

FORWARD fm

FOREVER MANCHESTER'S FANZINE FOR PEOPLE WITH A PASSION FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

**CHARITY...
THE
MANCUNIAN
WAY**

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This year we're 25 years old and it got me thinking about 1989: the Hacienda is jam-packed with smiley faced revellers, the jeans are getting baggier and the hair is getting floppier. The Stone Roses are 'Made of Stone', Happy Mondays 'Rave On', James 'Sit Down' next to me... and on the sixth day, God created MANchester.

United are 8th in the League, City are 2nd in Division 2 (one point behind Chelsea), and Bolton and Wigan are languishing at the bottom of the old 3rd Division. How fortunes would change over the next 25 years.

Outside of the football, clubbing and music scene, Manchester is a dark and dirty old town. The high-rise blocks built in the 1960s are starting to crumble and the region is in much need of regeneration.

Nothing short of radical transformation is required and, with true Mancunian determination, over the last 25 years this has been delivered and Manchester has become a thriving, dynamic and modern European city.

Quoting a passage from the British Institute of Architect's *Manchester: Shaping the City*, "Manchester learns from its past, it is self-critical and so its edge always sharp. It capitalises on its successes to attract recognition nationally and internationally – and it stays aware of its social responsibilities, just as it did in the late 19th century."

To fulfil this social responsibility, Manchester needed a vehicle to help encourage and fund community initiatives across the region. And with that, 1989 saw the birth of Forever Manchester, in the form of The Community Trust for Greater Manchester, inspired by the successful community foundation models in the USA.

Our belief is that the citizens of Greater Manchester are as important to the growth and development of the region as the commercial centre. So alongside the billions of pounds of investment in infrastructure, there is a continued contribution of skills and talents, and determination and belief through which people can affect change.

This is why, after 25 years, our mission still holds true today and will do so forever...helping ordinary people to do extraordinary things together.

**FOREVER
MANCHESTER**
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

NICK MASSEY-CHIEF EXEC

Twitter @MasseyManc

CHARITY, THE cube³ WAY

**CAPTAIN MANCHESTER
SAYS...**



Cube3, an award-winning Manchester creative and digital agency, joined our Manchester Million club in 2013 and the team was quick off the mark to go above and beyond and start raising extra cash alongside the £1,000 Manchester Million commitment.

First up they got involved with our Kate and Wills baby sweepstake followed by a sterling performance by 9 team members who took part in Movember, including Lisa who rather than grow her own tash had one drawn on each day!

Clair Morris, Communications Director, says, *"Forever Manchester helps people to make a difference in their own communities. It supports training and action that inspires and initiates positive change. Making an impact is important to us too - it's something we aim to do every day for our clients and that's why we think the Forever Manchester approach makes perfect sense."*

"Get out there, understand the issues, make it happen, see the difference. That's Forever Manchester and that's Cube3."

Cube3 we love your work!

AMBASSADOR: CLAIRE LEAMAN

Claire is our social butterfly flitting about town spreading the FM word. She started her ambassadorial role over 12 months ago launching A Slice of Nice music events with fellow ambassador Paul Owen. Then in 2013 she launched property networking event The Social with FM as its charity partner.

Claire was born in Lancaster but has spent the rest of her life in Mancunia and loves every minute of it. She says, *"When I do leave my beloved city, I always get a warm feeling inside. I don't think I'll ever move - I'm a proud Manc."* When Claire's not found dancing her socks off, she busies herself as a successful business development manager and mum.

Last year Claire raised a huge £5k for us with her inaugural Social Christmas lunch, and this year she's leading a host of intrepid skydivers for our first adrenaline fuelled challenge in the skies. We love Claire for her energy, determination and full-on fun!



A belated Happy New Year everyone!

My festive period was really fun and exciting. At the end of November I went to Fairfield Primary School in Droylsden. I surprised the pupils during Anti-Bullying Week after they'd watched footage of me doing kind things like giving out umbrellas when it was raining and sandwiches to homeless people.

