

FRIENDS OF REDCATCH PARK

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Redcatch Park is a small, much loved and highly utilised green space in the heart of Knowle. It offers a valuable green haven within an urban setting, bridging gaps in the community by welcoming and actively bringing together all ages, socio economic groups, ethnic groups and those with disabilities.

The advent of **Redcatch Community Garden** in 2017 has further cemented the park's value to the community. It offers a broad variety of workshops and events including weekly school educational groups, art therapy, school holiday clubs, dementia support and adult life skills building sessions. It is now considered a necessity in the park and helped many people to stay connected during the pandemic.

The Friends of Redcatch Park (FORP) has been operating since 2002. It has achieved a huge amount over the preceding 20 years helping to transform the park from a place to be avoided to the welcoming space it is today. FORP membership has fallen off in the last few years due to the pandemic and general attrition from lack of activity. But the group has now relaunched in 2022 with a new committee new, branding, website and a host of other initiatives to continue the work of the alumni.

FORP's main aim is to take care of the park for now and future generations. But the greatest challenge for the new group is in relation to the **Redcatch Quarter Development**; the largest single event to happen to the park in 100+ years. To rise to that challenge, it is now incumbent on FORP to ensure that the needs of the park and its community are properly served in the plan and execution of the development should it proceed.

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