



the blooming news

SEPTEMBER 2026



With the evenings drawing in and a new season beginning, we hope you're settling into the change of pace and have plenty to look forward to over the coming weeks. Please do send your news and updates to Carol at doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com. Many thanks, Carol Miller and Charlotte Jenkins.

It's Your Neighbourhood at The Dovecote

On Thursday 13 August, Roy Cockell, Paul Lindley and Helen Minovi welcomed Mike from the Heart of England in Bloom to the Dovecote to judge their entry to the community gardening scheme 'It's Your Neighbourhood.' Their judge was very positive about all aspects of the garden and the efforts made there by the volunteers. As the garden has been thriving throughout the Summer, Mike suggested that attention of other gardeners should be drawn to plants flourishing in the garden in the drought conditions, for example: lavender, rosemary, bay and roses (with lots of tips). It was an enjoyable visit, and the Dovecote volunteers thanked everyone for all their hard work. The results of the judging will be known soon.



New status for Highbury Park

The Friends of Highbury Park have sent us the following good news: Highbury Park has been recognised as especially important for its nature! This historic landscape of meadows, woodlands, hedgerows, pools and formal gardens has been designated by Birmingham City Council as a Site of Regional Importance and Local Importance for Nature Conservation. This is quite an accolade for a heavily used public park. Thanks to everyone who helped us achieve this!

Plant Sale

The next Moseley in Bloom Plant Sale will be on...



Sunday 18 October from 2-4pm at The Dovecote.

Keep up to date with Moseley in Bloom!

Find Moseley in Bloom on Facebook and X: @moseleyinbloom, and on Instagram: @moseley_in_bloom. More information detailing local events & how you can support us can be found on our website: <https://www.moseleyinbloom.org.uk/>.



Elizabeth Road produce competition

Residents in Elizabeth Road, Moseley, organised a show this year, for the first time. Neighbours, their friends and family entered the competition and Jenny Brewer and Sabreena Mahroof from Moseley in Bloom were invited to join the judges. About 150 people of all ages entered the show with categories including fruit and veg. flowers, preserves, cakes and biscuits and digital photography. The event was opened by our Councillors, Izzy and Philip, assisted by Mason, Philip's dog.

They also awarded best in show to a beautiful red rose in the flower category. Impressively, the overall contest was won by a six-year-old who grew, picked and presented a wonderful bunch of wildflowers. Proceeds raised from the event will go to support Holders Wood.



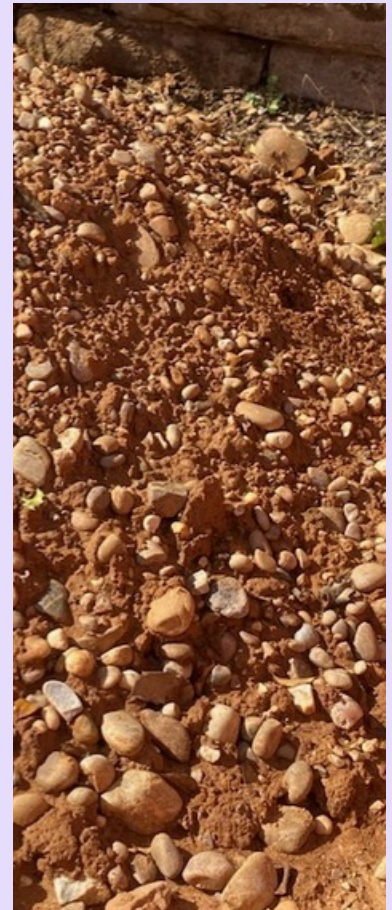
Moseley Soil

Fiona Adams has sent in this fascinating piece about our soil...

I've known for some time that Moseley's soil was dumped at the end of the last Ice Age as the ice sheets melted. That explains the poor soil and the sand and gravel. You may know that there used to be a sand pit where Dyott Road is now and the sand was extracted and sold.

We have some tools in the cow house by the Dovecote that were excavated and donated to us by the late Bernard Cowles. He grew up in Oxford Road and lived there all his life so the sand pit was just round the corner. It explains why all the houses in Dyott Road have had to be underpinned. When I'm showing people the Icehouse and Dovecote, one of the things I talk about is how the Taylor family sold off their Moseley Hall estate road by road to people wanting to move out of smoky Birmingham to the countryside. They could bring their families up the hill to breathe clean air and drink water filtered by the sand and gravel that had arisen as springs (there are two Springfield Roads in the area). I've been told about the watercress beds that used to grow at the top of Moorcroft Road and each winter a stream flows out into the passage way that leads to Russell Road.

Even though I've known about the reason for the poor soil, seeing the amount of smooth stone in the sides of the pits that Cadent have dug in Grove Avenue, and even more in the heaps waiting to be reinstated now that the gas works are complete, has been shocking! So I thought I'd send you these photos because it makes the achievements of the people who open their gardens for MiB even more remarkable. Well done all of you for organising Open Gardens - and well done to all the gardeners who manage to produce such beautiful gardens.



And finally...

Rob Kewley, a loyal Litterbuster, sent this photo of a house on Yardley Wood Road. Impressive!

