**Fun in the Field 2017 (By Gary Hall)**

For the last 3 years I have organised an event called ‘Fun in the Field’. This is a weekend get together (along the lines of a [very] mini festival) for ex-military veterans from all over the UK and civilians from the village, which includes live music, steam engines, food, refreshments and any other attractions that the organisers can entice to attend (The RN Sea Vixen carried out a flypast 2 years ago). This event allows a number of ex-veterans, who in some cases have lost all contact with their ex-military colleagues, the opportunity to re-engage in a relaxed, informal environment with like-minded individuals. Those attending are charged an admission fee for the weekend and any surplus money, once all costs are covered is donated to charity, with SSAFA having been the main beneficiary in the 3 years to date. This year it has been decided to split the donation between SSAFA and a services mental health charity, yet to be nominated, but initial thoughts are that we will also support Combat Stress as it is felt that this is an ongoing area of services welfare that is often overlooked. To that end and subject to fine tuning this is the current plan for 2017.

**Date.... Friday 25th -- Mon 28th August 2017, bank Holiday weekend.**

Ticket prices will remain the same price as last year: Adults £25.00, 10 to 17-year-old £10.00 and children under 10 free. We are keeping the prices the same even though this includes an extra nights Glamping/Camping etc.

There will be a shower block and ample porta loos with regular servicing, gash bins and skips will be provided.

The fun in the field bar will be open Friday evening 1900 - 2359, Saturday from 1200 – 2359 and Sunday 1200 – 1600. The FITF cafe will be open at similar times tbc.

Your own alcohol will be allowed in the arena this year but not the bar area/beer tent.

How things are shaping up so far:

The Field will be ready for arrivals from 10:00 am on Friday.

This is a do your own thing day to get settled in catch up with your oppo's/friends.

Friday evening entertainment: from 1900 -2000 bar opens and DJ on the stage, there will also be a band during the evening, open Mic and Karaoke, after dark there will be a firework display on the hill behind the field.

The FITF café will be serving chilli con carnie and spaghetti Bolognese on Friday evening.

Saturday morning the FITF Café will be doing bacon and egg banjo’s for breakfast. There will be a hog roast and BBQ Saturday afternoon/evening.

Various vintage vehicles some military will be on display and a steam engine giving rides will be available.

I am working on a sports day, during the morning so volunteers required and subject to the weather.

Various bands, throughout the day including a DJ.

There will be various stalls in the arena including a possible car boot sale.

I am working on a flypast from certain aircraft but I will keep you informed.

There will be a raffle and an auction early evening.

Sunday: the bar will be open from 1200 – 1600 and there will be entertainment in the bar,

Again breakfast will be provided and curry and rice will be available Sunday Lunch time/afternoon.

Sunday evening wind down, Monday return and stow all gear to travel home, those wishing to depart Tuesday morning please message me to let me know.

FITF café will be doing breakfast Monday Morning.

The fun in the field bank account is now up and running and you can buy your tickets through online banking. Payments should be made to Fun in the Field sort code: 77-68-77 Acc no: 01438568.

The above is subject to slight change as I am working on a few other details and the bands will be announced when confirmed, all will be detailed in the op order which will be published soon.

The above is still subject to fine tuning and minor changes which will be up dated on the FITF when necessary.

All veteran welcome, see you in the field,

Yours Aye Nobby