



FUTURE ROOTS

NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2026



Welcome to our latest newsletter! It's been a very busy time and we can't believe May is upon us already, we have so many things to share with you. We hope you enjoy reading about the exciting things that have been happening here on the farm here at Future Roots.....

Ambassadors

On Saturday 18th April, Future Roots Ambassadors were invited to a Heritage and Harmony event at Kingston Maurward Estate which was organised by the King's Foundation. Our Ambassadors seamlessly promoted the farm, mentors and the ambassador groups to the public attending it. They answered questions, politely and honestly and were able to give personal accounts of how Future Roots had had a positive effect on them – through gaining confidence, learning new skills and gaining recognised qualifications. Harvey also talked with the organiser to ask him to come to the farm to see what we do and possibly to work together in the future. Our ambassadors worked so well together and it was easy to see how passionate they were about Future Roots and the young people that attend it. We would like to Thank Harvey, Liam and Emily for giving up their time and for representing Future Roots so amazingly well! Thank you!



Nurture Through Nature Update

The pre-teens have been super busy at the farm, already enjoying three different seasons and the weather that these bring. A recent favourite activity has been kite flying on very windy days. We have a few professional kite fliers in the making!

Autumn was a time of getting to know each other, scavenger hunts, outdoor games and lots of time with the animals. Winter was a little more of a challenge with the cold but it also meant that we had lots of ice to explore. It was very exciting when the pond froze over. We caught hundreds of minnows on this day as they were hiding under the bridge in the sunlight. The rain was great for scraping the yard and splashing in puddles.

Spring has been very exciting with the arrival of many lambs. They are the best for cuddles!

Lots of our pre-teens have developed attachments with specific animals. A favourite has been halter training Stardust Dave (named after David Essex himself) and Bon Jovi, two very friendly calves. We regularly visit and spend time caring for the animals.

We are excited to see what the summer will bring for us!

We are really grateful for every donation we receive, if you would like to make a donation to help our work with young people

please visit www.localgiving.org/charity/futureroots/



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Pre Teen - Lottery Funded Project

Exciting News from Rural Remedies - Nurture Through Nature

We are thrilled to share that Rural Remedies has been awarded four years of funding from the National Lottery! This incredible support allows us to expand our team and enhance the services we offer to our young people.

Starting in September, we will introduce two new roles: a Family Support Worker and a Pre-Teen Mentor. These additions will enable us to provide tailored support to families and to continue assisting children aged 8-13 who are facing social and emotional challenges. Our sessions, which include one-to-one and small-group options, utilise the transformative power of nature and evidence-based animal-assisted therapy. Our aim is to help young people build confidence, express their emotions safely, and combat feelings of isolation while fostering a deeper connection with nature and animals.

We also want to support parents by easing stress and offering practical strategies to effectively navigate challenges.

We look forward to embarking on this journey with you! For more information, please reach out to Claire, our Pre-Teen Project Manager, by emailing claire@futereroots.net.

Welcome Benji



Benji the dog has come to live with Julie and her family, he came to the farm at the end of February having had a tough start in life. He was born in Romania and was found homeless along with his Mum, brother and two sisters, there was no proper shelter and food was obviously hard to come by, they were found hiding before being taken to local kennels where they were kept safe, given shelter, food and water, after medical check ups they all came to England, sadly his sisters did not make it. His Mum and brother were found new homes and then Benji met Julie and was allowed to come and live at Rylands Farm. He is doing really well and is a very friendly waggy tailed little chap, we are mindful that we do not know his history but slowly day by day he is learning and settling in well to a daily routine where he is happy and meets lots of lovely young people, initially he was scared to be on a lead and didn't like the traffic when out on a walk but he has been really brave and he now loves his walks around the farm, at times he can be vocal (that's an understatement) the office staff have not resorted to ear defenders just yet!! Mutty has become his best friend and they love playing together at home, even though she is alot older, she does love to act like a puppy with him, take a look at Benji's blog on our website to see how he is doing





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EDUCATIONAL FARM VISIT

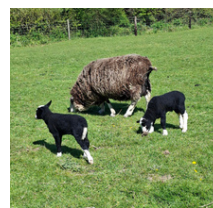
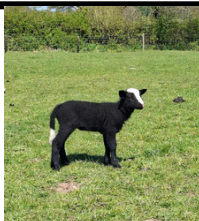
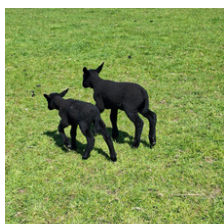
If you are a small group of people (minimum of 4 and max of 8) and would be interested in an educational tour, please contact our office on: 01963 210703 or email: office@futereroots.net. (we are sorry, but this is not open to youth or toddler groups at present). We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Amazon Wish List

With the ever growing costs effecting everyone, including us here at the farm, if anyone can help in anyway to improve things for our animals and young people we would be really grateful

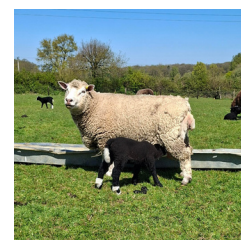
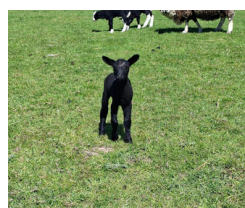
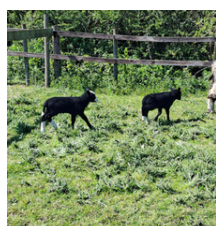


Future Roots Annual
Auction -
Saturday 8th August 2026



Lambing Season

We have had 17 lambs born on the farm, they are all doing well, we hope you enjoy the photos



Welcome

We would like to say a huge welcome to Marc our Farmer, bringing a wealth of experience espeically with lambing and also to Charlotte and Mel our Learning Mentors, we hope you all hope you enjoy your time with us, we are proud to welcome you all to the team.



Watch this space.....our new Moo & Brew catering van is soon to be launched at Future Roots.....updates to follow

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Short Breaks Holiday Club

Nestling in a lovely rural setting in West Dorset, Rylands Farm offers the perfect environment for The Future Roots Short Break Holiday Club.

We provide farm-based activities using our farm site and are outside for most of the day. Our children and young people have opportunities to learn about the outdoors, undertake animal and farm tasks, meet other young people, have fun and play games.

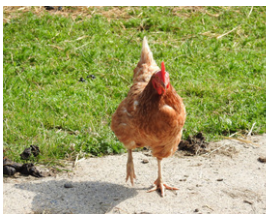
All of our sessions are facilitated by our skilled Learning Mentors and structured in a way that is safe, fun and experimental.

Our Short Break Holiday Clubs are open to young people aged 8 -17 who are resident in the Dorset Council area, have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or have a diagnosed condition that impacts upon their wellbeing.

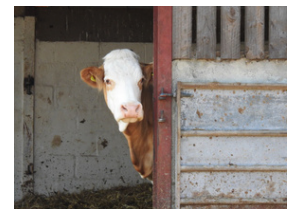
Children and young people work together in a group not on a 1:1 basis.

Unfortunately, at this time we cannot offer spaces for young people who need personal care.

We do require all participants to have a farm visit before booking onto our sessions.



For all enquiries please contact Future Roots
by phone: 01963 210703
or email: suzanne@futereroots.net



To see the whole range of what we do at Future Roots please visit our website:
www.futereroots.net



to the business's who have sponsored our 20th Anniversary Event

Friars Moor Livestock & Health, Castle Gardens, The Ernest Cook Trust,
Waitrose - Sherborne, Raduis Law, Tizzards,
Hall & Woodhouse, Bradfords Building Supplies

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