A Glen Parva Childhood in the 1980s and 1990s

I have fond memories of my time growing up in Glen Parva and in many ways feel my time growing up there had a huge positive impact on my identity today.

Playing in my cul de sac was a safe place to have fun with friends and I remember great times playing in the street and around various different houses and gardens. Burning around on a BMX, skateboard or kicking/throwing balls around, there was always a buzzing environment for kids.

The park offered a great place to run around, burning off energy with friends. Whether it was rolling down the two big mounds, playing tag, jumping off the swings or playing football for hours taking shots at the yellow goal, there was always plenty of action.

The 'little woods' served as a great place for hide and seek, some tree climbing and of course a little mischief out of the sight of the majority. And the 'big woods' always were the beginning of a bigger adventure opening the gateway to the canal and the Great Central Way. Hours of fun, exploring and covering every inch of the local landscape.

The tennis courts were a thriving hub of action and I recall playing against most of the local kids day and night over the summer holidays pretending to be Andre Agassi or Pete Sampras! Skills, fitness and friendships were sculpted on the courts and it was certainly a big part of the soul of Glen Parva back in the day.

I now have the pleasure of coming back to Glen Parva and seeing my boys and nephews stomp around the local terrain with their grandparents. It's great to see the same spirit of Glen Parva lives on with a unique sense of fun and freedom that filled my childhood with joy.

Graham Sidorowicz