

MANCHESTER SCHOOL  
OF ARCHITECTURE



*CARLTON CLUB*  
*2032*

## Team

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## Partners

“The Carlton Club is set in the beating heart of the Whalley Range community. It is where good people meet and where friendships old & new are formed over a drink, a dance & social shindigs.”

Currently, the club has a multitude of uses, only the main function room and green room on the ground floor are used to their full potential. The main function room has a stage and a spacious floor area which holds live music and club events, along with a bar which serves local craft ales and cask beers. Other events and classes such as film showings, live comedy, art exhibitions and more, take place between the two useable rooms.

Externally, there is an outdoor garden which harbours a community garden, as well as a bar shack and benched seating for those who wish to enjoy their drink outside. There is currently no food served at the Carlton Club, however, the award winning ‘Hip Hop Chip Shop’ pay a visit every Friday to serve chippy teas.

With an ever developing programme focused around well-being, community and local culture in Whalley Range, the collaboration with the Carlton Club seeks to transform unused spaces in the club, bringing it into a full, productive use.

# Agenda

## Carlton Club 2032

The Carlton Club have been continuing to add their programme with events and classes like yoga, pilates, and philosophy discussion groups. With only two useable internal spaces, the Carlton Club hopes to expand further by utilising other spaces in the building. However, many of these rooms are currently dilapidated and require both design work and improvements to the building fabric itself.

The club hope to fund this both through Community Interest Company (CIC) funding, and donations from its members.

To assist the Carlton Club in their objectives, we as five MArch students formed the group Carlton Club 2032. Along with students from the BA architecture course, we aimed to produce a scheme of works to be completed at the Carlton Club over the next 10 years. The focus of the scheme was to transform spaces using our creative design skills, so that the club can expand on their programme of events and classes. This includes the dilapidated spaces which currently serve no purpose, but also functioning spaces which could be designed and programmed better.

Additionally, we aimed to assist the clubs' work in securing funding to undertake the work through grants and donations. For the final outputs, we set out to produce visualisations and advertisements to exhibit the scheme. The visualisations have the purpose of communicating the scheme to not only the Carlton Club and its members, but also the CIC, to help the club in their endeavours to secure funding. The advertisements have the purpose of grabbing the attention of the community to help with crowdfunding and to inform them of future improvements to the club.

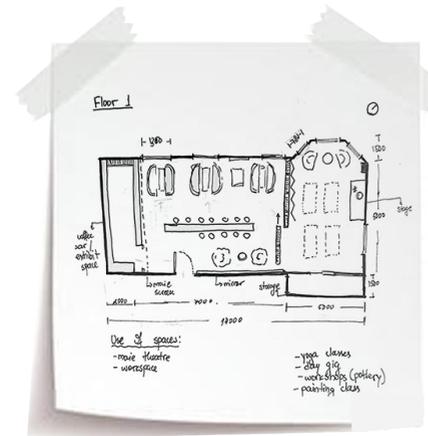
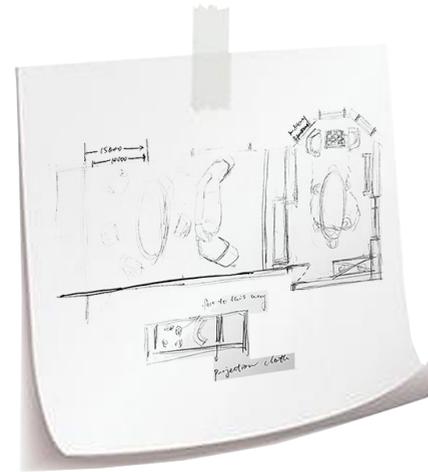
# Site Visit & Concept Design

To commence the two weeks of MSA Live, we conducted a site visit at The Carlton Club to introduce the undergraduates to the exciting project. The treasurer, Dave Saunders, provided a tour of the club, he explained the detailed history of the site and highlighted the current situation in each of the existing spaces. He emphasised that although the ground floor is fully functional, the basement level and first floor spaces are currently inaccessible to the public for various reasons such as fire safety. Dave also described his vision for the future of The Carlton Club, and some of his aims for how the spaces might function by 2032.

Following the tour, we completed several ice breakers and team-building exercises. One of the activities consisted of bridge-building using disused cardboard boxes. This was an excellent

opportunity for both the undergraduates and masters students to bond ready for the project ahead.

