

Annual

Review

2009

Please play on the grass!



Fields in Trust

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Registered Charity No. 306070

Registered Company No. RC000370

National Playing Fields Association operating as Fields in Trust

Patron

HM The Queen

President

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

Chairman

The Lord Howard of Rising

Chief Executive

Alison Moore-Gwyn

Deputy Chief Executive

Don Earley

Introduction

Fields in Trust was founded in 1925 as the National Playing Fields Association and our aim now is exactly the same as it was then: to ensure that everyone has access to outdoor space for sport, play and recreation.

Reports show that children are leading increasingly sedentary lives and that both youth crime and anti-social behaviour are endemic. At Fields in Trust we believe that playing fields can play a pivotal role in helping to address these and many other issues by providing a positive focal point for the community and this is why it is so important that these spaces are protected from development.

2009 has been a difficult financial year for us all and so we're particularly proud to be able to report some fantastic achievements in this review.

Fields in Trust is funded primarily by voluntary income and so I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the generous backing this year that has helped us to continue with our work. I hope you will continue to give us your invaluable support in 2010.



The Lord Howard of Rising

Chairman

The FIT Vision



We want to ensure that everyone - whether they are young or old, able or disabled and whether they live in an urban or rural environment - has free, local access to outdoor space for sport, play and recreation

2009 Achievements

Victory At Last!

At FIT we'd be the first to agree that good things often come in small packages which is why we started campaigning back in 2000 to change the level of statutory protection afforded to smaller playing fields and pitches.

The problem was that recreational facilities that were smaller than 0.4 hectares could be sold without consultation. Now, thanks to a change in the law in March 2009, this has been reduced to 0.2 hectares which will be invaluable in helping to protect junior pitches, tennis courts and play areas.

NPFA India

Securing the long term future of playing fields is by no means an issue restricted solely to the UK and so we were delighted to be approached by the Indian government to help develop the work of the National Playing Fields Association India. By sharing the knowledge we have acquired during our 80 year history we helped this new organisation to establish itself quickly and efficiently and will continue to provide support as they begin work to permanently protect playing fields all across the country.

FIT Facts

Health inequalities between the rich and poor can be halved with the help of green spaces

Cost of physical inactivity in England has been estimated at £8.2 billion a year

People living more than 1 mile from a park are 27% more likely to be obese

Contact with nature improves children's concentration and self discipline



FIT Campaigns

War Memorial Fields Campaign

War Memorial fields were created in memory of the local men and women who sacrificed their lives in service of their country, particularly but not exclusively, in the First and Second World Wars. Unfortunately the status of these fields is not always guaranteed and they are often vulnerable to both residential and commercial development.



In 2009, in conjunction with the UK National Inventory of War Memorials, we launched a new campaign to ensure that these fields are identified and safeguarded – providing both a continuing memorial to those who died and also much needed recreational facilities for future generations. The UKNIWM are aware of 187 sites and through this campaign we hope to create a definitive record of each and every one. If you know of a War Memorial playing field in your community visit the FIT website and let us know!

FIT Together

In 2009 we formed - in conjunction with Community Values - a new venture called FIT Together which will allow us to bring additional benefits to playing fields and their surrounding communities. Under this umbrella we hope to embark on exciting new areas of work including both public and private partnerships and social enterprise.

Our successful application to the Future Jobs Fund - an initiative to support unemployed 16-24 year olds into long term employment - is the first project of this kind. Young people in Dundee and Hounslow will have the opportunity to work on local playing fields - acquiring new skills, improving their confidence and self-esteem and, pivotally, making a real contribution to the local community.

FIT Scotland Achievements



Park Life

In partnership with local councils, FIT Scotland this year has almost completed the protection of three major parks totalling around 200 acres, its most successful year in decades! The parks are Lochee in Dundee, Inverdee in Aberdeen and Craigmillar Castle in Edinburgh - the largest ever protected park in Scotland.



Craigmillar Castle Park has a diverse range of grassed areas and woodlands and boasts some of the best views in Edinburgh. You can enjoy getting close to nature whilst using its range of walkways and cycle paths - don't be surprised to see buzzards or kestrels and if you visit in the early morning or late evening foxes or a tawny owl can be seen.

Young Scots in Sport

FIT Scotland held the annual National Young Scots Sports Awards ceremony in Dundee City Chambers. The event is designed to encourage young Scots to participate in sport and to recognise endeavour and achievement. Twenty three young Scots from 14 different sports received awards at this year's event. The event was hosted by the Lord Provost of Dundee, John Letford. Each year a Scottish Sports Personality of the Year is also chosen and this year's award went to cyclist and triple Olympian Sir Chris Hoy.



