



**NIGHT PATROL:** Joshua Johnston, 11, and Nathan Howard, nine, examine moths they captured in Victoria Park, Stretford.

**DIG IN:** James Swales, 22 months, gets to work at the park's bulb planting event



# Dark park life

**YOUNGSTERS** enjoyed getting their hands dirty planting thousands of bulbs at the Friends of Victoria Park's annual community event.

By spring the Stretford park will be blooming with snowdrops, daffodils, narcissi, hyacinth, croci and alliums, to name just a few.

The same night, the children were treated to a special trip out to the park after dark for its first Mothwatch event, held in conjunction with the Manchester Museum and National Moth Night. The Friends of Victoria Park (FOVP)

group to deliver their exciting events programme for the rest of this year and the first third of next year. This includes a new Halloween event planned for Saturday, October 31 between 2pm and 7pm, its Christmas Carnival and Easter events.

Tree seed gathering for community mosaic making will be offered on Saturday, October 3 between 1pm and 3pm and a clean-up day, community mosaic making and chainsaw sculpture celebration party on Saturday, October 10 between 11am and 3pm.

**by Kirsty Elleray**  
would like to thank Trafford Small Grants who awarded the group with £2,000 on the same day as the park events, Saturday, September 19. The group's chairwoman, Shelly Quinton-Hulme, said: "We are delighted with the news and it was amazing timing as we were in the park all day carrying out our bulb planting and Mothwatch events when I heard."