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Introduction

Gareth Southgate: grassroots game is vital

TV chat on getting more people playing and producing more home-grown talent

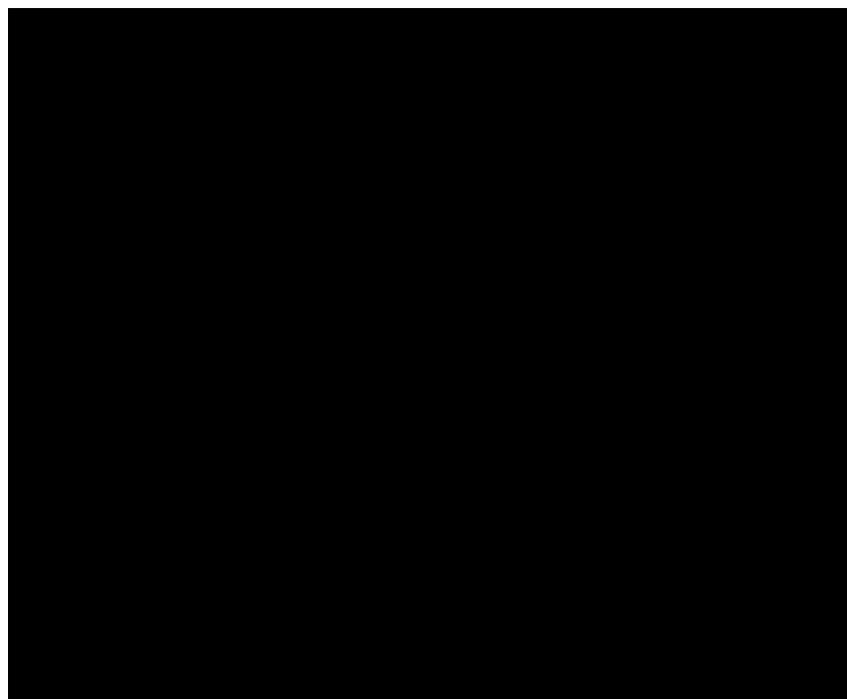
Watch the former England star and current FA Head of Elite Development discuss the grassroots game with BBC Radio 5 Live's Johnathan Joseph (aka DJ Spooky).



More better quality facilities are enabling more people to play our national game. The Football Foundation's recent M&E Report shows an average increase in football activity of 8% where a Foundation grant has upgraded a facility.

These new third generation (3G) artificial pitches, properly drained grass pitches and modern changing rooms are also providing a platform on which the next generation of talented home-grown players can be developed. All good news for professional clubs' academies and the England team.

Gareth Southgate and Foundation Chief Executive, Paul Thorogood, took questions from Johnathan 'DJ Spooky' Joseph and the general public recently. You can watch the whole show below.



Gary Neville becomes Football Foundation ambassador

Former England and Man Utd star, Gary Neville, is the Football Foundation's latest signing after he agreed to become one of our ambassadors.



Gary Neville has become the Football Foundation's latest signing after he agreed to become one of our ambassadors.

The former England and Manchester United star said he made the decision to help promote the Foundation's cause, as investing in more facilities of higher quality is vital for the growth of the game at the grassroots and the development of the game at the elite level.

Gary said: "I am delighted to be an ambassador for the Football Foundation. This country loves watching and playing football so we desperately need to address our lack of quality sports facilities. Developing more proper playing surfaces, such as floodlit artificial pitches, is also essential to developing more home-grown young talent.

"I have seen at first-hand the difference the Foundation's grants make to improving grassroots sports sites. I've also been particularly impressed at the business-like way the Foundation operates. It does not just hand out grants and walk away; the Foundation develops sustainable facilities and ensures they all stay on track."

Gary is respected as an astute pundit for Sky Sports. He was also recently appointed to new England Manager Roy Hodgson's coaching staff.

He added: "The Foundation is also an example of The FA, the Premier League and government working very effectively together for the good of the game. They should each be proud of what they have created in the Foundation and deserve credit for the nearly £1bn worth of projects that the Foundation has helped to fund since it was launched in 2000."

Gary joins other figures from the game that have given up their time to promote the Foundation and its work at the grassroots, which includes, amongst others, Gareth Southgate, Graham Taylor, Dion Dublin, John Scales, Garth Crooks, Robbie Earle, Theo Walcott, Graeme le Saux, Jason Roberts and Peter Beardsley.