FIT Cymru Achievements



FIT Cymru Playing Field Protection Award

FIT Cymru was delighted to present the 2009 Playing Field Protection Award to Wrexham Council at the Royal Welsh Show in July. Wrexham Council recognise the importance of protecting recreational land for the community and have committed to protecting three fields every year.



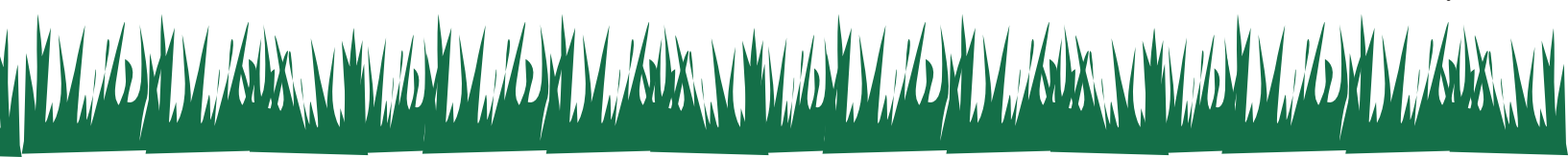
We're also delighted by support from the Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust which allowed us to establish two additional fields in the county. Now the challenge is to get other Councils in Wales to follow Wrexham's great example!



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CHARITABLE TRUST
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STADIWM Y MILENIWM

Statutory Protection

During 2009 FIT Cymru has been supporting Dr Dai Lloyd AM's measure at the National Assembly for Wales concerning the disposal of playing fields by local authorities. The measure proposes a far more thorough examination of a playing field's importance to the local community and wider and more pro-active consultation before disposal than is currently required. Following a widespread campaign orchestrated by FIT Cymru in co-ordination with Dr Lloyd, the Welsh Assembly Government passed the first stage of the measure without opposition in July. This will be a great achievement for recreational space in Wales and we're looking forward to working with Dr Lloyd on the next stage in 2010.



Chief Executive's Statement

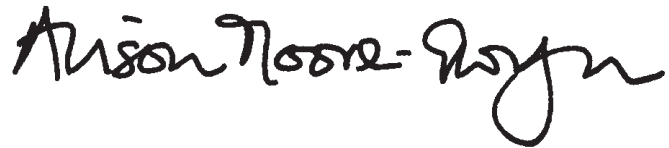
It might be more than a century since Veblen decreed that necessity is the mother of invention but it is a proverb that we've very much lived by at Fields in Trust this year. The current financial situation has created a challenging landscape for charities like us who are predominantly reliant on voluntary income but we've relished the opportunity to think creatively and develop new and exciting strands of work to help ensure both our relevance and future.

One of the major achievements of 2009 has been making progress with our forthcoming flagship project to get the public to help us create a branded network of permanently protected playing fields all across the country. We'll be launching this legacy project – which has a very exciting Royal connection - early next year and implore you to watch this space for further updates. We have been incredibly fortunate to attract the partnership of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer - the London based law firm - who have a strong sense of corporate social responsibility and are firmly committed to this project. Their generosity to us to date is substantial and we have enjoyed working with them and benefitting from their considerable expertise.

Forming FIT Together has given us the chance to explore new work that helps to make playing fields self-sustaining whilst also providing an opportunity to encourage different forms of social enterprise on the sites. We know that playing fields can be a vital tool in addressing social issues such as increasing levels of obesity and anti-social behaviour and that their close proximity to local communities makes them the ideal vehicle to help increase participation in both sport and volunteering. FIT's ultimate aim is to improve the lives of communities through playing fields and so this new project is a fantastic way of amplifying the positive impact of our work.

Our core work remains a very primary concern and, thanks to the unstinting efforts of our operations staff, we're delighted to have secured protection for an additional 16 playing fields all across the country – some 125 acres of recreational land in total!

Thank you for all your help, generosity, loyalty and support in 2009. We really do appreciate it and hopefully 2010 will be our best year yet.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Moore-Gwyn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alison Moore-Gwyn

Chief Executive

2009 Achievements

New Acres for 2009

16 new sites totalling 125 additional protected acres

Total FIT acreage

8584 acres across 1271 sites



FIT Income

- Voluntary income 58%
- Charitable activities 27%
- Fundraising activities 4%
- Interest & investments 11%



