



# Celebrating 10 YEARS in Miles Platting

Take a look back over the last 10 years of Miles Platting.

Maybe you share some, or even all, of our memories? Do you have any memories of your own that you'd like to share with us?

Get in touch if you do, we'd love to hear from you!



# 2007

## PFI began...

### RENAISSANCE LAUNCH INTO MILES PLATTING

To celebrate the launch of Renaissance in Miles Platting, a fun day was held on 26th March 2007 at St Marks School on Holland Street. Over 400 Miles Platting residents enjoyed a range of activities hosted by Renaissance and a number of partner agencies, including face painting, massages, reflexology and a bouncy castle. Dozens of families got involved in making their own hanging baskets – which made for a bright and colourful neighbourhood that summer.

### APPLY THE BRAKES

Operation Brake was a joint project with Greater Manchester Police, the Neighbourhood Wardens and Adactus. Together, staff from each patrolled the streets of Miles Platting until ten at night on a Friday and Saturday. The initiative was set up to prevent under age drinking, identify any shops selling alcohol to under 18's and to identify any individuals that were causing trouble. A wide range of youth activities were also put on, including DJ and MC workshops, football classes and street dancing sessions for those young people who were looking for something to do.

### NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

17th December 2007 saw the launch of the Renaissance: Miles Platting website [www.milesplatting.co.uk](http://www.milesplatting.co.uk). The website provided local residents with crucial information about the much anticipated refurbishment works programme as well as details of how to get involved in the regeneration process.

### NEW TAG LINE FOR THE PFI

A competition was launched for local residents to come up with a creative tag line for the Renaissance PFI. The winner was, local resident Melanie Ngangen with 'Renaissance – Creating a brighter future.' The tag line can still be seen on our literature today.

# 2008

### MILES PLODDERS WALKING CLUB STARTED

In November 2008, a walking club was launched for over 55's. The club was set up to cater for all levels of walkers and to incorporate local routes. The club was initially offered support for 12 weeks by the Ramblers Association – and it is still going strong today!



### THE PFI CELEBRATED ITS FIRST BIRTHDAY

In April 2008, Adactus hosted a party to celebrate the first birthday of the PFI. Displays and banners were put up in the reception of the Varley Street Office and tenant representatives from local Tenants and Residents Associations were invited to join the celebrations. There was also cake for all visitors to the office.

### ADACTUS INTRODUCE THE HOMEFRONT COURSE TO TEACH PEOPLE DIY

Launched in 2008, the Homefront DIY course was aimed at helping residents gain the skills and knowledge they needed to confidently complete DIY projects and decorate their homes to a high standard. The 5 day course was attended by over 40 residents and the project ran until 2010, when it culminated in a three day community project with a number of the participants giving Victoria Mill Community Centre a much needed facelift.



## WOODWARD GREEN PARK REFURBISHED

A dilapidated old play area at Woodward Court was transformed into a state of the art play facility by the Renaissance Consortium. Members of the Lovell construction team worked to give the play area a facelift by re-landscaping the area and installing all new play equipment and seating. Parents and children from the local area were invited to an official opening on 23rd September and a ribbon was cut by local youngster Charlee Burke Thomson.



## REFURBISHMENT OF FIRST 500 HOMES COMPLETE

By Spring 2009, refurbishment work had been carried out to over 500 houses and flats in Miles Platting! Work had also been carried out to revamp

boundaries and fencing surrounding the refurbished properties to give the streets a fresh and brighter look. As well as Woodward Park, another play area also opened on Bothwell Road.

## APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME WINS TWO NATIONAL AWARDS

An apprenticeship scheme which was launched by the Renaissance Consortium at the beginning of the PFI in 2007 won two national awards in spring 2009. The scheme, which provided employment for 18 trainees, won the Skills for Better Places category and also beat all other nominees to win the overall Co-operative Award for Excellence at the Homes and Communities Academy Awards.

## 20 UNIT EXTENSION TO BUTLER COURT COMPLETED

Work to transform 62 existing properties at Butler Court was completed in Spring 2009. The comprehensive refurbishment programme included new kitchens, bathrooms, windows and central heating systems. Some residents benefitted from extended living spaces due to layout changes to balcony areas. The block was also rewired, reroofed, the lifts were upgraded and external insulated rendering was applied. By late summer 2009 a brand new three storey extension, consisting of 21 sheltered housing flats, were added to the scheme to replace Reginald Latham Court on Lewis Street.



