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Introduction

Beardsley opens new pitch

Newcastle and England legend opens new 3G in Northumberland

Former Newcastle United and England footballer, Peter Beardsley, has officially opened a new state-of-the-art 3G playing surface in Northumberland, part funded by the Football Foundation – and got stuck in to a match on the new pitch too.



Former Newcastle United and England striker, Peter Beardsley, has opened a new state-of-the-art playing surface in Northumberland. Cramlington Learning Village's new facility, a full size third generation (3G) artificial pitch, was made possible thanks to a £184,584 grant from the Football Foundation.

Local clubs, including Cramlington Town FC and Cramlington Juniors FC, who each contributed £1,500 towards the project, will be the site's principal users.

Peter, a supporter of the Foundation, said: "This surface will make a real difference to grassroots players who are developing their skills and it's great to see Football Foundation funding recognising partnerships such as this one."

The new floodlit pitch can be divided into areas for training or competitive matches and is also available for hire by residents and teams from across South-East Northumberland.

Paul Steanson, Director of Sport at Cramlington Learning Village, said: "We are delighted to see this facility open in Cramlington. It will greatly enhance teaching and learning, create opportunities for our pupils and will support the terrific work of football clubs in our community.

"Young players need to train and play on this quality of surface especially in the winter months and we are extremely grateful to the Football Foundation for making this possible in Cramlington and for the support we have received from Blyth Valley Arts & Leisure and the Northumberland FA."

It's not the first time the Geordie star has rolled back the years on one of the Foundation's new facilities to show the youngsters how it is done. Last year Peter joined in a match with pupils on Walker Technology College's new 3G pitch and, as you can see in this short [film](#) by Sky Tyne and Wear, he clearly still loves playing the game.

News Stories

Cardiff City launch House of Sport II

Malky Mackay and Craig Bellamy launch £4m House of Sport II

Newly promoted Cardiff City became the first non-Premier League club to benefit from the Premier League Community Facility Fund (PLCFF) after receiving a £350,000 grant for the House of Sport II development.



Just days before being promoted to the **Premier League**, Cardiff City FC opened the House of Sport II, a new home for both community sport and Cardiff City FC Community & Education Foundation and its programmes. The £2m training centre, part of an overall £4m project, was supported with a £350,000 capital grant from the **PLCFF**.

The facility is a second stage development for Cardiff City who opened the House of Sport in 2010; over the next five years more than 600,000 individuals will use House of Sport II, including participants of the Cardiff City Futsal Scholarship, the Welsh Football Trust Futsal coaching and the Cardiff Junior Futsal League.

Richard Scudamore, Premier League Chief Executive, said: "With the likes of Craig Bellamy and Gareth Bale, the community of Cardiff has never had far to look for inspiration. I'm sure Cardiff City and Wales would like to find more like them, but it's also important clubs to make a positive social difference at the heart of their community and that's what the House of Sport II will do."

Cardiff City FC manager, Malky Mackay, believes House of Sport II will have a fantastic impact on the club, as well as the local community. He said: "The launch of House of Sport II here in Cardiff is fantastic news for the local community.

"The House of Sport has proven an exceptional and invaluable facility to my staff and players over the past eighteen months and we've seen first-hand why local groups, sports clubs and colleges - including our friends and colleagues at Cardiff and Vale - have taken to playing and working there.

"We're very lucky to have the House of Sport on our doorsteps."

New facilities for Twickenham rowers

Dr Vince Cable opens Twickenham Rowing Club's new facilities

Twickenham Rowing Club have officially opened their extended and refurbished clubhouse and training facility with the help of Kate Hoey MP, the Mayor of London's Commissioner for Sport, and local MP Vince Cable.



Twickenham Rowing Club's extended and refurbished clubhouse and training facility was recently opened by Kate Hoey MP, the Mayor of London's Commissioner for Sport, local MP Dr Vince Cable and Di Ellis CBE, the Chairman of British Rowing.

The club, founded in 1860, began serious fundraising for improvements to the clubhouse in 2010, the club's 150th anniversary year. They are now enjoying the new, improved building having also received funding from a range of organisations, including: the **Mayor of London: Facility Fund**, Sport England's Inspired Facilities Fund and British Rowing.