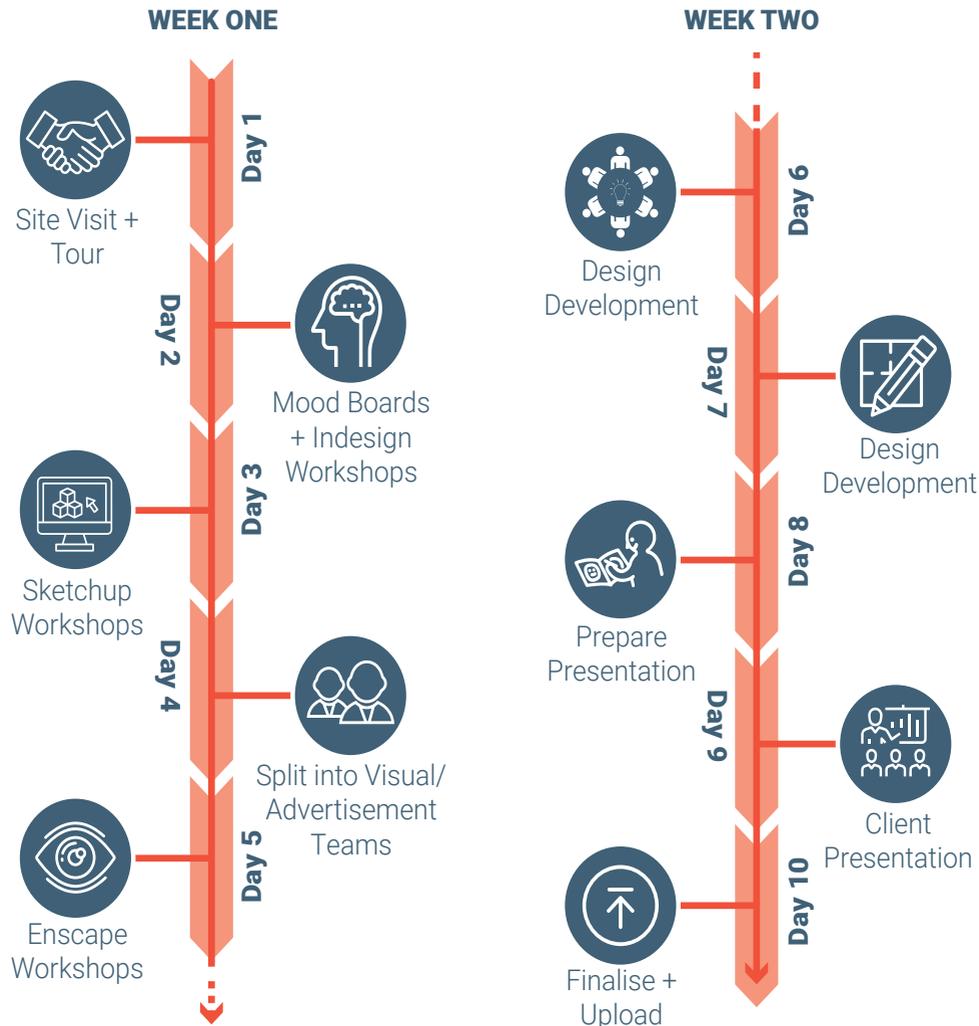
After this, the students were able to further discuss which spaces they would like to focus on. Through photographing, sketching and surveying the existing spaces the students started to gain a clear direction for the project. They selected three key areas of interest; firstly, the garden, which is currently used for an array of outdoor events but the students identified some ideas for improvement; secondly, the basement level, which is now private and in need of renovation to become publicly accessible for uses such as band practice and beer tasting; and finally, the first floor, which is currently inaccessible for the public but could become an open and light multifunction room.



# Visualisation Team & Advertisement Team

In the first week, a design concept was produced which included focusing on three areas of the Carlton Club. The garden, basement, and first floor were highlighted by the BA students as key spaces that they believed could be improved or revitalised. In the second week, BA students were then split into 'Visuals' or 'Advertisements' teams based on their strengths and personal preferences.

