

FUTURE FIT - JUNIOR FIELD GUN



Future Fit is a Foundation Incorporated Charitable Organisation Reg. No. I 177870



Newsletter No.2 - XMAS 2018

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Chairman's Overview

(Commander Charles Crichton OBE Royal Navy)

"Future Fit-Junior Field Gun" as a new and dynamic charity will soon be celebrating its first birthday. It is a great pleasure to welcome this Christmas newsletter which reports a year of continuing development, steady progress and, above all, fun and achievement for our young field gunners.

It is clear that Junior Field Gunning continues to be a hugely attractive new sport not only for our enthusiastic young people but also for school staff, parents and volunteers. Thousands of the general public also showed their enthusiasm by warmly supporting the hugely successful Junior Field Gun Tournament on Plymouth Hoe during Armed Forces Day in June. This year of solid achievement is due to the hard work of a large number of people of all ages. On behalf of the Trustees of Future Fit I congratulate them all for putting "Future Fit" firmly on the map. The enthusiasm, competitive spirit and sense of fun displayed by our young Field Gunners is inspirational as is the dedication of their Trainers and supportive parents. A strong team of keen volunteers provide support in equipment production, competition judging, "taster" and briefing sessions and administration. Future Fit also enjoys the support and interest of our Patrons, the Royal Navy, the Cadet Forces and Scouts.

The Future Fit Charity Trustees sustain and guide this exciting and dynamic activity. Special thanks are due to Brian O'Hara, our most capable Secretary. He has dealt most efficiently with the substantial volume of work needed to establish the Charity and sustained our Trustee Board meetings and agendas and excellent Minutes. He has also undertaken the initial role of Treasurer. David Worrall, our Operations Manager and Coach, continues to be the dedicated Future Fit driving force and the last year's success in due, in the main, to his unstinting determination and energy. We wish him well as develops an expansive plan for 2019 and the planning for a major Field Gun Festival as part of the Mayflower 400 celebrations in 2020.

On behalf of the Trustees may I wish you all a peaceful and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year of Junior Field Gunning.





Dave Worrall's Ramp Wash-up



After the euphoria of the summer Junior Field Gun Schools Competition, it was all hands on deck constructing new Junior Field Gun units. Six schools have shown an enthusiastic interest in becoming involved with Future Fit. So far Knowle Primary and Burraton Primary in Saltash have taken up the reins.

Making these Field Guns is a project that is, mainly, carried out by volunteers undergoing Community Service. Without the hard work carried out by these volunteers it would be impossible to maintain a steady supply of high quality units. John Brownlow, a Manager in the Probation Service has supported Future Fit on a regular basis. He has indicated to me that he emphasises to all his volunteers that it is a privilege to work with Future fit! Of course, I would agree.

Without the workshop, which is based in the Salvation Army Headquarters in Plymouth, we would be incapable of manufacturing these units. The Salvation Army has been instrumental in the success of Future Fit and we will be forever grateful. On behalf of the Primary Schools of Plymouth we owe you a huge 'thank you'.

This year has been an exceptional year for Future Fit. The success of working with the Plymouth Primary Schools has been unrivalled, but one thing that has helped to secure the legacy of Command Field Gun, for many years to come and for which Future Fit is the perfect vehicle, is the unselfish donations made by our amazing supporters, with special thanks to John in particular. These donated funds will ensure Future Fit continues for many more years, not only in Plymouth; but, hopefully, further afield.

It is difficult to put into words how grateful we are for these contributions, which will help many schools benefit from this embryonic sport. We will work tirelessly to deliver the desired results, ensuring that young people learn about the skills of endurance, team work, fitness and the sports history and traditions, through taking part in this all-encompassing sport.

This coming year we are hoping to bring Junior Field Gun into Plymouth City Centre! We are in the early stages of organising a Saturday in the Piazza – watch this space!

Future Fit will be holding its bi-annual Dinner in the spring, more information will be forwarded to schools and sponsors, when we have confirmed the dates.

To all our affiliated schools' teachers and pupils I would like to say a huge 'thank you' and wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Feedback No.1

Widewell School - Clare Smith

At Widewell Primary School we currently have two Field Gun teams up and running. Our 'A' team mainly consists of Year 6 children who continue to train hard with dedication and enthusiasm for the sport. They are looking forward to any up and coming Field Gun events. Our newly formed 'B' team have already shown excellent commitment and are enjoying learning the drill each week.



Comment: Many verbal responses, received by DW, but more items for future Newsletters needed.