## THE FIRST CHRISTMAS PARADE

On Tuesday 8th December Adactus staff organised a Christmas Parade in Miles Platting and Ancoats. The event was designed to raise money for local schools and to bring Christmas spirit to the estate. One of the Adactus work vans was transformed into Santa's sleigh by local school children and was followed by a small procession of staff who gave out sweets and chocolates to the children of Miles Platting. The parade ended at Miles Platting library where residents were invited to visit Santa's Grotto. Now the Christmas Cracker event, we continue to host this annually.



# 2010

## ALBURN COURT RESIDENTS SECURED £7,000 TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNAL GARDENS

With a little help from Adactus, residents from Alburn Court successfully secured £7,000 from a range of sources to improve the communal garden surrounding the building. Following two consultation meetings with residents from the block, a design was agreed to include new raised beds, paving and landscaping. The work was carried out by the residents in conjunction with Adactus staff and MANCAT.



## REFURBISHMENT OF FIRST 1000 HOMES COMPLETED

The regeneration of Miles Platting reached another milestone in May 2010 when the number of properties refurbished by Lovell topped 1000! Two thirds of the way through all of the homes due to be revamped since the works began in 2007.

## ADACTUS CRACK DOWN ON ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In 2010, a team dedicated solely to dealing with Anti Social Behaviour was set up in Adactus. An officer assigned to Miles Platting dealt with a number of issues that year, including court action and a two year ASBO against a resident who was being abusive and threatening to neighbours, an injunction against a resident who had threatened violence against Lovell staff and mediation for a pair of residents who were having problems with one another. Now called Tenancy Enforcement and Support, the team continue to deal with reports of anti social behaviour today.

# 2011

**PETER COFFEY**, long standing caretaker at Nelson Court, retired  
Caretaker of Nelson Court, Peter Coffey, first began working in Miles Platting in 1975. Peter was a real figurehead of the community, and after a number of years at Nelson Court he hung up his overalls in January 2011.



## ST GEORGE'S OBTAINED FUNDING TO REFURBISH THE BUILDING

During the winter of 2010, St George's Community Centre prepared for an exciting facelift. The work, which began in January 2011, saw a full redevelopment and extension of the building.

The Easter holidays saw the launch event of a brand new natural playground, which came as a result of a multi-agency partnership to develop an unused piece of land at the side of the centre. Over £90,000

of funding was secured to develop the play space, consisting of climbing posts, a nest swing, talking dishes, tunnels and boulders.

## ADACTUS ANNOUNCE THEY ARE BIDDING FOR NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDING TO CREATE TWO COMMUNITY GARDENS

Also in January, Adactus announced plans to bid for money from the National Lottery's Local Food Fund to develop two community gardens in the area, with space for growing fruit and vegetables; one on Holland Street and the other on Chippenham Road. Consultation began with local residents shortly after.



## COMPLETION OF THE REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

In June 2011, the refurbishment programme to improve all homes in Miles Platting had drawn to a close. Work that had taken place during the previous four years included new kitchens and bathrooms, new central heating and electrical rewiring, new windows and external doors, insulation and boundary treatment. A number of new parks had also been created over the course of the programme, improving play facilities for children, including Victoria Park which runs alongside Rochdale Canal.

## LOVELL AND ADACTUS ANNOUNCE GENER8

In December 2011, an exciting new development providing a range of 2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes were announced by Lovell and Adactus, under the brand Gener8. The £7.3 million mixed tenure project provided 31 homes for Adactus – 11 for social rent and 20 for Shared Ownership together with 22 new homes for open market sale by Lovell.

## MILES PLATTING YOU DECIDE IS LAUNCHED

In 2011, Miles Platting You Decide was launched offering local residents and community groups the chance to bid for a share of £5,000. In November a voting day was held at St George's Community Centre and over 100 residents turned up to listen to presentations by those who had bid for a slice of the pie. Beneficiaries of the fund that year included the Miles Platting Swimming Pool who were able to provide free swimming sessions at half term, St George's Community who used the funding to deliver cookery sessions and Butler Court who set up a film club. In 2012, the Miles Platting You Decide pot grew to £10,000 and from 2013; the amount available for community groups has increased to £25,000 per year!



