

## Birmingham on Sea

Sun 12 Sept | 11.30am–1pm & 2pm–3.30pm  
A perambulation through Birmingham's famous canal network, the envy of Venice and the wonder of this and every other age.



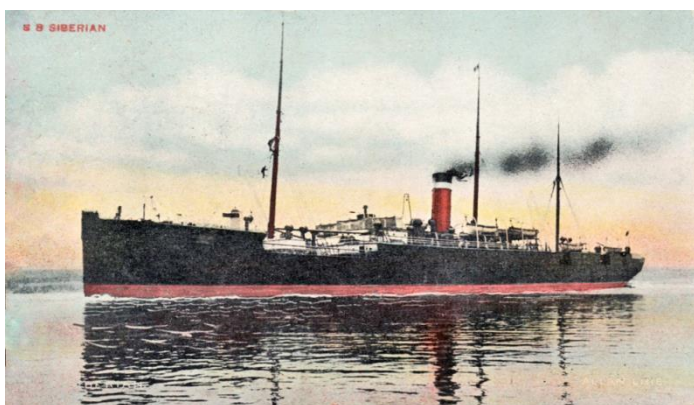
The walk will be punctuated by participative music: canal songs from the past, accompanied by Peter Churchill with his piano accordion.

A production by The Birmingham History Theatre Company, and the Balsall Heath Local History Society, for Birmingham Heritage Week.

Meet in Brindley Place, B1 2JF. The walk is circular so will finish nearby.

Free, no booking required

## Stories of the Lost Children



Wed 15 Sept | 2pm–3.30pm

The Middlemore Homes emigrated over 5000 children, chiefly to Canada, between 1873 and 1948. This talk by Val Hart illuminates the lives of some of these children.

Middleton Road Residents Lounge, Middleton Road, Kings Heath, B14 7HP

Free, Booking is essential as there are a limited number of places. Booking is by e mail to [info@balsallheathhistory.co.uk](mailto:info@balsallheathhistory.co.uk)

## Balsall Heath Local History Society Gazette

### AUGUST 2021



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[www.thelostchildren.uk](http://www.thelostchildren.uk)

Facebook: Balsall Heath Local  
History Society and  
lostchildrenproject

Membership of the Society costs £10 annually and can be bought via the Donate button on the Society website. Thank you to all who have chosen to subscribe this year in spite of the lack of meetings.

### Next meeting.

The first meeting of the autumn will be on Thursday, Sept 30th at St Paul's Venture, Malvern St. B12 8NN at 7 for 7.30 p.m. This will be our AGM for the year 2020-2021 and we also have a guest speaker, Georgina Sharp, who will be talking about The Celebrating Birmingham's Burial Grounds Project. She has been co-ordinating the memorial recording sessions at Brandwood and elsewhere attended by some of our members .

## In memoriam

Marie Lila McMahon 4th January 1940 - 3rd July 2021.

Marie was born in Belfast, at the age of two she was brought to Birmingham by her mom Kathleen,



who was looking for work. At first, they stayed with family in Highgate, then moving to shared rooms in a lodging house in Mary St, Balsall Heath. That house was No 95 Mary St. It was also the Golden Cup public house. With her detailed memories of her childhood, she described the building, and the people who lived there at the same time. Among them, one she fondly referred to as her best childhood friend was Michael Duffy. When we met her, she was most enthusiastic about meeting Michael again after so many years and reminisce about their early life adventures together exploring Balsall heath, Cannon Hill, and Calthorpe Parks (many of us can relate to that). We were able to put them in touch with each other, but due to circumstances

prevailing at the time such as illness they were unable to make that longed for meeting.

Marie had a long, successful, and happy life, one line from her daughter Stephanie's eulogy and Tribute finds a truth for those that met her even if that was for a few minutes. 'She was fun-loving, with a good heart and could strike up a conversation with anyone - Mom loved to dance and was great company on a night out, going to discos and nightclubs into her 70's' R I P Marie.