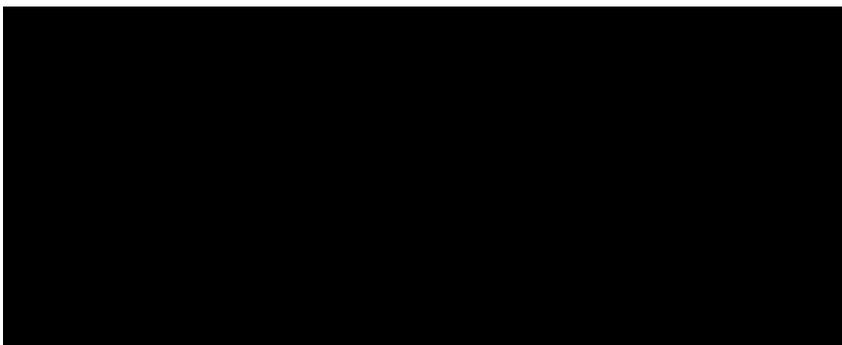
England great Beardsley unveils pitch at Cheryl Cole's old school

Former England and Premier League striker, Peter Beardsley, has unveiled a new Foundation-funded facility at Cheryl Cole's old school. Watch a film of Peter roll back the years and show the youngsters how it's done on the pitch!



Former England, Newcastle United, Liverpool and Everton forward Peter Beardsley MBE recently cut the ribbon on a new football facility at Walker Technology College in Newcastle.

The College has a notable former pupil in Girls Aloud and X-Factor star, Cheryl Cole, but it is the current pupils that are now dancing and singing with joy. Their new third generation artificial grass pitch was part-funded with a £102,000 grant from the Football Foundation.





Peter was joined on the day by local Member of Parliament, and keen football fan, Rt Hon Nick Brown MP.

Stuart Elliott, Academy football coach at Walker Technology College, said: "With the help and backing of the College itself, the Northumberland FA and the Football Foundation, we will now be able to provide a fantastic new football facility, not only for the College students but the whole community."

You can also watch [this](#) clip which showcases even more of Peter's skills on the day!

Chris Powell, Kate Hoey MP and Clive Efford MP unveil new 3G pitch

Charlton Athletic's promotion-winning boss, Chris Powell, officially opens a stunning new artificial pitch, funded by the Mayor of London: Facility Fund.



Charlton Athletic Manager, Chris Powell, officially opened a new artificial grass pitch at Samuel Montagu Youth Centre. The pitch was funded with £136,690 from the Mayor of London: Facility Fund, which is managed by the Football Foundation.

Chris was joined by Mayor of London's Commissioner for Sport, Kate Hoey MP, who plays a key role in delivering the Facility Fund. Local MP, Clive Efford, who is an active trustee of the Samuel Montagu Youth Centre, also attended to help celebrate the launch of the new site.

Samuel Montagu Youth Centre plays a key role in engaging a growing number of young people in the the local community through football and boxing. Charlton Athletic Community Trust, along with many more groups in the local area, will also use the new facility.

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said: "This fantastic community sports hub is just the kind of place I wanted to support when I launched my sports legacy programme to get Londoners of all ages and abilities into sport. I am sure that people from across Kidbrooke will take advantage of all the great facilities Samuel Montagu Centre has to offer, so they can get fit and active for many years to come."

Click [here](#) to watch our exclusive short film from the official opening.

Dress to impress with London 2012's Community Celebration Pack

Get into the Olympic spirit, as the Olympic Flame continues its historic 70-day relay across the UK, with London 2012 kit.



The London 2012 Community Celebration Pack can brand up whatever activity your community is planning; it contains a range of goodies including 50 hand flags, bunting, a large flag and flagpole and horizontal banner. Packs cost just £99 plus delivery, and if you buy nine packs you get the tenth for free! Packs of 100 hand flags are also sold separately.

For further details and to order a Celebration Pack, go to www.gameslookbook.com/community.

