



Parks in Trafford

Dunham Massey Hall



## Tourist Information Centre

The Tourist Information Centre (TIC) for the Borough of Trafford is based in Altrincham. Purpose designed, it offers a wide range of literature and services. Current local publications include a hotel guide, mini guide to Trafford, 'What's On' Magazine, restaurant guide and conference guide. Saleable items include, books, maps, and a selection of souvenirs, such as badges, bookmarks, glass ware, key rings, pens and mugs.

Altrincham Charter Celebration souvenir items include a commemorative 10" bone china plate, a puzzle and colouring book for young children on the theme of Altrincham 700, and an illustrated book of Altrincham entitled "Then and Now".

**ACCOMMODATION BOOKING:** We can help you book accommodation the day before or on the day you travel. This service which applies to both local accommodation and other areas can only be offered to personal callers to the TIC and a small fee is charged.

**THEATRE/CONCERT BOOKINGS:** We currently book for the following venues/companies and are gradually taking on others: The Royal Exchange, The Contact, The Halle, The Davenport, Tameside Theatre, Oldham Coliseum, the NCO. Bookings can only be accepted from personal callers to the office as tickets must be paid for in full at the time of booking. No booking fee is charged. We regret that we are unable to accept credit cards.

**OTHER FACILITIES:** We are also able to enrol you in the RAC, YHA (Youth Hostel Association), BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) and the Ramblers' Association.

We hope you have found this publication useful and look forward to meeting you or speaking with you in the future.



Kings Court, Altrincham

Market Day in Altrincham



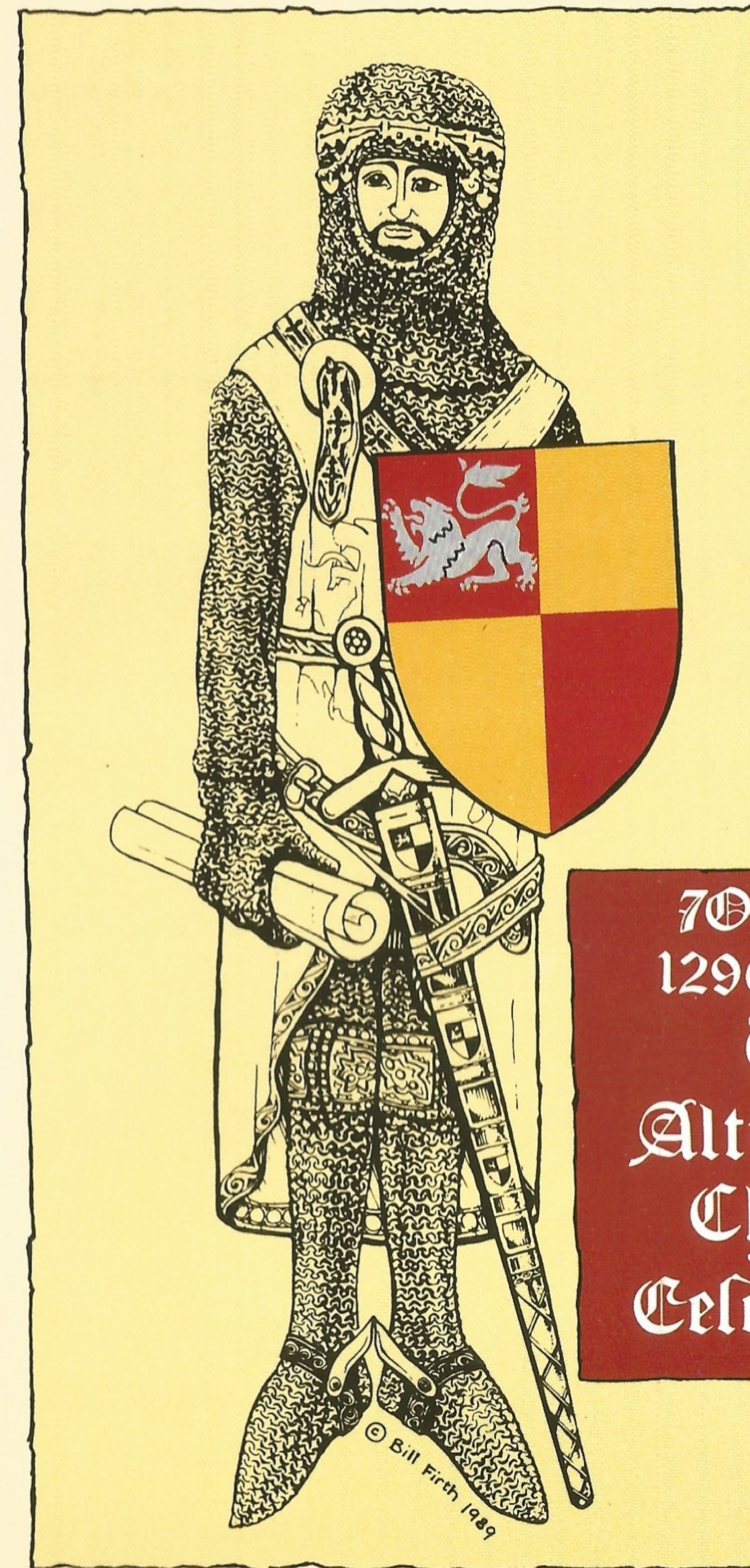
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# TRAFFORD

