



TREASURES OF RUSHOLME & VICTORIA PARK 2017

How many of the buildings and scenes in the Treasures of Rusholme Calendar did you recognise? We are proud of our heritage and of our vibrant present and hope that the calendar has encouraged you to look anew at our wonderful neighbourhood. There is so much to see and do in Rusholme!

This calendar has been produced by Creative Rusholme as part of our mission to raise the profile of our community and to develop the huge cultural potential of our neighbourhood on Manchester's Southern Corridor. With two galleries, three parks, a major conservation area, residents from all over the world, including many thousands of young people and on a major transport route to the hospitals, universities and through to the city centre, Rusholme has it all! And we'd like everyone to know it.

All aspects of the calendar have been provided free of charge. Based on an original idea by local resident Elaine Bishop, local artist and photographer Phil Barton took all the photographs and put the calendar together. Copyright for all images and text is retained by Phil Barton ©2016 and you should contact him if you wish to purchase or use any image pbarton1@btopenworld.com.






The design and printing of the calendar has been undertaken free of charge by Scott Dawson Advertising (www.scottdawson.co.uk) as part of their commitment to supporting community endeavour. The introductions to make this possible were made at the first Rusholme Soup event organised by local social enterprise Healthy Me, Healthy Communities www.healthymehealthycommunities.co.uk

The calendar is being sold by volunteers from local community organisations in Rusholme - contact details are on the Rusholme Archive website rusholmearchive.org/TreasuresofRusholmeCalendar2017. All monies raised will be used by local groups to help green Rusholme, whether through tree planting, bee friendly planting, local food growing or local clean ups.

We hope you enjoy it! Happy New Year.





MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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MARCH 2017

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February 2017



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March 2017






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April 2017



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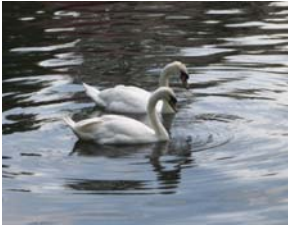
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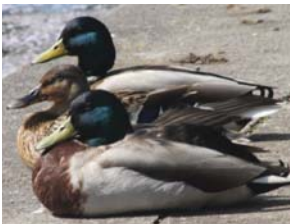
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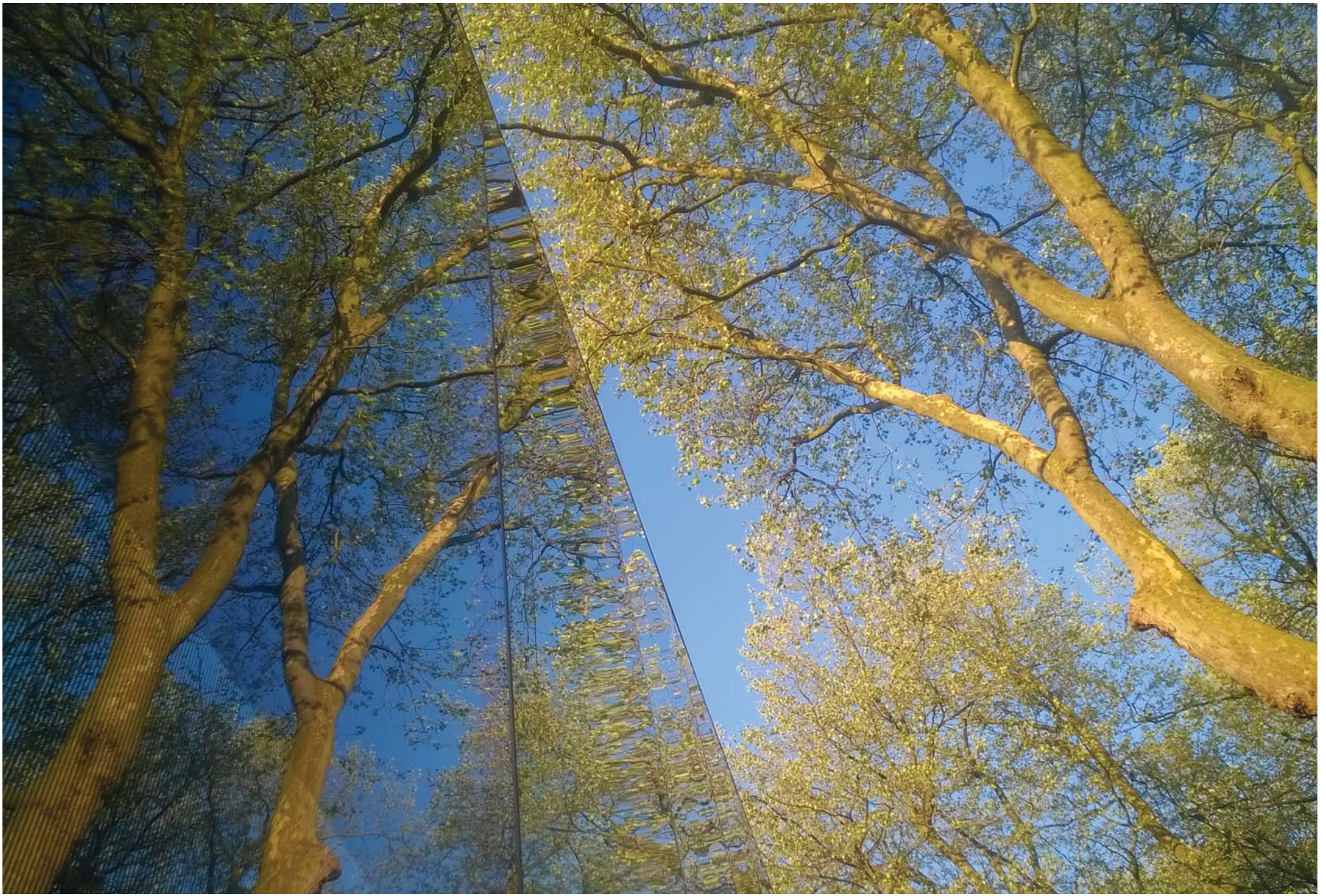
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June 2017



