

MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOTTERY FUNDED

Plymouth's *Spaces for Sport and Arts* have scooped a top award of nearly £20,000 to help bring communities together to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The successful Home Front Recall Bid from the Big Lottery Fund will allow Plymouth Music Zone and hundreds of children from 6 primary schools to link up with the older generation in four different communities. Together they'll explore wartime memories using diverse and exciting art forms with the aim of creating lasting legacies. These will then be showcased at a huge commemorative event at the end of the year.

The money will fund separate creative programmes of music, performance, installation art and film-making activities at each of the four Space for Sport and Art facilities - at Whiteleigh Primary School, Bull Point Primary, Plym View Primary in Efford and Plymouth Music Zone in Devonport with its 3 associated schools - Mt Wise Primary, High Street Primary and Marlborough Primary. This will culminate in the special commemorative event, called "*WW2 - United We Stand*," which will bring the different communities and generations together for an evening to remember.

Plymouth Music Zone Director, Ben Ballard, is excited at the opportunity,

"Plymouth Music Zone is delighted to be taking a lead role in the Home Front Recall Project. The challenge is to use music and other arts to bridge the gap between old and young so we can develop a greater understanding of the experiences of the wartime generation. We want to be able to provide a lasting musical legacy through recordings and performances as well as giving exciting opportunities for people of all ages to work creatively together. We'll even be setting up a Swing Band of under 16s for the occasion - and you won't see that very often!"

The Space for Sport and Arts Development Manager, Debbie Geraghty, hopes the bid will also help put the facilities at the heart of their communities,

"It's about valuing other peoples' lives and contributions and in a way trying to bring some of the spirit of the Home Front to modern day neighbourhoods. What makes this ambitious project so wonderful is that it will allow the sharing and exploring of powerful memories that shouldn't be forgotten. What's so special is having the children being able to create their very own way of remembering those stories through music, film and art. But whether it's a CD, DVD or a good old sing-along, the important thing in the end is about keeping communities alive. That should be the real legacy."

For further details please contact Debbie Geraghty on 0787 579 9882 or 01752 213690. Please see Notes to Editor below for any further information.



the music zone

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NOTES TO EDITOR



BACKGROUND BUMPH

- Over the past 2 years, millions of pounds have been spent building four state-of-the-art facilities for sport and art in Plymouth. These are known as the **Spaces for Sport and Art**. Three of these spaces are attached to primary schools in Whitleigh, Efford and Bull Point. The fourth is Plymouth Music Zone – a music education centre at Brickfields in Devonport. The aim of this unique initiative is not only to improve children’s health and education but also to put the centres at the heart of their communities and encourage people to use them.
- **Space for Sport and Arts** began as a £130m capital programme which set out to fund new or modernise existing facilities for sport and art in primary schools. It targeted schools in areas of multiple deprivation to provide greater opportunities for both pupils and the wider community.
- **Plymouth Space for Sport and Arts** has now obtained revenue funding from Sport England and Creative Partnerships to fund a full-time post for two years to help create a development programme to make the Spaces a central part of the communities. The newly-appointed Development Manager is based at **Plymouth Music Zone** but works across all four spaces.
- **Plymouth Music Zone** is part of a network of Youth Music Action Zones set up in areas of social and economic need by national charity Youth Music, providing music-making activities to young people who might not otherwise have the opportunity.

Plymouth Music Zone operates a diverse and innovative range of music activities for young people and adults through workshops, tuition, training, curriculum support, team building and music services. We are well-resourced with a wide range of equipment from electronic to traditional for maximum benefit to all participants.

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