— METROPOLITAN BOROUGH —



700 years  
1290—1990  
The  
Altrincham  
Charter  
Celebration

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



700 years  
1290—1990



The Altrincham  
Charter Celebration

## Introduction

A visit to Trafford promises a unique combination of sporting and industrial heritage, small country villages and busy market towns, including Altrincham. The town is celebrating its 700th Anniversary of the granting of its Royal Charter by Hamon de Massey, making Altrincham a Free Borough with special rights and privileges.

Trafford is home for the internationally renowned Manchester United Football Club and for Lancashire County Cricket Club, as well as two important athletic clubs (Stretford and Sale Harriers), Bowlers Indoor Bowls and Cricket complex and Altrincham Ice Rink, home to the British Ice Dance Champions Paul Askham and Sharon Jones.

Football fans from all over the world have heard of Manchester United and it is now possible to trace the development of the Club at its Old Trafford Museum and enjoy a tour of the ground.

Trafford is also at the forefront of water sports development with the recent opening of the Trafford Water Sports Centre, overlooking the 45 acres of Sale Water Park. It is now regarded as the most exciting multi-purpose Water Sports centre in the North-West region. A wide range of water sports take place here including jetskiing, windsurfing and sub-aqua. The Centre itself is a hive of activity and includes Deckers, a superb restaurant with panoramic views of the lake.

Running alongside the Water Park is the Bridgewater Canal - Britain's first canal to be constructed totally independent of rivers. The Bridgewater, named after its builder, the father of inland waterways - runs from north to south through the borough. A walk along its eight miles of towpaths will take you through contrasting rural and urban scenery.

Barton Steel Swing Aquaduct, the first of its kind, built to carry the Bridgewater over the Manchester Ship Canal (a unique extended seaway), and hailed as the wonder of its age, is no less impressive today and provides an ideal point from which to view Trafford's two famous canals.

Trafford has some of the finest parklands in the North West ranging from Longford Park in Stretford - 80 acres of magnificent parkland, with rockeries, wildlife, play areas, 11 tennis courts, 2 bowling greens and an 18 hole pitch and putt course, to John Leigh Park, Altrincham - the land for this park was given to the town by Sir John Leigh and now has fine flower gardens, 300 year old oaks and beeches, with superb views across the Pennine hills.

Visitors to Trafford are always assured of a warm welcome - nowhere more so than in the wealth of excellent hotels, restaurants and hostelries to be found throughout the Borough.



## ALTRINCHAM

Altrincham, Trafford's Charter Town, is located in the south of the Borough. Originally a residential and agricultural area, Altrincham grew out of the railway age and cotton era. This is still evident today by the existence of many magnificent 19th century villas built for wealthy cotton magnates which surround Denzell Gardens. The Gardens themselves, entered through an old lychgate, are a haven of tranquillity and include sunken and ornamental gardens, a picturesque pond and rare tulip trees.

Altrincham centres on a thriving traditional market which opens on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The town is also home to some of the finest shops in the North-West region ranging from major stores to exclusive boutiques specialising in interior design and international fashions.

Goose Green, a village within the town, is a triangular square bounded by 18th and 19th century buildings housing designer fashions, bistros and an olde worlde toy shop. The focal point of this attractive square is the bronze sculpture of "The Geese", by Sean Crompton, which stands proudly in the centre of this conservation area.