I appeared in the school assembly as if by magic in a *PUFF* of smoke. It was like Beatlemania. Kids screaming, shouting, and giving me hi-fives, and they really took the anti-bullying messages on board. They were all telling me about the kind things they've been doing for their friends and mums and dads.

Then we had a Q and A session. My favourite questions were:

Pupil: Where did you get the umbrellas from?

Me: A shop.

Next question: Where did you get all the sandwiches from?

(You get the drift...)

Me: If you were a superhero what would your name be?

Another pupil: Niall.

Just before Christmas I spent a few days with Your Housing Group in Ardwick helping their amazing Your Manchester Challenge project. We delivered 1,250 seasonal food gift packs to residents across Greater Manchester who are struggling to afford basic everyday essentials and often have to make the choice between heating or eating. I had a lovely time meeting lots of local people and just think...

...If everyone in Greater Manchester took it upon themselves to do one good deed a day, what a huge difference it would make. You're the real heroes!

UNCOVERING SKILLS



From July to August 2013, Forever Manchester's Community Building team delivered a series of one day Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) workshops in 5 neighbourhoods in Oldham. These workshops were funded by local housing association First Choice Homes through its New Innovations Fund.

The aim of the workshops was to raise awareness of our fresh approach to community development and to train local people in ABCD. By focusing on the skills and assets within a neighbourhood rather than the traditional approach of focusing on what is lacking, ABCD helps local people to discover and share the talents and resources that they already have to make long-term improvements to their community and wellbeing.

We trained 52 people in the basic principles of Asset Based Community Development and discovered over 500 assets, skills and gifts in Oldham's neighbourhoods including:

Gardeners, Cleaners, Bakers, Skaters, Jewellery Makers, Carpenters, Builders, Knitters, Radio Entrepreneurs, Fishermen, Chefs, Teachers, Card Makers, Jam Makers, Wine Makers, Recyclers, Quiz Masters, Veg Growers, Plumbers, Shopkeepers, Party Organisers, Bike Riders, Child Minders, Computer Wizards, Cartoonists, Graffiti Artists, Dancers, Actors, Talkers, Dog Walkers, Spiritual Leaders, Healthy Eaters, Readers, Roofers, Hairdressers, Make Up Artists, Singers, DJs, Support Workers, Footballers, Campers, Outdoor Explorers, Mountain Climbers, Hikers, Bikers and many more.

The feedback was extremely positive – 87% of attendees rated the workshops as excellent or very good. Rhys Jones-Oriss (First Choice Homes) enthused that the workshops were, *"Really inspiring and exactly what engagement is about."*

Resident Melissa Buckley commented that the workshop was, *"Delivered by people who have a proper understanding of all types of community,"* and fellow resident Zoe Tindall learnt that, *"When people have a passion they can achieve anything".*

The workshops reaffirmed our belief that neighbourhoods across Greater Manchester have an abundance of assets, skills and talents, and, once uncovered, the possibilities are endless.

If you would like to learn more about this fresh approach to community development or would like to book a place on our next training course on 12th March please visit www.theneighbourhoodworks.co.uk

If you would like to request a copy of our 12 page ABCD Workshop Impact Report please email the.nws@forevermanchester.com



CHRISTMAS CHAMPIONS

THE SOCIAL'S SEASONAL SUCCESS

Our lovely ambassador Claire Leaman arranged a spectacular seasonal lunch on behalf of The Social, an invitation-only property and construction sector networking group, which raised an overwhelming £5,000 in December.

130 businesspeople attended the event at Castlefield Rooms, including the sponsors Innov8 Development Solutions, Clarke Nicklin, Spacezero, Davis Blank Furniss and Bell Munro. Entertainment was provided by Manchester soul singer Charlie Cooper who went on to support Jools Holland that weekend!

Brian Bradley of Clarke Nicklin says, "The event was a real success and we were proud to be part of it. I am always amazed at the generosity of local people, particularly as times are tough and we are approaching Christmas. Forever Manchester is a very worthy cause and will benefit hugely from the money raised."

Thanks to everyone involved including Revolucion de Cuba, hosts of The Social, and Innov8 for donating top prizes for the raffle.