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August 2017





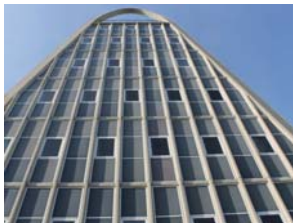



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September 2017



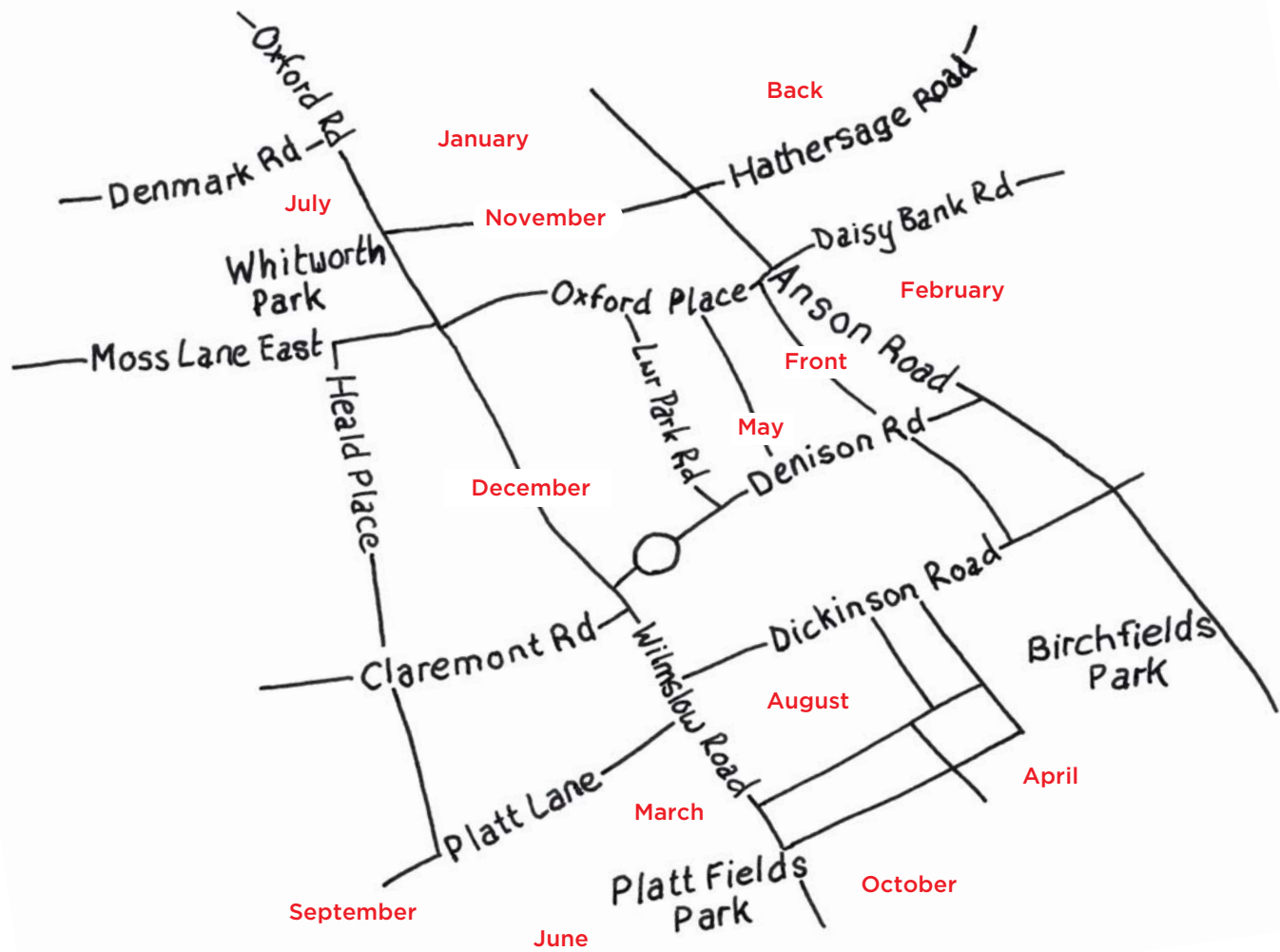
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November 2017