A town trail of Altrincham (one of a series), takes in places of interest such as the Old Market Place where Bonnie Prince Charlie's troops gathered to hear the Young Pretender inspire them to do "battle with the English."

On the outskirts of Altrincham is Dunham Massey Hall. Built in the 18th Century, the Hall is set in 230 acres of rolling parkland which is still home for a herd of fallow deer. The Hall is richly endowed with fine collections of furniture, portraits of the Booth and Grey families and outstanding Huguenot silver. The Coach House contains an audio visual display introducing the history of Dunham Massey. Visitors to the stables will find an attractive restaurant and shop selling an extensive range of National Trust merchandise.

1990 is a very special year for Altrincham as it is exactly 700 years since the town was granted a Royal Charter making it a Free Borough with special rights and privileges.

When the second Earl of Chester divided his land among Norman followers, Hamon de Massey received the mainly Saxon area around Altrincham and Dunham where he built a castle.

In 1290, Edward I granted him the right to hold a market in Altrincham on Tuesdays and a three day fair around August 15, the Feast of Assumption. As a result, Hamon granted his burgesses a charter setting out their rights including a Portmore or borough court. Privileges included exemption from tolls within Hamon's land, the creation of a Guild Mercatory and freedom from "all other servile customs."

This provided the basis for the later formation of the Court Leet, an early form of local government which survived until 1937. However, in 1977 Free Burgesses were recalled by Roger, Earl of Stamford, Lord of the Manor of Dunham, to conserve heritage, co-ordinate voluntary service to the community and to recognise and reward excellence within the town of Altrincham. The Court Leet provides a colourful spectacle to some of the towns ancient ceremonies as in the annual "beating of the bounds" of ancient Altrincham.

1990 is therefore a year of celebration for the people of Altrincham in conjunction with Trafford MBC. A full and varied programme of events is planned, and details of these are listed on the following pages.



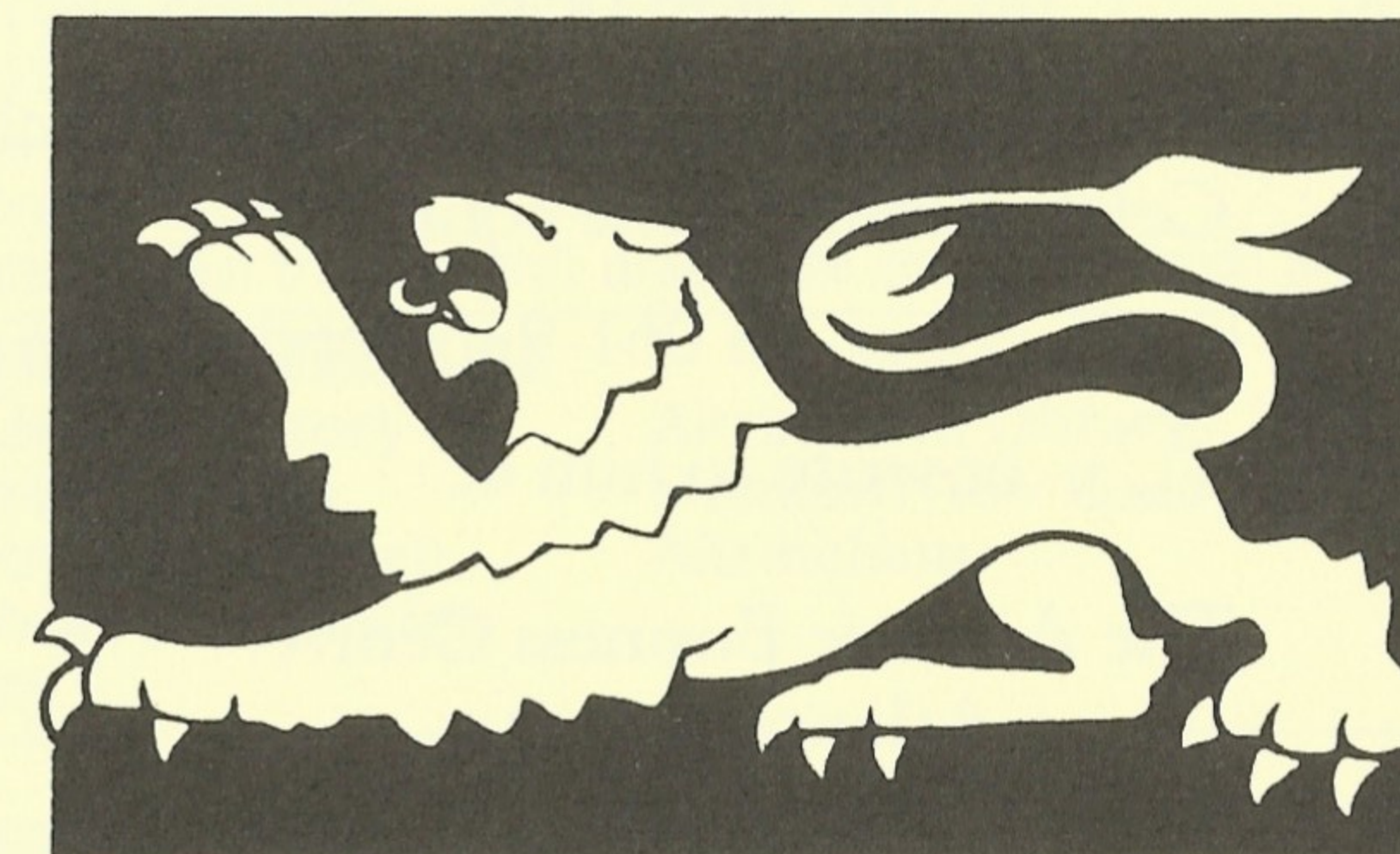
"Service Above Self" *altrincham festival*