FESTIVE THANKS ALSO GO TO:

Our ambassador Coral Grainger's Book Club for donating £100 instead of buying each other books as presents this year. Too many people to name but thank you all!

Ambassador Matt Neary and Conker PR for donating £100 to our Surviving Winter campaign (www.forevermanchester.com/winter)

The Grassroots Recruitment team for donating £100 instead of buying Christmas cards.

You've all helped local people this Christmas and winter!

ALL STARS RAISE A WHOPPER!

Our Manchester Million friends at All Star Lanes have raised a Whopper of £879.50 from burger sales (25p from each is donated to FM) since April 2013. That's 3,518 burgers – a whole lorra beef and buns!

The burger, as good for the soul as it is for the conscience, is locally-sourced and made from Chorlton's own "Frosty the Butcher's" beef.

You can taste the famous burger and enjoy a game of bowling at All Star Lanes every day of the week.



Our Chief Exec Nick Massey (right) tucks into the burger with All Stars General Manager Angus Pride

ALCHEMIST CHRISTMAS KINDNESS RAISES £600

We were honoured to be chosen as the Alchemist New York Street's Christmas charity. After a month of Christmas bookings the team raised £600!

We had our own festive shindig at our fave cocktail connoisseur restaurant and can highly recommend the delicious food and some of the best service in town.

Huge thanks to our ambassador Jess Cumpstey for the nomination and all her hard work!

Love RUNNING?

We're not gonna bang on about getting fit after Christmas or New Year's resolutions... However if you Love Running, get a load of this.



Book your
Manchester 10k
Forever Manchester place
BEFORE
VALENTINE'S DAY
and get it
HALF PRICE

www.forevermanchester.com/manchester10k

LOVE RUNNING BUT FANCY MORE OF A CHALLENGE?

The Greater Manchester Marathon takes place on Sunday 6th April so there's still time to start training!

DID YOU KNOW?

For the first time ever this year you can get the accolades of running a marathon for only running half... or even a quarter.

HALF AND HALF RELAY

Run half the race with a friend whilst getting the full marathon experience (both legs are certified half marathons).

RELAY TEAM CHALLENGE

Complete the marathon as a team of 4. The course is divided into legs of 10.7km, 7.8km, 11.5km and 12.2km.

MANCHESTER MARATHON

Visit www.forevermanchester.com/manchestermarathon TO FIND OUT EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE GREATER MANCHESTER MARATHON.



WANT TO KNOW WHICH OTHER RUNS YOU CAN TAKE PART IN? CHECK OUT:

www.forevermanchester.com/runforroundere

Why Run for Forever Manchester?

Jonathan McLean of the General Medical Council completed the 2013 Bupa Manchester 10k and raised over £150 for us:

"I did the 10k for Forever Manchester because I love Manchester and want to contribute to its growing success. I also enjoy taking on new challenges and the 10k tests you but is definitely achievable for anyone."



WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

FM AWARDS £37,000

We launched FM Awards in July last year. The new awards programme is based on an asset based community development approach (utilising and sharing the good stuff we already have rather than focusing on the bad) and since then we've funded 37 incredible and inspiring community groups with £1,000 each.

The groups have 21,424 beneficiaries between them. That's an average of 595 people benefiting directly from the activity of each group.

A handful of the groups that FM Awards has already been able to support are the positive and aware anti-gang and violence group, Father's Against Violence; Treetops Counselling Salford which has saved lives and encouraged people to change the way they view mental health; and Bolton Cancer Voices [pictured below].

Most importantly we've been able to break some of the red tape that can often make applying for funding a daunting and tedious procedure for small grassroots groups and projects that don't have the time or resources to commit to complex funding bids.

Pam Livesey, Treasurer of Bolton Cancer Voices, says, "When I first heard of the new approach adopted by FM Awards I was somewhat intrigued as, believe me, some award applications take hours to fill in. I love the "good news" approach. From start to finish the procedure was wonderful, no red tape, the Awards Team is very friendly and informative. It was a joy to apply."

Our own Awards Team is even enjoying the changes. Fran Garvey, our Fund Co-ordinator, adds, "Moving away from focusing on the disadvantaged and deprived has been great. It gives us a buzz to hear personal stories about individuals overcoming barriers and changing their lives in positive ways by attending local groups."



