MANCHESTER MAGAZINE

DIGITAL EDITION
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Photo: Mark Waugh, Manchester Press Photography Ltd

MANCHESTER

Manchester's spectacular Christmas Parade returns with music, colourful floats and festive entertainment

Manchester's Christmas Parade returns on Sunday 6 December, with more than 400 performers and participants following a circular route from St Peter's Square through the city centre from 1pm.

Manchester is preparing for a spectacular celebration of Christmas as its much-loved Christmas Parade returns on Sunday 6 December, bringing festive magic, colourful entertainment and unforgettable moments to the heart of the city.

The popular event will see the parade wind its way through Manchester city centre, starting and finishing in St Peter's Square, as families, residents and visitors come together to enjoy one of the highlights of the city's festive calendar.

What to Expect

Now in its fifth year, the annual parade will see more than 400 performers and participants take to the streets in a celebration of festive fun for all the family that will see local community groups join in a spectacular seasonal parade.

Look out for Santa as the parade makes its way

through the city streets together with mythical dancing deer, giant yetis, a polar bear puppet, and sparkling Ice Queen together with her enchanting ice dancers, plus the straight from a fairy-tale Festive Fantasy Candyland Castle surrounded by Sugarplum Fairy Stilt Walkers.

Standing over 4 metres tall the whimsical fairytale turreted castle slowly rotates as it glides along and is sure to have the youngsters in the crowd wide-eyed with wonder.

There'll be plenty of other surprises too along the way, with mountain hares, a giant inflatable turkey, singing veggies, and much more. Keep an eye out also for Manchester's very own Christmas Parade Hype Elves to help everyone get in the mood as the parade gets underway, and the return of the iconic Manchester Town Hall Clock.

Music and Community Groups

Backed with a seasonal soundtrack to get everyone dancing, the parade will feature live music and movement from the likes of Global Grooves' Bloco Band and amazing dancers from community groups including Podilya, Bhangracize, Fiaanna Phadraig and Guanxi.

Get together with friends and family for an unforgettable day as the parade fills the city centre with festive colour, music and fun.

The Route

The parade will start at 1 pm in St Peter's Square and follow a circular route back to the square, travelling along:

Princess Street, John Dalton Street, Deansgate, St Mary's Gate, Market Street, Cross Street, Princess Street and St Peter's Square

Council Comment

Councillor Garry Bridges, Leader of Manchester City Council, said:

Christmas in Manchester is already looking great with our world-famous Christmas Markets taking over the city centre as we count down to Christmas, but things are about to get even more festive as the Manchester Christmas Parade makes its annual return to the city streets.

Now in its fifth year the magical parade has become the not-to-be-missed event of the season for anyone with young children in their lives. Heart-warming, memory-making, and lots of fun, get your friends and family together and come along and enjoy it with us!

The city council is working with a number of different partners including arts organisations Global Grooves, Handmade Parade, and Walk the Plank, Fools Paradise, and No Eyed Theatre to help make this year's Manchester Christmas Parade the best one yet.

More information about Christmas in Manchester can be found on the council website.

By Barbara Parker

Read more: **manchestermagazine.co.uk**

Your turn

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Teenage Cancer Trust takes over Printworks digital ceiling in Manchester



Photo: Drew Forsyth

Teenage Cancer Trust recently transformed Europe's largest digital screen as part of a campaign to raise awareness of the most common signs and symptoms of cancer in young people.

Comedian and long-term Teenage Cancer Trust supporter Jason Manford unveiled the digital experience, which was at Printworks in Manchester in October. It featured colourful animations and visuals of the five most common signs and symptoms of cancer in people aged 13-24.

It comes after research* by Teenage Cancer Trust revealed that just 15% of 18–24-year-olds could identify all five of the most common cancer symptoms in young people, while a quarter (25%) could identify four.

The most common signs and symptoms are: Lumps and swellings (not caused by an accident), unexplained tiredness, persistent pain, mole changes, and unexplained weight change.