## RENAISSANCE IS 5 YEARS OLD!

In 2012, the Renaissance Consortium celebrated five years in Miles Platting, during which time all properties had been refurbished and a number of new parks had been created.

# 2012

## MILES BETTER SKILLS CAFÉ IS LAUNCHED

In March 2012, the Miles Platting Skills Café was set up offering a 'menu' of free courses aimed at helping residents build confidence and develop skills to enable them to get into work. The first course to be offered was a four week creative textiles course which saw eleven residents making soft toys from recycled household items. The Skills Café has since evolved to the Miles Platting Work Club, which runs weekly on a Tuesday from 10:30am-12pm at Baker House.



## NEW HOUSING OFFICE OPENS

On Monday 30th July 2012, Adactus opened for business for the first time at brand new office, Baker House. The new office replaced the 1960's built one on Varley Street which had been home to Adactus staff for the previous 5 years.



## ADACTUS PLANNED MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME COMMENCED

The Miles Platting Planned Maintenance Programme came into play from summer 2012. Carrying on from where Lovell left off, this work was to be carried out by Adactus' in house maintenance team and in the first few years work would include replacement and refurbishment of key property components, including roofs, rainwater goods, internal doors and external decoration and in later years, kitchens, bathrooms, windows, doors and central heating.

## EVENTS HELD TO MARK THE QUEENS JUBILEE

Aside from a shiny new office, another cause for celebration in Summer of 2012 was the Queen's Jubilee – and celebrate we did! Young people impressed on the track and in the ring at a Jubilee Sports Day in May and groups of residents on Farnborough Road, Denver Avenue, Alburn Court and Naylor Street all took part in celebrations over a long bank holiday weekend in June.



## £140,463 LOTTERY FUNDING SECURED FOR MILES PLATTING GROWING TOGETHER PROJECT

Thanks to a grant of £140,463 from the Big Lottery Fund's Local Food Scheme, a project to build two community gardens in Miles Platting was given the green light in Winter 2012. Work was to begin in January 2013 with an anticipated completion by June of that year.

# 2013

## MILES PLATTING WORK CLUB LAUNCHED

Formerly the Miles Platting Skills Café, the Work Club was launched in Spring 2013. The sessions, which continue to run weekly at Baker House, offer IT facilities and one to one support with job searches, job applications, interview techniques and advice on volunteering and training.



## RSPCA AND ADACTUS OFFER FREE MICRO CHIPPING FOR ALL PETS

On Saturday 23rd April, Adactus held their first free micro chipping event along with the RSPCA. Residents were invited to take their pets along to Victoria Mill Community Centre for their chance to have a free micro chip. We continue to work with the RSPCA on these events.

## MILES PLATTING COMMUNITY GARDENS COMPLETED AND OPENED BY AIDEN BYRNE

The first of the two new Community Gardens, Holland Street, was opened in May by star of the Great British Menu, Aiden Byrne. The event, which attracted the attention of Granada news, was attended by many local residents and children and saw the unveiling of a new sign for the garden designed by Park View pupil, Matilda Law. The second garden on Chippenham Road was opened a month later and that was marked by a family fun event and barbeque.

In November 2013, just 6 months after opening, both gardens won awards at the Manchester in Bloom Awards. The gardens are still going strong and are looked after by a group of dedicated community growers (with a little help from Adactus).





## MILES PLATTING COMMUNITY LIBRARY OPENS AT VICTORIA MILL HUT

On Tuesday 10th December, the new Miles Platting Community Library was unveiled at Victoria Mill Community Centre. Following the closure of the old library on Varley Street, Adactus took on the lease of the community centre, allowing the library to move in and the service to be retained for the local community. The library which is still open on a part time basis, hosts a small collection of books and free internet access, as well as a varied programme of library activities including story times and art sessions.

## MILES PLATTING COMMUNITY GARDENS ONE YEAR ON

Since opening almost a year earlier, there had been a number of sessions held at each of the gardens, including composting sessions with Debdale Eco Centre, fortnightly 'How to' sessions with Hulme Community Garden Centre and adhoc community events run by Adactus staff, including natural Christmas decoration making.