FM Awards given since July 2013. Have we supported a project in your community?

- 105th Manchester Scout Group, Blackley
- 5th Hyde Scout Group
- Appley Bridge FC
- Blossoming Brentnall Community Group, Higher Broughton
- Bolton Cancer Voices
- Bolton Wanderers Disability Football Club
- Brooklands Bowling Club
- Caribbean Incentive Association, Openshaw
- Carisma (Community Alliance for Renewal Inner South Manchester Area)
- East Manchester Community Boat Project
- Enable Education Limited, Bolton
- Father's Against Violence, Moss Side
- FeelGood Communities CIC, Salford
- Friends of Copperas Field Association, Droylsden
- Friends of Marple Memorial Park, Stockport
- Friends of Young Carers, Wigan and Leigh
- Generation Project, Wythenshawe
- Glo Church Offerton
- Hagfold Morris Dancers, Atherton
- Haut Nkam Manchester, Withington
- Hough End Griffins Junior Football Club, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
- Manchester Futsal Club
- Mancunian Way, Castlefield
- Old Trafford Community Allotment
- PramPushers, Romiley
- SAFE (Standards Against Female Exploitation) Networks, all of Greater Manchester
- Sale Communities Junior Football Club
- Sale United Powerchair Team
- Singing With Dementia, Salford
- Skateboarding in Stockport
- Spotlight Theatre Group, Oldham
- Strictly Wheelchair Dancing, Manchester
- The River Manchester
- Treetops Counselling Salford
- Wellington Road Curling Group, Eccles
- White Moss Club for Young People, Blackley
- Zimden, Hulme

MEET THE STAFF

GARY: THE LOFT

Gary, Head of Community Building, launched our pilot community building programme which employed the first Asset Based Community Builders in the UK. Gary also delivers Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) training and technical support nationwide.

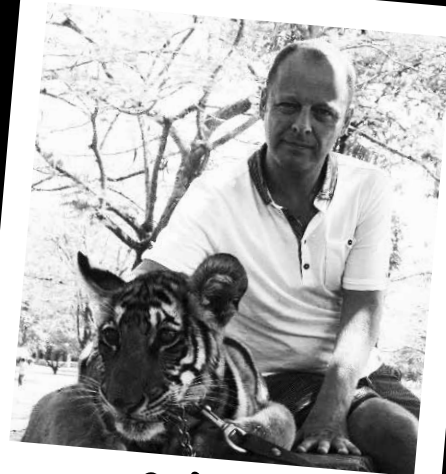
After a colourful career which includes hairdressing, holiday repping in France, working at Butlins and a whole host of community work, FM recognised Gary's background in and commitment to urban and community regeneration and snapped him up to work on our awards programmes in 2004.

After what Gary describes as a "turn of fate" when he was invited to learn about ABCD in London in 2011, we had finally found the approach that would shape the future for Forever Manchester.

So what do you love about our ABCD work in communities?

"There are plenty of brilliant people in every neighbourhood and it is our job to help them shine. If you can help people's lives change because of your knowledge, experience and resource, then that's just priceless to me."

FM's favourite jet-setter, Gary's favourite moments include visiting a tiger sanctuary after getting stuck in Bangkok due to the ash cloud, and taking a helicopter ride over the Great Barrier Reef.



GARY

WANT TO VOLUNTEER

WITH FOREVER MANCHESTER?

If you want to do your bit and learn new skills, volunteering for Forever Manchester could be for you.

This month we catch up with Ellie Dixon-Smith who shares a cause very close to our hearts and helps our events run smoothly.

"I discovered Forever Manchester because the charity supports my grandma's Singing with Dementia group which helps sufferers of Alzheimer's and Down's Syndrome and their carers through singing and music. This is very close to my heart after my grandad was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, and passed away a few years later."

"I recommend volunteering for Forever Manchester because of the range of people that you get the opportunity to meet and of course helping out such a worthwhile cause. The different events are always fun and challenging - my favourite was the Captain Manchester Comic Launch."