TREASURES OF RUSHOLME & VICTORIA PARK

Front cover

Dalton Ellis Hall, Conyngham Road, like the adjacent St Chrystostom's Parish Church, was designed by George T Redmayne. The first purpose built hall of residence in the country, the main building featured on the front cover opened in 1882 and was extended in the early 20th century. Originally accommodating Quaker students attending Owens College it became part of Manchester University in 1958, remaining a men's hall until Dalton Hall merged with Ellis Hall in 1987.

January

Manchester Royal Infirmary and Children's Hospitals. Originally founded in 1752 as a cottage hospital accommodating 12 patients, the hospital moved to what is now Piccadilly Gardens three years later and then to its current site on Oxford Road in 1908. Opened by King Edward VII whose statue stands opposite in Whitworth Park, the site was massively re-developed during this century with the new Children's Hospital (featured in the main picture and replacing the brutalist St Mary's Hospital opened in 1970) and Eye Hospitals opening in 2009. The Edwardian buildings opposite the Whitworth Art Gallery are now the headquarters of the Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

February

Edgar Wood Centre, Daisy Bank Road. Designed by Edgar Wood as one of the first Christian Scientist churches in Britain, it was built between 1903 and 1907. Closed as a church in 1971 and badly vandalised, the Centre was restored in 1975. It is currently occupied by the Universal Church of the Kingdom of God. A beautiful example of 'arts and crafts movement' architecture, the Centre is one of only twelve Grade 1 listed buildings in Manchester and remains on the register of buildings at risk.

March

The present Platt Hall was built at a cost of £10,000 on the site of an earlier half timbered hall in the 1760s by the Worsley family who had acquired it from the Platt family over a century before. Now housing the Costume Gallery, the exhibits include items which were preserved in a trunk from the wardrobe of Thomas Worsley, owner of Platt Hall, who died in 1768. Both the Hall and Platt Fields were saved from development following a campaign by local people led by William Royle, when Manchester Corporation bought them for £59,875 in January 1908.

April

Birchfields Park and St James', Birch in Rusholme. Opened by Prince Albert Victor, grandson of Queen Victoria on 20th October 1888, Birch Fields Park was acquired from three local landowners after long discussion and grumbles about the cost by Manchester Corporation with the support of the Rusholme Health Board. Today, as well as playgrounds and a forest garden, the Park hosts numerous informal games of football and cricket. Adjacent St James' was a parish church from its construction in 1846 until it closed and became a care home in 1980. The former parish hall has been home to Birch Community Association since 1976.

May

Victoria Park has a unique history. Promoted as a speculative development in the 1830s, by 1850 some fifty houses had been built by a variety of architects and many still stand today. Prominent residents have included Sir Charles Hallé, Emeline Pankhurst, Richard Cobden, Elizabeth Gaskell and Ford Maddox Brown. A conservation area since 1970, the calendar shows buildings today in the in the Lower Park/ Dennison/ Upper Park Road area occupied by Xaverian College, the Chinese Consulate and Manchester Central Mosque which has been based on the site since 1948.

June

Platt Fields was saved from housing development and immediately in 1907/8 some 700 unemployed men laid out the park, diverted the Gore Brook and dug the lake. Formally opened in 1910, Platt Fields Park has been loved by generations and has included a lido, speakers' corner, nearby army hospital, pets corner and training ground for Manchester City FC. A thriving Friends of Platt Fields led centenary celebrations in 2010 and, whilst the Manchester Flower Show and Park Life have both moved on, the annual Manchester Mela, model boat club and mountain/ BMX biking facilities continue to animate the park.

July

Whitworth Gallery and Park. The award winning extension of the Whitworth Art Gallery has recently put Rusholme on the international arts map. Extending into the Park, which now hosts several artworks, the area offers facilities for the 21st century. Originally established in memory of Sir Joseph Whitworth, engineer, industrialist and inventor of the whitworth scale for standardising measurement of screw threads, the original land and Whitworth Institute opened in 1889. Now part of the University of Manchester, the current gallery opened in 1908, was reshaped in the 1960's, extended in 1995 and the recent extension featured in the calendar opened in 2015.