Teenage Cancer Trust research also showed that awareness of cancer in young people is low. The charity asked 2,200 people aged 13+ how likely they thought it was for someone aged 15–24 to be diagnosed with cancer.

The odds are 1 in 370, but almost half (47%) thought the chances were much lower: between 1 in 1,000 to less than 1 in a million.

Jason, who has supported the charity for many years, including creating the viral Thumbs Up for Stephen Sutton campaign on social media, said:

By Catherine Hancock

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/teenage-cancer-trust-takes-over-printworks-digital-ceiling-in-manchester**

Former Salford Student Shines on MasterChef After Training in Michelin-Starred Kitchens

Former Worsley College student Dan Nunn, 29, is one of 24 professional chefs competing in the latest series of BBC One's MasterChef: The Professionals.

A former Worsley College student is making his mark on national television after securing a place on BBC One's MasterChef: The Professionals, showcasing the culinary skills he has developed in some of Britain's most prestigious kitchens.

Dan Nunn, 29, is one of 24 professional chefs competing in the latest series of the popular cooking competition, putting his creativity, experience and technical abilities to the test in front of renowned judges Marcus Wareing and Monica Galetti.

Now a senior sous chef at The Sir Charles Napier, a prestigious three-AA-rosette restaurant in Oxfordshire, Dan has built an impressive career since studying catering at Worsley College, part of Salford City College Group.

His journey has taken him into some of the UK's most celebrated kitchens, including Michael Caines' ABode restaurant in Manchester and Tom Kerridge's two-Michelin-starred gastropub, The Hand & Flowers, in Buckinghamshire, where he spent eight years working his way up to junior sous chef.

But Dan's experience of fine dining began while he was still a student at Worsley College.

During his studies, he was given the fantastic opportunity to complete a two-week work placement at the world-renowned Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons in Oxfordshire, founded by legendary chef Raymond Blanc.

The restaurant, which held two Michelin stars for over four decades, has played a significant role in developing some of Britain's most celebrated culinary talent.

For Dan, the placement provided invaluable hands-on experience in a world-class kitchen, allowing him to develop his skills, learn from leading professionals and gain an early insight into the demands of fine dining.

His passion for cooking began long before college, inspired by his father, who worked as a chef, and his grandmother, with whom he spent weekends baking and preparing food.

Today, his cooking style combines classical French and British influences, with a particular focus on seasonal ingredients.

Dan's appearance on MasterChef is a proud moment for Worsley College, which offers a range of professional catering and hospitality courses designed to prepare students for careers in the industry.

Amy Vaughan, Centre Principal at Worsley College, said:

"We're thrilled to see Dan competing on MasterChef! It's fantastic to watch a former student achieve such success in an industry he is clearly so passionate about.

By Barbara Parker

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/former-salford-student-shines-on-masterchef-after-training-in-michelin-starred-kitchens**

MANCHESTER

Manchester's Moonlit Miles Brings Community Together for Winter Running



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More than 350 people took part in the latest Moonlit Miles running event in Platt Fields Park last week to celebrate keeping active in the winter months.

With daylight hours in short supply and winter approaching, the event organised by Manchester Parks in partnership with the running community, aimed to bring experienced runners and people starting out on their running journey together the confidence and support to stay active and enjoy running safely through the long winter nights.

The park route staffed by volunteer saw people running the 3k route around the park in one of a series of running waves wearing free head torches, available for participants to wear and take home, helping them to stay visible on runs throughout the darker winter months.

By Albert Nelson

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/manchesters-moonlit-miles-brings-community-together-for-winter-running**

MANCHESTER

Double Paralympic medallist joins Trafford Leisure board to champion grassroots inclusion



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Photo: Trafford Leisure

Lora Fachie MBE, double Paralympic gold medallist, has joined the Trafford Leisure Board as a Non-Executive Director.

Alongside her governance role, the Timperley-based retired elite cyclist will act as an on-the-ground inclusion consultant, leading community-focused initiatives to break down barriers to physical activity for local residents.