ELLIE

HOLLA IF YOU WANNA VOLLA

Check out all our opportunities at
VISIT www.forevermanchester.com/volunteer
and give Craig a shout
(craig@forevermanchester.com) if you want
to get involved.

UPCOMING events

Looking for ways to engage with Forever Manchester? Our calendar is jam-packed with great stuff for you to get involved with.

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS: WWW.FOREVERMANCHESTER.COM/EVENTS

JANUARY EVENTS	DATE	VENUE
Get Up, Stand Up Join us and The Heroes Project for a night of laughter and fun with a stellar comedic line up of Steve Royle, Daliso Chaponda and Tony Vino. Tickets: £8 or £10 OTD. Book at www.forevermanchester.com/standup	Wednesday 29th 7:30pm (show time at 8:30pm)	The Frog & Bucket Manchester
Forever 80s Beat those January blues with an 80s blast from the past. Entertainment from a top tribute band. Tickets: £20pp. Book now at www.forevermanchester.com/forever80s	Friday 31st 7:30pm-late	The Cinnamon Club The Firs, Bowdon, Cheshire
FEBRUARY EVENTS		
First Friday We're excited to announce The Bay Horse – a cool independent pub in the heart of the NQ – as the new venue for our monthly networking event. Great drinks offers too. Hope you like it! Book your free place at www.forevermanchester.com/firstfriday	Friday 7th 4:00-6:00pm	The Bay Horse Thomas St, Northern Quarter, M4 1NA
FM Soccer Social Enter a team to the FM 5-a-side tournament, show off your skills and network with other businesses. £200 per team. Get involved at www.soccersocial.eventbrite.com	Friday 28th 3:30-7:00pm	Soccer in the City Manchester
Chop Beats Forever Our ambassador Kathleen O'Connor's ska, classic soul, funk and disco club night at an exciting, new warehouse venue. Buy your tickets at Common in the Northern Quarter or www.chopsbeatsforever.eventbrite.com	Friday 28th 7:00pm-late	First Chop Brewing Arm Salford
MARCH EVENTS		
The Mirror Ball Promises to be the biggest Mirror Ball to date as part of our 25th Birthday celebrations. ***SOLD OUT*** (Email craig@forevermanchester.com to be put on the reservation list if we have any cancellations)	Friday 7th 7:00pm-late	The Lowry Hotel Salford
APRIL EVENTS		
Forever Foxtrot Stars of Manchester's business community compete on the dancefloor at the Palace Hotel for one night only. Find out more at www.forevermanchester.com/foreverfoxtrot	Friday 4th 7:00pm-late	The Palace Hotel Manchester
Greater Manchester Marathon If you've always wanted to run a marathon but found it a little too daunting, this year you can enter as a relay team and raise money for FM. Entry fees vary. Find out more at www.forevermanchester.com/manchestermarathon	Sunday 6th Times vary	MUFC Old Trafford
Climb Mount Snowdon Do you fancy walking up and down 3,560 feet of Mount Snowdon to raise money for Forever Manchester? It's free to take part! Find out more at www.forevermanchester.com/snowdon	Saturday 26th Time TBC	Snowdonia National Park Dolgellau, Wales
MAY EVENTS		
Bupa Great Manchester 10k Run The Bupa 10k is suitable for runners of all abilities. ***SPECIAL OFFER*** £19 if booked before 14th February. Find out more and how to register at www.forevermanchester.com/manchester10k	Sunday 18th Times vary	Manchester City Centre
JUNE EVENTS		
Tour de Manc Are you Man(c) enough to take on the Tour de Manc road cycling challenge with 80 miles of blood, sweat and gears? Find out more at www.forevermanchester.com/tourdemanc Register your interest by emailing tour@forevermanchester.com	Sunday 22nd Early start	Manchester City Centre
JULY EVENTS		
Forever Manchester Skydive Have the best experience of your life and jump out of a plane in aid of FM. Entry fee: £50 + min. £250 sponsorship. Book your place at www.forevermanchester.com/skydive	Saturday 5th All day	Black Knights Parachute Centre Cockerham, Lancashire