

[Return to Cover Page»](#)

Introduction

Ex-England star's boost for Surrey club

Graeme Le Saux presents Hambledon FC with a cheque for £5,000.

Former England star, Graeme Le Saux, visits grassroots club Hambledon FC, presenting them with a cheque for £5,000 at his first official duty as an Football Foundation Ambassador.



Former England and Chelsea defender, Graeme Le Saux, gave Surrey football club Hambledon FC a boost, by presenting them with a cheque for £5,000 at his first event as an official Football Foundation Ambassador.

Graeme Le Saux said: "Being a Football Foundation Ambassador is very natural for me – it's a real privilege. Grassroots is an easy connection for me to make, it's what gave me my first contact and connection with the sport.

"It was fantastic to be able to present Hambledon FC with a 'Grow the Game' cheque that will help them to create new teams who will benefit from their brand new pavilion."

Hambledon FC, who also received a £99,999 facility grant from the Foundation last year towards a new pavilion, will use the £5,000 of Grow the Game funding to develop a new 'A' team for the younger players at the club, as well as a new Sunday league team.

Le Saux, who made a combined total of 485 appearances for Chelsea, Blackburn Rovers and Southampton during his career, scoring 24 goals, presented the cheque to club members during a visit to the site.

Hambledon FC has been running for over a 100 years and has played at its current location at Feathercombe Farm since the 1950s, supporting football in the local community. Over the years, the club received numerous complaints about the lack of adequate toilet and changing facilities as well as the lack of facilities for women or disabled teams.

After receiving funding from the Foundation, the new building – which is nearing completion – will contain two dual-gender changing rooms, each with en-suite shower and toilets, an officials' changing room, a clubroom with a kitchen and storage provision. The new facility will enable the club to offer broader football opportunities to embrace the local community, and will allow for women's and girls' football to be developed.

"Dedicated local players and clubs deserve top quality facilities and funding from the Football Foundation can help kick-start brilliant grassroots football projects, like this one in Hambledon." Graeme La Sex added.

Matt Kiley, Secretary of Hambledon FC, said: "Hambledon FC are delighted to announce that they have been awarded a Grow the Game Grant from the Football Foundation.

"Our lack of quality facilities meant we regularly lost our best players because we couldn't progress up the leagues. Once the new clubhouse is complete, we will really be able to move the club forward as well as offer football to everyone in the community."

News Stories

Bolton boss opens community 3G pitch

Dougie Freedman officially opens new PL-funded facility.

Bolton Wanderers manager Dougie Freedman has unveiled a new third generation community sports pitch, funded by the Premier League, at the site of the Bolton Wanderers Academy in Lostock.



Bolton Wanderers FC manager, Dougie Freedman, has officially opened a new community facility for the young people of Bolton at the site of clubs Academy in Lostock.

Funded by the Premier League Community Facilities Fund with a grant of £99,500 and Bolton Wanderers Football Club, the 3G pitch will be used by Bolton Wanderers Community Trust (BWCT), Club and Trust Education programmes, as well as Bolton and Bury District Junior Football League (BBDJFL) at weekends.

The Wanderers boss was joined at the formal plaque unveiling by local children and a host of special guests, including the Premier League's Senior Community Policy Executive, Emma Joussemet, Bolton Wanderers' Chief Operating Officer, Bradley Cooper, Ian Laithwaite from BWCT and John Hudson from the Professional Footballers' Association, as well as VIPs from the Lancashire FA and the BBDJFL.

A wide range of activities will take place at the site, such as school holiday football courses, disability football, development centres and women's football. The pitch will also provide a venue for the Bolton and Bury Junior District Football League to host games throughout the football season and the Club's own education programme during term time.

Premier League Chief Executive, Richard Scudamore, said: "The Premier League Community Facility Fund is all about providing sports facilities that reinvigorate local communities, and we are extremely pleased that the people of Bolton and the surrounding areas will be able to benefit from this investment."

Ian Laithwaite, Head of the Bolton Wanderers Community Trust, said: "The funding from Bolton Wanderers FC and the Premier League has provided a much needed facility to the people of Bolton. To open up a club facility for community use has had a huge impact on the participants and helped BWCT raise the aspirations of many young people.

Lord Pendry shows off skills on new 3G

FF President opens college's new changing rooms and pitch

Southam College in Warwickshire welcomed the back our President, Lord Pendry, to officially open their new facilities - and the 79 year old peer showed he hasn't lost his touch!



Southam College in Warwickshire welcomed back our President, Lord Pendry, to officially open their new changing facilities and artificial grass pitch (AGP) funded by a Foundation grant of £688,000.

Lord Pendry said on the day: "It is fantastic to return to Southam College to see the real impact of Football Foundation funding. It gives me great pleasure to officially open their new facilities. Congratulations to everyone involved in this project for their hard work and for ensuring its completion."

Lord Pendry last visited the college in 2010 to announce the award, which also saw an early glimpse of the official World Cup football, used later that summer at the World Cup finals, which was designed with the help of a former Southam College pupil. A lifelong Derby County fan, the 79 year-old peer decided to

test out the college's new playing surface himself by joining in a football session with pupils, showing off some serious ball-juggling and heading skills! (see below gallery)

The opening was marked by a football festival, with games, matches and coaching sessions taking place on the AGP throughout the day involving students and players from local primary schools and clubs. The day concluded with a match between Southam College staff and Southam United coaches, with Southam College winning 3-1.

Southam College will manage the new facilities together with Southam United FC. The superb venue will be used for both training and competitive matches and will give other local football clubs and organisations the opportunity to support the development of local players, coaches and referees.

The new sports pavilion comprises: a community sports room with refreshment facilities, a computer suite for FA training courses and coaching development, four changing rooms, two referees rooms, two disabled changing and shower rooms as well as storage facilities.