THE NATIONAL TRUST



700 years  
1290—1990



The Altrincham  
Charter Celebration



*Bollin Morris*



ALTRINCHAM SOCIETY OF ARTISTS





The Charter Celebrations are being managed by the Charter Celebration Council, a body of representatives from voluntary clubs and societies, Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council and business people within the town. The build up to 1990 began 18 months ago! The Altrincham Charter Celebration Council will continue to meet every month on the first Tuesday throughout 1990 to develop the details of existing plans, and to introduce and nurture new ideas.

If you would like to incorporate your event in the Altrincham Charter Celebrations, please contact:

Ken Cooper on 061-926 8666.

or write to him at

The Atlantic Business Centre,  
Atlantic Street,  
Broadheath,  
Altrincham  
WA14 5DB.

Bill Firth, Chairman of the Charter Celebration

## THE ALTRINCHAM CHARTER CELEBRATIONS PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
<b>JANUARY</b>				
<b>6th Jan</b>	<b>MEDIEVAL PARADE - SPONSORED BY LLOYDS BANK</b> Opening Ceremony and Parade, a mix of Historical Ceremonial, Civic and Public Service. Colourful and Spectacular Medieval Drama featuring Knights, Horses, Damsels.	Start at George and Dragon Hotel via Town Centre to Old Market Place, Altrincham.	Start 10.00 am	None
<b>6th Jan</b>	<b>INTERDENOMINATIONAL SERVICE OF DEDICATION</b> Proceed the year as a dedication to the celebration.	St. Georges Parish Church, Church Street, Altrincham.	7.30pm	None
<b>7th/8th Jan</b>	<b>MOATED SITE EXCAVATION</b> Archaeological Excavation to establish and confirm medieval origins of the site. Full scale excavation with exhibition of finds.	Rear of The Old Hall Hotel, Stockport Road, Timperley, Altrincham.	10.30am to 4.00pm	None
(Site open every Sunday Jan to Dec. but main site on show from Sunday 6th May 1990)				
<b>29th Jan</b>	<b>LOCAL HISTORY LECTURE</b> Lecture on Pre History of the Altrincham Area. Lecture by Mr M. Nevell. M. Phil. from Manchester University.	Altrincham Library, Stamford New Road, Altrincham.	7.30pm	Membership £3.00 p.a. Visitors £0.75
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
<b>7th Feb</b>	<b>NORTHERN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS</b> Concert of popular classical music in the NCO's regular series "Music for Your Pleasure"	The Bowdon Rooms, The Firs, Bowdon, Altrincham.	7.30pm	£6 £5 concessions £3 U'16's
<b>10th Feb</b>	<b>YOUNG TOWN CRIERS</b> Competition for Altrincham School Children	Altrincham Sports Centre, Oakfield Road, Altrincham.	7.00 pm	None
<b>26th Feb</b>	<b>LOCAL HISTORY LECTURES</b> Lecture on Aerial Photography and Ancient Landscapes Lecture Jones. by Prof G.D.B. Jones, Department of Archaeology at Manchester University.	Altrincham Library, Stamford New Road, Altrincham.	7.30pm	Membership £3.00 p.a. Visitors £0.75
<b>27th Feb</b>	<b>PANCAKE RACE</b> Knock out races all day. Final to be held in George Street.	Altrincham Town Centre Pedestrianised areas.	10.00am to 4.00pm approx.	Small entry fee



Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
<b>MARCH</b>				
<b>1st March</b>	<b>EXHIBITION OF ALTRINCHAM'S HISTORY 1290-1990</b>	Altrincham Town Hall	To be announced	None
<b>/4th May</b>	The history of Altrincham over 700 years shown in the form of illustrated panels	Market Street, Altrincham.		
<b>7th March</b>	<b>NORTHERN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS</b>	The Bowdon Rooms, The Firs, Bowdon, Altrincham.	7.30pm	£6 £5 concessions £3 U'16's
<b>29th March</b>	<b>JOINT GRAMMAR SCHOOLS CONCERTS SPONSORED BY BRITISH TELECOM</b>	Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham	7.30pm	To be announced
<b>APRIL</b>				
<b>4th April</b>	<b>NORTHERN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS</b>	The Bowdon Rooms, The Firs, Bowdon, Altrincham.	7.30pm	£6 £5 concessions £3 U'16's
<b>7th/8th April</b>	<b>TERRITORIAL ARMY "On the Move"</b>	Moated Site. Rear of The Old Hall Hotel, Stockport Rd, Timperley, Altrincham.	9.00am to 4.30pm	None
<b>8th April</b>	<b>N.W. REGIONAL INDOOR ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS SPONSORED BY TRAFFORD M.B.C. and ADIDAS</b>	Altrincham Sports Centre, Oakfield Road, Altrincham.	11.00am to 6.00pm	None
<b>8th April</b>	<b>JOHN RUTTER REQUIEM</b>	To be Announced	7.30pm	To be announced
<b>14th April</b>	<b>EASTER FASHIONS AND FUN</b>	Town Centre, Altrincham.	All day	N/A
<b>16th April</b>	<b>NATIONAL U'19's LACROSSE GAME</b>	Timperley Cricket, Tennis, Hockey & Lacrosse Club, Stockport Road, Timperley, Altrincham.	2.00pm (FACE)	£1.00

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
<b>30th April</b>	<b>LOCAL HISTORY LECTURE</b>	Altrincham Library, Stamford New Road, Altrincham	7.30pm	£3.00 pa Membership £0.75 Visitors
<b>MAY</b>				
<b>2nd May</b>	<b>NORTHERN CHAMBER OCHESTRA ORCHESTRAL CONCERT</b>	The Bowdon Rooms, The Firs, Bowdon, Altrincham	7.30pm	£6 £5 concessions £3 U'16's
<b>5th May</b>	<b>CHARTER BUSKING EVENT</b>	Altrincham Town Centre, Pedestrianised areas	9.00am to 5.30pm	None
<b>6th/27th May</b>	<b>MOATED SITE EXCAVATION</b>	Rear of The Old Hall Hotel, Stockport Rd, Timperley, Altrincham.	10.30am to 4.00pm	None
<b>12th May</b>	<b>SCOUTS EXHIBITION DAY</b>	Altrincham Town Centre, Pedestrianised areas.	10.00am to 4.00pm	None
<b>12th/13th May</b>	<b>ALTRINCHAM 700 CHARTER TROPHY ARCHERY TOURNAMENT SPONSORED BY TRAFFORD M.B.C.</b>	World Record Status A 2 day double F.I.T.A. Star Archery Tournament involving local and international competitors. Open to members and associate members of G.N.A.S. or F.I.T.A. Membership must be proved.	Bowdon R.U.F.C. Clay Lane, Timperley, Altrincham.	To be announced £5.00 single day £9.00 both days Spectators fee to be announced
<b>13th May</b>	<b>ALTRINCHAM FOOTBALL CLUB IT'S A KNOCKOUT/FAMILY FUN DAY (FUNDRAISING/CHARITY DAY)</b>	Altrincham Football Club, Moss Lane, Altrincham.	From 12.00 noon	To be announced