



Celebrate the Diamond Jubilee and Improve your Facilities at the Same Time!

**Are you a Community Amateur Sports Club?
Do you have plans to improve your facilities?**

If the answer to both of the above questions is 'Yes' then you could follow the example of Prees Cricket and Recreation Club in Shropshire and get involved in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge.

Fields in Trust (FIT) are delivering the QE II Fields Challenge with local authorities, town and parish councils, sports clubs and charitable trusts across the country.

Prees Cricket and Recreation Club has been operating in its present form since 1932, although there are records of tennis, cricket and football taking place in the village dating back to 1862.

The club Secretary Brian Hughes and his colleagues saw the potential of the QEII Fields Challenge to both help them celebrate the Diamond Jubilee by protecting the land as a sports facility in perpetuity and to possibly access some funds for improvements to the club.

Since nominating their ground to become a QEII Field last year they have already accessed some funding from FIT's Legacy Fund. As Brian explains, 'Our old all weather pitch was in such a poor condition that we were at risk of having to cancel our cricket, but with this help we can renew our pitch, continue to play with our existing teams and hopefully start another U13 Team this year.' A further round of this Legacy Fund is planned for later this year.

The club has recently applied to the SITA Trust for £25,000. The Trust has a £1 million [QEII Fields Fund](#), and up to £25,000 per site is available for 'physical improvements'. 'This application is for funding towards equipment to help us with the ground maintenance of our cricket and football pitches', continues Brian. Prees are also hoping to apply to Sport England's £10 million [Protecting Playing Fields Fund](#), as being a QEII Site is seen as positive on applications.

Prees will be celebrating the Jubilee with the help of the free 'Have a Field Day' Resource Pack, produced in association with FIT's principal partner ASDA, and they will also be receiving additional resources to help run their event, including bunting, medals, flags, rosettes and more!

Brian encourages other clubs to get involved in the QEII Fields Challenge. 'We think it's important to protect land for sport when there is so much development of playing pitches, and the process is not complicated or costly. And we are looking forward to receiving our QEII Plaque, which we will celebrate at our Have a Field Day and involve the local community in commemorating the Jubilee.'

For more information, please contact Angela Lewis at Fields in Trust on 07905 334846 or at angela.lewis@fieldsintrust.org.