Ranjit Samra, Head Teacher of Southam College, added: "The grant from the Football Foundation and other generous donors has allowed us to create our own theatre of dreams for the local community here in Southam."

Watch Lord Pendry's ball-juggling and heading skills by scrolling through the gallery of images below by clicking the arrows.

New sports facilities for Woodcote High

South London school opens pitches and running track.

A new sports facility jointly funded by the Mayor of London Sports Facilities Fund (MoL:SFF) and the Football Foundation was opened at Woodcote High School in Coulsdon, Croydon.



A new sports facility jointly funded by the Mayor of London: Sports Facilities Fund (MoL:SFF) and the Football Foundation was opened at Woodcote High School in Coulsdon, Croydon.

Woodcote High School worked with the Football Foundation to secure £200,000 of MoL:SFF towards a new eight-lane, all-weather running track. The school secured an additional Football Foundation grant of £50,000 to develop new real grass pitches.

Kate Hoey MP, the Mayor of London's Commissioner for Sport, was delighted with the new pitches and running track, adding: "These new facilities at Woodcote High School are an excellent example of the kind of projects we have supported right across London."

The previous grounds varied in level which meant the pitches often flooded during the winter months, making them unusable. The redevelopments will ensure the site can be fully utilised by Woodcote High School, as well as help encourage sport in the local area.

The facility will also provide a sports area for other groups including local athletics clubs, wheelchair-based groups, paralympians and other schools in the borough and will allow South London Harriers and Woodmansterne Hyde FC to undertake regular training and competitions.

Mark Southworth, Head teacher at Woodcote High School, said: "After two years in the planning, I am thrilled to see these superb athletics and football facilities completed. There are very few schools in the UK that have such wonderful sporting amenities and local interest has been huge. Thanks to the generosity of our funders we have laid the foundations of sporting excellence for years to come."

The window for the fifth round of MoL:SFF funding has opened. A total of £1.5m will be available for organisations across London. Applications can be made of up to £100,000 to cover up to a maximum of 60% of the total project cost. Organisations can find out more and apply online via the Football Foundation website [here](#).

Organisations outside of London can, as ever, see what Football Foundation funding streams are

available via [this link](#).

New 3G pitch for Moulsham High School

'Football Fun Day' marks opening of new 3G pitch at Essex School

Chelmsford pupils try out their school's new Foundation-funded pitch at launch event.



Moulsham High School in Chelmsford unveiled its new third generation (3G) artificial grass pitch, funded with the help of a Football Foundation grant of £323,017.

The 'Football Fun Day', included tournaments between the school's partner club youth teams – Galleywood Youth FC, Writtle Minors and Springfield Juniors – as well as matches between ex-Moulsham students versus a staff team and 'Partner Club Vets' taking on a celebrity team, including former Chelsea FC players.

The new pitch will allow Moulsham High School to utilise the pitch for 11-a-side, 9-a-side and 7-a-side matches during school time. The pitch will also be used by partner clubs, including Galleywood Youth FC, Galleywood FC and Springfield FC, and will be available for external hire. The school worked with the Essex FA to land the Foundation funding.

Mark Farmer, Head teacher of Moulsham High School, said: "Moulsham High School now has a fantastic new facility for Moulsham students that will also be of benefit to the local community and the city of Chelmsford as a whole. We look forward to supporting the development of local talent and local clubs and building on our relationships with all our hirers."

Football Foundation TV

A Foundation Facility from start to finish

Watch our new video of a 3G pitch taking shape.

Click the below image to watch Telford College's new Foundation-funded third generation artificial grass pitch being built from start to finish.



Click the below image to watch Telford College's new Foundation-funded third generation artificial grass pitch being built from start to finish.



Before and After

Barn Elms' stunning new pavilion

FF grant means times are changing for Barnes sport

The pavilion at Barn Elms playing fields, Surrey, is the first phase of the area's redevelopment project. It began after the green light was given to the scheme to begin in 2011 after enough funding had been raised for the £2.3 million scheme.



Barn Elms Playing Fields have provided the locals of Barnes with a centre of sport for many years, but its pavilion had begun to fall apart. The Surrey County FA helped to secure a grant of £547,138 from the Football Foundation to build the new facilities, which are now being enjoyed by Barnes Eagles FC, Rocks Lanes FC, Stonewall FC and a host of other community organisations.

Karen Moore, Trustee of the Barn Elms Sports Trust, said: "The investment and funding in Barn Elms has been life-changing for the community and local sports players alike. The facilities at Barn Elms Playing Fields had been falling increasingly into disrepair with uneven the football and rugby pitches prone to flooding, and damp, cold and vandalised changing rooms. A year before the renovation, the changing rooms were burnt to the ground by vandals, leaving schools and clubs to get changed in the rain, under the trees.

"Now the site is vibrant and buzzing, pitches are level and well drained, prolonging their use during the football and rugby season. The pavilion offers six high quality changing rooms with secure team bag lock-ups and separate referee changing facilities. It also includes a function room and kitchen for community and children's clubs. The Football Foundation has been instrumental in transforming Barn Elms from a semi-derelict eye sore to a cutting edge multi-sport hub."

Football Foundation Ambassador and TV presenter, Ben Shephard, who visited the site before the investment, gave the development a thumbs-up, saying: "I remember going down there when the project was just a twinkle in Karen's eyes and the facilities were just dreadful. So to see these photos of the transformation that has taken place is just remarkable. I can't wait to get my boots on and get down there for a kickabout!"

Use the right arrow below to see how the site has changed thanks to our funding.



— ■ FUNDING PARTNERS ■ —

Email Newsletter Software by Newsweaver