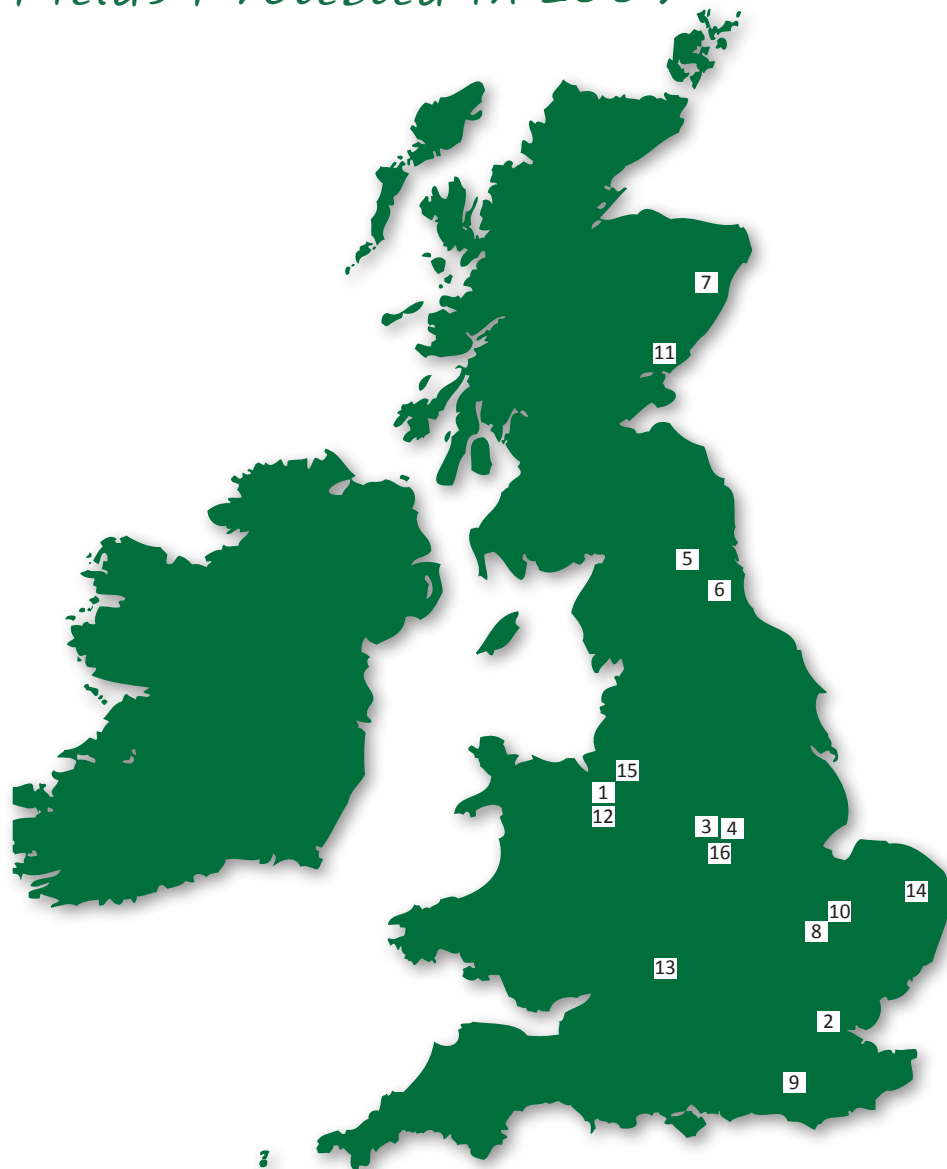
FIT Expenditure

- Land protection & improvement 64%
- Information & advice services 23%
- Governance costs 3%
- Fundraising 10%



Fields Protected in 2009

1. Bangor-on-Dee
2. Barnet (Totteridge)
3. Calverton - James Seeley Park
4. Calverton - William Lee Memorial Park
5. Hexham
6. Ingleton
7. Inverdee Playing Fields
8. Kingston
9. Tilgate, Crawley
10. Little Thetford
11. Lochee Park, Dundee
12. Minera
13. Northleach, Nangle Gardens
14. Taverham, Eastfield
15. Tilston
16. West Bridgford Memorial Ground



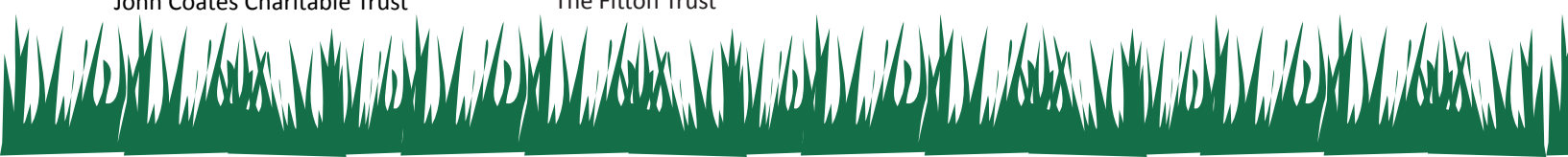
We would like to thank everyone who supported Fields in Trust during 2009 including:

