



## FESTIVAL REPORT 2022

Compiled by Lotte Karlsen

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- and members of the local community



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## **- - - INTRODUCTION - - -**

The annual Celebrate Festival 2022 returned to Manley Park – its regular home in the heart of the Whalley Range community, on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June between 12 noon and 6pm - celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

This year's theme was 'Celebrate Life' – celebrating the inclusive and cohesive nature of our community. Highlighting how the local community with a wide cross-section of diversity can come together and 'celebrate life' together, post-covid, through a community festival.

We achieved our aim to unite the neighbourhood in a fun, (mainly) free and creative way, benefitting local people and building a sense of belonging within Whalley Range.

Using the talents and skills of the local community, Celebrate showcased activities and workshops for all ages, music and performance to cater for all tastes, and a variety of delicious international food - offering new and exciting opportunities for the Whalley Range community to see, do and try.

Manley Park once again provided an excellent home for the festival, with the layout and facilities perfect for the festival's needs, enabling us to programme two stages of live music each based in a corner of the park, which hosted a range of activities and workshops, mainly for children and young people. Support came from Manley Park Primary School who offered their playground to run the 'Big Bike Revival' and site the portable toilets - and Community on Solid Ground who provided access to necessary electricity points from their Play Centre. Two local residents also offered access to their domestic electricity supplies to power the stages. Our Celebrate volunteers and the Hare Krishna temple prepared and served food for volunteers.

Two marquees in the park hosted Age-friendly/Health and Wellbeing and Arts and Crafts. The main stage was positioned in the Northeast corner of the park, with the raised hill used as a viewing area for attendees, and the small Glade Stage was located Southeast close to the entrance on Clarendon Road. Inflatables were positioned next to the Play Centre as was the graffiti workshop and there was a Climbing Wall on the grass next to the kick pitch. Community information stalls, arts and craft sellers and food traders were positioned along the main diagonal path through the park, whilst two large food vendors were positioned by the York Avenue entrance, close to Manley Park school. Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue had a fire engine parked outside. The Information point, volunteer food and first aid were based within a marquee by the Clarendon Road entrance.

A hula hooping workshop, plus a range of site décor, installations, flags, and bunting installed by Travelling Light Circus, added color and character - and the ever-popular deck chairs were positioned at both music stages this year. The outcomes from our pre-festival activities with local groups and schools were showcased in the Arts and Crafts and Health and Wellbeing marquees.

Visitors received their free copy of the festival programme on the way into the event at both gates, where they were also able to purchase raffle tickets and make donations towards the festival - with some fantastic prizes donated by local businesses.

This year we also held two pre-festival music benefits at the Carlton Club, raising funds for the upcoming festival.

## - - - ABOUT CELEBRATE - - -

To enable community capacity-building, local people are recruited to run our art, music, and workshops as well as showcasing work at Celebrate, which is entirely run by volunteers from the community, members of Whalley Range Community Forum, Whalley Range Youth Opportunities Association, both based at the JNR8 Youth & Community Centre.

Celebrate aims are:

- To celebrate the talent, diversity, and resources of Whalley Range
- To promote a positive image and improve the quality of life in Whalley Range
- To encourage participation of different communities within the area and work from an anti-discriminatory framework



## - - - THANK YOU! - - -

Special thanks to everyone who made the Celebrate Festival possible this year.

A huge 'Thank You' to our team of dedicated volunteers old and new - without whom the festival would not happen.

Many thanks to all the musicians and artists, Manchester City Council, Community on Solid Ground, Alexandra Medical Practice, Whiz Youth Project staff and Volunteers, Whalley Range Community Forum, Age Friendly Whalley Range, Manley Park Primary School, Whalley Rangers and the Hare Krishna team.

Thanks to all the local businesses and supporters who took out adverts in the festival programme, and those who donated raffle prizes: Unicorn, Tibetan Kitchen, Divine Wellness and Shen Clinic - as well as donations from the Alexandra Practice and the local community.

Funding for the event was generously provided by National Lottery's Awards for All, Manchester City Council (via WRCF) and MCC Neighborhood Investment Fund (Whalley Range Ward), Mosscafe St Vincent's Kindness Fund and the Big Bike Revival.

Also extended thanks to volunteer photographer Anthony Morris, who has been capturing the essence, energy, and unity of the Celebrate festival since 2010.