In order to celebrate the end of a successful first year of growing at the Community Gardens, celebration events were held at each site in March 2014. There was music, food and awards for our most green fingered helpers.

## EAGERLY AWAITED NEW PHASE OF HOMES FOR MILES PLATTING LAUNCHED

Partway through a regeneration project to bring 1,000 new homes to Miles Platting, housebuilder, Lovell launched the latest phase of their plans in summer 2014. Neighbouring the highly successful Gener8 development on Sandal Street, the new phase named Faraday Green, was set to provide a number of new homes for outright sale offering spacious layouts, fitted kitchens and bathrooms complete with appliances, gardens and parking.

## THE LAUNCH OF THE GREEN

In 2nd August 2014, new park, The Green, was unveiled to Miles Platting residents. The park which was completed by Lovell, runs along side Rochdale Canal from Victoria Park to Butler Street.

# 2014



## OPEN ALL DAY FRIDAYS LAUNCHED AT ST GEORGES COMMUNITY CENTRE

In Spring 2015, local youth charity, YPAC, began Open All Day Friday sessions at St George's Youth and Community Centre. The drop in sessions, which run from 10am-4pm, offer residents the chance to get online, apply for work, try Pilates, Yoga or running, or to simply enjoy a fresh coffee and a piece of toast whilst socialising with neighbours. Adactus continue to support YPAC with the work club each Friday.

## YOUNG PEOPLE WORK WITH LOCAL ARTIST TO IMPROVE THE CONTAINER AT VICTORIA MILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

The container within the grounds of Miles Platting Community Library, which had been covered in unsightly graffiti, was given a fresh new look in Summer 2015. Johnstone's paint kindly donated some green paint, which was used to provide a blank canvas for budding young artists to decorate. A number of local children who had been attending weekly art sessions at the library created a wild new design on the container with pictures of wildlife using stencils they created with community artists, Fiona Smith and Jo Foley.



# 2015

## £5,000 FUNDING AWARDED TO INSTALL A CYCLE STORE AT NAYLOR COURT

Thanks to a grant from Transport for Greater Manchester, 6 high security cycle storage units were installed at Naylor Court in December 2015. The lockers, which were made available free of charge to residents of Naylor, Gunson and Landos Court, were all allocated in no time.



# 2016

## MILES PLATTING RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED

In early 2016, a group of residents got together to form a new tenants and residents association in Miles Platting – the first new one in years. The group successfully constituted in Spring time and put on their first community event just before Christmas. They have lots of great ideas – so keep a look out for upcoming events.

## HOLIDAY KITCHEN RUNS IN MILES PLATTING FOR THE FIRST TIME

Adactus hosted Miles Platting's first Holiday Kitchen during the summer holidays in partnership with The Church of the Apostles. Held over a two week period, families arrived each morning to a warm welcome and breakfast before taking part in various themed activities from craft making, cooking, shelter building, a forest school and a trip to the Manchester Museum, before finishing each day with lunch. The Holiday Kitchen was a roaring success with 10 families attending each day.

## BIG LAUNCH

April 2016 saw the launch of the newly branded community fund, Breathe Investment Grants, or BIG as we like to call it. Replacing what was the Miles Platting You Decide, the BIG fund still enabled local Miles Platting residents the opportunity to bid for a share of £25,000; the only difference being that votes were now cast through the Adactus 500, enabling more people to get involved in deciding which projects were successful.



DEVELOPING NEIGHBOURHOODS.  
INSPIRING COMMUNITIES.

## AND BREATHE...

Services provided by the Breathe team were launched in Miles Platting in spring, offering a FREE energy advice service to all local residents. The department also runs an in house Step Forward programme which provides job seekers with mentoring, skills development and job seeking support.

## LOVELL ANNOUNCE MORE NEW HOMES

Following on from their success at Faraday Green and the first phase at Bramah Place, Lovell announced plans to commence work on phase 2 as well as a new venture, Lockside, overlooking the Rochdale canal in winter 2016. Phase 2 at Bramah Place will consist of 35 homes in a mix of 2, 3 & 4 bedroom styles, whilst nearby Lockside will offer 75 new homes, which will be on sale from Spring 2017.