Twickenham Rowing Club received a grant of £167,769 from the Mayor of London: Facility Fund (MoL:FF) towards the £617,772 project. The MoL:FF is part of London Mayor, Boris Johnson's, commitment to deliver a sporting legacy from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Boris Johnson, said: "Revamping local sports facilities is central to delivering a lasting legacy from the London 2012 Games and I'm delighted to help Twickenham Rowing Club play a part in that mission. I'm sure that now the club has enjoyed a fantastic sprucing up it will have no problem in attracting many more people on to the river and into the exciting sport of rowing."

The official opening this month marked the completion of a new training facility, refurbishment of all

changing rooms and showers, the installation of a lift, a large expansion of the clubroom with a new bar, levelling of all floors and the resolution of some quite serious wood rot problems discovered during the work.

The Rt Hon Dr Vincent Cable, MP for Twickenham, said: "Congratulations to Twickenham Rowing Club for their hard work and perseverance in ensuring that their clubhouse redevelopment project became a reality. It was a pleasure to be present at the official opening of the new facility, which will not only benefit club members but the Twickenham community as a whole."

Kate Hoey MP, the Mayor of London's Commissioner for Sport, added: "The refurbishment of Twickenham Rowing Club is an excellent example of the kind of project we have supported right across the Capital. To date these projects have resulted in approximately 50,000 new users per week in facilities spread across London."

FF launches new AGP survey

We want your feedback on artificial grass pitches

Feedback your first-hand experience of playing and coaching on an artificial grass pitch to help us with important research and get the chance to win £100 of football goodies.



The Football Foundation has launched a brand new survey which aims to get feedback from people using artificial grass pitches (AGP).

This simple survey enables you to provide your first-hand experience of playing and coaching on an AGP and will be used to help inform research that the Foundation is conducting into these types of playing surfaces.

By doing so, not only will you be providing a helping hand to the improvement of grassroots facilities in this country, but you'll also have the chance of winning one of five goodie bags, each containing football gifts worth £100 courtesy of The Football Association.

The survey can be accessed through www.pitchfinder.org.uk – the largest database of football facilities in Britain, created and managed by the Football Foundation. 'Pitchfinder' has a search function that enables you to type in a postcode to find all the grassroots football facilities in your area.

Once you are on the pitchfinder website, simply find the venue with the artificial grass pitch that you play or coach on using the search function, and click on the 'Rate this venue' button to complete the survey.

Please note, to be eligible to win one of the five £100 FA goodie bags, you must be aged 14 or over and complete the survey before 31 May 2013.

Football Business Awards return

Entries for the Football Business Awards 2013 now open

The Football Business Awards return to Chelsea FC for its second ceremony in November. They recognise the essential role that business plays in football, the positive impact of football on the community and the vital role played by the businesses which serve the game.



The **Football Business Awards** are back for a second year. The awards, designed to celebrate excellence and acknowledge success in the business of football, recognise the essential role that business plays in football, the positive impact of football on the community and vital role played by the businesses which serve the game.

The first event in 2012 attracted 450 senior representatives from clubs and businesses working in football – not just from the UK but around the world.

An esteemed judging panel has been assembled for 2013, including CEOs from some of the country's most respected football clubs, as well as our own Chief Executive, Paul Thorogood. Winner of the FC Business Magazine Football CEO of the Year 2012, Karren Brady, also joins the panel for this year's awards.

Entries are now open for the 20 award categories, which include: Best Football Community Scheme and Best Corporate Social Responsibility Scheme.

The awards ceremony will be hosted by Chelsea FC at Stamford Bridge in November.

To submit your entry for a Football Business Award [click here](#).

Before and After

Lawford FC's stunning new pavilion opened by Sir Trevor

New Essex pavilion a boost for the community

FA Director of Development, Sir Trevor Brooking, opened a new facility named after West Ham legend, John Lyall.



Sir Trevor Brooking CBE opened the new state-of-the-art 'John Lyall Pavilion' in Lawford, Essex, that the Essex born former West Ham and Ipswich manager, would have been proud of.

Lawford FC worked hard in partnership with the Essex FA to ensure the £513,202 project, aided by a £265,283 grant from the Football Foundation, got off the ground. The new facility has enabled everyone in the community to participate more in sport. Lawford Junior FC's 290 members have also significantly benefitted.

The new facility has four changing rooms including disabled access. The building is used by local schools, community groups and Lawford Lads FC.

Click the left / right arrows below to scroll through the gallery.



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