## - - - EVENT OVERVIEW - - -



### Celebrate – pre-festival activities:

Celebrate worked with a range of local artists who provided pre-festival activities for a range of groups and local primary schools. St Margaret's Primary had a visit from the Travelling Light Circus' inflatable Heart of Life - and so did the over 50's music group at JNR8. Recordings of inspirational 'Celebrate life' quotes for the festival day took place at both sessions. The heart was also used as a backdrop for a mini-iPad photography master class and JNR8 photoshoot.

St Margaret's Primary also made screen printed festival flags, and so did a group at Manley Park junior school. Friday group 'Time to Change' had two very popular life drawing sessions - and the Spanish language group worked with the same artist using calligraphy to write and explore the meaning of the Spanish version of their names.

An age-friendly flax basket weaving workshop took place at JNR8 to much delight from participants, all women in their 60-70s. The recently started Whalley Range Women's Group made a beautiful banner for their group, displayed in the Health and Wellbeing marquee - and the work from other sessions was displayed in the Arts and Craft marquee. Due to time constraints on festival day the coordinator did not display the photos taken during photography workshops, however this display will be shown in JNR8 at a later date. Pulling this together took a lot of time and effort, especially to get the local primary schools onboard and commit time in their already busy school schedule. So, it is advised that any future coordinators start working on this as soon as they are recruited.

### Weather:

The forecast early in the week was for clouds with potentially some small showers, but the weather report got better as we approached the day. We had a glorious day without a single drop of rain all day, although high winds in the morning did cause some damage, for example to the Whalley Range heart. There were patches of cloud, but the sun mostly shone, and the temperature was just right, welcoming crowds of people in throughout the day.

### Site & Security:

Security was provided by Securivision Security Ltd who provided three security officers during the event –7am to 6pm. Normally they would stay till 8pm but due to covid, SS Ltd had problems finding available staff and the ones onsite had a second shift starting elsewhere shortly after. For the duration of the event, they managed both public entrances into the park, and were on hand to deal with any lost children or emergencies. Prior to the event, security staff were responsible for vehicle gate security, only allowing access for the marquee company, stage company, traders, bouncy castles, and participants with limited mobility.

We started the day off with a bang - literally - as company Festival Marquees drove their trailer into a parked car. Pictures of the damaged vehicle were taken by both security and coordinator: security kept an eye out for the owner all day, someone who security manager Noor Wahid knew.



The security staff were very proactive, supportive, and friendly to staff, volunteers, and the attendees. They were very responsive on radios, with regular hourly radio checks with each gate, the information tent, First Aid, etc. They managed vehicle access to the site very well, especially at the end of the event, when the park was still busy with members of the public while vehicles were packing down and leaving, with security guiding each vehicle as it moved around the site. Security was released at 6.00pm, by then most vehicles had left the site. Our volunteers then took over monitoring the gates whilst the remaining structures and stages were being packed down.

### Access:

The festival had two public gates, with the main entrance located on Clarendon Road and a secondary entrance on York Avenue near Manley Park Primary School. The gate near the corner of York Ave & Clarendon Road, was kept open. Although this wasn't used much, there was a missed opportunity by not having a table at the gate with volunteers handing out programmes and taking donations. For 2023 it's advised to keep this gate closed. The size of the site is perfectly manageable with two public gates, and the short distances to the other entrances meant that there were no major issues.

The Gates were opened for traders and other service providers who were checked in by security staff to unload goods and equipment between 7am and 11am, with restricted access after this time. The festival gates were opened to the public at 12 noon: at least 3 volunteers were on duty at both public gates along with security. Stallholders and performers were encouraged to use the northern York Avenue entrance to avoid a buildup of traffic on Clarendon Road. The information point and main entrance for the public was on Clarendon Road, which included sign in sheets for artists, crew, and volunteers. Programmes and raffle tickets were available at each public gate.

### Stages:

Both live music stages were provided and managed by Songsmith Solar Sound System and programmed by Matt Creighton. Advance communication with all performing artists was handled by Matt. Coordination on the day was by Des Basterfield of Songsmith on the main stage and Jo Rose at the Glade.

As always, Songsmith Solar were a pleasure to work with, being punctual, professional, and highly proficient.





