

# KERSAL WETLANDS

Littleton Road, Salford, M7 2FX

## WALK DISTANCE: 1.9 MILES



### MAP KEY:

- Start/Finish
- Bus Stop
- Walk Route

GRAB A BITE TO EAT OR A HOT DRINK AFTER YOUR WALK AT LOCAL CAFES SUCH AS THE TREEHOUSE AND SCRANTASTIC



CAN YOU SPOT ANY WILDLIFE AROUND THE NATURE RESERVE?

HOW MANY SPECIES OF BIRD CAN YOU FIND?



CASTLE IRWELL CENTRAL PARK

LITTLETON RD  
A576

RIVER IRWELL

HARRY'S HILL

DO YOU KNOW WHAT WAS BUILT ON THE WETLANDS SITE IN 1847 AND THEN USED AGAIN IN 1902?

THE SITE WAS RENTED FROM JOHN FITZGERALD FOR £500 A YEAR AT THE TIME

IN 1973, THE LAND WAS SOLD TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD. IT WAS USED TO CREATE STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

IN 2015 THE STUDENT VILLAGE CLOSED AND PLANNING BEGAN TO CREATE THE WETLANDS.

DO YOU KNOW WHY THE WETLANDS WERE CREATED ALONG THE RIVER IRWELL?

ANSWERS ON THE NEXT PAGE →

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You can find out more about activities and volunteering opportunities here by visiting the Salford Ranger team's Facebook @SalfordRangerTeam or Twitter @SalfordWildlife.



## ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS

### DO YOU KNOW WHY THE WETLANDS WERE CREATED ALONG THE RIVER IRWELL?

In 2015 the student village was closed and the Castle Irwell became the new site for a £11.75 million scheme to transform the area into a nature reserve and flood basin.

The scheme, which was finished in 2018, has been working to reduce the pressures of flooding on the local area, as well as providing a zone of natural beauty and conservation.

### DO YOU KNOW WHAT WAS BUILT ON THE WETLANDS SITE IN 1847 AND THEN USED AGAIN IN 1902?

The Manchester Racecourse Company used the land next to the River Irwell, known as Castle Irwell and named after the large house on the site, to open a racecourse in **1847**.

However, 20 years later the land was inherited by Fitzgerald's son, who opposed racing and gambling. As a result, when the lease came to an end for the racecourse, Fitzgerald refused to renew it.

The racecourse was forced to move and find a new home in New Barns until Fitzgerald passed away, and the site was regained by the racecourse and the reconstruction began in **1898**.

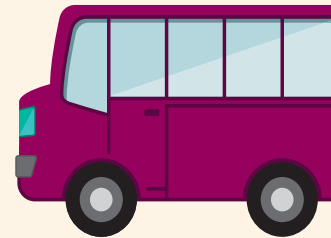
The racecourse had its first meeting held at the site in **1902**, where it began its journey as one of Britain's leading racecourses. The course closed in **1963**, with the only resemblance being the former members stand, situated on Cromwell Road.

## GETTING THERE BY BUS



There are bus stops on the Cromwell Road A576, with services **10, 52, 92, and 93**

In addition there are bus stops on Littleton Road with services **92, 93, 95**



### INFORMATION ABOUT INSPIRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

We are a charity working in Charlestown and Lower Kersal. We operate as a community anchor for the neighbourhood alongside delivery of services across Salford.

Please check out our website for details of our activities: [inspiringcommunitiestogether.co.uk/events](https://inspiringcommunitiestogether.co.uk/events) or call us on 0161 743 3625