

Friends get Blackley Forest set for spring

SWEET sounds of birdsong could soon be heard in Blackley gardens as nest box building sessions have been taking place throughout the area's parks.

Last Saturday an event took place at Boggart Hole Clough and then, on Sunday, more people turned out to build nest boxes in Blackley forest.

In total, 350 nest boxes will be made. These will then be put up in residents' gardens throughout Manchester, to attract traditional garden birds such as chaffinch, house sparrow, robin, song-thrush and

starling, which have all been in decline in recent years.

Councillor Neil Swannick, executive member for planning and environment at Manchester City Council, said: "It is very encouraging to see Wildabout Manchester - our biodiversity strategy - in action in this way.

"We want to conserve, protect and enhance wildlife in the city for current and future generations. The boxes will be going into gardens at the perfect time to encourage birds to nest there, adding a touch of colour and interest as spring approaches."



Nico Carlin, aged six, with Dot Keller from the Friends of Blackley Forest and Catherine Hartley from Groundwork, building nest boxes at Blackley Forest.