August

Moon Grove off Dickinson Road was originally an 1830s speculative development. By the 1960s the properties had become so rundown that they were designated for slum clearance. They were saved from the bulldozers which flattened much of inner Manchester's housing following an energetic campaign by residents. Four houses were listed in the mid-1970s. Since then it has been much improved, retaining much of its late Georgian feel. As the photographs for the calendar were being taken in summer 2016, what is believed to be the oldest street name sign in Manchester was being restored by conservators from Manchester University.

September

Holy Trinity and Platt Lane. Holy Trinity Church on Platt Lane was built by the Worsleys of Platt Hall at a cost of £3,600. It was consecrated in 1946, the same year as St James' (April) in turn paid for by the other principal landowning family in the area, the Ansons. Located between Platt Fields Park and Platt Lane, the church is a significant landmark with its elegant terracotta clad spire and is currently being restored. On the other side of Platt Lane are several fine villas set back from the road and a series of terraced streets with setted back alleys, several of which have been reclaimed by the "Upping It" project carried out by residents. In recent years the tower of the Shah Jalal Mosque and Islamic Centre in nearby Sumner Street has joined the soaring Holy Trinity spire on the skyline.

October

A modernist icon on Wilmslow Road, the "Toastrack", celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 2008 but five years later it was vacated by Manchester Metropolitan University. Manchester City Architect Leonard Cecil Howitt designed the Domestic and Trades College which later became the Hollings Faculty of Manchester Polytechnic, now MMU. With origins in the Central Girls and Women's Institute, generations of students learnt catering, clothing, tailoring, bakery and hairdressing on the site. At the time of writing a planning application for residential development of this wonderful building has been submitted including additional building on the Wilmslow Road frontage and the future of the Toastrack is unresolved. This is the only spread on the calendar where not all the photographs taken from a public space, with the main photo of the roof taken on a Civic Society tour as the building closed in 2013.

November

Completed in early 2012, Ronald McDonald House on Hathersage Road provides family accommodation next door to the new Children's and the other hospitals on the Royal Infirmary campus. Providing accommodation and support to almost 1,000 families a year, it is a welcome addition to the Rusholme scene, bringing a strikingly modern building into our midst.

December

The Curry Mile has been a centre for Asian fashion and cuisine for almost forty years. Initially with a heavy emphasis on cultures from the Indian Sub-Continent, more recently Afgan and Middle Eastern influence has arrived with a significant growth in shisha bars and new cuisines. The only remaining public house in Rusholme - The Albert - is found here, as is a major continental style segregated cycle path opened in 2016. Eid is a major celebration focused on the Curry Mile every year.

CREATIVE
RUSHOLME

Back cover

Hathersage Road Baths won the first ever BBC Restoration competition and since then, the Friends of Victoria Baths have worked tirelessly to fully restore it. In the meantime it plays host to weddings, beer festivals, plays, art exhibitions and all sorts of fantastic events such as Home's stunning 'Romeo & Juliet' in 2014.

Hardys Well pub, formerly the Birch Villa, on the junction of Dickenson and Wilmslow Roads closed in 2016 and its future is threatened. Lemn Sissay's wonderful poem extolling the pub is still visible but the whole site, focused on one of the striking Hulme based Hardy's Crown Brewery's public houses, whilst designated a community asset, is also on a prime development site.

Resources

The pictures in this calendar can be found on the excellent <http://rusholmearchive.org/TreasuresofRusholmeCalendar2017> which has been compiled by local resident, Bruce Anderson. Here you will find much more about the heritage of Rusholme and Victoria Park - its history, people, parks and buildings - including many of those featured in this calendar. Please do take a look.

If you would like to take a more active interest in the heritage and the future of Rusholme, please consider joining the Rusholme & Fallowfield Civic Society which has been working tirelessly since 1969 to protect and improve the area. Membership costs little and will help the society to prosper. More details: <https://rfcivicsociety.wordpress.com>

All our three parks featured in the calendar have friends groups working with the community and the City Council to look after and improve our wonderful parks:

Friends of Platt Fields <http://www.plattfields.org>

Friends of Birchfields Park: c/o xxxxx

Friends of Whitworth Park: <https://friendsofwhitworthpark.org.uk>

You will find links to many of the organisations featured in the calendar in the Rusholme Archive: <http://rusholmearchive.org/TreasuresofRusholmeCalendar2017>.



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APRIL 2017

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JUNE 2017

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AUGUST 2017

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SEPTEMBER 2017

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OCTOBER 2017

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NOVEMBER 2017

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FRI	3	10	17	24	
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DECEMBER 2017

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