

Su3a Commemorative Garden.

The gardens at Whirlow Brook Park were originally planted up in the 1930's when the house and grounds were in private ownership. They then passed into the hands of Sheffield city council and were opened as a public park in June 1951. Today there are two voluntary organisations working to maintain the park – firstly the Su3a Gardening at Whirlow Brook Park group, and secondly the Friends of Whirlow Brook Park, the latter group being formed in 2021.

The Commemorative garden was started in 2011 to mark what was Sheffield u3a's silver jubilee. Much hard work had to go into clearing the neglected site within the park before replanting could begin, as the photograph below shows.



Site during and after clearance

Today it is a wonderfully tranquil spot, full of mature flowering shrubs and trees surrounding the lily pond. Woodland paths wind their way through the rhododendrons and azaleas which look particularly stunning in spring. Seats are scattered throughout the gardens and a wooden shelter was added under the beech trees in 2021.

The Commemorative garden is maintained by the Su3a Gardening at Whirlow Brook Park group. We always welcome donations; they will be used to either extend the ground cover planting or to replace shrubs that do not survive winter frosts or summer droughts. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please contact Alison Cowper on 0114-2746165 or complete the [donation form](#). All donations are recorded in the Book of Remembrance which is on display at the AGM.