

WESTMINSTER PARK 80th ANNIVERSARY

A blue rectangular graphic with a white border. On the left, the number '80' is formed by two circular images of Westminster Park. To the right of the '80', the text 'YEARS OF WESTMINSTER PARK' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, a dark blue horizontal band contains the text '| Saturday 9 May 2026 1-4pm |' in white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, a lighter blue section contains two lines of white text: 'Made possible through funding from His Grace, The Duke of Westminster, a free celebration of the vital role the park plays in the community' and 'Demonstrations from local clubs, plus displays, music and refreshments'.

A celebration marking the 80th anniversary of Westminster Park will take place next month, bringing together the communities and clubs that use the popular green space and commemorating the vital role public parks play.

On Saturday 9 May, 1–4pm, all are welcome at the park for a free event featuring taster sessions, demonstrations and displays from clubs and organisations, alongside music and refreshments.

Activities include Chester Croquet Club, Glan Aber Tennis Club, Westminster Park FC and a cricket match, plus stands from Chester Zoo on nature recovery and representatives from Cheshire West and Chester Council’s Greenspaces team. This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the park’s nine-hole golf club and the croquet club is entering its 50th year.

Made possible through funding from His Grace, The Duke of Westminster, the event marks eight decades since the Grosvenor family gifted a 999-year lease of the land off Hough Green to the community as a public park for sport and recreation.

To recognise the essential role the park has played in promoting physical and mental wellbeing, strengthening communities and enhancing the environment, The Duke and Duchess of Westminster will attend the event, where they will meet members of the park community and unveil a commemorative plaque as well as newly planted trees on the park’s nature trails.

Niall Macfadyen of the Friends of Westminster Park, which works with the local authority to improve and develop the park, said: “It’s a truly special place that has provided countless benefits to the local community for generations, while always continuing to adapt to meet today’s needs. We wanted to mark this significant milestone by bringing people together and showcasing the wide range of clubs and organisations that enjoy Westminster Park. Our thanks go to everyone working hard to deliver what will be a fantastic event.”

Ahead of the event, the Friends of Westminster Park are inviting people of all ages to share photos and memories to help build a social history of the park. Images and stories can be shared via the Friends of Westminster Park Facebook page or emailed to parkhistory@macfadyen.net.

Westminster Park holds Green Flag status, an international award recognising well-managed green spaces. Amenities include nature trails, play areas, an outdoor gym, running circuits, picnic benches and a BMX track.