



Moor Park (1958) Ltd BiteSize Update



Welcome to Moor Park (1958) Ltd -UPDATE Issue 65– 26th August 2026

Did Early Humans Once Walk Through Moor Park? ...

Possible Prehistoric Flint Tools Discovered in The Spinney



Possible worked flints discovered in The Spinney, Moor Park. These finds have not yet been authenticated and require professional archaeological assessment.

A recent walk through The Spinney in Moor Park produced an unexpected discovery. Among the leaf litter were several pieces of flint that appear, at first glance, to have been deliberately shaped by human hands.

Could they simply be naturally broken stones? Or could they be the remains of tools made by some of Britain's earliest inhabitants hundreds of thousands of years ago?

At this stage, we simply do not know.

The finds have not yet been examined by an archaeologist, and any identification must therefore be regarded as provisional. Nevertheless, they are intriguing enough to deserve further investigation.

Flint was the 'Swiss Army knife' of prehistoric Britain. Long before the discovery of metal, early hunter-gatherers learned how to strike flint to create razor-sharp cutting edges for butchering animals, preparing hides, woodworking and countless everyday tasks.

Several of the pieces found in the Spinney display features often associated with worked flint, including sharp flaked edges, multiple flake scars and forms that appear comfortable to hold. However, natural geological processes can sometimes produce similar fractures, so only expert examination can confirm whether they are genuine prehistoric artefacts.

Many residents are unaware that our local area has one of Hertfordshire's most fascinating prehistoric stories. Just a couple of miles from Moor Park, gravel quarry excavations at Long Valley Wood, Croxley Green, uncovered around a dozen Palaeolithic flint hand axes together with the remains of a giant prehistoric straight-tusked elephant, including a molar tooth, part of a tusk and an enormous limb bone. These discoveries demonstrate that early humans occupied the Colne Valley hundreds of thousands of years ago, long before the Romans, Saxons or even Britain's first farmers. The gravel terraces around Croxley Green, Rickmansworth and Moor Park have long been recognised as having the potential to preserve evidence of this remarkable period in our history.

Why It Matters

Even if the Spinney finds ultimately prove **not** to be prehistoric tools, they have already achieved something rather special—they have encouraged us to look more closely at the history beneath our feet.

If they are confirmed as worked flints, they would become another small piece of the archaeological puzzle helping us understand how early humans lived and moved through south-west Hertfordshire.

The next step will be to have the stones examined by the **Hertfordshire Finds Liaison Officer** through the **Portable Antiquities Scheme**, where experts can determine whether they are genuine archaeological artefacts and, if so, record them for the national database. Recording such finds contributes to our understanding of Britain's prehistoric past, even though ownership normally remains with the finder.

A Mystery Waiting to Be Solved

The Spinney has long been valued as a peaceful woodland for walking and enjoying nature.

Who would have imagined that beneath its trees there might also lie traces of people who walked this landscape perhaps **300,000 to 500,000 years ago**?

For now, the answer remains a mystery.

But sometimes the most exciting discoveries begin with nothing more than an observant walker, a curious eye and an unusual looking stone.

Hans Patel
Communication Director

Refuse Bins ...

A gentle reminder to please bring your bins back onto your property as soon as possible after the refuse collection has taken place.

We appreciate that it is not always possible to do this immediately but bins left out on the Estate for several days can make the area look untidy and detract from the appearance of what is otherwise a very well-maintained community.

There is also a security consideration. Bins left outside properties for prolonged periods can give the impression that a property may be unoccupied, which we do not wish to encourage.

We would therefore be grateful if residents could make arrangements to bring their bins in promptly after collection or ask a neighbour to do so if they are going to be away.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us to keep the Estate looking tidy, well cared for and secure.

Bank Holiday weekend...

No construction work or professional gardening firms are permitted to work on the estate from 1pm on Saturday 29th August until Tuesday 1st September at 8am.

If you plan to hold a large party, please advise the Moor Park Office before the day of the activity as well as inform your neighbours, as a courtesy. Please ensure that your guests park only on one side of the road, not on the verge, and not in a manner to inconvenience your neighbours or create a danger to other road users. Noise (music and fireworks, etc.) is generally only acceptable up to 11 pm.

The Moor Park 10k & Fun Runs in aid of Mount Vernon Cancer Centre ...

The Moor Park 10k & Fun Runs in aid of the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre will take place using some of the roads on the Estate on Sunday 20th September 2026.