The visuals team had to utilise computational and drawing skills to produce visualisations of the key spaces identified and how they imagine them to be best used by 2032. Visualisations were presented to the Carlton Club, with the hope that they will be able to use them to communicate ideas to investors for potential grants such as the CIC, or architects for future works.



The advertisements team applied computational and drawing skills to design a physical advert in the form of poster, to showcase their ideas for the Carlton Club in 2032. Physical advert to be presented to the Carlton Club, who can then use it to grab the attention of customers and the community to help crowdfund for future building works, as well as promote interest in the future of the club.

**Team building:** During the development of the project, there were team building activities integrated into the day's events to help students bond and work together efficiently as a team. An example of this was the marshmallow challenge, which saw the two teams try to build the tallest free-standing structure out of sticks of spaghetti, 100cm of

tape, 100cm of string, and one marshmallow on top. This was a fun activity to begin the day and incite a little bit of friendly competitiveness between the Visuals and Advertisements teams.

**Workshops:** To assist the BA students in their production of outputs, the MArch students led workshops and demonstrations in computer software including SketchUp, Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator and Enscape. This was beneficial to the BA students as many of them hadn't used some of the software previously. The occurrence of the project then gave them the opportunity to rely on support from peers throughout the two weeks, with any queries that they may come across. This was not only beneficial to the outcomes of the project, but also their personal development.



# Site Strategy

The floor plans indicate the locations of the proposed areas of work. Proposed works in the garden focuses on the large open area to the side of the Carlton Club, utilising permaculture design in its approach. In the basement, two spaces were indicated to be transformed into a band practice room, as well as beer tasting sessions for the local cask beers and craft ales that the Carlton Club already serve. On the first floor, both rooms were utilised, with the larger of the two becoming a multi-functional room and the smaller a storeroom.



Basement Plan



First-Floor Plan

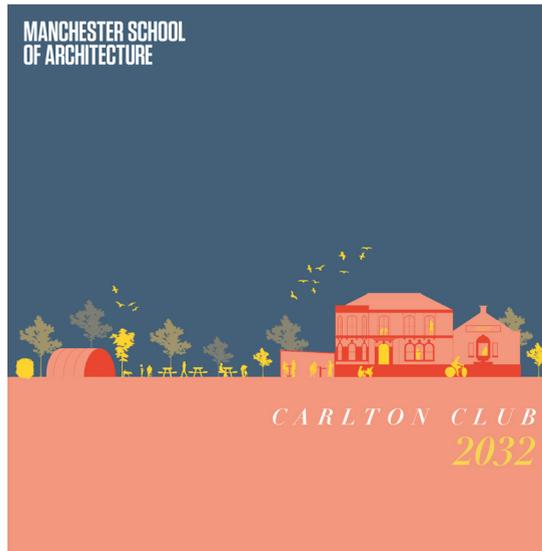
# Space 1: Garden

The Carlton Club gardens are currently home to a lawn with outdoor seating, a seasonal permaculture patch and greenhouse ran by the community action group 'The Whalley Rangers', and a newly installed outdoor bar. The car park also functions as a space for regular car boot sales which provide outdoor music and food from Hip Hop Chip Shop. The garden has a perimeter of trees with a small children's play area and a tree swing.

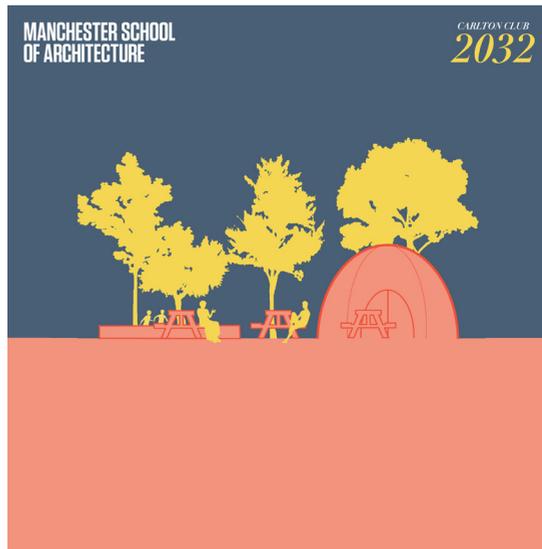
The new garden design will include a permaculture maze for younger visitors, more vegetable and plant patches, the existing greenhouse, and a range of seating areas. There will also be space for a temporary or permanent artwork and exhibitions. The existing trees will be preserved to maintain a natural enclosure; providing space to relax, socialise, eat, drink and play.