Feedback No.2

City College Plymouth

In the last Newsletter - under Opportunities - I reported the work Bob Hunter and his apprentices were undertaking on two two old Boer War 9 pounder guns, belonging to HMS DRAKE's Sea Cadets. This work has now been completed and the following photographs show the finished results:



Limber



Bob and colleague with Carriage and Barrel.



Bob and colleague with Trail.

Needless to add, HMS Drake's Sea Cadets are thrilled with the results.

Feedback No.3

Wellington College Cadet Corps

The following is a group photo of the cadets before training began using the large units:

With a magnifying glass you will be able to see Tom Luther's head 6th from the left. Tom is 6', so he must be surrounded by giants!

Nick Hollingsworth, Wellington School CCF, has now confirmed that the powers that be have not only approved Field Gun but are, actively, encouraging it within the College. It is hoped that this will lead to inter-college competition between the schools/colleges listed later in this Newsletter.



Feedback No.4

Plymouth City Council's Fit and Fed Project

Future Fit with Plymouth City Council's Fit and Fed Project held at Marine Primary School on 22nd August. Children from different schools enjoyed an introduction to Primary schools' field gun sport. These children were very attentive and with help from the FF staff achieved a full run in an hour and a half!





Feedback No.5

Gun for Glory at Double

Stowford Stars Gun Crew returned with a bang! The school was 'pleased and proud' to receive their second field gun at the start of their school year. Money for the unit was, kindly, donated by Mr. Mrs. Sam and Mr Kelly, relatives of some of the Crew. This means that Stowford will be fielding two Crews in next year's Inter-school Tournament, to be held on The Hoe.

At the presentation where:

Des O' Conner, Dave Worrall, the school's trainer Natasha McIntosh and six of the Crew.



Notice Board

Mayflower 400

During September 2020, Plymouth City Council will be celebrating the 400th Anniversary of the Founding Fathers' departure to the New World. This has been publicized in the media, as the following extracts demonstrate:



Western Morning Times

Future Fit's involvement will be a day's Junior Field Gunning to be held, at the moment, on Tuesday 15th September 2020. Further updates will be published in future Newsletters.

Piazza Junior Field Gun Display

Dave Worrall has booked the Plymouth City Piazza to enable a JFG display to take place on Saturday 4th May next year.



Schools actively practicing JFG

1. Beechwood Primary Academy
2. Boringdon Primary School
3. Burraton Primary School
4. Carbiele Junior School
5. Egguckland Vale Primary School
6. Ernesettle Primary School
7. Knowle Primary School
8. Marine Academy Primary School
9. Mount Kelly College
10. Mount Tamar School
11. Oakhampton Primary School
12. Oakwood Primary Academy
13. Pennycross Primary School
14. Plymouth Dist Scout Council
15. Plymouth Sea Cadet
16. Plympton Academy
17. Riverside Community Primary
18. Shakespeare Primary School
19. St Paul's RC Primary School
20. St. Josephs Primary
21. Stowford Primary
22. Victoria Road Primary School
23. Weston Mill Primary
24. Widewell Primary School
25. Widey Court Primary School

Colleges/Schools with large units

26. Taunton
27. Mount Kelly College
28. Royal Hospital School
29. Wellington College, Berkshire



Future Fit Patrons

- | | |
|---|---|
| Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope GCB,OBE,DL | - Retired First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff. |
| Commodore Jamie Miller CBE RN | - Retired Naval Regional Commander Wales & Western England. |
| David Fitzgerald | - Hugely popular and multitalented BBC Devon radio presenter and writer. |
| Lt.Cdr Stephen Carbery, CEng, RN (Retd) | - Hugely experienced ex-field gunner, who now works for BAE Filton, Bristol, as an Engineering Manager. |

Future Fit Trustees

- | | |
|---|--|
| Cdr Charles Crichton, OBE, MsocSc, RN (Ret) | - Chairman |
| Daved Worrall | - FF Project leader and Trainer |
| Samantha Morcumb, Bed (Hons) (Design &Tech) | - Schools' Liaison Officer and Trainer |
| Tom Luther | - Trainer |
| Robert (Tab) Hunter | - Trainer and City College Plymouth link |
| Norman Fookes | - Trustee and sponsor |
| Brian K. O'Hara, MBA, DMS | - Secretary & Treasurer |

Sponsors

- Babcock International, who print our Newsletter
- Calmus Trust
- City College Plymouth
- Fix Auto Plymouth, Garage Services
- HMS GANGES Association
- Lang & Potter Marine Ltd
- RoperJames Solicitors
- Salvation Army - Workshop facilities
- The Federation Of Plymouth And District Ex-Services Associations

Private Sponsors

- Derek Noble
- John McAndrew
- Norman Fookes