Following positive feedback from previous years we again had the curved top stage as the Main Stage, located in the Northeast corner of the park. Des from Songsmith took on the role of stage manager and MC for the Main Stage. Jo Rose provided artist liaison at the Glade with a member of Songsmith crew providing sound engineering and compering. Power for the stages was kindly provided by two residents, one being a member of the WRYOA

committee, for which we extend our thanks.

The Main Stage performers line up was packed with a variety of local acts, with a few last-minute changes to the billing. The weather gods were on our side all day, so all acts had a good size audience. However, it was at its busiest in the middle of the day.

The small and intimate Glade stage hosted a variety of smaller acts. Programmed as an acoustic / spoken word area, this stage provided a more relaxed space for music and easy listening, with deck chairs provided, and well used all day due to the lovely weather. Many of the volunteers ate their meal while watching the stage, and we received good feedback from performers, volunteers, and the audience. It faced the Arts and Craft tent, so the sound didn't travel out of the park too much, which worked well.



## Stage Line Up:

### Main Stage

- 12:00-13:00 **Chorlton Rock Out School** (showcase for local youngsters)
- 13:15-13:45 **Poppycock** ('cocky pop, haunting, funny, and deadly serious')
- 14:00-14:30 **Cajun Specials** (American folk band with washboard and fiddle)
- 14:45-15:15 **Thai Boxing Demonstration** (WRYOA-Whiz Youth Project)
- 15:30-16:00 **Bollywood Dancers** (Dancer leading the crowd)
- 16:15-16:45 **Open Voice Choir** (Whalley Range legends /Celebrate regulars)
- 16:50- 17:00 **Raffle draw** - lots of prizes (see below)
- 17:00-18:00 **Calypso George and Rick Burrows**



## Glade Stage

12:30-13:00 **Charlie Pink** (Singer songwriter and purveyor of M.M.M. Mellow Manchester Music)

13:10- 13:40 **Tony Curry** (poet)

13:50-14:20 **Tony's Poets**

14:30-15:00 **Lauren Young** (Composer, bandleader, and astoundingly talented piano player)

15:15-15:45 **George Roberts** (guitar)

16:00-16:30 **Emilija Likes Ducks** (A Macedonian singer songwriter)

16:45-17:15 **Jess Megson** (whispery soulful vocals & mesmerizing guitar)

*"Thanks a lot for allowing me to play the lovely acoustic stage, it was really nice with good support from Jo and the sound technician, things went smoothly, and the sound was really great, no complaints. Such a lovely community festival, I would have been there anyway, so it was a bonus to play. It was lovely that some of my friends with younger children were able to come and see me, put me down for next year"*

### CHARLIE PINK

## Marquees:

The marquees and other structures were provided by Festival Marquees, who delivered and installed the Health and Wellbeing and Age Friendly Marquee, Arts and Crafts and Information Point tent on the day. They also delivered furniture, including all tables, folding chairs, deckchairs and pedestrian barriers that was distributed across the site efficiently on the festival day.



## Radios:

Radios were assigned to individuals based at or covering strategic points of the festival; the Festival Coordinator, WRYOA committee members, the Information Point, First Aiders and with Security at each gate. Radios were hired from Nine Hundred Communications. There were a couple of radios that weren't in perfect order, so in effect we had 10 which proved to be sufficient.

All event comms took place on one channel, everybody had an earpiece. No emergency code words were used during the event, indicating a safe and smoothly run event.

## Health & Safety:

An Event Management Plan was created and sent to the council before the event. Communication took place between the council's representative and Rick Walker in the days before the event, when all event procedures and principles were run through. First Aiders from St. John's Ambulance were present on site all day, which was detailed in the programme. All staff, security and volunteers were briefed on how to contact them via the radios.



## Publicity:

The festival's flyer and poster were designed by festival coordinator Lotte Karlsen and the programme was designed by Alison Chisholm. A5 Flyers and A4 & A3 posters were printed and distributed ahead of the event, and programmes were distributed on the day.

Printed publicity was distributed via the local primary schools: St. Margaret's, Manley Park and Our Lady's primary schools all had flyers delivered, for distribution to all pupils.

The posters were put in shop windows and on trees in the area by committee members and volunteers - who also distributed the flyers to local businesses, households, and schools.

The previous year's PVC banners were repurposed using vinyl date stickers and located at strategic points around Whalley Range, along with banners from 2018 which were adapted and positioned at entrances to the park for a week prior to the event.