## Undergraduate Feedback:

'The MSA Live project has been an incredible learning journey, being able to work with a client that may implement our ideas has been exciting. Our 5th year leads Athol, Becca and Tom have been encouraging throughout the project. They have created a space for learning to thrive in a relaxed but productive environment. During this time, the skills based workshops lead by the 5th years have been some of the best I have experienced throughout BA1 as they have been directed at our learning for this project. I'll look forwards to the MSA Live project in 2023.'



Advertisement Poster 1



Advertisement Poster 2



2032 Garden Visualisations

## Space 2: Basement

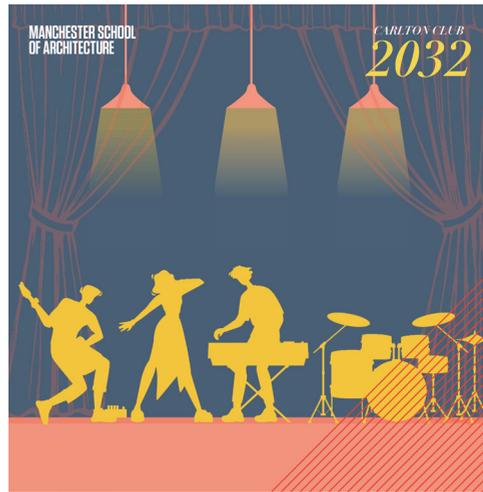
Currently the basement provides a keg cellar for the main room's bar area. Besides this, there are four more rooms in the basement; one used as a server room and the others as storage for old materials. Identifying these as underutilised spaces, we began exploring different functions that would suit the smaller, intimate spaces.

The basement design will include a music studio where performers can practice and record songs. The space's insulation and lower roof make it perfect for acoustics and sound-proofing.

The room adjacent would be for beer tasting, showcasing local Manchester beers and expanding the existing range of local products on offer. It is the perfect location for this as it's next to the existing keg room.

### Undergraduate Feedback:

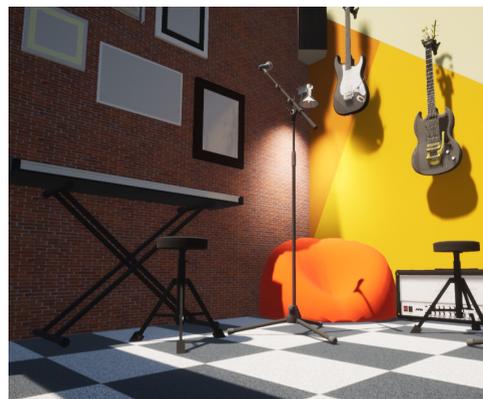
'Seriously your skills workshops have been at a better standard to a lot of them in BA1. Thanks again and maybe see you around co-works next year. Have a top summer.' - Undergraduate Feedback



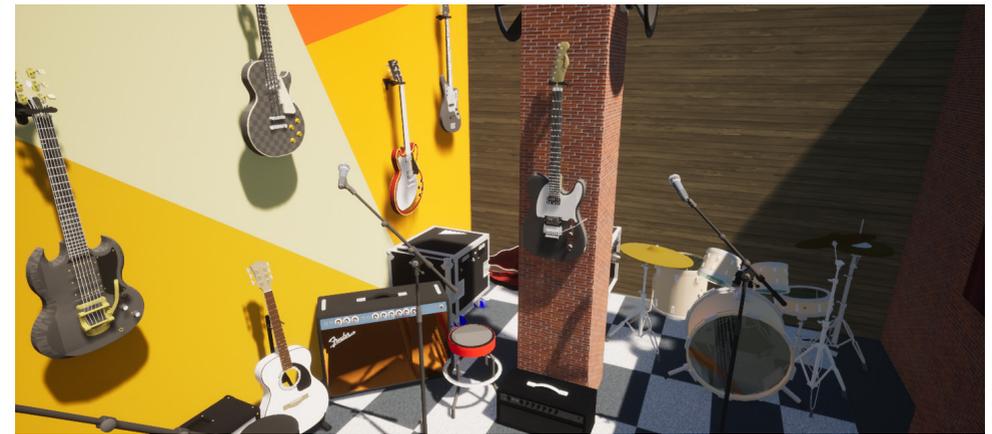
Advertisement Poster 3



Advertisement Poster 4



Band Rehearsal Room



Band Rehearsal Room



Beer Tasting Room



Beer Tasting Room

## Space 3: First Floor

Since its previous use as a gentlemen's club, the upstairs rooms in the Carlton Club have not been in use. The spaces have therefore fallen into disrepair and similar to the basement, they are filled with old, unused equipment and materials. Despite their lack of use, the large open-plan rooms provide exciting opportunities for development alongside the club's growing programme.