Charitable Trusts and Foundations

A.M. Pilkington's Charitable Trust
Albert Van Den Bergh Charitable Trust
Andrew Turnbull's Trust
Ardwick Trust
Bergne-Coupland Charity
C D Horton Charitable Trust
Callendar Charitable Trust
Chapman Charitable Trust
Charles S French Charitable Trust
CHK Charities Ltd
Christopher Laing Foundation
Colin & Anna Frizzell Charitable Trust
Constance Travis Charitable Trust
Coutts Charitable Trust
Cruden Foundation Limited
D G Albright Charitable Trust
David Hodge Currie Memorial Trust
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E Dennis Armstrong Trust
E F & M G Hall Charitable Trust
E H Smith Charitable Trust
Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
F J Wallis Charitable Trust
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H B Allen Charitable Trust
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Horace Moore Charitable Trust
I & L Lass Charities Ltd
Ian Askew Charitable Trust
Jane Hodge Foundation
Jenour Foundation
Jessie Spencer Trust
John Coates Charitable Trust

Joseph Strong Frazer Trust
Langdale Trust
Leach No. 14 Trust
Lord Barnby's Foundation
Mackintosh Foundation
Marston Charitable Trust
Mary Homfray Charitable Trust
Maud Elkington Charitable Trust
Michael Sobell Welsh People's Charitable Association
Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust
N M Smith Charitable Trust
Northwood Charitable Trust
Ormonde Charitable Trust
P F Charitable Trust
P M Ireland's Charitable Trust
Patricia & Donald Shepherd Charitable Trust
Peacock Trust
Privy Purse Charitable Trust
Raymond and Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust
Rest-Harrow Trust
Roger Raymond Charitable Trust
Rowan Bentall Charitable Trust
Sandra Charitable Trust
Schroder Charity Trust
Schuster Charitable Trust
Simon Gibson Charitable Trust
Sir James Roll Charitable Trust
Sir John Eastwood Foundation
Stella Symons Charitable Trust
Swire Charitable Trust
Tay Charitable Trust
The Albert Reckitt Charitable Trust
The Anona Winn Charitable Trust
The Benham Charitable Settlement
The Bonus Trust
The Charlotte Bonham-Carter Charitable Trust
The Fitton Trust

The Frognal Trust
The Hasluck Foundation
The Howard Charitable Trust
The Lady Hind Trust
The Lennox and Wyfold Foundation
The Lord's Taverners
The Percy Hedley 1990 Charitable Trust
The R D Turner Charitable Trust
The Thoresby Charitable Trust
The Vandervell Foundation
Thomas Farr Charity



Companies / Organisations

Alliance Trust plc
Bank of England
BlackRock UK Charitable Trust
Broadgate Mainland
Claverhouse Group
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Fuller Smith & Turner plc
G R Adams Ltd
Herbert Smith LLP
Reed Elsevier
Royal Mail Group plc
Sports Council for Wales
WARL

Individuals

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh
Mark Campion
Steven Collins
Richard Dawbarn
The late Robert Dean
Elaine Fleming
Angus Irvine
J W Gibbs
Gary Hoffman
Jenny Holme
LD & PJ Maitland
Kevin O'Donnell
Neil Ostrer
Mr & Mrs P E Pickering
G Westwell
David Whipp

Grants

The Big Lottery
The Scottish Government

Clubs & Associations

Army Officers Golfing Society
Ashridge Golf Club
Auchterarder Golf Club
Bothwell Castle Golf Club
Brocket Hall
Bromborough Golf Club
Buchanan Castle Golf Club - Ladies'
Section
Buckingham Golf Club - Ladies'
Section
Cathcart Castle Golf Club
Coombe Wood Golf Club - Ladies'
Section
Craighelen Lawn Tennis & Squash
Club
Croydon Playing Fields Association
East Devon Golf Club
East Renfrewshire Golf Club
Fairfield Bowling Club
Falkirk Golf Club
Fife Bowling Association
Hamilton Golf Club - Ladies' Section
Hampshire Playing Fields Association
Hampstead Golf Club
Kelso Golf Club - Ladies' Section
Kilmarnock Barassie Ladies' Golf
La Moye Golf Club
Ladybank Golf Club
Murrayfield Golf Club
Penrith Golf Club
Porters Park Golf Club
Royal Jersey Golf Club
Sandy Lodge Golf Club
Saunton Golf Club - Ladies' Section
Scotsraig Golf Club
Shooters Hill Golf Club

Sunningdale Golf Club
Surbiton Golf Club
Tandridge Golf Club - Ladies' Section
The St Rule Club
Upminster Golf Club Ltd
West Essex Federation of Homing Pigeon
Societies
Whitecraigs Golf Club
Whitehills & District Playing Fields Association
Widnes Golf Club Ladies Section

We would also like to thank those donors who wish to remain anonymous

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