Lora brings an extraordinary wealth of lived experience and sporting pedigree to the CIC (community interest company), which manages leisure in Trafford on behalf of the council, using any profits and assets for community benefit.

By Sarah Lloyd

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/double-paralympic-medallist-joins-trafford-leisure-board-to-champion-grassroots-inclusion**

MANCHESTER

Michael Rosen Inspires Over 1,000 Manchester Schoolchildren at Poetry Celebration



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More than one thousand Manchester schoolchildren came together to enjoy a special live celebration of poetry and reading when the acclaimed children's author and multi award-winning poet Michael Rosen took to the stage at Manchester Opera House on Friday 6th November.

The Poetry Party special event organised by Read Manchester in partnership with Walker Books saw Michael Rosen entertain children with stories, raps and rhymes and plenty of audience participation.

The event saw Michael perform some of his favourite and best loved Silly School Stuff poems including the classic 'No Breathing in Class'. And it kickstarted celebrations for the third annual Michael Rosen Day later in November.

By Barbara Parker

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/michael-rosen-inspires-over-1000-manchester-schoolchildren-at-poetry-celebration**

MANCHESTER

Football, Theatre, and Free Books: Lioness Jill Scott Inspires Children at Manchester Central Library



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Children visiting Manchester Central Library recently were joined by Lioness and former England captain Jill Scott for an afternoon of football-inspired fun, storytelling, and creative activities.

The free drop-in family event featured Jill Scott reading from her newly published book, Match Day Mix Up!, giving fans the chance to meet her and take home a complimentary copy.

Footy Fairy Tales, a lively theatre performance brought classic fairy tales to life through football, complete with original live music, songs and all the excitement of the stadium.

And young football fans got the chance to make their own medals with the National Football Museum and enjoy a range of colouring, crafts and football-themed activities throughout the day.

By Zoe Walker

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/football-theatre-and-free-books-lioness-jill-scott-inspires-children-at-manchester-central-library**

MANCHESTER

Manchester youth groups team up with street artist Jamie Rennie for Miles Platting housing hoardings



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Young people from three Manchester community groups have teamed up with artist Jamie Rennie to create artwork for an upcoming affordable housing development in the city.

Participants from Ensemble Manchester, YPAC Manchester, and Family Unit Trust collaborated with Rennie (JME-DZYNZ) to design vibrant hoarding art at the former Apollo Pub site in Miles Platting.

The Development

The development, off Varley Street, is a partnership between Jigsaw Homes Group and Manchester City Council. Casey Group is building it, with 32 one-bedroom apartments for social rent.

By Barbara Parker

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/manchester-youth-groups-team-up-with-street-artist-jamie-rennie-for-miles-platting-housing-hoardings**



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MANCHESTER

Cheadle Couple Celebrates More Than Seven Decades of Marriage

Margaret and Henry Ashcroft, who live at Care UK's Abney Court, located in Abney Hall Park on Manchester Road, Cheadle, were joined by family as they celebrated 73 years of marriage.

By Taran Sangha

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/cheadle-couple-celebrates-more-than-seven-decades-of-marriage**



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Photo: St John Ambulance; Ben Stephens

MANCHESTER

Manchester Met student wellbeing programme wins National St John Ambulance Award

Manchester Metropolitan University has been recognised for its dedication to first aid and mental health support.

By Niamh Finnie

Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/manchester-met-student-wellbeing-programme-wins-national-st-john-ambulance-award**

In brief

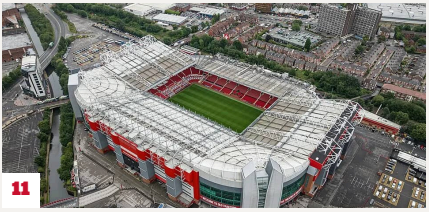

Photo: Arne Müseler / arne-mueseler.com / CC-BY-SA-3.0

MANCHESTER

Greater Manchester mayor backs bid for 2035 Women's World Cup Final

Old Trafford and the Etihad Stadium in Manchester have been revealed as potential host venues for the 2035 Women's World Cup.