Most of the online promotion was through the Celebrate and Whalley Range Community Forum Facebook pages and the Forum's website, coordinated by Chris Ricard and social media was executed by Matt Creighton, with regular posts and photo montages of what would be happening at the festival scheduled in the run up to the event.

The response to these posts were good and the Facebook page gained new followers while the event page had many 'interested' in attending.

Local Community groups and artists shared social media posts and digital posters. Information was sent out to the 40+ Mutual Aid WhatsApp groups that were started during the pandemic to support residents. All of this provided a moderate increase in engagement and had an impact in reaching a wider audience. There is room for improvement with the online aspect of promotional work and it may be worth considering more dedicated resources next year. The Bike Revival initiative would have benefitted from more promotion as they are slightly off site, located in the playground of Manley Park Primary school. Not all print promotion was distributed in advance; however, please note that funding was secured later than normal giving less time to organise volunteers for distribution. One of the advantages of running a festival for 25 years are that it's well established within the community - and in terms of audience numbers it was a good year. Good weather helped too. More could be done to attract visitors that haven't been before or heard of the festival. The Forum's webpage could be a better promotional resource. The programme was finished two weeks in advance of the festival and feedback was given after the event by one of the stall holders that more information could have been sent out earlier. So, in the future, it's advised that the programme is shared with anyone working at the festival as and when the digital version is completed.



## Accessibility:



Manley Park and Manley Park Primary School playground are fully accessible. Toilets were situated in the playground for the public and included a wheelchair accessible toilet. We recognised that we needed a mixture of chairs and deck chairs at the stages to help all levels of ability.

## Information:

At each public gate, as visitors arrived, they were given a programme with details of the aims of Celebrate, our supporters, and a schedule of what would be happening where, as well as being given the opportunity to buy raffle tickets. Volunteers were signed in at the information desk and issued with a voucher for a free meal and drink.

Local groups displayed noticeboards, leaflets and newsletters about news and activities in the area - and the opportunity to join our mailing lists to receive regular local news and information.

## Volunteers:

As always, a dedicated and tireless team of volunteers old and new worked hard all day to ensure the smooth running of the event.

Volunteers are given the opportunity to help in several areas of the festival throughout the day, with specific tasks including greeting attendees at the entrances, handing out programmes/selling raffle tickets, setting up and clearing away tables, serving food to performers and other volunteers, helping in various areas, managing the inflatables, and giving out information to the community.

An increased number of volunteers attended on the morning for set up. We could have done with more volunteers in the evening to help pack down after the event closed. For 2023 establishing a set up and take down Rota a month in advance would be advantageous.







## - - - FESTIVAL ATTRACTIONS - - -

### Arts & Craft Marquee:

The Arts & Craft marquee featured a range of free workshops for the whole community with sessions run by local artists including Alison Greyer (Prints and Press), Mandy Cleveland (Curious Crafty), Sonam Tso (Tibetan Kitchen), Melissa Daniels (Mez - MAD Sustainable Design) and local Spanish artist Àgata Alcañiz.

Along with the ever-popular face painting, henna and glitter tattoos provided by Sunita Sharee (also free). Plus, arts activities for the youngest ones provided by local Manchester Montessori House. The marquee had a wide variety of workshops on offer - and was very well attended and received.

Due to the pleasant weather, it had an even stream of people throughout, with the lowest attendance at the start and end. Although well stocked, Sunita who provided henna, ran out halfway through the day. All workshop leaders reported good attendance and a great atmosphere. Artists who ran pre-festival workshops, displayed the outcomes on tables and walls, as did macramé artist Sonam Tso. Because of the size of the marquee, we had room for more workshop facilitators and could have benefitted from more décor and displays - as well as more signage, artist information and possibly a hanging banner at the front of the tent so that the public knew what was on offer. The graffiti workshop by Jamie Rennie (JmeDzynz) organized by the WHIZ Youth Project was kept out of the arts and craft tent due to fumes and located at the back of the Play Centre – it had a slow start but was well attended overall and received great feedback from the younger crowd.