## Other Events

Birmingham Heritage Week runs from 10<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September this year and there are many things to do and see. The Society is organising two events as below: one about the Middlemore Homes and the other a canal walk, in partnership with the Birmingham History Theatre Company. For more details see <https://birminghamheritageweek.co.uk/>

### **Kings Heath High Street Local History Walk**

Sun 12 Sept | 12pm–1pm

A brief walk along Kings Heath High Street discussing places, buildings, and people of interest along the way. Led by Andy Bishop

Starting point at Kings Heath Village Square, All Saints Church

Cost £4 ,Booking required

## **Moseley Road Baths**

Sun 12 Sept | 12pm–5.30pm

Tour times: 12pm / 12.45pm / 1.30pm / 2.15pm / 3pm / 3.45pm / 4.30pm

The tour, led by members of the Friends of Moseley Road Baths, will take in the 'slipper baths', laundry room, boiler room and the magnificent Gala Pool. Bring a camera and your curiosity and enjoy stories from the Friends of Moseley Road Baths' 'Pool of Memories' oral history project, learn about plans for the building's future and immerse yourself in the Edwardian splendour of this 'Palace for People'.

Free, Booking required

## **Origins of Middle Earth**

Sat 11 Sept | 10am–11am

A guided walk introducing the scenery that inspired J.R.R Tolkien when he lived near Sarehole Mill as a child. The tour begins at the Mill and takes us to Moseley Bog, passing Tolkien's childhood home. The route is around 2 miles in length, involves steps and a boardwalk that could be slippery when wet. Good walking shoes are recommended. Not accessible to wheelchairs or pushchairs.

Tour starts at Sarehole Mill Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, B13 0BD

£10, Booking required

## **Highbury Park – 'The History Within'**

Tues 14 Sept | 10.30am–12pm

You are invited to a Kings Heath History Society guided walk; 'Highbury Park the History Within'. This will be a guided walk exploring the development of the park from 19th Century rural idyll to modern day public park.

The walk will start at the notice board in the car park which is accessed from Shutlock Lane.

Highbury Park, Shutlock Lane, Moseley, B13 8NZ

£4, Booking required

## **A gift to the City: Cannon Hill Park**

Fri 17 Sept | 10am–11.30am

Cannon Hill Park was gifted to the city nearly 150 years ago as a green space for its citizens to enjoy. Join this relaxed walk to hear more about the heritage value of the park (the park is Grade II\* listed), looking at the original design and lay-out of the park, the structures and statues, as well as features that have disappeared and recent additions.

Start of the walk is near the courtyard of the MAC

Free, Booking required

## **Moseley Hall Dovecote Garden and History Exhibition**

Sat 18 Sept | 10.30am–1pm & Sun 19 Sept | 2pm–5pm

The 18th century dovecote and garden offer an insight into Moseley's rural past. Find out about the role the brown rat and the French Revolution played in the history of dovecotes while enjoying smelling and seeing the herbs and fruits available to cooks and gardeners in the 18th century.

Moseley Hall Dovecote 179b Alcester Road, Moseley, B13 8JR

Free, Booking not required

## **A chance to learn more about Brandwood End Cemetery**

Sun 19 Sept | 11am–2pm

Join the Friends of Brandwood End Cemetery and explore this late Victorian Cemetery. Take a self-guided walk, chat to the Friends or listen to a talk.

On your visit you can examine the information the Friends have gathered on many of those buried in Brandwood End. There will be an opportunity to hear Doug Smith's talk 'From Trams to Trenches' and a chance to meet representatives of other local history groups with an interest in Brandwood End. Or take a self-guided walk through some of the history of the cemetery (downloadable or paper) and those buried there. There is a painted stones trail and quiz for younger visitors.

Brandwood End Cemetery, Woodthorpe Road, Kings Heath, B14 6EQ. Entrance located between stone masons yard and car wash.

Free, Booking not required

## **The world in one place**

Apart from the Heritage Week, the Library of Birmingham has an exhibition on the third floor called 'The world in one place: learning together in a multicultural city' exploring the heritage and history of primary school life and education in Birmingham during the 1960s-1980s. The exhibition opened to the public on 13th August and concludes 30th October. Alongside the exhibition there will be a series of events including a writing workshop, lectures on educational cruises and children's rights, and a visit to Atherstone Hostel.

The exhibition is a much larger version of the one that ran in the Old Print Works earlier this month and will run until the end of October.

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The Balsall Heath Local History Society is Registered Charity No. 1101945  
The Old Print Works, 498-506 Moseley Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham B12 9AH