

PORLOCK RECREATION GROUND - Summer update

We're finally coming into the time of year when Porlock's Recreation Ground comes into its own - the trees are looking beautifully fresh and green after some wonderful blossom displays a couple of weeks ago, and the ground is finally recovered from the incessant rain that kept things very boggy for the first few months. The barbeque and Children's Play Area were all well used for the early May bank holiday weekend when the weather was extraordinarily kind - our thanks to those who used the Rec with care and consideration for others. Fingers crossed for a summer full of sunshine and good times for everyone who uses the Rec.

We have a fantastic Country Fair planned for **Sunday 5th August** this year - arena attractions include a motorbike display team, Punch and Judy show, stilt walkers, children's races and dog show. The Darktown Strutters will be getting everyone up and dancing and there'll be the usual fabulous tea and cakes in the Pavilion from the Porlock Ladies. Not forgetting the great range of food stalls serving a fantastic range of local foods, the beer and Pimms tent, traditional games, craft stalls and, of course, the ridiculously fun pantomime horse races. This year we have a very special guest visiting - Dreckly the Dragon will be eating, errr, I think that should read **meeting** (!) youngsters throughout the day. It's a cracking day out for all the family so do make sure to come along and support the local groups who make the day so special - entry is just £3 for adults and free for children, with plenty of free parking on the rec.

If you'd like to get involved with helping us to organise the Fair, either on the day or during the run-up, please email **Nic** on porlock.rec.nicola@gmail.com. **Ivor Jones** is the chap to contact about stalls and gazebos - additional stallholders are always welcome to attend and our charges are incredibly reasonable. Email Ivor: porlockcountryfair@gmail.com

In other Rec news, the annual ESF youth football tournament weekend was at the end of April. Despite truly horrible weather in the preceding week, the tournament was a great success with youth teams from around the country scoring goals and enjoying the Rec and village facilities along with their families.

We also have some interesting additions to the regular groups using the Rec Pavilion this year: on Wednesday evenings there is a pole dancing fitness class, Thursday evenings the choral group meet and on Saturday mornings there is now a martial arts class aimed at under 18s. The Toddler and Baby Group are still having lots of fun every Friday morning during term time and always welcome new parents and children along. We are also pleased to report that after a quiet couple of years, Porlock Cricket Club have fixtures arranged this year.

If you are interested in taking part in any of these activities please email porlockrecground@gmail.com and we will put you in touch with the organisers.

We still have plans to improve the surface of the MUGA. Sadly our contractors have now concluded that the surface has deteriorated too much for the process planned to make sense. We are now getting quotes for a more extensive re-surfacing operation. Additionally we are planning and costing up replacement of the fence around the children's play area.

Matters are progressing well with the move to the new CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and, if all goes to plan, the first Annual Community Meeting should happen in September. Details will be posted in all the usual places around the village and on our website (www.porlockrec.org.uk), so please do keep an eye out. Election of Charity Trustees will take place at the ACM so we will soon be asking for nominations.