team from Kier contractors plant several new flowering cherry trees and they are already flowering. The trees are well protected with wire 'cages' around them and have watering pipes to enable residents to water them easily. When the weather dries, if you have any 'grey water' please donate it to the street trees to enable them to grow and thrive. Thanks to Ros Cruickshank and David Isgrove for the information on the beech tree.



Volunteering opportunities

1. We are currently looking for a Volunteer Coordinator to establish and manage our volunteer database. The hours are completely flexible and would take up 1-2 hours a week. The ideal candidate would have great communication skills, be computer literate and a self-starter. No gardening experience required. If this sounds like something you may enjoy please contact sabreena@moseleyinbloom.org.uk

2. We are looking for five volunteers to help get our plants ready for the pop up sale. The session will be on Sunday 17 March from 2 to 4 pm. If you are interested please contact Carol Miller.

3. Would you like to help Moseley in Bloom clean up and green up our delightful area? If you are looking for community-based activities please sign up to hear about our activities through the year. Please find out more via this link:

<https://moseleyinbloom.org.uk/volunteer/>

Snowdrops

We were delighted to receive the following message and photos from Irene and Roy Clarke at the end of last month "Have attached three photos of Snowdrops from our garden in Oxford Road. The first two are in borders in the back garden and the third one is of the front lawn. When we moved here 40 years ago there were only a few but we have encouraged them and replanted them when overcrowded and now they are a wonderful harbinger of Spring every year." Thank you Irene and Roy. Does anyone else have pictures of their gardens to show us?



Pop up Plant sale

Our plant sales are back again! The first one of the year will be on Sunday 21 April from 2-4pm at the Dovecote, 179 Alcester Rd Birmingham B13 8JR. If you have spare plants, seedlings or 'garden paraphernalia' to donate, please bring it along on the day or from Monday 15 April donations of plants, seedlings and other paraphernalia can be dropped off at 15 Thornley Close B13 9UQ. During the sale the Dovecote and the Cow House will be open to visit and people will be free to wander round the garden. Further information from doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com



MiB Charity number 1141664