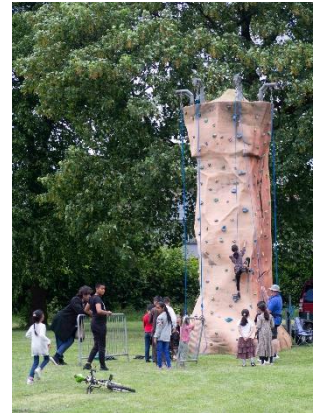


## Inflatables:

As always, the bouncy castles were extremely popular, with an obstacle course alongside a smaller castle for younger children. It was kept open all day due to great weather and made £413, covering the cost of the hire, plus some. The bouncy castle was managed by festival volunteers alongside the King of The Castle staff.

## Climbing Wall:

A free climbing wall was installed by Alternative Adventures and Outdoor Activities Service and proved very popular during the hours it was onsite, giving local children (and adults) the chance to try a new experience and learn a new skill.



## Site Art:

All site décor and interactive art was provided by Travelling Light Circus, including a variety of interactive curiosities, the 'Playground of Illusions' which has been a festival feature over the past few years. It will be great if we can add other site art attractions for next year. Celebrate received positive feedback from local families. There was plenty to feast your eyes on and get on with, including a Hula hoop workshop. Whalley Range Festival flags and bunting added colour and spectacle to the event, helping to create a fun and positive ambience from the outset. Unfortunately, the 'Heart of Life' inflatable or 'Heart of Whalley Range' as we like to call it got rattled by the wind prior to start, so it had to be deflated early in the day.





## Health & wellbeing and age-friendly marquee

We were pleased to receive an award from the MSV Kindness fund for the health marquee hire and a range of activities.

The combination of information boards, promoting local news and activities, leaflets and giveaways – e.g., canvas bags, resistance bands and exercise leaflets, light timers for security - were well visited and people took a lot of information away with them. We also had a range of stalls from:

- buzz wellbeing service: Aron from buzz hosted an information and advice stall. We featured a draft preview of the new Whalley Range map for feedback - and people were pleased with the range of content in the latest edition - which has a focus on mental and physical wellbeing and the environment. There will also be an online brochure with more in-depth information about local groups and services.
- The Whalley Range Women's Group launched this year – supported by buzz – and with funds held in the Forum account until they get established. They had made a tablecloth/banner as a Celebrate pre-workshop and joined the buzz stall displaying the banner and distributing leaflets to women to encourage more members. They attracted lots of interest and offers of a keep fit session and a therapy session from Whalley Range practitioners!
- The information stall from Eat Well, Get Well CIC/Public health collaboration charity was busy, with the team sharing sugar infographics and general information about eating a real whole food diet. They shared how this lifestyle has been shown to help with weight loss and in putting Diabetes (type 2) into remission.
- Together Dementia Support and the Chorlton and Whalley Range Dementia Action Group were busy giving out advice and the [10 Big Ideas to Live Well with Dementia booklets](#).
- The pharmacy had people queuing up for blood pressure and inhaler checks - and as the BP readings were sent directly to GP's three people have been advised to seek treatment for high blood pressure.
- The local Shen clinic provided back massage, Indian head massage and advice and information.



- Jaz provided hand and arm massage – and through Celebrate was booked to run sessions for care provider staff...
- Home instead supports people to stay in their own homes as they get older and less mobile, produces a 'What's on Where' guide to older people's activities (including activities at JNR8) - and were also promoting their recruitment opportunities.

And of course, we had our usual chair exercise taster session for people with reduced mobility, and some Tai Chi combined with laughter Yoga!

We were happy to have our regular age-friendly photographer - Anthony Morris – as always capturing the atmosphere of the festival with his fantastic Celebrate photographs.

Thanks to Joyce for her wonderful Celebrate banner - and Cath for help with the map.

As a result of the information displayed in the marquee, the interactive sessions and engagement with people from the community we welcomed some new participants to our JNR8 sessions.

Contact [agefriendlywhalleyrange@gmail.com](mailto:agefriendlywhalleyrange@gmail.com) to find out more about our activities for older people and age-friendly steering group. Check out the Whalley Range Community Forum [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page for news about our physical and mental health activities, support services and events.



## The Big Bike Revival:

The popular bicycle repair and information service returned to the Manley Park Primary School playground, coordinated by Liam Packham from Time to Change, working with the Bike Hive.

People could learn how to service their own bike and have small repairs carried out for free.

The team of volunteers, trained mechanics and activity staff who ran the 'push pedal scoot' sessions worked hard all afternoon, repairing bikes, giving advice, and giving out safety equipment.