The 10k run starts at 3.00pm at Merchant Taylors' School. It is anticipated that there will be in the region of 600 runners in total, finishing back at Merchant Taylors' School by approximately 5.00pm.

The run uses the facilities of Merchant Taylors' School and the roads in the Moor Park Estate and Moor Park Golf Club.

Every junction on the route will be supervised by marshals to ensure that the race takes place safely and with the minimum disruption to traffic. Most of the marshals are local residents who have supervised the junctions before and are thus very experienced. **However, the organisers are looking for additional volunteer marshals – typically this would involve you for about 2 or 3 hours on the day. If you would like to help out, please get in touch with the race organisers via: eventmakers@atwevents.co.uk**

Please see the list below showing the approximate times of road closures around the estate on Sunday 20th September:

Location	Anticipated for roads to be closed from	Anticipated for roads to be re-opened
Merchant Taylors West Gate, under the railway bridge and Sandy Lodge Road to the gatehouse.	3.00 pm	4.40pm
Moor Park Golf Course	On route but not closed	
Anson Walk	3.20 pm	4.15 pm
Astons Road, from Ansons Walk to Batchworth Lane entrance	3.20 pm	4.15 pm
Russell Road from Batchworth Lane to Thornhill Road	3.20 pm	4.20 pm
Thornhill Road from Russell to Bedford	3.20 pm	4.20 pm
Bedford Road from Thornhill Road to Heathside.	3.20 pm	4.25 pm
Heathside Road	3.25 pm	4.30 pm
South Approaches for its entire length	3.25 pm	4.40 pm
The area near the station	3.30 pm	4.45 pm
Sandy Lodge Road/Askew Road	3.30 pm	4.55 pm

The Moor Park 10k has become a significant fundraising event for Mount Vernon Cancer Centre and the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre with funds helping to provide complementary therapy services, cutting-edge medical kit and equipment, research projects, enhancements to indoor and outdoor spaces, and all the added extras and home comforts to make a difference to local patients having cancer treatment.

The organisers thank the residents of Moor Park for their support and co-operation and for allowing the event to be held within the estate. Many runners end the race with a big smile on their face, saying what a great atmosphere there was on the route and how friendly everyone has been. Thank you all for helping to create such a successful event. We are indebted to all residents for showing such generosity of spirit and for the consideration shown to the runners.

Whatever your age or experience, everyone is welcome to take part, from the very young to the young at heart, there are races for all age groups and everyone who finishes will receive a medal. If you want more information about the race including the route map and details of how to enter, please consult the event website:

For event information visit www.atwevents.co.uk/e/moor-park-10k-and-junior-fun-runs-9152 or for more information about the charity visit www.enhcharity.org.uk/mvcc

Moor Park Residents Association (MPRA) Update ...

- **Community WhatsApp Group - Gardening Club**



Over 120 residents have joined the Moor Park Gardening Club and it's blooming! Members swap tips, give away young plants (especially veg), and help each other identify mystery growths in the garden.

We've got some seriously green fingers on the estate, think banana trees, melon plants, and just about every vegetable you can name. But don't worry if you're just starting out, there's plenty of friendly advice on hand, from pond-building to pruning, plus this summer's

hot topic (quite literally, thanks to the recent heatwaves), clever ways to water your garden using waste water.

Looking ahead, we're hoping to organise an open gardens day on the estate, along with group visits to other gardens. Watch this space!

*Fancy getting your fingers even greener? Join us via the **MP Gardening** group under the **Moor Park Community WhatsApp**, we'd love to have you.*



- **Let's clean up together**

The Batchworth Community have arranged a community clean up on Saturday 26 September at the Eastbury Recreation Ground.

The MPRA is getting behind this great initiative and would love you to join in. Get ready to grab your gloves and help keep our wider community litter-free!

We will be announcing our own litter pick date soon too, so look out for communications on these local litter pick initiatives via the **MP Community Events WhatsApp Group**.

- **Joining the Community WhatsApp Group**

All Moor Park residents are welcome to join the Community WhatsApp Group, which currently hosts 15 topic groups including Walk & Talk, Book Club, Bollywood Karaoke Songsters, Knit and Natter, and Theatre, alongside those mentioned in this month's Bitesize.

*Follow **@moorparkresidents** on Instagram for updates, and keep an eye on the **MP Community Events WhatsApp Group** for future events.*

Not yet a member? Email moorparkresidents@gmail.com for further information.