

Stretford community news

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We dig park clean up

YOUTH volunteers gave an autumn spruce up to a park in Stretford.

Up to 30 volunteers from LifeYouth descended on Victoria Park as part of the iHeartManchester social action programme.

The event was held in partnership with the friends group at the park and is on again this Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

Shelly Quinton-Hulme, from the friends group, said: "The park needed a bit of a clean up and when I contacted the church they were very happy to provide volunteers to do some gardening, maintenance and litter picking."

LifeYouth is the youth arm of LifeChurch Manchester, a large, evangelical church based in Sale, which claims the vision to help transform lives and communities.

Previous initiatives include

spending time with old age pensioners, clearing allotments and taking on small gardening projects within the community.

South Manchester youth pastor Tom Butler, who pioneered the programme, said: "This summer's riots has furthered the idea that the country's young people are a generation of angry trouble-makers.

"We believe in young people. We know that the media images we've all got so used to this year do not reflect the reality. The truth is our young people want to be active in the community, doing good in their families, neighbourhoods and their city."

DIG IT... (right) Emma and Daye Bajela, 14 and 12, and Megan Smith, 11, volunteered to tidy Victoria Park

