Dear Resident,

**Introduction**

Welcome to our spring newsletter and thank you to those that attended our winter meeting. The Group very much appreciates the support shown and suggestions for future development. An interesting point was made about the possibility of a naturally constructed viewing platform with a map of the various viewpoints on the horizon, certainly something for us to look into further.

I am very encouraged to see the continued use of the playground by both younger and older children - despite the wet and cold weather. The high use of the playground is further evidence that the redevelopment was badly needed.

We are holding our AGM on the 13th May at the Greenwood Centre in Green Street Green. The meeting will begin at 1930, please feel free to come along.

Best regards

Stephen Ernoult
Chairman, Friends of Glentrammon Recreation Ground and Foxbury Wood

**Breaking news**

The Group have been working with the Council in trying to find a solution to the faults found with the pathway that crosses the lower field. I am happy to say that the Council has found a suitable material that is both hardwearing, permeable and more importantly is environmentally friendly. This will be installed in the coming months.

**Community Orchard**

On Saturday 9th March the Friends and Council Officers planted the community orchard that can be found in the back corner of the upper field. It was a very enjoyable event and I would like to particularly thank Councillors Russell Jackson and Lydia Buttinger for their help on the day. The trees planted included Apples, Pears, Cherry, Mulberry, Plums and Greengage. Unfortunately the school visit that was planned for the Friday was rained off but we have kept a few trees back so that we can rearrange. Please see the Scenes from the park photos for some images taken on the day of the planting.

On a more serious note a few of the trees have been damaged in the days after planting – one of which was completely torn to pieces. We would ask for your support in keeping an eye on the trees and indeed all of the facilities in the park and if you see something untoward then please contact one of the following numbers depending on the situation.

999 – for an emergency situation, 101 – for a non-emergency situation,
0208 721 2605 – for the Safer Neighbourhood Team, 0208 464 3333 – Council

**Playground**

The Group are in the final stages of arranging the painted tarmac games to be installed into the playground. The proceeds from the raffle at the opening event have been used to fund this. The painted games will include hopscotch, a number snake, jumping lines and other designs. We hope that work will begin soon now that the weather is showing signs of improvement.

**Important Notice**

Please note that we are aware of the soil erosion around the mounds and your children take care, particularly by the slopes around the tunnel where some concrete has become exposed, while this matter is addressed.

**Reminder**

If you have any comments or would like to find out more information about the Friends group then please visit our website www.glentrammonfriends.weebly.com or email contact.glentrammon@gmail.com.

AGM – 13th May 2013
Tubbenden Recreation Ground

For those of you who are not aware Tubbenden Lane Recreation Ground (BR6 9NW) now has a superb skate/bike park with ramps to suit most abilities, there are also some natural mounds to try out.

Scenes from the park

Tree planting team

Councillors Russell Jackson & Lydia Buttinger

The new flag pole

Finishing off

Call to action

We are currently researching the history of both Glentrammon Recreation Ground and Foxbury Wood. We would very much appreciate any information that you can contribute. We would also appreciate any photos that you might have of the park over the past 100 years—particularly of any old football matches or of the pavilion.

Summary of what we have found to date:

In the 1800s the land was listed on the tithe map of the Parish of Chelsfield; we believe the fields were known as Upper Beeches and Lower Beeches or Upper Ash Field and Lower Ash Field. In the early 1900s the land belonged to Glentrammon Park Estates; after this it seems to have been owned by a Mr. Gill who passed away in 1925. The land was then caught up in a town planning issue between Mr. Gill’s family and the Council until 1929 when the trail runs cold. On a map of the area from 1933 the land is labelled as a recreation ground so this issue must have been resolved.

Membership

If you are interested in finding out more about the group and getting involved why not become a member? Membership of the group is free but if you would like to support us then we would welcome a voluntary £2 donation from your household that would help with the minor expenses we incur in running the group. A membership form can be found on the website.