After the initial site visit and talks with the club treasurer, Dave, the spaces identified as priorities for development were the large room above the main room, and the old kitchen adjacent to the stairs. The first priority for these spaces would be a creating safe, accessible access via the existing stair case and a new accessible lift, which will follow more detailed safety audits of the space.

The main room on the first floor is designed as a multi-function area, divided into two spaces separated by plants. The far end will be a quiet area for relaxing whilst reading a book or playing chess. The larger side of the room is a more flexible space with easily moved furniture that to be useful for different purposes. The main use would be painting or pottery workshops, with a small bar at the far end which can serve soft drinks, tea and coffee. The space can be cleared up and used for dance and yoga classes, or to watch movies on the projector screen that can be pulled down. The smaller room would be used for storage of furniture and materials whenever different workshops take place.

### Undergraduate Feedback:

"I've learnt more from this lot in the last couple of weeks than from my tutors"



Advertisement Poster 5



Upstairs storage / kitchen



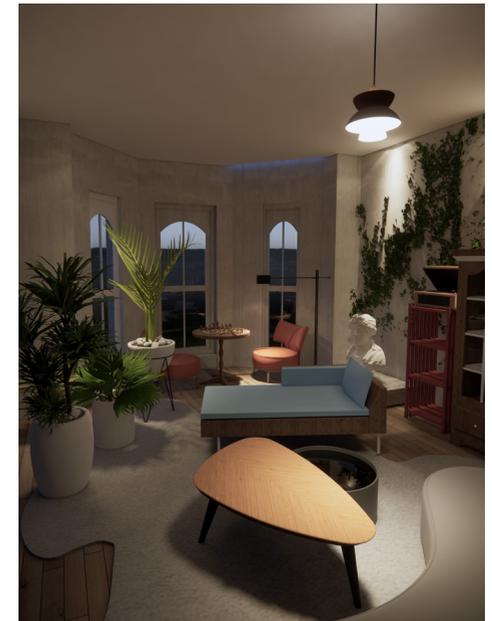
Reading Room



Old bar installed with a hot drinks machine



Upstairs rooms divided with a projector



Reading Room

## ABOUT

Each year the MSA LIVE programme unites M Arch. year 01 with B Arch. year 01 and 02 and M Land. Arch 01 in mixed-year teams to undertake live projects with external partners to create social impact.

## LIVE PROJECTS

All MSA LIVE projects are live. A live project is where an educational organisation and an external partner develop a brief, timescale, and outcome for their mutual benefit.

## SOCIAL IMPACT

All MSA LIVE projects have social impact. Social impact is the effect an organization's actions have on the well-being of a community. Our agendas are set by our external collaborators.

## EXTERNAL PARTNERS

MSA LIVE projects work with many organisations: charities, community groups, social enterprises, community interest companies, researchers, practitioners and educators.

## STUDENT-LED

Our MSA masters students take the lead in the project conception, brief development, delivery and co-ordination of a small project. Other cohorts joined for an eventful 2 weeks of activities at the end of the academic year.

## KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Working in teams within and across year groups and courses; MSA students participate in peer to peer learning. In addition, collaborators, participants and students engage in the transfer of tangible and intellectual property, expertise, learning and skills.

## LARGE SCALE

This year approximately 550 students from 4 cohorts in MSA have worked on 35 projects with partners.

## QUESTIONS

For questions about MSA LIVE please contact the MSA LIVE team:

[msalive@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:msalive@mmu.ac.uk)

## BLOG

[live.msa.ac.uk/2022](http://live.msa.ac.uk/2022)

## SOCIAL

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## WEBSITE

[www.msa.ac.uk](http://www.msa.ac.uk)