Football Foundation TV

Foundation Ambassador Ben Shephard plays in West Ham Legends XI

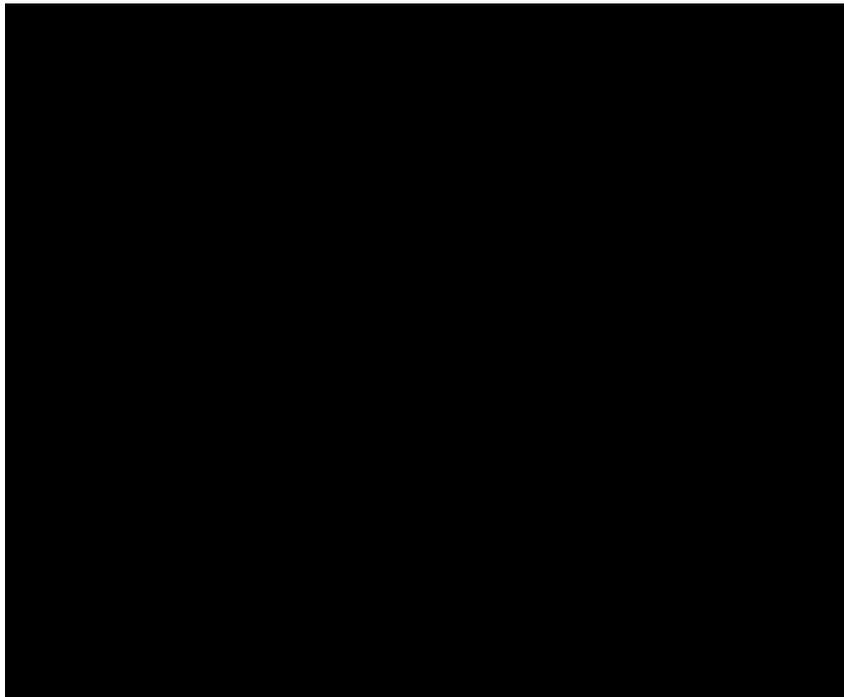
Sky Sports presenter joins host of names at launch of new Essex facility

Ben Shephard, Sir Trevor Brooking and others launch a new community football site. Watch the exclusive mini-film we captured on the day.



Tottenham Hotspur and West Ham United legends competed in a special match to mark the opening of a new sports pavilion in Chigwell, Essex.

The Grange Farm Centre provides a home for Colebrook Royals FC, which will enable them to run 40 teams. The club worked in partnership with the Essex FA to secure a £502,500 grant from the Football Foundation to provide a new sports pavilion and grass pitches at the centre.



FA Director of Football Development, Sir Trevor Brooking, cut the ribbon on the new facilities before the crowd was treated to a footballing master class from football freestyler Mike Delaney (who featured in the football John Smiths advert with comedian Peter Kay).

Musician Paul Hardcastle, comedian Terry Alderton and former Spurs manager Peter Shreeves also attended the event.

Sky Sports presenter and Foundation Ambassador Ben Shephard donned the claret and blue jersey to represent the Hammers legends side in their 5-1 defeat to Spurs. He said: "This is a fantastic occasion for the club and the local community."

Additional funding for this project came from Grange Farm Centre Trust, Chigwell Parish Council and the club itself.

Side Articles

Our first ever grassroots M&E Report

Read our first ever Monitoring & Evaluation Report, showing the impact of grassroots funding.



The Football Foundation does not just fund the building of new community sports facilities and new football teams. We closely analyse and record the impact of our investment.

For the first time we have produced a Report that captures all of our monitoring and evaluation in one place, so you can see the difference Foundation grants, and the work of the tens of thousands of volunteers at our projects across the country, are making.

As well as Facilities and Grow the Game grants, the Report shows the impact of our partnerships with the Mayor of London, with Barclays and with Comic Relief through the Extra Time health programme for older people.

Read the online version of the Report or download it as a PDF by visiting www.footballfoundation.org.uk/MEReport/.

ONSDIE Issue 29

Read our latest magazine!

England keeper Joe Hart, Ben Shephard, Gareth Southgate, Dion Dublin, Sports & Olympics Minister Hugh Robertson, London Mayor Boris Johnson and more featured!



Download a **PDF version** of our summer edition of ONSDIE Issue 29, or read an **online version**.

This issue features:

- England's Euro 2012 and Man City goalkeeper Joe Hart
- Sky Sports presenter Ben Shephard
- Former England and Aston Villa greats Gareth Southgate Dion Dublin
- Geordie gems Alan Shearer, Peter Beardsley and Alan Pardew
- Minister for Sports and The Olympics Hugh Robertson MP
- Mayor of London Boris Johnson
- FA Chairman David Bernstein
- And many more!

Before and After

Gurnos greener after double dose of funding

The local community in Gurnos suffered from a severe lack of clean and safe sports facilities prompting Barclays Spaces for Sports to invest (twice!) into this deprived area of South Wales.



In 2005 Barclays Spaces for Sports invested £22,000 into resurfacing an existing neglected multi-use games area in the deprived area of Gurnos which had a severe lack of sports facilities for the local community to access.

After five years of community clubs and the public enjoying the multi-use games area, it became worn down but Barclays and the Football Foundation were quick to demonstrate their commitment to the sustainability of their community sports site by funding further refurbishment.

The site now boasts a fantastic third generation surface which is proving to be a great success with the local community and with Merthyr Tydfil Borough Council who now deliver a range of sporting activities at the facility.

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