## Catering: Food, ice-cream, and coffee:

Due to great weather, we had a high turnout and food and drink traders reported good sales by the end of the day, despite a slow start.

There were two large food vendors located by the Manley Park Primary school end; Tibetan Kitchen, who also served drinks - and fish and chips from the Dutch Fishmen. Coffee Cranks, Exclusive Scoop ice-cream, and local chef Meenu serving Indian street food were located by the sports pitch with other stall holders.



## Whalley Rangers stall hire:

For 2022 the Celebrate team worked in partnership with the Whalley Rangers, who hold regular monthly markets in Whalley Range. We hired 10 of their marquees for stall holders, which they transported, installed, and dismantled at the end of the day.

We had a good mix of information stalls that included

- Whalley Rangers
- LGBT Foundation: information share about the LGBT+ Extra Care housing scheme in Whalley Range
- Manchester Montessori House
- Whalley Range Climate Action Group
- Freedom from Torture
- BHA for Equality
- Greater Manchester Tenants Union

Community officers from GMP gave out information and freebies and connected with the community.

Four of the stalls took part with a range of goods for sale including Arabic calligraphy art by Simran Ali, Rehana Akram sold children's toys and clothing, homemade jams and chutneys by Urban Preserver and Steven Lopacki sold wood craft.

All reported great sales by the end of the day: Simran Ali even sold-out of certain items halfway.

They all said they would be back next year.





## Recommendations for 2023:

- Increased signage around the site particularly to direct people to and promote the Glade stage, Arts Tent and particularly the Bike Area and toilets, sited in Manley Park school playground.
- Clear information given out, signposted, or communicated at gates regarding bikes, scooters and dogs being brought into festival site e.g., dogs on lead and bikes should not be ridden.
- The creative industry was hit hard during the Covid pandemic, and the non-pay policy of entertainers should be reviewed for future events. If all artists and performers are offered a fee, it will make the programming easier, increase diversity and the standard can be raised and improved.
- More local volunteers need to be recruited throughout the year to support long-standing volunteers who may have less time (and energy!) to get involved with long shifts. This is key to the longevity of the festival - and it is recommended that we recruit more volunteers to help with set up and wrapping up - at least a month in advance of the event.
- Festival funding must be secured at an earlier stage so there is sufficient time to recruit coordinators, so they can start programming well in advance in preparation for promotion.
- Issuing of contracts to music, food, and workshop providers as soon as possible after confirmation, to ensure minimal 'dropouts'. To make things easier for some, contracts can be sent out via Google forms to be digitally signed.
- Dedicate a portion of the funding towards social media management to take advantage of all the different platforms. It's advised that they all have the same short and memorable handle/name so it's easier for people to find the festival across all platforms. Social media channels may be a useful way to target possible volunteers.
- The Celebrate coordination team or a dedicated social media volunteer needs to make use of the established Celebrate, Forum and WHIZ websites/social media platforms and promotional resources, putting content together in advance and leading up to the festival.
- Earlier confirmation from the Council about Park booking and approval of paperwork.
- Provide a wider range of food stalls, including meal options that are suitable for children.
- Improved monitoring/feedback of festival attendees to ensure we are attracting an audience which represents our community.
- Closure of the York Avenue gate, to ensure access to the festival is only through the Clarendon Road and York Avenue vehicle gate.
- Bins must not be removed/moved from the park before the final litter picking.
- Better planning and communication with Manley Park Primary school regarding gate access for delivery of the toilets to the playground.
- Ensure that we have security onsite until 8pm on festival day. If the security company can't provide this, we need to look for alternatives.

## ::: TREASURER'S REPORT :::

This was 25 years since our first festival in 1998 and once again the community, supporters and volunteers were keen to be involved, as Celebrate proves a great way of networking, information sharing and having fun. Whalley Range Youth Opportunities Association and the Whalley Range Community Forum have been working jointly to raise funds, as well as carrying out local fundraising from local businesses and on the day fees and donations. Both organizations contributed worker time, and the Forum a City Council grant towards pre-festival workshops in schools and with local groups.

We received core costs from the Lottery, Awards for All, a small grant from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund for an additional acoustic stage area, Big Bike Revival funding for mechanics for the bike area, and Mosscafe St Vincent's contributed towards the cost of the Health and Wellbeing/Age friendly marquee. This year we also held two pre-festival music benefits at the Carlton Club which raised £400 approx.

