

# FROM THE PARK BENCH



Autumn newsletter 2008

## The final instalment from 2008

As autumn starts to turn the leaves high up in the trees from luscious green to a mountain of gold and brown mush on the ground, we look back on a great year in the park. The decant village moved out (ahead of schedule) and we were able to reclaim the large space that it had been residing on. The grass was replanted and already looks healthy and as if it has always been there! Events such as Sport Relief, the Easter Egg Hunt and the weekly football training all continue to make good use of our fantastic green space.

### Come and have your say! Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that FoCRRG will be holding the Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm** in the **Eppworth Room at Beckenham Methodist Church, Bromley Road, Beckenham, BR3 5JE**. All members are invited to attend for the purpose of:

Reviewing the reports of the Chairman, Treasurer and committee relating to financial year 2007/2008 and to appoint/reappoint Committee:

- Chairman, currently Stephen Tickner
- To appoint Treasurer, currently Brian Hermon
- To appoint Secretary, Jo Steele will be standing down
- To appoint Membership Secretary, currently Sarah Phillips
- To re-appoint David Wilde as Committee Member
- To re-appoint Roger Leach as Committee Member
- To appoint Newsletter Editor, Debbie Hoods will be standing down

All committee posts are due for re-appointment, if anybody would like to take on any of the posts, nominations should be lodge with the secretary before noon on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2008. E-mail: [mattandjo1@btinternet.com](mailto:mattandjo1@btinternet.com)

## Beckenham Round Table Firework Display

This year's annual charity event will take place in our recreation ground on Saturday 1st November. The event promises the usual fantastic firework display and great funfair. Gates open at 6pm; there will be a children's display at 7pm and main display at 8pm. Tickets on the gate; Adult £5, Child (under 16) £3; Under 3's Free. [www.beckenhamfireworks.org.uk](http://www.beckenhamfireworks.org.uk)

## Music Events in the Park

Following two successful live music events we are planning to continue by holding more of these fantastic free events during 2009 to attract more visitors and entertain the regulars. Extra hands are always needed to put out and put away the chairs, aid people with information about the afternoon, etc. and generally to be on hand to assist where needed. Help is always appreciated and if you would like to volunteer your services to assist the committee during these events please contact us. Next event is proposed for Sunday 24th May 2009.



## Zingoland: The grand opening

On 25th July our new toddler playground was opened by Councillor Dean and Councillor Phillips cutting the ribbon in front of representatives from the council, manufacturers and of course the local children. The new equipment has been well received by mums and children alike and following feedback, the bushes have now been trimmed to allow parents a better view the whole of the playground area enabling them to keep an eye on older and younger children all at once.

## Update on Committee Meetings

**Paddling pool vs. Water park:** Following many years of deliberation, the option of updating our historic paddling pool with a high tech water park was again reviewed. The cost for installing a modern water park could potentially cost up to £200,000. The majority of this money would have to be found via grants and other funding. As the success rate for grant applications to the current lottery fund is only extremely low it was felt that this was not a viable option in the current climate. The council has stated that it will spend some money on refurbishing the current paddling pool properly and therefore the committee opted to follow this route at the current time.

**Play area:** Subject to funding, the Scouts have asked whether we would support the planting of a commemorative oak tree in the park. We like the idea and would recommend it went in the play area. A tree on the hospital side of the play area would provide some welcome shade.

**Sainsbury's fence:** Our local Sainsbury's now has a new Manager who has already had the fence at their end of the park mended making the park is now more secure.

## Membership

We now have 61 memberships; which includes 11 new members most of whom joined at the May music event. Welcome to our 3 organisational members; they are Bromley Woodcraft Folk, Slimmer You and Beckenham District Scouts. If you know of anybody that would like to join, please to contact us via our website [www.becrec.net](http://www.becrec.net)