By Erin Malik
Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/greater-manchester-mayor-backs-bid-for-2035-womens-world-cup-final**



Photo: Helen Pankhurst

MANCHESTER

New Lottery funding to support women and girls across Greater Manchester

GM4Women2028 has announced that it has been awarded £19,818 from The National Lottery Community Fund, providing vital financial backing to continue working for a fairer, safer and more gender-equal Greater Manchester.

By Jennet Ingram
Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/new-lottery-funding-to-support-women-and-girls-across-greater-manchester**



Photo: Breaking Barriers

MANCHESTER

Oldham Active launches six-film series featuring local stories

Community leisure trust, Oldham Active, has announced a new creative partnership with Rochdale-based production company, Breaking Barriers, to launch 'Your Voice, Your Stories', a series of six short documentary-style films celebrating local residents and community projects.

By Sarah Lloyd
Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/oldham-active-launches-six-film-series-featuring-local-stories**



MANCHESTER

Manchester's roads see major improvements following £165 million investment

Manchester's roads have seen significant improvements in recent years, with the proportion classified as being in poor condition more than halving since 2017, following substantial investment in the city's transport infrastructure.

By Albert Nelson
Continued at **manchestermagazine.co.uk/manchesters-roads-see-major-improvements-following-165-million-investment**

In brief



Photo: Cheshire West and Chester Council

CHESTER

Chester city centre set to sparkle as festive Lantern Parade returns on 26 November

Chester city centre is set to sparkle with festive cheer as the much-loved Christmas Lantern Parade returns on Thursday 26 November, bringing families and the local community together for a magical evening.

By Zoe Walker

Continued at **chestermagazine.co.uk/chester-city-centre-set-to-sparkle-as-festive-lantern-parade-returns-on-26-november**



CHESTER

Northwich Market celebrates 100,000 visits just weeks after opening at Barons Quay

Northwich's new market is celebrating a successful start, welcoming more than 100,000 visits since opening its doors at Barons Quay on 18 September.

By Barbara Parker

Continued at **chestermagazine.co.uk/northwich-market-celebrates-100000-visits-just-weeks-after-opening-at-barons-quay**



Photo: Oliver Harris

CHESTER

Chester Santa float returns for 2026

For a total of 14 nights running up to Christmas, Chester Round Table's team of volunteers will be taking to the streets to spread festive joy to kids and big kids alike.

By O H

Continued at **chestermagazine.co.uk/chester-santa-float-returns-for-2026**



CHESTER

Ellesmere Port prepares for Christmas lights switch-on and lantern parade on Friday 27 November

Ellesmere Port is preparing to switch on its Christmas lights on Friday 27 November, with the Mayor of Ellesmere Port, Councillor John Stockton, leading the countdown as the tree is illuminated in Civic Square.

By Catherine Wilson

Continued at **chestermagazine.co.uk/ellesmere-port-prepares-for-christmas-lights-switch-on-and-lantern-parade-on-friday-27-november**

In brief



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LIVERPOOL

Liverpool Launches First Disability Action Plan to Drive Accessibility and Inclusion

Liverpool City Council has launched its first Disability Action Plan, setting out how it will remove barriers, improve accessibility and create a more inclusive environment for disabled residents and employees.

By Catherine Wilson
Continued at **liverpoolmagazine.com/liverpool-launches-first-disability-action-plan-to-drive-accessibility-and-inclusion**



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Photo: Anne Wiziack

LIVERPOOL

How Liverpool's arts community is helping artists build creative futures

Brazilian visual artist Anne Wiziack moved to Liverpool in 2019, and the city's arts community helped turn a lifelong passion into a professional career.

By Anne Wiziack
Continued at **liverpoolmagazine.com/how-liverpools-arts-community-is-helping-artists-build-creative-futures**

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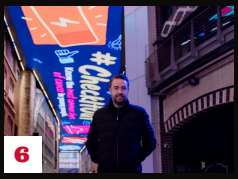











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