We were appreciative of the free use of Manley Park for the festival site, and Manley Park School for the use of the playground for our Big Bike Revival funded bike area, and for the use of Community on Solid and neighbour's power supplies for the inflatables, heart, health marquee, stages etc.

Gate donations were £520 (compared to £310 for our last day in 2019 when it rained and compared to fine weather takings of £660 in 2018). The inflatables raised £413.00.

As always, we appreciate the donations of raffle prizes and payments for adverts in the festival programme, (raising £470) which contributes towards our running costs, and the production of the programme. The other source of income on the day is pitch fees from the commercial food and stalls (this raised £315). The information stalls from community groups, health organisations etc. do not pay. We are appreciative of the hire of services and gazebos from the Whalley Rangers. Again, we have tried to reduce costs, by using recycled materials e.g., for the banner props, and the Garden of Illusions, adapting banners from previous years, and being able to get waste managed by neighbourhood services. We have a good, continued relationship with St. John's Ambulance who provide excellent first aid cover.

Our policy of not paying performers on the day still remains, (other than expenses and refreshments) however workshop leaders who have responsibility for supervising children, the coordinators, and the stage managers are paid.

We thank performers and volunteers with a system of food vouchers, for a meal etc. in the volunteer's food area, although this is time consuming, it seems to be a cheaper way of providing this service and provides a welcoming space for volunteers to socialize. Once again, a curry and rice were provided by the Hare Krishna Temple and the Co-op donated contributions for sandwich/salad making.

Our own fundraising is not sufficient to cover the costs of the festival day and if we want to hold another event the core costs and those for workshops must be obtained again through grants etc.

The festival would not be possible without the teams of volunteers who staff the gates and paying attractions and sell raffle tickets and collect gate donations, Many thanks to all.

Carol Packham (Treasurer).

## ::: GET INVOLVED :::

We are always looking for people to get involved in our volunteer-led festival: we also run Celebrate activities and events throughout the year.

If you would like to get involved in our Celebrate projects and the planning of Celebrate 2023 – please get in touch.

Call JNR8 on 0161 881 3744 | Email [celebratewhalleyrange@gmail.com](mailto:celebratewhalleyrange@gmail.com)

or pop in to JNR8 at 82 Cromwell Avenue, M16 0BG

Facebook: Celebrate Festival Whalley Range



**Whalley Range Youth Opportunities Association** is a registered charity established in 1982 to widen opportunities for young people in Whalley Range. We provide facilities and resources in and around JNR8 on Cromwell Avenue, including JNR8 under 12's Playscheme, Celebrate, Whiz Youth Project for 12-25's with cookery, Thai boxing, group discussions, job/training support and volunteering opportunities.

The main aims of the project are as follows:

- To reduce the risk of youth nuisance, antisocial behaviour and drug misuse
- To create community cohesion and active citizenship
- To raise the aspirations, motivation, and confidence of young people
- For the project to be as reflective as possible of the young people we serve and their needs.

**The Whalley Range Community Forum (WRCF)** is a voluntary representative residents group formed in 1995 to facilitate and improve communication between members of the community and those who serve/represent Whalley Range. The Forum acts as an umbrella organisation, bringing residents and local services together to address local issues through promoting consultation and community cohesion – and encouraging participation. WRCF supports new community groups to access funding to set up their own groups.

WRCF is a foodbank referral service and hate crime reporting centre - and addresses resident's priorities by facilitating health & wellbeing classes/courses at JNR8 in term times.



ENTRANCE



MANLEY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL  
BIG BIKE REVIVAL  
BICYCLE  
MAINTENANCE  
WORKSHOP



TOILETS



ENTRANCE



HOT FOOD STALLS



FIRE  
ENGINE

YORK AVENUE



PLAY  
GROUND

STALLS

STALLS

GAMES  
AREA

ARTS  
AND  
CRAFTS

THE  
GLADE

HEALTH & WELLBEING  
and  
AGE FRIENDLY  
TENT

AREA

CLOSED

interactive  
heart of life

Playground  
of  
Illusions

Inflatables

FIRST AID

Info  
Stall

MAIN  
ENTRANCE



CLARENDON ROAD